

# CENTENARY EVANGELISM

## IN

### WEST CHINA

A composite report of Evangelistic Campaigns held in two walled cities where tens of thousands heard the Good News and where over a hundred thousand tracts and Christian books were distributed.

Dr. and Mrs. Spencer Lewis,	Chengtú, West China.
Rev. and Mrs. J. F. Peat,	Chungking, „ „
Miss Mabel Beatty,	Tzechow, „ „
Rev. W. C. Hooker,	Chungking, „ „
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Dr. S. H. Liljestrand,	Tzechow, „ „
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Accepting God's "Kingdom plan" of "First the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear, then the harvest" as a basis of all our plans, we fix our faith upon the realization of a province-wide harvest thru the power of God in His Holy Spirit. Altho yet in the experimental stage, it is hoped to so organize the movement as to assure its ready interrelation with all similar efforts elsewhere; to emphasize such essential doctrines as shall enable it either to incorporate or to be incorporated into, any fraternal evangelistic movement of the Church of Christ; to conduct its progress in such accord with the highest apologetic principles as shall insure the corporation of all such indigenous organizations as have for their object the up-lifting of the people of China who are under their jurisdiction; and to so conserve and utilize all spiritual force and energy generated in each single campaign as to admit of no early reaction, but on the contrary to increase the momentum.

The general preparation for the evangelistic meetings which we have just held in West China began four years ago when several preachers were gathered together and special meetings were held in some of the larger towns and villages. During the last four years a dozen or more such meetings have been conducted and in these experience has been gained and our men are being trained into an effective band of workers, so much so that during the months of March and April of this year we were enabled to put on two city evangelistic campaigns.

Special preparation for these meetings was in progress for two years. Committees had been organized, and more especially an institute for the training of Class Leaders, who would have in hand the matter of caring for possible converts. This policy follows the tested plan of our church which provides for a weekly meeting of classes, instruction in Scripture and doctrine, personal expression, mutual help, friendly supervision and encouragement, with quarterly reports by the leader to the Pastor.

The corps of workers consisted of twenty of our strongest and best prepared Chinese preachers, together with some enthusiastic Church members who afforded good assistance in tract distribution, ushering, etc.; several Bible women; three lady missionaries; and from three to six men missionaries, including one physician.

Recognizing the important facts that man is body as well as soul and that attention can be secured only thru interest, certain important necessities were foreseen and provided; first, readily accessible places of meeting including a Confucian temple court protected from sun and rain by a canopy of five thousand square feet of canvas and lighted at night by hanging lamps, with forms sufficient to seat about one thousand people; and second, a nearby church building available for workers' councils at certain hours and for women's meetings; third, the school house nearby where children were gathered each day; fourth, dispensary; fifth, three street chapels in strategic places; and sixth, Bible and literature distributing center.

The program of the day was as follows: After an early morning lesson for the workers, led by the veteran missionary, Dr. Spencer Lewis, whose messages were always helpful and inspiring, the workers would separate into different bands and go to their respective places of work: street chapel preachers; book and tract distributors; women's work; children's work; and medical work. Shortly after noon all would come together reporting on the morning's work after which some time would be spent in prayer and praise. These daily reports from the different groups were most encouraging. Scarcely ever had the men or women found such attentive audiences, so many enquiries about the gospel message and so little opposition. The afternoons would be spent in work similar to that of the mornings, in preparation for other meetings and attending lectures. These lectures were given in the large tent, some by our preachers and others by local talent. Among the latter

we had excellent and helpful lectures by the City Magistrates of both cities and by leading educationalists dealing with such subjects as, "Christianity a Help to Law Enforcement," "The Five Great Religions," "The Efficient Life," etc. In every case the tone and tendency were most favorable to Christianity. After one of the lectures a call was made on the City Magistrate and in the conversation about his lecture he said, "We can't govern this country without you people. We need the church to back us up. Without the church ours would be an impossible task."

We rented three extra street chapels in important places which were manned by from four to eight workers a day. Men would sit for two hours here listening to a relay of preachers as they explained the way of salvation. Preachers, when acting as ushers for the different meetings were often invited to a nearby tea shop to answer enquiries regarding the message being presented. Here too the evening meetings were well advertized and interest was stimulated with the result that the attendance was all that could be desired. At each of these places was a stall for the selling of tracts which added greatly to the attraction of the services.

The importance of book and tract distribution cannot well be over estimated. Several men were employed to post tracts and posters all over the city, especially in public places such as barber shops, tea shops, inns and conspicuous points at the bends of streets and lanes. Those principally used were the large sheet texts having red and black characters on a white background, making a striking appeal to the eye, especially in a Chinese city where such posters are unknown, and, literally "He who runs may read." On the main streets there were book shops, loaned by the local merchants. One of these shops was owned by a cloth merchant who removed his stock of cloth to an inner court yard and cleared the shop entirely for our use for the duration of the meeting.

The books on sale at these places were gospel portions, tracts and other Christian literature. Aside from the work carried on in the street chapels and regular book shops men and voluntary bands of boys went out into the streets and even outside the city selling books. One missionary sold two hundred gospels in two hours. These book distributors also had an opportunity to urge people to attend the tent meetings at night. Frequently people were seen at the tent who had been thus invited. So many gospel portions and other books were sold that a person meeting the crowds leaving the city in the evening after a market day would see a gospel or other

Christian literature in the hands of practically every person. As three market days occurred during each campaign thousands of people from the surrounding country and nearby towns were afforded an opportunity of coming into direct contact with the gospel. The distributors were always full of enthusiasm for the simple reason that every one wanted their tracts. So great was the demand that a messenger was sent twenty-five miles to the nearest telegraph station to wire to headquarters for two more coolie loads of books.

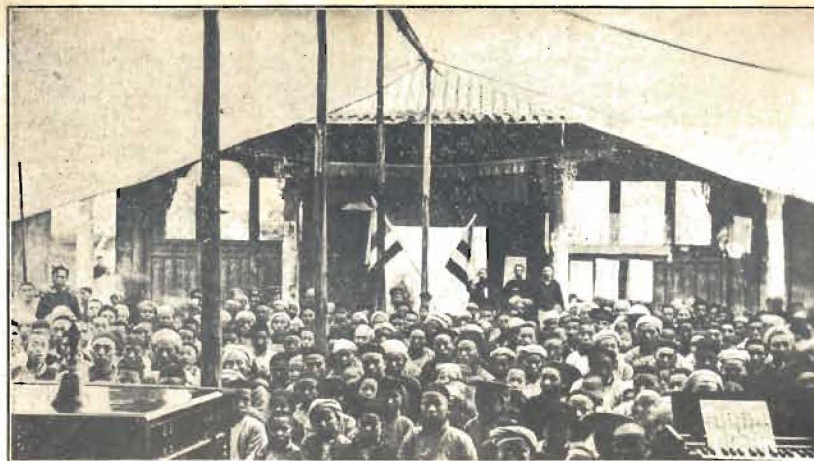
The printed matter thus scattered will serve to keep in mind the spoken word, and to help carry on the work of the evangelistic campaign.

Special work among women at these campaigns was a new venture. On account of the lack of proper places for meetings nothing had been attempted along these lines at the preceding smaller campaigns, consequently the missionary and her corps of Bible women had not the experience and training that had been afforded the men. A program was made out, the work being so arranged that each worker knew her duty for the day. Two attended the dispensary each forenoon and spoke to the women patients. One had charge of the selling and distribution of gospel portions and tracts at each meeting. Altho practically none of the women can read they received the free literature gladly and would often buy the gospel portions saying that they would get some one to read for them. Other workers were appointed to house-to-house visitation, to invite the women to the meetings, many of whom otherwise would not have come. The missionary with two Bible women spoke to the crowds every forenoon and afternoon. Often many came an hour or so before time for the meeting to begin. The hymn that had been printed for broadcast distribution and simple gospel tracts printed in large character were distributed among these early comers and the workers would teach them the characters. Practically every one, no matter how old or ignorant would make an attempt to learn. The prime object was not to teach the character but it gave an opportunity for individual teaching and explanation of the truth that one does not have in speaking to a crowd. This personal contact is most valuable. Many of the crowd would often sit three hours listening attentively to the old, old story of Christ's love told in turn with much earnestness by the missionary and her faithful helpers.

Even when the meetings were over many would remain just as long as any one would talk to them. Often they would have to be



EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN WORKERS



CONGREGATION OF MEN IN TENT

invited to go home with a cordial invitation to the next meeting, in order that the workers might have time for their meals. Many came to every meeting and one grew familiar with certain faces and it was gratifying to feel that they were interested enough to thus leave their household duties day after day in order to hear the gospel. While we realize that with many it was only idle curiosity—often the organ and foreign ladies seemed more interesting than the message—yet those who had the privilege of coming into close contact day after day with those poor hungry souls found in many of them a real longing for something that all their religious vows, fastings, and idol worship had not satisfied.

As one looked upon the crowds day after day, oft times so restless and curious, and seeming so unconscious of their soul's need, how often did the words of the Master come to one, "And He beholding the Multitude had compassion upon them for they were as sheep having no shepherd."

There is a question as to the practicability of this plan for work among women as it is difficult to deal with them in crowds, but the interest among the women in each of the places where these campaigns were held has been stimulated. At one of the places the Sunday following the close of the campaign there was not standing room on the side of the church reserved for women. It is believed that with proper follow-up-work, such as the organization of station classes where all interested could be gathered in as soon as the campaign ended and taught the character and simple gospel truths—that many of these women could be brought into the fold.

The children literally swarmed to their meetings which were held every morning and afternoon. Since there is no compulsory education in China and the streets are filled with children who receive no teaching whatever, it was considered a great treat by them to get even the bit of training and attention which could be given them in such a short time and under such crowded conditions. All sizes came even to the babies strapped on the backs of older sisters. All sat quietly and eagerly attentive while gospel stories were told with vim and ability. The stories were reviewed later and it was interesting to note how remarkably well they were remembered by the children. Simple hymns and motion songs were taught which were especially enjoyed. The keen interest and enjoyment shown in all the activities more than repaid any effort expended upon them. One could not but feel that the result of the



MR. LIN



CITY MAGISTRATE LIU OF PISHAN



ONE OF THE TEMPORARY  
STREET CHAPELS



WOMEN AND CHILDREN LEAVING  
CHURCH AT NOON

work gave but a glimpse of what might be done in a longer time and with better equipment.

The medical work was certainly a great help to the larger cause of evangelism. Hundreds came daily to receive relief from their bodily pains. Women patients were treated in the mornings and the men in the afternoons. At all times there were helpers preaching the gospel to those awaiting their turns for treatment. "Nature is kind" is a quaint remark that an old professor of surgery used to like to use and one often thinks this must be the secret of the survival of such a large population in China. Nothing that will give every disease a full opportunity to be transmitted is neglected. It was a privilege to speak on public and personal hygiene to several hundreds. Perhaps a few got a little inspiration to make it a bit less easy for disease to have its own way everywhere. Foreign medicine is beginning to have a large following but the mass of the people still have to depend on the dirty and dangerous medical practice of forty centuries. The experiences of itinerant dispensers of medicines impress one with the need for more work of this nature. We have a large number of church members in the rural sections, to whom an occasional visit from the medical missionary would be a great blessing and often a life-saver. One cannot help but notice the great prevalence of eye diseases. How like the experiences of our Lord! Those who walk in dimness of vision could nearly all have been cured had they received medical attention at the right time; but they need also to know the need voiced in our hymn, "Oh take the dimness of my soul away," and so we are glad to preach to them the Christ and Him crucified for us all. Over a thousand heard the gospel preached in the dispensary waiting rooms and many got a glimpse of the Light of the World that lighteth every man as well as some help for their physical vision. To do this work as it should be done, we are looking anxiously toward America for the men and resources which are needed to make this last great crusade under the banner of the Cross.

