

Abbie G. Sanderson Papers

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Personal to M. R. M^{rs}.

Santaiw, China, July 15, 1926

Dear Miss McVeigh;

(It really is not July 15, but August 6; not Santaw, but the good(!) ship Amur bound for Chingwangtao, en route for the Bible Conference at Paitaiho. But this is to count as my semi-annual, thus the date.)

I have been trying to collect my thoughts to write a report of the King Tong Convention; but I find there are a few things which I want to tell you about which better not go into a report that may be printed. So I'll write to you about these things first and get them off my mind.

You'll realize as you read this letter that there is nothing official about it and you'll have to use your judgment about scattering any of the opinions herein expressed; but I want you to know my personal views of certain aspects of our situation. We need all the help you can give us from the home end.

One item is the question which came up at the final session of the Convention. Just after the election of the members of the Executive Committee for this coming year Miss Traver protested that while they had promised to put more women members on this committee, yet this year still only one woman had been put on. Upon that a rather heated discussion followed. Mr. Lo, last year's chairman, declared that the promise which had been made was to put more women on committees, not necessarily on the Executive Committee. Women had been put on all committees he said, which was a great advance over last year. He went on to say that the promises to put more women on committees had been made with the understanding that the members of the Woman's Board would co-operate. As far as he could see, not a step had been taken (by the foreign women, he implied) towards co-operation with the Convention. Miss Traver answered that there had been co-operation, and it was not fair to say there had not been.

Mr. Lo replied that while the Chinese Woman's Committee had been created as a committee to deal expressly with questions related to women and to women's work (such as better home-making, and teaching industrial work to women) which the other standing committees of the Convention were not qualified to handle, yet this same Woman's Committee had touched only work which should have gone to some other committee, i.e., educational, medical, etc. He then read minutes of the committee to prove his statement. He again declared there had been no co-operation, said they had not received one brass cash of Woman's money; this and much more.

Miss Traver was asked to explain. She said that she would do so if they wished and if no one else would do so. The most of us felt that it would be useless to talk just then. The chairman had already asked rather pointedly why the protest about the women members was not made after the nomination instead of waiting until the election had been completed. As a matter of fact, the slate had been posted in small Chinese character only on the men's side of the room, and had not been read aloud. This was doubtless not an intentional mistake.

Some in the audience wanted to hear Miss Traver's "defense" and fight the thing out then and there; others saw that no conclusion could in a brief time and that the temperature had already run quite high enough.

Mr. Speigler tactfully reminded Mr. Lo that if he had been in America he would not have dared to speak about the women in such a way in a public meeting; he then reminded the foreign women that this Asia and not America, and that we must be patient and try to see more than one point of view. A good bit of a slap for both sides, but it helped to clear the air. He then suggested that the Executive Committee talk with

the Woman's Board members regarding this matter; and that if they became satisfied that there had been co-operation, as claimed, the Committee be authorized to add at once to the present list two more women members/. After a deal of talk pro and con (Chinese, not foreign) they voted to do this.

Can you not imagine how we sat breathless through all of this! I fairly ached to explain certain things but felt that no amount of talk from a foreigner would be of any avail just then. Our Woman's Committee certainly expected that the funds would be taken over by the Chinese; last fall I was one who set up late more than one night reckoning the percentages of personals and work amounts in order that the work money might be handed over right then. I suppose we waited for them to ask for it, and they waited for us to present it to them (on a platter, with both hands, true Chinese fashion! I don't mean that for sarcasm, either. It's literal)

I must confess my eyes were opened when I heard their discussion of what the Woman's Committee ought to do. We naturally expect any and all questions relating to woman's work to go through that channel; they think almost none should; they therefore feel no need for such a committee and none of them want it. They obviously feel that we are insisting on a Chinese Woman's Committee to give us the name of handing over money and authority, while in reality we intend through that Committee to keep a firm grip ourselves.

Well! I wonder how much of their criticism is just. We do feel that the Chinese men cannot take charge of the women's work and do it justice; we are sure they do not feel the importance of women's work and would therefore let it slide. With regard to the 5% of our appropriation which the Chinese want for running expenses; some of us think handing over this amount would not be right because thus some of the money would be deviated from what is strictly women's work. I rather inclined to that feeling myself until this convention.

Now however, I think that if they are to take charge of the work, they have a right to a share of our money for running expense. We have already promised that they shall take over the work. They think that we either don't mean what we say or else are inexpressibly slow about delivering the goods. They haven't understood us and we haven't understood them, and we've both been suspicious of each other. We may not want to "let go of the reins" but I think we must do so right away or run against some fearful snags.

Frankly I do not see how we are going to get along together on the question of the Woman's Committee. We must compromise, and that is a hard thing for Occidentals to do. The Chinese men were dead set against any kind of a women's committee and the Chinese women were indifferent or fearful. We insisted, and so they compromised, but we are still insisting! Can we give in on some points! We surely do need your prayers for wisdom- for far-sightedness- for true-sightedness.

Another thing that worries me is this business of registering our schools. A good many of our Chinese think nothing else would be right or proper; the most of us Americans in Suifu have bowed to the inevitable, feeling that there was nothing else for us to do if we were to keep the sympathy of the Chinese and help do away with the idea that the foreigner is an imperialist; yet the possibilities of registering under the present government are appalling, and the whole thing seems almost like sailing under false colors!

We have had a happy year in the Girls' School; but the undercurrent of uncertainty has been weaving. Not to know one week whether the school will be allowed to open the next week, not to know whether the Bible study we are trying to keep will be the

cause of shutting our doors, - there is an unmistakable strain about it all. Miss Pao's leaving for America, too, makes it hard. The burden of planning how to fill her place is not a light one. We are so glad she has the opportunity for the study she has wanted so long, and we are also anxious that she may not be spoiled by any experiences in America.

In February at the opening of school we rejoiced when 117 of our 130 girls chose to study the Bible for a half-hour every morning. Nothing since I have been in China has brought me more joy than the class that I have had at that hour this half year. Teaching Bible as a required course is a very different thing from studying about Jesus with girls who all want to learn more about Him.

I can't tell you how my heart was torn at all the discussion at Conference time about Emily Miller. She has fessed up to me that you know all about the letter I wrote telling her the whole business, so there is no need of writing much more. I'm so grateful to you people for so carefully considering her problems and for giving her the chance to come back and try again. She appreciates your sympathy and understanding too, I know. Of course I ~~want~~ ^{want} her with us at Szentot; we need her and I think if circumstances were a little different she could do her best work right in our school; but she will find her place in Chaochow and be a great help there, I am confident. I think it would have been dreadful to lose a girl like her.

What an epistle this has stretched to! I'm afraid that I haven't really told you much regarding my work, and I haven't told you what an encouragement your letters have been to me. I do hope you are having some good rest this summer, for the year of effort ahead.

Most sincerely yours,

Pettainho,
North China

Aug 13 Dear ones -

The above will explain to you why I haven't written to you before this week. I have been struggling all week to get this done - We begin with a meeting of united intercession at 7.20 in the morning - go directly to breakfast at eight, then have a few minutes to clear up the room etc. before the next meeting at 9.30. That lasts until 11, when we go bathing - and just get our bathing suits hung up and ourselves dressed when its 12.30 & dinner time. Absolute quiet is the rule from 1 to 3 - and my room-mates like to keep on resting until nearly four when it is tea time. Then is our time for seeing the folks, ^{after dinner} buying poor peddlers, etc. 7 comes very soon, and ~~there~~ ^{this} evening meeting - which lasts till 9.30 or 10 - Its rather strenuous - and frost of all I'm not planning for much rest (over)

after it is finished - A party from Korea are going to Peking next Tuesday and I shall probably go with them - have about a week there, and then he me back to meet Emily in Shanghai on the 31st - then on to Swatow - Those were not just my plans when I started out, but they may change again -

I'm enjoying the sea bathing - we have no such marvelous beaches in Swatow - nor the crowd to go swimming with!

Mail time —

Much love to my dear ones,

Abbie J.

no 8^{1/2}

I added a P.S. to her letter saying that my report would say the Convention was a fine one, as indeed it was; the incident of the women was an exception to the general attitude.

