

Abbie G. Sanderson Papers

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no 3

Swatow China

~~Dec~~ Jan 3, 1920

Dear Mother -

Letter No 2 is not yet sent - but I'm going to begin this and if I finish it before Monday I'll call it simply an appendage of No. 2 - If not - I'll send it separately to No. 3 -

My reason for keeping the other one so long is that I've been using bits of the description & get me started on some circular letters which I must begin to get nitter very soon -

It seems as though I have been here a lot more than a week and a half - for I've begun to get into things already. I've been up attic and hauled out some old paper, you see! I am going to try to be economical - I told Emily this morning that I wished I had strength of mind enough not to ~~have~~ to buy any new dresses until I got ready to go home again! But of course she laughed at me unmercifully - All the same - I think I have begun well. I wanted like everything to get an 'ensemble' suit like one that Emily has - and especially since my beautiful coat seemed to be ruined by the salt water - But I decided firmly not to do it - and this P.M. I tried vinegar on the spots and they have all come out! Of course I realize that they

may all come back to-morrow but I'll rejoice for the present, anyway! I was just sick about it and didn't know what in the world I could do about it. I needn't have worried about the style of it. Everybody out here loves it and I feel elegantly dressed when I have it on - in spite of the spots, too!

Tue. - Last Monday I went over to school in the morning just for chapel - then in the afternoon helped get ready for a big party here that night. We had all the girls' school teachers and the Hospital workers here to dinner - Two big tables of us - 19 in all - We ate by candle light and then played a few games and talked afterwards and I'm sure they enjoyed it immensely - I did!

Tuesday I went to Swatow and visited the American Consul - got my registering done - showed my passport, etc. - then C. & I went shopping - I took a class for her in the morning -

Wednesday morning I began taking three classes of Margaret Winn - and these four I am having right along now - These are all English classes so far - and that may be what I shall have to teach mostly this coming term. With Emily and Margaret both going, we shall certainly have enough work & keep us busy!

Thursday P.M.
I didn't do much on ~~Tuesday~~ ^{Thursday} afternoon except get ready for my chapel talk the next morning - Getting back into the Chinese has been so queer - I don't ever know whether I'm going to say it right or not. If I don't think about it - I generally get somewhere near

2) What I mean to say - But of course that won't do for a public speech" and I couldn't help worrying about it a little. But I went over it with ^{her} ~~him~~ ^{her} - and she made very few corrections - (I got through all right Fri. & Thursday evening Early and I were invited to a new year dinner at Mrs. Ashmore - Miss Dillmore, Margaret Mann - Marguerite E. and Mr. & Mrs. Waters were there too - We debated about what to wear and E. teased me to wear my pink dress - She has a beautiful grayorgette and silk lace one which she hadn't yet worn and she wanted very much to wear it - So I did, and when we got there Mr. Waters was dressed up in evening togo and everybody was pretty much dolled up. I think Mrs. A. was pleased to have us put on our best things for her party, too. Mrs. Ashmore had some mistletoe but there was a restrained feeling somehow and we didn't react to the mistletoe very well - We had some fun out of it, but Mrs. Waters was the only one who got kissed!

Sunday Morning

Several people have been after me to write up the Laying of the Corner-Stone so I spent the most of yesterday doing that - I'm having a tough time doing it somehow - but I'm going to make another spurt today to see if I can't finish it.

Some of the spots came back in my coat, but some of them didn't - so I'm going to try again - I think the last ones I tried to clean were not washed with strong enough vinegar. I realize, of course that the vinegar may not be very good for the coat, but I'm hoping that if it is

ripped off right away that it will have no bad effects.
Tell Emma we just been eating some of her beach
nuts - and that we had them the other night at
the party for the Chinese teachers - They thought the
little three cornered things were very strange, and
they had lots of fun cracking them with their
teeth just the way they crack toasted watermelon
seeds.

I'm afraid the damp season has begun already - It
is chilly - and today it is raining - It has been
dark with very little sunlight for a number of
days now - I'm hoping for a sunny day soon when
I can get out towels, tablelinen, etc, that have been
packed away - and I want some sun to dry my
coat, too, so that it won't mildew -

With much, much love,

Abbie.

P.S. I'm sending two copies of the "Corner Stone Laying"
and I've sent a few pictures -

If you think wise to send this item to the
~~New East~~ Star in the East or the Maine Baptist Messenger
it will be all right with me. I have sent a copy to
Mrs. Goodman and one to Miss McVeigh - I enclose
Mrs. Ashmore's comment on the first paragraph -
Do you agree with her - and how about the rest
of it?

Swatow, China

Jan. 11, 1928

Dearest Ones:

Another busy week has gone by and it is already Sunday night, with my letter to you not yet begun. My spare moments this week have been spent getting ready for the W. W. G. meeting at school this afternoon. I told them about the Loyalty Luncheon, & W. W. G. banquet at Milwaukee and about the Women's Society, the W. W. G. and the Crusaders in Sutton - along with various other things - It is a great relief to have it off my mind, for while I know I didn't do it very well - and made a great many mistakes - yet it isn't still ahead of me - !

I have begun examinations and they are quite a task - School closes the last of this week - and that means some busy days ahead for us. I don't yet know at all what my work is to be for next term but I'm prepared to like it whatever it is. I used to think it would be a pity to "waste my Chinese" and only teach English - but I'm not so sure I can do anything else out here quite as well as teaching English. There are other things far more interesting I must admit. But I shall be glad even to teach English - and the only thing I need to remember is that it isn't nearly as much what I teach them as it is my contacts with them that will count in what I am trying to do out here -

My pictures arrived Friday night, as I know that you have had yours and that I shall be hearing very soon whether or not you liked them. And I hope you do! I really think it is a good looking picture and flatters me a lot - but still there are enough irregular lines around the mouth and "great big hole" in the neck so that you would probably recognize it - But I do hope that it seems as good to ~~you~~ as your pictures did to me when I was out here before - I can scarcely wait to know how you like them - I have given Emily here, and she has shown it to no one except Clara - and has promised not to show anyone else - I have already sent Pearl Mason's to her - and I presume Mabel Borell has here already - I think if you like them - and if I can get more at the same price, I'd better do it sooner or later - because I know I could never have a better looking one taken - and if I can get a handsome photo that really resembles me, don't you think I'd better make the most of a rare opportunity?

Emily went to Kityang yesterday and came back tonight. She wanted me to go with her and that was the plan she had made before I got here. It didn't really seem, though, as though I ought to run away so soon after I

I got here, and then I had this meeting for the afternoon - As it turned out Dorabelle was awfully sick with a headache - and I shouldn't have felt right about going at all -

By the way - will you get and send or have sent to me as soon as you can, the book of missionary stories that we read in Sunday School and as many others similar as you can get? And also any W.W.J. books or plays that you think he might like - (This last is a standing order.)

I have written my letter to Miss Dr. Veigh and I hope to make extra copies of the most of it to use as a circular letter to answer some of my numerous epistles - I don't seem to get them answered at all - They hang over me like a black cloud - and instead of getting any written, I just rush from one thing to the next -

I ought to write to Helen Clark - She sent me a cunning little brass handled pen-knife this Christmas - and asked me to go to Kuliang with her this coming summer. It is probable that Pearl Mason will be there too, so I think this is my chance, probably -

I ought to write to Lulu - and to Jn. Stacy - and a score of others - Christmas Thanks - Oh - that

reminds me. I didn't tell you about my Christmas presents.
did I? Emily gave me a beauty of a lacquer box
to go with my desk set - Mabelle gave me a solid
brass candlestick, made in Swatow - From Clara I had a nice
little charcoal stove with a cover and a door - made
of the stuff like the brown teapot I took home - From
the girls at Eastview I had a beautiful round box
of the precious "silk lacquer" (I had none of that at
home) and from Miss Soltman a cup of the same
material - A pretty Japanese basket from Edna Smith
Photo album from Lannie Northcott - Japanese writing
paper - handkerchiefs - cards etc. from some others -
From In a lovely heavy linen collar and cuff
set with brown stitching and fluted edges - from
Alice Harrison a pair of beauty pins - from Ruth
Whitman the American Magazine for a year - and
from her friend Edith Wilke - the most beautiful handkf.
I ever saw - The "remembrance for yourself" from the
Greenies was two very pretty handkf - I guess I told you
that Dulu, Lea, and Ruth sent me a box which contained
a pair of gray silk stockings, a tiny bottle of smelling
salt in a red leather case, a nice fruit platter,
and a silver cream ladle ("Adam" pattern!) I guess
it was Ruth who asked me the pattern) - !!
Can you beat it?

Well I must quit and go to bed - I
got three letters in a bunch, Dec 6, Dec. 13, & Dec 14.
on Friday - after waiting long long for some - I'm glad to
have the calendars -
Much love, Abbe

5
14
No

Suatore China

Jan 11, 1925

Mother dear,

Aunt Mary wrote asking me if I wanted the Pictorial Review - and if I didn't answer it before I left home I'm afraid it never got answered - Do you remember? Was the label "Abbie G. Sanderson" on the Jan. number ^{different} ~~mean~~ ^{than} from the ones before that? I was wondering whether I subscribed for two years myself or not. If I don't receive the Jan. number I'll let you know and you can send them on to me (with the Priscilla? that will be welcome too, also Needlecraft) ^{just a year ago tonight when I first heard Ralph give his "interview" in meetings}

Jan 14 - Just this minute I have sealed up my closely written (two) typed pages to send to Miss McVeigh - It's off my mind for six months now - and I'm sending you word so you needn't worry about it either! I've made copies of the most of my letters to her, and shall send them to the various people who need to have them, just ~~about~~ as soon as I can -

These are busy days - and each week gets

more lecture - But I'm not kicking - just
want you to know that I'm busy. I think
I'd write every single day, if I weren't quite
so "full of business" - I certainly am thinking
about you folks almost every minute in the
day - and wondering what you are doing -
It seems queer to have your letters tell
about things that happened a month or
so ago - when for this whole happy year
I could always get in touch with you
in two or three days at most - Ah me!

