



WEST CHINA

WEST CHINA MISSION

Methodist Episcopal Church

CHENG TU SUINING
TZECHOW HOCHOW
CHUNGKING

YANGTZE RIVER, 1500 MILES FROM CHUNGKING TO THE COAST

LEWIS F. HAVERMALE
HOCHOW, SZE.

Chungking, Sze.
September 22, 1918.

Dearest Mother and All;—

Last night two more nice fat letters were received from you, besides two from the Tolstrups, so we had a glorious time reading them. We had planned to reckon up our personal accounts and balance two other Mission accounts for which I am acting treasurer, but we read letters first. We were fearing that we had been missed in the distribution of mail this time; for when we went over to the W.F.M.S. home for our Saturday night prayer-circle in preparation for the Sunday work, we found that both they and the McCurdy's had received quite a large house mail during the previous hour, while we had not gotten one even. But upon our return, the gateman brought out all these good ones for us, and we had the time of our lives. I now have three of yours to answer; July 1 and 24, and August 1st. Upon referring to my file, I discover that the last one I wrote you was on September 2nd, before we came down from the Hills, and were it not that there was a like interval between your July letters I am afraid that I would have "lost face" as the Chinese say.

Well, we have had a good deal to occupy our attention since we returned to the city. We saved some time and trouble by sending down our "boy" Dsao Bin Teen on the Friday preceding, with instructions to have the chimneys swept, and the floors of the room where we sleep washed, the windows cleaned, and things put in order for our arrival on the following Monday. But he went a step further than his instructions and having hired a coolie to help him (by our permission) the two of them swept all the walls, scrubbed all the floors, and washed nearly all the windows before our return on Monday. The ladies next door said that they surely made things fly, and they didn't stop for Sunday either. The scrub water was thrown from the upstairs windows instead of being carried down to the drain, and every such stunt was used to save time. When I called the lad to task for working on Sunday he only smiled, and remarked that it was a work of necessity in this instance. This Sunday observance is some new idea to the Chinese, believe me! There's no let up on any kind of labor here on that day excepting in Christian shops and homes.

On the Monday of our return, the McCurdy's invited us to come to dinner over there inasmuch as we hadn't had time to put our stove up, etc., and after dinner Clara and I took our examination on the second-year grammar and special Chinese construction. We passed, and now we are preparing on the Acts, Galatian Ephesians, and the first thirty Psalms. Conference coming in November this year cuts us off from nearly three months' study to complete our course, and we work slower than some do.

We were so pleased to receive the kodak pictures of the "family". You all looked good enough to kiss. Only we missed Harry's smiling face, and will be glad to get a supplementary picture sometime later. You all look very happy and natural and well, which is as it should be. We can see that you, Mussy, are not the arm-full that you used to be, but we would not guess that it is only 114 pounds. You need an ocean trip and a visit in China to bring back those 52 pounds that you have lost. However, Grandpa, there is one advantage which I find by one of these pictures before me that you have yourself discovered, namely, you can get your arm around "Molly's waist" without having to use chalk to mark the place. Give her two hugs for me!

You tell us, Mother, that while we are up in the bungalow you look at our pictures in the little round window, or see us on the veranda eating our rice, and get such satisfaction from them that I am sending a few more this time. Perhaps I should have waited until Mr. Peat returns with some new paper for us from Shanghai; for our Velox has gone bad on our hands and these photos are not of the best. But I'll not keep you waiting that long. I'll write explanations on the back as usual and save this space for other words.

In one letter you tell us of the cold and how Indiana's crops are reported to have been frozen; in the next letter you say that it is 92° in the shade, and you wonder if we are suffering with the heat. No, it was a cool summer for us, too. And now the rainy season is on in full blast. Only two days of sun in two weeks since our return to the city. Our grass is knee high, and the palms need trimming, and the mulberry leaves are falling most rapidly. But the Chinese eighth month feast (Harvest Home feast) has only just passed, and so we have not been able to get any one to properly attend to this yard and the Hospital Compound. But we have had the kitchen and servant's quarters repaired, white-washed and painted, and my desk will receive its last coat of varnish.

tomorrow. The white-ants had so eaten up the wooden floor and runners in the store-room (where we keep our food supplies) that rats were able to gnaw the rest of the way thru in a night and were causing us lots of bother, -not to speak of causing us to use up all our Standard Oil tins in patching up the holes thus made. So we had that floor taken out last week and this week we will have a new cement floor substituted therefor. The outside office has been cleaned up and about made ready for the occupancy of one of the families whom we are to entertain during Conference. And so the battle goes on!

Speaking about stores, Mother, you surmise correctly: we are not buying quite so much of "Uncle Monty" as we had anticipated. There is such a variety of eatables to be secured here that not a great deal of foreign food-stuffs is really needed if we just make up our minds to do without them. We didn't use any butter all summer, inasmuch as we could not buy fresh milk while we were on the Hills and so had to use the canned milk. But now we are making our own butter again. Baking powder and essences such as vanilla are our greatest problem, - or rather may be. We still have some left of the supply which we brought with us from America. But unless Chinese political affairs improve wonderfully pretty soon, even the business agencies and importers in Chungking will have sold out, and very few junks are coming thru from Ichang at present. Only the Standard Oil steamers get through with mail and an occasional small cargo of foreign goods. We are expecting to invest a hundred dollars in the Canadian Business agency soon, and thereby be entitled to buy our stores at cost. This will save us the risk of loss en route, the bother and uncertainty of ordering from home personally, etc.

Exceedingly sorry to learn of the added troubles over the furniture and lease at Kansas City, Mussy. No doubt by this time everything has been settled for better or for worse, and as yet it is impossible for me to offer either congratulations or commiserations. Whichever may be in order, however, please accept! Such a statement calls to mind the astonishment manifested by the Burlington folks one time just after I had started out preaching, when I remarked that sometimes when I didn't have my hands exceedingly full at Randallia I got out a funeral sermon. "A funeral sermon" they exclaimed; "before you know for whom it is to be delivered?" I don't see how that is possible! It took some time to explain that words of comfort based upon eternal truths were no less helpful because of having no particular person in mind. So I make my statement general because you know, Mussy, that your troubles are mine as well, and your satisfaction over their settlement is shared by me as well.

Although it rained today as usual, we have been doing quite a little walking. I was asked to sing over at the Union Church this morning, so I walked to the Yangtze River, where I found Mr. Crutcher - the preacher for the day - awaiting me. But Dr. McCartney who had said that he would take us over in his boat was not there. Inasmuch as we had counted on going over with him, neither one of us had brought any money with us, so I had to hunt up a Chinese gateman whom I knew by sight and borrow enough money to hire a boat to take us across the river to the church. After dinner, Clara and I had our usual siestas and then decided to walk out to Mr. Rape's at Dsen Djia Ngai, so we togged up in our rainy-day outfits and wnet out there, visited, had tea, and returned in time for supper. By this combination I thus walked the breadth of Chungking twice, and the length of the city once and a half, besides a two miles' walk out into the country. And Chungking, you will remember, Granpa, has four times the population of Kansas City. It's afraid, Mother, that your knee isn't quite strong enough yet to attempt that walk with us, though we sure are glad that it has made all the improvement which you suggest so that the long walk from Chautauque Park back home is no unwise effort for you.

We did some of our Christmas shopping last week, and have all of our little gifts (such as they are) for you home folks either on hand or in the process of making. We expect to start them for home about the first of Nov. At the same time we bought a few trinkets for ourselves which we would like to give you the benefit of but can't because of the risk in sending. One is a most interesting tea-pot which was made practically a hundred years ago, out of a kind of sand which they claim is no longer procurable here. We do not expect to use it, but to keep it as a relic only. By the way, Mother, did you get your tray fixed up? If any of our "near relatives" want old embroidery for like use just let us know and we'll be glad to procure what we can. Of course we are not a purchasing agency for those outside of the family.

And now Harry P. is somewhere in France! We received the telegrams today telling of the American victory and capture of 7000 prisoners. We note that this is the first one to say, "The Americans, assisted by the French"; most of the time this order has been reversed. We are all thankful for the turn of the tables on the Western Front. It is this gain just before the Winter which counts. With Dan in the navy and Harry in France, our interest will be growing more intense from now on, won't it? I noted in Millard's Review of the Far East to which we have just subscribed, that one of every 3048 of our troops crossing to France 3048 arrived safely. As I understand it, the convoy of such troops will be part of Dan's work. I also noted that to some 14,000 of the marines -- the only ones which we had at that time in France -- is accorded the praise of holding their allotted point against every attack of the Germans in their recent big Drive. That's a good sort of a reputation and record to live up to.

And here I am to the end of my page. I just had one other item I wanted to bring up, so I'll not start another sheet. Please give me "Myra Applebee's" name and address. I know of no one who would appreciate a letter from us more than she unless it would be you folks at home. Lots of love - from Lewis and Clara.

Chungking, Sze.
October 7, 1918.

Dearest Mother and All; -

We have you folks to thank for two packages of magazines and a letter this time, but while our thanks for these as always might fill all the pages of this letter, outside of that item there seems little to write about.

Inasmuch as I had not written to you for two weeks, however, and there seems little likelihood that another opportunity may be had for another week I am going ahead on faith.

This last week -- so far as my activity was concerned -- was taken up in preparing my sermon for yesterday's service over at Jiang Bay. While I used the same text as in my first Chinese sermon, I had revised it considerably, and even left my "crutch" at home. That is to say, I took only a half-page outline in English with me, and simply tried to talk my message and so make it direct. This was an advance over last time, as was also my personal reading of my Scripture lesson, a short extemporaneous prayer in Chinese, and the reading of the ritual for the administration of the Lord's Supper.

The experience went off better than I had any right to expect, and will enable me to "set my gall", as the Chinese say, for the next experience. (I have translated their idiom literally. For our expression "Don't worry!" they say, "Set your heart"; and for our phrase "Be bold! Don't fear!" they say, "Set your gall!" Our nearest equivalent idiom would be, "Set your heart at rest", and "You have your gall!", respectively.

This week Wednesday, Clara and I go out to Dsen Jia Ngai to keep Mrs. Rape and the children company while Mr. Rape goes up country to hold some Quarterly Conferences for Mr. Peat, - who, as you remember, was sent by the Mission to Shanghai to try to get the Commission from America to venture out into West China and see what kind of work we have out here. We will stay over until Monday the fourteenth.

He expects to take with him a memorial tablet to be placed in the Church at Din Jia Ngai, the English lettering of which I was asked to design. Miss Wells of the W.F.M.S. here, was left an orphan at a very early age, and went into the Deaconess Training School from whence she came to West China as a missionary. It was here that, as she says, she earned her first money that she could call her own. Her salary is about \$800. per year, but out of that together with rentals from a bungalow which she purchased originally as a help to the local W.F.M.S., she has managed to save enough funds to build, first, a model primary school, and now a Memorial Church in honor of her father and mother. This Church is in process of construction at the present time. That is the way she is putting aside money for her old age. She is one of the most self-sacrificing people I ever met, and certainly an inspiration and help to us. She has also asked that I design a pulpit for the Church, but I haven't been able to start on that as yet.

Tomorrow I have to make another trip to the Hills. The caretaker of Dr. Freeman's bungalow (Dr. Freeman is doing surgical work in France, you know, and while he is away it is up to us to look after his property) came down Saturday to report that some association or another was starting to build on Dr. Freeman's property. I promised to come up today and have a look-see with a view to taking the matter up thru the British Consul later if the case seemed to warrant, but a note came this morning calling a meeting of the Committee of Management of the Union High School this afternoon, so I had to give up the first plan. Tomorrow afternoon, the Executive Committee of our Chungking Branch of the Red Cross meets here and Clara pours tea, so I want to get up to the bungalow and back before dinner.

I wish you could see my new desk which has just been completed. It is of solid oak, painted with the Chinese stain which at home is known by the trade name of "Chinamel". Just now it looks like mahogany, but in the course of a few weeks it will fade out into an antique oak. The desk is made so that it can be knocked down into three sections for transportation (four, rather). It has a cash-drawer, typewriter supply drawer, stationary compartment, small drawer for miscellaneous articles, and two letter-files. These drawers are only 18 inches in length, and the other (rear) half is made into a two shelf "cupboard" for extra supplies, one in either pedestal, with doors opening outward. On the left pedestal is a swinging typewriter stand with two stationary compartments, - a scheme which I haven't yet patented. I think the desk ideal for my purposes. It is flat-topped so that it is quite convenient as a study table when my tutor comes.

Tomorrow our new tea-tables will be completed, I expect. They are of hongdo-an and beauties, if I do say it myself. They are arranged as a nest of four, fitting together as compactly as ever could be desired when not in use. The design is original, and intended to conform to the same motif in the design of our dining room furniture.

I have been reading your letter over again. And Clara and I both wish that we were able to teach our cook the economy in sugar that you folks are practicing at present. Clara has all of these stores looked up, of course, and the cook has to come to her for practically all supplies used in cooking, but he generally manages to use one cupful a day, not to speak of what we have left in the sugar-bowl after a day's use. I wonder what he would do if he could have only one cupful a week.

Lucile and Harry must have had a most interesting time at Starved Rock. Clara and I hoped to go there some time while we were in that section of the State, but we didn't manage to see it. And of course the visit to College Springs was most enjoyable. I wish we might run over and see our folks that easily. The next best thing, - if not the best - is to have our folks run over and see us. Come on over; it will be good for your health and peace of mind to see us in our Chinese environment, and realize just how more pleasant it is than you think.

