

Abbie G. Sanderson Papers

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Greetings
go along
to Aunt
Minnie -
and to
the girls
when you
write -
Love to Edith
Coming along
Hope she
goes along
O.K. this time

Phillips House
11 & Carnarvon Road
Kowloon, Hong Kong
January 28, 1949

Mary my dear:

Now don't get scared and think I have had to evacuate or anything! Velva Brown and I are just down here for two weeks for a vacation that Velva needed quite desperately. She has been on the job steadily ever since she arrived 2 years ago and she needs to let down for a bit. I'm glad to get glasses repaired and do a few other errands and quite glad to come on this jamboree with Velva -

We flew down here two days ago, plane fare coming this way being much cheaper than ship. We shall go back by ship and we already have our passage engaged, going back on a ship the 8th or 9th of February - Just yesterday and today we have got quite a lot done; seen a number of friends, got some things for the hospital, left watches and glasses to be repaired, been to the hairdresser's, and now, as you can plainly see, I'm writing a letter to my beloved Mary - I'm wondering specially right this minute if Mary has received some birthday greetings that I sent her sometime ago? Hope so - I'm wishing hard that all Mary's days will be happy ones - Wish Mary could be here and traipse around this old town with us - I think she would love it - and I know I should!

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

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BY ORDINARY MAIL.



HONG KONG

Mrs. Mary Clough
69 Prospect Street
New York 17, New York
U.S.A.

RECEIVED



Sender's name and address
D. J. Morrison
A. B. Morrison
Singapore, Straits

We are going to dissipate tonight and go out to see the lights this last night of the Chinese old year. Already the air is full of firecracker smoke and sound. Guess I'll wait till I get back before finishing this - just in case we see something exciting -!

Next day Well, we went out as planned, and we saw quite a good many people, and some boys throwing firecrackers, and lines of street shops selling everything from flowers to police whistles, but none of the old Chinese curios such as used to be brought out to be sold to foreigners years ago. So we walked around a bit, took the ferry back to this side, went into a snack joint and had hamburgers and hot hams, and came home and got to bed shortly after midnight (we went out about ten). The sight across the bay was the nicest part - with lights from Hong Kong making a beautiful picture. Much love

A. G. Sanderson
A. B. Morrison
Swatow, China

國際航空郵件
AIR LETTER

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U.S.A.

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29

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A. B. Morrison
Swatow, China

February 25, 1949

Mary my dear -

Back from Hongkong again and ready for the
gray, which begins next week - Only I haven't done all the
things I wanted to do in vacation - Have I written to
you since I got back? Had a good vacation with Helen,
although we spent a lot of it traipsing around trying to
do errands for other people, and mostly finding out
that we couldn't get the things - No, that isn't true, either.
Ray Luckbeck wanted fluorescent bulbs which we couldn't
get, Edna Smith wanted "Hals" shampoo, and a number of
people wanted cheese! The rest of the stuff was found for
a scrap and we brought back everything from X-ray
films and chocolate bars to flashlight batteries, salad
oil, Dietrich cord, and a glass pitcher! Couldn't get the

grass rug I had hoped to get for myself, so it was pure to do shopping for others - Altogether it was a very good change - A good number of former students looked us up, and all wanted to show us to a good time. It was really quite wonderful -

Louise G. did not have such a good time. She has spent the whole vacation in bed, with severe pain in her back and left arm - They don't know how she got the inflammation of the nerve. It is ^{not} in the right place for tarsitis but I should say has been about as painful - Doctor has not yet said she may get up - and indeed she is still not free from pain. I feel so sorry for her - She wanted to go to Meisner this vacation -

It is my turn to lead prayer meeting to-morrow night - Don't you want to come and lead it for me? You

probably couldn't find a sofa to sit on, with a convenient shoulder to lean against during the season of prayer - so maybe you wouldn't get a nice little nap in - 'Mamma?

My diary and lovely study assignment book have just come - Tonight I've been writing up all about Humphrey! The study assignment book is grand. Thank you - my dear -

Love you,
The diary is a grand handy one. Abbie
Did you know Mrs. Faxon is gone?

國際航空郵件
AIR LETTER

INTERNATIONAL
MAIL

Mr. Mary Clough

49 Prospect Street

Summit

New Jersey

U.S.A.

Rec'd April 19

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19

Greetings to "Aunt Minnie".

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Suway China
April 8.

Mary my dear,

I have typed a couple extra sheets of "gattle" when writing to Arthur - Not that I said much, but just lets you all know I am in the land of the living and tells you one or two things I am thinking about. I'll send this one to you and the other one to Goldie, maybe - she is a long suffering one who must have the feeling she never hear from me!

A beautiful box of cards has arrived from my dear Mary. They are so nicely fixed. The ones I like best are the ones that have a little "pie & match" pasted on - (as far as the fixing goes, I mean - But they are all fine and I'm very grateful for them - Thank you, my dear!

(written 1949)

This is an experiment, and I'm not yet just sure how well it is going to work! We have been longing to get hold of some of these fellows but they simply were not to be had. They are just about the cheapest thing in the world, we reckon. Somebody must be losing money on them. The price is \$5, Gold Yuan- and it takes 2,700 or more Gold Yuan to make an American dollar! But the catch is that the Post Office just did not have them for sale. Now that I have a few I feel the urge to sit down and write to all my friends. One of the catches in that is that this is now the last evening of our three-day spring vacation and I haven't any of those letters written yet. Another catch is that nowadays sometimes when I am writing a letter I get sleepy but still keep right on writing. The results are sometimes amazing. But I shouldn't care to amaze my good friends at the other end of the line too much, so it seems wise to exercise a little care.