The daily program culminated in the enthusiastic meetings held each night in the court of one of the great temples of the city. At Jungchang we were loaned the Confucian temple formerly regarded as sacred to only the great Sage. Here before the Confucian tablets the Christian preacher proclaimed night after night the unsearchable riches of Christ. The temple-court being a hollow square, as are all temple courts in West China, a ridge pole was erected and over this a canopy of five thousand square feet of canvas was stretched which served as a protection from sun and rain and

also provided a most excellent auditorium. Forms were furnished by the local gentry sufficient to seat about one thousand people. Every night the tent would be crowded and practically all would remain thru the entire service. The meeting opened with a song service at which only one hymn was sung but what a hymn! It was especially prepared for the meetings containing in four verses the main points of the gospel: God the Father; man the sinner; Christ the Redeemer; and salvation thru faith. This was printed on cheap paper for broadcast distribution each evening and was sung to the tune of "Kentucky" which is particularly liked by the people having a decided Chinese swing to it. The singing was led by an organ and cornet. At first there was some hesitation when the great crowd was asked to sing but by the third evening they got under way and by the fifth evening they could be heard half a mile! On two evenings the cornetist took a crowd of boys from the congregation and went down to the public square where he started up the tune, the boys singing it all the way back to the temple court. What a crowd we did get! Our attempt was to sing the gospel right into the hearts of the people and in this we feel that we were very largely successful.

The speaker at these evening meetings followed a constructive plan showing the responsibility of man as a member of society; how he is degraded by following his own inclinations; fallen into sin; and can only be extricated by a higher power, even Christ Jesus. Then in relation to the gospel he may become a real constructive member of society, helping to establish the Kingdom here and now. At the last meeting "A Christian Program" was outlined. Not only were the crowds large but the leading men of the cities attended time and again. The quietness of the great congregation and their strict attention to the messages was remarked over and over again.

A reasonably careful summary gave us an estimate that our different congregations for the sixteen days aggregated thirty thousand people. During these sixteen days the gospel, the gospel hall, and the great meetings were the chief topics of conversation among the people of the cities as well as visitors. The public acknowledgment of the practical worth of Christianity by local authorities was gained, while ordinary people were overheard testifying, "More people go to the Gospel meetings than go to theatres" and the reply, "Yes, and see what good order they keep." The Chinese are conservative and are not easily stampeded. In our smaller meetings formerly held practically no new enquirers were

found till the very close of the meetings, or in some cases not until the next few months; but in every case the very great change in the life of the church dates from the time of its evangelistic campaign. On the other hand in our late city campaigns over two hundred men and women signed up expressing their desire to study and to know more of the way of life. Thus we are encouraged to believe that the Lord is pleased to use this method of special evangelism for His church now and here in West China. The local church membership in each city is enthusiastic about conserving the results of the meetings and we are very hopeful for the future.

When we remember that practically two years of work was contributed, that one hundred and twenty thousand books and tracts were distributed and that thirty Chinese and nine foreign workers were especially blessed in service and made more efficient in training, we can appreciate to some degree what a time of seed sowing and harvest these campaigns were.

Our West China field is peculiarly ripe for such meetings as we have just held and if a force could be had so that our entire field could be swept over during the next ten years, what marvels might be wrought for the Master!

## WEST CHINA MISSION

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CHENG TU CONFERENCE  
TZECHOW DISTRICT

LEWIS F. HAVERMALE,  
DISTRICT MISSIONARY  
CLARA T. HAVERMALE,  
SUPT. MIDDLE SCHOOL

TZECHOW, SZE: WEST CHINA

Japan Inland Sea,  
October 9th, 1923.

Mrs. Enola Havermale,  
R.R. No. 5, P.O. Box 286,  
Rosedale, Kansas, U.S.A.

Dearest Motherkin and All:-

We are just leaving Yokohama after having been compelled to remain in port five days. This is two days longer than this Toyo Kisen Kaisha line usually plans for, but was necessitated because so many of the crew were Japanese that special permission had to be given them to add a longer time for shore leave in order that they might search for their families. It must be an awful experience to leave families behind while one "goes down to sea in ships" and then to read in the papers of America that in their absence a great earthquake has practically destroyed two great cities, one of which -- Tokyo -- having been called the third largest city in the world.

From the time of our departure from San Francisco we were brought face to face with some of the effects of the disaster. Out of 72 passengers in first class cabins booked for Japanese ports, 48 have Japanese names, and many others had made their homes in one or other of these two cities. In the steerage there were, according to the published list, 466, and in 2nd class there were 93 more. The crew carried on very well indeed, notwithstanding their anxiety, but the European officers said that if it were not for the Chinese section of the crew doing several men's work, there would have been no possibility of handling the situation. At San Francisco when the word came the Japanese stewards could only be held to their jobs by offering them an extra month's pay if they would wait for the regular time of departure of the Tenyo Maru.

One of the principal passengers on our steamer was Count Omori, who is considered the world's greatest authority on earthquakes. Over a year ago it is said that he called attention to the fact that seven lakes on Fuji-Yama were rapidly drying up, but he was considered an alarmist when he presented this as evidence of an imminent earthquake of unusual seriousness. When the shock came he was in Australia, but we took him on at Honolulu. He had promised to give two lectures concerning this one, of which one was to have been in English, but during the one to the Japanese he broke down utterly, and upon reaching Yokohama he was still in a very critical condition.

The first evidences of the earthquake's effect were to be noticed as we passed the outermost lighthouse off the coast of the island. The foundations of this had given way on one side and the lighthouse looked like another leaning tower of Pisa. Then we came to one of the fortifications where the concrete bases were all split and broken and great guns hurled out of their places rendering them ineffective.

Then we began to meet the Japanese navy on patrol. The cruisers and the two super-dreadnaughts were very imposing, especially when they all steamed out to sea in that early morning, more than twelve in all, with bi-planes scouting above them. It seemed to me to be a sad commentary on the condition of our world when a nation brought to its knees by such a catastrophe must on that very account take special measures for protection against other nations, on the theory that "where the carcass is, there will the vultures be gathered together."

One of the missionaries in Japan told me that when the United States relief ships from the Phillipines arrived so quickly after the great tragedy the Japanese navy was greatly excited, thinking that America was taking advantage of their weakness. When milk and other foods, blankets and tents and clothing was proffered and no money accepted in exchange, the Oriental, un-Christianized mind could not comprehend the spirit which prompted such liberality, and some Japanese papers ( I was told) even warned against receiving this aid: "beware of the Greeks when they bring gifts." If this be true, then a great re-action has already come; for exceptional courtesies are being shown by them to those of us whom they know to be Americans, and papers in Tokyo have spoken in glowing terms of the work of Ambassador Wood. It is said that in spite of his so recent arrival in Japan, he was foremost in organizing for relief and is the only foreign ambassador who is staying on shore at all hours to attend to this work. We visited two such camps, one in Tokyo and one in Yokohama, and we felt proud of being Americans.

As we came into the docks at Yokohama the effects were even more noticeable. Sections of the pier are still useable, altho the fine customs shelters are all burned and the great iron beams bent and twisted and half covered by water. Two steamers were receiving passengers when the shock came just at noon. Some who were on the pier at the time said that while those on deck were still waving their hands in farewell and the skies were clear and sunny, without warning the outermost section dropped into the sea and the rest were thrown off of their feet. Autos with their passengers likewise were hurled off of the pier. During the time while our ship was in port divers were at work and several of these autos were drawn up out of the sea, one of which had its four passengers still in the seats.

It seems that there was first a lateral shake, followed immediately by an upward push. The latter was the one which caused the most damage to buildings. One man told me how he saw the buildings begin to topple and felt himself utterly unable to keep on his feet, but he did not think of an earthquake as being the cause, but thought that he had lost his mind. A lady told how she was riding in a ricksha when the crash came and she saw the walls of buildings in front of her begin to fall into the street. The ricksha coolie at once caused her to climb out and placed the inverted vehicle over her so that she was saved any hurt from flying masonry.

The loss of life from the earthquake can scarcely be estimated, but it was the fire which followed it which did the most harm. You will remember that it was just at noon when the shock came. In Yokohama there were 84 restaurants with gas-stoves on which the dinner was being cooked. Thus fire started immediately before rescue work could begin. The whole city became a place of raging fire, "Hell's fire" the Japanese call it. We thought that the American papers must have exaggerated the disaster, but that would have been impossible. "Wiped out" is what it is. Ruins, ruins, everywhere and but two building-walls standing in Yokohama. Masses of molten glass or porcelain where china shops stood; great kegs of nails and other hardware from which the surrounding woods has been burned away, leaving the iron annealed in almost its former shape; sewing-machines, typewriters, printing-presses, bath-tubs, grates, and other iron ware utterly ruined but standing lonesomely in the midst of crumbled masonry. Wrecked automobiles, bicycles, rickshas, standing in front of buildings, on the street, in garages, wherever the quake and the fire found them, - no chance to get them away. Iron safes and vaults in rows along the street on their bases of masonry or overturned where since then measures have been taken to salvage their contents. It simply cannot be adequately described.

Perhaps the greatest single tragedy was that enacted in one city park to which thousands of people came seeking refuge both from earthquake



and from fire. The park was utterly surrounded by burning buildings and large pieces of burning wood were blown into the park, setting the bedding of the refugees on fire. Those who died there are estimated as numbering from 35,000 to 40,000 people. I have a 5 x 7 inch photograph which was given me by a Jap soolie "because America helped us" as he said, in which the charred bodies are shown lying like drift-wood half-burned and so close together that one could scarcely step between them. The bodies were later cremated by electricity.

Yet in all this destruction of property and life it is remarkable how few missions have suffered loss of life. Practically all excepting the Presbyterian mission in Tokye have lost mission buildings. Our great college in Tokye, the Aoyama Gakuin, the largest Methodist institution in the Orient, has been destroyed beyond all re-construction possibility. Even the last fine \$150,000. building erected largely with the help of the alumni is cracked to the point where the government has had to condemn it for use.

So far as I have learned from printed and verbal reports, but three missionaries were killed. Two Y.W.C.A. girls had been to the bank and had then gone to a certain pharmacy and were apparently just coming out of the door at the latter place when the quake caught them; for when they were found it was beneath tons of brick and stone which had crushed them flat. One was identified by her clothing, and the other by her bank-book. The other missionary was a fine young girl of the Dutch Reformed Mission, - the principal of a girl's school. She was pinned in by the fall of the walls leaving only her head free. A Japanese servant of the school worked in a frenzy trying to remove those tons of debris while the fire came closer and closer. Of course it was an impossible job. The missionary pled with him to flee while he could: "Don't try to save me; I'll soon be with Jesus, but you can get away now if you try", was the way he told the story later.

Usually the schools open on September 1st, but owing to the fact that that was on a Sunday, it was decided not to open until the next week. Consequently most of the missionaries had not yet come down from the mountains where they spend the hot months, the native teachers and the pupils had not yet arrived, and so the missions were saved a much greater loss of life.

Considerable difficulty was experienced in getting word of safety to America, however. It seems that at the height of the panic, several fires were purposely started at the homes of officials in Tokyo and some of the incendiaries were caught. They were either Koreans or Socialists. The rumor spread that the Koreans were using the occasion to try to overturn the government, and a massacre of all those who were known to be Koreans or whose accent was suspicious took place. The Japs are intensely ashamed of the panic now, and I guess we Americans are not in a position to throw stones either. But the missions in sending cablegrams at that time to relieve the anxieties of the folks at home sent them in code. Frantic cablegrams were received from America and Australia and Shanghai pleading for news, and as a result inquiries were begun here to learn if the cablegrams had been sent. They found that all those in code had been shelved, so that while they had been accepted for transmission shortly after Sept. 6th, they were not sent until September 22nd; for it was ~~xxx~~ feared that they had some connection with the massacre.