Just now I must write to Helen Clark
and thank her for the nice little pen knife -
and also to ask her about further details
concerning my going to Kuliang next summer
with her. It is quite possible that I may
go - especially if Pearl Mason is to be
there too - Then too - E. doesn't care about
going there - says she is jealous of Pearl, etc.!
So this may be my best chance to go -

By the way - Emily plans to arrive in New
York the last of May, then wants to go to the Chambersburg
Conference with her mother - and then to Northfield
and then up to see you in Sutton - That's what
she hopes - It occurred to me - you are not

planning, by any chance, to go to that Northfield Conference, are you? Or are there more than one Women's missionary conference? But whichever way you plan - please don't worry about her visiting you - You'll love her, and I know she'll love ~~for~~ you - and you really don't need to dread her coming to you a bit. She likes the tatum you sent her, and I know she appreciates your sending it. She has spoken several times about writing to thank you - I don't know whether she has done it but if she doesn't you may know it is because she is so busy and tired. She really hasn't much reserve to go on, and I just hope she won't work and worry herself sick before she gets started on her long journey.

By the way, some of the others have received their books of Remembrances but I didn't get any.

Does it seem a year ago today that I had that wonderful ride around to the Lead of Milloughby Lake with Mr. Chapman? It certainly doesn't to me - It was my only sleep ride - only real one while I was home - and I'm not likely to forget it soon.

With much - much love, Abbie

No. 6

Swarth, China

Jan. 20, 1925

Dearest One,

Yesterday was Mrs. Ashmore's birthday and the whole compound had a party for her last night. Each one was supposed to do a stunt - and the stunts were mostly poems, songs, etc. - I went as the old maid and caused a good deal of merriment thereby. It was a little bit embarrassing, though because all the other women had on their best - and the men were in evening dress too - and after the first five minutes I wished for a door to get behind. I said so much to Dr. A. and he replied that their house had plenty of doors! They all thought I was the worst looking critter that ever was - Emily said she thought they would think it worse if I made a face. Mr. Page said that couldn't be - but after I had made the face he admitted that that was worse, and asked if it didn't hurt!

When we got home I had a nice letter from Mabel Powell - and one from the Bennington people who have sent me some boxes of

things - and the ones from you folks making
fun of my seasickness and saying that you
had received the pictures and like them - I'm
so glad! And now I want to know whom
else you think I ought to get them for -
Sadie Flagg - for one, eh?

The January Pictorials have come and
I have none - so I guess you'd better send
it on to me - ~~with me~~ My Atlantic has not
yet arrived -

Was that letter of Prexy's just fine? Oh,
I do hope Arthur can find some way to
finish college - I'm sure it would help
him a heap - I'm wondering what can
be done about it!

That writing is Gladys Paul's without any
question - wasn't it nice of her to send you
the candy!

I'm returning Prexy's letter and sending
you also the Bennington School of Missions
program for their final windup - They
certainly know how to do things, don't they?

I've been writing the letters to the
Ricker girls - I am sending them one big

(m.b.) I've been writing to the Rich girls, sending one big letter and then typewriting a note to each of them on Chinese paper - I think there are thirty nine of them and I have them all done but six or seven. It's an awful job and I suppose I'm a fool to do it. Maybe they won't care anything about them - but if they do I'll be glad.

On Sunday I found that I'm to be not only on the church music committee but also on the Woman's evangelistic committee - and chairman of this second one. We always have a visiting week at the beginning of the Chinese year - and so I called a meeting of the committee that very night and we got the work pretty well arranged.

Did I tell you Anna Foster has come, and is staying here now at our house? She wanted to get up to Kiating before Chinese New Year, but the robbers are thick and there are a great many soldiers, so it is not safe to travel alone on the river, and especially not until after Chinese New Year - (next Saturday)

I'm trying pretty hard to get my letters answered - and now is the time I wish

the sea hadn't been so rough, and I so
lazy on the way out!

I must quit this and get some more
spittles off -

With much love -

Abbie

No 7.

Swatow, China

Jan. 27, 1925-

Dearest Mother mine;

It's been all sort of mixed up - a hustle and a bustle all the time - just about ever since I wrote before. Saturday was the Chinese New Year's day, and we had a long service at the church in the morning. After that we had a meeting of the new evangelistic committee, of which I am chairman - and others who were interested in going out to the surrounding villages this New Year time to visit. Church began at ten and we didn't get out of the committee meeting until after twelve.

Anna Foster wanted to go up river as soon as she got here, but word came that it wasn't safe, and she really was sick with a cold - He had hard work to persuade her not to go - but it was much wiser. Then she found that her brother John was in Hongkong at a medical meeting and she had plans for going down to see him there. But there was no boat that would get her there in time, so this morning she went up to Chaochofen - the first lap of her

inland trip. The Bjelke's came down Friday and leave for America today. They go around the other way - meet Mrs. B's father and mother in Liverpool - then go to Sweden to visit Mr. B's ~~relative~~ and go on to U.S.A. later. Marion Bon came here yesterday and sails for America today.

Half the compound has gone to Kitzing for New Year's time - and nearly the other half to Hongkong or Canton to various meetings. Clara D. is one who went to Kitzing and she asked me to keep house in her absence - So there has been a good deal of rushing around for me to do -

Emily needs her furlough badly. She can scarcely control herself at all now a days - and even little things like a dessert that she doesn't like or other little disappointments, are enough to make her cry. - I hope her trip with Miss Tollman will take her away from these little petty trials that stir her all up, and give her body a chance to get strong. - If she has her operation all right and every thing goes well - it ought to make a new woman of her - She can't go on this way, though - and although I shall miss her terrifically - still I know it would never do, for her or for any of the rest of us, to have her stay on here now as she is -

Oh - there is so much I could tell you if I could
talk - but I believe that for the present some
things are better unwritten - If I wrote too much
now - I should be sorry later - for I know well
enough that E.'s tempers and blues just now
are all made worse by her physical weakness.
(I can't think of Mrs. Wilder's initials but
I haven't much doubt that you know them and
will send this on to her -)

Marjorie Fleming is still having an awful time
with the language committee - Swears up and
down she won't take any more exams - Went
off early in December to Manila for a vacation
and is just getting back to-morrow -

I really ought to go out with one of the groups
visiting - but am so busy and upset about various
things that I don't believe I shall go this year.
I do want to get my letters answered up this
vacation and I have my pile down to about

twenty now - so that is encouraging, don't
you think? If I don't get ten more
today - yet - how happy I'd be to get the
ten!

Enough for now -
With much love (over)

Abbie

Will you please send ~~this~~ ^{one of the} extra copies of this letter in sending to Aunt Mary - and tell her that I don't know whether it is she who is sending the pictorial ^{to Sutton} and if it is, that I want to thank her - And you will send it on to me, won't you?

Please send the other enclosure to Mrs Webb.

P.S. Later: I guess I have explained sufficiently to Aunt Mary myself!

Jan 28, 1925

Dearest Father & Mother -

How's this? —

A pastor was trying to comfort the bereft loved ones at the funeral of a dear deceased one, and what he said ^{was this} "Friends, do not mourn too deeply. What we see here is only the shell; the nut ^{has departed!} is gone."

Pretty bad, eh? We were exceedingly surprised & have Miss Page spring that one on us the other night at dinner! It looks worse written than it sounded spoken; if you know what I mean - but it was really funny, especially coming so unexpectedly from her.

Later - Feb 1 -

My boxes have come! They were evidently in good condition until they got to Swatow, but on the way across the bay the larger box got a big hole punched through the lid - Some sea water got in, but the only things wet were my old bathing suit, a pair of white shoes, and the roll of yellow & white linen pieces left from my dress - No harm

done at all. I was scared for fear the
"tinned" maple syrup & raspberries & strawberries
had jumped through the tin, but they hadn't, and this
morning we had luscious waffles and delicious
maple syrup on them. The cheese was a sight-
all moldy and black and the paper around it
rotted - and swelling to the skies - But we
got it out and peeled off its cloth and it is
just as good as new - and has a very fine
flavor - We are going to have some for dinner
this noon and you may tell Mr. Chapman how very
much we are enjoying it - It is not likely to
last very long in this house - because everybody here likes
cheese, and all who have had bites of it already
wanted more - Now I guess I'm glad I tried to
bring it! Nothing venture, nothing have!

We had a sort of goodbye party the other night,
for Emily and Miss Tollman, and we thought that
the idea was a pretty clever one - We drew
an oblong of 3 inch squares on an old sheet-
and used it for the table cloth -
and put black squares on the blank spaces,
with numbers on all the white spaces - The

definitions were on the place cards.
~~white spaces.~~



Horizontal:

1. Historic N.E. town
6. They are big in India as well as here.
10. A City in Italy.
11. Silver Nitrate
13. Export Commission agent Sellman
16. Elder, abb.
18. Sailing vessel
19. Four hundred
21. We hope it will be smooth
23. Age, not found in mission directory.
24. Yankee for kerosene
25. The dog that is getting the worst of it.

