

Abbie G. Sanderson Papers

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(127)

Swatow, China
New Year's Day, 1934

Dearest Ones,

Can't say the year is begun entirely as
I want it begun unless I write a little bit to you -
When I finished the last letter before this I think
I had just got as far as opening our presents
around Edna's and Beatrice's Christmas tree. It
was fairly late when we got home, but we did
up one or two more Christmas presents for the
boys and then got to bed, - just about 12. I was
not yet in bed when fireworks began - and
they kept up! They were so loud and so close to
the house that I never did get to sleep that night!
At four I arose and put on my cambric gown and
lambhead - wrapped in my brilliant crocheted
afghan (for a blanket) and went out on the hill
nearby to join my young hopefuls - At intervals
all night long we had heard singing of carols,
but our young people got at it in real earnest when
they began to sing at 4.30 a.m. They had
bonfires, and had ^{most} potatoes roasted in the ashes,
with fresh buns, and hot tea. There were a few
games, a great deal of singing, a good deal
of fun with the various queer costumes that
people wore, then finally a serious ending
with prayer by the pastor of the church (Oh
yes - before that Santa Claus came and gave
out presents to all who were there -). Then
after the meeting closed we went around through
the village streets with our swinging lanterns
and our gay costumes, singing the carols
over now - I climbed back into bed
just as the 6.30 bell rang!
Didn't stay there long however - for

things were afoot.

As soon as breakfast was over some of the Junior Girls & came to practice a little sketch "How the Pine Tree Became a Christmas Tree". and about 9.30 the others of the group arrived. We had a lovely party. Miss Lee gave one of the sweetest Christmas talks for girls that I have ever heard - and we had hilarious good fun in the games. They were all especially happy in the fact that they had made \$17 for the White Gift Service, through their toy animals.

I felt rather guilty to have an invitation to two Christmas dinners, when so many people in the world had none.

Jan. 2.

Just while I was writing that last sentence I suddenly realized that I was breaking my resolution to go to bed early this year! In fact it was so late that it was almost early. So I decided to finish today instead of last night.

To continue with Christmas Day: At noon we were with Dorothy Campbell, Edith Traver and Mrs. Dorley, at Eastview. They had several Chinese guests too and in all it was a lovely Christmas dinner - As soon as the dinner was over I went with Dorothy Campbell and Dr. Beatrice Lee to visit Esther Ho - who used to have the name Bue Tân. She was the sweetest singer we ever had, and now, a young mother of three children, she is dying of cancer of the uterus - inoperable.

It was heart-breaking to see her - She used to be so pretty and sweet - and now she is a wreck of her former self - so wracked and torn by pain that she is scarcely recognizable - She cried weakly when I went in - for she said she had wished to see me but had not hoped that she might.

I asked her if she remembered the first song she ever sang alone. She answered "Under the Stars" - and you taught it to me - and this year my seven year old daughter learned it and sang it all alone at the Christian Institute Christmas service - At least the poor mother gets a little satisfaction in the thought that the children are following in her "musical" footsteps. It is a hard case. Her husband is an atheist, and his family all idol worshippers - and they have no sympathy with her Christian belief - I was so glad I had been to see her, yet it mung my heart beyond belief -

That night we were at Waters for supper and then went to Edna's for a carol sing. I was really so sleepy that I was in agony. But we went home eventually and I found by the middle of the night that I had contracted a hard cold!

The next day we had school! Can you

imagine how I enjoyed (?) it? Everybody was sleepy and it seemed that the day was well-nigh endless! I had six classes, too.

That evening at prayermeeting Elsie was the leader and she played for us the whole of the "Messiah" on the Victrola - It was a good relaxation from the toil and turmoil of the week before -

Jan. 3. Thursday I taught my one early morning class and then watched for steamers from Hongkong - About 10.30 we went out to meet the boat. The bay was mild - so bad that no little boat would cross, and we had to get the launch. When we got to the steamer I asked for Miss Tatum, and the answer was "Yes, Miss Tatum came up with us but she has already gone ashore"! Is the Swatow side - We rushed right over but by that time she had gone across to Katschick. I overtook her just as she was crossing the bridge which leads to our house!

I am very glad to have her here just at this time, for we are having a little vacation and there is more time to spend with her. ^{Friday morning} ^{+ family left for} ^{last night} ^{and to have to leave this}

~~Saturday morning~~ Friday night I took her to the Academy teacher's prayermeeting and found that Principal Ling knew her father when he was teaching in Shanghai College Seminary - Saturday morning after my classes were over we had an early lunch and left for Kitzang on the one o'clock launch. We got up there about quarter

of fine and had some tea and a little visit with the Giedts before we went to the girls' house to get dressed for dinner. Twelve sat around the table. I think I told you - Mrs. Dooley, Edna, Beatrice, Enid, the Doaters, Joy and I were guests of Marguerite, Clara, and the Giedts. It was a lovely dinner and then we played a few simple games but didn't stay up very late -

The next morning the single women "all ye wise and foolish virgins" (with Mrs. Dooley included?) had breakfast at Giedts, while ^{most} Mrs. Doaters ate at the girls' house. At noon, after church, it was just the opposite, but by that time the party had dwindled for Mrs. H., Enid, and Beatrice came home Sun. a.m.

I thought I was going to rest up there at Kitgang but no, Clara grabbed me for the Young People's Service and I had to give a "stirring address" to them! Joy was there to hear, but I suppose she couldn't understand much of what I said - I met with the Young People afterwards and passed on a number of suggestions about their work - telling them more or less of what our young people down here are doing - I really had a very good time with them - Used up a lot of energy, but enjoyed it all the same. When that was done we all went to the Chinese pastor's house for tea - Then went to see two of my former students and a crippled lady - and were served tea and oranges again -

Got back just in time to rest about ten minutes before going over to Giedts where we had the equivalent of a lap supper - only with little tables to eat from - Delicious salad, hot rolls, potato chips, coffee, etc. Then we sat and sang Christmas songs afterwards - It surely was a lovely time - restful and delightful.

Came home the next day in the rain - after a long wait on the launch - I knew I should not be back so I got excused from Monday classes - New Year's Night Joy went with us over to Snaton where Beatrice and I had been asked to sing at the Christian Institute - and Dorothy C. to sing. Going over and coming back at night in a little boat - with the tide very high and sky cloudy was an experience I'm afraid Joy didn't thoroughly enjoy! But she was a good sport about it. Yesterday noon (Jan. 2) we had Chinese guests here - Min Ang, Kathleen Lyman (home on vacation from Hongkong University, Christine Chen, who teaches in our school now, and Margaret Lee - And it was a nice candle-lighted cozy dinner - Cloudy and rainy outside, the candles helped a lot - Both Kathleen and Christine were given their English names by me - and I like the way they sound to fit. I think I'll enclose two little missives having these names on them.

Last night we were invited to Mrs. Drators for supper - and then we went to prayermeeting,

where Beatrice and I sang again - This morning Joy went to the Roman School and gave a talk at their chapel, translated by Margaret Lee.

Tonight we are invited to Eastview (E. Travis) for dinner - Everybody is so kind - all trying to do as much as possible for my guest - Joy is quiet, but appreciative, and I think she is glad she came - I surely am glad - I had never felt the least bit acquainted with her before, although she says she ^{has} felt acquainted with me ever since our afternoon together in Shanghai some years ago -

On the way home from Kitzing the other day Joy and I stopped a bit in Straton, and sent the boy home with our bags and heavy coats. I learned later that he had put my coat on and worn it!

So this morning I gathered that and several other grievances and filed them all on thick - a good dose of advice that I hope will have some effect! I tempered the whole with some words of praise for the way some things have been done - but expressed

my dissatisfaction with the way that things
are let go slipshod in the house - He
has been working hard all morning and
I think a few of the corners have been
dug into - I heard him singing a minute
ago - so I guess he is not too downcast -!
Velva leaves for furlough in about two weeks
now -

Your Christmas package was a joy - I am
crazy about toilet and bath things anyway -
I have seen "Linit." advertised and shall be glad
of a chance to use it. You apologized for the
Mum's being small - I don't think it is small
and I'm delighted to have it, as I have the
Talcum, Amolin, bathing cap, etc. You should
not have bothered, though, when you have
not been well - but it was least warming
to have the box of pretty little Christmasy
looking packages from home - I'll have to admit.
Please say thank you to all who had a share.
Heaps of love to all,
Abbe'.