Tokyo is not so completely destroyed as is Yokohama, though the only hotel intact is the Imperial which was built by an American architect and pronounced at the time the work of a freak. The only large office building not suffering serious damage is one opposite the Union Station built by another American firm, the Fuller Construction Company.

Tokyo is also well policed by Japanese soldiers who have been brought

in from outlying districts. Yokohama is rather dangerous at night though the civil police are doing the best they can and the gunboats in the harbor keep their brilliant search-lights playing over the ruins all thru the night to lighten the streets.

There are many stories of a personal nature which we have heard but which would require a very long epistle to relate. The American doctor in charge of a hospital got all of his patients into a pond in an open court and caused them to lie down therein while blankets were placed over their heads and faces and kept constantly wet. All but one were saved.

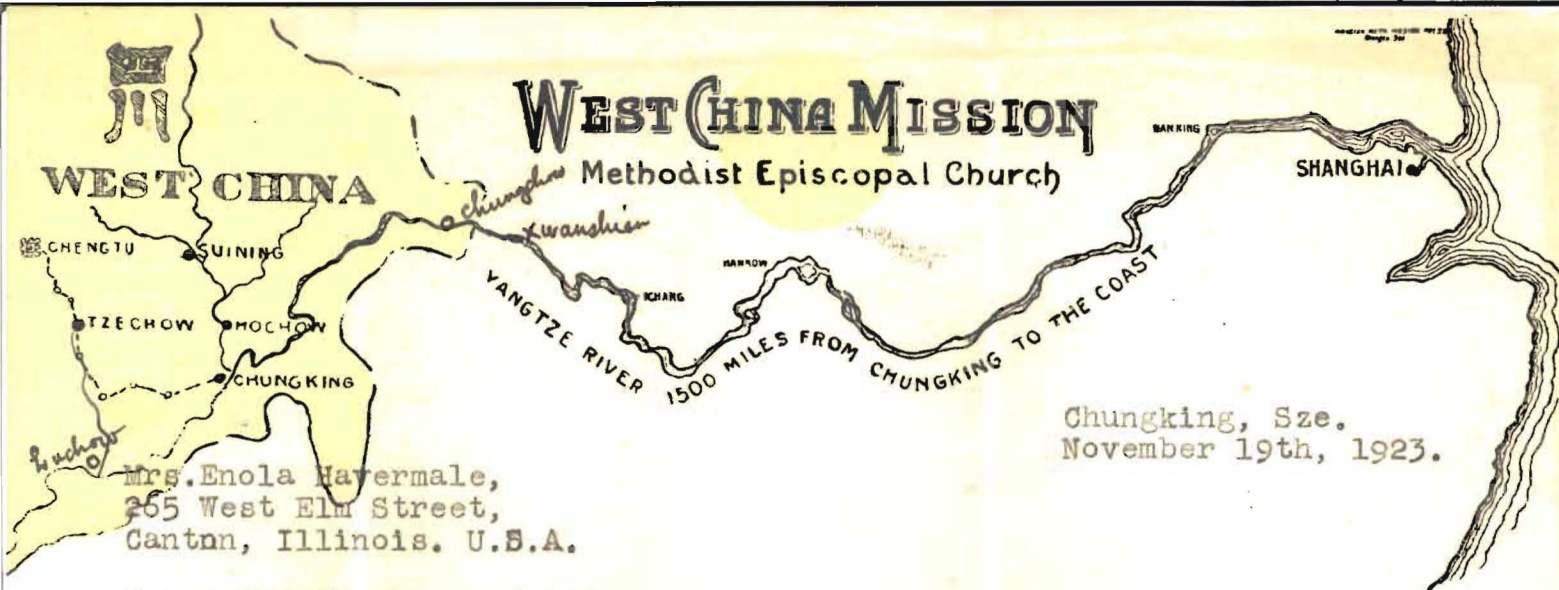
Mr. Lord, an Eurasian insurance man whose family lived in Yokohama, started on a tour last June, leaving his little daughter with his mother, a Japanese. They were in Montreal when the cablegrams were received and he started for San Francisco with his wife at once and were on our boat. His property loss was \$50,000 and on technicalities involving joint earthquake and fire loss the American companies refuse to pay him the \$35,000 on which he has been paying premiums. The prophecy out here is that American companies will be abandoned in the future in favor of Lloyd's of England. However, Mr. Lord is congratulating himself on the loyalty of his Japanese gardener. When the crash came both Mr. Lord's mother and the gardener's mother with others were buried in the debris. But the gardener first rescued the little daughter and the amah and got them into a safe place, then by calling he located the mother and released her from the pantry into which she had been partly thrown. His own mother or wife (I've forgotten which) was the next one saved and so on until ten in all had been released. For the next four days he guided this party from one open space to another, foraging for food to keep all of them, though he himself lived on water only, and finally he brought them every one to his relative's farm twenty miles away. There it was that Mr. Lord found them, and now the mother and daughter are with us on this boat bound for Shanghai. Mr. Lord says he has educated the gardener's son up to the present time, (15 years) and he will soon graduate from college, but the gardener has repaid him far more than he can ever adequately express.

One of the most touching things is to see the vases of flowers, little offerings of flowers, candles and crosses placed in small clearings in the debris of wrecked buildings where bodies are known to be lying, as yet not disinterred.

Thousands are living in little shacks made of sheet metal or other salvaged material, some in a school house which is only partially destroyed, others in camps of tents made by various relief commissions. Re-construction on a small scale has already begun, though permanent buildings are not permitted until three years hence. Meanwhile, the former mayor of Tokyo, now the Japanese Minister of the Interior, who has been made the chairman of the Re-Construction Committee, has recalled Dr. Beard (American city planning expert) whose plans for a Greater Tokyo had to be shelved a few months ago, and the Committee is planning to put these far-reaching, modern city plans into being. To secure the cooperation of the people the government is furnishing supplies for temporary buildings at cost and giving a receipt for the same, which when presented at the time permanent buildings may be erected will be redeemed. Thus there will be no additional money loss on the part of the owners because of the delay.

It certainly has been a unique experience on the part of those of us who were on the Tenyo Maru, - the first trans-pacific boat to be allowed to dock after the catastrophe. Newspapers could not possibly have conveyed to us the extent and the thoroughness of the destruction. Yet notwithstanding this, we have neither seen nor been approached by beggars, - an astounding fact. We might continue the narrative for another page or two, but no doubt this will be more than sufficient for you. Soon we will be at Kobe, - just an hour's journey before us, but we will never be able to forget what we have just seen.

Tried to find the Reagle's but learned that they had already started for U.S.A. They will tell you much more. All of us continue well. With lots of love, From Lewis, Clara and Gerald.



Dearest Motherkin and All:-

We arrived in Chungking on November 7th without any mishap whatever nor experiencing any thrilling adventures, notwithstanding the prophecies of some of our folks in Shanghai that we would be back in Shanghai within three weeks.

I think that I wrote to you from Ichang before we started thru the Gorges. The weather was lovely, tho not always sunny, all the way thru, and the construction of the steamer was such as to permit our seeing both sides of the river at once just as in an observation car on the train. The only other passengers besides ourselves (our party of six and the baby, I mean) was our marine guard. We had a second lieutenant and eight men from one of our gunboats with us. They carried the latest kind of rifles, machine guns, hand grenades and tear bombs, so you see we were supposed to be well protected.

From the time we arrived in Chungking until today, however, I have had to look after the interests of the party. We were advised to go to Tzechow by river all the way, owing to the rather dangerous condition of the Big East Road. The fighting in this Province seems to have been much more severe this year than ever before. Shiung Ke-wu, with the help of the Yunnanese riff-raff has managed to temporarily defeat Yang Sen, who is supporting the Peking army in trying to control Szechwan. Our boat did not give us an opportunity to land at Wanhsien on the way up owing to the fact that Yang was making that the rallying point for his men. When we reached Chungchow, that place was filled with the Szechwanese army. It was our good fortune to pass thru to Chungking during the first lull in the fighting. We are now trying to get thru to Tzechow while the lull continues.

The American consul here has given his consent to our going by steamer to Luchow, and thence by small boat to Tzechow. This should take us about nine days if we have no delay. We were to have left on the King-Wo steamship but she met with an accident on the way down river and is to be sent down to Shanghai for repairs. We have tried all of the other lines operating on the upper river, all of which charge \$70.00 Mex. for each passenger just as far as Luchow, 2½ days up the river. We have now arranged for passage on the Chuan-tung, a Chinese steamer, and expect to go on board tomorrow afternoon. I just completed the sending of our baggage and cargo for the party to be loaded this afternoon, so you see I am writing just as soon as I have anything definite to write.

Everything seems to promise us a safe journey. For the first time in months all the steamers operating on the upper river report no shots fired on their boats. They are all armored, by the way, and the shots always come from well-known places along the river, so the passengers are always herded into the armored portion for safety's sake.

Our old cook is on the job again as is our old coolie. Both of them have been in Chungking since July of this year. They seem to be happy at being in our service again. They will accompany us on the steamer, and look after our needs. The company is charging us only Mex. \$30.00 each for the trip, and allowing our servants to go free. We will have to pay excess on our baggage of course and regular rates for our cargo. They furnish the eatables and our cook does the cooking.

A letter from Starrett at Tzechow today warns me that if I do not get the party up to Tzechow by Thanksgiving Day they are going to give me a licking. I don't need such a threat to make me want to do my best to get there.

Starrett proposes that we come at once to our old home where a sleeping room and a study will be placed at our disposal. Then during the month following our arrival, he will gradually move out as we move in and the district work can be more easily transferred from him to me. I think that that will be a good plan.

Sundays have been the only chance we have had to do any visiting. We are being delightfully entertained here at the W.F.M.S. among our old friends. The week-ends have been spent with the Rapes and others out in the country at Bsen Jia Ngai. On Thursday evening I had to preach for the foreign community.

Every one continues well. We have had slight bowel trouble but that is just a matter of adjustment to a change of diet, I suppose. The kidlet is easily winning his way into the hearts of the folks in Chungking and a number of our Chinese friends have called to congratulate us.

Just now he is becoming quite restless and the swelling of his upper gum give evidence of the imminent "hatching" of some more teeth. He continues to grow like a weed and his weight the other day was 19 pounds. He can sit up alone without support now and likes to play with his toes. ~~XXXXXX~~ He is also getting quite handy with his bottle, and often amuses us by the wise way in which he looks at the bottle to see if there is any more milk in it, and then tips it very high up so that he can get the last drop. He has invented little games for himself, too, such as when Clara and I are carrying him while the other is sitting down, he twists his head around to keep that one in sight, and when we carry him abreast of the one in the seat he will squeal and laugh as tho that were the biggest joke ever. The folding crib has been exceptionally convenient all the way and has given him a bed to which he is accustomed. He has cried only once during the night, and we feed him at 10:30 P.M. and then at 6:30 A.M. so everything is quite convenient.

Well, I suppose the next letter will tell of our arrival in Tzechow without mishap. We all hope so. Two single W.F.M.S. ladies and a Chinese Y.W.C.A. secretary whom we know will be the only passengers on this next stage of our journey. Clara and Jerrold join me in sending lots of love and kisses to you and to all. (Am still waiting for letters from home.) Affectionately,

Lewis.

Tzechow, Szechwen, China.  
December 23, 1923.

Dear Home Folks :

It was just three weeks ago yesterday since we arrived in Tzechow. I had hoped to have a letter ready to mail by the time we reached here but the conditions on the little boat did not permit any letter writing, and every moment of the day has been full since arriving. In the evenings I have been too tired and sleepy to even get a letter started. Just now Jerrold is taking his afternoon nap and Lewis is at one of the Christmas programs at the church. He stayed with the baby so that I could attend the morning service. We do not trust him with the Chinese servant yet.