Swatow, China
April 19, 1927

Dear Miss McVeigh:

Whether or not I can write in a few moments the things I want you to hear from me, I am not sure. Between the ups and downs of conditions here and the cables that have been flying back and forth recently, I find my state of mind rather in a whirl! Only yesterday I was pretty sure that I should have to go to Burma, and I confess I was not very keen about it, although I have never said I wouldn't.

As you very well know, a good many of us in South China have deplored the educational situation here and have put very little faith in what few plans were presented looking toward the opening of a coeducational school. You also know that I have not been very enthusiastic about teaching in such a school, and I was only too glad to have your unresponsiveness--shall I say?--to back me up in my attitude. But something has happened to make us see things in a different light.

When Dr. Franklin arrived this time, he found the mission making a desperate attempt to secure a better understanding and a deeper fellowship between the Chinese and the foreigners. The mission had decided to urge the Chinese to present their own plans and to pledge to them our loyal support as far as possible. Dr. Franklin helped us to tell them that this is what we want. We reiterated the importance of their saying frankly what things in the plans of work now in action they approved, and what things they wished to see changed.

On the heels of this appeal from us that they make their own plans comes the presentation from the Executive Committee of two definite plans; one for the opening of short time religious training classes instead of a regular seminary course for this year, and the other for the opening of the new coeducational school. Both plans sound like good ones and we agreed to endorse them and ask the Boards to support them. Another phase of the situation is this: We urge the Chinese to express their hopes, and say we will stand by them; they come across with their plans, taking us at our word; can we afford to hedge at such a juncture, and say "Well- but-?"

I enclose a copy of the outline given to the mission by the Board of trustees (newly elected, 4 missionaries, and five of the 11 members women). Bible is to be given as an elective course among all the other elective courses. The school is to be madexxx Christian in its spirit and influence as a corps of consecrated Christian teachers can make it. The foreigners are needed not only as teachers but as spiritual leaders. Mr. Ling and some others have set themselves to the purpose of finding out how a school may be run in China under present abnormal conditions. This has been no easy task and they have found a plan which sounds most hopeful. The Women's Board may not wish to continue educational work indefinitely here, but for the time being can't you help us to trust the Chinese to try out some of their plans? A good many of our girls are finding that there aren't

aren't any other schools around here that can compare with the one we

had, and are wishing they had been good, so to speak.

It is significant, too, that some of the people in our mission who were most emphatic in their opposition to the opening of this school have changed their attitude and now think we must do all we can to help. Some who had very little faith in the leaders of this movement have decided that we must have faith in them. If you had been here at the mission meeting last night when the plans were presented by Mr. Ling, the chairman of the new Board of Trustees, I believe you would agree with me that the only Christian thing to do just now is to get behind and push.

As to my own attitude; of course I'll go to Burma if I'm sent; but you can't always dictate to your heart, you know, and I'm pretty sure a big chunk of my heart would stay right here. I don't feel any more that my teaching in this school would be a pure matter of giving instruction in how to speak English; I feel there is still a big opportunity for work among the girls. There is need for it too. And I must say I am pretty much thrilled at the thought of getting back to work with my girls again, even though they do kick up a rumpus sometimes! I am better prepared to work here than elsewhere and I hope nothing will prevent my staying.

As to political conditions, let us hope that the affair at Nanking will so horrify people that that incident will be the last of its kind. I have the feeling that though the worst is perhaps not over, yet we shall somehow be able to carry on.

With much love to you,

Dear Mother -
 This is being taken to you by
 Mr. Franklin and will tell you some things
 I want you to know -
 Love
 Abbie

Woman's American Baptist Foreign Mission Society

276 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK, N. Y.

CABLE ADDRESS: "TAYOTAM, NEW YORK"

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LITERATURE AND PUBLICITY

MRS. L. J. P. BISHOP

TREASURER

MISS ALICE M. HUDSON

May 20, 1927.

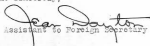
My dear Mrs. Sanderson:

I wish I might write you a personal note this morning, but the pressure of work is so great that this will be but a short message - First, to tell you how proud we are of your splendid daughter and how deeply we appreciate the work she has been doing in China and second, to tell you that a cable has just been received saying that she and Miss Miller have consented to meet a grave emergency in the Philippine Islands and sailed for Iloilo, May 14th. It was the understanding of the Board when they asked these two girls to go to the Philippines that the transfer would be but temporary, probably for only a few months. You will want to know the change of address - you may now address them c/o A. B. M., Iloilo, Panay, Philippine Islands.

We realize it was hard for your daughter to go to this new work even temporarily. It has meant courage and self-sacrifice but we appreciate it more than they realize. We are remembering your daughter in prayer and feel sure that as she testifies for the Master in her new work she will be used to great advantage as she has been in China.

With kindest personal greetings, I am

Hastily, but sincerely,


Assistant to Foreign Secretary

Mrs. E. Sanderson,
Sutton, Vermont.

JWD:IRC

Doane Hall, Iloilo, P.I.
July 10, 1927

Miss Mabelle Rae McVeigh,
276 Fifth Ave.,
New York,
Dear Miss McVeigh;

You are waiting to hear, no doubt, how Emily and I are getting settled in Iloilo. I want to say first of all that I have no reason, thus far, at least, to be sorry we came just when we did.

We found a very cordial welcome here and everyone has been lovely to us. We have been made to feel that we were much needed and that we are truly helping.

My work is so arranged that I am brought in touch with all three of the groups here on this compound. Child Study, music, and English classes I have with the Training School girls, English and Bible in the Evangelistic Institute, and voluntary Bible classes twice a week at Doane Hall. The choir includes some young people from all three groups and I enjoy the singing with them in spite of my own limitations in the line of music.

In the dormitory where I live there are twenty-nine girls, only four of whom were Christians at the beginning of this term. A number have since decided that they want to be Christians and my hope is that the others will soon come too. It is good to see decisions every week and baptisms every Sunday. Needless to say that is just what I covet for the ones I have left "for a season".

I hope that the time for return to Swatow is not far distant, but I realize that the experience here in these dormitories and in this work with the students outside of their schools may be exactly the thing that will help most in the task we are likely to to face in South China in the days and years ahead.

Sincerely yours,

P.S. Just another little note to say again how very kind and dear these people have been to us. It has been pretty nice to have Miss Traben take us out so generously in her car; cool breezes are wonderfully refreshing while the days are so hot. Miss T. is indeed as you say, a most delightful lady and she has been so careful and thoughtful and considerate in planning our work with us. The others are nice to us too! I'm sure our stay here will be a very happy one.

D.G.S.

Woman's American Baptist Foreign Mission Society

278 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

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MRS. L. J. P. BISHOP

TREASURER
MISS FRANCES E. BURR

October 27, 1927.

My dear Mrs. Sanderson:

A cable just came in this morning from Swatow,
South China as follows:

"Abbie Sanderson had arrived well."

I am sure you will be glad to have this informa-
tion.

Very sincerely yours,

(Miss M.A.) Emma C. Jagger
Secretary to Miss McVeigh

Mrs. C.H. Sanderson,
Charlotte, Vt.

J.

Swatow, China
Jan. 15, 1928

Dear Miss McVeigh;

You are waiting to hear from me about the new school, I know. I began teaching the day after I arrived (Oct. 25), and I have been kept pretty busy just with the regular classes until this last week when the Chinese New Year vacation began.

There have been anxious days for us this term. At the beginning a certain group of students tried, with outside help, to make trouble that would be serious, to break up the school. One "deep-laid plot" was discovered, and several students (Anti-Christians) left us. From people inside the church has come criticism, too; Mr. Ling's policy of working out the principles of Christian living with the students this first term instead of compelling them to study the Bible has not been understood. As he said the other night at the goodbye meeting for the students:

"Grandfather likes his rice salt, and Grandmother wants it fresh; there's only one thing to do- have two fires and two kettles to cook the dinner in" !

