

Abbie G. Sanderson Papers

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515063

Suwaotou, China, May 5, 1927

Dear Quen

It is now quarter of six (P.M.) and I have been up and going just as hard as I could (unless you call church an exception) ever since quarter of six A.M. In fact I think I got up just a little before that. And I don't call Chinese church an exception, either, for you have to listen hard -

This morning I couldn't stay in bed until nearly seven as I like to Sunday morning, because I still had some work to do on my Sunday School lesson. I've been getting desperate because my Grammar School girls seemed so light-headed and inattentive and I've been trying to think of some new methods to interest them.

Then we had regular church service and after that there was an English service but I couldn't have gone to that anyway for they have asked me to be the advisor of their new Young People's Society and their committee has a room meeting every Sunday morning after church. Today they were rather down-hearted and discouraged about the meetings for there is only a handful of faithful ones and they cannot depend on the others to come regularly. So by the time everybody had done a little bemoaning it was too late to settle down to make any program. They decided to ask me to lead next Sunday's meeting, and then Sunday morning next week will try to make out a program for the Sundays that follow till the end of the term. I hope lots of people will be praying for me this week for I shall need lots of

help. The few do want to keep up the meetings and it's a big problem to know what will ~~not~~ be the way to interest the others. And if others are not interested the faithful few get discouraged after a while.

By the time I got home it was 12.30 and time for dinner. Immediately after that I spent over an hour looking for songs for these same young people. Then it was three o'clock and time to go to their afternoon meeting. After that, their committee stayed to put up Sanitation & Health posters in the church, which is to be open all week for visitors to come and inspect the posters and whatever else may be exhibited. Then after the posters were up, they came over here to choose a song for their society, to use on many occasions - like a club song or class song. We chose "Steady and True" - and one reason I think they decided on it was because I told them it was one my brother was very fond of and liked to sing! They are to have it translated into Chinese and then they can use either English or Chinese if they want to. Then we looked up a song for them to sing next Sunday and we hit upon "Growing Sweeter and Dearest Each Day" - and practiced the tune several times. There are two boys and they are to sing the tenor, while the girls sing soprano. We have a holiday, "Humiliation Day", on Thursday, so we'll have a chance to practice again then. Well, as I said before, when I got done with this practice I came upstairs to

get my paper and pen to write to you it was quarter
of six! - - - - -

Now we have had supper and Mabelle and Mrs.
Culley and I are sitting around the dining table
listening to some victrola music - But I am tired,
and I must go to bed soon, or I won't be fit
bright and early for my work tomorrow morning -
For the last four days I have had pain in my
right arm and shoulder in the afternoon
and evening - Maybe it is malaria and I
need a dose of quinine - ! Well - I'll begin and
take some soon - But I hate to take it, for if I
take it when I'm needing it, it sends me all wabbling
and trembly for a day or so, and I can't seem to
spend any time for that just now - I might have
taken it yesterday, I s'pose - for the three Culleys
all went to Chaochow for the day and I had
the house to myself for a day - I didn't get much
done - Practiced some things on the piano - and
wrote some, and did some school work - I felt
rather free - with all the guests gone - although
it is nice to have them here - I'm housekeeper now
and I had just rice and not much else for myself
yesterday noon - almost a Chinese meal - The doctor
stayed up with Mr. Baker in Chaochow over Sunday
and will come down with him tomorrow.
I don't want to take quinine and be laid up
tomorrow for I shall probably have to go over to London

writes Mr. Linn to settle up about the piano which we
are getting from the Nagels, for the school. We
get the piano and pay for it to-morrow and have
it brought right over in a boat.

Then I don't want to take quinine to lay me
up Tuesday, for the four of us are invited to
Mr. Linn's for supper. And so it goes. We
want to have the teachers here to meet Dr. Culley
Thursday night. Friday we are invited to
Miss Sollmans, and Saturday to a music
recital at the Roman's School — All this
outside of regular work — Ah me!

Well, I must quit now —

With lots of love,

Abbie

May 15, 1929

Dearest Ones-

Another "more-than-a-week" has gone by and here it is Wednesday. I'm not going to write you a long letter but I want to get just a line off to you. Last week was a busy one - In the first place I took quinine because I'd been having various aches and pains - and thought malaria might be the cause. Tuesday night we were at the Kings for a Chinese feast; Wednesday night was prayers meeting night but I was too tired and went to bed; - I had taken a hard cold on top of the one I already had -; Thursday night we had the teachers here for a social evening and to get ready to sing on Sunday. Friday afternoon after 4 I was lying down and resting when I was called to go out on the hillside and look at disputed boundary lines; where a wall is being put up. We rushed from there into dinner tops and went over to Miss Sollman's for supper and an evening of music.

I had been trying all week in between times to get ready for my meeting Sunday P.M. but didn't seem to get very far on it, so I spent most of the time Saturday on it and on

my Sunday School lesson. Saturday evening we were invited to a "doings" at the Roman's School and didn't get back until after 10.

Sunday was busy every consecutive minute until 5.30 P.M. and by that time I was too tired even to read. I went to bed early but got up next morning with a neuralgic pain in the left side of my head. I went to school as usual - though I didn't feel like it, and was really in no condition in the afternoon to have my physical exam. She ^(the doctor) was shocked when she found I had had a cold for a month and a half - and when she discovered I had a slight temperature she told me to come home and stay there until I got rid of the temp. - So I was good and stayed in bed all day yesterday - and I was glad of the chance, because my face ached. They don't know yet whether it is teeth, or abscess - or what - It is a holiday today, so I don't have to worry about missing school today. I got up for dinner this noon and if I have no temp. today I'll be all right for school to-morrow. I simply got over-tired and went a little farther than I should - But I'm better now and promise not to do so any more!

Love
Abbie

Suvarov, China

May 19, 1929

Dear Cous,

Tuesday night and the Culleys are still here, although they intended to go yesterday. The boats yesterday were filled up - They are not very keen about staying, for in the past week Suvarov has passed out from under the National Government Control and is at present under management of people who are of the Kwangsi faction, or at least sympathetic with the Kwangsi group. We hear that troops are nearly here from the north - from the Central Government and that means things may change hands again very soon - Whether it will be done quietly or not we don't know, of course.

This afternoon two women from the Red House - next house to ours - came up to ask whether if there was fighting they could bring their children up here to our house for protection. We don't think there will be any trouble but they want to be prepared. There is a widowed nurse

who has three children, a preacher's wife (whose preacher is now Canton at the Pentecostal Headquarters) with five children, and the hospital preacher and his wife and two children - So if they come will have a houseful.

Tuesday P. M.

The Culleys really are getting off today - Emily is to come up from the Hospital on Friday and she has been advised by the consul not to go back to Chaochow for just now. Swatow is excited - and it looks as though there will be a break in the government - war between Feng and Chiang Kai Shek - It is rather disquieting - I am really beginning to get tired of so

much uncertainty - But I don't intend to fuss if I can help it - because our condition here is ideal compared with the state of affairs in some places -

Last week Marguerite put me to bed with a cold and cough - but I'm practically well now - The two days' rest was just what I needed. Now if I can know how we are all going to be settled for the next month, I shall be happy - If Emily is to come and live with us here - I don't know how it will go with Mabelle -

There is one thing, though,
Fannie and Mrs. Wiley
are itinerating, so Emily
may disregard the consul's
orders and go up there
anyway —

Pray for us — anyway —
for we'll need grace — no
matter what!