27. Port cut up too many on shipboard.

29. Political group.

30. Little Dead Sea

31. India Oriental ~~Mail~~ Limited Mail Line abb.

33. Possibly.

35. Ex for

36. Part of Deodorant

37. Opposite of black, as sometimes pronounced near Philly.

38. The kind of "all" that you feel when sea-sick.

39. What you must do to make a catch on the way home.

41. Initials of one of us.

42. Some people you will see on your travels.

44. Part of China passed on ^{last} trip.

45. Sister states, abb.

47. Angle formed by meeting of two vaults.

48. Admiral.

Vertical

2. Automobile Association.

3. Let things slide, abb.

4. God of Love.

5. Lepidopter

6. But hotel you will miss this trip.

7. One opening (two words)

8. As soon as weary travelers

9. What we say when the captain asks us to dance

12. A place that will be empty when you go.

14. Louby's other name

15. Two missionary districts.

17. One of your principal ports.

19. You may run into a worse one before you get home.

22. Claim $\frac{1}{2}$ by many Chinese, stated yet preserved by some Americans.

24. A country you must not miss

26. Our sister across the Bay.

28. Chinese classifier

31. Sister of Boris.

32. City famous in songs, stories, feet.

33. A country you may not visit.

34. Part of a boat.

39. Root of that sense needed by radio fans.

40. Suffix denoting state or quality.

42. Book of Bible's abb.

44. Prefix meaning not.

46. Young people's society.

49. What the customs officers will be when he says you must pay duty.

Chinese words
Tshui = house
Hái = sea
Jám = salt
Niá = classifier
Palak = possibly
ngē = stubborn, insistent

Now see how long it takes you to do the rest of it! We came home from prayer meeting Wed. night & got together the skeleton of the puzzle - then the next morning I took it down in Clara's room (where Emily wouldn't see it) and worked out the rest of it & then wrote up the definitions - Some of them are crazy, I know - but they made folks laugh, and that was the main thing.

We have been invited to dinner everywhere now but to the Capens, and they have been under such a strain that they are neither accepting nor giving invitations of any sort. Did I tell you of the awful thing that happened just before I got back? It seems as though I must have, yet can't remember writing it. Mr. Huang accidentally shot his best friend Mr. Ho - Both of them, and Mr. Fu, who is Mr. Ho's brother in law - are all teachers in the boys academy - The Fu's have always been a little jealous because Mr. Huang has been to America and had other advantages - and Mr. Huang had to hide - It was an awful mix up.

and Mr. Capen as the principal of the school had a tremendous burden to carry. Mr. Fu was so wrought up about it that he was out of school most of the time, Mr. Huang was in hiding, and the third man dead - all three about the best men in the school - its no wonder the Capens are all worn out.

I forgot to say that on both boxes ^{together} I had to pay \$11.11 Mex. duty. I don't know just what for, but the things were worth \$167. or so - I suppose I ought to expect to pay something - My extra Japanese dishes came yesterday, too - so now I have dinner plates and soup bowls and various other pieces that I have needed -

Here it is Sunday, and Emily is going on Thursday. In spite of some things that I may have said in the past, I know it is going to be a pretty lonesome place around here for me after she has gone. There certainly is nobody just like her - and we do have so much fun because we can see things from the same angle so many, many times - I shall just have to busy myself with the work and not let myself moan for a single minute - It is true that perhaps sometimes things have seemed harder for me on account of her little temper but she has been so dear to me - and it really breaks my heart to think she may not be coming back. She says that she wants

to and intends to - Clara thinks her mother will object to her coming out to work with Mabelle again - but I don't know. Emily is pretty independent. I believe it would be wiser - if Emily visits you - for you people to steer clear of the question of return after furlough - not let her know that I have mentioned it to you - or - at least just as though I had said something about "one person's prejudice" - but perhaps that is something you will have to decide when the time comes -

I have put off writing to "Aunt Sadie" all this time - I guess I must get at it now -

Write much, much love,

Abbie.

P.S. I'm enclosing some pictures that I heard you say you wanted, Mother - also a letter that Mabelle wrote to meet me in Hong Kong - and Mrs. & Mrs. Page's letters about Milwaukee - which I'm sure will interest you.

P.S. 2. Whenever you want dreadfully to send me something - send about 3 dark brown single mesh cap hair nets - and either one or two dress shields, medium size on-and-off style - and a book of "S's" to be stamped with hot iron - I am marking all my linen with little embroidered S's and just now using up a book I brought out the first time - I shall be glad of another. I stamped a lot Friday - and embroidered eight little S's and one bigger (tablecloth) Friday afternoon and yesterday P.M. Aren't I smart? Isn't it scandalous to begin asking for things so soon - Be sure you take the money from my account!

*Copy
Bible
Union
Circular*

(COPY)

Wilmette, Illinois,
June 4, 1924.

Dear Friends of the South China Mission:

You are going to feel hurt and discouraged when you find your work cut back, and \$25,000 appropriated by the Northern Baptist Convention to investigate your orthodoxy! But when you know that the vast majority of Northern Baptists still heartily believe in you, you will feel better. It is by Dr. Franklin's kind suggestion that we are sending you our impressions of the Convention by the first fast boat, and asking that our Associate Secretary kindly make a copy of this for each station.

We arrived in Milwaukee the evening of the 26th, while as yet nothing was in session but the Bible Union, which, you may understand, is the New York wing of the Fundamentalists. We heard that evening an address by Dr. John Roach Straton, in which the officers of the Foreign Society and its missionaries were branded as modernists. And while it would be hard to select any statement he made that was entirely false from his point of view, yet the impression he gave was 90% false. One of his concluding remarks was somewhat like this: "What do we care for the boast of large numbers baptised, if they are baptised modernists?" (You may know that the record for the past year was over 18,000 on foreign fields, the largest number in our history.)

Several other addresses in the same spirit and tenor were given the next day. That afternoon we had a very tender and spiritual prayer meeting, conducted by Dr. Massee, and attended by the Fundamentalists who were not of the Bible Union and by other Christians; there we prayed for the Convention, and for the Bible Union, who were still throwing bricks in another hall of the Auditorium. The Bible Union had issued "A Call to Arms" and a lot of other literature, including the "Baptist Black List of Modernists". On this list were Messrs. Bjelke and Gledt, our beloved Dr. Anderson, Dr. Clarence Babbour, and several others who have so many firends that it seems certain that the cause of the Bible Union was greatly injured--and made even ridiculous--by the publication. (Dr. Petty, who gave the magnificent and deeply spiritual and evangelistic convention sermon, is called a modernist, but was not on the list.)

The first battle came in connection with the report of the Foreign Societies. Dr. Massee introduced a motion to create a commission of six, with an appropriation of \$15,000 to investigate the methods of the A.B.F.M.S. and the character and work of its missionaries. Dr. Straton introduced an amendment, or substitute, offering a committee of eleven, naming five leading Bible Union men, including himself, (hoots and a roar of laughter, which the chairman repressed) the other forces to name five, and the ten to name the eleventh. This substitute was lost by a vote of about nine to one, judging by the sound of the ayes and noes. Then, after much discussion, in which many favored the investigation in hopes it would settle the question once for all, and many opposed it on the ground that it would not bring peace after all this waste of money, the vote was finally passed by a ratio of about six to five, authorizing our fine, fair-minded Chairman of the Convention to appoint a Commission of seven, with an appropriation of \$25,000 for a thorough investigation. Our Society took no part in the debate, expressing their willingness to be investigated, and reserving only the right to correct errors. There was one to correct! Dr. Riley made the statement that the attention of the Board ~~six~~ had been called to a statement said to have been made by Mr.

Randall of West China to the effect that there might be another as great as the Christ, and that nothing had been done about it. Dr. Franklin had received that very day a letter signed by eight West China missionaries who were in the prayer-meeting where the remark was said to have been made, absolutely denying the allegation, and Mr. Randall himself denied ever having made such a remark or having held such a view. When this letter was read Dr. Riley turned deathly pale, reaffirmed the source of his testimony, and subsided. And the Bible Union leaders did not show their horns again during the Convention. Dr. Franklin felt sure that if he had asked a friend to speak in behalf of the officers of the A.B.F.M.S., the investigation would not have been voted. He showed us later a copy sent to him of a letter addressed to Dr. Riley by two members of the China Inland Mission, also denying the allegation against Mr. Randall. This letter, so far as we know, Dr. Riley did not make public. Dr. Franklin also had in his pocket, to use if occasion offered, a telegram in which a friend of Mr. Bjelke quoted from a letter to him Mr. Bjelke's statement of faith in the deity of Christ and other fundamentals.

The Fundamentalists as a whole made one more endeavor,--tried to get a creed voted instead of the Stockholm Message. I think not over one in ten were in favor of the creed, but, after the creed was voted down, the vote for the Stockholm Message, with the strict understanding that it should not be used as a creed or a test of faith, was unanimous. The fundamentalists claimed this as a victory!

There were important resolutions against war, against the Japanese Exclusion Act, etc., which you can read in the denominational papers. In general, the first part of the Convention was stormy, the middle part strong and inspirational, reaching its climax on Sunday with its grand addresses and its presentation of new missionaries, (not one for South China though!) and the last two days relatively unimportant, though with considerable interest on Monday in the Home Mission program.