I shall be very glad indeed to get the music, and I must thank you, Lucile, for the trouble and expense, and I know not what all, that you have been put to. I am very glad indeed that you have included some of the songs that are so popular at home just now. I had not remembered that I had excluded patriotic songs from those eligible for public performance. Only those of German origin are taboo, although the Friends take exception to patriotic songs of an imperialistic nature. I was saying to Clara that I wished that I had mentioned some of the popular songs specifically, such as Sherwood Eddy gives in a footnote of his book "With Our Boys in France" which we had just lately finished reading. I am sure your selection, Lucile, will be most satisfactory and welcome. From your description, Mother, I know that they are wrapped up well, too, if only the censor re-wraps them as carefully after examination. Unfortunately, some of them are not as careful as one might wish, although they do remarkably well considering the amount of mail which must be passing thru their hands daily.

It certainly is great to read the good news of the successive defeats of the Germans and their Allies. We are rejoicing over Saturday's news of the Bulgarian's suit for a separate peace, and are anxiously awaiting more details. We are receiving our Willard's Review from Shanghai now, and even though the news is generally three weeks' old by the time it reaches us, it supplies the details which are not forthcoming in Reuter's telegrams.

One of our W.F.M.B. nurses is planning to go to Siberia if she is accepted, and others down river have already gone. I don't know just what opportunities that will offer for service if the present small Allied expeditionary force fails to check the advance of the Germans and the Bolsheviks, but it sounds as if the world-war were living up to its name.

Lucile's dress material looks pretty and practical. Clara enjoyed reading the description of the way in which it was made. As for me, a mere man, I just place my trust in the family's good taste and say, "How nice!" Clara is having some sewing done these days too. Most of it has been mending and making over. But she has a Chinese seamstress whom she has hired for a month at \$1.50 gold, and the work is just rolling off. She finished a winter's shirt for me today, a sample of which I enclose. The material was bought on the street in Chungking. The material for two shirts cost \$1.10 cents gold. I just had a pair of low shoes made to order for next summer, as leather is rising in price; they cost only \$8.25 gold per pair, and are not so bad looking either. Clara is going to have some made soon too as those she had this Spring have proved very comfortable and satisfactory. You remember that on her last birthday I gave her the material for a bathrobe. She has not had that made up until this week, but two tailors are working on it now. It is of silk, padded with silk wadding.

We're sitting here in the study with windows and doors open and yet it is uncomfortably warm. But we do appreciate this week of fine weather in the midst of the rainy season. Last year at this season we had only two days out of two months that the sun showed his face, but this year, although the actual rainfall is said to have been much heavier, we have had several series of two or three days of sunshine at a time.

Well, I want to hunt up a few kodak pictures to send you, and write the customary description, and it is getting late. Our bestest love to you all.

Very affectionately and lovingly,

Lewis and Clara

CHUNGKING, SZE.
November 13th, 1918.

Dearest Mother and Home Folks; -

Since I wrote you last (October 20th), all that we prophesied in the way of rush and bustle has come true, and the worst is not yet over. We have been appointed to Tsechow; Clara to Educational Work there and on the District, and I to the work of Missionary in Charge. Consequently, we have the work of packing up and moving. Our intention now is to leave here by boat on Monday, November 25th, and arrive in Tsechow about sixteen or twenty days later.

But perhaps I had better back up a little bit and give you the history of Conference week. The week began in a rather sad way; on the morning of Oct. 26th, we were called upon to bury the McCurdy's little son of six months' development. A miscarriage as you no doubt have guessed. Mrs. McCurdy is up and around now, but before the delivery of the child there was much anxiety over her condition, as she was very badly poisoned. They are both bearing up under the sorrow as Christians should.

On the next morning Mr. and Mrs. Peat arrived, bringing with them the Bishop's party. This consisted of Bishop and Mrs. Welch, and daughter Eleanor who has just graduated from Ohio Wesleyan; Mr. Rich who is photographer for the World Outlook; and Miss Strow, the general secretary of the W.F.M.S. in China. The only one of this number to be entertained by us was Mr. Rich.

We had as our guests the following: Dr. Canright, Mrs. Canright and son Ted, - Mrs. Canright and Ted being on the way to America; Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence and two children from Suining; Dr. and Mrs. Liljestrand and three children from Tsechow; Mr. Crawford of Chengtu and Mr. Rich. We had two stored away on the sleeping porch, two in the guest-room with their son on the upper veranda just outside; the Liljestrands and their children in our suite of two rooms constituting our own bedroom usually; the Lawrences were in the office which we had furnished complete with the help of hospital furniture; and Clara and I put up our cots in the trunk-room.

Of course, before Conference was over each Chungking family had had opportunity to entertain all the guests at dinner. Clara fixed out the schedule for the rotation of guests, and this was pinned up in the hall of each home so that the guests always knew where they were to go without the sending around of gilt-edged invitations. I think that the people thought Clara a splendid hostess and selector of menus, and all mentioned the skill of our cook repeatedly.

While Clara was busy in this line of work, I served in the usual capacity of host at Annual Conference, which means that I was everybody's servant. If there were chairmen to be called, - ask Haversale! If there was laundry to be sent out, - let Haversale do it! If the lantern had to be gotten ready for the bishop's lecture, or Mr. Rich had to have a dark-room for his developing, or mail to be sent to the P.O., they all knew where to come. It was a bit wearing at times, but I suppose that it did not begin to come up to Clara's difficulties, as I find it easier to throw off the sense of responsibility than she does.

I was elected Conference Statistical Secretary also, and Clara like a "good old sport" (excuse the term) helped me out there. One night when my "internals" were not in good order and I almost fainted away while at the desk, Clara took hold of the work (while I went to bed) and worked at accounts until nearly midnight. The work was especially trying because the Chinese secretary was not good at mathematics and consequently I had to go over every item with him separately so as to help him get his reports in shape. Next year the Conference is to be at Tsechow, so we shall be in for the repetition of our experience as hosts, but as I will then be on the cabinet I'll no doubt be relieved of the statistician's job.

The Conference was very pleasant and profitable in many ways, although the fact that human nature is essentially the same in a Mission Conference as well as in a home Conference was made evident. The W.F.M.S. have a worker at home on furlough just now, who is soon to return to the Field. Her name is Collier, and she has done a conspicuous work out here in West China for about twenty-five years. All of us in the General Board look upon her as a splendid Christian woman and valuable worker. But a number of the W.F.M.S. decided that she would be difficult to live with if she returned, so they petitioned the home executive to retire her. Miss Collier has no home but West China, and it would about break her heart to have to remain home in the States. The significant thing about it was that the three women who had actually been working with her recently were the only ones who voted for her return. Bishop Welch was determined that she should return, as he told us that there were no valid reasons for her retirement as yet. Some of the "autocrats" threatened to resign, and that only made him even more sure of his position as they were

thereby defying the church authorities. Finally the General Board members who were unanimously in favor of Miss Collier's return, voted to ask Bishop Welch to negotiate with the W.F.M.S. Executive in the States for her release so that she might be appointed by our Board to work at Chengtu. This is the way things stand now. Of course one must sympathize somewhat with these ladies on the Field. They live such an abnormal existence, cooped up together, four maiden ladies to a home, that even the littlest things wear heavily on their nerves after awhile, and a person has to be just about perfect in order to get along.

By the way, we sent our first M.E.M. representative to the front today. Miss Battey left for Red Cross nursing in Siberia. We saw her off this afternoon. She bequeathed a black cat and a young fox terrier to us before she went, so we will have quite a family to begin housekeeping with at Tsechow.

Another Conference matter that was quite wearing was the consideration of the continuance of Union work in the Chungking High School. For nearly two years we have been considering the layout of the groups of buildings which should eventually constitute the Union High School plant. But the Committee of Management on which I have been serving was unable to get its ideas embodied in the plans of the Committee of architects at Chengtu. These men were to act with us in the matter, but unfortunately they were not familiar with the landscape down here where there are lots of hills, and so they drafted their plans as tho the buildings were to be laid out upon the Chengtu plain. This led to the most impossible sites. Finally, the Canadians appointed three additional men to act with a like number from our mission who were to be given power to act in all questions appertaining to Union.

We met almost every day for twelve days, and arranged layout, division of land, and several questions relating to policy, but as the discussions went on it became more and more evident that our respective mission policies were so radically different that real Union at Chungking with only two missions represented would be quite impracticable. The Canadians, moreover, insisted upon keeping as their member of the staff a man who was utterly inefficient as a school man. Mr. Albertson seemed utterly unable to take the initiative in any matter, but referred even his own students' troubles to Mr. Rape. Then he would defend himself to his mission by saying that Mr. Rape was running things to suit himself and acting as tho he were boss. The relationship had grown almost unbearable, and the students were beginning to be very much aware of Mr. Albertson's inefficiency. But the C.M.M. had no other place for Mr. A., they said, and so they insisted upon his remaining. This necessitated a full review of the situation, which revealed that they insisted upon federated union while we insisted upon organic union. It would take two or three letters to go over the history and development of the matter; suffice it to say that at last we were unanimously convinced that we could each do more to forward the Kingdom by going our own sweet ways than by continuing joint work. Theoretically I was very much disappointed at the result of this experiment at union, but knowing the peculiar conditions and difficulties in the way of a two-denomination union with radically different policies, I think it surely must be God's will that each should use its own singular genius to advance the cause of the Kingdom.

Good news has reached us today: "Peace signed. Armistice declared. The Kaiser William abdicates, the Crown Prince refuses succession." We are all shouting for the joy of it, and Old Glory is waving in front of all our houses. And now for the reconstruction period and the making of history. I understand Austria has declared in favor of a Republic, and of course many another nation is in similar throes just now. I wonder if in the reaction a state of anarchy will get the upper hand! At any rate we thank God for His guidance and help thus far in the great conflict, and have faith to believe that He is equally capable of leading us thru this second great crisis.

Well, I am so sleepy that I fear my letter hasn't been very coherent. I had intended to tell you about our candy-pull and stunt night, which culminated in a grand climax when a rat came into the room and the ladies all climbed up on chairs and organs etc. And Mrs. Welch was so afraid to get down that the Bishop had to carry her out on his back. It was great fun.

Your answer to this should be addressed to Tsechow. Conditions are quiet now so we anticipate a good trip and no mishaps. As the house there has not been in use for some time we will require a few weeks to have repairs made before we can become really settled. Two days after Christmas I plan to accompany the Chinese District Superintendent of the lower half of the Tsechow District while he takes his first Quarterly Conference visit. After we get settled Clara will itinerate with me and look after the school. It will require about five days longer for letters to pass between us. I suppose that this will reach you about Christmas time and our box isn't ready to send yet. But a very Merry Christmas to all of you, and a Happy

New Year of peace.

Lovingly,

22d Jan 31

On the Yangtze River
Nearing Luchow.

December 31st, 1918.

Dearest Mother and Home Folks:-

Less than a day more will probably see us completing the Big River half of our journey to Tsechow, and as that will be the last point enroute having direct connection with the down-river mail boats for Shanghai and home, I want to get out at least a short letter to you to let you know that thus far all is well.

We had expected to leave Chungking on the day before Thanksgiving but owing to the special nature of that day this year, we yielded to persuasions and "stayed over". I suppose that one would have to be in a foreign country at such a time to really appreciate the full force of the President's request that this be not only a national Thanksgiving Day but that those of other nationalities be invited to make it an International Day of Thanksgiving because of the cessation of hostilities. At our service, Mr. Crutcher of the Canadians gave the principal address; the American and the British Consuls each spoke most effectively; yours truly gave the prayer; and a male quartette composed of three Americans and a Canadian rendered special music. *The French Consul also attended!*

We lost out on the dinner for the Americans at the Consulate, as we were expected to leave the day before, but we were not sorry, as we had such to occupy our attention that day anyway. Dr. McCartney invited the Liljestrands, and the non-American ladies of our M.E. W.F.M.S., and ourselves to their home for dinner. The recent interment of their little grandson, together with the fact that Mr. McCartney's son-in-law is a Canadian and hence would not accompany them, had caused our host to decline the Consul's invitation.

We had a splendid Thanksgiving dinner in good company, and while the ladies visited, Dr. Liljestrand and I got our various cargoes thru Customs, hired another small boat to convey our surplus, and attended to various other small affairs. About five o'clock we went down to our boats and tried to put things in livable condition for the ensuing 20 days.

Our boat is called a "su-ban". It has a capacity of 38 tons; its length is about fifty feet, and its width about eight feet. Our things are mostly packed away in the hold, and other bulkier articles of furniture have been utilized as I shall try to describe in due season. The roof is ark-shaped and is made of split bamboo matting, quite rain-proof. We have divided the boat into three sections, or more. The first ten feet of deck space at the stern, is, of course, the helmsman's and the captain's, and is entirely open throughout the day. The next ten feet is given over to the cook's wife and baby and a Chinese girl student (daughter of our private teacher) whom we are escorting as far as Tsechow on her way to the Girls' High School at Chengtu. Our chifferonier placed sidewise, an oiled-sheet, and a matting screen for the screen between. At the other end of this 3X10 division is a somewhat similar arrangement, excepting that we have there placed our china-closet from which the glass doors have been removed, thus affording us some mighty valuable shelf-room. Running lengthwise on the starboard side of our room is our bed, composed of our twin bed springs and mattresses resting upon two of my book boxes. Across the three foot aisle we have a small Chinese table of our cook's, which serves us for dining table or desk. Adjoining this is a bath-tub filled with six sacks of steel-milled flour (a quality unobtainable at Tsechow) upon which is placed our wicker clothes-hanger with a rubber tarpaulin over the top, affording us a dresser and washstand. Our steamer-trunk slides conveniently under our bed, while at the foot of the same a basket bed for our little fox-terrier completes our furnishings, - and what more could the most exacting ask?

