1-11-1937

Letters from Hazel Todd (1937)

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To the Members and Associates of the China Inland Mission.

My dear Friends,

It is once more my privilege to invite you all to observe the Day of Prayer and Fasting on May 26th, and in doing so I desire to give expression to a few thoughts which may prove helpful in our intercessions on that day.

In order that we may exercise our ministry on that sacred occasion, it is not necessary for us, before the appointed day, to set apart some time daily for the careful examination of ourselves as to our relationship with God and to the work committed to us? If we are to offer the fervent prayer of the righteous man, which availeth much, a quiet calm awaiting upon Him is imperative. In this way He will reveal to us anything in our lives and service that is displeasing to Him and will bring us into the place of blessing in which He can use us most effectively. To get right with God is the prerequisite for such occasions as the one to which we are called.

As we review the Lord's dealings with us during the past months, I am confident that our hearts will be full of praise to Him for all that He has so graciously done for us. How wonderfully He has undertaken in the trying, and sometimes most dangerous, positions in which many of us have found ourselves! Truly we have proved Him the All-Sufficient One for the trials and vicissitudes of life and in consequence have come to know, more fully than ever before, the inner meaning of that intimate experience of "abiding under the shadow of the Almighty." Have not some of us, during the past months, entered into the fellowship of His sufferings in a way we have not hitherto known? How graciously has the Lord, during these days of unrest and turmoil, also provided what was required for ourselves! Truly we have proved Him the All-Sufficient One for the trials and vicissitudes of life and in hearts will be full of praise to Him for all that He has so graciously done for us. 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D OES praise occupy its rightful place in our Christian lives? What does the Bible say about the blessing and the duty of praising God at all times—not merely when the sun shines brightly, but when the dark clouds gather? We are told in the Westminster Shorter Catechism that “the chief end of man is to glorify and to enjoy him forever.” In Psalm 50:23 we read, “Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me.” Hence, when we praise God we are glorifying him, and so doing about the greatest thing that it is possible for us to do upon earth.

Let us not imagine for one moment that it is an easy task to praise God at all times—in periods of darkness and distress, as well as in seasons of joy and gladness. The children of Israel failed to praise God in the hour of distress because of their unbelief. So is it lack of faith that is the root cause of our failure to praise the Lord at all times.

When trials and difficulties come and we have the courage and faith to praise God in the midst of them, how often they vanish away like the morning mist! One of the most striking examples of this in the Word of God is the story of King Jehoshaphat’s trial and victory, recorded in the twentieth chapter of 2 Chronicles.

A great host of Ammonites and Moabites suddenly came against Judah to destroy the people and take possession of the land. Instead of murmuring and complaining, Jehoshaphat “set himself to seek the Lord” and to cry to him in the hour of dire distress and trouble. Then they went out to meet the armies of the enemy with the strangest weapon of war that this world has ever witnessed—the weapon of praise! Did it work? Let the Bible answer: “And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the Lord, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the Lord; for his mercy endureth for ever. And when they began to sing and praise, the Lord set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten” (2 Chron. 20:21-22).

The victory gained over their foes was the most remarkable ever recorded in the pages of history. The enemies of Judah began to fight against each other and kept it up until every last man of them was slain! We are told that “none escaped.” On the other hand, not one of the men of Judah was slain. All they had to do was to gather the fruits of the victory. We read, “They were three days in gathering of the spoil, it was so much.” And they did not forget to give praise and glory to God for the victory and the spoil, for “on the fourth day they assembled themselves in the valley of Berakah; for there they blessed the Lord.”

But it is King David who gives us the greatest series of examples in the Old Testament of continuous victory in praising the Lord in the midst of multiplied trials and tribulations. Some of the most beautiful of his Psalms were written at times when his life was in imminent peril. In Psalm 54:4, the king declares that he will ever praise God. He says: “I will bless the Lord at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.” We might naturally think that this Psalm was written when King David was banking in the sunlight of peace and prosperity. On the contrary, it was uttered when he was in the land of the Philistines and in dire peril of losing his life at the hand of King Abimelech.

In Psalm 57:7 we read: “My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed; I will sing and give praise.” Surely these words were spoken in a time of security and freedom from peril. No, this determination to praise God, no matter what might take place, was uttered when David and his men were fleeing for their lives from Saul, and when they took refuge for a night in a cave.

On another occasion when David and his little company of followers were in the wilderness of Judah, hunted like hares by King Saul, did he begin to murmur and to complain? David sings: “Because thy loving kindness is better than life, my lips shall praise thee” (Ps. 63:3).

Perhaps the most inspiring incident of praising God in the midst of discouraging circumstances that is recorded in the New Testament is the story of Paul and Silas singing praises to God at midnight in the jail at Philippi. And what happened when Paul and Silas praised God in the midst of their distress? There was a great earthquake, and the prison doors were opened, and the jailer and all his household, “the same hour of the night,” were born again into the kingdom of God. So when you and I are willing to praise God in the midst of sore trials, blessed results will surely follow.

Do we wish to become channels of rich blessings in whatever field of labour God has placed us? Then let us become men and women of praise. When adversities come upon us like a host let us go forth singing praises like Jehoshaphat, and we may be confident that our foes will be overcome and we shall spend many days gathering the spoil in the valley of Berakah. When we are in the wilderness of sorrow, and pursued by forebodings of evil, let us like David praise God that “his loving-kindness is better than life.” When we are persecuted for righteousness sake let us sing praises like Paul and Silas, and we may be sure that God will turn the curses into blessings. When we are in difficulties with fellow Christians, or with unbelievers, let us pray and praise and
then speak kindly and lovingly to our adversaries, and the Lord will gloriously reward us.