I found a fine young man for the Swatow Academy; but the Board's answer is, "No money, at least not at present". We are here for a day and two nights in Dr. Adkins' comfortable home, with that perfect little bunch of sunshine, Mary Alice, running about, and Dr. and Mrs. Adkins treating us royally.

Our regards to you all.

Yours very sincerely,

(signed) A. H. Page

(copy)

June 5, 1924.

Dear Friends:

We are now returning to Newton Centre after a delightful, though brief, visit with Dr. and Mrs. Adkins, Mrs. Blaylock (nee Barbara Ross) was over to see us Tuesday evening, also her husband a little later. This afternoon we had a good talk with Kwen It at the station. He expects to study here until next June. He saw Dr. Franklin yesterday. We hope to see Hick Chho tomorrow A.M. as we are to stop over about three hours at Rochester.

After returning to N.C. I expect to mail you some of the Fundamentalist literature circulated at the Convention including their "Who's Who in Modernism". It is perfectly libellous for Dr. Straton to charge so many people with being modernists according to his published definition of the term. Mr. Colgate in his address said that if Wall Street men made such charges against each other, they would be involved in lawsuits. Certainly if they were dealing with other than Christians they would find themselves in serious trouble. I think it was a wise move for the Foreign Society to send so many missionaries (perhaps no more than usual) for we all had the opportunity to tell people the facts regarding our foreign work. Pastors and their wives were in perplexity after hearing the Bible Union speakers, saying, "if these things are true, we can't support the work. What shall we tell our churches?" I, for one, was thankful that I could reassure them and Dr. Franklin's evidence, which interrupted Dr. Riley's speech, came as a dramatic climax at a tense moment and was greeted with vociferous joy and relief.

Dr. Francis delivered a wonderful sermon; but the B.U. folks were not pleased near the close when he said that Christ gave His message to men of the First Century and in language suited to people of that time. Is there any reason why we must continue to think and interpret it in first century terms? It appears that Dr. Straton came up to Dr. Francis afterwards and said something like this: "Jim, all of the big preachers are losing their power.-----has lost his, Woolfkin has lost his, and now I see you are losing yours." Dr. F. grasped his hand, said, "John, we part the best of friends", and left him.

Pending the report of the commission of seven, the Bible Union pastors are pledged to cooperate with the N.B.C. and urge their churches to support its work. So that is one silver lining to the cloud. Dr. Straton sent a telegram pledging his full cooperation pending the report.

The Pre-Convention prayer-service Tuesday afternoon was a wonderful meeting, including praise, prayer, and testimony with Dr. F. E. Taylor, Mr. Henry Bond, and Dr. Goodchild as sub-leaders. Dr. Anderson's report for the Missionary Society was a masterpiece, especially the part referring to the controversy, and was received with enthusiastic applause. Mr. Jan. E. Colgate gave a fine address one morning, representing the laymen in the place of Mr. A. L. Scott, Mrs. Ashmore's nephew. He said some things which helped the situation, I believe, which the ministers could not have said.

The Women's banquet Saturday evening was a great gathering of 960 women, and the number of missionaries, home and foreign, was surprisingly large. Our South China girls in costumes looked very nice, but none of them spoke. Saturday noon we had a South China reunion--nine of us from China, including Mr. Chas. Tshia from Kaying, six Carmans, and Mrs. Sanderson. We

(over)

had Chinese food at a nice chop-suey place.

The weather was favorable all thru the Convention, tho cool, but we had no time "to see the town". We, also Anna Foster, were entertained at the home of Mrs. Foster's niece, Mrs. Neelen, who also knows the Speichers.

This morning, Friday, we saw Hick Chko and Mr. and Mrs. McClashan at Rochester. All are looking well.

We attended the Sunday morning Bible classes at Milwaukee. There were 3500 men and about 1250 women. Mr. F. enjoyed the men's classes and we women thought Miss Barrall a very inspiring leader.

This has been written under difficulty on the train, so you will excuse the scrawling, I am sure.

With kindest greetings to you all,

Very sincerely yours,

(signed) Ethel K. Page.

Handwritten note:
I have returned
M. P.

Am I a Pharisee to be so glad that she wants me back again?

ABIGAIL HART SCOTT MEMORIAL SCHOOL.
KARCHIEH SWATOW CHINA.

December 18, 1924.

Some Chinese letters

You dear ,dear, Girl,

odd's end

With the enclosures comes a lot of love to welcome you again to our midst. Here's to hoping you are having a comfortable and happy journey down the coast and will have a restful night coming up the coast. According to the steamer schedules ,we are looking for you to here on Wednesday. I expected to have a number of other notes from the girls for you, but perhaps they have given them to Emily or are sending them direct to you. Be assured they are watching for you. This week and the coming days are exceptionally full, you will be hearing of some of the events probably before you reach here, then we are expecting to lay the Corner Stone of the new building on Christmas Day, and that is calling for some special work, so you see we are extra happy to have you here for that ,too. Dear Helen Pue is just doing a bunch of "stap much su" all at once, do pray that she may be given extra strength to meet all the demands that come to her at this time.

If you meet any folks that I know on your way , remember me kindly to them. I just have to pinch myself and look again at the calendar and make sure the S.S. Pres. Taft is due in HongKong on Tuesday, every now and then, then again goes forth a prayer to keep you strong to help us meet the duties ahead of us. " Behold I send an angel before thee/ to keep thee in the way. " is just one of the precious promises that HE is giving all along the way. May we ever realize the real joy of it.

Much,much love to you

Mabelle

No 111

Swatow, China
Feb. 5, 1925

Dearest Ones,

It doesn't seem as though I have accomplished very much today, and still I have run around until I am tired. I have been packing and sorting. I don't know just what we shall have to do next, so I am trying to prepare for two or three things that might happen.

I still feel there is nothing to worry about - in spite of the fact that word came from the Consul yesterday that we were not to go inland, and that all the inland missionaries should be called down to the port.

But I do think that we shall have

to be prepared to go at short notice - Things are sort of hanging fire, and we don't know what we may expect next.

Fifteen refugees from Foochow were here the other day on their way to Manila - You have probably read in the papers that at a Catholic orphanage in Foochow a number of babies were died all at once and when they were being taken out for burial, some wicked ones got hold of the bodies, mutilated them, and then, saying that the foreigners had been murdering Chinese babies, started an anti-foreign riot, and went to breaking up things generally.

That was on Saturday; by Wednesday all Americans in Foochow vicinity were out to port and off - I haven't seen

Pearl Mason - for she went to Shanghai instead of coming this way - but she wrote at Christmas time that they had had some horrid experiences - smashing of chapel windows while they were at church - breaking up the service, etc.

We don't anticipate anything like that here, but there has been some anti-foreign propaganda - and anti-Christian propaganda in the papers, and so we are preparing. I am trying to pack for three or four different possible situations in which I might find myself - I'm packing clothes & a few books which I shall want to take when I go to Shaochowfu; I'm packing in my big trunk things which I should want to take if I had to leave Swatow, say - for Manila; and I'm putting in a packing case things which I should want to take along in case I left China for good.

For the immediate present, we shall
be here (Easily to here now) - as I have
to leave unpacked enough clothes
to wear!

I haven't written more than three
thank-yous for Christmas things yet! I have
had some very fine presents, too - among them
a number of books - 4 from Gladys Paul, one
from Idella - one from N. E. Distinct
one from Edith Traver, and two for all
of us from Helen Fielden - Mrs. Miller sent me
some candy and the "Good Housekeeping" - Eva
Sawtelle is sending the "Atlantic" as usual.
Mrs. Stacey sent \$10 and in a beautiful photo
of herself. Edna Smith sent a pair of silk and
wool stockings, a pipe organ record for my Victrola,
and chocolate peppermints. Her mother, as I
told you, sent me stationery - I had thirty-five
cards from Westerners, here & America, twenty-one from
Chinese, and fifty-five gifts, big & little -
guess I'll have to enclose a list of them.
Wasn't I lucky? With love - Abbie -

Christmas gifts 1926

Clara Leach & Kay Bohn } Chinese embroidered slippers

Emily E. 1 doz linen handkerchiefs with
my J. S. name on them

Mrs. Speicher lily bulb growing in dish

Dorothy Campbell "

Edith Traver Book "Greatest Thing in the World."

Marguerite E. Brass vase & little scissors

Elise K. Silver inlaid lacquer vase.

Miss Sollman - yellow glazed vase.

Valva B. - Brass vase with blackwood stand -

School teachers - Blue & white vases (1 pr.)

Mabelle C. - Painted Basket -

Mrs. Wildreth - Appliqued apron -

Edda Mason - Canister of tea

Anna Foster - Stationery

Mrs. Waters - Can of tea (jasmine)

Mrs. Page - Green vase.

Mary Egg - Christmas stickers.