The division ahead is kitchen for the rowers and ourselves by day and a sleeping place for the cook and coolie by night. The cook is living up to his reputation as a culinary artist of the first degree, accomplishing near-aircoles with the aid of a charcoal fire, and wrought iron grate, and Standard Oil tin oven.

The last ten or more feet is occupied by our crew of ten men when rowing; but inasmuch as we are going upstream, the larger part of the day they are off on shore "tracking" by means of pulling on a bamboo rope some hundred feet in length in that "antiquated fashion" (to quote your words) which you thought had given place to steam. We go very slowly: so slowly in fact, that when Clara and I want exercise we walk along the river by them and find it quite easy to keep up with our boat.

Chungking, Sae.
December 30, 1918.

Dear Lucille, Mother, and All;-

This will be the last letter I will write to you this year. More than a year since we left home, and nearly a year since we came to Chungking: just think of it! Yet judging from the things that have taken place in that time it ought to be about five years,- don't you think so?

Your letter of October, Lucille, written when Mussy and Mother were on their way to Chicago to visit Hazel and Dan, came several days ago, but Christmas festivities have delayed my answer somewhat. There were several mighty good kodaks of some youngsters included therein, also, which we were more than glad to get. We are not sparing any compliment to you either, Lucille, when we say that most folks will look upon that group as sisters and cousins. No wonder you felt it necessary to write out their names beginning from the left and naming toward the right! By the same mail Clara received some good home letters, also, and they included photos of the same size, pictures of our little sister, nieces and nephews, so the evening was one of jubilee.

We were nicely remembered by cards from many of our West China friends, English, Canadian, American, and Chinese. Mr. Peat gave Clara a unique Chinese made teapot; our cook presented us with two pairs of brass chop-sticks hand-engraved; the W.F.M.S. ladies gave Clara fancy icilies of various sizes, pink satin sandals, and a couple of Japanese calendars; and a couple of the ladies gave Clara and me together a large sepia print of Hofman's "Christ and the Doctors" which we are planning to have framed at once.

Clara got me to promise that instead of buying gifts for each other we would together select something for the house. When we went out shopping she saw nothing in the way of curios that she wanted, because secretly she had arranged to buy a fur rug. So on Christmas Day she sprung that on me, while up to date I haven't found anything suitable for her. I tried to buy fruit knives but thus far have failed to find any in Chungking, so I guess Clara will get her Christmas present about nine months from now, unless subscription to some magazine will do.

Things went off very nicely at the church. Exercises were held three nights in succession, before crowded houses. The decorations were gorgeous. Multicolored paper chains, arbor vitae, and brilliant mottoes and designs made of puffed rice dyed in various colors and stuck upon a paper background, were used plentifully. Instead of a Christmas tree with its candles, Chinese paper lanterns were suspended from the beams on every side. These lanterns were made to represent parrots, geese, storks, fish, vegetables and fruits, immense flowers, airships, balls on which Chinese maidens with the Chinese or American flags were precariously balanced, and even merry-go-rounds, waraxak. The merry-go-round was quite cleverly gotten up so that the heat from the candles worked a kind of pin-wheel concealed within, which furnished power whereby villains pursuing fair maidens, and dogs running after cats, etc., etc., were made to revolve about a circular track, or cylinder. Yards and yards of white muslin was also draped over head and formed into fantastic knots, so that the ceiling did not appear to be as high as usual.

There were songs, recitations of Scripture, sermons long and short, and music on Miss Lindblad's Victrola, of which I had charge. Chinese candy, nuts, and oranges were distributed to the pupils.

We of course had foreign worship on Christmas morning at the Hospital Chapel. Mr. Peat did the preaching, and Miss Wells and I had charge of the music. Then we went to the W.F.M.S. home (that is, those of our mission) where they had a Christmas tree, and we received the gifts mentioned above. When dinner time came, the children, six in number, came over to our study where a special table had been spread for them and they were given their Christmas dinner. At one P.M. the call came for the rest of us and twenty in all sat down to one long table extending thru our dining and reception rooms. Of course we weren't able to match up your American Christmas dinners as to details, but as to quantity, variety, and satisfaction we were nothing lacking.

Without stopping to divide into courses I may mention: beef bouillon, oyster patties, roast goose with chestnut dressing, rolls, stringed beans, scalloped tomatoes, fruit salad on lettuce leaf, mince pie, plum pudding, and coffee, followed by several varieties of home made candies and chocolates. The rest of the afternoon was spent at the ladies' home where tea was served.

Our houses were both decorated in real Christmassy fashion, and our table decorations received many compliments. We had those red and green runners which we used at East Moline and Chebanse made into a sort of "cat and cradle" design. This was supplemented with miniature evergreen wreaths with small red bells (made by Clara) and three brass vases containing red roses from the bungalow on the Hills. Other large wreaths with Christmas bells, evergreen ropes, and "hosannah" palm leaves were used to effect on and over the scroll-work of the large double doors. The ladies did us the compliment of

saying that "it was just like the Haverdales".

Tomorrow morning Mr. Peat leaves for the road, again, as word is received that troops are converging toward Tsechow. Since Mr. Torrey is soon to leave for America, Dr. Liljestrand would be left alone to manage things there, and he has been out here only a few months longer than we have. McCurdy's will also move into this house, although we remain in charge here until Mr. Peat's return as I am to look after the sub-treasurer business for the present, and Clara will have to initiate Mrs. McCurdy into the mysteries of managing Chinese servants.

Hochow was looted the day before Mr. Lawrence arrived there on his way to Suining, but our property was not molested. He reports the house in good condition. It is not likely that the same city will be looted by the soldiers twice in the same season, so we are feeling comparatively safe in our anticipation of taking up our residence there. We will not move until the middle of February, however. We are getting quite anxious to get settled, as our present situation and circumstances are not very conducive to study. Besides, since talking with Mr. Peat and others, it seems as if our residence and work there were quite likely to last throughout our first term in China. They are looking to us not only to build up a strong church but eventually to build up a whole new District, and we have managed to kindle up quite a little enthusiasm over the prospects. Of course, they still say to us "Don't try to do anything more this first year than to learn all the Chinese you can and become acquainted with the people and the situation, - which is quite in line with our own plan."

I am glad you became acquainted with Mrs. Conner of Moline. Mr. Conner especially was a very good friend of mine while we were in East Moline. I sent him a card from here some months ago, but I have never heard from him since. I guess they must not have received it, or they would have said something to you about it. The way I happened to tell her and others about your funny misunderstanding of the term "staccato", was as an illustration of child-study, - the necessity of building upon the known in introducing things or precepts outside of the child's experience. I'm glad the illustration stuck.

I think I have already answered your question about the likelihood of our being put to great inconvenience because of the loss in exchange in China. It is very low just now, as one ^{hundred} gold dollars will buy only about 140 silver dollars. If we were to be left to stand that loss ourselves, it would be very uncomfortable in some ways, as we would thereby be cut down to about \$700.00 gold a year. As it is, however, the Board has arranged for this past year to keep our exchange at par, or in other words to make up the loss to us. It will not affect us, therefore, excepting as it affects the work. Many missionaries are planning to turn as much as two hundred dollars of their salary back into the work so that the deficit may be made up and the work go on just as before so far as their contribution shall reach. We are not altogether decided to do this, as I explained in my last letter; for we still have our debts at home to meet, and one reason we failed to straighten them out while in America was because we consented to take the sacrifices required in helping out churches and colleges that were in the hole. We have already arranged with the Board to take from our 1919 salary to pay off the \$120.00 of the debt to the Board of Education and clear that up. We are expecting to get off one hundred of what we owe sother on our coming out expenses, and to get a little start on the Upper Iowa endowment subscription. Hochow ought to be a good place to save, from what Lawrence and others have told us, so maybe we are going to get our chance to meet our obligations at last!

Your reference to Mrs. Kinson of Stronghurst was also interesting. But you have been misinformed, or else we do not know the recent developments about Clara's desk if Mrs. Kinson is reported to have it. For we rented it to Mr. Kinson's successor, a Mr. Hunt, at Chebanse and have heard of no change. I don't suppose the dining set has been sold as yet.

Well, I am owing a number of letters which I hope to answer yet this evening, so as I would have to work hard and consume a lot of time to try to think up more things to fill up this space below, I'm just going to send lots of love to you and all, and close.

Most affectionately,

Lewis and Clara.

Tsechow, Sze.
January 8, 1919.

Dearest Mother and All:-

One good letter from you reached us at Luchow on our way to Tsechow, and another bearing the sad tidings of Hazel's illness and their great sorrow came to us shortly after our arrival here a little over two weeks ago. We cannot begin to express our deep sympathy, though our having seen the McCurry's undergoing a similar experience so recently helps us to appreciate the disappointment more than we might have been able to do otherwise. In these four intervening months that sorrow, no doubt, has been greatly softened, and only the sweetest of the memories remain. We were so glad to learn that Hazel's convalescence seems so hopeful now. Nevertheless, we shall not feel real easy until we hear from you that the Spanish influenza has spent itself and that you are all spared its ravages. We had something similar in Szechwan while we were on the Hills last winter. That is to say, a great epidemic of a kind of influenza whose symptoms correspond to the descriptions of the Spanish influenza of which we have reading raged in Chungking and had the Chinese almost wild with apprehension. Our own servants were ill for several days, and Mr. Peat had it while itinerating, but otherwise our family escaped. Quite a number of the missionaries on the second range also had their experience. We hope the more severe form of it will stop on your side of the Pacific.

Well, to go back to the point where I left off in my last letter. Our trip continued pleasant, although we had only one sunshiny afternoon out of the twenty-one spent on the way here. But Tsechow received us with a lovely day. Quite a committee of preachers and teachers was on hand to receive at the lock, and we found it rather hard to tear ourselves away to go up to the W.F.M.S. home for dinner. After dinner we just managed to unload our boats and get our things up to the house by dark.

Christmas time came around about three days later and we had a very pleasant time with our Tsechow family. The church festivities lasted for three days, and included a feast and three programs, so we had a little difficulty to get in everything. It was Mrs. Liljestrand's turn to entertain, so on Christmas morning we all had breakfast together, and the Christmas tree was unloaded. They asked me to be Santa Claus, which was almost my first experience in this role.

We were given quite a number of useful articles presented us, and several things are still to come. While at Chungking we had purchased a beauty of a Chinese "crackle ware" vase with bronze dragon pattern embossed and with enamel chrysanthemums. It stands a little over two feet in height and cost us ten dollars Mexican. Twenty-four dollars was what they asked for it, but as it is getting Chinese New Year's time when all good Chinese try to get as much money as possible together in order to pay up debts, so my price was finally accepted. This was supposed to be our mutual Christmas present for the house; but Clara always wants to work in a surprise stunt as I am beginning to learn, and so we each put a card on the Christmas tree telling what we are expecting to give. A missionary diary and a Rallic Ingersoll wrist watch is what I am to receive; and Clara is to have a file for recipes, pictures, clippings, and school records, just so soon as she shall be able to decide how she wants it made.

Other things were vases, two pairs of ivory chop sticks, a tea-pot of Chinese make, a fern-fish, Chinese desk set, three handkerchiefs, a booklet, crocheted insertion for pillow-cases, a silk tolly with white Chinese silk lace, a silver table-spoon, a lady's handkerchief, two church membership record books, two pairs book-supporters, and several Christmas greeting cards. We sent out fifty Christmas greeting cards to missionaries whom we know, and to Chinese friends.

The real Christmas dinner came on Thursday, and later on in the week there were more festivities in honor of Miss Beatty's birthday, and Miss Marie Brethorsts start for America for furlough. The morning following these festivities the Brethorst sisters received a cablegram stating that their elder brother, a captain, has been killed in France. Coming after the declaration of the armistice the shock was a great one.

On the twenty-seventh of December I started out on my first trip as missionary in charge, in company with District Superintendent Tang. It was not a long trip as I returned on Clara's birthday, the thirtieth, but it was filled with experiences. I conducted communion service, held quarterly conference, helped launch a project for an Epworth League based on the Y.M.C.A. plan, made a number of calls upon the notables, etc., etc. It's going to be a great thing to make me use my Chinese. At Yin San Dean our one full church member had had a slight stroke of paralysis, and came with cries to beseech me to save him. I made arrangements for him to be brought to Tsechow for treatment. At Neixiang, among other problems was that of a member of the church whose wife had been unfaithful some four

years before. He had put her aside and had given her enough money to enable her to set up a tea-shop and so support herself on condition that she send her ways. He had then gone to Shanghai where he is making good as an artist. But his wife worked up such an evil reputation for herself that he was eventually forced to divorce her. Recently he decided to marry again, and the question put up to me was whether he might do so and still retain his membership. I decided after close inquiry into the circumstances mentioned above and in view of his own good reputation that he might.