To Greet you this
 Merry Christmas and to
 Wish you happiness
 In the New Year
 From
 Christine Chen

新
 釐
 聖
 誕
 節
 恭
 祝

陳
 倩
 惠
 贈
 啟

62. Sing Hing Road,
Kislat,
SWATOW.
1st Jan. 1935.

Dear Miss Sanderson,

Thank you very much
indeed for your kind invitation
to lunch with you to-morrow
noon, Jan 2. at 12.30 pm. and
I accept it with much
pleasure.

Yours affectionately,
Kathleen I. Lynn

(Joy's visit was from
Dec. 27 - to Jan. 7
6.34.3.)

Swarth, China (128)

(Save this letter till I come to) January 6, 1935

Dearest Queen,

Joy is still here,
and we are still going the
rounds. Every body is so kind.
We have been to tea or dinner
at almost every house on the
compound - & that in spite of
the fact that I had just
the week before been invited
to two Christmas dinners and one
big "left-over, help-eat-up-the-goose"
dinner at three of the houses.

January 8 - Joy left yesterday
and I do believe she enjoyed
being here. We were a little
bit afraid of each other, I
suppose, for we knew that our
ideas on some subjects were

not at all the same. It came out the last day she was here, just as I was leaving her at the steamer, that she disapproved of registered schools (such as ours here). She teaches in a little primary school of about 30 girls, which is not registered. I told her that I had guessed that was the way she felt; that my own decision had been made a long time ago and I believed when I made it that it was the only right thing for me to do; i. e., to give my full and loyal support to the proposition of registering our school - That it seemed the right thing then and that I still feel it is right.

(Ch. etc.) I think Joy is a
very sweet girl. The people
she has lived with are
different in their opinions
from some of the ones I
have lived with; she has
lived in a different part
of China, too, where the
Chinese dispositions are not
so hot and independent
and progressive as here
in South China; all these
things make a difference.

I shall always be glad
I had this visit with her,
and I hope that we may
see each other many times
again. It would probably
be better to see each other
on vacations than to try
living and working in the

same work - But then
again I may be wrong -
She is quiet, and moderate,
in her speech as well as in her
actions. She has a sense of
humor - and she finds it
very hard to make speeches,
yet she responded very nicely
when she was called on to
say a few words about her
work, in our prayer-meeting,
and when she was asked
to speak at the Women's
School, to the Chinese women.
I'm ever so glad she came.

In the excitement of
having a guest, I have
omitted telling you of my
interesting message received
the day after Christmas,
while I was in a classroom

teaching a class - What do you suppose? I'm sure you would never guess! Christmas Greetings, (by radio) from The Burlingames, Worcester, Mass. Isn't that exciting! My first radio message from America - I hope I can find out when they sent it, and thus reckon how long it took to get here. I suppose it was very extravagant yet I know that holiday greeting rates are often surprisingly low so I don't need to worry about that, maybe.

I've had a few other messages that were somewhat more substantial; let me see - did you tell me that the Calvary people were not planning to send me

anything this year? I suppose
if I look up your letter I
shall find it worded so
that it will mean they
did not plan to send any-
thing dutiable. Their gift-
sent by the Ethelyn Hussey
class, was \$25. gold! Isn't
that wonderful? That almost
assures me a summer
vacation this year, with
more chance to study
Mandarin - though I
do not know where it
will be. I had thought
of staying right here in
Swatow until I should be
able to go as far as the Peking
language school - I am
afraid, however, that I cannot
get to Peking (Piping, I ought to say.)
this summer, so maybe it will

be "Kishi" again. Pearl Mason
is pulling hard for me to go and
live in the house where she
is going to be. I am now
beginning to consider it.

Another Christmas greeting
which came today is from
Evelyn Cranska - \$5.00 gold
She has been in hospital for a
"small operation", she says -

Just that lovely toy? One rather
~~(not the operation)~~
puzzling thing about it; the
letter comes with a Japanese
stamp, and on the back of the
envelope the inscription,

"Mailed in Yokohama
by
R. J. Denison
#8 The Bowd
Yokohama."

Do you suppose he is just out
from home and brought it
with him? It's all very
interesting, anyhow -

I must quit, for it is time to go
to bed this minute -

I love you all a heap!

Yours

Abbie

Dear Quers,

1029

Stratford, Jan 18 -

My letters won't get to you
"as regularly as clock work" this week.
When I was laid up in bed with a
sore throat on Sunday and Monday
I thought I should surely get my
letter to you written. But on Sunday
~~so~~ I thought I would do a little reading
first - Then I went over the Christmas
cards and letters I had, to check them,
and then callers came - and that
is how the day went. Monday I
corrected papers first and then callers
came and there the day was over -

When I waked up Tuesday my
throat was much better and I
started right out at eight o'clock
to take my classes as usual. I
have been "going" ever since. Throat
almost O. K. now - after a week's
sickness -

Vacation won't hurt me a bit,
I know it - But I have a few

things to do before vacation gets here!

At present we have guests at our house from Lingnan University, Canton. They came yesterday, have gone to Chaochowfu today, ^{on Friday} and will be off to Amoy tomorrow. So they are not here very long - But we had some little arranging to do just for this short time - because all the single workers had been invited last night to a sauerkraut party at Velvies - and the Watsons had a theological student dinner on. That left only the Hobarts and Pagers to whom we could appeal to take our guests off our hands - There are four in the party - and the Watsons are entertaining the other two - so they wanted to have their guests invited out also!

The Hobarts were glad to have them, apparently - and we had our parties, theolog and sauerkraut, respectively - The sauerkraut party was a farewell "jag"

that Valva was treating us to - She
told us to dress like gentlemen
jiggo-es - and we were a
tough-looking crowd - We didn't
recognize Jiggo himself among
the crowd, but there were two
Maggies, Dinty Woods wife and
several other old cronies - and
how we all did enjoy that
vinegared cabbage and wieners -
mashed potato, - corned-beef sand-
wiches - ~~many~~ ^{several} vegetables - and
coffee - To say nothing of trimmings
It sure was a swell feed!

Today is the last regular
school day, and exams begin
to-morrow - I do not have any
except music exams to-morrow -
They come (to pupils) to-morrow afternoon.

To-morrow morning ~~for~~ ^{for} ~~other~~
English teachers come to the house
to help correct a general English

test which was given to the whole
of the Senior High School. It
took them a little over two hours
to write it. Whether or not
five teachers can correct more
than a hundred sets of papers
(three papers to a student)
in one hour, as they hope, remain
to be seen! The papers are
easy to mark however.

One set of questions is all
opposites, i. e.

1. Give the opposite of short.

Another calls for corrections to
be made.

1. Correct this sentence:

Why he not go away yesterday?

Another gives ~~a paper~~ ^{rather} four
words to choose from, then
makes them listen to the question,
then mark the word which
answers, for example:

The four words which are
given are

hungry, dinner, play, tired,
and the question read is

"If you had been working hard
all day without anything to
eat, what would you like?"

Jan. 19 -

In the meantime your letter has
come, Mother, which says you
are leaving for Woods Hole next
day - (I am signing the
cards and returning them to
you as you suggest)

Love to all -

P.S. I have just sent you a padded
jacket which Mai Ché manufactured
out of the scraps left over from

a corset and a long
padded coat that I have
had made to keep me warm
these chilly days and nights.
I got some cheap artificial silk
for the outside of it. I have
no notion that it fits, for I did
none of the cutting - she did it
all for I didn't have time - I put
in scraps so you could piece the
sleeves down with cuffs - as I
think you'll need to. It was
"worn" several times by me before
sent to you - hence the label.
It's to put on in the house, over your
nightie, or over your undies, or over
your clothes, as you choose - any time
you are cold. You'll see that
the cotton bathing has a light little
layer of silk over the outside - The
silkworms spin it right there - being
poked along to make them go in the
right place to spin their filament -

130

Snowtown, China

January 29, 1935

Dearest One,

I really am in the midst of writing a letter to Emily and her Aunt Emily to thank them for some candy which just arrived yesterday in a very carrying little cardboard overnight case. But it is too dark to see, and the light hasn't come on yet. I'm writing this to you though I really cannot see what I am writing.