Maybe some people have been worrying a bit as to the situation out here. I hope you won't feel let down when I tell you that at the present time we are carrying on our work pretty much as usual. Of course with the whole country as upset as it indubitably is, there is bound to be a certain amount of restlessness, especially among the students. We get discouraged sometimes because students would rather do almost anything than study, so it seems. How can their interest in their studies be aroused? How can their interest in the highest things in life be aroused? How can they be helped to make right decisions? Life becomes a fair whirl of questions, some of them really difficult.

The missionaries had a most helpful conference last month.

All the missionaries in the South China Mission were present except Louise Campbell, who had such a poor trip last summer that she thought she'd better not try it again just yet. Alice Gifford did come down, but the bridges were burned after she got here. So she had to go back by boat up the river instead of by bus and that trip is likely to take her ten days or more. (for about 100 miles!)

Dr. Clara Leach left on Saturday- Apr. 2- for Hongkong, where she took a freighter for USA the next day for America. This is supposed to be her last furlough, and her next term is not like to be as long as the usual term, because of her retirement. It

whether you will see her while she is at home. Her mother-in-law may drive to the west coast to

She will be at the Northern Baptist Convention. Her furlough, she will have just one more term to come back. If all goes well, I should have a whole term after I come back on my furlough. It is hard to believe that there are years left out here. So much still left not done!

April 15 - Service service this morning - the women's school and the young people together. Next Sunday the girls have an Easter service service. Much much love, my dear - Alice

A. J. Sanderson
A. B. Mission
Swatow, China

國際航空郵簡
AIR LETTER

NO 67

Rec May 26

Mrs. Mary Clough

69 Pleasant Street

Swatow

Raw Jersey

U. S. A.

PAP AVION

如郵票在後者此卡即自及陸路寄發

折 此 處
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A. B. Mission
Swatow, China

May 18, 1949

Dear Mary mine:

Again a long time has passed without my writing - and I'm ashamed but I have a little excuse. Since last Saturday night - a week ago, I have been "sleeping" thirteen extra at my house and "eating" seven of them. They are three families of German missionaries on their way home to Germany. Or rather, I have two of the families and Bonnie Griffin has the third. I am "feeding" one of my two families and Katherine Luebeck is leaving the other family for meals - and doing

G. has her family for both room and board.
Their planes do not leave for Paris (Le Havre) until May 23 - and Hongkong government will not allow them to be there except for a very brief stay - just time enough to catch plane - These people have not been home for 14 or 16 years - were not allowed to go during war - None of the children have ever been anywhere except in the interior of China. They are lovely children and have beautiful manners - yet they are as lively as anything, and different from one another as can be. Hildegard, the oldest, is a regular little mother and would hold our cook's baby by the knee, if allowed. Rose-marie is the only curly head in "our" family is rather shy and always waits for her mother to nod yes that she may have a second helping. Hans-Martin, our one boy, is very polite but when his mother asked him why he didn't eat to - he was out disgustedly (under his breath) so disgustedly but somehow girl, Waltraut, always ran got up and got her father filled! And Hedewig, with all - bright as a day but still adorable - a + two blond pigtailed!
These people are long away before anything "free" not go through another & really uncertain line but & thought, so far, of moving and see - Much

Charlotte, VT.
 Mrs. Mary Clapp
 69 Pleasant Street
 Winooski, VT.
 July 10
 1949
 H. S. H.

PAR AVION

如附信內附有附件時由本機送寄也

IF ATTACHED IS ENCLOSED, THIS LETTER WILL BE SENT BY AIRMAIL MAIL.



A. J. Williams
 A. J. Williams
 Swanton, China
 國際航空郵簡
 AIR LETTER

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Swanton, China
 July 5, 1949

Dearest Mary,
 How I wonder where you are, and how
 you are - ! The last letter I had from you said
 that you were leaving for Vermont, and that
 you would see the new baby - no - ! that you
had left, and had seen that precious granddaughter
 for the first time -

The letter got to Canton in good time - mailed
 May 26, arrived Canton May 31, ^{but know this it was delayed ~~quite~~ ^{quite}} I've been hopping ^{about} ~~that~~
 around since then, with school closing early, and
 having a lot of guests some of the time, and
 some guests all of the time, it seems!

This last letter from you is a very dear one - Mrs. Lyford is sweet, and she was so lovely to me up at Mokarshan - urged me to stay longer than I planned, and was so nice about everything - With all those lovely cards you sent, I can find plenty for my birthday - and some that are really pretty nice. I can't think whether I have written any letters to anybody since my birthday - It was celebrated in a number of ways - Several of the "old girls" of 25-30 years ago gave a Chinese feast for me - and then Lorine & I had a nice luncheon for me -

Lilian Wang came down from Michigan a couple of weeks ago and her sister Stella arrived here from America about a week ago. I had a get together of 14 for Lilian and we did have a grand time -

Last week was Y.P. Assembly - and I just went to the "fringes" of that, since it is somebody else's responsibility and I shouldn't

Allison was here all week. Today she's gone to Korea for a week or so - and Miss Gildchrist of E.P. Mission, working for the Presbyterian-Baptist leaders - Next week Marguerite Everham - a longer period, staying on after the Convention. The paper is too short! I love

your letter - I had gumption to write you more letters - you are just

C. G. Swanwick, Miss Swatow, China
國際航空
AIR LETT

Recd Sept 29
Mrs. Mary Clough
65 Prospect Street
Summit
New Jersey
U.S.A.