Let us all henceforth praise the Lord "at all times"—when the sun shines brightly, and when the dark clouds gather—and so glorify God here, and enjoy his presence in glory throughout all the ages of eternity.

Let us praise God and take courage.

ITEMS OF NEWS

The illness of Mr. W. H. Aldis has called forth much prayer and we are glad to report that the latest word from London reports a good recovery from the operation on the part of our honoured leader in Great Britain. We give thanks to God for His goodness in restoring his health and shall continue to uphold him as well. Mr. C. N. Lack who has been unwell. Mr. Lack had taken active part in Conferences at Christmas time, when his ministry was blessed. We do well to remember him in prayer at this time of his poor health.

We anticipate the return to Shanghai of Mr. W. H. Warren on April 19th. Mr. Warren is travelling via the United States and Canada where he has had opportunities of conference with Dr. Glover and members of the home staff in America.

In an effort to render help to the medical workers in the Hospital at Kaifeng as well as among the many refugees in the city Dr. D. V. Rees and the Misses J. W. Jennings and E. G. Hoover left Shanghai early in March via Hongkong and Hankow and a little later Dr. Stanley R. Hare undertook the same journey. At the time of going to press word has come that the first party reached Hankow safely.

Mr. J. A. Dunachie, writing early in March, reported the safety of our Shanghai missionaries in the Changchih district, for which we give thanks. He added that conditions in Changchih city were returning to normal.

We learn from the Secretary of the Mission in one of the homelands that the irregularity of the mails from inland China causes parents of missionaries in the field much anxiety and results in a good many enquiries by letter and telephone. It would seem to be almost superfluous, but in some cases perhaps necessary, to remind those who do not write home regularly that at times like the present it is desirable that they should do their utmost to relieve the anxiety of friends. In this connection, it may not be amiss to remind all members of the Mission that it is equally important that regular correspondence with Headquarters in Shanghai be maintained.

LETTERS FROM THE INTERIOR

SHENSI

Chewchih.—Mr. T. J. Smail writes on January 25th as follows:—"An outpost has been opened at Tan-chuang where special meetings were held last autumn. The local church here gave them a donation of $10, and the outstation folk are undertaking the rest. The leaders here said that if the outpost was not started by the local Christians it would never prosper; so they refused to take over the care of the place there. The Church here will, of course, render aid in helping with the services and preaching from time to time. We do give the Lord thanks for this new venture, and especially seeing it started on a self-supporting basis from its commencement."

HOPEH

Shunih.—On March 9th Mr. M. L. Griffith wrote:—"On Friday last, 4th, I went by train 50 li to Nei-ch'iu, and then walked 12 li to Chang-ma, to conduct meetings for three days. A Mr. Chang accompanied me. The weather those three days was stormy and cold, some snow and rain falling. In spite of weather, the attendance was very good. On Saturday about 100, Sunday 240 and Monday 200—more women than men—were present. The meetings on Sunday and Monday were held in the open air, as the ‘li-pai tang’ only holds about 100. Mr. Chang and I took the meetings alternately: forenoon, afternoon, and evening. There was also a prayer meeting before the forenoon service. The people there are nearly altogether poor just now, yet I did not hear complaints."

Pingshan.—Mr. P. L. Bromley, writing from Hwalu on March 3rd, tells of a visit to Pingshan. "You will be glad to know that I was in Pingshan over the week-end. A few days prior to my official in Pingshan had visited the church, but found Mr. Li was away. He wished the church to carry on as usual, and suggested February 27th as the date for gathering the believers. The letter informing me of this had arrived the day previously, so I mentioned this circumstance. I was immediately informed that two of the Pingshan military commission were in Hwalu, and returning to Pingshan. The Lord preserved them. It was a joy to meet them again. Forty gathered on Sunday. The Chairman of the Military Commission spoke by interpretation, urging the believers not to fear, but to continue worshipping the Lord. His wife is a believer, he told us, which accounts for his very cordial attitude. After his address, we had the usual Lord’s Day service."

HONAN

Kaifeng.—Mr. H. W. Guinness writes on January 28th as follows:—"There is still plenty of work to be done, and one is kept busy. The pastor is on a visit over New Year; so I am temporarily taking his place here. Then there are opportunities of preaching or doing personal work amongst the wounded in our hospital. There is a good deal of relief work going on, and a refugee shelter has been erected at the station, where there are always two or three Christian workers on duty, day and night. In the event of a possible Japanese occupation in the future, fifteen refugee zones have been planned. We have borrowed the premises of a weaving factory next door, and are arranging to take in a thousand here at the church if necessary when the time comes."

Shenkiu.—An extract from a letter written by Mr. M. Rockness on January 17th:—"About two months ago a young man was led into the Gospel Hall by the Holy Spirit. He had a brother who was in the front lines during the severe fighting in Hopei. For a long time there was no word from him. Finally
they heard that he had been wounded and taken to a hospital in Peiping. The young man who came to us was fearful lest his brother should die. He began to consider what an awful thing death was, and hearing that we in the Gospel Hall spoke about eternal life he came to find out more about this doctrine. He is an intelligent young man and of a well-to-do family. He has since grown tremendously in the knowledge of the Word, and now his mother and a number of his brothers and sisters accompany him to the services. He has learned the power of prayer and for several weeks prayed earnestly for the return of his brother. Last week this prayer was answered.”