Just now he is troubled because a vote of the Reference Committee compels him to put in religious training or lose the appropriation. He was planning that very thing; I heard the plans discussed and agreed upon by the teachers. But now, outsiders or any one out of sympathy with the school, hearing of this action, will never believe that the religious instruction was of his own planning. They will say he has been forced to it, and will need no further proof that he is a "running dog" of the foreigners. He says,

"This hurts me. Why couldn't they have trusted me a little while longer ?"

The brunt of all the opposition and criticism falls, of course, upon Mr. Ling. I think he has done wonderfully well and I believe we have a good start, and a fair chance of succeeding. You will notice that Mr. Ling's name appears several times in this letter and you will think that I am writing from his point of view. That is exactly what I am trying to do, for I have seen other letters that have gone to you which do not tell his side of the case. We cannot afford to give him less than our utmost support in this project.

In this connection may I say that I think our Board should be willing to stick to the promise of providing two women workers ? The fact that the number of girls in school this term was small does not release the Board from the promise. The lack of women teachers, especially at the beginning of the term, may partly explain that small number. More girls are already applying for entrance. Since the school has been able to "weather the storms" for one whole term, while many many schools in this district went down, parents will feel more inclined to send their girls here.

Very impatiently am I waiting to know whether Emily Miller is to be sent back to us for this term. I know that much is involved and am trying not to let my hopes go too high. We do need some one very much; and I shall be very glad when you can assure me that there will be no delay about Mabelle Culley's early return in the fall.

Now that the Chaochowfu people are wanting Emily to come back, and the Baker's going back there to live, her place is waiting for her and we shall be very happy to have the word that she may return.

Working in the new school is going to be good for me, I think. The present outlook for work among the Christian students is good, and that will be our starting-point for further definite evangelistic work among the other students. The girls are re-organizing the W.W.G., - (I wrote to Miss Noble about the splendid meeting they had on the W.W.G. Prayer Day,) - and are most enthusiastic about it.

Miss Eng Pue-ki, one of our graduates, - the oldest daughter of Pastor Eng whom I'm sure you will remember - is doing so well with the few girls she has in the dormitory. She will have more girls next term for the rule is to be that only students with homes here in Kakohieh may live outside the dormitory. She has devotional services with them every evening, and has gathered a fine group of them for a Sunday School class. She is a splendid help, and I'm especially grateful for her presence for she is the only other woman connected with the school! I understand that Margaret Lee, who is at present finishing her course at Yenching (Peking) has been invited for next term. We shall be fortunate to have her too.

Have you been told, I wonder, that the official name of our school is now KAK KUANG? That is a combination of the names of the two former institutions (KAKOHIEH Tong-eh, - the Boys' Academy, and CHIA-KUANG, or True Light, which was the Chinese name used for the Abigail Hart Scott Memorial). "The Kakohieh Light"; that means that many people are hoping that the KAK KUANG MIDDLE SCHOOL will shed a steady true light whose beams will brighten even the far dark places of South China!

Thankyou for you Christmas message. You must have been a lady with a weary hand after writing personally to each of us. But it does mean such a lot to have a word "just for me myself"!

I'm supposed to go to Shanghai to the Publication Society meetings this week but have just heard that no boat goes at the proper time. I don't know whether that will mean that they will postpone the meeting and will go next week - ~~and~~ or that will go by way of Hongkong - or not go! But I'm not much excited about it. I'm the only one woman to go from here - and I'm to have the responsibility of Bessie Baker and Howard Page if I go - They are going up to Shanghai American School -

Swatow, China, Jan. 21, 1928

Mrs. L.J.P. BISHOP

276 Fifth Ave. New York.

Dear Mrs. Bishop,

A long letter which I wrote to you in 1926 came back to me last year after many months, and I discovered that I had written "275" on the envelope instead of "276". Last year was so upset that we scarcely knew whether we could use things this year if they were sent to us. And this fall when others in the Philippines were receiving their Christmas packages I didn't know whether I should still be there at Christmas or back here again. I am very glad I could be back here.

Christmas here was rather quiet for us; I hope we shall be able to work up enthusiasm next Christmas for a real celebration in which the boys and girls of our "New School" here will have a share in bringing Christmas into the lives of some less fortunate than they. The friends at home can help us if they will. On the enclosed blank I have asked for song books. There will be no need of waiting until next Christmas before sending us those, if you can find some one who is willing to send some right away. At present we haven't any! My choice is the Living Hymns or Small Hymnal that is put out by the Judson Press. And we should be grateful for any number at any time.

Do you mind if I call your attention to a matter that I think you ought to know? I have received several dolls that were absolutely ruined because of wrong packing. They were carefully wrapped, even had cloths wrappings sewed on, but the corrugated paper simply tied around was not enough protection and the dolls were all smashed flat. It seems such a shame when the little girls have gone to such trouble to dress the dolls so nicely and write such good little letters to go with them, not to have them get here in good condition. It really is necessary to pack dolls in boxes; I wonder whether you haven't some way of letting people know this?

If you know of any societies that would like to sell tatting that is made by students who are earning their tuition, will you put me in touch with them? A good many of our girls do this kind of work, both coarse and fine.

Am I going beyond what is expected in asking for these hymn books, Dr. Francis' book, and the magazine subscriptions? They all cost money, of course, but perhaps some people would give money for things who wouldn't give it so easily for ideas like

With good wishes for you for this whole new year.

Mother:

Sincerely yours,

I asked for 20 copies of the Real Jesus - for our Teachers - I think it is splendid -

Suwatow, Jan. 22, 1928

Mother dear,

Knowing that you like to see my scribbles to other folks, I am enclosing two copies of letters which will explain themselves - One goes to Mrs. Bishop with requests for white croch things - Besides the usual dolls, towels, ivory soap, tablets, notebooks, pencils, Christmas cards, tatting thread, shuttles, crochet needles, yarn, handkerchiefs with colored borders, picture rolls, beauty pins, etc., I asked for 100 or more song books - and some vest pocket Bibles, victrol records, especially marches and sacred songs - remnants of cloth, woolen or cotton - not silk - and subscription to Geographic Magazine, Good Housekeeping, L. H. Journal or Literary Digest (for the student) I wonder if shall think me grasping? But they get those magazines sent to them in Iloilo - why not here?

Criticize my letter to Miss McVeigh, please - does it strike you as being "offish" at all? I mean at once with the other missionaries! Cause I'm not, really, only I'm in a position to see things a little differently -

The Reference Committee voted to ask Emily to come back to her work in Chaochowfn, and with her consent to loan her to Kait-huang for this term - She may not want to come, though, and I shall not blame her much if she doesn't - come here into this school, I mean - If she can go back to Chaochowfn and start in again with her work up there it will be fine. - She doesn't like to teach boys - and I don't believe she would enjoy it here - but she could stand it for a term I guess, and some one is greatly needed - (See end of Miss McV.'s letter)

Woman's American Baptist Foreign Mission Society

276 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK, N. Y.

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MISS JANET E. MCKAY

SECRETARY OF
LITERATURE AND PUBLICITY

TREASURER
MISS FRANCES K. BURN

August 17, 1928.

My dear Miss Sanderson:

I have just written letters to Dr. Herman C.E. Liu and to Mr. Page with reference to the possibility of your going to Shanghai College as Dean of Women. Dr. Liu sent the request to Miss McVeigh direct and up to this time we have heard nothing in regard to it from South China. Naturally there is no action for us to take here until some request comes from the field.

I can imagine that you would consider this important position as a real challenge and yet I am wondering whether or not you would really be anxious for the change. Let me know your own personal feeling about it. I am sure that they are anxious to get just the right person in Shanghai and yet no doubt the High School at Swatow would be greatly crippled by your going.

I shall be interested to know how the matter is settled and, of course, we shall all be anxious that it may be settled wisely.

Sincerely yours,

Minnie V. Sandberg
Foreign Secretary

Miss Abbie K. Sanderson,
Swatow, South China.