But I will go back and start where I left off in my last letter. I believe I wrote only a very hurried note from Luchow. That is where we left the steamer and continued our journey in little boats. The people of the Canadian Methodist church at Luchow were very kind to us. The eight in our ty were entertained by the four families there, two to a family. They also baked bread, cookies, cake and pie and gave us for use on the boat. We continued our journey from there in four small boats; the North's had one, the Blanchard's one, we had one, and the fourth was occupied by two single ladies of the W.F.M.S. and Mrs. Fung a wife of a Methodist minister. She is now secretary of the Y.W.C.A. at Chengtu and was returning from a convention held in South China. Our boat was used as the dining boat, all coming on it to eat. It was pretty close quarters but we managed to get along. Lewis and I were the only ones that could speak Chinese so having the cooking done on our boat made it possible for me to oversee it and also made it more convenient to not have to take the baby off to go to meals. We found our cook and coolie waiting for us at Chungking. So they did our cooking on the boat and certainly gave us some good meals.

We were on the river on Thanksgiving day. For dinner that day we had tomatoe soup with wafers ; roast chicken, sweet potatoes southern style, bamboo sprouts, creamed celery, potatoe chips, sweet pickles, CRANBERRIES, bread, butter, jam, plum pudding and cheese. Then for tea which each prepared on their own boats, each was given cookies, oranges, a package of Peter's chocolates and a package of chiclets. We felt especially thankful, too, not only for all the good things we had to eat, but by that time we were near enough to Tzechow so that we need have no more fear of the bandits, and our long journey had been a happy safe one.

For Jerrold's sake I was so glad it was a boat trip instead of an overland trip. Even tho it was November and we had no heat on the boat he had his bath every morning and kept well. It was quite simple to attend to the washing and stearlizing of his bottles and I did his washing out on the front of the boat sometimes just leaning over the side of the boat and wringing direct in the river. On this atagey of the trip he learned how to get his big toe in his mouth.

We got into Tzechow about three o'clock in the afternoon, and found a large delagation on the river bank to welcome us. The church, schools, and all organizations were represented. It did make us feel good to see our friends again and to be made to feel that we were really wanted as well as needed.

We came directly to our old home where Mr. and Mrs. Starrett were living. That evening we were all invited to the W.F.M.S. to a second Thanksgiving dinner. The table was decorated very prettily and we had goose and all the trimmings. The first of the next week a big reception was held at the church and several feasts given as a farewell to the Starrett and a welcome to us. I only attend one feast when Mrs. Starrett insisted on my going and her staying with Jerrold. I would not take Jerrold out in a large crowd. The next Tuesday Lewis and Mr. Starrett started out again with those of the party that weret to go to Chengtu. They went as far as Yangshien, not quite a day and a half journey when they were met by Mr. Cranston from Chengtu who escorted them the rest of the way. Lewis and Mr. Starrett in this way had a better opportunity to talk over the work than they would have had here with the constant stream of callers. As soon as they returned they began we began the moving process, the Starretts moving out and we moving in. Their last evening here we had a picnic supper, all the foreigners coming. We managed to have our living room looking quite homey for that occasion; curtains (the old ones) up, the rug down, pictures on the wall, and a cheery fire in the fire place. Since then we have been busy trying to get settled. It has been rather slow because we do not have our old house back. I am training a new boy that is as green as they make them. I have to be on the job too, because if I am not on hand to tell him how to do things, the out door coolie shows him how and his way is not my way. It was a big relief when I got the first big washing and ironing done. I am also training my woman how to wash the baby's clothes, make beds, and dust. It takes lots of time and patience now but some day I hope they will know how to do their work and do it right.

Jerrold has outgrown the little kimonoes and his night gowns will not serve much longer, so I will soon have to get busy making some clothes for him. I made him a little jacket to wear over his gown at night out of my old white scarf. You remember you knit it, Mother. I only used half of the scarf. It worked fine, it is just like a little knit sweater, and so warm. I did not use the little pink quilt you made him with the wool blanket inside that Rena gave you till after we got here. I looked for it once along the way thinking that I needed it for him but could not locate it then. Now I am glad I did not find it because all he used on the road became more or less soiled. That little quilt looks so nice on his bed and is light and warm, too.

Wonder if you have missed your little scissors with the rounded point that you use to keep in the little case in the dining room. It played a little trick on you and got a trip to China as a result. When Lewis put on the dark grey trousers that you made larger around the waist Mother, he found those scissors in the pocket. They must have just slipped in while you were working with them.

We were disappointed in not finding any letters from Iowa home folks awaiting us when we arrived. Lewis had two from his home and has received three since. I was beginning to feel a bit worried when yours of Nov. 6th. came yesterday, Carrie. So glad to get home news again after about a three months' wait. Some of you must have forgotten how long it takes a letter to reach us and are waiting till we arrive before writing. But we are hopeful for more letters soon. I will see about the ring, Carrie, my first opportunity. If I remember correctly, it is next June you would like to have it.

I will tell you about our Christmas in my next letter. Lewis has made a short trip on the District already. Several unpleasant affairs have fallen to his lot to adjust. I have inherited some with the school work, too. I am now responsible for the District schools. My work will be thru correspondence principally.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas.

Tzechow, Ezechwan.  
January 7, 1924.

Dear Ones at Home:

This is as far as I got when a caller came. It was one of the teachers on the District that came to talk over plans for the school for the next term. He stayed till dark. Since then I have had my supper put Jerrold to bed, washed my hair and Jerrold's sweater and a pair of stockings. Now I am sitting by the stove drying my hair while I am writing.

First will let you know we have received some more home letters; Rena's of Nov. 4th. and Mother's and Alma's of Nov. 6th. Needless to say we were delighted to get them. Such good neway ones, too.

Now I will start where I left off in my last letter, which will be at Christmas time. We were invited into the country, that is to the W.F.M.S. outside the city, on Christmas eve for the Christmas dinner and to spend the night. There are now twelve in our foreign community at Tzechow. Ten were present at the dinner. Dr. Hill's son, about ten years old, is in the school for foreign children at Chengtu so could not come home for Christmas. Mrs. Hill was the other one who was not present. She is expecting a little one very soon and is not going out at all. The house was very prettily decorated and the table had a tree on the center and ribbons extended from little gifts on the tree to the place cards. We had a lovely dinner, goose, plum pudding, candy etc. etc.

When we got up the next morning in one corner of the living room stood, not a Christmas tree, but a ladder of evergreen loaded with gifts. After breakfast everybody got their gifts. Jerrold was well remembered. He got a silk comforter, a cute doll that can cry, a tinkler toy doll, A circus crayon book with crayons, two picture books, a rubber clown, two pairs of stockings, a blue silk stocking cap, a bar of nice baby soap, three pairs of Chinese shoes, a pair of china cats, a little china doll, an Indian kerchief, and a doll whistle. Lewis and I got a very pretty red bean wood bench or low seat for our living room, besides a number of other small gifts, including a pair of silver mounted ebony chopsticks for each of us and also rice bowls. Lewis gave me a year's subscription to Pictorial Review so that I might know the styles and Modern Priscilla as a guide in fancy work I have made. I gave Lewis the Camera Craft and tried to get him a Chinese tea service for his study but was not able to buy it here so will have to wait till we go either to Chengtu or Chungking. The tea pot is inclosed in a woven basket like case which keeps the tea hot a long time. Having this he will be able to serve hot tea to his callers whenever they come.

Jerrold also had his own little tree at home. The day after Christmas we put the little gifts we had for the servants on the tree then invited them all in. Lewis played several pieces for them on the Victor then we gave them their gifts. The cook has three children the oldest six years. We gave him a mouth organ, the little girl a toy wrist watch and the baby a rubber donkey that is filled with air. As they were leaving the eldest boy looked as if he was about to cry. I ask his mother what was the trouble. She said he wanted to trade with his sister and have the watch. I noticed he had not opened his box

so knew not what it contained. I helped him open it and Lewis played his mouth organ for him. After that he had no more desires to exchange.

Next we put all of Jerrold's gifts on the tree and took a flash light picture of him and the tree as a remembrance of his first Christmas. We have taken a number of pictures of him but cannot print any till our freight arrives with the printing paper and apparatus.

### Wednesday Afternoon.

Now I do not know where to start. Will continue to tell you about Jerrold. He is a darling, a ray of sunshine in the home from morning to night. Since getting settled in our home his habits have become established and he is a constant joy. He gets his first bottle at six o'clock in the morning. Sometimes he goes to sleep after it but oftentimes not. When he remains awake he is very quiet, just cooing softly until he hears or sees one of us. Then he laughs aloud, and begins to kick and wave his arms at a great rate. We have a little stove in the bath room, where we have a fire each morning to dress by and give the baby his bath. At eight he gets the juice of one orange, eats it from a cup with a spoon. He then plays till ten when I put him to bed again and he gets another bottle of milk. He is still taking Eagle brand but I mix it with barley water and he gets the white of an egg every second day mixed with the food. I leave him after he has taken his bottle and generally he drops right off to sleep. He then sleeps till twelve thirty or one. He is always happy and laughing when he gets up. At two he has another bottle and plays till about three thirty. I then rock him to sleep for his after noon nap, the only time he is rocked to sleep. He awakens about five, then plays till six when he is put to bed. He gets a bottle then and again at ten in the evening. If he cries when I put him to bed, it is only for a very short time. At ten he may be wide awake and laughing but when the light is put out he settles down. He continues to sleep well at night, as he always has. Now do you see how we could have a better baby. He has one more tooth now, above and another is about to come. You ask about his hair, Alas. It has now been trimmed three times, that is around the neck and above the ears. He looks cute with it trimmed. It is a light brown and fairly heavy for his age, but does not begin to compare with Dean's at his age. He enjoys sitting on a blanket on the floor. He tries hard to raise himself but as yet has not succeeded. He gets a look on that amuses Lewis and me considerably. It expresses as much as a look can express "Now just look at me and see what I can do". Sometimes after he has had his bath before he has many clothes on I will take hold of his hands and let him stand up. Then he looks around quickly at Lewis with that little expression on his face showing how proud he is of himself. Guess this will be enough about Jerrold for one time.

I am enjoying making plans for the nursery and getting it fixed up. For this we are using a large back room that we called our attic when we were here before because we used it more or less as a store room. It is well lighted and when fixed up quite cherry. The large stove is put up in this room so it is the one room in the house always kept warm. I am planning to have little ducks, rabbits and elephants appliqued on the curtains. A screen in the room will have birds and flowers and trees in crossstitch. The pictures in the room will also be such as a child will enjoy. It will be the baby's play room and my work room. I have my desk and sewing machine in here. Perhaps we can get some pictures of it when I get it all fixed up.

We were able to get our old carpenter back this week. He first put a new bottom in the baby's bath tub which Mrs. Rapp gave him. Now he is making the baby's bed. Next will be his nursery chair. We got him a pretty little wicker chair in Shanghai. We found our furniture in a fairly



good condition. Some of the chairs need to be reglued and we need a new dining room table. When the new books come that we bought when home we will need more bookcases. Lewis is also going to have new bookcases made for his study, with doors so as to keep out the cock-roaches. So we will have the carpenter here for some time.

My work thruout a day is quite varied. Today I have divided my time between the green boy who was washing, and the woman who is sewing on the new curtains, and dictating letters to preachers and teachers on the District regarding the next semester's school plans. We were fortunate in getting a good secretary again. As yet we do not have him full time. He is employed by the Standard Oil Co. here but has volunteered to give us two hours a day till after the Chinese New Year when we will have him full time. The new boy is learning slowly. Do not know yet if he is going to be satisfactory. I have gone out and worked with him in doing the washing three weeks. Today I sorted the clothes for him, but when I went out to see how he was getting along, I found he had white clothes, colored clothes and some of his clothes all mixed together in the same tub. Water was dripping from the clothes he had hung up. If he does not soon begin to remember what I tell him I guess we will have to try to find someone else.

Conference appointed me superintendent of the High School. But Miss Griffiths has more classes in the school than I would be able to take and it did not seem well to change teachers in the middle of the term so we arranged it that she should continue with her High School work and I would take the District schools. That gives me work that can be done at home. I will not be able to do any itinerating but there is not money for it even if I could so the work will have to be carried on thru correspondence.