Enid J. Stationery -

Beckie Kalsbeek - Box of Marcel's chocolates

Mrs Miller - Good H. + chocolates
 Mrs. Hobart - Calendar.
 Mrs. Grosbeck - Japanese paper weight
 J. Paul - Little World, "Trail makers of Middle Ages"
 "Masfields poems, "Adventurous Religion".
 Ruth + Ralph - Music.
 Mrs. Lesher - Cook book.
 Mrs. Nellie Sargent \$5.
 Mrs. Gammon \$15.
 Alice Harrison 2 hdkf.
 Gladys Willis - picture of baby Jack.
 H.E. Dist. - Ravenshoe.
 Mother + Father Caudy - sugar - etc - etc
 Edna Smith - peppermints, stocking record
 Hong eng che - glass beads.
 Mrs. Ho - doily -
 Cheli Che - tea cloth + napkins
 Mrs. Lim - 2 doz hdkf - 2 bags.
 Mimi Hong 4 hdkf, silver chain + pendant
 Mai che - tatting
 Fannie Northcott painted hdkf.
 Pearl Mason - hdkf
 Lucy Montgomery Newell hdkf.
 J.K. "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes".
 Mrs. Yating Chen - Hdkf -
 Gek eng - framed emb. motto.
 Mrs. Ang + Son Bit - bed socks.
 Mrs. Worley. Grape catsup
 Mrs. Capen - rose plant.
 Eva Sawtelle "Atlantic".

Washburn Society - set of
 white silk underwear,
 Mrs. Stacey #10.
 34 - Photograph
 Ruth Sperry - velvet powder puff.
 Helen Fielden
 "High Fire"
 "This Teakwood
 Brindons"
 Remembrance
 from a friend of the
 missionaries -

!!

No 9

Feb. 19, 1920

Dear Bueo,

You don't know how very much ashamed I am that it has been so long since I have written to you. Work has just been piling on top of work and I have felt that I never should get time to breathe again! This week it was my turn to lead prayer meeting - and of course I worried about that a great deal more than I ought. My rooms were in a mess and didn't seem to get straightened out; Emily has gone, but Clara hasn't, and some of my things won't be moved until she goes on Saturday - There have been a good many invitations and a good many meetings, and I have begun to teach a S.S. class, young girls, this time - (Mrs. Waters has her class of old ladies back again - Letters have kept coming and I haven't answered one for three weeks! My hair needed washing - and I felt tired and cold - most of the time -

Now - to be frank, none of these things were half as bad as all this, but that is the

way they seemed to me - Finally yesterday Clara insisted that I go to the hospital and have my blood tested for malaria - It'll be switched if the old "bugs" haven't begun at me already! So I've taken my first dose of quinine tonight and suppose I shall have to take about 15 grains a day for five days - then go again and be examined - and take more quinine unless the "bugs" are all gone - But that explains a lot of my dumpish inertness and feeling so cold all the time - I had about decided that I should have to wear a woollen dress, sweaters, coat, and fur scarf around the house all the time - ! I don't expect to feel tip-top while I'm taking quinine for the next few days, but after that I expect to bounce right up like a rubber ball - There's nothing serious the matter - I eat well, and sleep well - but am sleepy all the time - Well - I've been boasting that I was here 4 years and a half without having malaria,

and this time in less than two months the
germs got well started. It certainly is funny,
isn't it? -

Your letters of the 11th and 18th of Jan -
came yesterday and cheered my weary spirit
much - I can see you thought the meal
in Honolulu was extravagant but don't you
think that not going to see the most wonderful,
most famous view in the world when I was
so near would be a poor way to save ~~the money~~ ^{it}?
(a was it six? I've forgotten & am too lazy to look
it up)

I'm glad the smaller pictures can be had
and think the price not unreasonable -
I can't seem to collect my thoughts enough
to decide ~~how~~ ^{how} many I want - but I
know that I'd like them for Myrtle, Ju, Idella,
Ruth Whitman "Aunt Sadie", Marion Rine & Harriet's,
Hattie Kilcollins, Grace Patton - Gladys Paul (did she have a big one?)
Oh - and a number of others, besides several people
out here - I can count up two dozen without
half trying - I guess I'll decide ^{now} to have you
send for two dozen - and pay for them with
my money - I'll try to make up a definite
list later - I think I'll save them for next
Christmas - I'll try to get around to send some tallow and
handkerchiefs very soon - also something for Louise -

I'll also try later to tell you about Ruth's lovely letter.
Had a nice one today from Mrs. Chapman - too -

So sorry you were sick - I do hope it didn't hang
on - Glad that Ada is back in church work
again. It certainly seems that I antagonized
her, doesn't it? Well, when I refused to sing that
first Sunday I really didn't mean to get mixed up
in any choir any time I was at home. I thought
~~I had had enough sad experience along that line.~~
And by trying to stay out of it entirely I got myself
in rather sorry - I'm sorry - but don't see what
I can do to help it now -

Heard from Emily yesterday - They had had a
good trip as far as Singapore - and were in
hot weather, already -

Received today from Mrs. Ladd 17 lbs of crochet
cotton in the skein - I had to pay \$1.27 duty but
it is worth it I guess - Ought to keep me in crochet
cotton for a while - I must write to her and to Emily
and to lots of folks, but I'm not going to tonight -
I'm going right to bed now -

With much much love

Yours

Abbie

P.S. I'm glad you like my picture
(Did I tell you that before? !)

20.10

Swatow, China

Mar 2, 1925

Dearest Ones,

It is quarter past eight at night and I am over in Dr. Velva Brown's room (at Mrs. Ashmole's) with Edna Smith, who is also writing to her beloveds in Bloomfield. Marguerite is sitting over on the couch with Velva talking over some medical affairs -

Velva has tried several times to have a party but other things have prevented and so she invited just the two or three of us over this evening to enjoy her nice open fire - It certainly is nice and homey -

2

I promised to come only on condition that she would send me home promptly at 8.45. Did I tell you that some malaria bugs have been found in my blood and that I'm stuffing hard on the quinine to drive away the ubiquitous little germ! I have been dosing for two weeks now - and while I have no other symptoms than chilliness and weariness - I've missed no meals nor classes and feel pretty well other than what I've just mentioned, ~~but~~ the bugs seem to be kicking up quite a rumpus and the quinine doesn't seem to kill

them as fast as ⁽³⁾ I'd like to
have them go! So I've made
up my mind to go to bed
by nine o'clock, no matter
what, for a week or two,
to see if I can get straightened
around - My letters are piling
up something scandalous!

It has been pretty good to
hear from the Sutton people -
I hope you will tell them I said
so - I had a nice little message
from Mrs. Wark - and such a
good letter from Mrs. Campbell
and one from Mrs. Chapman
which I greatly enjoyed - I want
to answer ~~at~~ them and Ruth's,
and Emma's as soon as I can
get a breathing spell -

So far I've heard from Aunt
Susie, Arthur, and Aunt Lammie

(4)

and indirectly (through you) from
Aunt Bertha about my pictures -
They like it pretty well, I guess.
What Ruth T. said about it
I am too modest to repeat
but it made a lump in my
throat to have her say such
nice things about me - I
certainly don't deserve them
at all -

(I certainly mixed up these pages
pretty well, didn't I?)

This whole section of country is
in a very restless state of mind -
For a week now many shops
in Swatow are closed, and the
ones that have remained open
at all do business only through
iron bars - Rumors come that
soldiers are in Ho-phou and

Chaoyang and that they are coming
 to Swatow next. We do not fear
 for ourselves at all, but the
 Chinese people will suffer if the
 unpaid soldiers begin their looting.
 The battles out here are usually
 not very fierce ones: the side that
 knows it will get beaten runs away
 and gives way to the other fellow.
 instead of staying to get killed.

This is now several days later, I
 am ashamed to say - and I'm
 just scribbling a word or two
 more to let you know I'm getting
 on fine, playing tennis almost
 every day, feeling much better than
 I have for the last two or three weeks.

and working like a trooper -

I'm still taking quinine - and
hope that this next trial will
show that the bugs have all
departed - -

Now I'm going to bed - for I
really must get up early
enough in the morning to cut
out a teddy or two for the
woman to sew, and also
get ready some tatting to
send to you -

Love, love

Abbie

Can you get me
a yard of ribbon
the width of
enclosed, but
heavier and
better? This is
10¢ Store kind -
and wears right
out -

Swatow China

No 11.

Mar 11.

(Greetings to Sutton friends).

Dear Gus -

I've been hearing earthquake stories about New England and I wonder if you have been hearing fighting stories about Swatow! Wouldn't it be grand if each of us could know right away how the other is getting along?

We have been reading the most vivid accounts of ourselves in the Hongkong papers, but it is really not as bad as it sounds. It is true that just while I was writing letters last Saturday (alright, I didn't know it at the time) Sun Yat Sen's soldiers actually arrived from overland just in time to see the gunboat depart upon which was Tang Kuang Meng (Chen Kwang Ming). (the opposing general in Charge of Swatow). There was shooting, and a child who was shot in the arm was brought to our hospital. The Chinese here were very much frightened, and were horrified when we started out to play tennis as if nothing had happened.

There has been a great deal of fighting and looting in and around Kityang and Chaochowfu - and at many other inland places. There has been some robbing in Swatow - The

father of one of our girls had 800 dollars taken from him at the point of a gun the other day. But aside from a few such things, and the strain of not knowing just what is going to happen, we are moving along peacefully. There are several gunboats in harbor now; the northern Chinese ones have all departed, but we have two Japanese ones, a French, and a British. Monday the news came by wire that the "Ashcan" - otherwise known as the Asheville - was coming "home". It hasn't arrived yet but we are quite excited at the possible prospect of seeing some of the folks again. The crowd has changed a good deal, I guess, both on the ship and here on the compound. They may not come now, after all - for the city has changed hands and the shops are all open again and everything apparently near normal again. There is still the question, however, as to whether the defeated soldiers will get back their nerve and come back for a fight. Their numbers are larger than those of the present occupationists (?) but they were just afraid, and ran away -

The people are many of them terrified - and don't know when their goods will be taken away - women mistreated, etc. Things are indeed in a pitiable state in this section of the country. We certainly need the prayers of people at home if we ever did.