S/J

~~of August 10th is at hand~~
~~Your letter regarding the~~

Your letter regarding the possibility of
my going to Shanghai as Dean of Women
is at hand — Had I known that
Mr. Lin had communicated with the
home office I should have written
you had decided ~~not to~~
at once to let you ~~know my decision~~
~~felt considered the~~

Although I ~~was~~ ~~honored to receive the~~
invitation a great honor, I could not
see that it was right to leave South
~~fact~~ China at this time ~~the B. O. had promised~~
~~the B. O. had promised~~ ~~to send me~~
alone in making this decision, for
some members of the mission advised
me to stay here, while others urged
me to ~~go~~ ~~and~~ "go to the larger opportunity"

~~To me, however, this business of working~~
~~with the girls and just now the boys, too,~~
~~of So. China is a serious one~~ ~~is a serious one~~ ~~Our school~~
~~is the only place where a large number~~
~~these young people will get any touch with~~

Swatow, China
October 15, 1928

Miss Minnie V. Sandberg,
276 Fifth Avenue,
New York City,

Dear Miss Sandberg:

Your letter regarding the possibility of my going to Shanghai as Dean of Women is at hand. Had I known that Dr. Liu was communicating with the home office I should have written at once to let you know I had decided not to accept the position.

Although I considered the invitation a great honor, I could not see that it was right to leave South China at this time. I felt peculiarly alone in making this decision, for some members of the mission advised me to stay here, while others urged me to "go to the larger opportunity".

Shanghai did indeed have its challenge and appeal, but to me the challenge here was just as great. The Board had promised two women workers and I was one of the two. To leave the school here at the end of its first year, in the very middle of the two-year trial period, would have seemed too much like running away, - breaking faith, - not keeping a trust.

This business of working with the girls of South China, and, just now, with the boys too, is Opportunity, spelled with capitals. Our school is the only place where a large number of these young people will get any touch with Christian living. Many of them will not accept Christ openly right away, but from the few who do we shall have our leaders of to-morrow. And yet there is unquestionably a certain failure to catch a vision of these possibilities, inasmuch that a recommendation to the Boards to continue support of this school is slow in forthcoming. The Boards, consequently, have not sufficient light to know what is the right thing to do; the school is in danger of being left high and dry, and the young people whom we are so eager to reach are in danger of slipping quite out of the sphere of Christian influence.

The opening of this school was admittedly a venture, but it was felt to be a venture worth trying. I believe we should be very careful to give it a fair trial. The principal is now asking whether support is to be continued. Some of the missionaries feel we cannot decide this matter until the end of the two years. It will be pretty hard for the principal not to know until May whether he is to have funds to carry on his school in June, or the following September, even. One solution would be to support the school for one more year, thus extending the trial period. If the thing is worth trying at all, it is surely worth a good fair trial.

I do not wish to close my letter without saying a word of appreciation of the help that has come to us in the raise in salary. I am especially grateful for this help, for it comes at a time when I need extra money more than ever before. This fall I am having the opportunity of working with our most recent woman college graduate on the translation of some books that will be helpful to Christians. She

must be paid, of course, and this help is most timely. I do not know what I should have done without it. In fact I am still going on faith for a large part of the amount !

You will probably have received Miss Traver's letter by this time and will know that she has been appointed Secretary of the Woman's Committee, with the new election of officers for this year.

Most sincerely yours,

Swatow, China, July 15, 1929

Miss Minnie V. Sandberg,
276 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Miss Sandberg,

The above heading is written to make it easy for you to
"classify" me - in reality I am in Baguio, P.I., and the date is August 2.

Emily Miller and I are resting here in a little cottage,
next door to the Gledits and the Capens of our mission, and we are enjoying it
immensely. I think I have gained pounds already. But now that the first two
weeks of vacation are over, and we have really begun to get settled and relaxed,
I must get down to the business of writing you the letter about which I have
been thinking for so many weeks. That shouldn't be hard to do, for your latest
message was so friendly and helpful, and made me feel that you had just put
yourself in my place and that you knew all about the busy days and the hopeful
and the discouraged days too.

We left Swatow five days after school closed, just in the middle
of a most interesting Y.W. and M. convention. Our students as hosts entertained
not only visitors from the Swatow City Y.M.C.A., but also those from schools in
Amoy, a night's trip up the coast (the only section where the dialect is near enough
like ours for people from both places to understand each other.) One of our
Senior High graduate girls was elected chairman of the convention. We were
delighted at the naturalness and dignity with which she presided. The entire
group was not a large one, but the memories of the morning devotionals, the
afternoon recreation times, the singing, the forming of new friendships, the
round-table discussions, and some of the helpful talks by the older leaders will
stay with those boys and girls and be an inspiration to them for years to come.

There is so much about school that I want to tell you. This June
we graduated not only another class from Junior High School but also a class of
seven boys and five girls from Senior High. The scholarships offered us by
Shanghai College and Ling Nam University (Canton Christian College) and awarded to
those having highest rank were both won by girls, Tang Chheng Bai and Eng Phok Eng,
two minister's daughters. Pastor Tang is the Ling Tong treasurer and a teacher in
the theological seminary, and Pastor Eng is one of our leading evangelists. We
are pretty proud of those girls!

The two years since this school opened have not been easy ones
for Dr. Ling, our principal. In spite of many misunderstandings and much
criticism he has carried Kek-Kuang Academy straight through a most difficult
period. He has gathered about him a corps of capable Chinese, the majority of
them followers of Christ and a number of them aggressive Christian leaders, who
enthusiastically uphold him in his aim to make Kek-Kuang a better school than the
others in this district, and a school that is distinguished for its Christian
spirit and influence. This is an aim that cannot be attained all at once but it
is what we are working for.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays voluntary chapel services are held.
The Christian students come in good numbers and others often drop in too. We have
feared that attendance at these meetings would grow perfunctory, and perhaps it
does sometimes - say, near examinations! But some of the messages given at those
services are the kind that must grip every student who hears. I remember in
particular two of Dr. Ling's talks, one on "Fishers of Men" and another on the sub-
ject of prayer; simple, straightforward, yet deeply spiritual, and carrying the
note of challenge.

COPY

We have been praying, and friends in America have been praying that a real awakening might come to us and many students come to the decision to stand out as Christians, even in face of scorn and opposition. We are impatient, and the answer has seemed slow in coming. It was our happy privilege, however, near the end of the term, to witness the baptism of three of our boys. Two of them were in the Senior High School graduating class. This is only a beginning, but it is a beginning, and we take courage. If the "effectual fervent prayers" may be continued, here and in America too, great blessing will surely come to us.

affair, How to get the Christian young people to take an active share in the church work here is a big problem. They feel that the church is the older people's and that they themselves are not needed. The organization of a B.Y.P.U. is helping to solve this problem. We felt it a great step when the leaders of this society decided to work on the commission plan, with each group responsible for certain meetings and other activities. The regular Sunday afternoon devotional meetings are only a part of the plan. The first social get-together was a decided success. And now, though most of the students are away on vacation, the few who are left are carrying right on through the summer months. *It's their job!*

They are realizing that
In my Sunday School class I have a chance to get acquainted with some of the grammar school girls before they come to high school. The one who has shown perhaps a little more interest than the others this term is a Catholic girl. I hope we can keep in touch with her.

Our Woman's Missionary Society has made a new start. First a canvass was made to get a list of the names of the women who always have attended the meetings, and as many new women as could be interested. Then thank-offering bags were made and we went out two by two to distribute them. At the following meeting the collection plates were piled so high that the coins spilled over on the floor. To be sure many of these coins were pennies, but there were more than there had been before, and it meant that another Bible Woman's salary was assured.

Margaret Lee and I have finished translating "The Real Jesus" by Dr. Francis. The China Baptist Publication Society has accepted our work for publication and has made a grant of money to help pay for the writer. *Thank you very much* Although this work has been done between classes and in spare moments, and has therefore been slow and interrupted, yet I have enjoyed it very much. I look forward to doing some more of this work with Miss Lee if we can get it in.