Here at Tsechow the other day I had a different kind of a problem. Two of our members at Lo Chuen-jin came to see me and begged me to save them. I learned upon inquiry thru several sources, that the elder of the two men had been assistant magistrate at the place mentioned. That a year ago last August during the troubles here, the then acting magistrate of Tsechow (a sort of a district judge) had ordered the Lo Chuen-jin magistrate to execute a certain man for robbery. This had been done. But now a new magistrate is appointed over this territory and he claims that the executed man was not a robber but a good man, and that the execution was a work of spite. So he in turn summoned the official and his assistant from their home town to come here for trial. As it happened both the assistant magistrate and the executed man had been members of our church. However, I took up the matter, finding mutual acquaintances who could vouch for the good character of the man who was appealing to me, and then I went to call upon our official. I explained that it was not our custom or desire to interfere with the course of justice in China or this territory in particular, but that in view of the defendant's good character and reputation, and the fact that he had acted under orders, I had called to ask if there might not be some way in which as missionary in charge of the church of which he was a member, I might not do something to help him. The official was most courteous and admitted the truth of what I had said, but insisted that in view of the facts the man should receive some punishment even if a light one. His final proposition was that the older of the men be imprisoned for a year, and the younger man for two months, with the possibility of the time being shortened in case of good behaviour. The head official, not our member, received ten years. The fellows who appealed to me did not seem to be greatly disappointed that I had been able to secure so little for them. I saw them at church Sunday, and understand that thus far their "imprisonment" has not been in the ya-sen but in the city, and they can go outside of the city-gates only under guard. However, the experience was a peculiar one to me.

We will probably not be able to settle in our new home for at least two weeks yet. The house was in fierce condition, not having been lived in for two years. One entire outside wall had to be taken down and rebuilt, fire-places have had to be changed, one section of the house removed, the compound wall rebuilt, all wood work will have to be repainted, and the walls re-tinked or whitewashed. But after awhile we hope to have the house a very satisfactory little home, at an expense of approximately two hundred dollars.

The site is a beautiful one overlooking the city. We sent you one picture sometime ago showing the view with one large pagoda in the foreground, and three small pagodas on hilltops in the distance. It is somewhat of a climb to get home, but we are away from the congestion and bad air of the city, almost as though we were outside of it altogether. We can walk to the church in six minutes. We have our table-boy and cook from Chungking, but I guess we'll have to add two more servants in a week or so. Our water has to be carried from the river, and it is cheaper to hire a boy to do that regularly than to buy it from street-carriers, not to speak of the inconvenience thus guarded against. Another thing is that in Tsechow there are so few foreigners and scarcely any Mohammedans so that beef is not in demand. Our only milk and butter would be the canned stuff which is very expensive. So we have decided to adopt the more satisfactory way and buy a cow and hire a cow-colic. This is far cheaper than the other way, even though we do not get much more than three pints per day from these Chinese cows. We have one cow down at Liljestrans's testing her now for ten days, but we are afraid she is too old to be a safe investment.

Lots more I ought to tell you, but it is getting dark, and we'll have to hurry to get out of the city. We are still roosting and boarding with the Liljestrans. We'll probably come up here tomorrow, however, and make-shift. We can watch the workmen better and get more done ourselves.

Please convey our deepest sympathy to Hazel and Dan, and remember how much we love you all.

With bestest love from

Lewis and Clara.

JANUARY 30, 1913

Dear Mother and All:-

Is January 6th really the last letter written to you? I positively am ashamed of myself. For a week or two I didn't do very much writing because my typewriter had the "flu" or something, and I didn't have much time to doctor it up. Even now it sneezes occasionally. And then we haven't exactly settled yet. Most of the work about the house is thru with and we are having the yard cleaned up. Owing to the fact that we want our fireplaces made of stone and only a soft yellow stone is suitable for that purpose we have had to wait a little until that should be quarried. As it happened, the only owner of a quarry where it might be procured had started up river toward Chengtu with a cargo, and it was necessary to await his return. Now Chinese New Year has intervened and everything is temporarily at a standstill.

I think that we have explained the Chinese New Year custom in former letters, but this year's experience has been really the first to affect us in any way. This year their new year falls on February 1st, but they don't wait until then to begin to celebrate. On January 27th all of our workmen quit excepting two masons who had a piece of work which took until Tuesday to finish. It was the same with the workmen at the pagoda outside of our front gate. Over two hundred men were engaged in repairing that, but on last Monday everyone but the watchman left their jobs, and neither they nor our men expect to return until about February 5th, and then the walls are to be tinted and the floors ciled and we will begin to be settled. This long siege of waiting, however, will pay us in the end; for then we will have a home that will, excepting for the usual annual repairs, house us in the best of shape until the new house for the missionary in charge is erected out at Yin Bin Chiao where the W.F.M.S. plant is already nearing completion. At that time this house will no doubt bring in good rent and help on income, but of course the house here has never been considered a permanent dwelling place as the site is temple property and could only be leased. There are still sixty years before the expiration of the lease.

The location is beautiful! The longer we are here the better we appreciate it. I suppose that is because we have had time to get out of the compound now and then. From our upstairs windows we can look down upon the whole city of Tsechow, practically. A three minute's climb from our front door brings us to the summit of the hill, from whence we can look down on the other side toward the W.F.M.S. building and the future site of the Middle School and the Hospital, and General Board missionaries' residences. The Lu River can be seen working its way thru the Hills toward the east, and acres of orange groves lie in the middle foreground. On the South, west and north lies the city, the river and the range of hills almost as large as mountains. The north wall of the city, however, is just behind our house, so you see we are suburbanites. A valley of truck gardens intervenes between us and the main business streets, and yet we are only six minutes' walk from the church.

Tsechow is on about the same relation to sea-level as the Chungking Hills, and since we are situated above the city itself where there is a good breeze the year around, we have decided not to go to any of the summer resorts for foreigners this summer, but stay right at home. There have always been some foreigners of our mission who stay here all summer, so it will be no new venture. Dr. Liljestrand expects to stay this summer also, if the health of their baby continues well. This will save us over a hundred dollars, moreover, at a time when it will do us the most good. We sent Upper Iowa the check which will cancel my subscription there and at the two for one rate that means \$400.00 Mexican off of our salary for this year. And to top that off comes a letter from our Mission Treasurer at Chengtu that no money has been forthcoming to the West China Field from America for some time, and that as a Mission we have overdrawn our bank account some \$12,000 Mex. Consequently we will have to go on half salary until such a time as the home Board gets things in hand again and makes it up to us. When I was in America as pastor, I got into the habit of looking upon the Benevolence collections from a mighty impersonal viewpoint. If I were to go back now, every time a church member cut down on his annual subscription or failed to give, it would give me visions of people stranded in a foreign land without means of support, or upon insufficient support, and I would not be inclined to let things slide quite so easily as I used to. I guess that "the war" is the scapegoat for everything disagreeable these days, and if heavy expenses and high cost of living are responsible for this shortage, we'll have to congratulate ourselves upon sharing the sacrifices with the rest of you. We are not very badly off, any way.

When things at home get settled down to normal again, you folks will have to take a vacation and do some travelling. Come out here and spend a year with us. I'm serious about that Mother! When we mentioned the matter before I wasn't very enthusiastic; for I was afraid

to take the responsibility of your coming out here with that bad knee. But now that would not need to cause you anxiety. A year out here would just about pay your expenses across the Pacific and to Tsechow. You could save it in board and clothes whichever way you figure it. Think it over! We are always having West China folks returning from furlough who would be glad to escort you out here if you had to come alone. The best thing of course would be to bring some of the rest of the folks along. Do some travelling while you're young. The way back would be just as easy as coming, for every year some one is starting back to the States.

We are surely thankful that the "flu" hasn't claimed any of you and that you are all well. Your last letter (November 22) is so reassuring as to Hazel's recovery, and Mussy's returning health since her three months in K.C. We were glad to get Dan's snapshots, too, to supplement Harry's.

We were sorry to hear of Mr. Morton's illness and his expectation that he is not long for this world. I hope that his fears prove groundless. Remember us to the Morton's please. We ought to write, but we know that you pass on every thing of interest, so we save our efforts for you. Home folks particularly.

The Christmas box sounds interesting but of course it has not yet arrived. I can sympathize with you in the matter of the permit. After we got to Tsechow we found that the packages which we thought we had mailed to you folks from Chungking on Thanksgiving day had been held for declaration of value, so they were a month later in getting started than we had expected. We haven't received magazines from home for some time. Our November "World's Work" and some November "Poets" came about a week ago but nothing since. I also received some books for which I had sent while on the Hills last September. They were Fosdick's "Challenge of the Present Crisis", Strong's, "A Tour of the Missions", and a number of small study booklets. Several others are on the way. No, we haven't got Gerard's "My Four Years in Germany". We have read it but very hurriedly, and will be glad to have a copy of our own. We trade books back and forth out here, you know, and it is astonishing how fine our opportunities are for keeping in touch with what the home folks are doing, and reading, and thinking. The missionary bunch is so afraid of being left behind that they utilize every available means for keeping up.

I haven't read anything in the postal regulations stating that it is unlawful to send wooden boxes thru the mail. Of course the weight usually would be prohibitive, but in this transpacific service "safety first" is our guiding principle. We are trying baking powder tins in the packing of our present offering. Lucille's and Mussy's birthday crept up on us almost unawares. We are sending Mussy a box of candied fruits, - a specialty of Tsechow's. We are in the midst of the sugar district here, you know. The large fruit is called "Buddha's hand" because of its remote resemblance to a hand held with the fingers all bunched together at the tips. It is valued most for its fragrance when green, which is like that of a lemon. At that season most Chinese carry one around with them, and oftentimes in Church one person will lend his to his companion to smell for awhile. The red rings are a sort of sliced cucumber or squash called "the bitter squash" the ginger root will be readily distinguished; that which tastes like citron somewhat, is pumelo or grapefruit; the cherries are recognized easily and the small bright green fruit is grapes. There are about fifteen other different kinds preserved here, but we didn't have room to send much more than the best. Perhaps we will include an apple so that you can see how large they grow out here. The doilies are for you, Lucille. The "door spirits" are for you Mother. They are hand painted and are of the better kind placed new every year on either side of the door of a Chinese home to guard the inmates thereof during the ensuing year. They are then left on until a year from date. Since you like to have these to illustrate your talks I just thought we would include a pair in this package.

Don't be afraid that we will put much money into gifts for you. They usually charge you more for customs in America than we have to pay for them originally here. It makes me tired! I don't know just what infant industry that duty is designed to protect. Your plan for a fifty cent limit to Christmas gifts in the family is satisfactory if you will let it work both ways. I'm afraid our socks and stockings exceed that though.

Glad to hear that we are to receive a letter from East McLine soon maybe. I ought to write there again soon. Also to Dr. Bennett; I see by the "Advocate" that he has resigned the presidency of Highland Park College at Des Moines in order to become Dean of Education at Boston University. And in a letter from Lansing (the Youngs) just received, we learn that Mrs. Fellows is still living, so I must write to her. Just got a letter saying that our sewing machine castings had been in the go-down of the steamship company at Hongkong for some weeks and was being forwarded January 17 to Shanghai. By the time it gets here the freight will exceed the original

Tsechow, Sze.
February 24, 1919.

Dearest Mother and All; - I just got back yesterday from our Bible Conference at Shiac Uin Si, and on Friday the 28th I start out on the lower part of the District in company with Mr. Tang, the District Supt. In between times I have a lot of work to get out of the way, but my letter to the home-folks must take precedence.

It is beginning to seem very much like work now. Beginning on February 2nd, we had a Bible Conference and Evangelistic campaign here in the Tsechow Circuit. We made no great effort to reach other than the people of the city but nevertheless had nearly forty people from out of town attending. At ten A.M. was a devotional service; from ten-thirty until twelve-thirty or longer there were Bible classes for probationers and enquirers; at 6-15 P.M. was the evangelistic service. I gave my talks at ten o'clock, having prepared chalk-talks day by day on the various phases of Christian life. The topics were based upon Paul's conceptions of the Christian as found in 1 Cor. Chap. 8, and elsewhere, representing the Christian (1) as God's tilled ground; (2) as God's building; (3) as God's temple; (4) as "a good soldier of Jesus Christ; (5) as "he who raceth"; (6) as "God's fellow-labourer".

As it happened, I was able to substitute for two mornings since we had a Chinese pastor visiting us on Friday, and had Centenary plans to perfect for Saturday and Sunday. However, on Wednesday ~~morning~~ I had to give the introductory sermon for a "witness meeting", and I also prepared a talk on "Prayer and the Centenary". Mr. Peat was with us for the last occasion on Saturday and Sunday. He gave some rousing good talks, and as a result the Lechuenjin circuit came across with a pledge of about \$2000.00 as their effort. You see in carrying out the Centenary plan for West China, our conference is asked to give \$58,000. Up to date over \$45,000. of that amount has been pledged, which is doing mighty well for a bunch of folks without very much margin over living expenses.

On Tuesday morning, Mr. and Mrs. Peat started back to Chungking, and I bade farewell to my "weeping" wife and started for the Bible conference at Shiac Uin Si. Mr. Manly (and Dist. Supt. Den.) Miss Beatty of the W.F.M.S. and myself were the 3 foreigners present. Besides these were several Chinese pastors and Bible women. In the arrangement of the daily program which began at 8 A.M. and lasted until 9 P.M. with occasional intervals, I was appointed to give the daily lectures at noon. So once again I had intensive preparation to make. On Saturday and Sunday night, two of the Chinese preachers and myself went to Dong Fung Si, fifteen Chinese miles away, and gave a lantern lecture and played the graphophone. I had charge of the machinery, the pastors doing the lecturing. I begin to appreciate the value of these two means of reaching the common people among the Chinese. It not only brings a big crowd, but breaks the monotony of their lives. They have lecturers galore of their own. To go four blocks on a Chinese street at night without seeing two or more professional story-tellers or priests talking to a big crowd is exceptional. But the lantern slides and the graphophone are novel and pedagogically effective, and when you have left the vicinity the people still have something to talk about and remember. That is one reason why I am going to give special attention to chalk-talks from now on, too. But I am going to go a little farther, and some time while I am home this week, I'm going to write to the W.F.M.S. at Chebanse to see if they cannot buy us one of the "Stewart Portable Graphophones" (price \$11.00 with case) and some records, so as to have it here for next year's campaigns. I don't get much time to work with the cornet as yet, but I am not giving up hope that someday I'll be able to wield that; for it also continues to be a requisite in teaching singing. That was another of the jobs I had a share in at Shiac Uin Si.