Love —

Abbie

(215)

Suatsow, China

May 26, 1929

Dear Ques -

I've just finished a letter to Arthur thanking him for the generous gift he sent - and now I want to thank you too - You really shouldn't do such things - with all the calls you have - but I do appreciate it - !

I thought at first that I would send Arthur's letter to you and let you send it on to him but I know you like to keep my letters and moreover - I want to say more to you than I did to him -

You've been following the papers and know that Teng has at

last declared that "this is the
extermination of Chiang Kai Shek."
If he can get money enough and
troop enough he will make good
his word, I believe - but if he wins,
and the country follows him, I
wonder whether he will be any
more of a leader and less of a "war
lord" than many others? It is hard
to tell.

Swatow people have two things
to worry about right now - We are
at present under an independent
government here and report has already
come to us once that their ^{officials} have yielded
to the entreaties and the dollars of
the Swatow Chamber of Commerce and
have retreated peacefully - But these
rumors have not been substantiated, and

negotiations are still under way. Meanwhile five Cantonese gunboats with soldiers and official leaders are lying outside of Swatow Harbor. Inside the harbor here we have an English, an American, an Italian (or French) gunboat, and two or three Jap. gunboats. The shops are all closed or open as small a crack that they could be closed in a wink, if need be. That's quite a situation, isn't it? The Chamber of Commerce wants to get the present incumbents out and the new ones in without bloodshed.

The other thing is that when battle is actually pitched between Feng and Chiang the soldiers will be called to go fight - and Swatow

will be at the mercy of the Reds, who
we may be very sure are not far off -
Well - you see things are really
pretty upset. Thairing seems out
of the question now - for this summer
for us -

Emily came back from Hongkong
yesterday morning, much better, but
she has been advised by the consul
and by the doctor not to go to
Chaochow for again this spring, to
be up there alone. Her school
work is closed - all the schools
there are closed for the present - so
she will probably stay down here
and help Mr. Baker with his
secretary's work -

The doctor (Marguerite) still

has me under her eye and is giving some inspection to my bronchial tubes and surrounding region - The cough is better - and the cold much better than it has been since Mar 1st, and I'm taking a tonic. I have been wondering what ~~it~~ I should do about summer - for she thinks I ought to get away -

Emily has come back full of plans for Baguio. I can't afford the expense of that trip, but she says she has some money which has been given to her which she would rather use for our

fares there than in any other way. Since I know she means it - and since I don't know what in the world we shall do otherwise - I am more than half decided to let her do it. The doctor very strongly approves of my going to Baguio - If we go as far away as that we shall go as soon as school closes and then have a good long vacation there.

The work that Margaret and I can do ^{together} on the book is nearly finished. Then she will have to work on it by herself - So I am almost glad that I can be getting away from Swatow soon - in

about six weeks, I hope - I
am not sure that it isn't
shirking - but the Dr. says it is
that I'm needing a little rest.

Poor Marguerite! She is the one
who needs the rest - She is carrying
two men's work all the time, and if
she doesn't get relief from some
quarter we're afraid she won't
hold out -

Another thing that has probably
been dragging me down when I
didn't know it is an abscessed
tooth - maybe two of them! I had
two X-Rays taken in S. Mateo this
week and one tooth is pretty sure to
come out. Another is dead, but
may not have much decay at
the root and if so, the dentist

will probably try to save that -
We are so fortunate to have this
good dentist right here - one of our
own Mission trained boys - sent
afterwards to Oeking - his wife one
of our girls -

I must stop and go to bed -
I have a full day to-morrow, even
though it is my birthday!

Love - & then some -

Abbie

Swatow, China

(216)

June 2, 1929

Dear Ones,

I'm playing hockey again!

Today is such a long day (every Sunday is!) and I'm up in Tharguer's room waiting for church to be out - resting and writing to you in the meantime. Had it not been for the baptism this morning I think I should have gone straight home and been excused from the young people's committee -

I had my usual class this morning at 8.30 and there is the young people's devotional meeting this afternoon - so, today it will be communion, and

after that a Sunday School
committee meeting - & head
things up for next Sunday's
Children's Day exercises. I
haven't any reason to get so
tired but I am, so that's all
there is to it - Emily is still
planning for us to go to Bignio
and I hope a couple of months
there will make me feel less
lazy -

One reason I feel so fagged
just now is the way I celebrated
my birthday. Last week I had
X-Ray of my left lower jaw taken -
and on my birthday I went
to Swatow and had a molar and
a bicuspid extracted - both abscessed.
^{They came very hard.}
My jaw has been somewhat swollen

ever since - ² and there is at least
one little piece of broken bone
floating around there which
should come out but is still
latched - The opening of the
abscess ~~has~~ ^{has} made a most
unpleasant taste in my mouth,
and I have been afraid my
breath would be offensive to
people - so I haven't been
very comfortable - But I'm glad
to be rid of the bad teeth!

My cold is at last getting
better - Hot weather drying it
up, I s'pose - though it is still
pretty cool from the first of June.

Evening 7.30 -

Well - just as I finished writing
the above, the people over at church

^{when they}

began to sing the last hymn - I
I went down to the baptistery and had
the joy of seeing two of my Senior
High School boys - who will graduate
in June - baptized - There were
twenty-three in all, these two boys
and one younger boy from our
school - One of these two seniors
has been on my heart for about
a year - he is a cousin of Lin
Liang, the girl whose letter I was
so glad to have in America - She is
not yet baptized, but the last time
she was here we had a wonderful
talk, and I know she is truly trying
to be a Christian, against no small
odds - The other is a straight,
upstanding boy who is fine, but
for years has been fighting
his real convictions - The first

one, Jon Mang³ U, or as it is
written in Mandarin Wos Mang³ Woo,
is a good Chinese student, and
if he keeps on with his writing
he may be able to use his pen
in the cause of Christianity.

Oh, I am so grateful to our
Father for this blessing just now!
~~There are the first~~ from our school
~~to be baptized~~ since school opened
~~two years ago~~ - and of course
~~people have been watching it and~~
~~have had various remarks to make.~~
A great many of our students and
teachers were present today and
I think they could not but have
been impressed by the fine
manliness of these young

men - daring to take this step
when there are plenty of people
to ridicule, denounce, and even
revile them for it. I hope

we may have another baptism before
school closes - I feel that more
will surely come, now the first
ones have stepped out.

One other boy was to have
been baptized today - Henry Hung,
son of the Mr. Hung on whom I
called in ~~my~~ his shop in New York.
He is a 1st year Sr. high student -
and he will make something of
himself, I have no doubt. He is a
fine lad - poor boy - he was accepted
for baptism on Friday - and yesterday
was taken with the mumps!

So he'll come next time, and many
with him, I hope -

I believe you can even see from
my handwriting how much better
I feel tonight than I did this
morning. A day like this is
worth more than rubies - And
now, when you pray that more
boys and girls may be brought to
know Christ, don't forget to say a
thank you for these dear boys who
put on Christ today - and pray
that where I fail, they may
be used to win many more -

There are still some of my
Sunday School girls who have not been
baptized - I'm hoping they will
come - Love - Love -

Abbie

Sowatow, China

(217)

June 9, 1947

Dear Mother & Father,

Today has been a big day, and this last week has been a big week - I'm feeling better physically, though, than I have for more than two months, in spite of continued extra work -

The prolonged colds I had after coming back from Shanghai in March pulled me down and after a while they began to discourage me - Then when Marguerite found me ready for bed at my physical examination, and sent me to bed with a temperature - I began to be sorry for myself. I was in

bed two days (one of them a holiday
so I didn't have to miss school -)
Neuralgia in my face made me
decide to go to the dentist, and as
I've already told you, X-Ray showed
two abscessed teeth, and I have
had them pulled.

