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Letters from Hazel Todd (1919)

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Jan. 4, 1920

Yangchow, Kiangsu, China, Jan. 4, 1920

Dear Mother:-

Your most welcomed letter came last night and I was very glad to hear from you again. I do not think of you forgetting me for I know you are very busy with so much to do but I like the letters also.

Alice must be busy also if she is preparing to sing in the cantata. I would have enjoyed hearing her sing in the cantata. You spoke of getting new things I have had my share for a time at least. But we do not often need to dress up. Perhaps one reason it seems seldom is that with different kinds of things to do than we are used to time does not go so fast.

The Strathmore paper came for the first time last week and while I have not yet written to thank them for it expect to very soon. But the time you get this you will probably know I have written twice to Mr. McCoy and have written once to the Baptist church. I have orders from headquarters to keep in touch with the Baptist church so must write them again soon. They must have designated that some of the money they gave was for me at least that is what they have told me. (The board I mean said so. Many other letters have also been written you doubtless know.

In the same mail with yours and Isabelle's was one from the Institute, one from Mrs. Lammell Harris it was a long one and she sent me a beautiful linen handkerchief with a yellow scotch ed edge. There was one from Helen Hasing also. It was in answer to a postal written her in Japan. She had been so proud of it that she even took it to school to show the teachers. She said the teacher showed it to the sixth and seventh grades. Do the children care for the letters and cards I sent them. I wish I could have sent something real to them. What I did send was supposed to be hand-painted but I had no material on hand to properly mount them.

Some of my letters must do a lot of travelling according to Isabelle but that is about all I can do in a visible way for the people at home now. To tell the truth they do a lot of travelling before you see them and there often must be three or four on the way.

Jan. 5. It snowed Sunday all day and even yet the snow is not nearly all melted! The sun shone very little today. The houses here are not built for cold either. Thanks to my warm Chinese shoes I do not have chibblains on my feet but do have it on my hands a little. My cap and scarf come in very well these days. Wadded Chinese garments can take the place of a coat but Chinese women never do seem to wear anything on their heads.

You must think I do not appreciate the money not having spoke of it sooner but I do. It was one of the things wanted not that my treasury was particularly low but all my money was Chinese and I wanted some U. S. money for a particular use. What Mr. Trinch sent was a check on a Shanghai bank. He sends several hundred dollars a year to China for missionary work now that his salary is larger. But I think that from what he said when I was in Portland and in his letter that he is seriously considering about coming back to China.

Jan. 6. Today has been very much the same as usual. The sun did come out and melt most of the snow today. I had to fix a book for my Chinese teacher to do some work on the first chapter of John in. We will begin Bible reading in Chinese probably a month or six weeks from now.

"And the Lord said — Surely I will be with Thee." Judges 5:16.
God nothing does, nor suffers to be done,
But thou wouldst do if thou couldst see,
The end of all events as well as He."

Please excuse me this time for scribbling this letter but I will try to better next time. Again I wish to thank you for the five dollar bill.

With love to all of you,
Hazel Todd.

Jan. 4, 1921

Sept. 17, 1930.

Dear Mother: Just a word to say that I am glad to be on the way. Hazel Rowling sat with me until we got to Fresno. The train waited more than an hour there. It was about noon so I ate lunch there. It is a splendid day for riding on the train when the windows are open and I am on the shady side of the car. It will be necessary to change at Oakland pier this evening at 7:15. I am writing this when we stop as the train jiggles to march to write when we are going. It surely is dusty today. Between the dust and the sun shine it is quite necessary to wear colored glasses a day like today. Most of the people on the train today are foreigners. I wonder what some people are thinking now that they know I went on the earlier train. For my part it is well it happened as it did. Now try not to miss me too much. I know that you are making the real sacrifice. And do not worry about me.

With love to all of you,
Hazel Todd.



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mrs. C. A. Todd,
Strathmore,
Calif..

1920

R.R.

Sept. 19, 1950.

Dear Mother:-

We are as far north of San Francisco as you are south now. This train left Oakland about eleven last night. We reached there about 7:25. While waiting there I wrote two of those many letters I have to write. They let us come into the car shortly after nine.

The mountains are nice and green here and there is real water in the streams. Of course the train makes lots of stops on the way and long ones. This postal will be all the writing for me today. But I am one day's journey away from home now and so much on the start toward my destination. But I am so glad to be on the way even though there were a some things left behind.

Some of the leaves are turning red and yellow which makes the green leaves all the more beautiful. Whoever slept in the berth above mine is sleeping late for it is nearly ten. All together this is certainly a wonderful trip.

We have went quite a distance since this was began this morning but you may get this by Tuesday anyway. Hope this will find you well. Have missed church today but have my Bible here. Passed Dunsmuir before noon.
Love to all, Hazel Todd.

BROOK.
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THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

1920

Mrs. C. A. Todd,
Strathmore,
Calif..

R. R..

Yangchow, Kiangsu, China, Nov. 3, 1920.