This afternoon I had a good meeting with the B. Y. P. U. They did not ask me to speak until yesterday morning - and ordinarily I would have fussed and fumed and fatted and

worried about it - But as I
think I wrote you recently - I am
really beginning to relax and
take things easy - I have
decided that maybe it can be
done, even though I never thought
it could - and that maybe I'll
get farther and accomplish
more if I get rid of that
mashed-to-death, impossible-to-
finish-all-these-huge-tasks
sensation, which I know in my
heart of hearts is many times
nothing more than a sensation -

So yesterday morning I went
calmly to a Long Term Divisional
Committee meeting and sat through
the discussion of some rather
knotty problems - maybe even
helped a little in the discussion
of some of them - (Hooray,
the light has come on!)

2
In the afternoon I went to Swatow
with Marion - We tried to find
a Chinese curio to send to
Mabelle for her birthday - She has
every thing under the sun -
We couldn't pay very much - and
couldn't find very much that
she hasn't got - It is almost
impossible to find anything under
this combination of circumstances,
Maybe we'll just have to send our
love and let it go at that - !

Then I came home and
entertained (?) a group of students
who came to see why they
did not pass in their English -
I got something like that every
term - since I'm not kind-hearted
enough to pass them all whether
they deserve it or not. These
interviews take a lot out of
me usually - but this one
was a trifle less difficult -

than usual, for some reason.

In the evening I did some reading and meditating about my topic, which was "Being a real Christian". Then I went to bed, at a fairly early hour - got up this a. m., wrote out some of my topic headings. Then went over them mentally while I was sitting up behind the choir loft in church -

And I got along fairly well, with what I wanted to say. At last they listened - and there were three boys there, and one girl, in whom I am very specially interested - Christians who have not yet been baptized - As to whether it did anybody any good or not, I don't know. Ah yes - it did me some good!

I hoped to hear from you yesterday, but nothing came -

I had an interesting letter from Mrs. Burlingame St. in which she asks me to "send some spiritual food" — She is over eighty. Another letter from Dr. Bruce Kinney, which is full of pep so his letters always are. He says "I tell people I am somewhat interested in foreign missions." Dr. Dorothy, his daughter, is on furlough, but will be coming back soon. They rather dread the separation. I gather he's very proud of her — I'd like to meet her —

Did I tell you about the enthusiastic letter I had from Ada Boardman, telling of her seeing Uncle George at the Rotary Club meeting — ? And two last week I had a letter from Lula, while she was visiting Uncle

Rever, just after she had married
seeing Uncle George - to her
great distress - She said Uncle
Arthur was bemoaning the fact
that I had not enclosed copies
of the "pictures" I spoke about
in my Christmas letters - Lulu
said "but I wondered if you
didn't intend them as word-
pictures" ! I'm glad to be in
touch with Lulu again - I have
not had her address for sometime
now -

Had a good letter from Cilla,
enclosing snaps of the children -
a notice that Eva Morris is still
sending the Atlantic (for the 19th
consecutive year !) again. She is
a pretty good scout. In Tracy is
sending the Geographic again this
year, too - Aunt Tracy sent snaps
of Barbara and Ruth, at Christmas -

And still if I don't get letters from you
people I don't feel that I have really had my mail
Much, much love to all Abbie

from you people, I don't feel that I have really had any mail!

Father, I'm wondering a good bit about your undertaking the baptismal rite again. I can very well understand that it seems a fitting crown and climax for your life-work - and would bring you a sense of satisfaction that would be hard to find in any other way. It is not for me to dictate what you shall or shall not do in a matter like this. ^(Even though I imagined I could, at such distance) I can realize, however, that this very thing may be the one thing the satisfaction of which will not be yours to enjoy. I do feel strongly that you should make no arrangements

without doctor's permission -
and without following doctor's
instructions as to wearing of
high rubber garments if that
seems necessary. And if the
doctor says no altogether to
this proposition, please don't
fret about it, for there may
be a little different task just
around the corner waiting to be
done by you, which will give
even greater glory to God than
this! Who knows?

I must stop and get to another
letter -

Much, much love to all,

Albie

Suataow, China

February 3, 1935

Dear Ones,

This is the last day of the old Chinese year - I don't know whether any one will come to collect mail ^{to-morrow}, but I'd like to have something ready for the mail-man if he should come. I was very much disappointed not to get home mail today. That means that even though it gets to the post office to-morrow, we shall probably not get it until the day after -

This last week I have been a-traveling. Wednesday

morning Beatrice Ericson,
Mrs. Worley and I, with two
boys to help with baggage and
with various work after we
got there, went to Longkang.
We took six different busses
before we finally got there, but
at that the trip is much
shorter than the one we had
the last time. The same
houseboy was with Emily and
me when we went to visit
Mrs. Lewis, about eight years
ago. He missed three meals
that time! Had to start off
about 7 p. m. before he had
his supper - Had nothing
to eat the next morning,
because he preferred walking
to sitting and waiting for
a slow little boat. Didn't
(we waited in the boat, and ate
raisins and hard crackers!)

get to ~~their~~^{the} destination, until
about 3 - so he missed
dinner too - The Bible woman
who was with him then was
at Ungkeny this time, and they
had a great time reminiscing!

Luebecks have had a good many
wedding presents of money, I should
say - and they have put it all
into furnishing their house. They
have second-hand things to some
extent but in very good taste, and
their house is really like a little
bit of America - very differently
furnished from any other house
in the mission. The most of
us have our houses filled up
with rattan furniture or
teakwood chairs made by
Tovato carpenters - and the
Luebecks have very little of that.
It is a very lovely home, and

Katherine is a splendid housekeeper.
We had good eats - and were
very lazily comfortable as we
sat around the fire and
knitted and chatted.

Yesterday Mrs. Worley and
I came back, because I had
to be here to play for the
Young People at church this
morning and again at a
New Year's service in the
church to-morrow morning.

Tonight I should be in bed,
for I slept none too well while
I was gone - (in the same bed
with Mrs. Worley). But just now
Marion and I are sitting by
the fireplace and writing
letters - She has to leave in
a few minutes to go and
see a woman who is due to

have a baby sometime tonight. Just think, if this little boy is born before midnight, then to-morrow he will be two years old! Every child is a "year" old the day he is born, and two years old his first (Chinese) New Year day. If this youngster is not born until after midnight, he won't be two "years" old until a year from to-morrow!

Well - I guess she is getting ready to go - so I think I'll go to bed - The fire is getting low - and I don't want to get too cold -

Love to you all,

Abbie

Suataw, China

February 10, 1935

Dear Father,

This evening I planned
to spend writing a letter which I
might send especially to Mr.
Caper, to tell him about the
fine Young People's Society ^{meeting} we
had today, and writing a letter
to you. But one of the Chinese
young women came in and stayed
the whole evening - It is now
after ten, and the letter about
the Y. P. is not written, nor
is my letter to you. I cannot
do the other one tonight but
I do want to get a little one
off on the mail tomorrow -
School begins at 8 a. m. and
if I don't write a little letter
tonight I'm sure I shall not

write a bigger one to-morrow.
I think you'd rather have a
short one than none - !

Had a good home mail
yesterday - I was certainly glad
to have the ones (two) from Woods
Hole. Tell Mother Mr. McGly's
money has arrived safe and
sound and that it was all
right to send it. Since it
was the size it was, I shall
keep some of it here for certain
needs - I am wondering whether
I shall hear from him to
know how he would like to
have it spent! I expected it
might be \$5.00 or maybe \$10.00,
in which case I planned to swap
it for \$10. (or \$5.00) of my own
~~to~~ to use in a way which I
plan. But I have decided
to make different arrangements.