I still kept having a little temper
every day, though, and got very tired
after working all morning. Wednesday
of this week I went to the dentist
to have him take out a piece of broken
bone which remained. He used
cocaine again - but the thing
didn't bleed much afterwards, nor
did it ache long.

The "holes" are getting cleaned
up - and with the help of daily
scrubbings of mercuriochrome and
many garglings & washings with

listening I have managed not
to be banished entirely from
society -

I've been taking a cod liver
oil tonic now for about four
weeks - The first three weeks I
continued to lose in weight but
now I'm beginning to come up
again and my temperature is
normal all the time - I feel
so very much better that I'm
much rejoiced about it ^{this week}

Aside from regular work, I've
had two rehearsals with a public
speaking contestant, practice of
songs with the Y.W. & M.C.S. group,
practice of class song with Junior
graduates, long Y.W. & M. meeting
Friday evening - practice with
girls who are singing next week,

meeting (as advisor) to get the Service
Commission of our B. Y. P. U. organized,
and meeting, in same capacity, to
get the Fellowship Commission of
same started - Thursday afternoon
we had a big rehearsal of Children's
Day exercises and today from 2 to
4 the real thing - And - "The Real
Jerns" entire has been sent off to
the publishers - after a second
revision - Whether or not it will
still need more work, I don't know.

I have begun work on Miss Thurston's
book on Prayer that you sent - I have
only ^{two or three} weeks more to work for Margaret
is going elsewhere next year and
she is probably leaving soon -
I have not been able to find out
that it is translated - but I have

To make up my mind, of course, to
the possibility of its being
translated - and ~~if~~ perhaps ^{of its} coming
out in print just before mine is
finished! Well - I shall do
the best I can to make sure
about it.

I'm wondering whether I shall
be able to do any work of the sort
next year, after Margaret is gone -
I shall not try, unless I can
get a good writer - and I shall
wait and see how well rested I
get this summer before I make
any definite plans for fall,
outside of regular work.

I'm sending you the following
talking:

pkg a)	no 17, 27y @ .10	2.40
" b)	no 14, 10y @ .18	1.80
	" 16, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ y @ .10	1.15
" c)	" 16, 12y, 24in @ .10	1.26
" d)	" 15a, 28y @ .12	3.40
" e)	" 15, 33y @ .12	3.96
		12.31

Also pkg. f, g, + h with

10, 12, 12 hdkfs in them,

with lace edge, and priced as I told you before - The ones with the yellow edge may not be acceptable; the corners are Mai Che's attempt at an E, but it wasn't very successful!

Pkg. i + j. each have 9 plain linen hdkfs - the linen for which cost \$3.00 max (for all 18) or about \$1.50 each - The hemstitching was done

by the daughter of my washwoman
and is worth about 5¢ gold for
each hd kf - (I say its worth more,
but that is the usual price) -

If you notice the postage marks
you'll see how much that costs.
I can't tell ahead of time - But
you see that makes the bare
cost in the neighborhood of 15¢.

I can't remember whether it is
15 or 15 a that Mrs. Gray wanted,
so I'm sending both - I must
quit now - I meant to write to
Arthur, but you tell him when
you write that I send my love
and also that I don't know where
to send a letter to him -

Love Alice

Swataw, China

(218)

June 17, 1929

Dear Mother + Father,

Today I have been feeling all day as though there were something I ought to do and yet I couldn't think what. I've just realized that yesterday I didn't get a letter written to you ^{and that was the thing I had told you!} It seems ages since I've heard from you, too. I hope all is well with you.

On Wednesday of last week Dean Laird of Ling Nam (Lanton Christian College) came and we had him here at our house until he left on Saturday. We enjoyed his being here - He and his family are to be in Baguio this summer so we shall see them again there.

The Grads, by the way, are also going
to Baguio - These people are all
going over on the Empress July 2 -
but my school doesn't close until July
5th! Emily wanted to know if I
wouldn't ask to get off early but I
can see no reason for doing that. And
yesterday the graduates asked me to train
them in their graduation song - so I'm
committed to stay to graduation now
anyway. And it happens that there
is not a steamer we can take after
July 2 until July 16 - At first I was
rather glad - for that gives a little more
time to get off after the rush is over -
But as the days get hotter I wish we
could get away the day after school
closes!

On Friday night we had our first English
Prize Speaking Contest - Thien Hek - one of our
finest boys, a deacon in the church, was

the only one I had helped much -
I had gone over three other essays
to correct them, and had read
over (with ^{still} another boy) his essay just
over - This last boy - whom Mr. Pifer
helped, got first prize. A little boy
brought up in a home where they
speak English a great deal, got the
second prize - Thien Hoi, in spite
of a poor voice, got third. The
other speakers were really not
very intelligible - Those who were
trained were trained by
Chinese teachers and that partly
explains it.

Of the prize winners - the ones who got
first and third are two of our
finest Christian boys and the other one
is of Christian family - The Christians
carry off a good many of the
prizes and we are glad -

Saturday Emily went to Chaoshoufu -
to see about her things up there -
and to bring some things down.

She writes that the soldiers from
Canton are there and everybody
seems perfectly happy about it.

That means that Chaoshoufu, as well
as Kityang and Swatow, have
reverted to the National Government
sometime this last week. We didn't
know just when it happened, though
we could have known - had we
not been so absorbed in school
affairs - But it was all done
without any commotion or disturbance.

Nevertheless, I'm glad we are
going to get away from here for a
little while -

I'm sleepy, so will quit for now -
Love Abbie

(219)

Swatow, China

June 25, 1929

Dear Ones -

Here it is Tuesday and no letter off to you this week. At present I'm sitting with the last class I meet this term. They have had about all the review I can give them and the last few minutes are given to let them ask questions if they want to, or study by themselves.

I don't usually write letters

when I'm in a classroom - but I want this to get off to you this afternoon if possible.

The Dean has been very kind

about arranging my examinations early, so that I shall finish the last one next Monday A. M. at ten. Some exams go on until Wed. P. M. Graduation is on Friday

And the Student Conference begins
on Saturday - & lasts a week -
But E. & I shall be leaving
on the 8th, the following Tuesday -
You see we have found an earlier
boat - and we leave N. K. on
July 14th - We have to leave here
Tuesday, however, to be sure of
not missing it - I am sorry
to miss the conference in a way,
and yet I shall be very thankful
to get away - I'm as much better
than I was a month ago - but I'm
still taking the Cod Liver Oil &
Marguerite is now thinking
of giving me some kind of
glad to make me put on
a little more reserve flesh -

I'm shamelessly willing not
to stay here to the Chinese Convention.
I suppose I ought to want to stay
but the Chinese can do things so
well themselves - and can do ~~them~~
so much better their way than by
trying to follow our suggestions
~~sometimes~~.
They do follow a great many -
but when Chinese & foreigners
are meeting there are bound
to be things that worry each
of us - and so I think they'll
get along just as well without
me - I am sorry, though, not
to know first hand just
what happens, and just
what the attitude of various people

is on various subjects. Aside from that, however, I'm very glad to get away from it once - It is hard work to sit and listen to any meetings days on end - and harder still when it is all in Chinese -

I am going away this summer to a fashionable summer resort, and I've made absolutely no preparations as to clothes - I go back with the hat I bought there two years ago for \$4 mex - 4 Pesos, I mean - Only then it was white, and now it has turned such a deep brown that the new brown ribbon I've put

on it makes it look like a new
Lat. I wonder whether it will
still be good next summer -

Later Yes - I'm planning to come
home next summer if nothing
happens. It is shorter than
the regular term - but Marquise
is planning to go then and I
rather think she'll advise me to
go then. It means a shorter
furlough, only 15 months instead
of 18 - But I'm getting about
ready to go home, I think! I'm
in rather a hurry to see my
family somehow!