Yehsien.—Mr. L. G. Gaussen wrote on February 17th as follows:—“While out at Chihyang last Monday, our worker, Mr. Ch‘u Ting Yang, asked me to forward to the Mission the sum of $5.10 as a donation to the General Fund. He has recently been reading the life of Hudson Taylor in Chinese, and it has been a blessing to him. The Lord has led him out into the life of faith this year. While appreciating the new arrangement of the Mission and the Church (i.e., by which the Church assumes increasing financial responsibility, thus correspondingly relieving Mission funds), yet he says that he personally is not looking back, but solely to the Lord to supply his needs. Owing to the slowness of the post, the Mission remittance was long overdue, but he was rejoicing that the Lord had met all his needs. One rather significant remark of his was that he said how much he appreciated the whole spirit and working of the C.I.M., he had only one criticism, and that was that the foreign friends kept back for about eight years. I am richer by two dollars which I got from money. I am richer by two dollars which I have on hand. I can’t hold a candle to giving them salaries! With this change in his outlook, one has rejoiced to notice a change in his ministry too, correspondingly a setting free from law and bondage to salary and fear of men lately, and brought into the place of looking to God and depending on God alone.”

SZECHWAN

Fuhinwan.—The following interesting account of Fuhinwan recently written by Mr. F. Bird on February 18th:—“We have just closed our first Bible School for the year. At the last Annual meetings it was planned to take place the second week in the Chinese new year. I have spoken on the need for a change in his ministry and a new start. His manner of life and of earning a living by his chanting at funerals, etc. You know the sort of fellow that I mean, and his wife was also a priestess. During a special effort made at Christmastime the Lord touched his heart, and he turned to the Way. Seeing that his manner of life and of earning a living were contrary to the ways of the One in whom he believed, he gave up his chanting and took to piling water for his living, a good testimony and he has stuck to it—just a few days ago he turned down a job which would have given him a better return than his water carrying. About a fortnight ago he had a little bonfire and committed to the flames all his books used in his chanting. Praise God for His manifest working in this life. His wife seems to be interested also and is coming along to meetings.”

KWEICHOW

Kweihow.—Mr. E. W. Norgate, writing on February 4th, tells of encouragement in the work:—“The work in this city goes on interesting case to mention now and then. One man at present presents quite an interesting instance of the Lord’s working. Mr. Chu was a keen Taoist and made his living by his chanting at funerals, etc. You know the sort of fellow that I mean, and his wife was also a priestess. During a special effort made at Christmas time the Lord touched his heart, and he turned to the Way. Seeing that his manner of life and of earning a living were contrary to the ways of the One in whom he believed, he gave up his chanting and took to piling water for his living, a good testimony and he has stuck to it—just a few days ago he turned down a job which would have given him a better return than his water carrying. About a fortnight ago he had a little bonfire and committed to the flames all his books used in his chanting. Praise God for His manifest working in this life. His wife seems to be interested also and is coming along to meetings.”

YUNNAN

Luku.—Mrs. J. B. Kuhn writes on February 3rd, telling of the need for a Bible School for the training of evangelists in “Lisuland”:—“The last week of
January my husband and I went for a trip on the west bank of the Salween. We went south and worked north, while Mr. Peterson went north and worked south. He is not yet back. We had in mind mainly to have a visit from missionaries before. My impression of Lisuland is more 'Life on the perpendicular' than ever! We had to plunge down bumpy mountain sides where it was quite impossible to raise an animal, and climb up the other side where often the only help we received from our mules was to hang on to his tail! And when we arrived at the top, there would only be three or four families of Christians to shepherd and teach them for a month or so. It is a great joy to be here."

Hankow.—Mr. C. O. Speirgen, writing on February 23rd: "The work of the military hospital. We have been going there once a week. The Superintendant is an enthusiastic Christian. He has set aside the best room, i.e., the largest and most sunny, in the hospital for a chapel and lecture hall. Every Friday afternoon, whether we arrive on time or not, the Christians are at prayer? The church leaders never having heard of such a thing before are inclined to look at the difficulties. The evangelists themselves are keen for more training. The Christians in the territory through which we pass are earnest and interested in learning. At one spot they have already built a two-roomed shanty, supplied entirely by themselves and set apart for a month of learning. The church leaders are also making an effort to know their people and the field, as that section has not received much attention from missionaries.

We have been going there once a week. The Superintendant is an enthusiast and a good listener. He usually thinks of refugees as people poorly clothed and fed, but these are dressed in fur-lined silk garments and eat the best of food. They are all well educated, but only two were Christians out of the twenty-one, when they arrived. When they first came, only the two Christians were keen on attending morning prayers, but later they all came early. One of the men, just converted, carried his Bible book about all day. They sing a good deal of the time. They left this morning en route to Changsha."

NEW ADDRESS IN HONGKONG

Mr. W. L. Pike has moved from Ice House Street to No. 50 Nathan Road, Kowloon, to which address all Mission correspondence for Hongkong should be directed. Telegrams addressed INLAND HONG-KONG will reach him as before.

PERSONAL

PRAYER LIST CHANGES

Mr. E. E. King from Hwangyuen, Tsing, to Kangtung, See.

Miss E. M. Lindberg from Saratsi to Kweichow, Sui.

Mr. O. C. Carlson from Chekiang to Siangyuen, Yun.

Dr. & Mrs. E. S. Harries from Tien to Ehuyan, Yun.

ARRIVALS

Mar. 2. (At Hongkong) Dr. E. E. Witt (L.M.) returned from Germany via North America.

Mar. 3. (At Chungking) Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Cliff returned from England via Siberia.

Mar. 22. Miss M. E. Saltus and Dr. J. McDonald returned from North America.

DEPARTURES

Feb. 28. (From Tientsin) Mr. and Mrs. K. O. Gustafsson (S.H.I.U.) to Sweden via Suez.