The letters you inclosed for me Mother contained twenty seven and a half dollars towards a new organ for the boys' High School. It comes from three of the girls that belong to the chain letter I use to be in, Bates Hall girls. I guess not as many of them gave as these few had hoped would. But it is a start anyway.

I have stacks of letters here that should be answered so guess I had better bring this to a close. Hope you are sending these letters to Nina, too. I am going to write her direct but will not be able to give all the news contained in these.

There is no warfare here at present but much manoeuvring of soldiers, enforcement of civilians to carry for them, and a large issue of paper money that has caused many shops to close their doors. Very hard times for Chinese business men.

Lewis went to attend a meeting across the river this afternoon. Jerrold and I was invited too but we declined the invitation. Lewis would have liked to because his work here is preasing, but he could not. He has had so many meetings recently of different organizations at which business has been transacted and a feast followed.

Jerrold is awake and Lewis returned, so long.

Lots of love to ALL.

Tzechow, Szechwan.

March 2, 1924.

Dear Home Folks :

I do not think I would have believed it if some one had told me it is almost two months since last I wrote home, but I have the carbon copy here and it is dated January seventh so I know just how long I have waited. I have found it very hard to get the letters written that I ought to write. I have been owing Mrs. Manly one since before I left America and been getting more from her since reaching Tzechow. Finally I decided I would not even write a letter home till I got one off to her, thinking that would cause me to get it off sooner. I do not know if it did but I do know it has delayed my letter home most shamefully and promise I will make no letter take precedence over the home letter again.

Our little foreign community has experienced a great loss and sorrow, since last I wrote, in the death of Mrs. Hill and baby. You will remember that the Hills is the doctor's family here. Mrs. Hill had been real well during her confinement and had taken such good care of herself that no one had any fears but that all would go well. The trouble was caused by the baby being very large and in a very difficult position. Poor doctor is just lost without her. He depended on her for so many things. She was a very even disposition and always cheerful while he has a tendency towards melancholy. She was a nurse and expected to fill that place in the hospital. She had been very faithful in her language study and was expecting to begin work as soon as she had regained her strength after the baby's coming. They had made a kiddie coop and had it all planned as to the care of the baby so that it would be possible for to do nursing. Ofcourse there would have been Chinese nurses, too. In fact, the evening before her death she had assisted at a confinement case in the hospital giving the choleraform and working till one in the morning. She had already won a big place in the hearts of the Chinese thru her cheerfulness and willingness to help. It seems hard to understand why a person that has spent two years in preparation and is just ready to begin work, should be taken when we are so in need of workers here and it is so hard to get them.

Jerrold and I have been alone now for two weeks. Lewis was called to Chengtu to attend the Finance Committee. Two Chinese, the District Superintendent and the principal of the High School, also went. My last letter from Lewis said he was going to try to get home Saturday evening but did not know if he would make it as there was yet much business to attend to. I looked for him till nine last evening, then I knew he would not come as the city gates closed. I have been expect him more or less all day but think it most probable he will get here about six this evening. And yet it is possible he will not travel, today, Sunday. Here is hoping tho, that he gets here this evening.

Our city has changed hands since last I wrote. It is now under the control of the Northern soldiers. You may remember that shortly before we reached Chungking the Northern soldiers under Yang Sen had been defeated and forced to retreat down river. Well,

they got reinforcements and came back. Chungking was retaken with very little fighting, the Szechwanese just deserting. The Northerners then made for Chengtu, going by way of Luchow, not the Big Road. Chengtu was taken after several days fighting. The Szechwanese then began to retreat coming down the Big Road. They just poured into our city taking quarters in practically every home and shelter they could find. Lewis was kept busy for several days trying to keep them out of our schools and churches. According to instructions from our American Consul and also the Chinese Minister of Foreign Affairs we can receive no reimbursements for damages done if we receive them into our buildings. Again it was the Chinese people that suffered. The soldiers would help themselves to bedding and food wherever they could find it. They would knock on a door and if it was not opened for them they would break it down. They would also take furniture, doors or anything they could burn to use as fuel in cooking their food. At this same time the generals and Shong Ksh Wu, the military governor, held counsel here. They gradually departed and about half a day after the last left the other army came in. They seemed to be a much better class of men. They used coins instead of the worthless paper money that was circulated by the others. They also paid for the things they took. However a week ago today three civilians were shot and killed because they tried to run away when the soldiers were enforcing them to carry loads. Men of the class that might be enforced into carrying was very scarce during that time that the soldiers were so many, all hiding. It was almost impossible to buy meat or vegetables because the farmers were afraid to bring it to the city. The last news we had there was fighting at Luchow.

I have almost decided the new lad I have been trying to teach is impossible. Saturday I had the rug in the nursery put on the line and then told him to shine the heating stove in that room. He came with his broom and dust pan saying he would clean the floor first. I got him to see how much better logic it would be to polish the stove first and then clean the floor. I then went about my other work and when I went back to see how he was getting along he had finished the stove but without washing his hands which were covered with stove polish he was proceeding to sweep and moving things about. Fortunately I came in time to prevent his black hand prints being put on many things. This morning I saw him sweeping the stairs beginning with the lower step. He has some good points; I believe he is honest and he is always willing. But I fear he has a happy-go-lucky way that will never make him satisfactory, so the sooner we can find another the better. Satisfis

Jerrold is keeping so well and is growing and developing so rapidly. Even the February did not have thirty days, he is now nine months old. His first way to get around was just to roll over and over. The day he was eight months old I had stepped out of the room for just a little while. When I returned, the blanket in the middle of the floor where I had left him was empty and I could only see his feet sticking out from under the couch. Since we have had the carpenter make him a little pen. It is about eight feet square. The sides hook together so it is easily taken down and put up. It looks like this.

I cover the rug with the pen with some of my old pink bedroom rag rugs so he is kept clean as well as protected from the dirt from the streets that is bound to be brought in on the rugs on which we walk. He is just beginning to try to raise up by taking hold of the fence. He can get up on one foot and one knee. If he is in anything so low that he can get both arms over it, he then gets up on his feet very quickly.

I think perhaps I told you he had five pairs of rompers presented to him before we left America. As I recall Everett was about nine months old when he started to wear rompers so I thought I would keep Jerrold in dresses till he was nine months. But some of his little dresses got so small for him and the sleeves were tight, so about three weeks ago I decided to get out the rompers and try them on him. I was surprised to find that they were a perfect fit. He looks so cute in them. He has two pink and white ones that are so pretty on him, one Mrs. Beverstock gave him and the other Hazel, Dan's wife. He still wears the shoes Mrs. Beverstock gave him for his best. But it will not be much longer that he can wear them. For every day wear he has little shoes made from the felt of my wedding hat. He still has two pairs that came from America: The ones you gave him, Ruth and one pair I purchased.

If we were still living in America, Jerrold would have visited the Rainbow barber shop several times. I trim his hair every two weeks. It surely is some task, he is constantly on the move. Last time I gave him a leadpencil to play with and when he got tired of it his face was as marked up as a little boy who had spent his first day in school. (He was sitting in his little chair so could not fall on it.) Then as it was getting near his eating time I gave him a part of a cracker, and that worked pretty well. You will have to keep me informed as to the style of haircut for little boys, Ruth. Is the hair at the back out so high as to be in a straight line with the hair above the ears, or is it a little lower so that the hair makes a little curve back of the ears and then straight around? I saved the little lock out from the front, Alma, so that you can see the color. You remember you asked the color of his hair. His complexion is very white and his cheeks a rosy pink.

He has now begun to eat more than just milk and takes just four meals in twenty-four hours; his bottle at six in the morning, prunes (The orange season is past) at eight, rice and bottle at ten, bread or crackers and milk and bottle at two, and oatmeal and bottle at six in the evening. He sleeps well, cries little, and laughs much. I often wish you could see him as he is now. The time we were at home and especially the time we were with you, Ruth, was the hardest time we have had with him. It seemed too, that I felt so tired and could not get things done. With his regular hours and sleeping well, that is all quite different now. He is a great joy and we are mighty glad we have him.

We have had letters from nearly all of you since last I wrote and from some two. I will try to write Maude Nelson very soon with regard to the money she sent. I have not cashed the checks yet. Lewis and I have both said we wished we had got your picture with the baby, Mother. If I remember correctly Florence took one of you and the baby. Wonder if it was good. As soon as we get our freight we hope to be able to send you some pictures of him again. It is time it should be here but with the unsettled conditions caused by the fighting it may be delayed for some time. Only hope nothing worse will happen to it. We were sorry to hear of Dr. Richardson's continued illness. How is he now? The day I got your letters telling about the deep snow and blizzards, I ate my dinner in the dining room with the doors open. Jerrold sat in his little chair just inside the open door, laughing and calling to the cook as he passed back and forth serving the meal.



Tzechow, Szechwan.  
March 10, 1924.

Dear Mother, Muzzy, and All:

Last evening as we were returning home from our little foreign community service, (Lewis gives us a sermon each Sunday he is here.), Lewis remarked that he had three things to attend to that evening, namely: To pack his loads so as to be able to start out early the next morning, to write a letter home, and to get some reports off to the mission treasurer. The packing did not take long. We had most of it done after putting Jerrold to bed before we had our supper. Just as Lewis was about to get at the reports after supper, Mr. Shu, secretary of the Wu Deh Hwei (That is the department of the church that really does the work of the Y.M.C.A. here.) came up to report that a military official who had been refused the use of the Wu Deh Hwei rooms for a three day feast and theatricals, was not taking his reply as final but was continuing preparations to use the rooms. He had been refused because there were always wines served at military feasts and there would probably be opium smoking and gambling. These things had been occasionally permitted while Lewis was in America, but since coming back he has reenforced rules and gained new authority to keep it the clean, wholesome recreational place it is intended to be. Consequently Lewis had to go down to meet this official last evening and by the time he returned there was only time for the reports. I then promised I would write you the next day. So here is the fulfilling of my promise.

I just looked up Lewis' last letter to see where he left off. I found it to be the sixth of February. The next day, the seventh was a very sad day for Tzechow. I do not know if Lewis ever told you we were expecting a little playmate for Jerrold in the station. Well his little playmate has come and gone - and also its mother, Mrs. Hill, our doctor's wife and baby. You may remember by Lewis' last letter that on that day we were entertaining a number of the military officials and gentry of the city. The guests had just arrived when a note came saying the baby was dead and feared Mrs. Hill was dying. Lewis went down at once, I took care of the guests. The trouble was caused by the baby being unusually large and in a very difficult position. Poor doctor, he did everything that was possible, but could not save her. Only those that have had like experiences can know the agonies he passed thru. It is hard to know why she should be taken thus. She was a nurse, had been very faithful in her study of the Chinese language, and was planning to work with doctor in the hospital just as soon as she should be strong enough after the coming of the baby. They had made a kiddie koop and she thought she could manage the care of the baby along with her nursing. Doctor needed her so much, too. She seemed to be his counterpart in so many ways. She had already won a big place in the hearts of the Chinese thru her cheerfulness and willingness to help. Mrs. Hill's death is a big loss to Tzechow and to the Mission. When we are so few a vacancy is felt very keenly.

About a week later Lewis went to Chengtu to attend the finance committee meeting. Jerrold and I was alone for a little over two weeks. The first week, however Helen Griffiths came up and stayed with us about five days. But I guess we will just have to get use to being alone again every once in a while. Jerrold is great company. Wish you could have seen Jerrold greet his Daddy when he returned. At first he looked

a bit surprised but it was but for a moment, then he stretched out his arms to him. But as soon as Lewis took him he looked back to me and wanted to come. But I had no sooner taken him when he wanted to go back to his Daddy. He made the changes for about three times, then he seemed to have his Daddy placed and would leave him no more. He was just delighted. And it was not one sided either, I assure you. I do not know whose eyes shone the brightest, Sonny's or Daddy's.