Father's letter has just come
asking if I'm planning to go abroad
by the Holy Land - Indeed I want

* very much - Emily says it cost her about \$1100 Gold in all, that means \$600 more than the \$500 they allow us Easterners.

She had \$300 sent out from home and used her four months salary for the four months she was traveling \$260 - and a little more - *

Since that amount is exactly what she spent I'd want to reckon on a little more than that to save being caught in any ~~emergency~~ tight place - So - whether I can get my church pledge of \$200 Mex - and save \$300 Gold and a little more between now and next June, I don't know. I'm sorry to say that a little of the \$200 I have has melted -

but I'm trying very hard not to
 spend. Expenses have gone
 up terrifically and there have
 been subscriptions for about a
 dozen things right on top of
 each other - I think of what
 Sadie Stark ^(a neg. & somebody else?) said about Arthur,
 "Will never be rich - he's too
 generous" - Sometimes I think
 I haven't that saving quality
 even! I am always poor -
 and yet rather stingy, I
 fear!

Love, Love, Love.
 Cradick cottons
 arrived today - Abbie

Singapore, China

June 30, 1929

Dear Mother + Father,

I don't know why I
got so excited when I was writing
my last letter that I forgot to speak
of the pictures which I am so very
glad to have - I don't like the
one of ~~the~~ you in the hat very well,
Mother, but think the others are good -
and both of Father are as natural as
can be - You, however - have a
little air of having your picture taken
and in the one where you have your
hands clasped quite determinedly
you might be going to address the
Northern Baptist Convention or
something equally dignified!
I like your new gray dress very
much - and was much interested

To see the ghost of my old coat
and muff. - You look very up to-
date and stylish and distinguished
in all of them I say. - And
as to clothes, I'll say you are
just as much of a rascal as
you ever were -

My exams are all over
except one which I give tomorrow
morning - and a make-up exam
to two of the dawdlers who
haven't finished - Beg one's
pardon - only one is a dawdler,
the other poor boy, brightest in his
class, has been sick just the
two weeks before graduation -
He is perhaps not the brightest but
his grades were the highest, and
had he not been sick he would
have had the prize for best scholarship
for this year -

The other one is a girl who has done very poor work. About 3 weeks ago she did especially poor work and I told her she could not pass unless she did better work. She promptly stopped coming to class and didn't come to the final exam. But because she is in the graduating class she gets another chance. But the questions will not be especially easy, & I doubt whether she can do it.

Then tomorrow morning after these exams are over I shall hasten to get them graded and the answers made out and passed in. I shall try to have them ready when I go up at four o'clock. This exam^{1st.} has letter writing in it, though, as I am not sure how quickly I

can mark it. There are 30 in the class -

Graduation is moved forward a day - the 4th instead of the 3th. That means we have three days to practice two graduation songs - One of them is to the tune of a Colby song "Fair College Days" and the other, not a commencement song, just a class society, "Know Thyself" Society song, is to the tune of a song I got a year ago in Shanghai "Keep on keeping on" -

Margaret Lee may leave us to take a position in Siam - If she goes she is going on Friday and I have only one more day to work with her - But if she stays we can do more work next year - She is even at this late date undecided - Mabelle does not

want her to go and feels it is not right for her to go. As for me - I shall be glad if I can have another year of work with her - but I realize how hard a situation she has been in this year - to come back from college and not be invited to the place where she surely thought there would be a place waiting for her - and I have felt it would be rather a shame to keep her here against her will - So I don't know what she will do -

I don't feel yet that I am really going to Baguio this summer - although my big suitcase is now on my couch partly packed - But I guess we shall get away all right.

Since I wrote on Wednesday -
or when was it? - I've been
thinking a little more about
furloughs - Everybody says it
would be better to go around
through India leaving here in
February than to leave in July
and then to get the hottest kind
of a hot trip all the way - So
if I did that I'd be waiting
over until February 1931 -

Just now, when it is so hot
and we are all so tired and
ready to quit - I don't feel
capable of deciding what I
should like to do - even if I
were sure of having the money
to do it with - If I came
straight home via the Pacific
in July 1930 - I'd be with you

by August 1930 - If I waited
~~over~~ until February '31 and
took four months to see things &
make the trip I should not see
you until the end of May 1931 -
It's really a terrible question to
decide! If I stay over - it means
another summer here in China, for
nobody will be sending me to
Baguio next summer - !! And if
I go early, it means a shorter furlough -
so there you are! Right around in
a circle again -

But - I don't have to decide
tonight, fortunately - I'm sleepy,
and it is after ten - and I love
you - and it seems ages since
I heard from you -

Was glad to know you saw
Mr. Wildreth and Clara - The
~~letter~~ about Clara is that she
hopes to come back later but
it would be of no use to send
her back now for she is not
yet strong enough - I owe her
a letter - as I owe almost
everybody - (I'm counting on
doing some writing at Bagno)
So just how Clara's affairs are
working out I don't know at
all at all -

Had a good letter from
Arthur - I hope you will let
me know what he is to do
next year just as soon as you
know yourselves  I'm as

sorry he feels himself such a failure - It is such a shame - for he would be so fine if he could only find himself and get into his right place -

It is after 10 this minute and I have to leave the house at 7.30 tomorrow - I'm glad my exam is in the morning, though; After the sun has poured down on the cement roof for several hours that top floor is a bake-over - and the afternoon exams are really distressing - it is as hot -

Well - love, & then some, 'till next time

Your Athie

(221)

Suowtow, China

July 7, 1929

Dearest One,

Exams and graduation are all over - all papers corrected and grades handed in and last night we began the Y. M. & Y. M. C. A. conference here - We have delegates boys and girls both: from Amoy - and also from the Suowtow Y. M. C. A. Last night was supposed to be a social evening - And our boys and girls had a program and games all prepared - but the leaders - Y. M. C. A. people from Shanghai, Amoy and Suowtow - took things into their own hands and we had only the singing of a few pep songs for entertainment - But it went off pretty well and in

spite of the fact that the attendance was small I believe it was a good beginning. One of the leaders, an Amoy man - preached today at church. The Amoy dialect is so much like the Swatow - yet just enough different to be ridiculous when certain words are pronounced. The sermon was about Daniel - and I suppose I understood about $\frac{1}{2}$ of it -

Today being Sunday the conference has held no meetings except a short devotional conference early this morning. This is evening - and no meeting gives me the one chance I have to write to you -

My things are practically packed (in my big suitcase) for Baguio - Tomorrow morning and tomorrow

2

evening and Tuesday morning I shall attend the conference (the afternoon meetings) and tomorrow P. M. I shall finish up the last odds and ends that must be done before I go -

I have been house keeper for the last two months, and the housekeeping accounts for May and June are all finished - I'm treasurer of the Sunday School Committee - and that account is all straight - I'm also in charge of selling our regular church hymnbooks - Edith Traver passed over to me a case of more than 7000 when she went home in February - More than 500 have been sold - and that account is also straight - I'm quite "easy in my mind" about these matters -