You wondered whether we were asking for Gold or Max for our screening. We did ask for Max, but it has turned out to be a most fortunate thing that you sent Gold. The estimates, we did not discover until later, had been given to us for work only, not including the cost of the wire screening! That meant, of course, that the estimates were only about half what they should have been. A number of the requests, moreover, were not sent in in time. And on top of that, when Miss Bohn arrived from Farleigh she asked how much money she could have for re-screening; she had been told at the Rooms that the money would be on the field when she got here! We are all very grateful for this special appropriation. When I left Swatow the screens in my bedroom had just been finished and the women had begun Miss Culley's room. Eastview and Dr. Everham's rooms have been done, and Miss Bohn has her new screens. There is just about enough money left to cover the remaining requests. The money is all needed.

Word has just arrived that our salary is definitely to be \$900. We do appreciate this, every one of us, I am sure. But this is just my own private thank-you!

Sincerely yours,

Copy

Swatow, China
September 17, 1934

Miss Grace A. Maine
152 Madison Avenue, New York City

Dear Miss Maine,

After my letters had gone to you last month I realized that I had omitted one of the items that I had intended to write about first of all- the health of our missionaries. This summer has not been a very easy one for the doctors, but we hope everything will be all right after a while.

and the most of August
Dorothy Campbell was a pretty sick girl in July, when what at first seemed like dengue turned out to be typhoid. We are all so thankful that she is getting better now; it is likely to be some time before she will be completely recovered. After Velva Brown had operated on Beatrice Ericson for appendicitis she herself had a recurrence of an old trouble of the same nature and she went to the Matilda Hospital in Hongkong for her operation. She had some complications so she did not get out of hospital as soon as we had hoped; she returned to Swatow yesterday, however, and we hope that here at home she may quickly recover her normal strength.

On the way to Peiping to be with her son Edwin Mrs. Worley fell, and fractured her wrist; the day she arrived in Swatow this fall she fell, on the jetty, and wrenched the same wrist so badly that it was at first feared there might be another break. This hurt has caused fully as much suffering as the first one. We managed to scatter our Swatow mission wrenches, breaks, and sprains over a good bit of territory this summer; this wrist of Mrs. Worley's at Peiping, Mrs. Waters' broken arm at Baguio, Dr. Groesbeck's sprained ankle in Siam: All seem to be recovering now.

A few others had minor ills. Dr. Leach came sooner than we had expected and we were more than glad to see her. When she arrived she went directly to Kityang; the sickness of Dr. Lo, the Chinese physician (typhoid) made her arrival at that particular time doubly appreciated. Dr. Leach reached Swatow September 10.

School work and other activities are in full swing again. We miss those who have gone on furlough, but extra burdens are being shared and the prospects are bright for a good year of work.

Sincerely yours,

Abbie G. Sanderson

Swatow, China
February 8, 1938

Copy
Miss Grace A. Maine
152 Madison Avenue
New York City

Dear Miss Maine:

My Christmas letter reached you late enough this year to get in with your report letters from the fields, I am sure; but I am afraid you may not think it a very comprehensive report. All the same, this letter will not be very different from that one; just two more "pictures" that are uppermost in my mind as I write.

The "Daring Endeavorers", our Junior Christian girls' society, undertook something new this winter. With the double motive of arousing renewed interest among the members and of having a gift to present at Christmas time, the girls made little fancy boudoir pillows and stuffed toy birds, frogs, rabbits and monkeys and sold them. The materials used were scraps of cloth that we collected ourselves and some that came in White Cross boxes. Of course it was fun to do the pretty, interesting handwork, and for the few weeks before Christmas the girls worked early and late to get the things done on time. But the crowning satisfaction came when at the White Gift Service on Christmas Sunday they were able to present their offering of over \$17.00, earned all with their own hands. Gifts are usually sent from this Christmas fund to our Old Folks' Home in Kityang. I know the girls had this place especially in mind as they worked.

There are two kinds of help I should like to ask for in connection with the project I have just told about. In the first place, our friends at home can help by praying that this little society- the nearest we have to a W.F.G. here at present- may not only keep a fine spirit among the Christian girls themselves, but may succeed in reaching the girls who are not yet Christian and in developing a more widespread Christian atmosphere in our school. In the second place, since this handwork idea has been successful once we shall hope to use it again next year, and friends can help in a material way by sending me patterns for making stuffed cloth animals, to put variety into our Zoo: Scraps of velvet, satin, flannel, and felt will all be useful, too. (Yes, indeed, I am putting all this into my White Cross list for Miss McKay, but I had to say it this letter as well!)

Our Young People are continuing to take their place in the work of the church. For a long time they took little interest in church affairs and felt, indeed, that there was no place for them to do work that they could do and were interested in doing. They considered that the church was the older people's affair. Since they have taken upon themselves the task of providing choir responses every Sunday in the morning service they have a definite share in the worship program. They furnish the special anthem the first and third Sundays of the month, and give very worth-while help in leading the congregational singing. Recently they have decided to take the responsibility of having the anthems translated into Chinese- either do it themselves or get some teacher to do it. This takes a heavy burden from my shoulders, and I am delighted

that they have the spirit of willingness to attempt this really arduous task. Music is at present perhaps their chief contribution to the church. It is better some days than others, but they are learning all the while and it is good to see them working into the harness.

Did I tell you about the morning church service conducted entirely, not long ago, by these same Young People? Chairman, preacher, ushers, singers, - all these parts were taken by members of the Young People's Society and the meeting was not only interesting but also dignified and worshipful. These young people are all students - our future Christian leaders - and every bit of practice and training they have now should stand them in good stead later on. We are very thankful for the interest that they have shown, and for their spirit of cooperation in planning and in putting things across.

One of the great burdens on my heart is that, ^{more of} our Christian Chinese teachers may awaken more fully to a sense of the privilege and duty that is theirs in working with the students. I think that many of them would like to do more than they do, but they have not yet learned how to go about the matter. The last of this month there is to be a Religious Education ~~Meeting~~ ^{Meeting} to help those who are especially interested in religious training. There is a very general feeling of "We don't know much about this religious education idea, but we want to learn." As for me, I can think of plenty of problems to present for discussion, but I am wondering how many solutions to our problems we shall get!

Another burden is that there may be a more definitely Christian attitude among our Christian students of wanting to win fellow-students for Christ. I know that you people at home want the encouraging stories and reports that will keep up interest in missions at the home end; but these burdens and problems sometimes are laid so heavily on our minds and hearts that it seems impossible to pick out the bits of encouragement without speaking of the questions which are giving us deep concern. Perhaps much of the concern is needless; I am sure that some of our teachers and some of our Christian students are most earnest and consistent in their Christian lives, and it may be I should learn more of the "patience of the East" from them, and not be so impatient when results of work seem slow and small. We need the prayers of the people at home that our faith may not fail!

Sincerely yours,

Abbie G. Sanderson

*Thought you'd
be interested to
read this*

Swatow, China
April 24, 1936

Mrs. J. C. Humphreys, Foreign Secretary
Woman's American Baptist Foreign Mission Society
152 Madison Avenue, New York City

Dear Mrs. Humphreys:

It was a very pleasant surprise to me to learn that you are to be our Woman's Board Foreign Secretary. I have never much of you but I remember what a grand understanding person you seemed to be when I met you at a conference once in Chambersburg-- a time that was in some way a very difficult one for me. A cordial welcome to you!

In her letters of February 7 and 8 Miss Maine asked a number of questions which called for some investigating. That took time, and the information had not all come in when I left for Shanghai, on April 4, to attend the meetings of the Board of Directors of Shanghai University. I shall try, however, to answer the questions now.

Two copies of our annual mission report have been sent to the Woman's Board. In that report Miss Traver tells of the thirty Women's Missionary Societies that we now have, four more than last year; number of members, 930; contributions \$744, \$125 of which goes towards the salary of Miss Kang Hick Kheng, the Chinese woman Field Secretary for the Lung Tong. We are especially happy to have Miss Tang Siu Un working in the churches of the Swatow Association. I will not quote further from Miss Traver's report, since that is already in your hands.

Perhaps the best way to answer the question in regard to the use of Woman's Board appropriations is to go over the allotments for 1936-35 one by one taking them in the same order that they are given in our printed minutes of Jan-June 1934.

1. Fields:

Chaochow

- : Evangelistic and General, \$189.06
- :
- : Salary and travel of the Bible woman, Lin Sok Meng I
- :
- : Educational, \$139.74
- :
- : Coeducational Tai Tong School, grades kindergarten to grammar;
- : three women teachers; this year's enrollment 170.