Lewis brought him a little chair that is to be carried on the back of the coolie when we go visiting. He was getting too heavy for me to carry very far. Lewis also brought him a book that will be fixed up for his baby book. It will be principally a record of pictures.

Lewis was home only ~~home~~ six short busy days when he had to start out again which was this morning. He has now gone to Douglas Heights to pick out our bungalow site and see if it will be possible to let the contract for the building of the bungalow. If we can get it built as Lewis has it planned, it will be a very delightful place to spend our summers. We are expecting Lewis back Saturday evening.

And now I am going to leave all the political news and finance committee news, etc, for Lewis and tell you about our baby boy. He is keeping so well and growing and developing so rapidly that we feel he will not be a baby long. So many times we wish it was possible for you to enjoy him with us. We have found him a pleasure all the time but most of all since being in our own home and getting habits established.

He awakens between six and half past in the morning when he gets his first bottle. He very seldom goes to sleep again but plays in his bed. When I get up I light the fire in a little stove in the bath room and by the time I have completed my toilet the room is warm enough for his bath. He has a little bath tub that Mrs. Rape gave him when we passed thru Chungking. We get down stairs by eight when he is given his orange juice. I feed it to him from a cup with a spoon. Now that the orange season is past, prune pulp has replaced the oranges.. We brought up four five-pound tins of prunes from Shanghai with us. Jerrold then plays in his little pen when we eat our breakfast. After our morning devotions which follow breakfast, Lewis generally plays with him for a few minutes. He then spends the greater part of his time till nine thirty or ten in the pen. At that time he gets his breakfast consisting of porridge and milk. He gets his bottle and is put to bed. Oftentimes he is asleep by the time he has finished his bottle. If not I just leave him and he goes to sleep very quickly. He then sleeps to any time between twelve and one thirty. He gets his dinner at two, which is crackers and milk or bread and milk or custard or rice pudding, etc. I have ordered a baked potato for him for tomorrow. Just the past week we changed him from Eagle brand to cow's milk. So I wanted him to get accustomed to that change before starting him on vegetables. Whenever the weather is nice I take him out doors for a time in the afternoon.. He goes to sleep again between three and four and sleeps about an hour. Just before six his Daddy has a romp with him if it is at all possible. How I wish you could see them down on the floor together and hear Jerrold's hearty laugh. They have such good times together. At six Jerrold gets his oatmeal and milk and goes to bed. He laughs and plays up to the time I leave the room with the light, then we hear nothing more from him. He sleeps well as a rule at night. If he awakens we hear him playing. He seldom cries.

He started wearing rompers about a month ago. I was surprised to find that they just fitted him when I got them out and tried them on him.

I am glad the ones you made him, Muzzy, are a little larger than some of the others as he will be able to wear them longer. He does look so cute in rompers. He has a little wool cap, sweater, and leggins suit that he has had for outdoor wear ever since leaving Shanghai. Over this he wore a white wool "sack" (I do not know the proper name for it.) the kind that is sewed up at the bottom, buttons up the front and has no sleeves. He has about outgrown it but it is getting so warm now that he does not need it. I am going to make him a pair of overalls as soon as I can get around to it. I know Lewis is anxious to see him in some.

The morning he was eight months old I had left him sitting on his little blanket in the middle floor. I was gone only a few minutes but when I returned the blanket was empty and all I could see of Jerrold was two little feet protruding out from under the couch. He discovered a new stunt today which will be a surprise for his Daddy when he gets back. He raised himself up so that he was standing inside his little pen. It is really quite an accomplishment as the side of the pen is too high to reach the top when he is sitting on the floor. He takes hold of the little braces in the fence till he gets on his knees then reaches up to the top and struggles to his feet. Another recent stunt is his pretence at crying when he wants me to take him. The facial expression is perfect but the cry is a very poor imitation. It is very funny. Am I talking about my son more than a mother should? Wonder if I have tired you. No, I do not believe I have the fond grandmother and great-grandmother, but if you should read this letter to Harry, perhaps it would be better to leave out some of this about Jerrold. I fear he will think I am a bit daffy about our son.

We bot a cow and her calf for nineteen dollars. She has been milked for quite a time so is not giving as much milk as Jerrold needs. We are expecting to buy one more. We have to hire an extra coolie to care for it and he can care for two cows as well as one. The milk is very rich. The cream that came to the top and was so thick that I could not put it into the bottle, for one day only gave a roll of butter the size of a duck's egg. We were able to rent a room for the cows and a room for the cow coolie to live in within the pagoda outside of our compound for three dollars a year. We think we were quite fortunate.

Mother, we truly appreciate your many good letters. We are very sorry to have been so slow in replying but hope it will be better from now on. We were very much surprised to learn of Mr. Negley's death. Expect Mrs. Negley has continued to recover as you have said nothing more after speaking of her beginning to improve. I heard Lewis say he wanted to write her. You wrote about the Christmas ornaments, Mother. I believe we got all our own and all of Lucile's unbreakable ones. Wish we could have seen Beth enjoy her Christmas tree. Thank you for telling us the cute little things she does. It helps us to follow her in her development. It was interesting the comfort she found in her daddy's scarf. I can imagine her delight in the sleigh ride. Just think, Jerrold will be seven years old before he even sees snow. I am so glad the Klinestibers have their baby. Glad the earthquake pictures worked into your program so well. If you have given away any pictures you would like a duplicate of just let us know what it is and we will print you another. Lewis just got his photo supplies today for which he has been waiting for some time. So we will hope to be able to send you some more pictures of Jerrold soon.

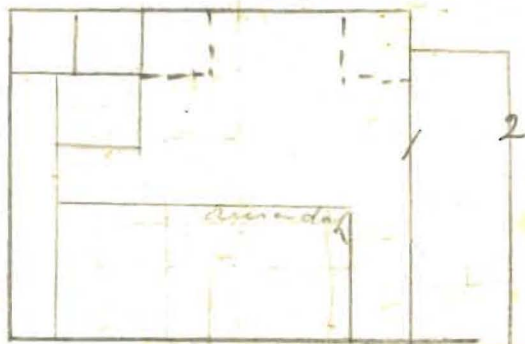
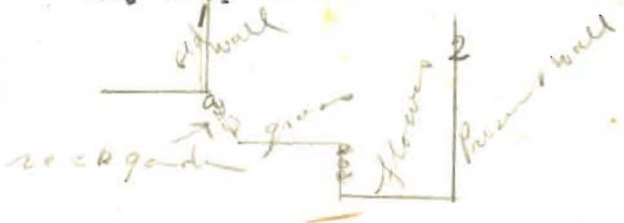
This letter has had many interruptions. It is now a little after nine so guess I had better stop. I do not like to stay up later than that when Lewis is not here. Now I am sure Lewis will write the first opportunity he has when he returns. He felt badly about not getting a letter off before he had to leave. Much love to you ALL

from  
Mama, Lewis, and Jerrold.





former compound down to the first terrace is a drop of three feet. This has been fixed up with rocks and earth for a rock garden. There is a walk and four steps leading down from the verandah. This terrace is only about six or seven feet wide. It will be made into a lawn and will be the place where the clothes will be hung to dry. There is another drop of about two feet to the lower terrace. It is supported with a straight stone wall and has two steps leading down. This terrache will be planted in flowers only. I think it will be very pretty when we get it all completed. Forgot to say we are having a stone tank(not large) put on the second terrace which will be partly hidden by the rock garden. It will contain water for watering the flowers. One of the servants suggested we have some gold fish put into it, which wenmay. Now this may all be as clear as mud. Will leave space here to make a dragging which may help to make it a little clearer.



Jerrold and I have again been alone for a little over a week. Lewis is making a three week tour of half of the District holding quarterly conferences. He is walking it. One letter from him said he was sorry he had not included some real summer underwear in his load, he found it so hot walking. Two days ago it turned cool again for which I am sure he is thankful. He also said the second day cut his razor-sharpener went bad and he was not looking forward with much pleasure to nearly three weeks shaving with unsharpened blades. Parcel post mail is so uncertain here so I cannot help in any way.

Jerrold is great company when Lewis is away. He was ten months old last Sunday. He started two new stunts on that day to make the event. The one is to pat-a-cake. He will do it now whenever I ask him. The other was to get up by the side of his little pen alone. About two weeks before I saw him do it three times but he seemed to forget about it and did not do it again until last Sunday. Then he did it not once but many times. Now he is on his feet over half the time when he is in the pen. He is getting more steady each day and braver, too, holding on with only one hand much of the time. I noticed today he is starting to walk along the side of the pen. His eighth tooth is just coming thru. It has been slow and long coming causing him to be more or less cross the past two weeks.

Wish you could have seen him night before last. I had put him to bed as usual but heard him fretting and fussing when I was eating my supper. After supper I had a number of things I attended to then not hearing him any more I thot it best to go up and see if he was covered as he should be. When I went in I found him out from under the covers and lying clear up on his pillow across the bed. It was not wide enough for him to stretch out so his head was on the edge of the bed. He was awake but did not move. His expression on his face seemed to say "I tried to find a comfortable place to sleep. I soon learned the difficulty. He had pulled the nipple off his bottle and where he should have been was wet with milk. Fortunately he had taken most of the milk before the accident happened. I put him into my bed till I got his changed. Then when I tried to tuck him in he was all life and laughter. When I left him I heard nothing more from him.

I do not believe I told you that we have bot a cow. It takes so long and is so uncertain getting milk from Chungking that we decided the only way was to have a cow. I think the fresh milk is better for him, too. We paid nineteen dollars gold for a cow and calf. The cow has been milked for some time so is only giving enough for Jerrold. The milk is so rich that just the cream that comes to the top the short time it stands before I put it in the bottles is enough to keep us in butter. The cream for one day made a roll of butter the size of a duck's egg. Just now Jerrold has some little red blotches on his face, not bad, but I am wondering if they are caused by the richness of the milk. For a few days I am going to let more of the cream rise before giving it to him and see if it will make a difference. We expect to buy another cow so when one is dry the other will give milk. We have to hire a man to take care of the cow and he can care for the as well as the. The old priest rented us space in the pagoda to keep the cow and a room for the cow-collie for three dollars a year. We think we were quite fortunate in getting it.

The roses are just beginning to bloom. When we first came here I planted a number of climbing roses along the wall. They had grown much and was very pretty now when we returned. Changing the wall these have now had to be moved so will be set back for a time.

We still have the same house boy but will make a change as soon as we can find one that seems more promising. I do not know if I told you that our sewing woman was not well so I sent her to the doctor to be examined. He found that she had T.B. so she never touches the baby or cares for him. She does his washing, the bedroom work and sewing. I prefer to care for him myself anyway. Miss Griffiths who is now helping with the educational work goes home this spring. I have asked the Mission to try to appoint someone else here to take her place as I want to give the greater part of my time to my home as long as Jerrold is small. It is far too much for one person anyway.

Our freight has not yet arrived. I do not believe it is the soldiers that is delaying the traffic now as it has been peaceful for some time. now it may be the low water, if so it ought to come in about a month or so. The jumper you gave him, Petra, is in the freight. We are anxious for it to come as he would enjoy it now.

I love to make his little rompers. I have made up the stripped blue that you gave him, Petra, using the one piece pattern. The pattern is just the right size now without any tucks. Have also made a pair of my old blue retina (is that spelled right?) dress, trimmed them in white. Will make the pink stripped next. I think pink is his color, he looks so cute in it. I shall be glad if whenever you get a pattern you like especially for Dean if you will cut it off using thin paper so it can be put in a letter. Sent anyother way, it is so long coming.

We have had letters from Rena, Ruth, and Carrie since last I wrote. These I will answer direct this time. Do not recall if I ever mentioned getting the Christmas cards. Glad to get them and thanks for all. How have you traveled during the deep snow, Alma? Some one ought to invent a way to put runners on cars. Keep your resolution till about six years from now and we will meet you in Europe. Had some good fish for dinner today, Mother. I thot of you when I ate it and wished I could have shared it with you. If only all of you could visit us here, this would not be the worst place in the world to live.