Margaret Lee is still undecided
as to whether or not she will
be here next year - If she
stays, my share of her summer
salary has to be provided, and
some of that will come from
the draft you are sending - It
hasn't come yet, but I have
told Mabelle to send on to me
any registered letter that comes -
Then I'll sign it and send right
to Shanghai to be cashed & put
in my account - Wish it would
come tomorrow! I had a letter today
from you - and one ~~out~~ Thursday!
Both written since the draft was
sent -

3

Well! If nothing happens to prevent,
on Tuesday at this time I shall
be on the sea travelling to Hongkong.
A week from today I shall be on
the sea between Hongkong and
Manila - and the following
Tuesday in Manila - two days
later in Baguio - We shall
stay there just about until the
end of August - That will mean
a pretty good vacation, you see -

Must go to bed now - and
get up ^{steadily} for the conference tomorrow -

Love, love -

Abbie

(222)

Hongkong, July 18, 1887

Dear Mother -

You may get this letter

at the same time you get no 221, which by the way I sent off in a hurry without marking it, I think - But probably not, for the Empress of Asia sailed today and I don't know just when the next boat goes. I've just looked it up and you are more likely to get this letter with my next one - for the next boat for America is the Swift, which leaves next Monday -

Emily and I left Swatow yesterday and since this is the

time of year for typhoons we didn't expect any too wonderful a trip - Moreover, there has been a typhoon swirling around the China coast for some days - and we got the tail of it.

The rain was so heavy that they kept the foghorn going a part of the time - and of course our port hole had to be closed so we didn't have much air - and we were pestered with flies - millions of 'em - until dark - The boat rolled so that we didn't sleep very much - and it was sort of seasick - but we ate all the food that was coming

to us and kept it. ! And early
this morning we were up on deck
where the air is a little better.

Emily came ashore and got a taxi
and we brought my victrola to the
Music shop ^(I shall leave it here while I'm in L.) for repair - and then
brought our things right on up here.
We have some shopping to do +
tickets to get tomorrow + the next
~~two~~ days. We have plenty of
time, but I'm glad to have least
night's trip over. It couldn't be very
comfortable, at the best -

Love - & then some
Alice

(223)

Helena May Institute
Hong Kong

July 13, 1929

Dear Mother,

We're justified now in coming
three days early instead of waiting to come
down Saturday and get the steamer for
Mouila by rushing as soon as our arrival
here. For our boat leaves tomorrow A.M.
at 8, and we go on board tonight. Had
we waited, we should have missed our
steamer altogether, for steamers from Swatow
don't get in much before 9!

I didn't realize how tired I was - but when
I got here I just flopped and I have
rested so long! We have done a little shopping -
but I have been very stingy so far. I found
a little piece of silk which just matched a
dress I have to make up for next fall -

and I bought rubber bands - (a smaller size than any of yours that are left - for your smallest ones I used up right away -)

and we bought fly swatters and a dish mop and some dishcloths - I have made lots of fun of Emily for wanting to buy a dishcloth - when any old scraps of worn out towels & things would do just as well - But we forgot to bring any old towels - so decided it was just as well to buy dishcloths as towels! We got 6 for 75¢ (or $37\frac{1}{2}$ gold), so that isn't so bad - and I shall be quite thrilled to use a real "boughten" dishcloth once -

(We were buying a woven basket (handbag) this morning and somebody called "Miss

Sanderson". And I looked out the door to see four or five Chinese boys standing their with their hats pulled off - all wearing broad grins - Miss Eng's brother - and three other of my students had come down on a jay-jäunt on the ship that Miss Eng's older brother worked on - They had this chance to come down for nothing just after school closed, and they were having a wonderful time - never had been here before - Well - I had been glad to get away from Exactor's and school - and the students, I thought - but it did my heart good to see these boys, just the same - and I was proud of the way they got their hats off - a good foreign custom that many Chinese

boys haven't yet learned - Oh it's nice
to have students who greet you as those
boys greeted us!

Just then Cook's man came and got
our bags and we are much relieved. Now
all we have to do is to take ourselves and
our raincoats + umbrellas down to Lane
+ Crawford's tea room and get a little
snack - then go aboard the steamer - We
are going second class - so we don't
know just what we will find - It is the
first time these Round the World boats
have had second class, that we know of.
I suppose it is really meant for the
maids of the rich, etc. ! We save
paying a night's board here, ^{+ breakfast} however -
if we go on the steamer tonight. So if
we have flies, and no electric fan,

at least will have the comfort of
knowing that we are saving two
or three dollars apiece ! We are
leaving here tonight before dinner
because if we wait, dinner doesn't
begin until quarter of eight and
that would make us out later
than we want to be out in all this
rain.

Hongkong is having the first
real rain they have had this
spring - I brought rain when
I came here eleven years
ago - (and more) - too !

We have got into the room

Here with the nicest Southern
Baptist girl - Sara Tunderbark.
and we have had the best times.
She is staying here to be with
a friend who is up in Matilda
hospital - (~~she~~ she has had
a breast amputation —)

But now it is time to go -
so I'll say more in my
next —

Much much love

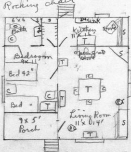
Abbie

(224)

Baguio, P. I.
July 21, 1929

Mother dear,

Here we are, all settled
in a nice little cottage that is
just exactly right for two - Enclosed
is a plan of it to send to
Your mother and I've copied it
for you to see below here -
3 - shelves, T-Table, C-Chair,
R.C. - Rocking chair



The kitchen is nice and sunny in the
morning

The custom here is to go to market every day to get fresh vegetables, but we manage so that we shall be able to go only once in two or three days. We buy bread or rolls, and shall piece out with muffins and griddle cakes (I made some good bran muffins this morning - only they were a trifle small -

We don't have much meat, but we have a strip of bacon, and we get what vegetables we want. It would be rather fun to do our own work if it weren't for the wet wood we have - It rains all the time - Maybe we can get used to that - or maybe we shall rent a little electric plate (two congs) They say it is very cheap.

Let me see: I was in Hongkong when I wrote last, and the whole city was grateful for the downpour of rain which came while I was there -

We came from Hong Kong & Mainland on the "President Johnson", all around the world Dollar line ship. The second class cabins we were in were second to no first class cabins (almost) that I've ever traveled in - and the food was fairly good, though served in hodgepodge style and in a room whose tables were not attractive. The sitting room was not clean nor well fixed up - and there was almost no deck space - But we got along very well - and

on the steamer we found (upon consulting the passenger list) that a Miss Edith Webster from Philadelphia was there. We wondered who she was and were told she was a Baptist missionary bound for Honolulu! Well; we made short work of getting acquainted - and found that she is to work in Dr. Thomas' mission - She knows Alice Drake and Betty Traber - and they will probably come out in the fall to work with her -

Of course Dr. Thomas, Mrs. Thomas, Miss Martien, and the Culleys were there to meet her - and the Culleys were there partly to meet us! We went on to our same hotel where we stayed before, and met some teachers who

were there before - We did a little shopping, then Dr. Culley came in his car and got us to introduce us at the bank, where we ~~shall~~ got our money changed -

In the afternoon we did more shopping - then in the evening the Culleys came and got us, and took us to their friends the Steinmetzes, who showed us some amateur moving pictures they had taken of Filipino nurses' graduation exercises, a typhoon relief party, and some other things, all of which would have been extremely interesting if we had not been so dead tired - But they served us apricot icecream, which waked us up and revived

our spirits, as to speak. We didn't
get home until 10.30, though, and
we were up shortly after 5.30 the
next morning to get ready and
be off on the train which pulled
out of the station at 8 A.M.