Chaoyang

- : Evangelistic and General, \$226.06
- :
- : SALARY OF Ko Sinse, woman evangelist, one of a team of three itinerant field preachers.
- : Salary of Lu Kam I, old but very earnest Bible woman in Nam E.
- : Help towards salary of Kim I Che, Bible woman. This woman is to be employed jointly next year by the hospital and the Woman's Missionary Society.
- :
- : Educational, \$36.29
- :
- : Towards Chaoyang co-educational school, grammar grade.

Swatow-Kakchich

: Evangelistic and General, \$226.06
:
: Towards salary of two Bible Women,
: Kha Huang I and A Phie Che.
: Kha Huang I's method all her life has been the "one by one"
: method and she has won many to be Christians; A Phie Che
: is a more recent graduate of the Bible School and she has
: been a great help recently in the villages of Lau Kng and
: Sou Min; 12 baptisms already in one place and a group getting
: ready for baptism in the other.

Kakchich Grammar School, \$98.65

: Towards salaries of two women teachers.
: Girls and boys join in carrying on a Junior B.Y.P.U.,
: Bible classes taught and religious exercises observed (not
: in the school building; church attendance expected.

Swatow Institute, \$221.94

: Towards salary of two Bible women,
: Tang Kio I, and Ang Sek Siang.
: The first works in the Institute and the second does much
: in the suburb, O Kie, holding classes, superintending prayer-
: meetings, etc. There are now 14 ready to be baptized from
: that place. Both women do a great deal of visiting, helping
: in Woman's Prayermeetings, etc.

Kityang

Evangelistic and General, \$226.06

: Toward support of three Bible women,
: Toa Sai I, Pou Tzu I, and Hia Sui Meng Since.
: These are under the direction of the Woman's Committee.

Educational, \$164.42

: Towards salary of young woman teacher in co-educational
: school, where 25 girls are studying in the Junior Middle
: and Upper Primary. When the co-educational plan was
: adopted and agreement was made whereby there should always
: be at least one woman teacher. She lives with the girls in
: their dormitory; good Christian influence on them. Some of
: the girls much interested in church work; last year two of
: them entered our Nurses' training course. School in bad
: financial straits at present.

Ungkung

: Evangelistic and General, \$193.18
:
: Salaries of three Bible women, all of whom have spent
: many years in service;
: Khoi Ki I, A Bak I, and So Lai I.
:
: Educational, \$115.09
:
: Towards salary of Tang Sok Hiong, kindergarten teacher,
: who has more pupils than she can now well handle alone-
: 46. This is the only church school in Ungkung at the present.
: Parents ask for primary and grammar school, but there are
: no funds.

2. Central Organization:

Academy Scholarships, \$205.50

: Amounts of \$14 to \$20 a term are granted to girls worthy of
: help, especially the daughters of Christian workers who need
: assistance; a committee chosen from among the trustees of
: the Academy examines each case and passes action regarding it
: every term before the tuitions are paid.

Evangelistic Literature, \$82.20

: This amount all goes through Miss Traver's hands. She buys
: a great many tracts, which are given away by her and by many
: preachers and other evangelistic workers all through the
: field. She has gathered a lending library for workers,-
: books on Religious Education. Health Bulletins and Bible
: portions are bought and given away. Posters are sold or given
: to churches and hospitals. Books are sold to individuals
: but given in many cases to churches or schools.
: A good bit of printing has been done, for example;
: Report of Christian Home Week at Hope
: Two bulletins on children's food, and household medicines
: A book of verses, songs and prayers, compiled by the
: hospital evangelist and thus far used there mostly.

Field Evangelist, \$164.41

: Towards salary (\$300) of Miss Kang Hick Kheng, Miss Traver's
: co-worker and the evangelist for the whole field. She is
: under the direction of the Convention (and Executive Committee).

College Loan, \$41.08

: Much more than this is used for college loan; it is not nearly
: enough. Last year grants were made to the amount of \$282,
: and the year before more than that; this does not include
: grants from the Judson Fund.

Kakehieh Hospital, \$

Evangelistic, \$123.29

: Not nearly enough to pay either for the Hospital preacher
: or the Hospital Bible woman.

:
: Medical, \$822.

:
: This is used towards free medicine, running expenses, etc.;
: when the fact is taken into consideration that the yearly
: expense of the hospital is between \$12,000 and \$14,000 it
: is easy to see that the amount received is but a small fraction
: of the amount needed and used. Fighting the deficit is really
: a major problem in the hospital work.

Kakehieh Kindergarten, \$230.15

: Towards salaries of teachers; the amount does not cover ex-
: and deficit for the last three years has been paid from the
: missionary's pocket.

Kakehieh Woman's School, \$1027.50

: Towards salaries of teachers. Everywhere you go throughout
: the field you will find graduates or former students of this
: doing good work in homes, churches and schools. The influence
: is more far-reaching than can well be measured.

Special, Alice Chen, \$800.

: Towards payment of salary of Miss Alice Chen, principal of
: th Woman's Bible Training School.

Kityang Hospital

Medical, \$863.08

: Local receipts for last year were about five times as much
: as the combined appropriations of the two Boards, yet there
: was a deficit at the end of the year and there is likely to
: be one this year. The trustees do a great deal of talking
: on the subject of furnishing more free medicine but they do
: not succeed in raising much money to pay for free medicine :

Administration, \$123.29

: Of this amount \$30 goes to the Ling Tong Woman' Committee
: and the rest goes into the regular Administration budget which
: includes Convention, Executive Committee, and other expenses,
: the printing of the Ling Tong paper "Good News", a small
: reserve fund, etc.

I should like to add one sentence from Dr. Leach's report from Kityang:

"In my mind the fact that the Chinese Woman's Committee of the Association looks after the Bible woman and takes the responsibility of raising the salaries and directing their itinerary is just as much of an advance step as that over half of the salaries (about \$275 out of \$500) is raised out here by them."

It is good news to hear that Dr. Geneva Dye is coming out to us in the fall. Each department of the work is eager for re-enforcements and now that we know we actually are to have one new worker I have no doubt that in Woman's Committee and Divisional Committee- both meeting soon- we shall hear suggestions regarding our repeating the former requests for new missionaries in other departments of the work. You will hear more about this later, I think. We certainly need all "the young blood" we can get if our South China Mission is to keep on.

Our minds have been filled during the last few days with tragedy which has been brought to our peaceful Kakohish by mad dog bites. Principal and Mrs. Ling of the academy have lost their small son, *The family child* in the kindergarten and one of the most beloved of all the children in the community. Five deaths have occurred that we know about.

May I tell you again how glad we are that you are to be Secretary? It is always easier to write letters to some one you have seen and talked with ;

Most sincerely yours,

Abbie G. Sanderson

Swatow, China, September 6, 1936

Mrs. J. Charles Humphreys
W.A.B.F.M.S., 152 Madison Avenue, New York

Dear Mrs. Humphreys:

You have doubtless already received Mr. Page's letter telling of the decision for Dorothy Hare to come to Swatow for her first year of language study. I still wish she might have gone to the College of Chinese Studies in Peiping. But considering all the circumstances, I am pretty sure it would not have been wise. The Mission is still divided on the opinion regarding the best time for a missionary to acquire some knowledge of Mandarin. It is also true that there are some missionaries who think it sheer folly for some of us to bother with Mandarin at all. Some feel that an evangelistic missionary working with the women in the Swatow field would never have use for anything but the Swatow dialect; others of us think of possible contacts with other Missions, all-China conferences such as Religious Education and others, and so feel that any knowledge of Mandarin would help. Some of us feel that in any case a new missionary would be greatly helped by contact with the school in Peiping, where good methods of teaching are used. In deciding that Miss Hare should come to Swatow this fall one thing which had to be considered was the fact that she was sent out in the emergency caused by Miss Sollman's serious illness. Both Miss Sollman and Miss Kittlitz, as well as some others, felt that delaying her coming to Swatow would delay her getting acquainted with the people among whom she is to work, and delay in preparation to jump into full-time work two years from now, when Elsie Kittlitz goes on furlough. The many advantages and benefits of a year at Peiping will have to come to Miss Hare at a later time.