But here I go, rattling on in my own crazy way, omitting some most important items. Just before I left Tsechow, the five packs of films were received in splendid conditions. I was especially glad to get them, because of having received a special request from the office at New York for photos representing our work, to be exhibited at Columbus. I took a pack along with me to Shiac Uin Si, and took a couple pictures of the congregation which greeted me when I was giving my first chalk-talk. Later in the week when we were holding an out-of-doors meeting in the temple court on market day, I made two more attempts. Of course this advertised me somewhat more than was pleasant, and I had numerous requests for individual pictures. Mr. Manly advised putting the price up to a prohibitive level, so I told them I required a dollar in advance, whether the picture should turn out good or bad. Within half an hour, three families had appeared on the scene with their dollars. I took two because of the fact that it was a response to the Chinese cardinal virtue of filial respect, - their parents being well-advanced in years, and the desire being to secure a picture for their ancestral hall. As it was not to be used for purposes of worship, the people being Christians, I took the pictures. At Tien Gu Chiac, is one of our country churches, especially interesting as being the scene of the death of six martyrs during the Boxer uprising. I took a picture of this for Centenary use also. Tonight I am expecting to develop these pictures, and I hope there will be no disappointment. It is quite providential that they did not reach me until the time when the films were most needed.

There was no postoffice at Shiao Uin Si and so I was unable to hear from Clara during the week, although I got off one letter to her by sending it with a travelling-merchant who was returning to Tsoohcw. Consequently, I didn't know until I got back that she (or we) had received six Christmas packages in one day! Five of them were from her folks and the one from you all. They certainly looked as though the economy of which we have heard as having taken America by storm had failed to reach Iowa and Illinois, or else that "love had found a way".

You may be interested in knowing just what all was included, - I'll not stop to specify from whom each came:

One game "Rock".	Silk American flag.	4 large Turkish towels
4 rolls films.	4 prs. lady's hose.	9 balls crochot cotton
2 pkgs. printing paper.	8 prs. gent's socks.	3 neckties.
2 boxes stationery.	1 pr. lady's silk wristlets.	2 books.
1 shirt.	3 lady's handkerchiefs.	9 sets, boxes.
1 can baking powder.	1 gent's handkerchief.	6 collars.
1 pr. cotton gloves.	1 crochot needle.	2 tubes extract.
1 can chewing-gum, mints, and	chocolate bars.	3 Needlecraft books.
3 Crochot pattern books.	Waist material.	

We also have the invoice from Chicago for 3 lady's handkerchiefs, 2 men's handkerchiefs, 4 balls of crochot cotton, 2 boxes Art crayons, 2 initial huck towels, 2 prs. men's knit woolen socks, and knit wash-cloths.

MORAL 1

IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE ! ! !

Honestly, though, we simply gave a list in order that a choice might be made; for we hardly thought it possible that all the things mentioned might be obtained in any one place. We certainly cannot be said to have sacrificed with regard to material things because of our having come out here. Money comes slowly, because of the high rates of exchange and the various big pulls for cash in America, but it will come eventually. Meantime I suppose that what we can't spend we will be able to save, which is a pretty good idea in the long run anyway.

We wish that there might be no need for anxiety because of Hazel's health. The fact that she has so marvellously made headway however gives reason for hope that the California residence will complete the cure. We shall anxiously await word from week to week. I hope, too, that Dan will not have to give up his college work on any account. To have graduated is an asset well worth having. On the other hand, his experience clerking will be an experience which will come well in hand afterawhile, however different his life-work may prove to be. Do you remember, Dan, how when we were talking over some of my own experiences at Boston just before I left Kansas City last, you lamented that you had not had opportunity for such adventure of that sort? That even when you wanted to undertake so "simple a thing as a walking-trip to Kansas City", the folks had objected? Well, I guess you're sure getting your share of them now, though I suppose they are not coming in the way in which you expected them: war, and sorrow, and sickness, etc. We wish you everything that's good as you go West. You're that much nearer us: just cross the Pond some of these fine days and look us up!

I'm glad, Mother, that you have been able to invest your money in this new way. It certainly will be much less worry to you and at least as profitable. The flats on Avenue A, I believe were Dad's most profitable town property investment, and ought to be of far greater value now that the post-office is located so near. If you are intending to sell that, I should hold for a pretty good price.

Well, today is Wednesday, and the time is afternoon. On Friday morning I have to leave again as I have said already. Last night we developed pictures and I found that I had a good one of every subject taken, - only one film having been underexposed. In view of the conditions under which the pictures were taken, I call that pretty good. This afternoon I want to get some pictures of the school-boys and the school house and new site for the Middle School, so I guess I'll have to call this letter done. But please give Santa Claus a thousand thanks for us when you look into your respective mirrors.

With heaps of love,
From

Lewis and Clara.

WEST CHINA MISSION

Methodist Episcopal Church

WEST CHINA

CHENG TU SUINING
TZECHOW HOCHOW
CHUNGKING

YANGTZE RIVER

CHANG

SANSON

1500 MILES FROM CHUNGKING TO THE COAST

SARANG

SHANGHAI

LEWIS F. HAVERMALE
HONGKONG, SZE.

February 28, 1919.

Dear Home Folks:

A few hours after Lewis had started on his itinerancy this morning your good letter of January 3rd arrived. We had hoped that the foreign mail would have come before he left. Inasmuch as I did not get a letter written and enclosed with Lewis' last one as I had expected, I will make an attempt to answer this one at once. And first I want to thank you all for the box of beautiful Christmas gifts. There was certainly no "Hooverising" in the filling of that box. But I fear neither were there in our suggestions. Really I feel a bit "bec how eh si" as the Chinese say "ashamed" about it. But truly our thought in giving such a long list was that you might have a choice. Everything came thru in fine condition, it was so well wrapped. And everything that should fit did fit. Again, Thank you, everybody.

The day you wrote your letter you said it was fourteen below zero and the day we received it we ate our breakfast out on the verandah. We did not move out however because it was too hot indoors but because we did not have any room in condition for use downstairs. But fortunately the weather is such as to make it very pleasant out doors. We have one cherry tree within the compound. It is now all white with blossoms giving the bees and butterflies a great feast. Our four primroses are seemingly trying to outdo one another as to the number of blossoms each can put forth. There is a large monthly rose bush at the end of the verandah that is keeping us supplied with roses for our little brass vase on the dining table. And a small peach tree is in bud just ready to burst open. As soon as the building is completed, and I hope that may be seen, we expect to fix up our small compound with shrubs, ferns, flowers, and grass. We think we are going to have a very cosy little home here.

Mother, Lewis and I oftentimes speak about how nice it would be if you could make us a visit. We are sure you would enjoy it. You have always been such a busy person I think you would ^{find} a delightful rest as well as a wonderful experience. While here you would not have a thing to do but visit, and read and write letters and hand-work that you might do for pleasure, and any thing else that you may enjoy. Now that the war is over and quiet has been restored here in China, you will let her come, won't you, Mussy and Lucille? If it only had not been quite so far we would most certainly have expected Hazel and Dan to have come on and spent the winter with us. I know they will

not find a more delightful day in California that we are having to day. And our scenery will also compare favorably, but that is about all. No, I should not have said that. We have fruit and flowers and vegetables, and and good friends and lots of good things. I sincerely hope that Hazel will get well and strong again out there and that they both will find it a profitable as well as a pleasurable visit.

I am writing up in our bed-room. It is the only room that has been finished. It is a very sunny pleasant room as the whole end to the West is windows. It makes me think of a bungalow. Again we have made it a pink and white room. Perhaps you remember, Lucile, the piece of cretonne, a pink rose pattern, that I bot at Canton just before leaving. It was just enough for the curtains. But we will try to get some pictures of our new home soon and that will give you a better idea than a description.

Again Lewis is making a circuit of small villages that do not have postal service. It makes the time seem twice as long when I can not hear from him or write to him. He has been ^{getting} some very fine complements on his efforts with the Chinese language. And he certainly has earned them as he has been doing some very hard work since coming here. It seems a long time before I can get started on my work. I am staying quite close to the house these days to oversee the workmen. It is quite a lesson in patience, so many trying things arise. The last few days I have tried to take a lesson with the teacher each day. I am reading Corinthians. It is noisy and hard to hear and some of the work-
men will stop now and then to listen as we have to work on the verandah. But I try to not let it bother me hoping that in icing so they may be getting a bit of Gospel.

We are very sorry to hear of Mr. Morton's death. I am sure it must be very lonely for Mrs. Morton. One or both of us will write to her when Lewis returns. We will also write to the Freitags.

The clippings are interesting, Mussay. I am sure Lewis will be glad to have the one for his "Vanity Book". It no doubt had not yet been started at the time the article was edited.

I must now go up the hill and check up on the work that has been done on the cow barn today. We do not have a cow yet but hope to buy one soon, so are getting the barn ready. There have been so many interruptions I fear this letter will be quite disconnected.

Oceans of love to all.

Clara

Here are a few violets I gathered on the hillside.

WEST CHINA MISSION

Methodist Episcopal Church

WEST CHINA

CHENG TU SUINING
TZECHOW HOCHOW
CHUNGKING

YANGTZE RIVER, 1500 MILES FROM CHUNGKING TO THE COAST

SHANGHAI

LEWIS F. HAVERMALE
HOCHOW, SZE.

Tsechow, Sze.

March 21, 1910.

Dearest Mother and All;-

Since coming home from my trip around the LoChuen Jin and Tsechow Circuits I have been busy as I could be trying to get photographs and statistics ready for the Centenary exhibition at Columbus in June. Am not all through yet by any manner of means, but each night I am so ready to go to bed early that I do not get a letter off to you, and the only time seems to be in the morning, so here goes!

I think I wrote you with regard to our services at Shiao Yuen Si. Yes, I have; I just referred to my file and find that I wrote you on February 29. Good heavens! One letter a month! If such a thing were imaginable, you might almost think that my love for the home folks was growing cold. But Clara has written once between times, so perhaps you will forgive me. When I am out on these trips, I rarely come to a town where there is a postoffice, and when I do, I find that they send out mail only once a week or something like that, and the postmaster wouldn't know what to do with a letter written or addressed in English. So I have to wait until I get home.

This trip was certainly a pleasant and a novel one, - "interior of China" is right. I could not keep to the Big Road, of course, but had to take foot-paths off through districts that were mountainous and primitive. I did not get into what we would call "wild country" for practically everywhere the land was under cultivation. But the homes were of the simplest kind that you can imagine human beings living in, - just mud huts. The country itself is of that kind of beauty that hurts you simply because you can't find words to express it. With the Rockies in mind one can say "grand, magnificent", and give the idea of massiveness and grandeur. Of our Illinois prairies you say "rolling and cultivated, - a veritable garden-spot". But this country is betwixt and between the two. It is of the kind whose beauty can be comprehended by the eye and yet cannot be included in a photograph. One has to see it to know what I mean.

I was entertained at feasts of course: in churches, restaurants, the preachers' houses and farmers' homes. There were problems here and there, and Quarterly Conferences, Communion Services, love feasts, and Centenary campaigns. Much of the comment got by me, it is needless to say, but I was not afraid to ask questions when it seemed wise, and I could usually get the gist of what was going on. I gave the chalk talks occasionally, and found that they took well and were understood.

They subscribed liberally under the inspiration of the Centenary movement and the prizes we could make them that for every cent they gave, the people would give one or more in America. I have the figures for only three circuits in this District, and they are not yet complete. But thus far they total \$12,360. Mex. This does not seem large when compared as a lump sum with what is given in America, but figured at the average wage of 200 cash per day, this sum represents 73,805 days' wages, or over eighty days' wages for every member and probationer in the territory represented. Think of what it would mean to the Centenary movement at home if that standard were kept up! These are some of the statistics which I am sending to Columbus with other material for the exhibition.

One very interesting section of country through which I passed was the section where they have the salt wells. I am enclosing two pictures which I took there. Explanations are written upon the backs of them as I imagine that will be more convenient to you. The other photo is a scene along the road where my chair-bearers stopped to rest.

And now let me suddenly change the tune of this letter. Come on over and see some of these things for yourself, Mother dear! Let's get right down to business and plan for you to come out this Fall to stay a year with us. And here are the invincible arguments which Clara and I have fully thought out and conspired to marshal against you:

SAVE THINGS TO BE DONE
AT ONCE

1. Write to Miss Grace Ellison, Superior, Nebraska. To learn if it is still possible for you to get one of the three berths with her and Miss Nelson. Also to learn their sailing date, port, price of ticket, etc. They will arrange for these things through the W.F.W.S. Executive. Just ask Miss Ellison to manage the matter for you thru them and send you the bill. She will be glad to. Let me repeat, she is one of our nearest and best known friends out here, and we have been at her home over night at Daen Gia Ngai at Chungking many times. She will be only too glad to do this for you and us. If it were not for the fact that your consent is first necessary, we would do more than simply write her to get into touch with you. But don't wait for her to write first: WRITE at ONCE.

2. Send to the State Department, Washington, D.C. for an application for passport with directions for filling out, photograph, etc. and send that in at least two months before sailing date. Later may be safe, but this is safer. Harry will help you with this, or Grandpa knows the ropes.