PAR AVION

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A.B. Mission Swatow
August 25, 1949

Mary dearest Mary.

Here I am at the end of the summer, and nothing accomplished. I went with Katherine Luckock & her son Jack, Edna Smith, Marguerite Everham, and the Koreans, to Doble Island (an hour or so's sail down the harbor) for twelve days. Swimming twice every day, reading, loafing, sleeping. Since coming back here, I've hooked a few inches on my rug, written about four letters (out of a necessary 100 or more!) and the rest of the time has just been spent in mostly nothing that you can put your finger on. And now - One week more and I

交通部郵政總局發行

shall probably be teaching classes! I'd better say
maybe. for the net is drawing nearer and nearer
to this area. We hear rumors of big preparation
for military protection of this spot where we are
living - with fortifications, many soldiers - etc.
A sort of last stand in the country! Tsochow
to the north of us has been taken; many
places to the inland of us have been taken,
given(?) back, and some retaken again, more
than once; Canton to the south of us is
expected to fall any day. In other struggles
often Swatow has been a side issue and
has shifted sides comparatively painlessly.

This time, it looks as though it might be
different. Never can tell! I am thinking
however, that there may not be many more
times when I can write freely about what
is actually happening - and I presume that
you now on to me should avoid
news -

likely that soon you will not be
send mail into China - If that
and not until then, you may send
me in care of Mr. H. K. Chang, P.O. Box 497
(not China) ^(Please not Swatow) and mark Please forward.
I have been greatly grieved by the death of Mr. Lo
our General Secretary. It seems like losing
his right arm. Helen Brown has been under an
- much much love, Alice

Did Goldie send on to you the letter about China
telling about difficulties in my kitchen department? I asked her to - Things have
straightened out a lot since I wrote - from we can keep on going
Sept. 23, 1949
Magazines are
beginning to come
again - Hope they
are worth the wait!

May descend, for a while, anyway!

This place keeps on having a
marvelous degree of peacefulness although
predictions have had it for several months
that some sort of crisis was due within
weeks or even days! Last spring when the
"atmosphere" made it necessary for schools
to close early, many feared we could not
open in the fall, or if we did, it would
be with restrictions. On the opening days of
school no one knew whether we should have
10 students or 100, instead of last term's 700
and over. Overseas students have not
been able to get back, but now in the third week
of school the enrollment is over 500. which
is beyond the dreams of most. As for me,
I'm enjoying classes much more, with 30-some
in a class instead of 50-some!

Today classes met to elect class officers.
I am with the graduation group, and think
I shall enjoy being an adviser to them.
Co-adviser to the group is their physical
education director, a former student of mine.

and a good leader - but one who could be a powerful influence in more ways than he is. We are thankful for him, but covet for him the wider influence among the students in the spiritual sphere. But at present he shies away from that. His excuse is that he has lost interest since his little child died - I do so much hope that he will "come back" gloriously!

Mary Mary! So many things to say! It is lucky(?) I am so far away, or you would have an ear talked off!

After the class meeting today, H.V.G. officers met to plan for membership campaign and for the first two meetings of the year - Fewer girls in school this year but some very fine ones - and also some fine non-Christian girls whom we long to get hold of.

In spite of school beginning, I have been making over one or two dresses. Remember a white mobby rayon that was passed over from you to me? The waist had a hole or two in it, so I cut a yoke out of the back and let some pleats out & made a white skirt which I think will do most satisfactory. I have also made two plaid dresses. Made up my mind



if I want to get my beautiful(?) ^{boxed} sashbag ^{ready} done even, I'd have to spend about 5 minutes a day on it. I've been doing that and I am now about $\frac{3}{4}$ done - Want to see? Emily has a little, nice, Emily Randall, grand

much much love. All the best. Margaret on the next sheet.

American Baptist Mission
Sewatew, China

January 5, 1950

Dear Mary,

Well here we are in this new year - and indeed many things are new and strange. The coming of letters and magazines is a real surprise package. Just this week I received my Atlantic Monthly for July 1949. The Geographic has not appeared for some time - but a little puzzle magazine that Emily sends "The Cryptogram" comes right along and the Dec.-Jan number has already arrived. Some magazines are coming through, but I don't know which ones will send to us and which will not. Ladies Home Journal and McCall have been coming through to Elsie Kittling - but I don't think anyone has received the Reader's Digest. Arthur said he couldn't send Post, but Goldie Snow has sent the New York (Sunday) Times and that is coming right along - Mission has been arriving, but late. So you see we are not getting very much, and whatever comes goes the rounds and takes some time, naturally.

The students asked for the resignation of the principal and some other teachers and they had to leave. Now the school is under a committee composed of 4 teachers, 4 students the acting principal (one of the deans) and a janitor. So regulations are not quite the same as they have previously been - as you can imagine. This school term has been shortened, and today is our last day to teach regular classes. The students have two days to review by them.

selves and then on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday have their term examinations. Shortly after that the Chinese teachers go to a class over in Suatow to study the principles of the liberation forces. Instruction to teach anywhere next term depends on the taking of this course of three weeks. I do not know just when school will re-open next term, nor who the new principal will be. The old principal has been in education work for 26 years so of course is disappointed to have his career close this way. He is accused of having too much power and of being too old fashioned in his ideas.