Your letter of June 28 which tells us definitely that you will be glad to have new workers take their first year of language study at Peiping has not brought to Dorothy Hare the privilege of being introduced to Chinese cultural background, as well as to the Chinese language, in that place of all places in China which is best adapted to the purpose; but it has started us on a line of thinking which will eventually, I hope, bring that privilege to every new missionary. Before that letter came, our position was something like this: Knowing that the opinion of our Mission here was that first year language study ought to be done in the Swatow dialect, and not realizing that the Women's Board expected or hoped for anything different from that for their workers, we did not even consider making a change in the general policy. Now, after receiving your letter, our language committee has been asked to make out a policy regarding missionaries studying Mandarin, to be brought up before our next conference.

One point of view is that missionaries who have been here longer will find the time spent at Peiping of greater value, and the study of Mandarin less confusing and of greater help than will new missionaries. Some of us feel greatly handicapped by our ignorance of Mandarin; have been longing for years for the chance to study it; have got what little we could, bit by bit, from time to time in our summer vacations. My own idea is that with the increasing use of Mandarin all over the country both the new missionaries and the ones who have been here longer ought to be encouraged, helped, allowed (whichever fits the individual case!) to get some Mandarin. One reason some of us are so strong for the new missionaries to go to Peiping at once is that it seems well-nigh impossible to get in a year of language study after one has got into

routine of the work. I will admit I myself have a vital interest in this question ! If you could know how many times I have sat in our own Academy faculty meeting wishing hopelessly and almost resentfully that I could understand what was being said when some of our Mandarin-speaking teachers from other parts of the country were making their contribution to the discussion and I had to sit there, deaf as a post, to all intents and purposes ! I have heard Edith Traver tell of her embarrassment in meetings where translating into English had to be done because she alone could not understand Mandarin; when Dorothy Campbell first came out as a missionary she went to a Nurse's Conference or Convention which was held almost entirely in Mandarin. Not being able to understand anything, she never attempted to go to another. And we are not the only ones who have wished for Mandarin; there are many others.

What would be the attitude of the Women's Board on this question ? Would they be willing to release a missionary from field service for a period of time, directly after furlough, perhaps, for study at Peiping, provided the Mission felt it important for her to get Mandarin ? An answer to this question would certainly help in the deciding of a general policy to be followed; and some of us ^{at least} will eagerly await your/sg early reply on the subject !

Schools are already opening and soon everything will be in full swing once more. We are hoping that this will be the best year yet; with the prayers of all of you at home holding us up to our best, it surely ought to be !

Sincerely yours,

(Have I sent you
this already?)

Copy

Swatow, China
November 2, 1936

Mrs. J. Charles Humphreys
Foreign Secretary W.A.B.F.M.S.
152 Madison Avenue, New York City, U.S.A.

Dear Mrs. Humphreys,

This letter must be written pretty soon or it will be ancient history before it gets to you !! I do not yet feel "caught up" after my recent absence from school. Principal Ling and Mr. Capen took classes for me as far as possible while I was in Canton, but some things had to wait for me to get back.

You must know that I was greatly surprised to be asked to represent the Women's Board at the China Baptist Centennial. I want to thank you all for giving me this honor. It was indeed a privilege to attend the meetings of this great celebration.

The program, based on the theme, "A Century of Christian Conquest in Cathay" was well planned and well carried out, Evangelism, Education, Medicine, Literature, Women's Work and Young People's Work each having its own place and forming a significant part of the whole pattern. Leaders both Northern and Southern, Chinese and foreign, had a share in making valuable contributions. The translation from English into Mandarin and Cantonese and from Mandarin and Cantonese into English, which threatened at times to become unwieldy, was on the whole very well managed.

I wish you might have seen the spacious Tung Shan church, normally seating 1200 people, crowded to the galleries, with every aisle filled and many standing at the back- a throng of Baptist Christians come together not only to review the past but also to take stock of the present and to look ahead at the possibilities of the future. I wish you might have heard the music. It is hard to say which of it all was the best- the girls' chorus, the boy's glee club, the overseas group, the boys' band, the ten Baptist choirs all together- but it was all most enjoyable and inspiring.

You will want to hear something about the women, I know. The letter from the Board reached me in Canton and was duly read at the Women's session on Thursday evening when the delegates from America, Mrs. Sanpey and her sister Mrs. Burris of the Southern Baptist Convention were presented. (Since our Mrs. Makinson of California was a visitor too, though not in any official capacity, it seemed most fitting for her to be introduced at the same time.) One of the very good, though brief, reports that evening was given by our young woman evangelist, Miss Tang Siu Un. To many it was little short of miracle to see Miss Sallman well enough to be there. The prayer she offered truly made us feel that we were joining hands with all our sisters around the world. At a woman's meeting later the women delegates of the Southern Baptist constituency discussed. They are now in process of organizing a National Missionary Union. They cordially expressed the hope that our Ling Tong women would join them in an all-China Baptist Women's Organization.

The Young People's work has been developed in a splendid way among the Southern Baptist churches. The Sunday afternoon session was made the happy occasion for conferring prizes- huge silver cups, beautiful pictures, etc.- on winners of essay-writing, public speaking, attendance and other contests held in the Leung Kwong Association. Their enthusiasm is well worth emulating. The speakers were limited in time, but they were able to say worth while things about the past, present and future of Young People's work even though they had but a few moments. Our Mr. Chen, whose address on "Relation of Young People's Work to the Church" was given in fluent Cantonese, reported to the Swatow B.Y.P.U. his amazement at the ease with which the young people of Canton used English and Mandarin as well as their native Cantonese. Five of us from Swatow attended the District B.Y.P.O. meeting which had to be crowded in before one of the evening sessions. It was good to have this little contact with the Y.P. in other places but the time was too short to get very well acquainted either with the people or with their methods. (We shall hope for further fellowship in the future; already we are thinking of the possibility of having Miss Lea of Shanghai or some other Y.P. worker come here to be a helper in our Retreat next year; and today a letter came from Miss Alexander of Canton expressing the hope that she might be able to visit us and see something of our Young People's work and Women's work. I hope she may come.)

One interesting hour was that when the roll was called of missionaries and preachers who have been in service more than forty years. Notable among these was the veteran Dr. R.T. Bryan, whose 81st birthday was that very day, and Pastor Lee, in service 51 years, father of John Y. Lee who heads the University of Shanghai trustees and uncle of Miss Pauline Senn, formerly one of our own workers. Second, third, and fourth generation missionaries and workers were introduced, none, however, with a record more striking than that of Dr. Goddard, whose family has been giving missionary service ever since the days when Mrs. Dean came to Hongkong.

This letter I realize gives but the sketchiest of impressions. Other reports will give more details. Some of the addresses will no doubt be printed and sent to you. Those of us who were entertained at Hackett Medical, across the city from Tung Shan, for overnight and breakfast, had to miss Dr. Sampey's morning devotionals, but we did hear him speak to the Pool To girls as well as at other times. I have not mentioned the cordial- and rather Christian-sounding- welcome given at the formal opening of the Centennial, first in Mandarin and then in English, by the Mayor of Canton. I have not told of the brief service held at the graves of Mrs. Shuck and Mrs. Dean, in Hongkong on our way home, and the simple but touching words with which Mrs. Sampey paid tribute to those brave pioneers.

It was inevitable that Southern Baptists should figure more largely at this celebration than Northern. From the start our Southern friends have been more enthusiastic and they are the ones who have put themselves heart and soul into the work of planning the Centennial. They had of course a far greater representation there than had any other body of Baptist. The missionaries and Chinese leaders, however, gave most cordial welcome and warm hospitality. About twenty Swatow Chinese delegates attended the meetings. I believe that getting a glimpse of what other people are doing in education, evangelism, and other lines of work- a glimpse of the tremendous of Baptist Christians and others on the

city of Canton- that all this will spell real inspiration to them. If it does, that will prove to be to us the most valuable of all the results of attending the China Baptist Centennial.