3. I should think you could get out here for Six Hundred dollars gold at the outside. It cost us two one thousand including all our freight. You will have your through ticket to place of sailing (making provision for stop-overs at Los Angeles or wherever you choose according to the time at your disposal), and your steamer-ticket to Shanghai. Whatever balance you feel that you want to be safe for sidetrips, purchases, etc. might best be taken in gold-pieces as these exchange for fullest value but if you would rather suffer a small loss in exchange than risk carrying that much gold, take fifty dollars in gold and buy New York drafts in denominations of \$100.00 each. You will give the same for tips as the rest of the party do; the method usually is for you all to pool the tips on the last day before landing.

Count on about \$150.00 gold for the trip to Chungking from Shanghai. I am pretty sure this will cover all. This you will want to carry in Yüan Shi Kai silver dollars; and can be purchased with one of your drafts on New York. Mr. Yard or Miss Ellison will attend to that for you and be glad to, as the larger the amount to be exchanged at a time, the better rates you will get usually, and they will profit by it as well as you.

Hotel bills at Shanghai are about a dollar and a half per day.

4. By sending your baggage in bond from Canton to the steamer, you may save some irritation with Customs examination. If you come the Southern way this probably will be a needless precaution. The ticket agent at Canton can tell you. When buying steamer tickets write for baggage labels to paste on your trunks, labeling the ones you will not need, and then your steamer trunk can be delivered direct to your state room. Don't carry anything but what is necessary for your toilet articles and necessary changes on the trains. If it is a suit-case, the wadding is the lightest, and if your umbrella is a suit-case folding-umbrella, that saves locking after one less package. Without a gentleman escort this is quite important. Altho there are porters everywhere this saves worry and tips.

- First: you are coming out to see us sometime, and you will never be younger.
- Second: you yourself say that your health has never been better than it is now: to postpone your coming on that account would not be wise.
- Third: This next year is the middle year of our first period out here, and the logical year to come, both for your sake and ours.
- Fourth: Mussy's and Grandpa's health would now permit of it, and they together with Harry and Lucile, can look after the house while you are gone.
- Fifth: Your money is invested in a way that will not require personal oversight to safeguard it: repairs have but recently been made on the rest of the town property, I understand, and so that need not worry you in your absence.
- Sixth: The situation in China is peaceful at the present and more likely to continue so for some years, because of the influence being brought to bear upon this country at the Versailles Peace Conference.
- Seventh: Steamers on the Pacific will have resumed traffic in earnest by that time, and the large number released from naval or transport service will have a tendency to lower passenger rates.
- Eighth: River steamers on the Yangtse will no doubt be running until the last of November, so that by starting in September or October as we did, you would not have to make any part of the trip by houseboat.
- Ninth: Our home will be in condition, our appointment practically assured, the situation on the hill is ideal for China, so that you could be assured of a good year of rest and work along just whatever line you desire, - whether sewing or reading or sight-seeing, or visiting.
- Tenth: There will be a number of our very good friends who will be returning from furlough this Fall, and will be delightful travelling companions, piloting you around at the various places enroute. These include the Yard family, Miss Nelson and Miss Ellison. The last two will come directly to Tsechow, - perhaps all of them since we are to entertain Annual Conference this year. We are writing to Miss Ellison to get into touch with you at once so that she can give you necessary pointers about steamer tickets, date of sailing and like matters. I am also appending her address so that you can write to her at once. You won't have any more time than you need if you begin at once upon receiving this letter. Of course I will meet you at Chungking.
- Eleventh: There is a physician at Tsechow, so that the folks at home need not worry about your welfare. Our health is better than at any time in America, and I am sure that our food will agree with you. There's variety enough.
- Twelfth: It may be that in case Dan and Hasel haven't returned from California by that time, you can visit them on the way, and see some of California, - thus making an agreeable break in the travel. Come by the Southern Route if possible. It is warmer and you can see more.

Clara, no doubt, will want to add items about clothes, etc. so I'll just leave her some space. You see how strong and unanswerable our arguments are. I know of no rebuttal that will avail excepting the one that "you don't want to come"! Of course if there is a change in health between now and then, we wouldn't want you to take unnecessary risks, altho our experience has shown that this change is good for the health also. We consider that two principles consistently followed out enroute will safeguard health: eat only ripe fruit whose skin is unbroken, be sure that the food is well cooked, and water or milk sufficiently boiled. The Pacific steamers take care of this, and the lower Yangtse steamers also; and we'll look after you from Chungking on.

We have just enough time for a round-trip letter in case there are some items which we have not made clear. Bring some more of the folks along if you can. The more the merrier. We can keep three at least here.

With love to you and all,
Affectionately,

P.S. There's too much "letter" this time; Lewis and Clara.
so I'll send the photographs in my next.

L. J. H.

Dear Mother: This is lots of fun planning your visit here. It just makes me all excited. I can not imagine how I will act when we know you are really on your way here. Oh! We think it will be grand for us and a wonderful trip for you. And if you come with Miss Ellison you need have no worries. She will manage every thing for you and be glad to do it.

Now as to clothes. They need not be any extra expense. Without a doubt what you have will be sufficient. Here is a list:

Summer clothes- same as at home.

Winter clothes- A " " " " At least two warm woolen dresses.

A sweater - worn a great deal in Decrs.

The coat and suit you now have will look like latest style here.

Hats-one for summer and one for winter, above suggestion holds.

Shoes-high and low, important that they are comfortable. Low white ones are cool for summer.

rubbers for the mud.

A rain-coat.

umbrella.

Buy a pith hat in Shanghai.

A steamer rug.

It is well to have both summer and winter clothes in your steamer trunk as it may be worn on some stages of your journey and cold at other places.

You will also want a party or evening dress in the steamer trunk as people generally "dress" for dinner on the steamer.

Other necessities:

Pins and hairpins.

Talcum and face powder

Bluing (for the hair)

Tooth paste.

Stationary, pens, and pencils.

Hot water bottle.

Any thing else that would add to your comfort and is not too hard to pack.

Bedding to use on the boat when traveling inland:

A pair of blankets.

A comforter.

A pillow.

If you have an old dress that you do not care much for but is warm it would be just the thing for the inland chair travel.

I have just been doing a little reckoning and this is the result. Adding up your cost of living in the States including board, new hats, suits, dresses, gloves, icecream, movies, Church suppers and dinners, coal, electricity, entertaining at dinners and etc. and etc, amounts to about \$500.

Now add to that one or two extra and you are here. Stay another year here and you have saved the same amount for the home trip. Because once you are here there will be no expense until the home trip. Our cook is continually cooking enough for three and your being here will be no extra expense to us.

This may seem like a big undertaking when you stop to think about all the details. But when you have good traveling companions, someone that has made the journey before you need have no fears. There may be things we have forgotten to tell you about that you would like to know, and that there will not be time for us to write after getting your letter. If so just ask Miss Ellison. She will be glad to write you and tell you anything she can.

I must now stop and get ready for prayer meeting.

Best wishes for a happy and safe journey.

Oceans of love,

Clara



WEST CHINA MISSION

Methodist Episcopal Church

WEST CHINA

CHENG TU SUINING
TZECHOW HOCHOW
CHUNGKING

YANGTZE RIVER

CHANG

NARROW

1500 MILES FROM CHUNGKING TO THE COAST

HANKING

SHANGHAI

LEWIS F. HAVERMALE
HOCHOW, SZE.

Jungchang, Sze.
April 13, 1919.

Dearest Mother and All:-

Clara has forwarded your letters to me and I have had several interesting periods reading them between times of work in this evangelistic campaign. I am now at the point marked on the letter head (Jungchang) and nearer Chungking perhaps than to Tzechow. We are having a great experience here, and one which is perhaps rather unique in China. Mr. Peat secured special gifts at home which he used in Shanghai to have made a great canvas awning covering 4000 square feet. This is used as a cover over the central court of a Confucian temple secured for the meeting through the influence of the city elders. It will seat about 1800 people, and every night but one thus far the benches have all been occupied. Some nights, the crowd was estimated at 3000 all men.

The plan is similar to others which I have mentioned and described since the first year I was here. At 7:30 am. Breakfast at 8:30 am. a council and prayer meeting in charge of Mr. Spence Lewis with the help of all the workers of whom there are approximately thirty. Beginning at 9:30 am and continuing until 12:30 P.M. The following services are held simultaneously; three street-chapels where from four to eight men preach (in each one). The dispensary, where Dr. Liljeström treats women patients in the morning, and men patients until 5 P.M. in the afternoon. Two workers, a man and a woman give Gospel talks to those waiting for treatment. Mrs. Lewis and three Bible women teach the women at the Church; Mrs. Peat, Miss Beatty, and two Bible women have a kindergarten for the children at the school-house; Mr. Hooper and three Chinese colporteurs have various places for the selling of Bibles, religious helps and tracts. Mr. Lawrence and I work in the chapels, although I have also tried to help Mrs. Peat by going to the children after I have finished my work at the chapel.

At 1 P.M. we all re-assemble at the church for reports and suggestions for the improvement of the work or the needs of reaching the people. At 1:30. Chinese dinner. At 2:30 P.M. to 3:30 P.M., class in the new phonetic system of Chinese character writing.

at 4 P.M. to 6 P.M. Song service and lecture by various persons. On one ~~particular~~ local Magistrate (the big man politically of the section) addressed us on Christianity as a help to the Chinese official.

At 7:30 P.M. to 9 o'clock the big evangelistic service is held in the tent with Mr. Keat as evangelist. In all it is estimated that on ^{on} some ^{best} days (twice a week) we reach nearly 500 people; and on the other days about 300 by means of preaching and teaching, while altogether 60,000 tracts have been judiciously distributed. The financing end of the enterprise is also being met by special gift known as the Stewart fund of a million or so dollars given for interdenominational use in China for evangelistic purposes.

Of course my part is scarcely important enough as yet to pay for my board. It is my job in one of the Churches to draw the crowd. This is done by "small talk" in which I describe the various strange and wonderful things of America, a subject which delights every normal Chinese man. One day I took up the material side of American life - food, dress, houses and wages, and led it round to the point that because of our gratitude to God the giver of all we had come over here to help them know that God is also their Father, anxious to help them into like good things. The next day my subject was Chinese and American Customs, "opposites" of course always being interesting, but speaking of America's vote against alcoholic liquor, her laws against polygamy, etc. and closed with a reference to God's commands; that while each nation had a right to its own customs and usages, we were all obliged to change immoral customs, to conform to God's laws. Another day was given to America's endeavor to make her country a place beloved, and prepare her people for citizenship; i.e. schools of all grades, hospitals for ill and insane; reformatory and modern penitentiary practices; mother's pension, and workmen's compensation - all based on the Christian teachings.

Another day, theatres and hotels, homes, etc. were compared with a word as to sanitation and hygiene. After all these talks the Chinese preachers working with me "pitch on" and then gradually preach the essential Christian doctrines. The crowd changes or comes only about fifty men staying

3

clear through, but we usually count on reaching at least
200 for one or more of the talks.

Well, enough of this. We are enjoying ourselves immensely,
and I only wish that Clara could have come down here also.
But the house had just been somewhat settled, and she felt
that she could do more good in the boys' school helping them
to come down here.

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indicated in ink on the letter-head, so as to hold Quarterly
conferences at Dan sandgen, Tsinquachiao, and Yangsueh.
This will cause me to be away from home on Easter Sunday and
bring me back to Tzechow about April 28th. So you see I'll
also spend your birthday either on the road or at Tsinquachiao.
I think Clara has sent you the "souvenir spoon", Chinese hand-
made out of dollar silver, which we bought for you at Chungking.
We have kept it in order to send it down to Chungking with
Miss Perry for mailing - post office officials at Tzechow being
untrustworthy about some things. I hope you will enjoy it, and
that it will be of as much help to you as other things sent you
are reputed to have been.

By the way, Lucile, I wonder if I have ever told you that the
pipe which I sent grandpa is not an opium pipe, but a water
pipe for smoking fine-cut tobacco. I will try to procure an
opium pipe for you but I imagine it will be rather difficult
to do. Unfortunately, however, the Japanese importation of
morphine into China in such quantities in open defiance of
all laws and treaty stipulations, and the bringing of opium
into Szechwan by Southern soldiers, is encouraging the
resumption of the traffic. In one of the back rooms of
an inn where I stopped for dinner on the way down, I
saw six or eight men lying on cots smoking opium. Only
the Southern soldiers had been there to sell, I am told.

I must not forget this time to urge you to mention the
clippings which you have enclosed from time to time,
and to which I receive Clara has referred in her letter
to Auntie. I surely find them interesting, - especially
that one referring to matrimonial suits.

The one which you sent, Grandpa, referring to the purchase
of silver outfits for central China was also gratifying. I
wonder how soon it will come out here in West China where I imagine
- as a result of the war - we are both more shut off from

the rest of the world and could make more commercial use of them. You will have to look again at that map, Mother, and you will find that Szechwan, although situated in Central China as related to North and South, is one of the three provinces farthest west, and extends to the Tibetan frontier.

Now there are a number more things I should refer to in your letters, but if I finish this letter before service time I must cut it short. And I must say something about that Upper Iowa matter. I surely told you in my letter asking for further particulars about interest, that I was sending Dr. Dickinson a draft for the remaining \$200.00 so that last outside obligation is now cared for. I did refer him to you for the interest in order that compound interest might be saved in the time which it takes the notification to be received and answer to be returned. I never even dreamed that it would cause you so much embarrassment as it is wholly unnecessary. It could have been arranged with the Board of Foreign Missions just as well. As soon as I return, I will also send you an order for the interest and for the life insurance premium. If you don't mind sending me the number of my policy, I can also send instructions to the Company and to the Board to look after that matter for a year by year and so relieve you of that. They do this service for almost all of the missionaries, you know.