The train ride was very comfortable,
for it rained most of the way,
and so was fairly cool. We
had prepared for it, too, and
we had our thermos bottles
full of ice water, and we wore
our blue Chinese linen dresses
which didn't show muss, but
were comfortable - The hotel
put up delicious chicken
sandwiches for us and we
were well fixed -

It was almost too cool
for real comfort by the end

of our 2 hr motor ride up
from Darnortis (which is as
far as the train goes) We
were pretty glad when
the Giedts met us at the
train, took us to their cottage
and gave us tea, then later
supper, and the next A.M.
breakfast. Then we went shopping
and we have cooked our own
meals ever since -

At first we were in a little
cottage near the Giedts, but the
Capeus are coming and they
are to board with Giedts and
will want to be near them -
So we have moved to this one,
No. 14, around the hill from
the other two - not too far

5

I visit, but too far for Mrs. Capon,
just convalescing, to walk in
the rain for meals - This
cottage is just a trifle larger
(by inches only!) than our first
one - though on the same general
plan - The doors are swung
more conveniently, there is
an open grate above in the
living room, and the whole
thing has been freshly painted
and is cleaner - It is also a
little nearer the market -

Well - enough for now - I'm
drinking Postum for breakfast,
Ovaltine for supper, and feeding
on spinach, parsnips, carrots,
string beans, egg plant, cucumber

oranges, bananas, mangoes
and strawberries ! Now if I
don't get fat in the next month
I never shall —

Hope we can simplify the
cooking so that I shall get
a little letter writing done !

Much Love,
Abbie

225

Bagnio, P. I.

July 28, 1929

Dear Mother & Dad,

Another Sunday has come around and yet it is right before I sit down to write to you —

We are in our third cottage since we came to Bagnio.

We moved out of the first one so that the Capens, who wanted to board with the Giedts, could have ours. We were there from Saturday until Thursday — very happy because it was a nice little cottage — Thursday morning we received word that we should have to move out because the cottage had been promised at headquarters in Mank. We were rather peeved, because

they had insisted that we move on Saturday afternoon when we were tired - and weren't keen to go until later -

But they offered us No 17, right back of no 6, where we were at first. We came to look it over - and went to the head clerk, who was all apology for having made us move before he was sure we could keep the cottage - Well, it was rainy, as he said we could take our time.

This cottage is about the same as the other - measurements are a trifle smaller, we have no open fire in the living room, and the kitchen is arranged a little differently - But we like it now as well as then.

2

other in most respects, and better
in some - We came over
Friday morning - the people in
charge furnishing the boys to
bring our stuff over for us -

That afternoon the Capens
arrived - and it is very nice
to have this little hill a
South China corner!

This morning we went to
church - got a car to take us and
go after bus, for the church is on
the other side of town and it
was pouring rain all morning.
We were very glad we went, for
we got a message that was
clear-cut and no quibbling,
"Christ Our Salvation." There is
no other other way - any more
than we could hope to get from
Manila to Baguio on the rail.
road some other way than by
having a ticket - The way of

the cross is the only way.

The message rang so clear -
given by a young man who
is a missionary down in Mindanao.
We were glad that it is our
message too - I think that
man will win men to
Christ - perhaps while he is here
on vacation as well as while
he is at work down there -

We took Mr. Giedt and Eugene
with us in the car this A.M. -
and had to come out really
before the service was ended because
our car came - The sermon had
finished though. But we didn't
meet people after the service, as
we had hoped to - This afternoon

we spent some time sleeping,
after which I read "Acres of
Diamonds" by Russell Conwell.
I hadn't realized what a big thrill

I should find in that book -
 You have both read it, I suppose,
 and perhaps have heard him -

I read that until it was
 time to get up and get supper -
 Tonight we made pancakes,
 and cooked them partly over
 the oil stove and partly over
 Emily's electric iron turned up-
 side down. The cooking was
 successful, but the things were
 too rich, I guess - They were
 very wonderful - I like to cook,
 but don't have very good luck -
 because I am out of it and
 never knew much about it
 anyway! I have made some
 muffins that were passable -
 we ate 'em all - and some
 hermits that I fixed up
 three times and finally made
 some good hard cookies - but

While we enjoy them when we
are hungry, yet I know they
are really not very good, as
cookies go - I think I make
them a little too rich, or
something - Emily has made
some wonderful apricot pudding
and today we had some
strawberry pudding on the
same order - made with
gelatine and all whipped up
light, then served with a
custard sauce - I made one
thing that was good, though,
some delicious mayonnaise
dressing - Cream toast was
pretty good - Salmon & peas
creamed was good too, and
the salmon loaf was fairly
good only I didn't have enough
bread crumbs in it. French
toast we gobbled hungrily, but I

shall put another egg in next time - Well - Have I said enough about eats? We are eating like horses, really - I'm eating more for breakfast than I have for a year - Banana - big dish of cereal, rolls or toast, cup of Postum, one or two eggs, and sometimes bacon and warmed over potatoes - ! I surely ought to get fat!

Since I began this letter the Capens have been here and we have had a nice little visit with them. But it is now not so early as it was - and the little clock Annie Hill gave me says ten P. M. - So I think I'd better say goodnight and crawl in. It is about time to be getting a letter from you, remailed from Swatow - but

I don't know how long it will
take - I suppose the check will
be in a registered letter - and
that takes much longer as a
usual thing -

Well - good bye, with my love,

Albie

(226)

Bagins, P. I.

Aug. 4, 1929

Dear Cues,

The time is going so fast! We have been here two weeks and three days already and we still have ~~four~~ ^{three (!)} weeks and three days ahead of us here - We are resting, really resting, and enjoying getting our meals and living in this tiny bit of a house. We don't bother much with house work and we sleep a lot.

On Monday we stirred ourselves to take a letter of introduction to a Miss Cairns who is at the Pines Hotel here. We found her very nice - though somewhat English ^(a Bostonian E. says) and very proper. However, she threw a bit before we left her, and

then we went to call on three
(Reformed Dutch) (Hey! I made a
mistake that time!) missionaries
who came from Amoy. We found
two of them and, but they came
in before we left, and reported
a very good lunch they had
just had of chicken chow-mien,
at a Chinese restaurant. We
got them to tell us where it
was, for we thought we'd like to
have some sometime. And then,
we stayed there so long -
they are lots of fun - and it
was so late, and we had to
go downtown anyway, to get
ourselves some bread, - so the
upshot of it was that we
went in and had the noodles
and made our supper of them.
We ordered a half portion -

which made three ² little bowls
apiece for us, — all we could
possibly eat. The soy bean
sauce smelled, Emily said,
as though it had been made
of molasses from New Orleans,
but it tasted all right. They
served tea with it and it cost
us 25 centavos apiece — 25¢ gold
for both of us. And we didn't
have to build the fire, nor get
supper, nor set the table, nor
wash the dishes! We are going
to do it again sometime.

We found when we got back
that the Lairs had called (Prof.
Laird of Canton was in our home
a few weeks ago.) Now it is up
to us to return that call sometime
soon.

I must get down to letter.

Writing soon, or the summer
will be gone and nothing
accomplished - Thursday and
Friday I fussed and fiddled
around all day - then Friday
evening I got down to business
and wrote out my semi-annual
letter to Miss Sandberg - It is
ready to typewrite - I'll get at
that to-morrow, maybe, but there
is no steamer leaving Manila
before Saturday, so I have plenty
of time - It is the first letter
I have written, except to you
and to Mabel, since I've been
here! It is so easy just
to loaf!