I cannot think of any possible gifts that are likely to come to you people for me in the future, but if there should be, I imagine it would be better for you to keep them there for me in case I want to make some purchases in America - So - from now on, if there are any such gifts, you'll let me know about them before you send them -

Question Father, in your present special "exigencies" of life is it ever necessary, or advisable, to have some sort of deodorant around handy in the room where you live? I'm sure you will not mind my asking that question in such an abrupt way, for if there is need of something of the kind I know you would want to procure it. It seems to me that if I were in your place, whether I knew that my being in a little different case ever caused any odors or not, I should take

4

certain precautions. For years I have had constantly in my own living room a glass jar containing equal parts of salts of ammonia and oil of lavender for the very purpose of dispelling any unpleasant odors, whether that of some visitor who came to see me who hadn't had baths enough, or of the breath of some one who had eaten too much garlic for dinner! It sits ~~on~~ my bookcase and if there is a little odor or the room gets close when I can't open the window wide, off comes my little glass jar cover and I let the fumes circulate in the room -

For a deodorant to use on one's body I don't know whether Mum or ointment, or Arnolin, a powder, would prove of any use to you. You might try them -

If this subject has already been talked about to you until you are very, very tired of it, please bear

write me and remember that this is
 the first time I have mentioned it!
 Anyhow, whether there is need for anything
 of the kind or not, the ammonia and
 lavender combination is a pleasant
 thing to have around - I am pretty sure
 Mother would like it.

Now - write me a letter once in a
 while, won't you? Don't think that because
 Mother is there she can do all the visiting,
 will you? It will be good for you, &
 write to me - keep in practice!

Love to all,

Abbie

Siwatow, China

133.

February 17, 1935

Dear Mother,

Your letter enclosing Aunt Jostmes's came yesterday - I'm so glad you sent it and hope you will send others of hers - It is good to hear from the farm even a little indirectly.

I'm very glad you told me about the tea - though very sorry anyone had any duty to pay. I am investigating immediately, for I have understood right along that tea was one of the few undutiable articles -

I have written to our American consul but haven't his answer yet, of course -

Something is wrong anyway - one pays nothing, and another pays 65¢ - while still another pays 15¢ for double the other amount (there were two tins in your package, weren't there?)

And if I'm wrong - I won't send any more tea, but if I'm ^{right} ~~not~~ ^(!) I intend to kick to the proper authorities! I think it is very strange - America doesn't grow tea, why

should there be duty - ? Or does she grow tea ? If
as I don't know where -

As to what I sent last year - that is
rather a sorry joke, I should say - (That tea
was some I had given to me !) - Huff sed !
I really thought it was good -

Did I tell you that if the jacket I sent - which
certainly should require no duty - "worn dothing" -
does not fit or you don't find it comfortable, don't
worry - just put it away - till later or do anything
you like with it - It was made almost all of
left-overs and cost me very little as if it doesn't
fit it is not worth too much worry about - !

This morning after church I felt like a
much-sought-after person ! I had a choir
rehearsal on hand - and while they were
practicing two other committees were waiting,
down in the body of the church, for me to
help discuss matters. One was the woman's
missionary committee, and the other was the
general church committee, composed of a
number of subcommittees - such as Sunday School,
Young People's, Pulpit Committee, etc - It was rather
a mad rush, from one to the other, but we
finally got them all in, so I ~~supposed~~ the
missionary meeting got a leader and the church
committee got a chairman and secretary !
The next committee meetings will be easier

and longer than this one, no doubt.

This afternoon the Young People had an outdoor meeting. We took little boat and went over to the Queen's Slipper Rock - just a few oar's-lengths from the shore - and had a splendid meeting. The speaker was young Mr. Lee from the Seminary (teacher) who recently took Miss Travis place at a Religious Education Conference held in Shanghai. The day has been lovely and sunshiny and it was ^{so} good to be out that we stayed from 1.30 until nearly five o'clock.

This evening the same Mr. Lee came to my study to talk over the Religious Education Conference which is to be held here the last of this week. He and I are to share a discussion hour, his subject being "Work with ~~School~~^{Church} Young People" and mine being "Work with School Young People". We both talk a little, and then give people a chance to discuss. I have a few ideas, which I must whip into some sort of shape tomorrow and then go over with my Chinese teacher on Tuesday - then use my spare minutes after that to get familiar with!

My love to you all -

Abbie

(134)

Suwan China

Feb. 28, 1935

Dearest One,

Thursday already, and my Sunday letter to you not yet begun! I'm surely ashamed - Last week I was very much bothered by a problem which came up - so much so that I had ^{no} surplus energy or thought for any ^{else} ~~thing~~ - and I feel that I did not even do as I ought by my regular duties -

This is the situation: Marion has decided to try the experiment of cutting down expenses to the minimum - which means that she intends to have no share in our household life - servants - food, etc. She is going to sweep & clean her own rooms - make her own bed - buy her own slippers, carry her own notes - eat Chinese food with the doctors at the hospital - not accept any body's hospitality - and never invite any guests. When we have guests at our

house hereafter, as I understand it, Marion will not be present. She feels that there is no other way to cut down expenses, as she is going at it, with a vengeance. She is getting out now, while Matelle is at home, because Matelle would kick up a big fuss - and wouldn't understand. Moreover - when Matelle gets back, the expenses will rise again, as they always do when she is here, for she must have things she likes to eat.

I can appreciate M's wanting to live the simple life and maybe her being courageous in this rather startling fashion - will be the giving wedge and some of the rest of us will ^{be able} follow suit - But

2

that doesn't make it any easier for me
just now - especially financially -
Enid is furious, because she is only here
on this side the bay about half the
time - and yet she pays full third
of the expenses - she is threatening to
quit in Swatow altogether and I
should not blame her if she did - for
it does not seem really fair that
she should have to pay a big amount ^{more}
for a small amount of food, service, etc,
when M. gets free of all responsibility of
the house, etc. and free of all financial respons-
ibility too. So I have told Enid that beginning
tomorrow she can pay me for the meals she
eats here and I will let her decide on some
fixed rate, whatever she decides is right - and
then she won't have to be worried because
our house expenses are climbing so high.

However, this is only an experiment Marion is
trying, and for a month or two months she will
continue to share in the servants' wages - Then she

may be glad to come back and share with us again and yet, knowing her, I feel sure she means business and will stick to it if it is all possible. She has decided to go tooth and nail into the business of being the best kind of missionary she can - and I honor her for it. This is what seems to her just now the right thing and however hard it may be for other people it is likely to be still harder for her. She is young and strong, though, and has excellent vitality and boundless energy - I think she will be much more likely to succeed than any of the rest of us -

As for me, I'm going to try to cut down as much as possible living by myself - but I can't get rid of all servants - with entertaining of students, teachers, and others - and moreover, I haven't time (to say nothing about strength) to do all I ought to do now, without adding housework and responsibility of this big home to what I have - I can't do my school work and bake cakes & cookies for tea parties of 30-40 students myself - even if I could

manage to work my own ³ piece - It will work out all
right, I'm sure - "All things work together for good -"
and we both do love the Lord, and I think are pretty
fond of each other too - She is not demonstrative,
but I have pretty good reason to think she likes
me - and it is up to me to see that she gets
the chance to try what she thinks is right -

We had a religious education retreat for
the Ling Tong R. E. Committee this last week-end,
and I was invited to help lead the discussion
on young people's work - and to play each
evening - when they were learning some new songs
for children's work - Therefore I had a share
in the retreat and when, at the close Monday
evening, they decided to form an R. E. Fellowship
of our own, Euid (who was visiting the meeting),
and I were invited to join the other twelve
in this fellowship which should bind us together
in the common bond of trying to further
religious education in our whole district, among
all classes - We are pledged to pray for each
other daily in our morning worship, and to let
each other know of progress or of problems which
arise - The meetings were splendid - and I
count it a real privilege to have been in on
these meetings where a true zeal for Christian work

and a love for Christ were so manifestly
present - I know you will pray, too, for
this band of workers - I'm going to tell
you about them in a letter soon -

This week we have the Gidts here -
and that means experiences for old
maids! To hear little boys of 5 and 10
say "I won't" - and slap their mother in the
face, and so on - shocks our delicate
sensibilities very much and we realize all
over again just how we "would manage
that young one if he was ours"! Big
streaks of oil? on our living room carpet
a broken electric light bulb - loosed top
thrown out the window to the lawn below -
oh, nothing serious - but we are finding out
that we are old maids!

I moved right out of my end of the
house and let them have my guest room, my
bedroom, study & bathroom, while I am
temporarily parked in Mabel's room -
Mrs. Gidt is having dental work done, and
she was planning to come down bag and baggage
and set up housekeeping in the Rest Home -
She is very tired I think - the smallest child of
the three is not 1 year old until ~~June~~^{May} and I

4

am very glad we could take them in -
They go on furlough in July - and I am
glad that this visit here in Makchiah does
not have to be too hard on them - She is one
who finds it easier to be a guest than to
set up her own establishment - and
so this way is a relief to her. (Secretly I think
that if I had these children, I'd prefer to
have them in a house apart - but secretly,
too, I feel that the children might
mind better if they were mine - ! Though
they might really, I suppose, be a million
times worse if they were mine -)

Now, don't you think I have raved on
long enough and incoherently enough for me?
I wonder what you will make out of it all,
anyway!