We still have to learn what part our missionary work can have in future days. Tonight the teachers' prayer meeting met here at my house - Other affairs were going on but to our happy surprise sixteen people came for this the last meeting of the term.

I don't believe you half know how much the cards you sent were appreciated. We thought that they would have to be put aside for a year and brought out at another time when people were wanting to think more about religious things. But we had such a mob clamoring for Christmas cards that at the last minute (thanks to you, enough were ready!) we got them out and gave one to every student and teacher. Some had more than one because special groups had cards to - The choir, W. W. J. Young People, etc. The Young People are teaching three night

Literary classes; and they wrote Christmas verses in Chinese on the cards for them and for the patients in the hospital, whom they visit and sing to each Sunday afternoon.

Winter vacation is here and I hope to do many things during these days. Two of mother's dresses may get made over for me. Remember the gray challis (?) housecoat she wore all the time while she was still sitting up at all? Big rose colored buttons - little flowers here and there in the material? It ought to make a dress, but it has some moth holes and is very narrow in the shoulder - then there is another gray wool dress (Annie Cranska Hill's gift years ago) trimmed with black velvet. She wore it as long ago as in Charlotte - I'm hoping something can be done with that. I need some dresses but can't see spending precious money for new material - and these should do all right if I can get the right twist to them. I need my right hand dressmaker by my side to get this job done!

Another thing I hope to do is finish my hooked rug - and I want to write lots of letters - They will have to go slow mail - but I should be able to find more time to write - if I can think what I want to say and can say! I hope to get some new kinds of hand work started for next term too - in case we can continue that kind of work then -

Your letters mean a great deal to me. How is Calla? And Carina? And Aunt Minnie?

And Mary, especially? And the others - much much love

American Baptist Mission
Swatow, China

Jan. 24, 1950

Mary dearest dear:

All day long on this your day, I have been thinking about you - I planned to write to you as soon as I got out of bed this morning. But this is vacation, and the weather suddenly turned cold last night, so I did not get up as early as I had planned. Before I got my hair combed, breakfast was ready - After breakfast I moved some furniture around, getting ready for company to come next week (Millicent Engel, and later, for conference, the whole Capen family) - Then I bundled up and went over to Louise's to pay a debt. Had some argument there, because the rate of exchange has dropped from 12¢ to 3¢ (amt of Hong Kong money to be had for \$1.00 new southern currency!) since Saturday - There for where she spent 22.50 for me, since I didn't pay her until today I should pay her nearer 60.1 But she would not take that much - Then I went on to the other side of the compound to see Katherine Luebeck for a moment. She has been so good - coming once and sometimes twice a day to give me massage for neck and back, while I was down with a "fluery" cold.

A letter came yesterday from ~~Mary~~ ^{Mabelle Culp} telling of Mr. Collins(?) falling and breaking his hip - If that is right I can see where you have been pretty confined and pretty busy - I'm very sorry to hear such bad news - Please express my sympathy to Mr. Collins and "Aunt Minnie" - I know it must be hard for him and for you all.

Well - I haven't told you how I spent the rest of your birthday (aside from wishing you peace, joy, contentment, blessing through the

whole year.). Came home and against several
people's advice washed my hair. But although today
has been a raw day I didn't get chilled for I had
a fire built in my study fireplace, and I've been
sitting near enough to take the chill off and get
my hair dry, but not near enough to get chilblains
on my toes and fingers! Had a Chinese visitor
a long time this afternoon, and she sat by the fire
too - And what do you suppose I'm wearing (in
addition to good supply of warm undies)? A little
old knitted blouse, and over that the rust-colored wool
dress that I bought in New Haven (Mary fixed the hem
for me); over that a pretty blue quilted house coat
that a dear friend gave to me (it has been twice to
the cleaners and is as good as new) and over that
a flannel bed jacket, and a crocheted shawl
around my ankles - But the fire is dying
down, and I must jump into a hot bath to
warm up my frozen feet before I get into bed -
It is my turn to lead prayer meeting tomorrow
night, and I had hoped to get that talk in
order before going to bed - But it is no use,
my brain won't work when feet are cold!
To-morrow I must get the stove set up
down stairs -

We have been a whole week and a day without
bombing - and it is a blessed relief - We
don't know what the end of the story will be,
however!

Much much love,

Abbie

Warmest greetings to Aunt Minnie -
my sympathy to Mr. Collins for his ^{American Baptist Mission} Swatow, China
misfortune - indeed, to you all - Feb 16, 1930

Dearest Mary.

How I do long for a letter from
you telling me that all is well with you.
And yet since the word came through Mabel
Culley that Mr. Collins had fallen and broken
his hip, I have pictured you as full of rock
and worries - and I hope you are able to
stand all that sometimes comes into a
person's life. I know sickness in a
family is never easy, and you have
quite tremendously responsibilities in
the place where you are. I know Aunt
Minnie depends on you a great deal.