Mar. 5. (From Hongkong) Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Simpkin and children to Australia.

Mar. 19. (From Hongkong) Mr. and Mrs. E. Resto and two children (D.M.C.) to Denmark via Suez.

Mar. 20. (From Hongkong) Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Skinner and child to England; Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Bergling and child (R.M.C.) to Sweden via Suez.

Mar. 23. (From Hongkong) Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Willimack and child (V.M.) to Germany via Suez.

Mar. 25. Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Almeqin and child (Sw.A.M.) to Sweden via Suez.

BIRTHS

Feb. 2. At Taipho, Sha, to Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Johansson, twin son and daughter, Einer Ruben and Ella Linnore.

Feb. 15. At Langchung, Sze, to Mr. and Mrs. K. C. Phillips, a daughter, Rosemary Ann.

Feb. 16. At Changsha, to Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Greve, a daughter, Erik.

Mar. 27. At Chungtou, to Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Kerry, a daughter.

Mar. 31, At Kaolin, Kweihung, to Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Hallgren, a son.

Mar. 13. At Hanken, Kie, to Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Searle, a daughter, Gwendolyn Isabel.

Mar. 14. At Langchung, Sze, to Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Martin, a daughter, Janet Eileen.

MARRIAGE

Mar. 10. At Kunming, Yunn., to Mr. C. L. Moore to Miss K. L. Davies.

BAPTISMS

1937

KANSU—Tsaochangchen 22

KWEICHOW—Anshun 30

YUNNAN—Mushengpo outstations 43

KIAUNGL—Nunshu 2

CHEKIANG—Huangyuen and outstations 50

HUNAN—Changteh outstations 1

TOTAL 624

Previously reported 624

Extra from yearly statistical reports 597

Total 7,559

1938

SUIYUAN—Pilotsichen 14

SZECHWAN—Taohu 6

KWEICHOW—Chenyuen 4

YUNNAN—Taungyi 1

SINSHAI—Akumi 10

AKUNI—Mushengpo outstation 10

KIAUNGL—Taoyi 3

HUNAN—Wakang 13

TOTAL 126

Previously reported 83

Total 209
To the Missionaries Detained in the Homelands,

My dear Fellow-workers:

The circumstances during the last nine months, over which we have had no control, having delayed your return to your spheres of labour, the China Council, at a session recently concluded, gave earnest, prayerful consideration to the question of calling back as many as possible this coming autumn.

We reached the conclusion that it is now too late to bring out missionaries before the summer. After that season is over will be the most hopeful time, and by then we trust the situation will have sufficiently improved to permit adding to the numbers that can be sent to areas which are comparatively free from the effects of present hostilities and to which communications may give access.

It must be understood that returning missionaries will not necessarily be appointed to the provinces they have hitherto worked in; so all need to be willing for designations to any parts of the field available for occupation or in need of reinforcements. It must be distinctly understood that all who return accept this condition without any reservation.

Special care will be needed that those who do come back are physically fit for normal, or perhaps exceptional, conditions of life in the interior of China. It may be that supplies from the coast will be more difficult to obtain than hitherto, transit of freight uncertain and possibly costs prohibitive, so that we shall have to learn to live more than ever "upon the land." We quite think that emphasis must be laid upon the necessity for nervous stability, in view of possible disquieting conditions arising anywhere.

Let me take this opportunity of expressing my sympathy with you in the delays that have occurred in reference to your return and ask you to join with us in prayer that nothing may arise to prevent our present plans being carried out. In many respects the fields seem white unto the harvest. May we have grace to labour and skill to gather the fruit we are ordained to bring forth to the glory of our Lord!

Assuring you all of my prayerful remembrance and with warm regards,

Believe me,
Your in Christ's service,

May 11, 1938.
Miss H. Todd
没有把握，不会写，希望你试试看。
Dear Nagel,

It was good to hear from you and to know something of how your new farming year is going. Your trip to Minneapolis sounded most interesting, especially your trip with your cousins to a Chinese restaurant. It must have been fun. Not long ago I noticed your name in the King's Business as attending a Bible conference. It must have been great to see many old friends again. I'm looking forward to the times when I, too, will meet at such a meeting.

Your report on your nephews and nieces reminds me that I must tell you the astonishing news we got recently. Traciee, in South Africa, is thrilled to have twins—two under a girl born March 20, named Kenneth Graham and Heather Ruth. Each weighed 6 pounds 10 oz. So the twins are quite huge. Both are healthy and well developed. Kenneth is like the Wright family and Heather like an Elaine. Looking very much like Margaret. Traciee says Raymond is nearly 8 and is learning to talk quite rapidly now. How I'd love to see all three of them.

Things seem pretty tense in Korea now. Refugees are pouring through here in the thousands. They look weary when we meet each other a little while ago. We used to walk along the road until late at night, almost to exhaustion. The refugees were carrying a load, a little cradle made of corn stalks which was filled with clothes, etc., as at one end and the other had bed, feeding and cooking supplies and a few utensils. A man about twelve was carrying a lighter load. A small boy and girl about 6 and 8 were dragging each other along. They tossed with a pad of food for meals. Inconceivably, was carrying the secret little baby a couple
of months old. It saddens one's heart to pass these poor people going they know not whither. And along the road, it is dangerous as robbers abounds here. Terrible tales are told of these poor refugees being stripped of every thing they have, and in the country bordering's side.

Nearly every day we hear of people being killed, sometimes burned, and their homes burned right before their eyes. Just 10 li from the city this happened. In case the Japanese come the poor people don't know what to do. It's the fire, fire on the fire.