ASIGAIL HART SCOTT MEMORIAL SCHOOL

KACHICHEN SVATOV CHINA

Jan 6, 1935

Later Mar 14

Yesterday your letter of Feb 7, 1935 came.

It's pretty good to hear from you! I'm exhausted of the way I have neglected to write, though - And we heard yesterday, too - of the Rockefeller gift - What a load must be lifted from the minds of those in charge! Still - there is enough work to be done -

I have been doing up some tatting to send to you. I'm sending sample post. and I've marked them according to this cipher, which is doubtless a little different from any other that people have used:

ELISHABCD O.
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0.

In some of them I have marked $\frac{1}{2}$ instead of 0 - but I have decided that 0 is less confusing. Thus, if tatting is \$2.50 for the whole piece I will mark it $\frac{1}{2}$ / 10 - or if \$1.24 e/l. Is that clear? That means the amount I paid in Mex and the amount you ought to get in gold - The pieces are almost all 12 yd pieces - and usually you could sell it for a little more - say 25¢ ps. yd for the 2.50 kind - 18¢ ps. yd for the other, etc. The handkerchiefs I am sending you are three prices, cotton ones like this and one other pattern. .25 Linen ones with corner, .35 (I think you could get .50) Linen with drawwork all around, .60 (think you could get .75) But if you can't get the higher prices, the lower will do. I'm sending two tea cloths, a tray cloth, and two tea cloths are marked at a low wholesale price - but what I paid is marked in cipher - If you think one of them

is all right for Louise - keep it for her - If not - I'll send something else -

I have had the woman make my two flannel nighties and finish my white silk dress & make the rations with orange trimming. I'm enclosing pictures of how they are made - The silk has no trimming whatever except the 4 rows of shirring & cording at top of skirt. It really needs none and is very very pretty - I'm going to tackle the blue linen next, I think - I'd like to sew today - but I have made up my mind that I must write letters -

Edna has been telling me about the split in the Bloomfield church - Dr. Monk is too bossy and too reactionary to suit most of them - and he and a certain faction wanted to run the church - A great many of the leaders couldn't stand it, and wanted a change of pastors. They were in a slight minority however - The climax was brought by a sermon on "Forgiveness" in which the "rebels" were promised forgiveness from the pastor - if they would repent & get down on their knees - They were not inclined so to do - and so the pastor wouldn't even shake hands with them - About a hundred & fifty withdrew their names - J. W. Smith, Edna's father, is one of the deacons. Edna's people withdrew her name with theirs - and she is very glad - There are baptisms already in the new church, and the number is over 200 now (I think) - It seems a shame that it had to happen, but I guess it clears the air of a long standing feeling that almost amounted

to a feud. Dr. Monk did not seem particularly cordial to me when I was there - though of course I wouldn't have mentioned that to Edna above all persons. She herself said that she thought it queer that I spoke only in Sunday School there!

That is P. H. J. Lerrigo's church and for reason. He is staying in the old church, though his views are "middle of the road" rather than narrow. He and Dr. Franklin have both been up before the investigating board, and of course any move on his part might start talk - Dr. Monk, I should say - is the type of John Roach Straton!

I wish you could both read Fordick's "Modern Use of the Bible" - It sounds like a heretical little, but as one man says, "Whoever calls Dr. Fordick a heretic without reading this confession of his faith stands to answer to God for bearing false witness against a brother in the Lord." You might not agree with it all - but it is surely food for thought - I wish you might read it and let me know what you think of it.

Don't think that the problem of a variety of opinion in religion is going to stay in America - it is coming on over to China just as fast as it can come - and we are going to have it to meet face to face before long - I feel sure - We shall need wisdom far above as never before -

With love
Alice

Dear Ones. No 12

Mar 18725
Just a scribble Sunday night before I go to bed to let you know that I'm well and happy, hope you are the same, etc. I'm enclosing a copy of the letter I have sent to Ruth Turnbull, Eva Owen, Idella Farnum, and the Haggos - The Haggos was a little different - but about the same. I thought at first that for certain reasons, I would send my letter to Ruth in yours, then decided she might like to get this one with a Chinese stamp on it.

I haven't written so many letters today as I meant to, partly because I went over to call on Mrs. Ashmore, meaning to stay just a few minutes - and she insisted on my staying & supper. It seemed ever so nice - a lot like old times. She said a letter from her daughter - just received - said "How nice it must be for you to have Abbie and Mrs. Waters back again. Wasn't that nice? I mean nice to know that Mrs. A's letters have intimated that it was nice to have me here -"

Have I ever written to you about how Mrs. Lovers spent our Girls' School Building money so lavishly that we have only enough money to finish the basement and first floor? It's just a shame - but the building is - and nothing to do but wait until goodness knows when to get the rest of the money - I mean to get some

money from somewhere to finish it - I don't dare
to write about it to anybody, for fear it will
be called soliciting specifics - But oh how
I wish we could see some way clear to
getting it!

I've just been getting my Sunday School lesson.
Every Sunday evening the Chinese girl who has the
other Upper Intermediate Class (just same grade as
mine), comes and we talk over the work of
the following Sunday, and go over the lesson. If
there are English words she doesn't understand, I ^{help} her,
and if there are English words the Chinese of ^{which} I
don't know, she tells me, or we look them up, etc.
I'm very glad to have this contact with her - for she
is one of the leaders in school, and she is in ^{charge} of
my classes - I wish I could get close to more
of the girls that I do -

I was much touched by the clippings you
sent about temptation and the parental love that
often keeps a child from falling - I'm very sure
that has been my keeping power many, many
times - Keep on praying for me, my very
dearest beloveds, and perhaps I can yet -
be of some real use in the world! I
wish I might do something really, really worth
while - not for honor or fame - but just for
your sakes -

With all my love -

Abbie

No 13

Swatow, China
Mar. 23, 1925

Dear Ones,

Well, we are still alive and kicking, none the worse for wear, so to speak, in spite of the fact that Swatow has capitulated for the second time, and is in the hands of the third general this month! But the fighting is mostly running away, so we don't feel many serious effects of it. The power in Swatow in the past has been a northern faction, but their general, Tang Kuang Meng (or Chen Kuang Ming) bolted when the troops of Khou Tshong Ti appeared. This Khou was in cahoots with Sun Yat Sen, but after a while decided to shift for himself and then went around winning victories and so on, on his own hook. This last week another general, Lum Pook, sent him a threat, telling him that he had had Swatow long enough and that it was time for him to get out. So he promptly got! This Lum is on his own hook too, so they say. But then it is very hard to find out anything definite, and especially hard to find out anything definite that is true!

Foochow is much worse off than we are. The anti-Christian feeling is strong there, as is also the anti-American feeling, - which latter we have been very free from here until very recently. Khou's troops were anti-Christian and scattered a lot of propaganda around while they were here. It is said that they were anti-foreign, too. A certain grouch against the Methodist mission seems to have arisen in Foochow. Reports have just come that the pupils and teachers of one school up there have been imprisoned in the school for several days. I guess they need the American gun-boat there worse than we do here. We are well protected anyway, for we have an Italian man-of-war added to our British and our French and our Japanese ones!

We are pretty downhearted to-day for we have just discovered that a little girl who has been with us for just about a month has leprosy. She is a charming girl and it is a heartbreaking thing for her. But there is more than that to think of. She has been in school all this time, sleeping with one of the girls and mingling freely with all of them, and no care has been taken at all, of course. I have scarcely seen her myself, for she is in none of my classes.

Mai Che, my sewing woman, stuck a nail in her foot on Saturday, and that very noon we heard about a boy over in Chaoyang who had stuck a nail or something in his hand and was dying of lockjaw. Of course I worried. I sent her to the hospital, and just found out today that she did not go but put on a concoction of soap and ginger herself which irritated it. Having found that that was the wrong kind, she put on a poultice of tea leaves, which helped, she said, and so she could bear to step on it. (She was helping clean up our end of the attic where I have just had a floor laid. It is certainly great to have a place for the things at last. It was surely getting crowded up there!)

I have sent copies of the above as letters to Arthur and to Emily - I sent her to London, but I don't yet know whether or not it can possibly reach her. She writes of very fine sightseeing tips - I think I'll send the letters on to you later -
Time for another letter from you but it is not due until Thursday or Friday! Love - Love Abbie

No 14.

Swatow, China

Mar 29

Dearest Ones.

Just a scribble this time - because it is nine o'clock Sunday night and I must get to bed. I have been having another dose or bunch of doses of quinine - The other doses didn't get rid of the malaria bug - so this time I have had to take hydrochloric acid with each dose to help dissolve the quinine - I have also been taking iron and arsenic to help build up the blood and then resist the germs - I have taken it faithfully, and I hope this may be the end of it. When I take the hydrochloric acid, I have to rinse my mouth with soda water - Whether it was the rinsing in cold water, or whether I caught cold, or what, I don't know, but an old tooth has turned up and I have, with changes on tooth ache, neuralgia, and headache, for the last three days and nights. I'm much better tonight, but must get a good night's rest so that I'll have a good start for Monday morning.