Dear Isabell:-

In these busy days I often think of you and wonder just where you are and what you are doing. It does take such a long time for letters to reach me and I suppose by this time you have written me. I begin to see now why it is so important to write to missionaries. It is our one touch with home and we do not forget the Father's house right away.

There are twelve of us young women here in this home studying the language and they expect about five more. Four are from England, five from the States, one from Canada and two are from Australasia. Out here we call U. S. A. the States.

We have three Chinese teachers one woman and two men. We each have a private lesson and three group classes every day. I have a woman teacher for my private lessons. She is wonderfully patient but very exact with me. Getting these tones, when to aspirate and not and those idioms is quite a task. Fortunately they do not have declensions and conjugations like Latin and the numerical system is somewhat like our own. They have one character they attach to all verbs to make it past ^{tense} and one they use to attach to nouns to make them possessive. The order of the words while very different than ours is not particularly hard to catch.

I suppose you people at home are thinking about how the election is turning out. We are more interested here about what kind of Chinese officials we are getting. Some provinces have a very good stable government. Others hardly have any government at all. However we new workers have not much cause for fear as they shield us from so much just at first. At present the Chinese Christians are getting up a petition to our government to ask them to prevent the breweries from coming over here. I often feel like being very much ashamed of my native land that such a thing should be necessary. Also that the most common thing for sale here in China from U. S. A. is cigarettes. Why does the Lord so continue to favor us when we are such sinners against the poorer and more ignorant people of the earth. God be merciful to our sinful nation.

I feel very unworthy of the love and respect of these Chinese.

The Chinese Christians always stand when we missionaries enter the room. They call us teachers or big sisters.

Nov. 6. This letter has been slightly interrupted the round robin letter which we B. I. folks out here in China under the C. I. M. ^{have} come around to me and I had to put something in it and send it on. I wrote two sheets full almost as full as I could pack them with B. I. news. I thought the next time the news would not be fresh or would not not have made it so long. I found when it was nearly finished it was the rule one account of postage to only have one sheet but the one who told me begged me not to cut it down this time. The other day my Chinese teacher asked me if my friends were in a foreign country. (By the way we are the foreigners here in Chiora in more sense than one). And she was not only amused but pleased by my answer that I had friends ^{here} in China and friends in a foreign country. But it was just the way I feel about it and there are some reasons why. Of course my answer had to be in Chinese.

Today three of the English young women with one of the servants went out into the country. We never go out without an escort. The others had never seen sweet potatoes or cotton growing. The servants are always quite willing to escort the "chiao-si" if they know before hand we want to go. My Chinese name is pronounced "do" but the Romanized spelling of it is "tiao". They put the name before the title. Hence when they call me by name it sounds like "do jiao-si."

Nov. 8. Friday evening one of our B. I. people got here from Shanghai. She in her husband have been appointed to go far inland and it was partly to see me as well as several others that she came up but she goes back Wednesday. She and I have already had a splendid visit. Friday evening the other C. I. M. missionaries here in Yangchow were over and the girls gave them a musical program.

It is raining this evening and has rained a lot to day. It is the first rain I have seen here in China.

One interesting thing about that round robin letter was that one couple in it announced their engagement and another couple told some of the arrangements for their marriage. It takes almost six months for one to get around so they have two or three in circulation. It certainly was interesting even though some things were a little stale.

This letter will have to close now I will try to write again soon.

"The Lord bless you and keep you."

Wagel Fork,
% China Inland Mission, Yangchow, Kia Chingiang, Kiangsu, China.

Yangchow, Kiangow, China, Nov. 9, 1925.

Dear Father:-

This letter will be for you this time partly because of the fact that Mother will have her hands full if she answers all the letters I have written her since I started from home. I would not care to promise to keep on writing so often but will do the best I can. Many of my letters are written as much to you as to Mother but as they have her name on them they probably seem to you to belong entirely to her.

There are two things you always seem to want know about. In the first place I have a plenty to eat but miss the fruit and the fresh water. No water in China is fit to drink without its first having been boiled. The Chinese know this and never offer water that has not been boiled. Of course water that has been boiled does not taste fresh.

The question of money is not likely to bother me very soon at least I know I have plenty on hand ^{at} present. Expenses in many directions are cheaper than at home. In some others they are much higher. They aim to allow each of us \$750 a year although they may fall far short of it. Some of our traveling expenses will have to be paid out of this but not all of it.

This Chinese may be almost as much of a stumbling block to me as Latin was however I am here now and I simply have to get this. In many ways my study of Latin helps in this.

Of course on every side I am reminded that this is a heathen city and not California but I do praise the Lord for having brought me here. The fields are little and queer and the streets are narrow. But we live in this comfortable house enclosed by a high brick wall. There is a large garden but some times it makes one feel a little like a bird in a cage not being allowed out of the gate without an escort. One reason for this is that the streets are so narrow and crooked it would be very easy to get lost and our Chinese is as yet so limited that in case we should get lost we would not be able to inquire the way home. This place is about so large as Los Angeles.