Much, much love,

Abbie —

March 3, 1935

Dear Mother,

I feel as though I had been neglecting my family of late, not writing as often as I want to, and not writing very much when I do write. I am still in the struggle of trying to get a poised life - that sense of balance and well being within even when duties are pressing violently - sometimes viciously from without, and when the inner life itself is conscious of a great need of more than it has - I am appallingly far from attaining that poise - although I have had a few lessons recently which should teach me the only way to attain it -

I told you in a letter sent only a day or two ago about the Religious Education retreat we had ^{recently} ~~yesterday~~. I told you I would tell you a little about who was present. so that you may help in the business of praying for them and their work.

1. The chairman of the meetings was Yang Chiang Hua, a field evangelist in this district. He is the father of three girls who have been my students (one has died) and one boy, who was discovered to have leprosy and was for a while sent north to a sanitarium. This man has been a language teacher at times. he has ability, but he has faults which keep him from giving his best. It is not always easy for people to get along with him, and of course "fusses" always hurt more than they

helps - He goes with evangelistic
 funds, and by himself, into many
 places where the opportunity to preach
 is very good -

The leading spirits in the cathedral
 were Edith Travers, Li Tsho long, and
 Li Tshun Chak.

2. Edith Travers you know - One
 knee has been stiffened by a bone
 operation, and now the other
 knee and both ankles are beginning
 to trouble her - I am afraid it
 is a question of time before she
 will have to go home - She is
on fire for telling the Good News
 in every possible way -

3. Li Tsho long is the preacher at
 our Okabchish Church - a man of
 real ability and a good amount of
 consecration, I believe, especially
 since he's undertaken his present job

which is one of the most important
preaching positions, and I have no
doubt, the most difficult one, in our
South China field. He is criticized
because he is said to be in
H. C. Ling's "clique". He was
for years the principal of the
boys' grammar school here -
was a great help in many ways
to Helen Pua when she was
principal of our Girls' School.
A very successful school teacher.
His daughter is a very bright lovely
girl who will be graduated from
our academy in June - she
is one of our Y. P. leaders.
Since this church is to South China
something like what the Newton
Center church (with all its professors,
missionaries on furloughs, seminary
students, etc - is to New England -
this man has no easy task and
he needs a great deal of wisdom.

to do it right.

4. Li Tshun Chet is a young teacher in our Seminary here - He is good with young people - and although he has not the forceful personality that some have, yet he wears well and he is always eager to learn about ways and means to carry on the work of religious education in every possible place and at every opportunity. His wife was a handicap to him in some ways but her study at the Woman's School has helped her wonderfully. Their little girl is the prize jewel of our kindergarden.

5. Another leader is Tang Shin Wn, whose name comes in my Christmas letter, - the new young woman evangelist working in our

field - She is well received
everywhere - is musical, has a
real spiritual experience &
give her message vitality, and
a joy in her work that is beautiful
& rare. Some of us feel that she
ought to have further education so
that she may be able to work
with all classes, high and low -
She feels that if she went on
& study further she might
lose her spirituality - There is
that spiritual pride - or is there
real danger? I do not dare
try to decide.

6. Kung Kung Bue, sister-in-law
of our Seminary president Tang
Hsin Hweon, is the Bible woman
at Swatow Christian Institute -
a sweet little lady who is pretty
dependable if not very forceful.

7. Kung Hioh Kheung, one of
the oldest of the younger type of

Bible woman. She has force of personality enough to make up for the lack of it in some of the others. She has a voice almost like a man's - and can keep a group of children enthralled for hours as she tells them stories while their elders are listening to some one else preach. She often antagonizes people - for she has some rough edges - but she is very good hearted. She carried me on her back across a stream many years ago, when I was out on my first downy trip with Miss Gollman - got ~~me~~ there before I ever knew how she did it!

8. Hsia² Sui² Man² is another woman worker - She is somewhat of the old-fashioned type, but she is solid gold and really does some thinking as well as working - She is a leader in the Kitgum field -

9. Another from the same district is Ho Ning² Shu², a kindergarten teacher, very much interested in Women's Missionary society work and children's work - a younger woman -

10. Hsiao² Si² Jui² is the worker who leads up the Chaochow² association - He is always at the front of things - he is probably the cause of more trouble than any other man in our Convention - He is the chief reason why Mr. Baker is not back in Chaochow² at present - but working in Swatow instead - He is the principal of a school which is always at odds with the Chaochow² church - but carried on in the church building! And yet - he has some splendid ideas of what ought to be done and how to do it. He is the father of a former

student of mine who has now gone on to college —

10. Shuk Sima is a young teacher in the Nam Da field — I know him least of all. He was very quiet in the meetings, yet when he spoke, what he said was good.

12. Si Mui Kwang is Mr. Lundbeck's right hand man in the Ungkong district and although he is not perfect yet he is, I understand, a strong worker in some ways — His daughter has recently finished her work at the woman's school and has a government teaching position at Ungkong.

13. E. P. Johnson, Irvator Fuditate

14. A. G. Sanderson —

The meetings this little group had was good ones — some of them very heartsearching sessions — I hope we may form a real fellowship that will be of help through the days and the years, to each other & to many others.

March 5 -

For five days now, Mission has been eating Chinese food and doing all the work in her own rooms - I'm afraid I wasn't much help & for the first two or three days, for I was so depressed at the thought of what seemed like a virtual breaking up of our home here, that I well-nigh lost my sense of humor for a little while! But it is coming back slowly - and we all feel better consequently -

I'm going to make one big struggle to keep expenses down this month - in the hope that some arrangement can be made that we can all join - instead of being thus separated - and also because I really do need to save money -

Love
Abba -

P.S. Perhaps by this time, Father,
you have received from me, via
New York, a small Birthday
remembrance - I hope you
can get it - If it doesn't
reach you, let me know -

Love,

Abbi

Singapore, China
Monday, March 11, 1935
About 5 A.M.

Dear Mother,

This morning I awakened early as decided to get up and correct papers. What do you advise as plastic - or drastic - surgery for this one?

The subject, "An amusing incident" - The story is that a woman with a basket of eggs comes to stand on someone's car. "suddenly the car starts, but she was unready, therefore, she fell down by the inertia, and all the eggs was broken by his pressing rump, and his trousers was filled with the yolk and albumen" - Now, madam, what would you do, in case of an English effort such as that?!

.... Right there I suddenly got sleepy and decided I'd better turn over and get another little nap before 6 a.m. - I must admit I was drowsy a good part of the day - but I certainly was wide awake enough early in the morning! That doesn't happen often, I'm glad to say -

Did I tell you that I'm already making plans to go to Shanghai to the meeting of the University Directors? I may not go,

for there are others going at about the same time and it may be decided that going money should be saved by letting two do the work of three. But unless things are changed, Edna Smith, Mr. Giehl and I leave for Shanghai about the 5th of April. My spring vacation comes 4th & 8th of April, so I can go with them instead of waiting until two or three days later - They go for Publication Society meetings the 10th, and for Seminary and University meetings the 12th & 13th -

This week I'm studying the subject of miracles - I may be rash to attempt that subject with my Sunday School class - but it comes into the lesson, and I thought that rather than ignore a subject which is a most topic, we'd better face it - So I'm reading all the books I can and asking all the opinions I can - I think the best advice I've had was from Bruno Luedel. He said, "they don't you tell them just what you believe yourself?" - So I have decided that is what I'll do if I can!

This is a poor letter, but it takes my love to you all - Yours Abbie

to the thrilling tale of Hagan, the man for whom they have the
profoundest respect because of his life of Christian love and dev
yet whom belongs to ~~country~~ country every Chinese ~~has~~ ~~to~~ ~~regard~~ ~~as~~ ~~the~~ ~~arch~~ ~~enemy~~ ~~of~~ ~~China~~ ~~.~~
of China.