I wanted pretty much to stay at home and loaf today, but I couldn't do it and so I went to my Sunday School class - and this P.M. I went off to my teacher training class - and this P.M. I went off to the Personal Workers Training Class. I am ^{also} ~~also~~ chairman of the evangelistic committee - and we have to arrange these monthly meetings, and then go around to the houses and tell the leaders of the groups about them and encourage them to come to the meetings and to have their little prayer groups - We had ninety five at the

meeting last month, and about eighty today in spite of heavy rains - I play the organ for the meetings - We hope for an evangelist here this week and we have those meetings to arrange, too -

The article by Goodchild in the Watchman Examiner, about Dr. Fordick's book - is here and is of course much talked about. Some agree with him, some don't, and some do partly - It is plain to see that he and Dr. Fordick can never get the same point of view. I am still of the opinion, however - that no one should criticize the book unless he has read it - And I still wish you would get it and read it if you haven't done so -

Mabelle has the Watchman, and some others have the Baptist, but I don't very often see the B. - I have often wished I might have it, but never thought to write about it. I suppose there are three or four copies on the compound - but they are sent to individuals and are not circulated -

I had been waiting as long for home mail - and then the Pincillas and Pictorials came - and delighted several of us - (You must send them so soon, though that you have no chance to look at them yourself!) And your letter of Feb. 22 came a little later - and cheered my heart a heap. The neuralgia wasn't half as bad after that!

Emily's mother sent me the loveliest Valentine - a huge box of chocolates! We are enjoying that, too - I shall have to hurry up and answer it, I guess!

Love Abbie

No 15,

Suatsow, China

Nov 30, 1923

Dearest Bess,

Having safely passed three days of
face, tooth, and headache, I now count myself
on the well list again and since I somehow
feel like writing a letter - I'll proceed to
address myself to you, although here at my
elbow are about thirty other letters which
should have been answered some time ago -
I just sent one letter off to you this morning,
too! Strange, isn't it, how much I prefer
writing to you to struggling with a "missionary
letter".

Did anyone say it's hot in Suatsow? Well, this
is about the slowest season I have ever known
to be sure, but even so, I had not dreamed I
should be so cold here in March. I'm far
far from "sweating in the thinnest of linens"! -
But we shiver long-sufferingly, for we
don't dare open our mouths about the cold -
for fear it will be fearfully hot the next day!
We know this must be about the last of the
coolness, and we shall be wishing for it again
before long! At the present moment I am wearing
knee length underwear, dark blue serge dress - and
fur scarf, and woolen stockings - and all the other

2

things that you would naturally suppose me to be wearing. It may not seem strange to you, but it does to us - to have it so cold at this time of the year. The rains have begun in earnest now - peltting down some any time of day or night, with thunders and lightning often mixed in.

This afternoon I have been thoroughly enjoying myself. Do you remember my story "The Last Opportunity" that was printed in a Colby Circle once? Edith Traver has asked me for a story or article for a young people's paper - and this P. M. I began my translation of it. It is getting a few additions and will be much better in Chinese, I think, than it is in English.

I shall not be able to spend my time on that this week however. I have promised to make a speech in Swatow next Sunday at the Institutional Church - to the boys of the ~~Sund~~ Christian Welfare Club. The topic is "An American Lady". But I can change my subject if I wish. I don't yet know what I shall talk about, but it is to be in English - and so I shall try to do something.

Tomorrow I go out to breakfast, to meet the evangelist who is coming here - and to help arrange his schedule. - I don't know what

time I shall get to classes in the morning.

On the side I have been dressmaking - I have the brown linen all finished but the button holes - and I have the blue linen begun. I think the checked stuff you gave me will be very pretty as collar, cuffs and vest. I found a summer silk like enclosed sample in Stratos and am making that one too. I keep forgetting to enclose a handkerchief in my letters - but I'll try to remember it this time.

Please don't get too worried about my theological views. I don't agree with all of Dr. Fordick's book - and be assured I don't write my opinions to anybody except you, nor do I air them out here.

There - how's that for a scribble - its the first time I've really felt much like writing for a month!

So sorry about all your colds and sickness - I try to realize they are all over now! Although I may not seem to appear much interested in such things as birthdays, I truly am, and have thought much about them. Mar. 6 I did not go by without a thought, nor will April 3 - Some small tokens are coming to you a little later -
Love - Love - Love, Abbie

Mar. 31, 1925

Dearest One,

I'm writing this not particularly because I feel like writing a letter, as I did the last one, but because I feel like blowing off steam - So this better go in the fire when I get through -

I have been trying all day to get some meetings arranged with the Dr. Kunkle, pres. of Canton Theol. Sem. who is here just now - for the women and girls - He doesn't want very much to do it - and it has been hard to find a time that would suit him and everybody else too - and now that we have the meetings arranged for 10 o'clock in the morning it cuts out the nurses and other hospital people from going - and they don't like it much. Moreover, we have been planning all along for evangelistic meetings - and this man has prepared speeches on other subjects - such as how to answer atheists, anti-Christianists, etc. so we are afraid the whole thing is going to fall rather flat - and it is discouraging -

Then tonight I had a time and a half trying to persuade our Miss One to do the translating - She didn't want to a bit and I was on tenter-hooks about that - At my old job of worrying again, you see - Well, I guess I'll go to bed, even though it is only eight o'clock. See if I can get a little rested - When in the world I shall ever get ready for my Sunday speech, I don't know!

Then too Mabelle and Marjorie both want to keep home, and have been having a time about that. Marjorie out of her sense of justice was willing to make up for other times

Last fall and this winter when she didn't do the housekeeping because she was away or something, and Mabelle wants to do it herself, because she wants to have things thus and so, and can't stand the way some other folks do - or don't do things! She must love it sometimes when I am keeping house! Gee, but I've certainly got a wonderful disposition tonight! I certainly feel like kicking everything around the block. What makes me the

maddest is this; why should I worry about other people's fancies? I really think I do that when I am tired myself - but I wish I didn't! Guess I'd better wait until later when I have something more cheerful to write about, before I send this letter - April 6 -

Well, well, well! The meetings came off all right, and Miss One interpreted for them all and was much interested in the addresses. Mabelle gave in gracefully and let Majorie keep house for another month - I managed somehow to get through my speech on Sunday and they said it was a good one - So I used the substance of it for my chapel talk in Chinese this morning - Things do usually come out in the wash, don't they? Ah, me.

Just now I have been doing something that was not easy - writing to Emily's mother. She didn't ask me outright about the vote - but said she was very curious about it, and put it in such a way that I couldn't ignore it. I'm sending you my copy of this letter - I don't think I'll keep it around here! I may have said too much - but perhaps you can guess it was like pulling teeth to know what ever I should say at all! Do you think I said too much? Burn it up, anyway - Please give my love to Mrs. Wark and Mrs. Chapman and Stella - and tell them I'm going to write soon I hope -

Give Ruth my love too, of course - always - whether I
say so or not - I want to write to Emma too -

Did I tell you how cold it has been? You'd laugh if you
could see me now - I put on my gray woolen dress for
dinner tonight (I've enjoyed it very much - and everybody
likes it - I don't mind the extra weight at one side, either.)
and as I sit here in my study writing, I have drawn
on wool stockings over my others - and put on my
heavy bathrobe and my black fur scarf over that! But
as I said in the other letter, it is coming off hot one of these fine
days - and I guess they will wish we didn't have to
wear any clothes at all -

Here is a list of books which I'd like - but I don't
feel that I can afford but about 3 dollars worth
of them. Will you please use that much of my money
to get some? Don't spend your money for these, but if
any one wants to know what I want or what I can
use, you might tell 'em some of these - (The last one especially)

The Ascending Life - by Richard Roberts
Rattle and Roseleaves, - F. W. Borcham
A Bunch of Everlastings - "
Children's Story Sermons - Kerr
My Junior Congregation - Farrer
Twenty-six Stories for girls - Conrad -

or any other of his
except Wives of Wildfire
and The Uttermost Star

Oh dear, I don't see where the time goes! It is ten
o'clock - and I'm getting sleepy - Haven't done much,
either -

I'm glad your earthquake was no worse!
Conditions here in Swatow are all right on the surface,
but we can't tell how long they will remain so -

Love, love - Abbie

Swatow, China

April 6, 1925

Dear Mother-Lady,

When your letter came I was all chilly and tired and cross with incipient malaria, deaf and dizzy from taking quinine, and weak and nervous from an ugly streak of tooth-ache. (These ills are all better now, thank-ym !) I hadn't had a letter from Mother for nearly three weeks, and I was missing my Emily a heap, too. And that dear letter of yours was just the cheer-bringer I needed. I wanted to sit right down then and tell ym so, but as usual, interruptions came, and they have kept coming ever since.

I don't know how to thank you for being so good to me. I do enjoy Good Housekeeping so much; it was exceedingly thoughtful of you to keep it up for me.

As for the wonderful "Sweet" valentine, needless to say I was delighted. I needn't have been as surprised as I was, for I might have known it would be like you to do that sort of a nice thing! We enjoyed every one of the tooth-some morsels - the big Least we saved until last. It was such a pretty box, too -

Dear Lady, you must know without my saying it how badly I felt when I learned about Mabelle's vote. Mabelle has not mentioned the matter &

me. She evidently wanted to express criticism and took that way of expressing it. It seems to me she couldn't have realized what a cruel thing it was to do!

Oh, I mustn't get started or I shall say things that were better left unsaid. I cannot see, however, how this one vote could possibly prevent Emily's return. That is unthinkable. Of course it makes you not want to have Emily come back again, but, my dear, it is a thing that Emily is big enough to meet even though it won't all be easy - and we need her so!