As yet the weather has been very much like California but it has turned colder tonight and it feels like we might have frost. We have had very little rain. The farmers depend on rains here

to soften the ground before they plow the ground and sow their winter wheat. Ground is so scarce they have to use it each year. The ground seems nearly as hard as at home and a little like it. So you can imagine the Chinese have been very much in need of rain here this fall. They usually sow their winter wheat before the middle of November.

Many of the fruits and plants are like they have in California. So when I go for walks I keep pointing trees and plants some of them had never seen before. They grow lots of sweet potatoes and peanuts around here but not Irish potatoes.

This letter will have close now but I will try to find the time to write again.

"Peace perfect peace, with love ones far away,
In Jesus' keeping we are safe and they."

With love,

Hazel Todd,

Yangchow, Kiangow, China.

C/S China Inland Missions.

Nov 9

Nov. 9, 1920

Yangchow, Kiangsu, China. Nov. 12, 1920.

Dear Mother:-

This letter will be started tonight and then added to from day to day for a while. It may not always be possible for me to write as often but one can not study Chinese all the time or the characters would start playing hide and go seek in our brains. Besides that as my Chinese vocabulary only consists of about a hundred words I can not make much head way talking with the people in fact as yet we do not try. By this time you must be beginning to get letters from China. As yet I have had two letters from the States since coming here. But I have lost track of the number written.

We are now getting settled down where there is not so much to write. We study Chinese most of the time. We do go for a walk most days which most of the time I would enjoy more if my eyes were closed or if I could strike out at my own gait and go as far as I want to. They have the ugliest looking dogs I have ever seen here in China. The cats are not quite so bad. There are so many beggars and blind too. The other day we took a walk on the top of the city wall. There we could look over down into the gardens and see also the trees. When we walk in the street brick walls prevent us from seeing gardens. That day we saw more lognat trees than almost any other kind. Days when we do not go outside we walk around in the garden. They have some fig trees there that never ^{have} borne fruit but are big enough to. The one at the head here was asking me what I thought was the explanation for their not bearing. This morning I thought about asking her if they were the kind you have to have fig wasps for to make ~~them~~ ^{them} and she had never heard of such a thing. The people here in charge are good missionaries but they have some things to learn about fruit trees. It is not my place to tell them so but I was asked about the fig trees. The Chinese servants do the work and they have sense enough to know how to grow the vegetables themselves.

This week it has turned colder and we begin to need warmer clothing as they have not yet started fires.

Nov. 14. I attended Chinese church service today and caught a

word now and then and once in a while two or three words together but could not catch the general drift of what was said. He did use the word for knowledge or knowing very often and I found out latter that the sermon was on divine wisdom.

Nov. 17. This week I bought a pair of Chinese shoes. They are black satin trimmed with braid. They are lined with heavy flannel and warmly interlined and are very much warmer than our shoes. There is just one fastener on them a buckle like on over shoes. They cost \$2.25. I thought I could save my more expensive shoes by having them. They would make the finest kind of house or bed room slippers. When I have a little more confidence in myself I may have some made and sent home. You would have to see them to know how warm and comfortable they are.

I am planning on having some Chinese trousers to wear under my shirts when it gets colder. I already have a Chinese wadded jacket but I have to have it altered a little. A suit of brocaded poplin lined with cambric and wadded heavily with cotton costs five or six dollars. Most of the Chinese goods is more durable than ours. The trousers will of course be wadded. You see that you will not need to worry about my keeping warm. Chinese clothing is warm.

Perhaps Winifred and Gordon will be a little disappointed about my not having written them but I have not forgotten them and will try to write to them next. I see so few children that it is hard to know what to write to them about though.

A week ago Sunday the gate-keeper here was ordained as an elder and most of the time since then he has been very sick. One man before was ordained as an elder and soon afterwards died. The heathen Chinese are very superstitious about these things so we surely have prayed for his recovery. He is getting better now. It would have been a very great hindrance to the work if he were not better.

Two of the servants went to celebrate their mother's seventieth birthday last week. While there the good time they had expected was very much spoiled by some evil men who came daily demanding money saying that their brother who is now dead owed them a large sum of money. It worried the mother considerably and it was so unjust. They did talk about going to law about it but it was finally settled outside of court. They say going to law in China is much worse than at home.

This letter will have to close now although not long. Hazel Todd.

"Hallelujah & praise the glory, Hallelujah amen,
Hallelujah & praise the glory, He is coming again."

Yangchow, Kiangsu, China, Nov. 17, 1920

Dear Charlie:-

Because I can not show you things as they are out here with out writing I will try ^{to} write you a letter about it. Things are so different here than at home. The other day I saw a cat jump from a house on one side of the street to a house on the other. It did not take an unusually long jump either.

Most of the hauling here in Yangchow is done by wheel barrow. You can usually know when a wheel barrow is within a block or two of you or is going by for it protests because of the lack of oil every step of the way. They haul all hours of the day and night and often in the very early morning one begins to hear the squeak.