Yesterday a telegram came from the British consul advising evacuation of all British subjects, especially women and children. Mrs. Davis wants to take Blanche out of the heat but also not near of the road's leading the far seems the most logical place to go with the other children. If she goes now Mrs. Davis would prefer we left too as we might be more of a liability than an asset to her. What we will do and where to go I have it the slightest idea as Mrs. Davis has written to Mr. Whiteman asking advice. The reason he fears is not to be opened, this Shanghai as high Chinese officials have cleared houses all around the far so it might prove very dangerous. Margaret and Oliver both need a summer vacation and they want to take Virginia out of the heat, too. What they will do is very much of a question. Howard has come from the American consulate very recently though several months ago a formal letter came advising evacuation. He disregarded that, of course, as from the tone it seemed to mean it was just a duty letter which had little meaning.

A few days ago Jinghong and Bwayang were heavily bombed. I'm anxiously awaiting
lucky to be of it. I do hope and pray none of our people were injured. Every day we have air alarms and quite a number of times Jap planes flew over but they have been kept from bombing. Margaret wrote that bombs were dropped just in front of Devonia. The procession shook the house a few minutes later the planes flew over the city but dropped no bombs. Devonia is one of the very few places in north Africa which has not been bombed in the last couple of weeks. It's heart rendering to hear the stories of suffering and injuries due to these bombings on these innocent people who have no means of defense.

The work here goes on and is encouraging. This church reminds me in many ways of America and the work is old and well established. The women here are decent. This spring I made trips to the country and planned another but at the last minute couldn't go. A letter came from Mr. Bens to giving Mr. Gibbs permission for me to return to Jinghe. But on account of the sudden changes for the worse in the situation in north Africa, Mr. Wellar advised Katie and me to wait. So I unpacked my box and am going on here again in the same evening. If things don't change - and what doesn't now - we plan to stay on here for the summer. This house downstairs is at least, is fairly cool and we have a lovely big compound so I don't think it would be intolerable.

I'm enclosing a snap taken in March.
before Margaret and Virginia joined Misses in
Dunkirk.

A recent letter from friends in Dunkirk
told quite a bit of C.J.M.'s news. Miss Jackson is
leaving for Zealand. Frances Wilkinson is leaving,
too. Alice Huston and Theodore Wielbacher are to
be married June 15 in Dunkirk. Marguerite Goodwin
is to be bridesmaid. Marie Classic, a new worker,
has I.B. of the spine and has gone to Hongkong to the
Madras hospital for treatment. Helen Chapelle has a
light case of influenza. Rheumatic fever so has gone
to Hongkong also. Evelyn and Grace went, too. He has
to have complete rest for months to be sure there
is no heart complication following his illness. "Bobby"
Grenell has I.B. with both lungs affected and has
gone to Hongkong for treatment. Mrs. Pierce in Tokyo
still lives but is very low and has been for months.
Mrs. Pierce had puerperal fever but is better. The children
escaped infection and are well. That family surely
is being punished. They will have been sent to
Yemen, since Arabia is out of the question.

Must stop and get this letter off.

Much love,

[Signature]
Miss Hazel Todd
Box 672, R.R. 2
Strathmore
California
U.S.A.
Out the China Coast, Nov. 15, 1935

Dear Mother:

It was my intention to have either written again as I could mail a letter in Manila or at least have sent a letter from Hongkong. The three days we spent in Manila were very hot. Yet there was so much new to see that we kept going about. Leona and I went out doing more window shopping, etc than the two new workers did. The luncheon set I bought and sent home was hand woven by some of the tribes people of the Philippines. They use their own native dyes which are supposed to be fast. But if Charlie gets a home before I have an opportunity to send something else I want him to have it. They tell me those things are nicer after they are washed. The pineapple fibre is very nice there but is somewhat expensive. It is more like organdy than anything else and the natural
color is sort of a tan. Most of the native houses look like they are built on stilts. Many are so flimsily built of bamboo one does not wonder a hurricane lays them flat. Having only a thatched roof and often matting or lightly constructed walls I do not suppose it costs much to rebuild. Also the climate so as mild, privacy would be the chief use of a house. I was surprised at the number of crude structures which have electric lights. When we went to Bagio we saw thousands of children on their way to school. They looked well nourished and suitably clothed. And apparently there is no race suicide there. Pony carts seem to be the usual method of transportation. As many as six or more people would ride in a cart drawn by a pony only a tenth as big as an ordinary horse. On the farms many carts are drawn by water narrows - very much like the Chinese water buffaloes. The women carry things on their heads. I noted many use a towel or some sort of pad on their heads when they carry loads.

Nov 21. We were delayed another twenty-four hours between Hong Kong and here because of rough weather so we arrived here in Shanghai a whole week late. Even at that, we were tied up at dock Friday evening instead of Saturday morning because four pilots got in late Friday afternoon and wanted to get back up river that evening. That way we could see nothing of what has gone on in the last year. Mr. Hayman, one of the men in "The Retaining Hand" and a provincial superintend of the mission came to meet us. I had met Mr. Hayman before and the younger girls seemed thrilled to meet him. You know the ropes and while I had to open three of my things of which I almost needed a shoe horn to put everything back in again there was no duty to pay.

Nov. 23. It is almost like being at home again. Proportionately I seem to know more here than almost anywhere else. We get
there has not been time to see the Director Mr. Gibb so I have no idea about where I will be going. We had to speak at prayer meeting the first evening we were there. Generally we can wait a few days for that.