What do you suppose I have been doing
the last two days? Babying a "flu" cold,
which is lasting too long to suit my notions!
Stayed in bed yesterday until 5, then got up & dressed
and thought I'd go to prayer meeting. But it was
raw and cold and this is a relapse of an infection
I had last week - so decided to stay in. Got up
this morning and got a fire going so I don't have
to freeze if I step out of bed (exaggeration?); put on
about all the clothes I have - would you like to know
how much? Union suit, bra, girdle, 1 pr snuggy pants,

1 pr knitted wool pants, heavy cotton stockings with a pair of men's wool socks over them, padded toe slippers; 1 padded vest under my long Chinese padded silk gown (which is lined with outing flannel and padded with silk waste - the warmest thing in the world not excepting down or fur!) (Had this coat or dress given to me three years ago and it is what kept me warm when I went on my cold travels with Minnie Sears when she was here.) Then on top of all that I am wearing a certain dark blue blanket bathrobe which you may remember (don't know whether you do or not; I wear the blue silk padded coat much more, but this is big enough to go on over all the rest!) -

Now all this makes me feel rather ashamed, when I think of people who haven't even one garment as warm as several of these I have on - and they have no way to have a fire - !

I thought I'd go out to a (Chinese) New Year dinner tonight over ^{at} the girls' dormitory with Miss Eng and Louise - but Velva has just dropped in and she says no - When Miss Eng heard that, she said "Well, well bring the dinner over here to you then". Isn't that nice?! Really I don't know why people

are so very good to me always!

I had hoped to get so much done this vacation and then I had to get this bug and I was in bed almost a week. Then I was better, then felt it coming on again and stayed in one day to fend it off. Then came conference, with a housefull of guests, a very full program - exchange of guests at various meals - a buffet supper for all at my house one night and a tea (with Louisa) for Conference guests and Chinese guests one afternoon - and a few other responsibilities. And I barked my way through that conference like a puppy shut away from its mam. Don't know when I have had such a tickly, itching, maddening cough! And then - if day before yesterday I didn't have to go and catch more of the same again! So no wonder Valva is keeping me in. The weather is exceedingly damp and raw - and my sunporch is a mirage and a delusion when there is no sun!

We had a good conference, I guess - but I coughed too much for comfort!

Don't this the limit? Three whole pages about my aches and pains, which are not

American Baptist Mission
Secretaries, China
April 23, 1930

Dearest Mary dear;

How I don't get letters written! Get just a date written and then let it go a month! What kind of correspondent is that? But that is the way my letters I mean my friends get treated now-a-days. And I seem powerless to do very much about it. I let letters go so long that I forget when I wrote last and what I said or did not say - I think I wrote telling you I expected to write, or had started to write - to Eleanor Schroeder's "Johnny" asking about English courses - I started out bravely but spoiled the letter by going to sleep on it before I finished. And I have never got it done over! How is that for negligence? I must get something done right away for the months are going by and I shall be called to produce some plans before long.

This last week a most interesting meeting has been going on - About 50 preachers' wives from all over this Ling Torg area have come here for a

retreat - the first of its kind to be held in this section for a long time, if ever. Quite a good many of them have brought tiny babies and they are hearing and seeing some things that we hope will be useful to them in the days ahead.

Different ones of us have taken turns leading the devotional period in the morning; Miss Grace Chen has had daily talks on the "Model Mistress of the Manse"; Katherine Lusk has given a series of talks on Christian Home Life - Edna Smith on Relig. Ed & Sunday School - Louise Giffin on Young People's work, etc. They have had lantern lectures such as on the Prodigal's Return, and on social evening - one or two afternoon tea groups, outdoor supper at my house, etc. Tomorrow evening is the final session - with a communion service - You should have heard Louise teaching them to sing "Little Tommy Tucker - sat on a clinker" - They all joined in the "Oh Ma'-ah! oh Ma'-ah!" and got a good laugh out of their own antics. They lingered long around the dining room table cutting out patterns of elephant, giraffe, doll, horse, ball, etc. toys which they can make - and little dresses.

This will let you know well, happy

American Baptist Mission

Sovietos, China

July 24, 1950

Dearest Mary,

I just wrote a letter to you Saturday telling you that your old trunk was about to start on its way to you, with some things to be kept for Louise G. & one for each time in the future as we shall arrive to open it, etc. The trunk is to be taken by Frances Guedt, who was expecting to start for U.S. today, with Elsie Kuttitz. But yesterday while we were at church word came over from the city, ^{that they must go over at once - they have} that a new regulation had just been received from Peking by wire, saying that all permissions for leaving port must be granted not through local office but through Canton. That may take two weeks or longer, but in any case they will

their sailing from Hongkong and will have to look on a later steamer, but no one knows how much later.

A vote has been passed by the Hong Kong Committee suggesting that we should return to our native land. A variety of explanations is given; one that since our Boards have asked us to reconsider this whole question (of going or staying at this time), the Chinese committee wishes any of us to feel free to leave if we wish to do so. Some ⁴⁰⁰ think some ought to leave & some stay, and apparently some think all should go. That under present regime national workers would find it better to work out their own plans - and not have the responsibility of workers from another land here in case - of, well - many things.

Ellis goes on regular furlough; Mrs. Jiedt
 goes because children need her. Louise
 Campbell's retirement age has been reached,
^{and} ~~but~~ her going (as soon as formalities are
 complete) leaves Alice J. alone at Oriskany.
 That complicates Louise J.'s problem I think.
 Allison and Millicent have already applied
 for permission to leave. Some others wish
 to go but think they should not, and some
 wish to go but cannot drop responsibility
 and some wish to stay but think they
 should not! In school we are not
 sure how much we can help if we
 stay; English teachers are not needed
 as much now, ^(wanted) and religious activities
 are quite thoroughly investigated. School
 problems are very great, including finance,
 principalship + enrollment numbers, and
 one hated to leave a beloved project
 and co-workers where the problems are
 heavy.