They have lots of birds here in China. Great flocks of large rooks or crows fly into the city each evening. A great many of them roost in the trees here in the garden every night. But in the morning they fly out into the country districts where they must do an awful lot of damage. In planting time the Chinese make little shelters of mats and stay in the fields all night to keep the birds scared away. There is good reason for this as the birds are so large. They have some very beautiful birds too.

Perhaps you would like to know what the men wear. Beggars wear garments which look like a dirty ragged old bed quilt. The main color the poorer class wear is a very bright blue. The beggars garments though are faded. Rich men wear black satin caps which fit tightly, black brocaded satin jackets of a very rich and beautiful quality such we almost never see at home, black satin slippers and white stockings. Their skirts are usually of ankle length and slip at the sides to the knee. Buddhist priests wear a drab colored garment which opens in front and reaches clear to the ground. The sleeves usually extend about six inches below the hand. Buddhist priests look like rascals to me.

Last night I had my first real Chinese meal and ate with chop sticks. The food was very delicious and I hope to have another Chinese meal soon because it was so good. We had rice already put on the table. In the center of the table were four Chinese dishes all of which were very good. One

Nov. 17 1920

was made of chicken and chestnuts. One was bamboo sprouts and pork, another was a mixture of vegetables squash and some other things and the other dish had fish in it. They had three kinds of relishes. It was all seasoned so good and I liked it as well or better than American food. Latter they served us coffee and cake and Chinese pea nut brittle. Chinese candy is very good. The coffee and cake were like our own but were not served with the main meals.

The Chinese run lots of boats up and down the canal near here. The frame work of some of the sails which are often as much as 13 x 20 ft. or even more are of bamboo. A Chinese boat seldom has more than one sail while Japanese boats have several. If you want to know what a real Japanese boat looks like look on the postage stamp. They also have many launches and flat boats. On the canals they pull the flat boats from the shore or paddle them along if they are only crossing. One day five of us crossed the canal and it cost us two cents for being taken across. It is possible to change a cent as it takes ten to fifteen cash to make a cent.

When you write please tell me what letters have been forwarded to me. Also I will be glad when I get Isabelle's address so I can write direct to her. You do not need to attend to that as she has quite likely even by now written more than once. It will not do for me to say anything about writing for I know at times there must be four or five letters on the way for I have written more than an average of a letter week to you people since reaching Japan.

"Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."

Your sister,
Hazel Todd.

Nov. 20, 1920

Yangchow, Kiangsu, China, Nov. 20, 20.

Dear Mother:-

This is late Saturday night so I must soon stop for tonight. This has been another busy week and it has slipped by so quickly. It is a good thing sometimes you and I do not have to change jobs for this is the sixth letter this week and that is my average but I am going to have to write more in the future as there are people I will have to keep in touch with.

Yesterday I received word from the Treasurer's department at Shanghai that twenty-five dollars had been received in Philadelphia from the Baptist church in Strathmore. You probably have known it for weeks though. He asked that if I were not already doing so for me to keep in touch with them and to acknowledge the gift at once. It was marked personal for my support and expenses. So it has been up to me to get at it and write them a long letter.

I have just received word of the death of "Mother" Horton. The Institute will scarcely seem like the same place without her there. It certainly is a great loss to the work of the Bible women and the Sycum Club.

It has not been long either since I learned of Mr. Alexander's death. It seems such a short time since I last heard him lead in the songs of praise.

It seems so strange to me that letters do not come more frequently. Since coming to China I have had two from the States and only one of those from you and one was from the board. I get letters and notes from here in China but not from home.

Mr. and Mrs. Saunders are now back from their preaching and teaching trip so I hope to see them soon. They have been away most of the time since I came here so I have not seen them except in Shanghai.

The two Australian young women came from the Bible Institute they have there and they used the same kind of doctrine book that we had, Dr. Torrey's "What the Bible Teaches." No matter whether they come from England or Australia or any other place they all know something about Dr. Torrey.

Nov. 22. Today we American young women here in the home received an invitation to Thanksgiving dinner from another American missionary here in Yangchow. Five of us are going from here. The other nine there will be there are not Americans.

Today I received another B. I. round robin letter and another note from Mrs. Saunders. I am writing a letter to add to it this evening and expect to take the letter over to her tomorrow

noon. One of the other girls and a servant will go with me. It is very interesting for among those who write in it are two engaged couples and a young married couple who tell how many teeth the baby has. It is only about five minutes walk to go over to the Saunders' place.

Nov. 23, It is just two months now since we left Vancouver. But it seems so much longer because so much has happened since then. If you can imagine how it would be to be so far away from home as long as that and only get one letter you know how I felt about it. However I presume it is not your fault because you may not be getting many letters either.