~~Since I began to write this letter, your communication~~

Copy

Szentow, China
January 18, 1937

Mrs. J. Charles Humphreys
Foreign Secretary, W.A.S.P.M.S.
152 Madison Avenue, New York, U.S.A.

Dear Mrs. Humphreys:

At the top of my scratch page where I have jotted down topics I want to write to you about is the word "Progress". I believe that there has been some progress in almost every phase of work, although not as great as we had hoped for and in the face of some setbacks.

The attendance of our Kak Huang Academy (coeducational) this year is smaller than in previous years; we have 370 students, 75 of whom are girls. The spirit, however, is good, and the grade of work done considered high enough by the Board of Education to merit a grant of some \$300 aid for the year. Running expenses last term were greater than the amount taken in fees, and the debt on the two new buildings is correspondingly larger; subscription gifts from the faculty are but a drop in the bucket compared to the need, but they show the will to help, and a spirit of hopefulness in regard to carrying on the school program.

About one-fourth of the student body are Christians and these Christians meet for Bible classes each Sunday morning, then go on to the morning worship service at the church. A few non-Christian students come to the Bible classes but only a few. During this past year nine from our school received baptism and joined the church. (All but two of these were from the Young People's choir, and those two are now in the choir.)

The "Daring Endeavorer" girls (W.W.G.) enjoy their work at Christmas as much as at any time in the year, probably, for that is when they have the chance to earn some money with their own hands to help some who are far less fortunate than they. They have for three years made little patchwork pillows and quilts and stuffed toys to sell and the results are increasingly satisfying; the first year the proceeds of their little sale came to a little over \$17; last year, \$29; and this year, over \$50, when the money all comes in. The money goes to help support the Old Folks' Home and to aid poor students. This project has been helped amazingly by the gorgeous assortment of silk and cotton and other remnants and patches and animal patterns which thoughtful friends have sent to us in White Cross boxes. (The Christmas gift was taken to the platform this year pinned firmly to the paws of one of the rabbits in the enclosed snap.) Our church Young People's Society draws many of its members from the academy, and this Society here at Kakchich has made no small contribution this year to the promotion of Young People's work throughout the whole Ling Tong area. In cooperation with the Y.P. Societies in Szentow City a very fine retreat ~~for the~~ was held here July 8-13, attended by delegates from ten societies in the Ling Tong. A Union organization was formed and during the year visits have been made to a number of the inland places with a view to strengthening and helping the groups already formed and arousing interest in the forming of more Young People's groups.

One of the activities of our Young People's society is their singing. The young people enjoy singing and they enjoy being asked to help in the singing at various occasions here and over in the city. At the sixtieth birthday celebration of one of the mothers in our Chinese community they were invited to sing and then to share with several hundred other guests in the feast which followed. Every Sunday they sing short responses after the prayers at the morning worship service and on the first and third Sundays of the month an anthem; their simple white vestments somehow add a note of dignity.

At the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Swatow church these young singers had a share in the afternoon musicale. A week later they were asked to sing a song at the Y.M.C.A. Mandarin service. The pictures I enclose show the group who went that afternoon, first standing on the jetty with anthem books in their hands, then as they were boarding the launch, and again after they were out in the bay beginning to steam across to the other side. In the second picture our Academy teacher who was the speaker that afternoon stands at the extreme ~~left~~ *right (with hat)*

On December 13 representatives from all Baptist, Presbyterian, and non-denominational groups of young people gathered on the wide grassy lawn of the Sak-tak Girls' School compound in open-air session. There were songs by the various groups and the speaker was the visiting Y.M.C.A. secretary from the North.

On December 20 the choir gave a Christmas vesper cantata in the Kakehieh church. The program was not long but it could not have been as successful as it was without long weeks of faithful practice. On December 27 this same group, 40 in number, made the trip by boat and specially chartered bus to Chaoyang and repeated the Christmas vesper program. They would plan to do more of this kind of "musical itinerating" but they are limited in both time and money. The trip was an educative experience for them!

This letter ought not to be brought to a close without some mention of the celebration of our school 30th anniversary ~~celebration~~, a two-days' affair which brought a fair number of friends, visitors, and former students back to show their interest in the musical and athletic and dramatic programs and in an exhibition of painting, drawing, modeling, embroidery, and other kinds of handwork.

Friends of Shanghai University will be interested to learn that a Swatow branch of the Shanghai University Alumni Association has this month been organized. At a luncheon in one of Swatow's newer hotels the 30th anniversary of the University was observed and it was then voted to organize, and the setting up of the Swatow Branch was accomplished at a second luncheon with 22 former students present, a large proportion of them from our Kakehieh schools.

Work on East Hall was begun almost as soon as the joyful news of the \$4000 arrived. Pounding stone and blasting, shouts of the workmen and other unaccustomed sounds cannot help interrupting class work to a certain extent, but we are so glad that the building is going on that students and teachers alike are willing to endure whatever inconvenience there may be! When this building is finished we shall have something we now lack, and that is suitable practice rooms for piano pupils. But we shall then be more conscious than ever

of our need for a good musical director. Some of us have the feeling that with the right person here to lead the music, many of our problems, financial and spiritual, would be solved. We do need a strong leader who is deeply spiritual, to help in this situation which is teeming with opportunity. If that leader knows music and really knows how to use it with these young people, great things will be in store for us, whereas if we can't have this kind of help rather soon we are likely to lose out, on a large scale. Many of our students have talent, and many of them are asking for music; some will go elsewhere if they do not get more music than they are getting now. The evaluation of our school as a "Most Essential" project was correct, I am firmly convinced; but I am quite as firmly convinced that more attention must be paid to the needs of the school, in the immediate future, if there is to be hope that the school will do all it ought to in the matter of Christian education among these boys and girls who come to us from near and far.

Sincerely yours,

Althea G. Sanderson

Swatow, China
January 22, 1937

Miss Janet McKay
152 Madison Avenue
New York

Dear Miss McKay:

Truly I am chagrined to find that at this late date the White Cross requisition slips, which were entrusted to me, have not been sent to you. We are grateful beyond words for the aid which the White Cross materials have given us this year. The things which have been sent have been very helpful, not only in making it possible for us to pass on Christmas cheer at that season of the year, but but in assisting the girls themselves to do missionary work that they would not have been able to accomplish if they had not had the materials you sent.

In regard to the requests we are making this year, perhaps you would like a little explanation of some of the items. The things requested under the heading "Medical" are not really for medical work but mostly for handwork. Our W.T.C. girls have for the last three years made stuffed animals, little fancy pillows, and baby quilts, and have sold them to earn money for their White Gift Christmas money. This money they have given for the Old Folks' Home and for helping poor students. The first year they earned about \$17.00, the second, \$29.00, and this year their contribution is more than \$50.00 (some of it actually came in a little too late for the church Gift Service but it will all go for the same causes).

If we continue to make the stuffed animals we shall have to think hard what we shall use for stuffing in the future; last year we found that cotton cost too much, that sawdust was too heavy, and that when we used rice hulls those drew the rats like the Pied Piper of Hamelin! This year we ransacked attics for rags that had been left over from years of handwork done by previous generations, but now that supply is depleted so we shall scarcely know where to turn!

The thread, silk and cotton remnants, cotton, sheets, and cheesecloth are all to be used in this handwork project. The handkerchiefs are much better when they have colored borders, and they should have torn edges and not crooked ones; so much fine handwork is done out here that crooked edges are very noticeable; dolls, combs and other gifts should not be marked "Made in Japan" (such gifts cannot be used under the present circumstances; possession or use of Japanese made goods is considered unpatriotic and the feeling runs very high). Adhesive tape is used for mending music books. We are not asking for dominoes since we have an oversupply and that game is not much in demand. Puzzles, old games such as Pinch, Pit, Jackstraws, etc. are very popular with the young people's groups.

The picture I am sending shows some of the "Daring Endeavour" officers with some of the handwork. The girls' gift was presented this year pinned securely between the paws of one of the long-eared rabbit with a red ribbon around his neck!

Sincerely and gratefully yours,