I do not believe I told you that we have got a cow. It takes so long to have a cow. I think the fresh milk is better for you. We paid nineteen dollars gold for a cow and call. The cow has been milked for some time. With much love to you all. The milk is so rich that just the cream that comes to the top the short time it stands before I put it in the bottles is enough to keep us in butter. The cream for one day made a roll of butter the size of a duck's egg. Just now Terold has some little red blotches on his face, not bad, but I am wondering if they are caused by the richness of the milk. For a few days I am going to let more of the cream rise before giving it to him. We expect to buy another cow so when one is dry the other will give milk. We have to hire a man to take care of the cow and he can care for one as well as one. The old priest rented us space in the barn to keep the cow and a room for the cow-cow-life for three dollars a year. We think we were quite fortunate in getting it.

The roses are just beginning to bloom. When we first came here I planted a number of climbing roses along the wall. They had grown much and was very pretty now when we returned. Changing the wall these have now had to be moved as will be set back for a time.

We still have the same house boy but will make a change as soon as we can find one that seems more promising. I do not know if I told you that our sewing woman was not well so I sent her to the doctor to be examined. He found that she had T.B. so she never touches the baby or cares for him. She does his washing, the bedroom work and sewing. I prefer to care for him myself anyway. Miss Griffin who is now helping with the educational work goes home this spring. I have asked the Mission to try to appoint someone else here to take her place as I want to give the greater part of my time to my home as long as Terold is small. It is far too much for one person anyway.

Our freight had not yet arrived. I do not believe it is the soldiers that is delaying the freight now as it has been possible for some time. Now it may be the low water, if so it ought to come in as at a month or so. The jumper you gave him, Peter, is in the freight. We are anxious for it to come as he would enjoy it now.

I love to make his little rompers. I have made a few striped ones that you gave him, Peter, using the one piece pattern. The pattern is just the right size now without any tucks. How do you like it? I will make the pink striped next. I think pink is his color. He looks so cute in it. I shall be glad if whenever you get a pattern you like especially for Peter if you will cut it off using this paper as it can be put in a letter. Sent another way, it is so long coming.

We have had letters from Rena, Ruth, and Carrie since last I wrote. These I will answer direct this time. Do not recall if I ever mentioned getting the Christmas cards. Glad to get them and thanks for all. How have you traveled during the deep snow, Alma? Some one ought to invent a way to put runners on cars. Keep your feet warm. Had some good fish for dinner today. Mother. I shot of you when I ate it and wished I could have shared it with you. If only all of you could visit us here, this would not be the worst place in the world to live.

Tzechow, Szechwan.  
April 23, 1924.

Dear Home Folks :

Lewis has gone to a feast this afternoon so I will make use of my opportunity to use the typewriter. Lewis has kept it busy most of the time since he returned from his trip on the District. He got in a week ago last Saturday evening. Jerrold and I had a pleasant surprise. We were not expecting him till the next Monday evening, late Jerrold was ready for bed and eating his supper when Lewis walked in. Since getting home he has been trying to get rid of a heavy cold that he got from cooling off too rapidly after getting too overheated when walking on his tour. He is now thru itinerating till after the summer.

The work on the compound wall is now completed. It is a little too late to get in many flowers this spring but we will get a good start this fall. All perennials are better planted in the fall here. We have sent to Nanking for seeds for annual flowers but they have not come yet. We decided to use the lowest terrace for vegetables Miss Householder gave us some seeds and now we have radishes, tomatoes, beets, lettuce, and muskmelons growing. We also have quite a bed of *Chrysanthemums* set out. We are now enjoying our compound much more than before the change was made.

Last week was our cherry season here. The cook put up fifteen quarts and about a dozen small jars of jam. I am glad to get something in the jars again. We have missed fruit since the orange season closed. We did have some tinned jam but nothing else.

Our last word from the bungalow was that the foundations were in and that they started on the mud walls last week. We have only had one heavy rain so it looks as tho they will be able to get it up without difficulty. It is now only about two months and a week till we will be leaving for the hills. We have already had some pretty warm days. Today, however, it is cooler and as we look out towards the hills, they are covered with a haze of yellow sand which shows that there must have been a desert sand storm someplace recently.

Last Sunday was Easter. The church and the different Sunday Schools had a union service in the gymnasium on the girls school. There were over twelve hundred in attendance. Lewis, Lincoln Dsang, and one of the teachers of the Girls' school gave short addresses and each of the schools contributed something to the program, mostly songs. I did not go to the service as I did not want to change Jerrold's sleeping time. In the afternoon all our foreign community came here. I served tea after which Lewis had charge of our English Easter service. The music was our special Easter records on the Victor.

When Lewis was out on the District, he found another servant to take the place of the one I have told you about that was so hard to teach. He left when he learned we were expecting to get another, and the other one has not begun work yet, so we are short a man. The new man came today but he wished to go to his home first so will not start work for another week. He is nineteen years old, a christian, and has some education. He looks promising.

Jerrold has made much progress in his getting around since last I wrote. He creeps rapidly and walks around anywhere where he can have a hold on things. When we say "nice baby" he pats himself on the head. He is beginning to understand quite a number of things we tell him. Yesterday morning I heard him crying after he had been put to bed for his nap. Later when all was quiet I went in to get ~~his~~ ~~bottle~~ and found him sitting up leaning his head against his arm on the side of the bed asleep. Now that he is sleeping in his new bed, it is so roomy it is hard to tuck him in so that he cannot get out. Consequently he quite often plays for a time before going to sleep. I made him a pair of coveralls out of a pair of Lewis' old khaki trousers. They save his stockings and rompers a great deal when he creeps around. Lewis will take his picture in them some day so you can see what a little man he is getting to be. I do not have a pants or coverall pattern. Shall be glad to get one. I made his by guess and they are not what would be called a proper fit.

This is Thursday afternoon. I got too sleepy last evening to see to write. Today we are left almost without servants, only the cook and cow coolie on the job. This morning my sewing woman's father died and the water coolie is her husband so both have asked to have several days off. So this morning I finished the baby's washing which the woman had only half finished when called away and then did the week's ironing. I guess I will clean the house this evening after supper so that it will be done in the morning. Next week we expect to have a full force again by Wednesday.

We had a fine foreign mail a little over a week ago when the letters written in February arrived. It contained letters from Mother, Alma, Rena, and Carrie. You had just received my letter telling of our arrival in Tzechow. We certainly have no more complaints about home letters not coming. Since starting to come they have been coming thru fine and if there are any reasons for complaint, I fear it is at the other end of the line now. But I am hoping to do better from now on. The many extra duties in getting settled are now over and we hope our freight will soon get thru, then I will have my own typewriter again.

Glad your feet are not hurting you as they did, Mother. Is it that you do not walk as much as you did before Alma got her Ford that has helped them? What about Papa's feet. Did the braces continue to help him? And how is his shoulder now? Thank you both so much for the Christmas gift. You made us such a substantial gift when we were home, we certainly were not expecting any more for Christmas. We have the rug you gave us between our beds.

Alma, I would have to write several pages if I told you all the Chinese say about Jerrold. Lewis has been telling me about the different things they told about him at the feast yesterday. Some of the men had seen him in his pen here and I had showed ~~him~~ his bottle and told about his regular schedule for eating and sleeping. They think it is so much better a way than theirs. He is really quite an object lesson for them. They always speak about his not only being fat but that his arms and legs are so solid. I had a little Chinese baby in my arms not very long ago. She was very fat but when you would feel of her little hands and arms, it was all soft and puffy. Wish you all could see Jerrold now. And we would like to see Everett and Dean and Lee Emerson. You must tell us about their new stunts when you write. Jerrold is now about as Everett was when we left.

Your letter written Feb. 19 got here before your letter written Jan. 30, Rena. Yes, I remember Mrs. Beverstock said she would like to have a blue thread lunch cloth. Will you please learn if she would like napkins, too. Also if she is in a hurry about it. If I see to it myself, my first opportunity will be next January or February when we will go to Chengtu to Conference. If she wants it sooner, I could write and have someone else get it and then try to get it sent when there is someone going to Chungking. Glad the amber beads are sold. I understand they are very difficult to get here now. If anything more is sold, do not be in a hurry to put the money in the bank as there will be some things we will ask you to get for us soon.

You mentioned the Bates Hall girls and the organ fund, Rena. Some tried to get one but only three of the girls have given towards it. It is however a start and I am keeping it for that purpose hoping I will get more sometime. It is of interest in Shanghai now.

You ask about the Chinese game of Mah Jongg, Carrie. It is the gambling game of China. When in Boston we saw people that would come to the store that sold the game and learn how to play it. I hardly think the \$5.00 games are made of ivory. We heard of sets that cost \$50.00 and more when we were at home. Some sets, even the made of paper only, were quite expensive.

What a wonderful thing the radio is. Wonder when we will have it in China. We are doing our part to save you from eating eggs from China. According to my account with the cook, we eat forty or fifty every two weeks. I cannot understand how we eat so many, but the cook insists that we do.

Our city is getting quite well filled with soldiers again. Hope it does not mean more warfare. They have taken possession of the temple and garden on the top of our hill. Consequently there are more or less on the hillside surrounding our house all the time.

Well, I guess I have told all of special interest.

I had a long letter from Mrs. McCurdy the other day. They are now in New York in school work. They went after the holidays as we did. But they had a sad Christmas. A short time before Mrs. McCurdy's father had an operation from which he did not recover. His death was very sudden and unexpected. Lewis was entertained in their home when he was in Lorville.

We all send lots of love to you all.

Tzechow, Szechwan  
West China.

*Rec'd July 11-* June 1st, 1924.

Mrs. Enola Havermale,  
265 West Elm Street,  
Canton, Illinois.

Dearest Motherkin and All:-

To-day is Sunday and I am supposed to give the weekly sermon to the missionaries in an hour or so. But the place for the gathering is at our home and outside there is a regular deluge. At the morning Chinese service I spoke to the folks outside of the city saying that if the present indications of a heavy rain should prove true, I would excuse them from attendance. It's not every preacher that would do that, I'm sure.

To-morrow I leave for Douglass Heights to see the new bungalow and make the final arrangements for our occupancy of it. I will probably be gone until Friday. So to-day is the last time I will have to write to you for about a week, and when I get back I will have a thousand things to do in the two weeks before we leave for the summer's "vacation".

Your letters of April 4th and 14th are at hand. The last one was addressed to Jerrold and came just two days before his birthday. So we call his Easter rabbit a birthday card.

Of course we had to celebrate, but the only Chinese we invited to his party were the pastor and the principal of the Middle School. We felt he wasn't quite old enough to welcome little folks. In fact, he prevailed upon us to allow him the special privilege of not taking his nap in the afternoon, since it was his birthday, and so he only served on the reception committee and then went off to bed.

We made it a combination Decoration Day - Birthday party. Our west veranda was fixed up cozily with rugs, wicker chairs and lamp, while our bunting and flags and red-white-and-blue Chinese lanterns, together with cut-flowers changed the every day aspect of things. The central object of interest was a huge red candle, whose significance I do not need to explain. It stood in our brass jardiniere.

The first part of the early evening before supper was dedicated to the patriotic part of our program. Sousa's band favored us with a medley of patriotic tunes; Patrick Henry rendered his "give me liberty or give me death" speech in a way to stir us all; 2500 voices, of which our Miss Griffiths was one of the sopranos, sang America; Abraham Lincoln repeated his "Gettysburg Address" and enlisted us in a new consecration of life that government of the people, by the people, and for the people might not perish from the earth; and John McCormack brought us to our feet with the "Star Spangled Banner."