Today I went over to see Mr. and Mrs. Saunders. They have a very nice home. It would be considered nice at home. I wish you could have seen it. On one wall were the pictures of their two children who died from exposure during the Boxer Uprising. Underneath were the words, "Nothing is too good for fears." They have some framed pictures from the Institute one like the whole school picture I have and one taken at Picher that I was at also of Dr. Torrey, Mr. Saunders and Mr. Horton taken when they were not looking. They have very nice furniture in the house which is a two story one. Outside they have a nice lawn and trees very much like they have in California. Mr. Saunders was telling me that they intend to plant an American Beauty rose bush in the spring. They have just come back from a months conference work. They intend to stay at home the rest of the winter and Mr. Saunders in addition to his evangelistic work intends to teach a series of Bible classes on prophecy and the dispensations. He was working on it when I ~~was~~ ^{was} there today. But he stopped to visit with us during the few minutes we were there. They will be over here a little while this evening.

I wish it were possible for me to be doing more for you these days than just writing letters. But I will try to do that.

"May I be faithful unto the trust He assigned me;

Constant in service, Earnest in all that I do;

May I be faithful! But in the field may He find me,

When He returneth, patient and loyal and true!

Once more I praise the Lord for bringing me here.

Lovingly,

Hazel Todd.

Phil. 4:6, 7. 0251 102 NOV 23

Yangchow, Kiangsu, China. Nov. 29, 1920

Dear Mother:-

Your unusually long and most welcome letter reached me last week. It was rather a surprise also that you had already gotten one of my letters mailed in Japan. There were two mailed in Japan so you must have long ago gotten another one. For the time I am here in the training home I will try to send you a letter on nearly every mail boat but at times that may not be often.

Five of us went from here to the home of some American Episcopalians for Thanksgiving dinner which was in the evening. There were twenty-four of us there and all but one were missionaries. There are two other American missionaries in Yangchow but they could not be there and that is the total number not counting some children of Americans in this city of several hundred thousand. We went a few minutes before six and the first thing we went to was a Thanksgiving service held in the chapel on the compound. Then they had dinner after it. There were five courses. Of course the first course was soup. The second course we had roasted and stuffed duck, mashed potatoes, succatash made corn and lima beans, apple sauce and the most delicious tiny little light rolls. For third course they had tomatoe salad. Fourth course was pumpkin pie and for fifth course there were nuts, apples and other fruits. The table was beautifully decorated with the fruit and red leaves. They even had place cards, favors and finger bowls. Of course nothing but my black silk dress was good enough or suitable for such an occasion.

Our gate keeper from here was taken to the hospittle last week and they feared for a time he would not live but he is now better. The doctor of the American Baptist hospittle took him there and the missionaries here say he is getting very good care.

Saturday evening I got a letter from Liela Robinson one the young women whom I used to go out for walks with. The letter was just like she is which is saying a whole lot for the letter. She is planning to be married Thanksgiving day. The young man came out at the same time she did two years ago. He wanted her to go with him before they left the Institute but I do not know whether they did or not.

Saturday I saw Mr. and Mrs. Saunders again. Mrs. Saunders was very much interested in seeing that centerpiece of mine because she happened to know the girl who made it.

Saturday afternoon we had a birthday celebration for the aunt of one of the young women here and the daughter of one of the C. I. W.

missionaries here in Yangchow. It only lasted two hours and we did not have as fancy refreshments as we sometimes have at home but we ended up with a sing which we enjoyed so much.

Again I wonder if all my friends at home have forgotten me when only your letter reached me. I am writing to Mr. McCay again not because I like to or feel under obligations to do so but just because it may stir some one up and after all it is my church even if it does have faults and it is my duty to do something for it for that reason.

Last week one of the workers from one of the stations where a girl I know is, was here. She told of the most interesting things about their work. In that station only on very few occasions have they had more than two missionaries and they have nearly two hundred christians.

I was glad to know that some of the land has been sold but sorry to learn about the olives. You surely must be busy if you get so much done and the roses must have been lovely when you wrote. They still have roses here but they ^{say} that this is unusually late for them to have roses and they do not compare with those at home. The eastern girls admire them very much but they probably think I am not very enthusiastic in my admiration of them. They really did have some beautiful chrysanthemums over where we went for the Thanksgiving service last week.

We often have dried persimmons here I do not know how they do it but only that they are delicious. Chicken is very common here but we have sweet potatoes much more often than we have Irish potatoes. The sweet potatoes they have here have a reddish skin but are white and mealy inside and yet taste like our own.

They are having such an awful famine in some parts of China they say that millions are in need of food. At the thanksgiving service a collection was taken up for famine relief which amounted to ninety-one dollars. The salt merchants here in Yangchow or what would be the chamber of commerce at home have given a hundred thousand dollars for famine relief and other cities have done very much the same.

This will have to be all for tonight but I hope this will find you all well. Lots of love to all of you.

Hazel Todd.

Nov. 28, 1920

Dec. 9, 1920

Yangchow, Kiangsu, China, Dec. 9, 1920.