We had a very good time in Hongkong too. We were taken for drive all around there. I had always heard about what a beautiful place the bay is. As we had to go into dry dock in Hongkong we spent two days there and we found out what it looked like under the boat. Some snaps were taken of the boat when it was on the frame work there. I did not see them go into dry dock but was very much interested to see the boat come out. The reason they go into dry dock in Hongkong is that labor is so much cheaper and is just as good as elsewhere. So on my fifth ocean journey I saw the propellers for the first time. As a matter of fact the boat was only a little over seven thousand tons. It was run by Diesel engines. They were geared to run the boat at about fifteen miles an hour. But often times we had to travel much slower. Much of the way from Manila to Hongkong.
and from there here the weather was not good
and the boat was altogether too shaky to write
letters. On the way to Hongkong my steamer
trunk and suit case slid out from under my
bunk and I rather braced myself in. Then up on
deck our chairs would start to slide. When it is
that rough I do not even eat or knit say nothing
about letters. The other passengers joined us two
in joking with two new girls making them
think it was always that rough. The others of
course went much further than we did so they
did not realize there was anything unusual
about it.

We have been out doing a little more shopping.
Leona and I go together so we do not want to go
around the back streets where things are cheaper
alone. I bought a pressure one burner stove and
small German lantern, heavy woolen underwear
a new Chinese English dictionary and mosquito
netting. So far I only bought essentials except
perhaps some hand painted Christmas cards.
Most things are much cheaper here. But I did
save on buying my dishes there. The English
china is reasonable in price but they do not
have the prices we prefer. So far I have not seen
around to any second-hand shops. We are more or less taking this week off to see about our own affairs. But next week we may start going to refugee camps. They have asked me to go out on Sunday.

Nov. 24. The two new girls left yesterday morning to go to the place where they will study the language. Our mission has rented the summer home of Mr. and Mrs. Scott, parents of Mrs. Esten, to use as language training home this winter.

There will be a wedding here Friday afternoon. The bridegroom has been working up in Sinkiang. As they had to come out by way of India he and another young man have taken almost five months to get here. He and the bride to be Katherine Dodd had not met for six years. They were not engaged then. Her parents have until recently worked under the Presbyterian board. They are here now with Katherine. I suppose a furlough will be their honeymoon. She was a very good friend of Mrs. Esten's and had worked with her.

It was fortunate that it was possible to send the bandages I brought that Charlie took down to the boat to the interior almost immediately after coming here. We brought some from another church but I may keep those for a while.

When Mr. and Mrs. Scoville got here and one of other we expect very soon there will be seven of us from 0. I who came out seventeen or more years. We plan to celebrate in some way.

As a mail goes out today this must close for now. With love,

Fazel.
Nov. 15

Mrs. C. A. Todd,
Rox 672 R. R. 2,
Strathmore,
Calif.,
U. S. A.
Dear Mother:

My postal card written after Isabelle left the boat but before we sailed was not carefully written. You see we were supposed to be on the boat by four in the afternoon. She stayed until six thirty. She went back in the car driven by Mr. Isabelle who with his wife probably sailed yesterday or the day before. That week his wife had gone to Portland to bid her people good-bye. But he wanted to come down to see what the boat was like. To be explicit he wanted to see how long the bunkers are. Charlie could tell you why.

Even leaving as early as Isabelle did I do not suppose she would reach Pasayten until nearly nine. She gave me a big bouquet of flowers some body powder and some perfume.

In the end we did not sail until right that evening. It was not until about five that we located the trunks of my cabin mate and then Mr. Canfield had to go slow back into the city after them. Of course she had to pay the transfer company. She told me she thought she would have been ahead to have paid some one like Charlie to have looked after them. Her things were labled but perhaps every one does not know what lables are for. As I said before my things were on the boat before I was. It really was a great help to have Charlie bring my things down to Iron Odiso and I want to thanks him for it.

The first few days were very stormy and I could
Do very little but knit. That is one reason our stocking is already knit. We have a fairly congenial crowd on board. Besides ourselves there is a Dr. and Mrs. Brown, three Presbyterian missionaries returning to the Philippines. So half of the passengers are missionaries. One of the passengers is on the board of directors of the Y. M. C. A. in Shanghai. He likes to show movies of his hunting trips and travels in a number of odd places. Also he likes to make out in front of us that he is some kind of tough, drinking etc. The other evening he cajoled with a bottle in a Halloween party. A business woman tasted what he had and found out it was cold tea. But on the whole, pepsi cola seems to be the favorite drink on board, and while some play bridge they do not spend much time on it. There is only one child on board. He is about four and half years old and is very well behaved. The missionaries Dr. and Mrs. Brown and all but one of the other passengers are to get off at Manila. So we are to stop three days there it should be an opportunity to see the place. We can get information about what is worth seeing from them. The captain is very kind too and sometimes invites us up on the bridge or points out something of interest. For many days sea gulls followed us. Other than that all we have seen alive has been porpoises and drably little white flying fish about six inches long which usually fly in pairs.

He shipped last Friday. And each day we put our time back about twenty-five minutes.
As you perhaps know we did not stop at Honolulu. Because of a storm we went slower the first few days so it is taking a full three weeks on board before reaching Manila. We have good food here but there is a good deal of sameness about it. For breakfast there is an orange or half a grapefruit, corn flakes and eggs sometimes fried or scrambled with bacon and cheese. For lunch there is lettuce and a salad and always tuna, crab, two kinds of sardines, a main luncheon dish and some kind of canned fruit as pineapple, peaches, etc. For supper there are four courses, soup, fish, meat and dessert. Bread is served for breakfast and lunch also crackers. And for every meal they serve two kinds of Norwegian satined crackers. Most of the time we have ate our share. But Rebecca one of the new girls did not eat much the first week. Starting into a storm was not a good initiation to sea travel.