This gives you a little idea of our state
of mind. I have not yet any idea
of what I shall do. The clearest thing
in my mind is that I should wait
quietly and that when the time for
deciding comes, I will know. A
verse that comes to me over and over
is "Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust
also in him, and he shall bring it
to pass" and another "Trust in the
Lord with all thine heart, and lean not
to thine own understanding"..... "he
shall direct thy path." (^{My own understanding}
~~is a little!~~)

As to the trunk - I still think it
will go by Frances Giedt and be
expressed to you from the West Coast.
Is it O.K. for me to send to you? ^{nice time to ask!} I thought
since the trunk was yours that you
would be willing to find storage space. (3)

I think of you very often, my dear.
My love to the folks at the other house -
and greeting to friends. How I should like to
see the granddaughter! Ruth has another son!

your Alice
my dear -
much love

The trunk will be A.B. Mian in
expressed to you to in Swatow, China
Care of you from Rochester, N.Y. Aug 22, 1950
Heldings of Mrs. Giedt during journey!
Dearest Mary,

Just yesterday afternoon,
about two hours before Mrs. Erick's trunk
had gone through the Swatow customs
examination and before it started out
to the ship with Elsie K's and Frances
Giedt's things, your letter came -
the one answering mine telling you
that the trunk had not yet gone as
planned. Now it has gone - or
rather - it is on the ship, which
was supposed to leave this am. at
6 - We have been told that it
hasn't gone yet - but all the
formalities have been gone through
with and barring accidents, our
friends and their goods should be
on their way very soon -

Do you recognize any people in
these pictures? Left to right, someone

I think you know, Miss C M. Lee,
E M. H, Miss Hony + her father (from the
Shanghai Mission office - living here
a few months & work on account.
Any body look natural to you?

This must go to the mind -
So here's my love for now - It
is as good to hear from you -
Love to Calla and Carrie + the
Others too -

And lots to you -

Abbi

Swatow, China, Sept. 30, '50

Dear Mary,

Has it been a very long time since you heard from me? It seems to me ages since I have written or heard either. Now that Allison has given me a new typewriter ribbon, I simply must begin to write some letters. It has been a fog to make myself write anyway, and with a ribbon that didn't show any black most of the time, it has been doubly hard to get down to business. I put this little sheet in to machine really to try it out, and thought I might say a few words to my gal while I was doing it. Guess I'd better clean the type a bit, for I have to do some grammar outlines for the senior class.

Allison just left for America yesterday. A few months ago furlough schedules were stepped up so she and Millicen go on regular furlough now. My term had already been shortened so I am still down to go on furlough next year. At present I am expecting to stay on until that regular time. A. and M. had made application to go together but their permits did not come through at the same time, or something like that. M. is already in Hongkong and has a booking on the General Gordon sailing Oct. 19. Allison will reach HK today I presume (although there has been a very high wind today and yesterday) and has a sailing on the Pres. Cleveland Oct 15, so she really should reach home by Thanksgiving as she hoped. She has been here with me this last month, waiting, and that is the correct word to express it.

A few moments ago I saw something I had never seen before. The cook's little brother got rather badly stung by bees so all hands rushed for vinegar to take out the sting, then big brother got a long pole and tied paper on the end, burned the buzzing bees out, and knocked the comb down from the bush where it hung halfway up the hillside. Then the victim (quite recovered) and four or five good companions grabbed the comb and began to pull out the immature bees, throwing away the ones that were too near their coming-out stage to be entirely safe, they thought, and popping into their mouths the ones that were soft and yellow and juicy enough to be edible! Didn't look too bad at first- something like eating soft nut kernels, until I got near enough to see the fat little bellies of the pupae palpitating during the mouth-popping process! Ugh! No honey in that comb, but-----!

This is just a note but it will let you know I'm ok.

Much, much love, Abbie

A. B. Mission
Swatow, China
Dec. 4, 1950

Mary, my dear,

Your letter of Nov. 28 just arrived. Thanks for writing about the account and for writing to the bank. You did just right - and I think there is nothing further that I can do about it or need to.

I have been waiting for news of the bad storms. We heard about it on the radio and wondered which of you it struck and how bad it was, but this is the first direct word I have had from anybody. Does the "Van Vleet farm" still belong to Van Vleets or did they sell? I could just picture Edith and Charlie coming in & get "warmed and fed" when they were so badly treated by the hurricane. How I should like to see that little granddaughter! But she is a lum-dinger! We have a little piece of "sunshine" in our home out here too - At least sunshine when she feels happy! The cook named his little daughter Mayling - and she is already saying Bye Bye, and Good morning, and Goodnight in English, as well as many Swatow words, and millions of others that may be Greek or Russian or Hindustani, for all I

can understand of it! But it is very expressive.

One of the deep "extra" activities in student life these days is dancing - folk dancing, with small drums accompanying. Yesterday I came home from school and was greeted by this same small maiden, dancing on top of the cistern, with all the twirls and bows and flourishes! She's just two; American count! She's expecting a little brother (?) within a month now - and if she doesn't have ~~it~~ cure herself of some of her spoiled ways then, I'll be surprised! She calls me "A-ma-ma!" (Grandma) always - wonder what she'll grow up to be? She really is too cute and clever for her own good -

Glad you got the trunk finally - What do I owe Real Trunk and anybody else on the carrying charges? I must send some money to Mrs. Gidd for express, etc - I'm glad to know that the things have reached home. Many questions are coming up these days, some very perplexing for us.