Dear Isabelle:-

It has been some disappointment not to have heard from you for so long a time but as you may not have had my address it is quite likely not your fault. But the others do get so many letters and they seldom bring one to me.

This is a real home here at Yangchow and I can not begin to tell you how much I enjoy it for the days are so filled with the things I like to do and there are not so many things to take up ones time. Nearly all our time we can take for study and we are not expected to do any studying after supper. I only do a part of my washing and ironing and do not even have to take all of the care of my room. We do attend some Chinese services each week but it is almost never in one of them that I get a whole sentence. But the familiar words are coming much closer together and once in a while I get an idea of what they are talking about. As yet I have not heard of a Chinese grammar and it would not surprise me if there is no such animal. But I give you my word that there are plenty of books to study from.

It really did used to bore me to hear missionaries telling about the Chinese way being the right way and even after arriving in China I still felt the same at times but I am beginning to see their view-point. My coming to China was not my choice but I now am glad to be here. In time it may become almost as dear to me as my own native land. I like to eat Chinese food for it really is delicious and their way of serving it does have this to commend itself in that there are so few dishes to wash. But we do not often have Chinese food and when we do I never have to wash dishes. That has not fallen to my lot since leaving home. I did not come to China to get out of washing dishes but it seems to be a natural consequence.

There are several reasons why I like Chinese clothing. The first reason is that one can so cheaply hire them made. I have just had one made for a cover over my heavy one a friend gave to me. It is made of what would be considered unusually good grade of percale and the cloth and having it made would cost 1/2 of Chinese money. It is made by hand and reaches almost to my knees. In the second place there is no style to think about and no trimmings for they are all made alike and are not trimmed and the Chinese do not use buttons but make loops and knots of the goods. Then they are all in one piece and there are no extra collars or belts etc. to think about and have straight. And they are not tight anywhere. And last but not least the Chinese prefer to have us wear Chinese clothing and when we get into the work they

are less likely to be thinking of our clothes when we want them to think about our message.

Recently I have heard from two of the young women of the party that came out two years ago and were about to be married. Both of them were going to wear the same dress they wore when they graduated from the Institute for the wedding. Both couples are probably married by now. One couple were engaged before they left the Institute. But the other two had only went together a few times before they left and announced their engagement in July. The girl who became engaged last wrote me such a good letter a short time before they were to be married.

Miss Pike on the way to her station lost both of her trunks or at any rate the last I heard from her had lost track of them. The first break among us five new ones who came out from Vancouver on the "Empress of Russia" came last week. Miss Blackwell of Toronto left Saturday to go to Shanghai. She will work in the financial department there. The night before she left the other four of us planned to have a farewell meeting for her. Mrs. King who has charge of the house made a little sponge cake and sandwiches for us and fixed everything up for a surprise for us as only she knows how to do. I do love the people in the China Inland Mission. In it are the very salt of the earth why one so unworthy as I should be among them is a mystery.

Just now Mr. Hoste is here for a few days. We keep wondering where and when we will be sent from here. But it is probably not be soon.

Mr. Tingling who has been sent over here from U. S. A. to speak in the cause of temperance by the W. C. T. U. is here for the week end.

Mr. and Mrs. Saunders were here again today and have asked me to spend the evening there Thursday. They have a nice home not far from here. But I will have to see those in authority to have them get one of the servants to escort me. That is one of their duties.

This week three letters came which was doing unusually well. One from Mother, a long one from Aunt Addie and one from "Bennie". One of the girls I know was on the boat that brought the letters also it was the "Empress of Russia" which we came on, on its next trip. If you are not getting letters enough from me these days it is because of the same thing is happening to my letters as happens to yours for I very sure not more than half of my letters ever reach me. This young woman on the boat was on the way to the Philippines. She wanted to go to India but because of her German

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name they would not let her go there, that is the English government would not give her a permit to go there so she was going to the Philippines instead. She is a high school teacher and an Institute graduate.

This letter has been interrupted. I went out for a walk in the garden and Mr. Haste came out for a walk so we walked together. He told me some very interesting things about the pioneer work in China. He was in the army before he became a missionary and is a very good walker. One time he walked nearly fifty miles in a day. At the end of the walk he thanked me for going fast and I was afraid at first I had went to fast and meant to apologize for it until two of the older missionaries told me he liked to walk with people who walk fast. He is not young any more so I did not know he liked to walk fast until told so.

Hoping to hear from you soon and this will find you well,

Your sister,

Hazel Todd,

1/8 China Inland Mission,

Yangchow,

Kiangsu,

China.

Yangchow, Xiangow, China, Dec 14, 1920.

Dear Mother:-

Your welcomed letter came Monday but because there is no boat going out until next Saturday to America I began by answering Miss Bennett's letter first. Perhaps you will not mind them. It was the first letter from any of my friends at home since coming here, unless you except a circular letter from Mr. Hillis. It almost makes one jealous when one sees the others get almost a dozen letters in a week and they had so many steamer letters some of them more fifty. Yet one must keep on writing for one must keep in touch with the different places. A long letter came from Aunt Addie in the same mail. But anything she said would be old to you now.

