ASSOCIATED BOARDS PROMOTION

Seen by E. B. M.

Permanent Address:
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Dear Friends:

I have recently returned from [illegible] around the world. Unlike many travellers I carried no typewriter, took few notes, wrote few letters, so much so that I have been "lost" to many of my home-friends for the period of the journey. But now I have thought I might jot down, in a note like this, some items of general interest which otherwise one might merely repeat in individual letters.

Sailing from San Francisco May 17th, 1935, I was away fourteen months spending five of these months in China which included the summer rainy season. From Hongkong I went to Saigon and through Cambodia to Siam and thence to Colombo where began a two-months' visit to India. The rest of the time the route took me from Karnak (on the upper Nile in Egypt) to Istanbul, a week in Athens, a month in Italy, France, Belgium and Holland, and three weeks in England and Scotland. This gives a birds-eye view of the happy journey.

Perhaps you would like to know why the journey was undertaken. As some of you know I went out to China in 1897. During the following twenty years I had a part in the development of Cheeloo University, in earlier days known as Shantung University. Then, for two years, I was Secretary of the China Christian Educational Association centering at Shanghai. In 1919 I was called to cooperate in establishing Yenching University at Peiping (formerly Peking).

For several years I have been teaching "China, Japan and Russia" in the Kennedy School of Missions, one of the Departments of the Hartford Seminary Foundation. Becoming emeritus there, and since I had never seen the completed campus at Yenching, it seemed the normal thing to do to go out and see some of "the dreams" that had "come true." (And true and lovely beyond words were they found to be!). This being accomplished the return by continuing on the westward route was the natural corollary.

It would try your patience too much even to repeat my schedule, and far too much to go into many details. While my itinerary was planned with some care I had as few fixed dates as possible; and (travelling alone as I was much of the time) the schedule was so flexible that instant change in detail could be made; and once a change in a major item occurred. You see, I was travelling as "a minister without portfolio." It was interesting to find that if one were to leave San Francisco about Sept. 1st, and take nine or ten months for such a journey, he is likely to find the best possible climate all the way. Also, and happily for a poor sailor such as I, I met no storm or typhoon, and saw no real waves, nothing more than a few white caps, in all the ocean part of the journey. Nor did I meet with any revolutions, though I left the troubled area in Palestine only a few days before rioting broke out. The lovely traditional parting words of one's Chinese friends came true: "E-loo-ping-ahn." (all the way, peace). In the end I found out once more, what is doubtless the experience of many travellers, that what you see depends much on "what you went out for to see," and that you "get" almost in proportion as your eyes and mind and heart have been prepared to receive.

As I crossed the continent to San Francisco I stopped briefly at several points, and later broke the journey to Japan by a very interesting day in Honolulu. In Japan I made Tokyo and Kyoto my main centers and was especially

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