Much love to you
Abbie

汕頭小灣五

東門牌十三

號

孫安美女士收

It has been
about one
month
Chinese
address
in our letter
I don't know
but much
difference
I would make
most X. Ray
copying
the one
C.B. Mission,
Educator, China
Feb. 1, 1951

Perhaps you are thinking
that I am on my way to the U. S.
by this time, but that is not yet the
case. I applied for an exit permit
late in December, asking to be allowed
to leave in January, but there is as
yet no indication when the permission
will be granted.

Edna, Louis and I had sailing
from Hongkong for Feb. 5 - yesterday - but
had to give them up. There is not much
use in making plans when you have
no idea when they can be carried
out. So I am of the opinion at
present that I'll just drift along
and make the plans when the time

comes. It seems to be the only way
to do right now.

I wonder whether you got my letter
which told of our coming under the
protection of the government, and of
possessions being inventoried and
some of them relabelled? The seal
has now been removed from most
of the things and we are free to
move things about within the house
but we are not packing things
yet.

Today is Chinese New Year. Kay,
Edue, Lonnie and I got our own
meal this noon and told the
people who help us that we would
attend to it so they were free for the
day. There were some parades
both today and yesterday, but on
the whole the city seemed quiet.
Perhaps I should say that things on
this side of the bay are quiet - for I

didn't go to the city. And is in the habit of going, and she still goes, and likes to go - but I am a regular stick-in-the-mud and do not go across unless I need to.

We have been thinking about reading something systematically - some of Shakespeare, probably. Today we read a poem of Oscar Wilde's - The Ballade of Reading Gaol. It was at my suggestion, but it is a weird thing and there were many groans and wonders of why I ever suggested such a gruesome thing. But they were all interested by the close of the thing and decided there was a lot of truth in it as well as some very graphic writing!

I am knitting a short cardigan - or waist-length sweater. For myself. I have also started a stocking rug - and I am making a pink silk blouse out of thirty pieces

of material which K. Hubert gave me.
Wouldn't you like to inspect that garment
when it is finished? Hope you can
before long. K. also gave me some
crystal buttons for the front of it.
I think it will be some concoction.
Looks like peppermint candy to
me! I should like to start making
another rug but that seems foolish
when I probably couldn't finish it
and maybe couldn't take it with
me anyway. But maybe if the
urge gets too strong I shall have to
begin another one anyway. When I
get home I shall want a good bit of
time to do some looking - which means
I'll have to think hard of some place where
I could do it in a congenial atmosphere.
I suppose I can find it? Have I got
another frame too, I suppose - Lots of
dreams in my head. Can you imagine
what any of them are like? ^{Thank you} you - and the

Love & Callo & Casar, Swatow, China
& the others too.
Mar. 5, 1951

Mary, my dear.

Yours of Feb. 21 has just reached me - It seems long since I heard. Think you must have missed some of mine. I guessed that you were not writing because you thought me on my way. Well, that was awfully wishful thinking! Alice Ziffin in Michsien asked for her permit and got it in about three weeks and by the time you get this she will probably be in the same country with you. With us it seems to be different. Your Chinese writing is really good! And I think you may have a chance to use it a good long time. In other words, don't look for me until I get there.

Think I will start looking another way. I will if I can finish a pair of slippers that I am making out of strips of old silk piece, a sweater that I started some

time ago, another sweater that I'm enlarging a bit, a ship that I am making over, and a rug that I am crocheting from worn-out stockings. Hope I get these done and can get them to a place where you can inspect them! Not that they are worth inspecting, really. Doing more of the same in your company sounds good to me.

There has been some talk about a couple of us stopping over for a few weeks in Honolulu to soak up a little sunshine, draw a few deep breaths, sort of get hold of our "spirits", so to speak! But it may not work out. Velva did that once before with benefit and she thinks it might be a good thing - will see!

Of course if there are any new plans, I'll
let you know - in some way - As to your
grand cordial invitation - I'm very
grateful for it and you may be
very sure I'm looking forward to
sunning straight to your door - Whether
it will be really "straight" I mean
"at once", or not, I can't yet tell.

Seems to me I shall have to crawl into
a hole somewhere for a while, away from
folks, yet that is probably not what I
want at all. Doubt if I do know what I
want! So maybe all my friends will
have to be patient for a while. True it
is that in this life things go one step
at a time. I am surely learning that
now -

You don't know how glad I was to get
your letter - am not was - cause I'm
still rejoicing (Mar 6, 6 am, couldn't stay
in bed when I wasn't sleeping, as got up a while
ago to read a note a little! Father's birthday today.
Much love, Abbie

Swatow, November 14, 1932

Dear Mary,

Three letters from you quite recently! I hope you understand that although I don't write often, it is always good to hear.

How your "family" is increasing! I can imagine how you enjoy making things for those grandchildren, and how glad Edith is, too. Say a special Hello to her, + to Calla and Carrie!

In September I heard from Mabel Adams. I want to write to her but probably will not until later. If you are writing to her please give my greetings to her and the family.

Best wishes for Christmas to you and all yours; to friends too. Birthday remembrances will reach you late, I know. Let's remember them sometime.

Much, much love Abbie



AMERICAN PRESIDENT LINES

NEW YORK * CALIFORNIA * ORIENT * ROUND THE WORLD

On Board S. S. President Cleveland

Mar. 12, 1953

Mary, my dear!