As to the justice or injustice of the Upper Iowa notice of insurance or the subscription matter, I am afraid that you dear people don't see the matter as I do. Of course if I could have foreseen the way in which things would be handled in this matter - you, Mother - and Clara, I would have been slow about doing it. But if there is any fault anywhere, I must take that responsibility. I don't regret the gift in the least. If I hadn't been so selfish in seeing that I bought about everything I wanted whether I paid for it or not, the things probably would have been cleared up before now.

Besides, Mother dear, remember your tendency to make us out heroes. That is one reason we want you to come out here for a year. You will be here longer because of the anxiety that would be caused you after knowing real conditions. We here never know quite so "affluent" as you, and we would rather have you that year than any bequest which might theoretically be saved by staying in America. It wouldn't be a cost expense to you while here and not a cent more to us. And we will be able to pay back that \$200 borrowed from you, to use on your return trip. Don't say no. Love to all; Am. Lewis

WEST CHINA MISSION
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

[Map printed on writing paper as part of letter head shows Yangtse River delta from Chengtu to Shanghai]

LEWIS F. HAVERMALE
~~HOCHOW~~, SZE.
Jung chang, Sze.
April 13, 1919.

[Letter handwritten]

Dearest Mother and All. –

Clara has forwarded your letters to me and I have had several interesting periods reading them between times of work in this evangelistic campaign. I am now at the point marked on the letter head (Jung chang) and nearer Chungking perhaps than to Tzechow. We are having a great experience here, and one which is perhaps rather unique in China. Mr. Peat secured special gifts at home which he used in Shanghai to have made a great canvas awning covering 4000 square feet. This is used as a cover over the central court of a Confucian temple secured for the meeting through the influence of the city elders. It will seat about 1800 people, and every night but one thus far, the benches have all been occupied. Some nights, the crowd was estimated at 3000, all men.

The plan is similar to others which I have mentioned and described since the first year I was here. At 7:30 AM. Breakfast. At 8:30 AM a council and prayer meeting in charge of Dr. Spencer Lewis for the help of all the workers of whom there are approximately thirty. Beginning at 9:30 A.M. and continuing until 12:30 P.M. the following services are held simultaneously: three street-chapels where from four to eight men preach (in each one). The dispensary, where Dr. Liljestrand treats women patients in the morning, and men patients until 5 P.M. in the afternoon. Two workers, a man and a woman give Gospel talks to those waiting for treatment. Mrs. Lewis and three Bible women teach the women at the church: Mrs. Peat, Miss Beatty, and two Bible women have a kindergarten for the children at the school-house; Mr. Hooker and three Chinese colporteurs have various places for the selling of Bibles, religious helps and tracts. Mr. Lawrence and I work in the chapels, although I have also tried to help Mrs. Peat by giving a chalk to the children after I have finished my work at the Chapel.

At 1 P.M. we all re-assemble at the church for reports and suggestions for the improvement of the work or the methods of reaching the people. At 1:30 Chinese dinner “en masse”[.] At 2:30 P.M to 3:00 P.M., class in the new phonetic system of Chinese character writing.

2.

At 4 P.M. to 6 P.M. Song service and lecture by various persons. On one afternoon the local Magistrate (the big man politically of the section) addressed us on Christianity as a help to the Chinese official.”

At 7:30 P.M to 9 o'clock the big evangelistic service is held in the tent with Mr. Peat as evangelist. In all it is estimated that on market days (twice a week) we reach nearly 5000 people; and on the other days about 3000 by means of preaching and teaching, while altogether 60,000 tracts have been judiciously distributed. The financing end of the enterprise

is also being met by a special gift known as the Steward fund of a million or so dollars given for interdenominational use in China for evangelistic purposes.

Of course my part is scarcely important enough as yet to pay for my board. It is my job in one of the Chapels to draw the crowd. This is done by "small talk" in which I describe the various strange and wonderful things of America, a subject which delights every normal Chinaman. One day I took up the material side of American life -- food, dress, houses and wages, and led it round to the point that because of our gratitude to God the giver of all we had come over here to help them know that God is alas their Father, anxious to help them into like good things. The next day my subject was Chinese and American customs, "opposites" of course always being interesting, but speaking of America's vote against alcoholic liquor, her laws against polygamy, etc. and closed with a reference to God's commands; that while each nation had a right to its own customs and usages, we were all obliged to change immoral customs to conform to God's laws. Another day was given to America's endeavor to make her country a place beloved, and prepare her people for citizenship; re. schools of all grades, vocational schools, schools for the blind, deaf-mutes, orphans, etc. Hospitals for ill and insane, reformatory and modern penitentiary practices; mothers' pension, and workingmen's compensation -- all based on the Christian teachings.

Another day, the inns and hotels, homes, etc were compared with a word as to sanitation and hygiene. After all these talks the Chinese preachers working with me "hitch on" and gradually preach the essential Christian doctrines. The crowd changes of course only about fifty men staying

3.

clear through, but we usually count on reaching at least 200 for one or more of the talks.

Well, enough of this. We are enjoying ourselves immensely, and I only wish that Clara could have come down here also. But the house had just been somewhat settled and she felt that she could do more good in the boys' school helping than come down here.

On my return, I shall cut across country by the route indicated in ink on the letter head, so as to hold Quarterly Conferences at Dansandzen, Trenguchiao, and Yang shren. This will cause me to be away from home on Easter Sunday and bring me back to Tzechow about April 28th. So you see I'll also spend your birthday either on the road or at Trenguchiao. I think Clara has sent you the "souvenir spoon", Chinese hand-made out of dollar silver, which we bought for you at Chungking. We have kept it in order to send it down to Chungking with Miss Penny for mailing -- postoffice officials at Tzechow being untrustworthy about some things. Hope you will enjoy it, and that it will be of as much help to you as other things sent you are reputed to have been.

By the way, Lucile, I wonder if I have ever told you that the pipe which I sent grandpa is not an opium pipe but a water-pipe for smoking fine-cut tobacco. I will try to procure an opium pipe for you but I imagine it will be rather difficult to do. Unfortunately, however, the Japanese importation of morphia into China in such quantities in open defiance of all laws and treaty stipulations, and the bringing of opium into Szechwan by Southern soldiers, is encouraging the resumption of the traffic. In one of the back rooms of an inn where I stopped for dinner on the way down, I saw six or eight men lying on cots smoking opium. Only the Southern soldiers handle it to sell, I am told.

I must not forget this time, Muzzy, to mention the clippings which you have enclosed from time to time, and to which I believe Clara has referenced in her letter to Canton. I surely find them interesting,-- especially that one referring to matrimonial sweets.

The one which you sent, Grandpa, referring to the purchase of wireless outfits for Central China was also gratifying. I hope they soon get some out here in West China where I imagine they are worse needed, since we are both more shut off from

4.

the rest of the world and could make more commercial use of them. You will have to look again at that map, Mother, and you will find that Szechwan, although situated in Central China as related to North and South, is one of the three provinces farthest west, and extends to the Tibetan frontier.

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Besides, Mother dear, remember your tendency to make us out heroes. That is one reason we want you to come out here for a year. You will live years longer because of the anxiety that would be saved you after knowing real conditions. We have never been quite so "affluent" as now, and we would rather have you that year than any bequest which might theoretically be saved by staying in America. It wouldn't be a cent expense to you while here and not a cent more to us and we will be able to pay back that \$200 borrowed from you to use on your return trip. Don't say No. Love to all, From Lewis

WEST CHINA MISSION

Methodist Episcopal Church

WEST CHINA

CHENG TU SUINING
TZECHOW HOCHOW
CHUNGKING

YANGTZE RIVER, 1500 MILES FROM CHUNGKING TO THE COAST

LEWIS F. HAVERMALE
HOCHOW, SZE.

Tsechow, Sze.
May 8th, 1919.

Dearest Mother and All:-

Even though you may still be in California when this letter reaches Canton, Mother dear, I don't dare to address it to you at any other place but home. And likewise I don't know whether to write two letters or not, - one to you and one to the stay-at-homes, that is -- for in all probability this will be read first at Canton and then forwarded. So the old way I guess is best "Dearest Mother and All".

I hardly know where to begin, it has been so long since I wrote you, my last letter being from Yungohang I believe. And of course I couldn't keep a carbon copy so I don't know what I told you then. Probably I'll repeat a lot of things I said then, but you'll understand and excuse I know.

The meeting there was a big success. Mr. Peat's big tent covered a space of about 4000 square feet, and sheltered nearly 1800 people at times. It was used for afternoon lectures and evening evangelistic services. The church was used for workers' inspirational service, councils, and women's services every morning and afternoon. The school-house accommodated about 120 little children who were under the direction of Mrs. Peat, Miss Beatty, and two Bible women, who taught them motion songs, told Bible stories, and in various ways imparted helpful instruction four hours per day. The dispensary was opened in the church guest room, Dr. Liljestrand and a Chinese doctor seeing women patients in the morning and male patients in the afternoon. They averaged over forty per day. Mr. Lawrence, eighteen Chinese preachers and myself worked in the three street-chapels where services were held beginning between 9:30 AM and 10 AM (as soon as we could get a good crowd,) and lasting until 12:30. I preached every day, my job being to collect the crowd, which I could easily do by talking about America and our customs, and by "chalk-talking". Others were in charge of Bible selling and tract distribution. It was carefully estimated that during eight days we reached 22,000 people with the Gospel message direct, besides distributing systematically and selling over 80,000 tracts and Scripture portions.

See letter head for route.

From Yungohang I went in company with Dist. Supt. Den San-si across country to the upper part of the Tsechow District. Everywhere there was the greatest fervor among our Christian converts. We held three quarterly conferences, and at each of these places thirty or more probationers presented themselves for examination. We didn't pass them all by any means, but where they were unable to qualify, Bible conferences were arranged for a later day when they would get together under competent class-leaders and receive instruction for a four day period and master the catechism and other requirements.

At one of these places, Wha Nick Si, we were present the day following Easter Sunday. As it happened, we had no school opened at the place where we were on Easter, so I waited until the next day to distribute some of the cards which Mrs. Preston and the Canton children sent. As they were practically all Easter cards I felt that that would be quite appropriate. I also took a picture of the children holding up the cards for inspection, and have sent this and a letter of thanks to the children at Canton, so you can "fang shin" as the Chinese say, - lay down your heart. The children were all tickled with the cards, and many more outsiders wanted some, but we give our own first chance. This was a WFMS school, so I took the rest of the cards (75) on up to Tien Gu Chiao, the martyr-church, and gave them to the boys of our own General Board school there.

The trip was very pleasant and profitable to me. I spent much time while riding in making a road-map of the district thru which we passed, as I had brought my compass with me and on the small road the men travel about ten Chinese miles an hour which isn't very fast. Mr. Peat is making a map of our Methodist territory, and had never been over the route which I took so he asked me to help him out in this way. I now have a pretty accurate map of my District, and sometime when I have time to make a good copy of it I'll send you one so that if you wish you may follow me around the District.

At one place, Chin Lin Ngan by name, I was the first foreigner who had been there in eight years or since the town was founded, and was a great object of curiosity to the children. They sure lined up thick to see the specimen from America. I had lots of fun joking with them and getting off

some of my sleight-of-hand stunts. After the supper prepared for us, we had service which lasted until eleven P.M. People from all around came and I should say that there were nearly three hundred at the least gathered around that open front of the house where we were. It was real missionary experience. As Mr. Peat says, he will not expect to see any thing like this in China during his life-time.

When I arrived at Tse Yang Hsien I had quite a surprise. Whom should I meet there but Clara who had made the trip of a day and a half with Miss Beatty purposefully to meet me and journey back to Tseohow. She couldn't have chosen a better place. We had a splendid up-stairs room to put our coats, all clean and sunny; the church is one of the best in West China (You have one or two pictures taken there; one where Clara and I are looking at the children lined up for their photograph, taken on our first trip to Chengtu).

The pastor, Tsen Keh Rang, had arranged things very nicely for the quarterly conference, having taken school desks and arranged them in a half-circle facing the large central table where the Dist. Supt., the secretary, and your humble servant sat. Within the circle were flowering plants and shrubs. During a little recess in the proceedings tea and Chinese sweetmeats were served.

Clara and Miss Beatty had brought foreign food along, and Miss Beatty's cook prepared the meals, so everything went off nicely. Of course, as you know, I don't take anything but a couple of cans of cookies with me when I am travelling, and a tin or two of beef-bouillon cubes for use if I want a real light meal. The rest of the time I eat Chinese food altogether. It not only is more convenient and less expensive, but also brings me into closer touch with the people. Just think of me running off from my friends every time I wanted to eat, as though I was afraid of them or else didn't think their food was good enough for me! Fortunately I thoroughly enjoy most Chinese articles of diet, and also manage to thrive on it. Each time I get back Clara has something to say about how much fatter I look.

I preached several times while on the trip, using the Chinese character for "Come" as the basis of a chalk talk. I begin with making a round background of light blue about twenty inches in diameter. Giving the customary apology for my trespass in presuming to instruct the members of my audience (although this is customary for every Chinese speaker to tell how very unworthy he is of the position, in my case it has an even deeper application owing to my limited Chinese. I can preach much more fluently than I can converse, however, since the vocabulary is quite different.) Then I draw the character 一 in red, this being the character for "one". Every one from the youngest to the oldest recognizes this character and so I get an immediate response to my question. This gives me the basis for a talk on the ONE true GOD; why we do not worship idols or many spirits; the unity of Nature's laws, etc. By crossing this character with another red band + the character for "ten" is made. This illustrates the character and distinction of God, as I repeat the Ten commandments, and also read Galatians 5:19-21 which shows what God hates and what he loves in men and women and children. Of course they cannot help but express approval of all these qualities. And I remind them again that God is ONE God whose laws for people are unchangeable even as His laws for the world are unchangeable (Gal. 6:7-9).