You keep asking if I am well or saying something about it. But am very well off and am very sure I weigh more than when I left home. There is nothing wrong with my appetite at any rate.

It is too bad about the olives. If some of them were here we would know what to do with them. They are probably not raised in China. I was saying something about olives to Mrs. King the other day and she said she learned to like olives in California.

There will be another letter for Isabelle with this but when she has time to write me and give me her address I will write direct to her. You can read the letter of course.

The gatekeeper is not well enough to come back here even yet but is getting better. He is in a Baptist hospital here in Yangchow. The Baptists have so very good work here in Yangchow. They have a splendid hospital and a school.

It ought to be so we could trade off these days in the way of work not that I wish any of my Chinese on you. For Chinese from first to last means the hardest kind of digging but that is the most of my job these days. We have had about two hundred characters but the worst is yet to come.

The things I bought to bring along were alright and considering what I had to choose from and the length of time I had to buy things in my things were very well chosen. My cap and scarf are the favorite Chinese color. But there were number of things they want us to have that are too bulky to pack and can just as cheaply be bought here in China. For these things fifty dollars was sent on to Shanghai ahead of us. When we were there the exchange was so we got seventy dollars of Chinese money. One thing I had

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to buy was a mattress and an oil skin cover and mat to wrap it in for use when traveling. The mat and cover could not have been bought at home. But it would be very handy even there for camping. In China one takes their bed with them and they wrap all their bedding in one bundle and wherever you stop for the night one spreads out their bed on the floor of the inn or house-boat or on the ground once in a while.

I heard some one say the other day that the two chief characteristics of the China Inland Mission are kindness and common sense and I believe it is true if the little I have seen of it is correct.

We had our hardest frost so far last night which did not melt until about noon. But frost they say has held off unusually late this year. But what cold we do have is so damp and penetrating.

It will be after Christmas when you get this and this has been a year filled with such different things than I have known before. Each year now seems to bring better and truer friends and such new and strange experiences. 'The Lord hath great things for me, whereof I am glad.' There are pleasant things always mixed in with the bitter.

This letter will have to stop now as I have run out of things to write. We do very much the same thing each day. I heard Mr. Hoste preach Sunday in Chinese but hardly knew what he was talking about. He led our morning and evening prayers while here and Sunday evening we had communion.

I will try to get around to write to the others soon.

With lots of love to all of you,

Hazel Todd,

c/o China Inland Mission,
Yangchow,
Kiangow,
China.

This letter is I know a little late but the things do not always get done when they should. And when there is time to spare I spend so much of it out walking. It is a little colder now than it gets at home.

Since I last wrote another one of our party and I went over and spent the evening with Mr. and Mrs. Saunders. We had a very good supper very much like we would have at home. Then we spent the rest of the evening in front of the open fire-place. Mrs. Saunders showed me such splendid photos of those who came out with them two years ago. She asked me for mine to put in the collection. I still have one left that was taken before I graduated and will probably give it to her. To my sorrow because that was what I sent to the mission board it was printed in China's Millions full size of course. That awful picture has gone to almost every place on the globe.

Yesterday I went to Sunday School. We can not all go every Sunday because there is not room and too many of us foreigners would attract too much attention. We have our own English services right here too. One of the older missionaries spoke and for the first time I heard the gospel presented in simple enough Chinese so that I could understand it. And it sounded even better than it does in English. There was so much I could not understand and yet to understand the drift of it was a great joy to me. It is so good to be here in China. I miss being at home Christmas time but it is better to be here.

Saturday we went for a walk to what is known as the Five Roiled Bridge. It is a beautiful thing and one of sights of Yangchow but is hard to describe except to say that it is very beautiful. On the way we saw some beggars. One little girl not much older but no bigger than Minifed followed us a couple of blocks and knelt clear down to the ground every few feet. We are always told never to give to the beggars for if we did they would surround us from all sides and would stop at nothing to get money. We are never supposed to carry money with us nor to try to buy things. The servant sent along always to escort us carries the money for rides on the canal if we cross or for those who ride on anything else if it does not bring us

them wait at the gate while we go
idols Saturday and even from the

management of it as they were the most hideous things I have seen.
Today we had an unexpected guest here at the home a
thing that almost never happens. This is because so many do
not know how to talk enough to find this place and as a rule
they let us know when anyone is coming.

Dec. 22. A new worker came today from Vancouver. The third
from Canada this year. The China Inland Mission do not have
any where nearly as many new workers each year as they had
twenty or thirty years ago. The one who came today is acquainted with
some of the young people I knew at the Institute.