This will just be a little word to you but Lonnie said today, "It's been quite a while since you wrote to Mary Clough, hasn't it?"! So it has!

I wrote a letter to Arthur telling about leaving Hongkong and about our ~~two~~ stops in Japan - Emily knows a lot of the people so I asked him to send the letter to her and ask her to send it to you. She had said something about saving two days to meet me in N.Y. - thinking I was coming by train. So I spoke of the possibility of seeing her on the way home (if we drive from Ralph's).

I shall want to see Mary at the earliest possible moment - you know! But I don't know yet when that will be - I'll bet it won't be too long! Want to see Cella and Carrie too, you bet! But I'm not to do any speaking yet a while -

Much much love,

Abbie



AMERICAN PRESIDENT LINES

NEW YORK • CALIFORNIA • ORIENT • ROUND THE WORLD

R. F. Brown, M.D.

~~(The Board of St. President's Church)~~Cowell Memorial Hospital
Berkeley, Cal.

March 28, 1953

Mary, my dear!

Now I have a very guilty feeling and I wonder if there has been a slip - up somewhere and you still haven't got that letter I sent! I might realize that it is not quite fair to write one letter to several widely separated people, especially when I want all of 'em to get it pronto!

Only thing I can think of now is that will have to do a lot of "chewing" when we see each other - and that "see-each-other" time is going to happen before too long, or I miss my guess!

Plans are not definite yet except that I leave here a week from Monday (Apr. 6), expect to be at Ralph's April 10, expect to reach Berlin N.H. by Apr. 27. What is between, I don't yet know certainly - nor do I yet know how soon I can see Mary. But don't know yet just when.

As soon as I see Arthur, in Chicago (or at Peoria) I shall probably know more about what we are likely to be attempting and I can let you know where to send me word what you are going to be doing

along 'bout Apr. 27 or thereabouts! ? Yes?

I think you would be pleased if you could see me now - I mean, I've gained 10-15 lbs since Jan 1. ! So has Doniso. She left here for Chicago today where she meets her older brother.

She has already had her physical exam. and I think Valva is pleased and surprised with the healthy appearance of both of us. I shall have the rest of my exam next week. (This is off the record; it is the business of the Board and the M.D. !)

Was I ever surprised when in addition to Valva, Kenneth Hobart, Enid Johnson (from Missouri, came back here on purpose!), Helen Weisser (the nurse who was out in Swanton 2 yrs. helping Valva), Dorothy Kirkwood (her husband is now Western Area Secretary, they have been in the Philippines working and also in West China) & Katherine Lucbeck who came down from Calistoga, her old home, - in addition to all these was Evelyn Chariska who came up from Los Angeles for no other reason than to meet me! We lived next door to Chariskas in Morcup Conn. when I was 6-7 years old; she was a Board member for 10 years or so - It was all very wonderful. Was I ever glad to get your letters! Please tell Carrie and Calla so, too. And now your lovely Easter card has come - and the dear letter with that too - I'm sorry to hear of cold bugs that you people have had! Hope you are all better now.

We have met Emma Brodbeck, and ever so many other missionaries here, and other friends - Two of them were former students (Chinese); and San Francisco is just about as busy as Hongkong, for me!

Dear M.

En route to Chicago

Apr. 7. '53

You won't be able to read this but
maybe you can make out that I'm
on my way east - came through the Feather
River Canyon - beautiful! Saw brilliant
Ayed a few minutes at train in Denver -
shall be with M. Everham to-morrow night in
Chicago (delayed) then on to Peoria - not sure
whether Arthur & G. meet me in Peoria or Chicago.
Will let you know future plans when I
know them myself! It's good to be getting
near! Love to you



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mrs. Mary Clough
Charlotte
Vermont

Box 581

Berlin, N. H.

May 4, 1953

Mary, my dear:

It was so good to get your letter and to know that you are feeling (a.o.k.) better and can come after me Friday the 8th, stay the night and take me back with you to Charlotte the next day.

I should have answered immediately but there was some talk of changing plans and of H & G. taking me there, and letting you bring me back. But that simmered down because they feel it is better to stay here Friday, although Arthur has this Friday off, I believe.

They are very glad you are coming and so am I! I have been telling them I must go soon - and now it seems that maybe I will go from Charlotte to Boston and then up to the family reunion (if it is carried through as now planned) - or -

I might even stay a bit longer in ^(over) Charlotte this time, and get down ^(Red) in time for reunion and then go on from there to Boston. I can't seem to get going on making appointments, writing letters or doing anything!

Glad the infection in your eyes is better - It had the worried - I didn't think you looked well -

Perhaps you can understand some of the reasons why I can't make up my mind in a hurry about some things - Glad we are going to have some time to talk things over —

Your letter did me heaps of good. It was a fine trip we had, and it was good to get here and find a place to stop travelling for a while - I know I shall find that at home house too - But I can't stop entirely just yet, and I am anxious to get

some things off my mind and will
have to do so before that far little
mind is entirely at rest!

God is very good to me - don't think
I don't appreciate all the wonderful
blessings that have come my way!

It is going to be marvelous to be
with you for a little while - I
realize that this letter will probably
be late reaching you and maybe
you will have had a phone message
from us before you get this -

More later - Much love to
the gals and a considerable
amount to yourself - !

Your

Abbie

P.S. A letter from Aunt Gertrude
says Joe is quite a bit better. We
are thankful. Letha was to be
there on Thursday -