Rough copy of items sent to
Mr. Page for yearly report

Sewanee, China

March 20, 1935

Dearest One,

Your letters are the ones that come regularly now - and it is such a joy to get them - And I'm dilatory, as usual - I sometimes wonder if I had no school to bother about, whether I could make myself do the long long list of things I have written down that must be done - To say nothing of the long list of letters to be written - I'll bet I wouldn't! I'd just hop off somewhere and study mandarin, or start

making over a ~~new~~ dress -
or something like that - I am
dreadful, really I am about
not sticking to one thing until
it is finished - I begin
fifty - seven things, then just
can't finish them all, so limp
along - or rather gallop
along with the ends ~~stay~~
all a dragging, until some
one or two of the things just
has to be finished up. Then
I spurt and get one thing
done; and use up all my
peps doing it - Then there
are so many things still
to be done that I don't know
where to begin - I think
it would be heaven right
here on earth for me if
I could have answered
for me that beautiful

Prayer

"Drop thy still dew of quietness
Till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and
stress,

And let our ordered living confess
The beauty of thy peace.

My own life is so disordered!
There are many lovely things
and many many times I'm
thankful to be alive and
to be having just the work
that I have - but somehow
it isn't balanced just right!
The quality of poise - the
sense of well-being - the
feeling of having my hand
right on the pulse of all
my work and being the
master of it instead of
its being the master of me;

all this is pitifully lacking -
and I'm conscious of a
great desire to get it -
I wonder. Maybe I'd better
get out and play a little
tennis to-morrow! -

What would you advise?

^(a mistake)
Last Friday night I
suddenly waked up to the
fact that my annual report
was not in, and I found
that Mr. Page was almost
through compiling and
mimeographing it. So I
came home and sat up
until the wee small hours
writing that page which I
enclosed in ^{my} last
letter to you - ^(did I?) As it was
he had to put it at the
very last - but he used

all of it - said it was just the kind of thing he wanted for the report. Mary sent pages and pages, which had to be cut down - I want to send you one of the Mission reports, if I can get an extra one - You may not find it all interesting but perhaps it will be something of "missionary interest" to send in case of missionary meetings -

I am sending you under separate cover two pieces of paper, which you and the others at Woods Hole may wish to inspect. You'll know the use of them (maybe?) when you see them. If Arthur thinks he would have any use for one of them, let him choose.

and then in case you and father think you would like that same type better than the piece he didn't choose, just let me know and I'll send along another bit. I haven't very much of it, - only about $\frac{1}{2}$ square foot - but I thought you might enjoy a glimpse of it. In case it doesn't strike you favorably, you might pass it all over to Arthur. Whether he would find it useful in fishery business, I don't know. Don't think it has ever been used successfully as bait. If it doesn't appeal to Arthur - perhaps he can leave it all with you. Possibly it could be used in mending stockings,

but there [&] again - I doubt it -
don't believe it has the necessary
breasing qualities for that kind of
business -

Time to go to bed -

I love you all - a heap !

Your own

Althi

Here is a copy of our conference
picture - Have I sent
you one already ?

Sivatow, China

March 35, 1935

Dear One,

Just imagine writing
to you at South Berwick
again, all of a sudden! I
don't know why I didn't dream
you would be going back again
quite soon. Perhaps I didn't
feel sure that you would be
able to make it quite as early
in the spring - I am wondering
if you are as much better as
I think you ought to be if
you are going back to South
Berwick - I do hope you are!
I am giving an English

exam. right now - Haven't any
pen with me, for I did not
intend to write when I
came to class. But the
class has only six members -
and I can keep an eye
on them and write to you
at the same time -

Yesterday I should have
written, but I was "busy"
all day long - Sunday school
first, with a lesson beginning
the subject of what Jesus
taught about the Holy Spirit.
It was a more satisfactory meeting
than the one of the week before,
re. miracles. I feel - but even
so I'm not able to get ^{them} the students

2

To talk - and it is always bad
when the teacher does all the
talking.

After church there was a Sunday
School Committee meeting.

After the Y. P. meeting, which
lasted from 1.30 to nearly 3.30,
I went to Beatrice Ericson's to
help her with a song she is
composing for us to sing tonight
at a farewell dinner they
are giving for Mrs. Woley -
Then we found Marion and
went for a short walk -

In the evening M. came up
to my room. I read her a
story. She is getting rather

fed up, I think, with her Chinese food - And she has had three or four exceptionally hard days - Two babies have died, and she has had a very sick woman in the hospital. A student whose life she saved by an appendicitis operation in the nick of time flared up because his bill was too big and has been very nasty and ungrateful - and hasn't yet paid a cent!

Three persons were bitten Saturday by Mr. Lim's dog that suddenly went mad - One is our "little minister" Mr. Li, at the seminary. Another is

Mr. Lin's youngest son - and
 the third is another child in
 the village - Mr. Lin just
 got back from Seam that
 very day - and he is having
 all of his dogs (3) killed -
 A fairly exciting home coming!

They have sent for the vaccine
 but it is very expensive - and
 the Hospital is afraid these
 people will think the hospital ~~is~~
 to put out the money for them -
 which the H. can't afford -

It looks as though I really
 am booked to go to Shanghai.
 Mr. Page said something the
 other day about our doubling

up and not sending so many
delegates - so I thought I'd
better find out if other
people thought that. Edith
Traver was the first one I
asked - and she immediately
said "Well then you should
go instead of Edna" ! I
happen to know Edna very
much wants to go - and
it will be a good thing
for her too. She has been
elected to this Publication
Society position for two or
three years, and has never
before been able to go -

So I decided it better
quit any "agitating" which
might result in keeping
her at home! I have to get
a new passport - and I
am hoping that the Board
will pay for it - I don't
see how I can afford to
pay for it myself -

Now I am very eager to
hear about your getting home -
all the details - I take it
you hope to go all the way
by car -

Much love to you.

Abbe

139 Swanton, March 31, '95

Dear Cousin -

I'm sitting in the hallway at the hospital waiting for Marion to make her rounds - then I'm going with her to see Mr. Waters, who is laid up at present - and then on to the Hobarts to see George Keith, who has been running a fever these days - No small boy should do that - I am going along more for the walk than anything else, because I know I should get out to walk much more than I do - It is raining - and I have on my rain coat and my high brown galoshes that you used to make so much fun of -

Didn't get much written because

I found two patients in the hospital whom I wanted to visit - Then we went to see Mr. Waters and by the time we had had some talk there it was time for me to come home to a music rehearsal for Easter - So Marion didn't go up to the Roberts either - Shall wait and go to-morrow -

At present I am sitting in my little guest bedroom (the warmest place in the house) - with woolen stockings, a woolen dress, a padded coat and a woolen bathrobe on - and a knitted shawl on top of that! I'm managing to keep from shivering most of the time, but I sure do hope it gets warmer towards the end of the week!

I have to write notes over to the
Steamship office tonight so that
the cook can take them to-morrow
and find out when steamers
are going to Shanghai. It looks
now as though we should have to
go on Thursday - though Saturday
would suit us better - But
these steamers don't always travel
just the days you want them
to! - Edna has to be in

Shanghai the morning of the 10th
so we have to go on a steamer
that gets there the 9th if possible.

We are planning to stay at the
Chinese Y. H. C. A. - which is very
centrally located. We don't know
just how fine it will be, but
we should save car-fares anyway.
and with two of us together for
just a few days we ought to

be able to get along -

A fine long letter from
you yesterday - So I wish
I knew whether you are safe
back in your little home or not?!
I wish I could take a trip
to see you there - and
just satisfy myself that
you really are getting along
all right -

I must quit for this
time -

Much love to you -

Abbie

Love to all the "Gang" -

Shanghai, Apr. 16, 1935

Dear Quen,

Two weeks again since I have written to you! Edna and I came up on the China Merchant SS leaving Swatow April 4 — she went to Publication Society meetings and I to University meetings — and now we are on our boat for Swatow again and I hope to goodness I can get a decent letter written to you while we are on our way down —

I was sick a bit on the way up from Swatow — imagine that! Didn't win any medals, however —

Have had a splendid visit here, but commissions were many — and as usual I have spent more than I ought. Not much more, for I didn't have it!

We go ashore again, and I'm going to mail this any way,

even though it is scarcely
worth sending — because I
don't want you to have to wait too
long —

Love — & then some,

Abbie

S.S. "Hupeh"
Enroute from Shanghai to
Swatow
April 18, 1905

Dear One,

I wonder whether you have yet received my little scratch of a letter sent from Shanghai - I was ashamed to send it, but now ashamed not to send anything - Now here we have been on shipboard for two whole days and I've written nothing to you yet.