Dec. 24. Please forgive me this time for only writing to you
and then making it a short letter. We are beginning to
celebrate Christmas already and it is so good to be here although
I would so much enjoy being there at home just for Christmas.
Tonight about thirty Chinese girls came up on the veranda and
sang "Hark the Herald Angel Sing" and "While Shepherds Watched
their flocks by Night" while we were eating supper. They sang
in Chinese of course but oh how I wish you could have heard
them. They sang so beautifully and some were singing the
alto. They used the tunes we do. After supper we went over to
their school and sang for them in English and they came
where they could hear without our knowing it. The head ones
of the school are foreigners, missionaries of course. But they
allowed the Chinese teachers to thank us and they did it as
only Chinese can thank people.

Tonight one of the teachers came to my room to tell me I
am doing much better with Chinese than at first and my Chinese
teacher makes favorable comments every now and then but to
me the glory does not belong. Only the Lord can ever give me
this language.

Last night I got such a splendid letter from one of those who
came out two years ago. They have been married just a
month now and are helping one of the pioneer missionaries.
Her husband is related to Mrs. Bartholomew's foster people.

Her girls have went together to buy books for the three missionaries

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in the home. But most of the money this year must go for
famine relief. We do not see much of it here but millions
are starving and it does seem more terrible to us here than
it would at home. Perhaps I have already written that a man
was on the street of Yangchow trying to sell his boys who was
from the famine district. We hear and know more
about it than at home.

With much love to all of you,
Hazel Todd.

Dec. 28, 1920

Yangchow, Kiangsu, China Dec. 28, 1920.

Dear Mother:-

It scarcely seems possible that my first Christmas has been spent in China. It was a day we all enjoyed to even though we did miss those carols the first thing in the morning. On the breakfast table were put the presents we gave each other. Most of these were only notes, cards and mottoes there was a bag, pin tray and napkin ring and candy I got besides. One mottoe came from Mr. and Mrs. Hoste for they sent each of us in the mission one. It is "Even so I also Overcame." One other was hand made and has the words "Met for the Master's use" done on it in such beautiful shaded lettering. There is a verse on it also.

"Make me lowly and mild,
Just a very little child;
Low down at thy feet
Blood washed and made meet,
To be used, dear Lord, by thee."

Messages came from several of the B. S. people out here in China also. During the forenoon I went with some of the others to a Chinese service in the chapel. I understood a part of the Christmas story as told in Chinese. Mrs. Saunders was not well so right after service Miss Murray, Miss Griffith and I went over to see her. They are always so bright that it is a great privilege to go and see them.

We had more than usual for dinner plum pudding being one thing we had. In the afternoon the girls who had Christmas presents from home opened them and then we went for a walk before going to tea. They had tea bread butter and cake. After tea we went to a Christmas tree at a girls school. They sang and spoke in Chinese but did it splendidly. They sang "Jesus Loves Me This I Know," "Jesus Bids Us shine," "Hark the Herald Angels Sing," "White Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night" and several other songs. The younger children sang the first two songs and older ones the last two.

In the evening all the C. S. M. people in Yangchow came together for the evening. There are Mr. and Mrs. Saunders, Mr. and Mrs. Orr and their four children and Miss King, and Miss Lajos who has not here much of the time as they spend so much time in conferences and at out stations and Miss Clough who has charge of the girls school. They had chicken, scalloped potatoes, buns, cake and jam for supper. We then went into the sitting room for prayer. Then we had music and games. They went home about nine o'clock. Mr. and Mrs. Orr and one of the girls and their son about Evan's age sang "All Hail Immanuel." One of the Orr girls accompanied them

Sunday, yesterday and today have went the same as usual. The girls like to tease me about the amount of walking I do. One of them said I would need to have some money behind to repair the garden walk. Last night just as I left ~~to go~~ for a walk one of the girls spoke of my going on the war path so I made her go with me. We were going for a walk this evening and then it rained.

Yesterday at noon Margaret and I went over to see Mr. and Mrs. Saunders. They call me two their children. Margaret's father was one of the pioneer missionaries of the C. I. M. and has walked all over China and away into Tibet. Mr. Haste told me that he was a great walker. When I walk with Margaret she keeps up with me but she is tall like myself if anything just a little taller.

Dec. 29. It started in raining last night before supper and must have rained most of the night. This morning it snowed some and it stayed on until noon. The rain that came then melted the last of it. It snowed about sun rise and things looked very white for a ^{time}. And now before two o'clock the rain has began to turn to sleet. We have all our time taken up in this one building and it has nice porches to walk on with cement floors.

A letter came from Mr. Quick this morning. He asked me to write to them and so that is one reason for my doing so and he answered my letter the very day he got it and sent me a five dollar check for a Christmas present. The letter he sent did me more good though than the money. I have received three dollars besides for Christmas present and a book of Chinese stamps.

This evening nearly a dozen Strathmore Sentinel's came. Of course the news was old in some of them but I was glad to get them. So few letters ever come through. There was also a letter from the board again but I hear from them often. They are thinking of having a C. I. M. home in Los Angeles like those in Philadelphia and Toronto.

I am sorry to to get around to write to any of the others this time but will do so latter.

With love to all of you,

Hazel Todd,

40 China Inland Mission,

Yanchow,

Kiangsu,

China.

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