We brought my three crocks, Proshiny into the cabin and we certainly have made use of it. This is the best cabin we have been in. My bunk has room under it for the steamer trunks and two large suit cases. We have a long settle between the two bunks which will seat the four of us. Facing it is a small table. Under that we can slip flat suit cases. The other bunk has two very large drawers under shelf. We each have a small ward robe in which to hang things.
In talking with others I have been interested to hear that the Tulare county school superintendent sat at the same table at B.D. for a time so we knew each other fairly well.

Nov. 4. Yesterday, the captain had the course of the boat changed a little so that we could see an active volcano. It was a little late to see it plainly. But it was close enough to see how symmetrical it is.

It is not cool these days. We sleep with two thicknesses of sheet over us. And wide dresses are comfortable in the day time. Apparently the route makes more difference than the season of year when it comes to warmth.

Dina the maid told me more about the accident. The young man was riding in the open trailer. A tire went flat and he fell out breaking some vertebrae. He lived for eight hours after the accident most of the time being unconscious. He had been singing such a short time before such songs as I am satisfied with Jesus." She went on to say she was glad it was that young man rather than her brother for he was not ready to go. Much of their baggage in the trailer as well as the trailer were wrecked. There had some canned fruit there which not only all broken but messed up other things.

I had a good visit with Mr. and Mrs. Loock. You can find their address in the L.A. telephone directory. It must be near Isabelle. I also met their family, a son and three daughters.

We have made some good plans to see Manila but I hope to tell of that in my next letter.

With love

Hazel.
Nov. 1 1938
Mr C. A. Todd,
Box 672 R. R. 2,
Strathmore,
Calif.,
U. S. A.
Dear Mother:

Although I have been here nearly three weeks there is not much prospect of going inland. There are parts of Anhwei that may be safe but anyone who might have gone with me has either been sent elsewhere or has been given something else to do, and I do not very much like having to wait until others return from furlough. Now is the time we should be on our way. The weather has been very good so far since we came. As it is we may have to travel during the coldest part of winter. It is for that reason I have ordered a fur lining made for my coat. A lining made of wild cat fur is to cost between ten and eleven dollars. And it should wear for years if it is not lost. I bought a new blouse to replace the one I left for Ningfred that is just as good for just under a dollar. But on the whole really nice embroidered things are hard to find. I have asked at ever so many shops about that one seven piece puzzle and have not yet found one. I would like to buy one for our mission home. Yet on the other hand the stock of some things seems quite complete. Old stock bought before the exchange went up is usually very cheap. You see our dollar changes for nearly twice as much as it did a year and a half ago. So if the price has not changed it is only half as much. We can buy raisins for the equivalent of less than six cents a package. No doubt there is
still a goodly amount of raisins and other dried fruit sold in China. It is remarkable too how some things rise in price. Since we came here we have noticed some material which was almost increased in price 50% since we came here and embroidery thread which increased 20%. In a Christian book store we saw a notice that every book would cost 60% above the marked price. Posters and a certain amount of Chinese books are among the things which seem essential.

The last two Sundays I have been out at a refugee camp to teach a U.S. class if you can call it that we have thirty or so fifty children of widely assorted ages. But because they have been well disciplined we have little trouble along that line. It is a little hard though to get much of a message across to them because of language. last week I also had a meeting with over thirty old women.

There are a number of things that concern us. Mr. and Mrs. Costers you probably have heard me speak of often. They were the ones whose little girl died nearly five years ago and I walked over forty miles to attend her funeral. It is now months since they have been heard from. And they cannot get permission to leave. It is now nearly two years since they have seen their children. Of course their children have no opportunity of corresponding with them either. At another station I have passed through a number of times was an old Chinese pastor who has worked with the mission many years. When the Japanese came into the city they were almost pumping the well.
dry. So he asked them to use a little less. After that he and another Christian were taken away and were not heard from since. The next to the last group baptized at Shucheng he baptized. He was very much pleased with the bright young earnest group of mine. I had talked with him many other times. One peculiar angle of it is that he had a Japanese son-in-law.

Much of what is going on very likely is suppressed. One business man told of how in the defense of Shanghai the Chinese would fight until their ammunition was finished, then throw up their hands. The Japanese would then shoot them all down. The other day we saw a set of dishes, ninety-two pieces in all for less than five dollars. The reason was that they were marked made in Japan. He knew that most of the Japanese shops in the settlement here and there are not many are subsidized by the government. The business man who on the boat more or less looked after us has the agency for half a dozen automobile and truck companies for China and he would not ship any of his stocks on Japanese boats. And he told us he is not the only business man who so discriminates.

I am sending Minifred a pair of gloves which are not of a very useful texture but which may do sometime when she dresses up. No doubt they will be there in plenty of time for her birthday. I am sorry they are not as good as mine were. They do not cost much so if you know of any one else who would like a pair I might buy them a pair next summer. They come to about twenty cents a pair. Iona buys for a group of girls at
home who pay her back whatever she pays for things and pay the duty. Then they sell them and whatever the profit is that is given for missions. She bought whole dozen lunch sets like I sent home from Manila. Of course from there no duty had to be paid. I can not say I recommend the method. This letter will probably be near you Canada by the time this reaches you. Mr. and Mrs. Allyn Cooke have agreed to carry this letter home else I might not have said so much. They have just finished translating the New Testament into a tribe's dialect. They and four others from B. I. and myself had an evening together. They are very musical. The first group who went to China from B. I. were many of them talented and many since have been also.

I suppose I may get a letter from home in the next six months.