Just before we left Swatow we were having a series of farewell occasions for Mrs. Droley - Thursday, April 4 a big old-fashioned dinner was planned in honor of "Madam Prudence Droley" and we all planned to dress in some sort of old-fashioned costume. But although we wanted to sail on Friday or Saturday, there was

no steamer on those days and
so we had to leave Thursday afternoon
at four and let the party go on
without us -

We traveled to Shanghai on a
China Merchant steamer, an old line
recently revived and outfitted with
the most up-to-date steamers on the
China coast. The fare is \$75 instead
of the \$80 required by all other lines -
We had good food - but found that
even in the short time that the
steamer has been on the run the
spic-and-span-ness of a new ship has
begun to grow dingy - The bathroom
tubs weren't quite clean; the cabin had
not been thoroughly swept - etc, etc -
I'm considering writing a letter of
appreciation and kindly suggestions
to the manager, for it is a great
pity to have these splendid boats
with the much cheaper price
deteriorate. They won't be able to
keep the foreign trade if they don't

2

keep their standards up.

We (Mr. Giedt, Edna, & I) arrived in Shanghai Sunday a.m. about 7.30. We took a taxi, and when we got part way, Mr. G. left us and went to the place where he expected to stay - not near the American school, to be near Eugene - We too went on to the Y. W. C. A., where we found the place crowded. But after a while Miss Fuller said she would take up, so we left our things and went out to Jimmy's kitchen to get some breakfast. Then we went to the Community Church to the service, then tried to get in touch with as many people as possible who might be there at the service. We saw the Casses, and Mr. Taylor (who took us back to the Y. W. in a taxi afterwards), Mr. Smith of West China, and Mr. Stokely, the Parks-Davis representative who has been a frequent visitor in Swatow for so many years.

Mr. Stokely promptly invited us to

Have dinner with Sam the following day, and we were most happy to accept.

Sunday p.m. we betook ourselves to an orchestra recital, where we found that the 60¢ (max) seats were quite as good as the \$2.00 ones! In fact we went "cheap" on everything we did ourselves while we were in Shanghai! It was good to hear some fine music again —

Monday and Tuesday we spent doing our commissions for the Stratton people. Monday night we had the rare good fortune to see "David Copperfield" in the movies. As Ethel Hyllbert said, "It isn't like seeing a movie, it is like seeing some of your old friends" — and truly it was — I don't know when I have enjoyed anything as much, in the way of a movie — Micawber was rich — and little Davy Copperfield, trying to say his lessons to his mother, while Mrs. Murdstone & Miss Murdstone

said by with hostile eyes being him through
 until he finally cried out in terror "I
can't do it! - I can't think!" was
 more touching almost than she was in
 the book - We were delighted with it.
 Wednesday and Thursday were the China
 Baptist Publication Society meetings and
 Mr. Grist and Edna were the delegates
 for that.

The C. B. P. S. has at last been
 reorganized and now it looks as
 though things may move along in a
 more promising way than they ever
 have before - Dr. Williams, who took
 the reins at the time of Dr. Chambers'
 death and, it seems to many of us,
 has been hanging on to them for dear
 life ever since, is not in it at all
 now - The fact that Dr. Maddy and
 Dr. Decker were both present at the
 meetings made it possible for things
 to happen in such a way as has not
 been possible before -

Wednesday noon Mrs. Chambers took
 Edna and me home to her home for

dinner - and although the time was short, yet we had a very good visit coming and going, in her car - as she drove.

Wednesday night Elsa and I went to the Hyllberts for dinner - Dr. Decker was there and we had a most delightful evening together.

Thursday noon the C. B. P. S. members were all guests of Mrs. ~~Hyllbert~~ Chambers at a delicious Chinese meal right there at the Y. H. C. A. -

Thursdays night or rather ^(Ching Kiao) Thursday afternoon one of my old students came to get me - the one I saw a good deal of when I was in Peking - She took me - in her own \$4000+ car - out to the ^(Dorm) Lester Institute, where Mrs. Henderson, son-in-law, Dr. Reid is a co worker with Dr. Hon, Chiang Kiao's husband. Dr. Hon showed me through the marvellous "home-side" looking building - then we all went to their home & had tea - with cake and cookies she had made herself - Then she took me to the home of Tzu Hsi, another of my old girls ^{life now in husband} and, after a short visit there, we ^{with her} all went back to Chiang Kiao's and

picked up Dr. Hon, and his sister
 husband Dr. Ling - Then we all
 piled into the car and rode way
 way out Hung Jao Road to the
 Hung Jao Sanatorium, where Dr. Ling
 is in charge - There was his wife,
 Tsing Hsi, one of the most attractive
 girls I have ever had - The one who
 took charge of me and took me all
 around everywhere when I was
 in Shanghai in 1929(?) - or one of
 the times -

We had a marvelous foreign dinner,
 from soup to dessert - served on the
 spacious top floor of the new hospital
 which is only a matter of months
 old - They simply laid themselves
 out to be nice to me - couldn't do
 enough for me - nor say enough
 nice things to me - I was simply
 overwhelmed - Then after a pleasant
 evening of reviewing old times they
 brought me back to the Y. N. in
 the car - about 15 miles -

Wednesday noon in the ladies room while I was waiting for Edna to come from her meeting, a young Chinese woman who was sitting there came toward me and said in Chinese "It is Miss Sanderson, isn't it?" - I knew her instantly, though I hadn't recognized her until she spoke - Tany Jun Kien, one of my favorite girls in the old days, but a leader in our big strikes and a girl who has had very unhappy home life and has got herself a pretty unsavory reputation. At present her husband and little girl are in Nanking - which the other Chinese girls say looks very funny -

But - to my great pleasure, I found that she is now working with Mrs. Hanna Lee in the W. C. T. U. work - Her marked literary talents make her fit very well into the work of the "Woman's Voice,"

the W. C. T. U. organ of China.
When I was out at the college
I spoke to Mrs. Lin about her
and Mrs. L. said "She is a very fine
girl - although she has had a most
unhappy home life."

I made an appointment with
Jun Kien to come and see me
the next morning - She brought
some children's poems and
helped me translate them -
I'm going to send them on to
Eve if I can get them into
shape pretty soon - It was
good to see Jun Kien again
and she seemed like one
almost drawn out of herself -
so happy to see a friend
of her happiest days - She
really is a brilliant girl, and
if she is in the right way
again after wandering far,
I am very very soberly glad.

Eileen Beath (used to be in Kaying,
Szech China, now at the University)
had sent word that she expected Edna
out there as well as me, so Friday
a. m. Mrs. Chambers picked us
both up in her car and drove us
out to the college. We got in for
the last of the Founders Day exercises
at which we heard Dr. Madley, Dr. Mattingly
and Dr. Decker all give short addresses
before the student body. Then Edna
went with Eileen and I went to
the Seminary meeting - Mr. Giedt was
there for that, and so was Dr. Ling,
who had arrived from Swatow the
day before - Ellen Peterson was there &
we had some good talks -
That was a meeting which most
of us will not forget. It was plain
from the beginning that it would
not be possible to continue cooperation
with the Southern Board in the University
if the Seminary was continued - The
Seminary has been a project very
dear to the heart of the leaders
there and it was a visible wrench

to some of our leaders especially,
 to have to come to the decision to
 discontinue it - Many "ears were
 near the surface, and D. Kim
 frankly had to stop a number of
 times before he could control himself
 as he tried to tell what giving it
 up meant to him - in spite of
 the fact that the hardest knocks
 he has ever had have come
 on account of the Seminary -
 It has been the veritable apple
 of discord - He took the
 opportunity to plead with with the
 Northern and Southern Board people
 never to let it happen again -
 that is, never to let discord rule
 and bring unhappiness in such
 fashion and degree as it has done
 in the past. He pointed out that it
 was the foreigners every time who had
 made the trouble - and since it was true,

There was nothing anyone could
say - We all hope that this
giving up of the Seminary, and
putting in its place a strong
course in Religious Education,
or Religion - where the ones
who take those courses will not
be set apart from the other college
students as pious theologs - will
be a better arrangement than before.