It's a real treat to have news of your babies - they come next I think, after my own "grandchildren".

I'm glad they are getting safely
over their whooping cough - That
is such a siege sometimes; Arthur &
I had it from October till May!
Give "Dixie" a special hug for me,
please - How her "dear Aunt Emily"
will love her! - as well as the
others - ~~my love~~ ~~to me~~ ~~you have~~

~~Do not again -~~
~~Please write again - it's just a joy~~
~~With much love to you all~~

~~I hear from you~~
~~Affectingly~~
Very lovingly yours

Abbie, too -

*We are having cold weather here, too -
raining, and windy, and shivery - But
one of these days the sun is coming
My loving greetings to you all -
out, and then won't we sizzle!

No 17.

Swatow China

Apr. 13, 1925

Dear Ones,

Easter has come and gone
and I haven't written to you. Yesterday
was a pretty busy day, though -
Week before last Dr. Kunkle of
the Canton Theological Seminary
gave some splendid addresses
and some of our older girls
enjoyed them very much. But
he was rather deep - and a
great many didn't understand
him. Some complained that
Miss Pae interpreted into deep
language - but she didn't
at all - She did splendidly -
Last week Mrs. Kunkle gave a
talk on her visit to Palestine, and

I, for one, was very deeply
impressed. I have always thought
I should like to go to Palestine,
and planned vaguely to go
sometime - but now I have
a great desire to go as soon
as I can. It may not
be possible for me to go
either on my way home next
time or on the way back
after furlough - but that
is what I should like. I
realize that these plans
may all fall through and
that I may find I ought
to use the money I would
have to scratch together, for
something more important -
But oh - how I want to go!

2/ I haven't had news from Emily since she arrived in the Holy Land - but letters ought to be coming pretty soon now. I'm afraid she will think I haven't written to her very much - because I haven't had a letter for her in every post. But I was very dumpy with my malaria germs a part of the time and I didn't have gumption enough to write letters even to you.

Yesterday I heard two splendid Easter sermons. In the morning at the Chinese church Kenneth Hobart preached just about the best sermon I have heard on the subject of

Resurrection power. Then our
(Intermediate) department of the
S.S. had an Easter Service,
then I rushed down to the
English Service in the English
Chapel - where I had promised
to sing in the choir - We had
a good sermon there, too, by
Mr. Gamble of the Presbyterian
mission.

In the afternoon Enid came
and called on me until
just about time to take the
girls to walk. We took a
big pot of daisies up to the
cemetery and put them on
Mrs Weld's grave, then stood
around in a circle and
sang "Alleluia" and one or
two other Resurrection songs -
If there are any of her people
left I wish they might know

3) How her memory is still honored, respected, and loved out here.

In the evening the senior high girl who teaches in my S. S. dept. came and we worked on next Sunday's lesson. We do that every Sunday evening at 7.30.

Pue tuang is a splendid girl, and I have had some real heart to heart talks with her.

My last letter from you told about the W. W. G. all day meeting and your weariness afterward. I don't wonder - I hope you won't try to do too much along that line, because you don't want to get down to the ragged edge again - Hear me?!

The enclosure is for pai's birthday - I'm afraid you

won't like it very much, pa,
but if you do, there are some
more coming your way. Is
the Chinese letter "hok" (blessing)
too big, or don't you mind
it? Or is the whole thing
altogether too thin to suit you,
or too small. I am
asking for information, so
please give your honest opinion.
The picture is of Velva Brown
and me in her study - Don't
I look like a sad old maid?

Love, love,

Abbie

Swatow - China
April 23, 1925

Dear Ones :

Well, well! I have been sort of discouraged for the last few weeks - got to wondering if it was worth while to go through all sorts of agonizing to try to get other people to do what you think they ought to do - on this side of the world or the other!

And then along comes your letter telling what is happening in the little Sutton church - I've no doubt that Ralph's deciding to join the Sutton church is a braver thing than we guess - I don't believe we really know all the various criticisms etc. that he will be up against. Oh, but I'm glad that he's done it! I don't wonder that some of

the people didn't care for Mr. Naylor.
You know I heard him down at
Lyndonville and felt that I should
not be greatly drawn to him.

I shall be anxiously waiting for
your next letters to know how Gladys
Greene comes out. I have a suspicion
that she conscientiously ^{thinks that she} believes
dancing is all right, and to try
to prove it to herself and to
others, is going too far in the
other direction - I know you
think my ideas on this particular
subject may be a trifle warped -
but lots of people really see
no harm in it - and she
may be one - At any rate - it
is true that ~~not~~ a one of us
can decide whether it is right
for her - Of course it seems
to me that she might have put
church first - & where Beryl was
involved, but Gladys is a woman

2) Who wants to have broader views
and doesn't want to be held
down to what she probably calls
the narrow minded-ness of a
country Baptist church. Oh it
surely is a fright, the muddle we
humans get into sometimes, isn't
it? We misunderstand others
and get ourselves misunderstood -
and from that all sorts of devilish
situations arise - Well - ah, me!

This week has been a busy one -
and will continue to be that, I
fear. It has been nice, though -
Clara came down from Kitzberg
for a medical meeting on Tuesday -
and although she went back Wed. AM
still we made the best of it - I
really think she was glad to see
me and as for me - I really
didn't know that I liked her so
well! We seem to "hit it off"
pretty slick these days -

And I'm going up there this week end.
I haven't been to Kityang for about
five years, I think. And I feel sure
if I don't go now that I shan't
get there at all this spring. It has
been cold and rainy until last
Saturday, with the exception of Easter Day,
but now that the warm weather has
come, we have it pretty warm -
and it will get hot very rapidly
from now on. The trip to Kityang
is one I don'tanker for in very
hot weather -

Waneta and Kenneth Hobart are
going up too - with little Eleanor,
and Edna Smith may go too -

Just now I am giving an
English examination to the second
year Senior High School girls
and taking advantage of the
opportunity to write to you - There
are four girls in the class -
they are all right under my
eye and don't need very close

3 watching - Each takes a good bit of pride in doing better than the others if she can.

Can you imagine me humped up in a Chinese chair sitting on a desk that is very little higher than my knees? I have on my brown checked gingham dress that I started at home - and the hat that was big (black) and had pink flowers on the crown and underneath the brim - I cut it down in back and then used what I cut off to make two straw quills; I bound the narrow edge of these with the little narrow orange & black ribbon I brought with me - And then I used the same black ribbon that was on it before and put a band of the orange at each edge of that. The straw edge finish of the hat I cut off and then put on the smaller brim - So now I have a hat that is

suitable to wear with my black
& white suit - the rating dress
(with orange collars & black buttons,
and several other rigs that don't
look well with a dark blue
hat !



old



new

Much love -

Abbie

Birthday gift for
Apr 3 enclosed

Can't refrain from saying I watoow, China
again how glad I am about Apr. 28, 1925
Ralph!
Dear Mother

Letter no 20 has just
arrived - written Mar 24 - I'm
glad to hear you are a little
bit rested -

So sorry that the trouble has
come up about Gladys Greene -
I'm very anxious to know how it
came out. Of course, the people
have a right to their own opinions
about what Gladys ought to do -
but they have no right to dictate
what she ought to do. I certainly
think it would be a black eye
for the church to turn her down
for dancing ^{or the other things} - It may not be
right, but they have no right to
judge her - If it were something
all society calls a sin it might

be different but even then
this judging is a pretty
dangerous thing, I think! Oh -
I do hope the wise thing has
been done -! whatever that is -

We went on a spree last
night; four of the Chinese teachers,
Miss Tang, Miss Pao, and two
younger ones, took Marjorie,
Marguerite, Miss Ang and me
to Swatow - We went first
to a cloth shop and got quite
excited because we found some
marked down bargains - I got
a pink flowered organdy 4 yds
and $\frac{1}{4}$ or more for \$1.50 Mex!
And I guess every ^{body} bought something
whether she had intended to or not!
Then they took us to a brand new
Chinese Hotel that is very fine, &

2) gave us a very elegant Chinese dinner - beginning with tea & toasted watermelon seeds, and finishing with the same - In between were all sorts of concoctions with frogs' legs, mushrooms, asparagus tips, bamboo shoots and various other delicacies to go with our rice - The only sweet dish on the menu was lotus seed soup - Well - it was great - and we just had lots of fun - We don't intend they shall do this as a rule - but this was the exception - They were crazy to get out for a lark themselves, but couldn't go unchaperoned - so were glad of a way to go - and of course we enjoyed it too - There is a strange little thrill

about being out after dark in
a Chinese city - with the
lights coming out from all the
little shops - and each rikscha
with its own little light -
Perhaps you may think it not
very wise to go out when we
have so recently had political
disturbances - we left Swatow
before 9, though - and were as
safe, I'm sure, as though we
had been walking from Sutton
station to Sutton village! And
moreover - this doesn't happen
every day - so we just enjoyed
it and it was good for us -
Miss Culley was invited, but didn't
think she could go - she surely
missed it! I think every good
time we have with the Chinese
like that helps us to get a little

3) closer to them -

It is ridiculous to write to
you with pencil, I know - but I'm
taking advantage of the opportunity
seng - ki-hue, as the Chinese
say - I'm giving another exam -
this time to two girls - and thus
the scribble - Forgive me
this once?

What is Ethel Petersons address?

And has Gladys a baby?

Your books have come - Bk of
Remembrance, and the stories - Thank
you ever so much - I'm very
glad to have them -

Forever yours -

Abbie