This morning we stayed in
bed until late - much later
than usual - We decided not
to go to church - then afterwards

thought better of it, hurried up
the dishes, and went. We
walked one way, then had
a taxi come to bring us home -
The Poppens from Amoy have
arrived, and we saw them
today - I knew them at

Kuliang nine years ago -
They are in the same mission
with Miss Johnson, with whom
I played around a good bit,
and Mr. Todd, the bass singer
who was one of the three
bachelors on the mountain
that summer. I found out
recently that Mr. Todd has
lost his wife, and has taken
his two little children home to
America -

This morning was beautiful and

sunny, and we were glad we went.
They had a sort of children's day
concert. Most of the exercises were
in English - a few in some
Filipino dialect - Cute, they all
were - but two of them, ^{tiny girls,} beat anything
I ever saw. They were to sing
"Crown Him Crown Him, all ye
little children," with motions -
But they had a fit of the giggles
before they began - and once they
realized how people were laughing
at them they decided to make
the most of it, and kept
breaking down into the most
ecstatic giggling. Their teacher
helped them to get started twice,
and if only she could have
scared them a little bit they
could have finished, and have
done it well - but she was overcome
herself and at last the kiddies
got to enjoying themselves so.

well that ⁴ she could scarcely
make them come down off the
stage - Utterly demoralized, the
were - but it was funny, of
the same -

Now it is raining - as it
does every afternoon and evening
and sometimes in the morning -
There is to be a song service
at the Pines Hotel tonight
and we'd really like to go to
meet the people, but if it rains
so, it is not very nice to get
soaking wet and then sit
with wet & dirty-looking feet
all the evening! Besides, we
go to bed pretty early - and they
won't begin till after eight tonight.

Well, well wait and see -
Jim worried about the money you
sent. Did you register it? Maybe
you'd better try to have it traced - It
is over two months now - no sign of it.
Love - Mother & Dad

P.S. I went to the song service, and sat
beside a beautiful woman who
has a charming voice - and who
is between two and three inches
taller than I! A Mrs. Dungan,
wife of a missionary in China,
not far from Amoy. I think.
Emily said on the way home,
"How does it feel to be short, Ab?"

Baguio, P. I.

(229)

Aug. 13, 1929

Dear Quess -

The Sunday letter is not begun until Tuesday this week - partly because I've been busy getting these Maine letters off my mind, and partly because we have been gadding, and partly because we have been getting ready for company -

Now we are all ready for the company and they haven't come yet so I'll scribble this line to you - Our company is the three girls from Amoy and we asked them to come help us cook supper; then Emily found a girl from Hainan with whom she used to be in the Biblical Seminary in New York - and we are having her too -

They haven't much to do to "help cook" - but will set the table after they get here, and have one chop up the cheese and another make the mayonnaise dressing (I can do it in a pinch if none of them can!) -

We shall have frankfurters and rolls, with mustard, ^{dill pickles} and a salad of peas, cheese and peanuts. Then we shall have apricot fluff, with custard sauce, and chocolate cake and coffee with a

spoonful of marshmallow creme in it. I made the rolls this morning; before I went to market, so that if they hadn't turned out right I could have bought bakery ones! I made the chocolate cake (layer, with chocolate fudge frosting) yesterday afternoon and we sampled it this noon. Emily says "I think they'll eat it!" - It really is pretty good - Emily made the apricot fluff. She does it wonderfully.

We had to change the paper on our shelves today, and make things respectable in general all over the house - I scrubbed the bathroom yesterday and Emily repiled the wood into some sort of form - We work right along together - I'm slow - but E. doesn't complain! And now it is after five, and the guests ought to be coming pretty soon, I think -

Sunday night we went to the sing again, and last night Emily stayed with the Giedt children - while I went with them to the Pine Hotel for an evening of games - We got there late but we had heaps of fun, and met a number of new people, and got better acquainted with the ones we had seen before -

To-morrow night is Missionary night at the

2

Hotel. and they are going to have
stunts - Mrs. Capen. is going to sing
a ducky song for the Swallow
bunch - Thursday night E. & I are
inviting the Capens ~~and~~ the Giedts
here for supper. We shall do all
the cooking on that occasion and
there will be eight of us for supper.
We have planned scalloped salmon,
sweet green peppers stuffed with celery,
cheese, and bread crumbs, and bavarian
cream for dessert; that much, and
mashed potatoes, we have decided
probably some kind of cake or cookies,
and maybe another vegetable - It
is real fun to do this for a change,
but I don't think I'd care for it for
steady diet. It is such a strain
wondering whether things are going
to turn out right or not!

Then Friday night the Filipinos of
the church here have planned a
missionary night - a long program,
I suppose, but ^{it's} very nice of them
to do it for us, and of course we

shall go to that too -

I have written two letters, copies
of which I'm enclosing to you. One
goes to the Messengers, and 30 copies
of the other go to Mrs. Jardine of
Trashburn, who, when she wrote
me about the box, said she would
not send the list of donors, for
she knew I'd be too busy to write to
them all. So I have asked her to
forward them to the proper people, and
told her that you would be in a position
to send her the amount of the postage, if
she would let you know - Is that all
right?

I must seal this up now &
go start the fire -

Much love,

Abbie

(228)

Baguio, P. I.
Aug 16, 1929

Dearest One,

My bag of letters is on the table before me and I ought to get at 'em, but I don't feel like writing to anybody except you. Yesterday brought me your letter of July 3rd, in which you say you hope I'll let you know about sending letters direct to Baguio - But you see I'm going back to Swatow now in less than two weeks, and if I had waited to be sure I was coming here and then written to have you send direct, you might have been able to get two letters to me, but the rest I would be very likely to have delayed - Beginning today they are supposed to keep our mail for us in Swatow, so that none of it will get here just after we have left.

Your "vacation" sounded as though you would have to take a few weeks off to get rested up from it! Well, I hope sometimes we may find a way to get a real vacation for you that will find you fat (this doesn't apply to Dad) and "sarin' to go", as they say in Kentucky stories - when you get back from it.

Our vacation here at Baguio is very good for me - I haven't gained as fast as I do in my

various dreams of getting fat, but I'm gaining some, and feeling fine - I guess I told you that as far as the cough and temperature and debilitated feeling, I had begun to get considerable relief before the close of school - I've had no recurrence, and I've continued to feel better and better - I shall try to keep within the limit of my strength this coming year, so that I won't be needing a furlough next June as badly as I did the last time. I have decided, however - (a little more definitely since receiving your letter yesterday) that I shall ask for furlough next July. Whether or not it will prove possible or wise to take a trip through Palestine & India at that time I cannot yet determine - But I shall plan to leave Swanton early in July. I'm getting a fierce "hankering" to see you all, somehow - !

Had a letter from Arthur yesterday, too, in which he enclosed snapshots of the family. My! but I'm glad to have them - He is looking a lot older, I think - I shall be very glad when he knows what he is going to do in the fall -

We have been doing the society stunt this week - I told you of our contemplated attempt to serve dinner ^{Thursday night} to the Amoy girls - It was a grand success, from start to finish - After they had taken their coats off we showed them over the college (they praised our housekeeping!)

then scared them² a little by saying "Now which of you is cook!" - They looked a little bewildered and declared they were all rotten cooks - One said "I can scrub" and another "I'm strong on giving advice" - Then we set them to cutting up cheese and shucking peanuts - Then I said "Can anyone make mayonnaise dressing?" Miss Bruce said "You mean with Wesson Oil?" I said "yes" - and then - because she waggled her head in such a comical, desperate; sink-or-swim way, as she said "Well - you add - an egg, and - a little vinegar - !" we simply roared - So we got out the recipe book and three of us took turns beating, and we got delicious dressing -

They rose to the occasion all right. Miss Forbes - whom Emily knew in New York - made Emily taste the dressing and asked her how it was - Emily, thinking the stuff was ours and she mustn't praise it too much, said non-committally "Oh, all right" - and Miss Forbes gave her a punch - so then we all had to have it explained and I said (of Emily) "Well, she isn't very polite, is she?" And Miss Forbes retorted "Oh, I found that out long ago!" - And so we had it, back and forth, all evening long. They insisted on helping with the dishes - and then we sat and talked about the way the Reds had behaved in different places. They had the worst ones in the Army, I should say.