The next character 人 is made large; it stands for "man". I tell how God first revealed himself to us as Creator or Father of all, but that since He is Spirit and cannot be seen many people found it hard to do any thing but fear Him. Love meant nothing so long as it was only a word (illustrated by the term "foreigner", and the Chinese idea of a foreigner before they saw one for themselves and learned that the missionary wanted to help rather than harm them). So this "word" became flesh and dwelt amongst us (John 1:14 N 18). In other words, God then revealed Himself in the form of Man. I tell of how Jesus proved his love; reverence of his mother, work among men as carpenter, healing, teaching. How even in persecutions and revilings he did not cease to love and forgive. Then I place the man character upon the cross character thus, 木 and tell the story of the crucifixion and Christ's unflinching love. Then I tell of the two thieves, one on either side of Jesus; one who cursed and the other who repented, and apply the story to the two classes of hearers in the world; ALL sinners, but some believe and repent while others will not. Up to this time the use of the different colors conceals the fact that the finished character 來 is the word for "Come" but a little question and hinting soon results in recognition and it comes as a real revelation to them all. I quote Matt. 11:28-30 as the invitation of Jesus to them, and we close with the hymn "Whosoever will may come" which has a catchy tune and has a very good effect when first read and explained and then sung. I know that it takes well both with the congregation and with the preachers for the latter have come to me for my outline.

On the last day when Clara and I were returning to Tseohow from Yang Hsien, I was to stop at Wu Li Dien to choose between four building sites one of which the people there expect to buy for a church and school, and I



I hadn't expected to preach there at all, as we were very anxious to make Tsechow by night and it was a long day's trip. But when we got there the class-leaders and stewards wanted me to and I'm first of all a missionary. So inside of fifteen minutes, Clara helping, I got my paper, chalk, Bible and hymn-book out of my load, and we turned a table up sidewise and used the top of it for a board on which to pin my drawing paper and we got busy. Before the preparations were completed, rapid as they were, the room was filled with nearly a hundred folks. I had one of the best times preaching to them that I've ever had, either here or in America. We got within three hours of Tsechow, but had to stay all night in an inn and make the rest of the trip on Tuesday morning. But it was worth the inconvenience.

Clara brought along a fine bunch of letters up to Yang Hsien with her. Two from you, Mother, one of which included about a dozen from Hazel, beginning with the invitation to come to California and getting hotter and hotter until the decision was arrived at. We surely rejoice with you in the opportunity and experience, and hope that our recent letters will have a similar effect on you and persuade you to come still further West.

There was lots of news which we are very much interested in, but upon which I scarcely have room enough to comment. Sidney's purchase of the house on the instalment plan; Justin's marriage; the subscriptions to the Ladies' Home Journal and the Literary Digest (you're a peach, Mother dear, and we can never thank you enough. Clara reconstrates with us for letting you do so much for us, but I tell her we all have to pay for our pleasures and I scarcely know who is enjoying these things the most, the receivers or the giver!); then there's the news of the will concerning which lots of things must be said at an appropriate time, though personally I just now want to say, Don't hesitate to spend your money on yourself; you have earned it, and you needn't fear for us.

Then there is the item of the check sent to Dr. Dickman (\$51.00) for interest. I have his receipt for that amount, and also for the \$300.00 principal which we sent upon our arrival at Tsechow, so that won't be a bugbear to you longer, nor to us. I am enclosing an order on New York for \$100.00 gold which will pay for my life-insurance premium and repay you for the interest. It will be taken out of my salary about four months hence as soon as you have sent in the check with your request to New York. It was my mistake, - telling Dr. Dickman that I had sent you money for the interest. I thought I had, but I had never received an itemised account from you for the \$34.00 which I sent, and my list was merely a matter of guesses as to approximate cost. So I did not know just how I stood with you. If you will let me know from time to time just how we stand in our accounts with you it will help me not to cause you embarrassment by my mistakes hereafter. For we can pay these better now than hitherto, and we do not want to sponge even if you are willing for us to do so. All the borrowed money and subscriptions have now been paid, and we are practically square with the world-- excepting YOU. You have had to wait until the last. But when you get ready to return to America in the Spring of 1921 we'll have your two hundred ready to help on the home trip.

I don't know what all we would like to promise in order to get you here. But we expect soon to hear that you are planning to leave California for the Orient in company with Miss Ellison in September or October 1919. Take our word for it, you'll save the cost of the trip in board and dress and if you care to rent part of "285" while you're away, you'll be just that much ahead. There'll be physicians on the steamers en route, a number in Chungking, and one at Tsechow when you arrive, so don't worry. And you'll have a "tonic trip", and a rest, that I'm sure the folks at home will not begrudge you a minute. And if they do, just tell them to salt down a thousand dollars and come along (maybe I should have said "very loose") for this is the chance of a lifetime to see the world and the progress of the Kingdom, and nations in the making, and last, but we hope not least, some folks over here who love you more than the tongue can tell in two languages.

To borrow an expression from Clara's sister Alva, we send this

With oceans of love and a kiss on every wave,

Lovingly,

Lewis and Clara.



WEST CHINA MISSION

Methodist Episcopal Church

WEST CHINA

CHENG TU SUINING
TZECHOW HOCHOW
CHUNGKING

YANGTZE RIVER, 1500 MILES FROM CHUNGKING TO THE COAST

HANKING SHANGHAI

LEWIS F. HAVERMALE
HOCHOW, SZE.

Tzechow, Sze.

May 25, 1919.

Dearest Mother and All:-
Well, I have the family letter and am mighty glad to hear from you all, though why I am apparently speaking as though I were the only member of the China contingent of the family is more than I know. We are both glad!! Not that we don't get letters regularly from home; we get them more regularly than we send them, I am afraid. But that is often because I happen to be in places where there would be no chance to mail a letter and I have to wait until I get back home to write.
But this letter that came during the week started at Canton on Friday at 2:05 P.M., stopped off for a while, picked up one from Dan and you at Los Angeles and arrived here just six weeks from Cal. And just before that we got letters from Mussy, and Lucille and you, all of which I am afraid I haven't answered.

So -- taking them up chronologically -- we are delighted that you all like the little knick-knacks we sent you for Christmas, or St. Patrick's Day, whenever it was that they arrived. Hope you find a way to use the silk sent you; I didn't know that they were making combination suits just the way you describe. But then I'm sure you, tho' married, so I can hardly be expected to appreciate your description to the full. As for Dan's chopsticks, I'll have to confess that not all chopsticks are used as eating utensils. The ones sent him were for handling the charcoal-coals in the brazier which all the Chinese carry in the winter wherever they go to warm their hands or feet. Chopsticks used at the table are usually of wood, either painted brightly or hand-carved. When guests of honor come quite often ivory chopsticks or those made of bone and tipped with silver are given them. These all come in sets of sixteen. Unfortunately for some of us, however, only two are given to a person so we can't adopt Dan's scheme of using a bunch of six. No trouble to exist, though, Dan! About the third time out with them and you would hate to be seen in public using a knife and fork.

Harry's cash was coined sometime between 158 B.C. and the first century or two A.D. My coin book says that it is impossible to distinguish between the "mintings" of that dynasty. Whenever I have an opportunity I try to pick up (buy, is a better word for a missionary) some of these old coins, just to satisfy my collecting fever and retain my youth. When I was out with Ben San Si, the Dist. Supt. of the upper section of this District, he discovered my interest and told me of excavations which had been made for a new church in the Chengtu District, where quite a quantity of ancient coins had been dug up at once. There was one complete "string" (1000) of Wu Dau cash such as Harry has, besides a number of other kinds as ancient. The proceeds from the sale of them were sufficient to pay for the labor of building the church. He has promised me a number of them as a gift. I have four dating from 2 AD to 23 AD in the shape of a knife, and spade, besides others of later date, but I have not yet been able to duplicate the "San Liang" coin which we sent Dan. If we get up to Chengtu again I think I shall be able to, though.

We are glad you liked the bag Mussy; it was Clara's selection and arrangement. Wish we could get another of the little combs to send Grandpa. I'll keep my eyes open for one, though we are out of the region where they "grow" now. One has to be in the larger centers to get chances at most of these things. You bet I know Charlie! Helped to fix up one for our Eskimo's Carnival at Chebanse that you couldn't tell from the original. Mightily glad to hear direct from you how much better you are feeling. Yes, 1923 does seem like a long time to wait before furlough time. But honestly, haven't these three years gone by mighty fast? We expect to get back to you all and to see you all quite a few times yet.

One of the things that troubled us most, Mother, in this last letter was your reference to coming to visit us. No one could be gladder than we for your opportunity to see California and the intervening country, and in such good company. We are anticipating at least part of that pleasure sometime. Clara is trying to persuade Father and Mother Tolstrup to meet us in Norway or Denmark on our return trip and "let" their native countries. We hope they can get up their courage to do so. You see we want to get you used to the idea, -- all of you -- because that is the hardest part of all. It's all foolishness about riding thru the Great Desert in a Buick being sore of

luxury than riding in a sedan-chair in West China. Said in your eyes, tire-blowups, scenery flying by so fast you can't get the time to appreciate it, etc., etc. But after the first few li which some timid folks require to become accustomed to being carried in a chair, to have a chance to see things comfortably in the interior of China, scenery and folk-life galore; opportunities for rest if you want them every seven miles or so; get out and walk when the day's stage is short; a course dinner awaiting you at the inns, prepared with your own stuff by your own cooks, - that's luxury! Of course there are smells, and unbeautiful sights, and minor discomforts at inns which you will be glad to overlook since WE and HOME are at the end; how won't you!

You certainly have been having some fine opportunities of seeing old friends out in California. I would love to see Aunt Della especially. The principal reason for not having written her has been my fear that the address was changed. Hitherto I had written to 222 N. Cummings St. Then she changed it to 383 N. Chicago Ave. and it was my impression that I had written her there but had not received an answer. I also wrote Otto Fausel two years ago and have received no reply. I wrote again last week to remind him. It was interesting to have tidings of Everett again. I could not understand Haasel's reference to his mother's relationship with his. It seemed to imply that "diplomatic relations had been cut off", but that was scarcely conceivable.

Thanks for the clippings; they are always interesting, and so far as they appertain to China they seem to coincide with what we have learned here on the ground. The only things with which I would disagree in many of the references which I have read are the descriptions of Japan's friendly intentions toward China. I have yet to find the American in China, or the American newspaper published in China which trusts the Japanese. Their arrogance toward Americans and Chinese, their persecution of them whenever possible, their underhanded methods in business and their secret treaties with the militarists of China where by practically all the natural resources of the country are now in their control, the importation of opium which is growing to be more of a menace than opium was, - all of these things do not help to engender warm feelings or trust. In recent articles from the official Japanese papers I note two significant facts; first the claim that American missionaries are in the pay of our government to teach the Chinese to hate the Japanese; and secondly, the assertion that Japan must assert an Asiatic Monroe doctrine and drive the Americans out of these Asiatic countries. Such things from their own papers don't look good to us.

Dear Mother! there you go again about "deficit in our living expenses"! When and where have we ever given you the ground for thinking that we were so much up against it? I note in your card to Dr. Dickman that you quote me as saying that in view of our straitened financial condition, we would have to ask our friends in America to contribute two hundred dollars to help us out. That was not meant as a personal need, particularly. Loss in exchange had caused a deficit which had to be made up. But the way in which it finally was made up was by individual subscription and the cutting down on the amount of work undertaken. A number of small schools were closed up and various retrospectives made. We have paid off about five hundred dollars (gold) left in these two years, and have just sent in a hundred and fifty dollar order to "Uncle Monty", - a luxury which we have denied ourselves for the two previous years. We still think that we will be able to keep ahead of the game, although we don't expect to buy any Buick cars during this life, and hope to have earned some wings for the nest. So you see our hopes are large. Our saving plan for the future will take the form of life insurance. The Methodist Ministers Mutual offers a twenty-year endowment policy, participating plan, which will give us five percent untaxable income on investments, and which we think worth while taking up. We've figured out that we can lay by about \$250.00 per year out of our \$1050.00, pay our tithe regularly, and live comfortably if we manage carefully. This \$250.00 will pay the annual premium on my present \$2000.00 and enable us to collect \$4000.00 more twenty years hence, or give Clara that amount if I go sooner. I know that doesn't sound like much, but it would at least make the sunset stage of life somewhat sunnier and peaceful, and I doubt whether such a sum could be attained on a missionary's salary. Of course this does not include the supernannate's pension.

I'm pretty busy these days. Have been asked to give the address to the graduating class of Bible Women here on June 18th. As I leave here on June 2nd not to return until the evening of my birthday, it's up to me to get it all in shape before I start out and to work some on the way. Tomorrow I'm to take dinner at the invitation of General Wu of the army of Yunnan soldiers in Szechwan. I'm not strong on going but it is best I guess for the sake of the church. Will try to tell you about it in my next the no doubt it will be like all the rest of these functions. Glad to hear of your plans, Dan; write again and tell me more about them. We'll be glad to get the pictures. Will slip a few in here. With lots of love, affectionately,

Lewis and Clara.