With love,

Hazel.
Mrs. C. A. Todd,
Box 672 R. R. 2,
Strathmore,
Calif.,
U.S.A.
Dear Mother:

When here in Shanghai as a rule there is not much
to be written about. At first I did more buying to get ready to go
to the interior. The most expensive thing I had made was a firm lining
which I sewed to my coat by snaps. But there was also heavy
woolen underwear to buy, a Chinese dictionary, a Bible of larger print,
hymn book and prayer book as well as some other Chinese books, there
was also a mosquito net for my bed and a sort of pad with the
oil sheet in which to wrap them. In the way of household things it
is best to wait now until I know who will be working with me.

It has not as yet been possible to leave Shanghai so there is no one
else going in the same direction just not. Before furlough I could
have started off on my own. In fact I did come down to Shanghai
most of the way alone. Of course even then it was necessary to
send word ahead so there would be some one to meet me. Now it
seems essential that someone of the Mess missionaries be along.

It need to be that I preferred having a Chinese along. But now they
tell us that a Chinese may be a hindrance rather than a help.
Even after all this time we can think of much that should be
bought. I need to keep a small stock of Bibles, hymn books, tracts
and simple medicines as well as the various things we keep to
eat that we can not obtain in the interior.

The missionary who traveled with me left more than two
weeks ago. As she was going through French Indo-China to reach
her destination her trip will be something to write home about.
Part of the way they were to go by train and to provide their own
food. That was to take four days after more than a week by boat.
Most of all there was to be eight or nine days by bus. That may
not be so bad for grown-up people. But there was a young couple
with two young children along. When I do start it should not
take a week to reach my destination. In normal time it would
mean three or four days of travel.

The reason there has been delay in my leaving here is
because they have been holding some very important council
meetings. Some had thought there might be quite a change in
the executive of the mission so the home directors both from
England and America came. But in the end the only man who
he retired was the secretary who came out fifty years ago and has held his office since long before I came out. In fact, he always has worked in the office and has done very good work. A missionary from Minnesota is taking his place. He also has been in the office a number of years. Two men were also given more responsibility here and I understand another one has been asked to come and work here in Shanghai. Some of the men at the head of things here have done very good work but are growing old. But now is not the time to change when their wisdom and experience are so very much needed.

Many are passing through Shanghai. Edwin Orr, who has done evangelistic work in many places and written a number of books, was here last month. He has taken a number of pictures of refugees, etc., to take to America to show. By the way, the wife of Mr. Allen Cooke is in San Jose. I knew both of them before when in B.I. They are the ones who have just completed the translation of the New Testament in a tribe's language. On the way through Los Angeles they might stop and call on you sometime. If they should stop in Shanghai for very long, I hope they will have time to visit along.

Then you would have a treat. She used to give music lessons before she went to B.I. You might remind Ruth Hall of them. Among others here are Mr. and Mrs. Bergstrom. Mrs. Bergstrom is the one I have told you about whose father fled with her when a mob attacked his family another man and some other children when she was tiny. Her mother and two sisters were murdered by the mob. Among the other children were a brother and sister of her husband. His only other brother and his father died of typhus fever. They sing beautifully together being musically as so many Swedish are. His mother has returned to China with them but intends to live and work in another city. They also have with them a new woman worker whose only sister was murdered with the rest of the children. One of her five brothers came out three years ago. There was only one other child in that group he was an only child and his parents are still on the field. I might say Mr. and Mrs. Bergstrom have returned from a furlough. Mr. and Mrs. Schoener also expect to go home on furlough by way of Los Angeles. One of the girls who worked with me went to work with her after she had been alone along time. Mrs. Schoener is the one who took nearly six months traveling from his station to reach Shanghai. Mrs. Knight with whom I came back with from the other furlough very often comes to meetings in a wheel chair as she has
since it is not expected that she ever will be better. She came out to China forty-eight years ago and has done a very good work. When her children were little she spent her spare time teaching her women servants. That servant became one of the best Bible women in the province. Both of her children are missionaries. The only other one she ever had died when a baby. She also did work in the language training homes and has been principal of the girl's school in the mission.

Mr. and Mrs. Leavell were here just about a month before leaving Saturday. Another younger couple were with them and a new worker. Mrs. Leavell was saying she would like to take me along up north. But probably it is better for me to stick to central China.

While not having the opportunity to get away I have been out a few times to two different hospitals. Of all of them I gave out seeds very much like the You and I Club prepared to each patient young and old. It was such a rare place that anything bright was greatly appreciated. It formed part of their Christmas treat. The patients were each given a box with shrimps and three small caramels. They have much better food in the hospitals than in the refuge camps. In one refuge camp where there were about two hundred and seventy men a sum equivalent to nearly four dollars was used for their Christmas treat. It consisted of a raw turp and a small piece of certain kind of bean curd. Many of the men were so keen about the turp and they started in eating them without going to the trouble of washing them. Enough money was collected from among the C. M. missionaries here to give hundreds of others besides those mentioned a treat. But most of money was used to buy bed covering for families who have little or none.

Every Sunday also I have a Sunday school class of from twenty to forty Chinese children. Sometimes there is a women's meeting also. On the whole I leave the work of preaching to others. Usually there are plenty to do that. The more need individual work is so often sadly neglected anywhere.

I have just been writing to Mr. Teach. He and the whole family came and really take to call on me within two hours of the time they found out where I was. His pastor we ever had took more time over teaching me.

Please remember me to those who inquire about me. I still await the first letter from that time since I left home.

With love,

Nagbi.

P.S. A missionary who worked eighty miles from us said even the church or house was still standing on our compound. Also he made an effort to save some of our things but this not succeed.