We had coffee for supper - and we had ^{so} much excitement too, that when it was all over ^{they went home about 12 -} we couldn't sleep - So about 11.30 P. & I got up and made ourselves some Oatmeal - I drank mine, and after I went back to bed I went to sleep pretty soon, but Emily didn't sleep until after 3 - The next morning ^{Wednesday} we were late getting up - and then about 11 A.M. we started down town - we bought some necessary vegetables, and some Bagin runners and pillows (which I expect to send to you from here, so that I won't have duty to pay into China and you won't have to pay it into America) for Christmas presents for Gladys S. Gladys Paul - and a few others -

Then we went to the Chinese restaurant again and had good Chinese food - and back home - We baked all the afternoon - and then we had expected to go to the Missionary Stunt Night at the Pines Hotel - But Emily had got too tired to think of it - (and I had already been once to the hotel without her,) and it rained cats and dogs - We had asked Mr. Capen to sing a humorous song for the Swallow Stunt, and he did so - He and the Giedts went, and they said we didn't miss much - Mr. C's song was good, of course - and he had to give an encore - But Mr. Giedt

3

said there were only one or two other things that were good - and they didn't get out until 11.30. - So we were glad we hadn't gone -

Yesterday (Thursday) we finished preparing the things for supper in the morning, then rested in the afternoon. In spite of that Emily was too tired and I suppose we should have called the party off - but I didn't realize that she was half sick. We carried the thing through - and this time it was a success too. Our guests were the two Capens and the four Jiedts - and we ate at a 42" square table, eight of us! Not so bad if everything is served "to your left" but we had two covered dishes, as platters and two plates of food, besides the sugar bowl, eight plates, glasses, etc, and the butter! We had scallops, salmon (a.g.s.), stuffed peppers (E.E.M.), green peas, mashed potatoes, ripe olives, white bread, nut bread (a.g.s.), and then a cup of Oatline for each (it was new to some of them). For dessert we had Spanish cream (E.E.M.) chocolate cake (a.g.s.) and Lermite (a.g.s.). The cake was left over from Tuesday night and they knew it but the rest was all different. It was lots of fun, and they praised everything. The peppers were too hot for some, but Mr. Capen and I ate every scrap of ours and he ate the ~~other~~ that little Harold Jiedt didn't want. The men insisted on washing the dishes.

(I cleaned up in the kitchen) and we called it all a grand success. Mrs. Capen asked me if my mother liked to cook - Does she?

This morning however, I awakened to find Emily sick with a wretched neuralgic headache. She stayed in bed all morning - and by noon felt so much better that she sat up and ate a few creamed parsnips with me. I cleaned up the scraps, salmon, potato, and pudding - and enjoyed it. While she slept I washed out the napkins and last night's dish towels - (the ones from Middle Town).

E. went back to bed after dinner and she has been sleeping almost ever since - She said at noon that she thought she would feel well enough to get up and go to the church "Missionary Night" tonight, but I think it is doubtful. I don't care about going tonight but suppose I had better, if it doesn't rain too hard -

I'm writing in every letter now to tell you that I have not received the money, for if I didn't say anything, you might wonder whether I had received it. I shall tell you if it comes, though! You will have told me before this time how you sent it - money order, check, or what -

Much, much love, Abbie

229

Oriente Hotel
Manila, P. I.
Aug. 30, 1929

Dear Ones,

This letter I hope will sail on the Asia with me today, and I could wait and write it on the boat if I wanted to.

But I've been saving a four cent stamp just for you - and I must use it up for it will be no good after I'm out of the Philippines. Moreover after today it will cost me 10 cents to send a letter to you!

Emily is up washing her hair - it's just a little after six A.M. - and I'll use the time to scribble

a line to you -

We left Baguio Wednesday at 9.30 A.M. and had a fairly good trip down. The drive is a marvelous one - such scenery is hard to describe. With all the high peaks and deep gorges - all clothed in beautiful tropical green - up in Baguio itself and on the higher levels the tree ferns are so graceful. They grow in a very few places in the world. The blue mists over the highest peaks gave an almost ethereal effect to the whole scene, especially when we saw the mountains emerge from them as the clouds were melted away by

the sunshine -

I don't know whether I shall ever come here again, but I'm thankful to have had this six weeks here. I have gained several pounds and I'm feeling really very well and fit. The high altitude does not agree with Emily very well and she was miserable the last two weeks - She thought she would feel better as soon as she got down here, and she does - I'm amazed at the amount of shopping etc. we did yesterday without her getting very tired -

The day before I left Bagnio
I sent you a package containing
4 sets of Igorot runner and
cushion sets - From these I
want to give the most of
my Christmas presents and I'm
going to ask you to send them
on to the various people - I
won't stop to write details
now, but will do that when
I have more time, perhaps on
the boat - Gladys Sanderson,
Gladys Paul, & Helen Fielder are
some of the people - and you
are to have your own pick of
the lot -

I'll quit now, because it is
time to get dressed. The ox and cart
are to Ralph at Christmas. Love Abbie

CANADIAN PACIFIC

(?)
(my book is packed
but I think it is ³⁰)

S.S. Empress of Asia

Aug 31, 1929

Dear Mother -

We can still send letters

for four cents on this boat and Emily
has a stamp left over which she says
she will give to me. so I'll get this
letter to you for nothing!

We have been very lazy all day -
last night was very hot and there
are four of us in the cabin which has
only one porthole. When Emily and
I went downstairs last night after
dinner our two cots were flat
on their backs in their bunks and
the porthole was shut tight. We
got that open and the fan was

on all night but even so, there was not very much sleep when it was so hot -

I've met a Filipino girl yesterday. She is being sent to Washington to study by the Catholic Women's League. After she got her appointment she got interested in reading the Bible with a group of Protestant girls from the Normal School - They have been having a little Bible group during the noon hour, taking turns in being the "teacher", and taking a weekly quiz on what they have read - She said she wondered if we would keep up the reading with her - So today she came down here to second class and we three sat on deck and read the 26th chapter of Matthew aloud - each reading a verse in turn - There was a crowd of people all around us and they

didn't seem to notice us and
we didn't bother about them.
It was very nice and she asked
some questions, and then added
her own opinions to ours. She
read from her own Catholic Bible -
the Douay version. and the
differences were interesting. She is
in an embarrassing position, but
she wants to read the Bible and
find out for herself which the
better way is - We didn't try to
force ourselves - our opinions on
her, of course - and it seemed
to us that she is a broad minded
yet serious thinking Catholic who
is having some honest doubts -
We have introduced her to some
people who are going all the way
to America and we hope she
won't be too lonely and will perhaps
get some help -

There are very few Protestants.

passengers on this boat - but
85 second class - most of them
China missionaries returning from
vacation - The boat will be
lonely when it leaves Hongkong,
I should say - !

We don't know whether we
shall get a boat to Swatow
tomorrow or not. We'd like to
go Monday, and may have to
stay over until Tuesday -

Much, much love,

Atli