There really was a fine spirit
in the meeting. That noon we ate
dinner at Beath's.

That afternoon, Edna went back
(a big faculty ^{office} in the p.m.)
in town for an engagement, but
came out again to stay all night.
I had dinner with Mr. Benjamin
at the Hugingas, and afterwards
went to the College Orchestra's first
concert. It happened that the
famous composer, Rudolph Finkbein,
was present. Miss Bybee asked him
to play for us, but he said no -
So she took her nerve with her, stood

up near the close of the concert
and said,

"We have a famous composer
in the room here tonight, and he
says he won't play for us. But
I couldn't let you all go home
without your even knowing he was
here. Now I'm going to do a
dreadfully theatrical sort of thing -
I'm going to play the air of one
of his melodies, and those of you
who recognize who composed it,
raise your hands." She played
a few bars, then turned and
asked for the show of hands - A
number were raised, and Gordon
Potter, I think it was, raised his
head and sang out "Rudolph Frimml!"
So then she said in a most
persuasive tone - "Now, Mr. Frimml,
won't you please come up and play
it for us properly?" Then she
came down to his seat and led him

back to the piano, where he did
play for us most graciously. 'I was
all very thrilling indeed, and the
students fairly went wild - After he
had finished, Miss Bybee said,

'Mr. Trimmell didn't want to play
for us tonight but he did say he would
come some other night and play
all we wanted him to. - Well -
do we want him?!!' Of course
that raised the roof again -

The next day was the University
Directors' meeting - the meeting for
which I went to Shanghai - There
was not a great deal to be done except
to ratify the recommendations of the
previous day in regard to the servery.
Of course, the "visiting delegates", Dr.
Maddry and Dr. Weatherford, were heard
from, as well as Dr. Decker, and Dr. Rankin
of the Southern Board, who has a similar
position to Dr. Decker's - President Linn's
report was heard - the financial report
and the budget for next year were heard.
Officers were elected, resolutions passed,

all the usual stuff". but the secondary problem was the great one - and overshadowed everything else.

I had a little digestive trouble that day and was much disgusted with myself to have to be fighting nausea a part of the time in the meeting instead of being able to focus my whole attention on the momentous questions discussed and words of wisdom spoken -

Another thing which disgusted me was not to be able to eat any of the bounteous feast prepared for Dr. Ling & me that noon by our Swatow students. I was able to eat a little chicken, both and rice - but knew that if I touched anything else I was done for - so they had to excuse me - we had a very pleasant time chatting together, anyway.

Then back to the Y. H. - ^{about 4 p.m.} and I had been invited to dinner at the home of a friend of hers - but I was wretched and knew I could not go - so I went to bed and she went alone. I didn't get much relief until morning, when all my alimentary "functions"

began working properly again.
But by church time I was "all better,"
and very glad to hear Dr. Ivan Lee
Holt was now at the Community
Church. He is there for three months -
stopping on a tour around the world
in the interests, I suppose, of the Federal
Council of Churches of Christ in America,
& the presidency of which he has recently
been elected. Dreambell King came in
from the University and her father brought
her over & we all went in a taxi
together to the church. He was proud
to take her around, and I don't
blame him. She's a lovely girl -

Sunday noon Edna and I had
Dorothy Burkett, from the Starlin American
School, Mrs + Mrs. Beath, and Mr. Taylor,
at Chinese meal with us at the Y. M.
It rained, so we didn't do anything
the rest of the day, after they left,
at 4, but read, got our supper, and
go to bed. I had managed to get a
cold - so I was glad to slip into
bed. My digestive trouble had quite
disappeared -

Monday, more shopping. Pills &
ends of commissions etc. We went

and to Bobby Stocker & Ruthanna for
lunch and had a delightful visit
with her - That afternoon, more
shopping - mostly Edna's - and a
few regrets that we shouldn't have
time to see one more movie "Ruggles
of Red Gap" - reputed to be very funny -
But we got home just in time to
wriggle into our clothes and go
out to Dr. J. G. Ling's for dinner -
His American wife is as charming
as ever - and their home is a
delightful American style home.
We had icecream with fresh
strawberries for dessert! And then,
as though to cap the climax, they took
us to see "Ruggles of Red Gap"! -
It really was very amusing and
J. G. laughed as he said he hadn't
for a long time -

The next morning we had the
job of picking up Tagarbo and
getting our things to the steamer
and so on. We were delighted to
have Viola Hill call up and say

that she was free all morning and would tag around with us. She helped us get our things on the boat and everything - and then we went ashore again and had lunch with her at the Chocolate Shop. Ella came in just then, so she sat down with us too -

Now - don't you think I had a large time?

Must stop now and pack my suitcase for Svatoval. The captain says we are getting in about 6 a.m. -

Much love -

Abbie

Swatow, China
April 23, 1935

Dear Ones:

I am not sure whether I wrote to you before I went to Shanghai about the mad dog scare which we had had here in Kékichieh. That proved to be not merely a scare, but a tragedy, which comes very close to us, we feel. Principal Ling's little boy, going out one morning to call a pet dog to his breakfast, was very badly bitten by the dog, which had always before been friendly. They killed the dog at once, but not before he had bitten Mr. Lee, of the seminary, and at least one other person. The rabies injections were immediately sent for and arrived from Hongkong two days later. Mr. Lee was given these hypodermics for two weeks, and the Ling boy for three weeks, because he was far more badly bitten. All seemed to be going well with them both except that Mr. Lee became frightfully nervous and very much afraid he was going to die. The day that I got back from Shanghai the Ling boy suddenly developed a fever and by noon the doctors knew that it was really hydrophobia and that they could do nothing for him. He died that night about ten o'clock. Mr. Ling was in Munking - had been in Shanghai for the University Directors' meeting, and was to be there longer for National Christian Council Meetings. He will come home sooner than he had planned, and they will not have the funeral until he arrives. They had the simple little "enter the coffin" service the next afternoon after he died. This was very hard for Mrs. Ling; her husband's being away was only a small part of it. Many people told her that the child ought to eat Chinese medicine, and now of course there are those who keep telling her that if she had done this or if she had done that, so-and-so. The lad was an exceedingly bright child, very attractive, very lovable, the leader of them all in the kindergarten, and heartbreakingly careful in the four weeks since he was bitten, especially. Had those painful hypodermics for twentyone days, two every day, and told his mother it didn't hurt, though later he told his grandmother that it did hurt very much, really, only he knew it would make his mother feel badly if he told her so. My heart goes out too to his father, who was very justly proud of this his youngest son.

Now we are all worried about Mr. Lee, but not because he was bitten. He has just about gone to pieces and is very much afraid that he is going to die too. His bites were very superficial and the doctors do not think he will get rabies, but they are seriously worried about his mental condition. He just can't seem to get a grip on himself. His brother came after him today and has taken him to his home in Kityang where he can at least get away from the scene of all these things. As for the dogs, they are being killed by the score. Five persons here and in Swatow city have died from bites, that we know of. So it is a wise thing to have as many dogs as possible killed. We are all thankful that it was not a dog that belonged to some other family, for that might have caused no end of trouble. Everybody carries stick these days. Even students going to and from classes are many of them armed with some kind of cane, and when we go for walks we feel much safer if we have our hands holding some such useful weapon.

All of this is pretty hard on Marion Stephens, as the only foreign doctor in the hospital. They have lost several cases recently. That never makes things easier for a hospital, and just now, with Velve gone home on furlough and Marion just beginning to build up her reputation, - well it is none too good! She is a good doctor, and she realizes that not everything can be smooth sailing, but she will just have to be patient.

Another "extra" for her this month is the fact that we have Arcola Pettit and Olive Buchner of Iloilo here with us, on their summer vacation. Marion is housekeeper. They take trips to Unglung, Kityang, etc., so they are not here all the time, but they are her a lot, of course. And our work has to go on just the same. We are glad to have them, though, and they are good at making themselves at home, as we told them we hoped they would be. Arcola is good fun, just as she was when I was in ~~Iloilo~~ Iloilo in 1927.

Lots of love to you,

(142; is that right?)

Abbie

I hope you are numbering all these letters! I didn't take my little book to Shanghai with me and now I'm back I can't find it! I shall hope for some luck hunting for it to-morrow, and then I shall try to remember how many letters I have written since my last record -!

Please send the enclosed copy to Arthur -