The lap supper was different than usual and Clara ought to be left to do the describing since she gave it much of her thought. The first course consisted of a salmon-stinged beans-sliced cucumber salad on lettuce leaves, and was served with crackers. The next course was warm fricasseed chicken in a nest of rice with tomato sauce over all, and was served with bread and butter sandwiches. The third course was hot baking-powder biscuits with butter, honey and strawberry jam. The last course was a fruit salad made up of pineapple, green and red candied cherries, and Chinese gelatin, with whipped cream over all, and was



served with squares of the birthday cake. Tea was forthcoming for those who wished it.

Place cards or favors consisted of a hand-painted American flag in which most of the blue field was taken up by a late snap-shot of Jerrold. On the white stripes were printed, "Jerrold Stanley Havermale WELCOMES Aunty Orvia (or other names inserted as the occasion required) to his first birthday party. May 30th, 1924." It was thus made evident that Jerrold constituted the only star on the field of hope incorporated on the flag of the State of Matrimony.

When the guests unfolded their napkins they were rather surprised to find themselves provided with bibs instead, on which were stenciled in color patterns of animals, birds, flowers, butterflies, or such captions as "Mama's Darling", "Papa's Pet", etc., a different one for each guest. They entered into the fun of the thing and seemed to enjoy it all.

Following the supper, there were three guessing contests. The first was to guess Jerrold's weight, height, and circumference of head, neck, and waist. They were required to subtract their guess from the right answer which we gave them later, and then to add up the remainders. The one having the smallest number was then accounted the most nearly correct. Dr. Hill won the first prize, - an harmonica with a bell-, and the consolation prize went to Miss Proctor, - a child's Mother Goose kerchief. You may be interested in knowing the correct answers. Jerrold's weight is  $27\frac{1}{2}$  pounds. Height is exactly 30 inches: circumference of head 19 inches: chest 21 inches: abdomen,  $22\frac{1}{2}$  inches: neck 10 inches.

The second contest was the guessing of Jerrold's age in weeks at the time certain exhibited photographs were taken. We had prints of nearly fifty, in twelve groups. Fans and other tokens were awarded on the same plan as in the first contest.

The last contest was an observation test. Clara led the guests in a grand march to the music of the Victrola to the dining room and thrice around the table on which over thirty "baby outfit objects" were placed. They then came back to the verandah to write down all that they could recall. The largest number was 26. No one person received more than one prize which was quite fortunate.

Miss Griffiths rejoiced that even the lolly-pops or all-day suckers were not forgotten in the course of the evening.

Our freight has not yet come thru so our presents for Jerrold were missing. All we could give him was a large rubber ball and the party. The ladies sent up a package of toys which included another ball, a box of blocks, a bright colored calculator, and a box of powder. They also sent up a beautiful potted hydrangea, and a big ornamental basket of sweet-peas and climbing fern, in the handle of which a large picture of a baby was suspended with the following appropriate poem:

"Oh, happy birthday, Mother dear !  
 I am so proud that I am here  
 To in this celebration share  
 With this gay motto-cap I wear.

"To me your voice, your smile, your touch,  
 Have always meant so very much !  
 I tell you with my eyes, I do,  
 There's no one that I love like you.

"Of course my Daddy's awful nice,  
 He always comes up with the price,  
 And treats us both like sugar handy.  
 Oh, yes, I think my Father's dandy.

"But he knows well there is no other  
 Who is so lovely as my Mother.  
 I tell you with my eyes, I do,  
 I'm simply crazy about you !

"And now I mean to grow and grow,  
 For when I'm two or three or so,  
 Then I can kiss you when I wake,  
 And help to eat my birthday cake. "

You say in this last letter, "I'll bet Jerrold is crawling by this time." You win ! If he's awake and not tied down or penned up, he keeps one of the family busy all the time. He can get half way up the stairs before we even notice that he's gone out of the room. Everything not higher than a table top is unsafe these days, and he has a special liking for books and magazines. At the risk of teaching him wrong things thru permission we have given him an old one to look at and tear as he chooses, and that will keep him interested for a fairly long time.

He is also beginning to put various sounds together and got off some pretty respectable attempts at Daddy beginning just three days before his birthday. One of his cutest stunts is his pretending to cough in order to attract attention. He draws up his lips so funny and does it all so seriously and earnestly that it doubles us up with laughing every time he gets it off. He's getting awfully hard to feed though, at noon especially, and he will take his bottle only at the time of his nap or bed-time.

You also ask whether I am losing any of my flesh. As you know our Healthometer hasn't arrived yet, but when I last weighed on a Chinese steelyard I was still 170 pounds with my clothes on. But I notice that my old clothes and a belt which I had discarded as too short are fairly comfortable now.

Well, the folks came up to service in spite of the rain and I have just finished preaching on "the Kingdom, tribulation, and patience of Jesus." I have been helping to take care of Jerrold while Clara gets his supper ready and now while he is being put into his crib I'm trying to put the finishing touches to my letter.

Our own supper has been called, but we make Sunday suppers as informal as we dare, and chicken sandwiches, cocoa, gelatin pudding and cake have been placed in the drawing room. We eat as we read.

We were both much interested in the new dresses, hats, and other outfits of the various members of the family. What's the matter with a kodak picture now and then ? You folks have supplies nearer you than we have. But I'd like to make some trades. I'm enclosing some to replace those which you gave away. And I'll send a series now and then as fast as I can get time to finish any.

Hundreds of love to you and all.

Affectionately,

Lewis, Clara and  
 Jerrold.

Tzechow, Szechwan.  
June 5, 1924.

Dear Nels, Carrie, and Janet :

Ever since receiving the blue envelope which was to be opened after we had started, I have been expecting to write you. It seems that I have found it very difficult to get caught up on my correspondence since getting back. I know one reason to be that my work with the District schools all has to be carried on thru correspondence which takes time. When Lewis is at home, it is only occasionally that I can have the use of the typewriter, and then generally it is some urgent letter that must be written. I am sorry to have kept you waiting so long.

First we want to thank you for your generous gift of money. It came in most conveniently at Shanghai in getting things we needed. Jerrelds share got him a pair of white wool leggins to match up with his white sweater. I got a supply of stockings for both summer and winter wear. Lewis' helped in getting his summer clothes. He got another seven year supply. We all thank you for it.

Next we want to let you know we got Janet's picture safely. It is very natural of her and we are so glad to have it. Thank you, again for it.

Now with regard to the ring. I wrote to Mrs. Starrett in Chengtu asking her to help me get one. She wrote me she had got it but I have not received it yet. I am hoping to get it in time for Miss Griffiths to take it with her when she leaves the last of this month. She will then mail it to you from Shanghai. I ordered two. You can take your choice and give the other to Ruth. She has a friend that wanted one. Now I know this is coming too late for your first purpose, so if you should not wish to take it, just give both to Ruth. She may know someone else that would like one otherwise it can be put with the other Chinese things till there is a call for it. I wish I could have got it off to you sooner. I do not know yet the cost of the rings.

Jerreld and I are alone again this week. Lewis left Monday to see about the bungalow we are building. It takes two days to get there and the same to return. He expected to have one day on the hills. So if nothing detains him he will be back tomorrow.

Tomorrow is another Chinese feast day. The principal event is what is called the Dragon boat race. The pastor sent up an invitation asking us to a party he was arranging for to see the races. Lewis will not be back in time and I do not like to take Jerreld out in a crowd, so sent regrets. I have seen the races at other times. They are very interesting. The boats are long and narrow and filled with rowers sitting in a single file, generally naked. At different places and times on the river a fire-cracker is set off and at the same time a duck thrown in to the water. All the dragon boats then make for that point and a swimmer on the front of the boat leaps into the water and tries to get the duck. It is quite exciting at times.

As another home letter should be sent again soon, I will leave the rest of the news for it. Thank you so much for your many letters. Always glad to get them. Love to you all from us all.

Lower primary with eighty or more pupils. When I got back there is a school of only about twenty. Getting these additional rooms next door to the church, I am hoping to be able to again build up a good Lower primary. It is because of the political troubles that we are able to get the rooms. The rent is sixty dollars a year and the owner subscribing the rent for five years. He is willing to do this because if we have a school there we are able to keep soldiers out and as a result he is protected because his family lives in rooms back of those that will be used for the school.

Altho there has been no fighting around here this year, conditions are gradually getting worse and the Chinese very pessimistic as to the future. The people have been bled so often in trying to give the money demanded by the military so that they are almost at their limit. Within the past week young girls have been taken here in Tzechow and are being held till money is produced. At Neikiang, eighty li from here, a city about the size of Tzechow, over a million dollars have been given to the soldiers within a year. Now in order to get more, men, women and children are being held for ransom. Merchants are also being tortured by being suspended by their thumbs, all for the purpose of trying to get more money. One man told me the other day that if it were not for the restriction of the United States immigration laws, many Chinese would leave this country and go to America. They seem to see little hope for their country in the near future.

Only about a week now till Jerrold will be a year old. We are planning a birthday party to celebrate the day, but it will not mean much to him. There are no foreign children to invite and he is too small yet to have Chinese children come. Measles are too prevalent to take any risks. Will tell you about the party in my next letter.

Wish you could all see him. He creeps around on his hands and knees very rapidly and has gone half way up the stairs. The first time he tried it Lewis and I had both gone up stairs. We heard him call and found him standing up holding on to the stair rail about half way up the stairs. I find it hard to keep him in shoes. The woman made him a pair Chinese style, kakah covered, but he wore a hole in the toes in just a few days. Lewis suggested we take the tops of an old pair of his and put leather caps on the toes. That is working pretty well for a time at least. I have written to Chengtu for a pair of brown leather sandals and a pair of low canvas shoes for him for this summer. He still has one pair from America that are large enough and serve as his Sunday best. Just the past week he has been jabbering more or less which I expect is the preliminary to learning to talk. We have tried to get him to say "Daddy" but as yet he does not try. I have found the food schedules you sent, Rena, a great help in knowing what to feed him. He has now finished his first five pound tin of prunes. Other fruits are now coming in so he can have more of a variety, altho he never objects to his prunes. He now goes to bed at nine in the morning and sleeps to twelve or later. In the after he sleeps only about an hour between three and five. If he sleeps very late in the forenoon he then does not take an after noon nap. He loves to play peck-a-boo. When I undress him he takes his shoes and holds them over his eyes and then quickly removes them when I say "Where is Jerrold". In the nursery he will crawl behind the screen and try to peek thru the space between the cloth and the frame, giving a shrill little laugh when you see him. He is the only American child I have seen for nearly seven months, so any little stunt he does looks pretty cute to me. But I believe it would seem the same if there were a dozen others about. He is a darling and we are mighty glad we have him.

Now that Lewis is home from the District he is taking some time to work with pictures again. So you may be expecting some in the next few letters. He does not have the frame or the paper for the stereographs yet so they will be a little longer in coming. So many things we want to use is in the freight which has not yet arrived. We are hoping each day it will show up.

We have now received the letters written the last of March and the first of April from Mother, Carrie, Ruth and Rena. Sorry to hear of Annie Pedersons' illness. Ruth's letter written a week later said nothing more so take it that she got along alright. I can imagine Mother, just how lonely you and Papa were when Alma had to stay in the country. I remember her first day of school when the house seemed so quiet and how changed it was when she came unexpectedly that evening. So Jerrold has two suits on the way. Here is hoping that they get here on his birthday but that would be too soon to expect these days of slow travel. Glad you both thought to make them plenty large so if they are a little slow in coming he will still be able to wear them. Thank you so much. Shall be glad to see the plan of your house. Where are you building? Hope Maggie Riley recovered from her operation nicely. I do not know if Chinese have appendicitis or not. They do not operate for it at least. Wonder if you ever heard the story about the Missionary doctor that had it. As soon as he knew he had it, he and his wife got on a boat to go to the nearest doctor. On the way he got so ill that he knew he could not wait till he reached the other doctor. So he gave very full detailed instructions to his wife and she performed the operation on a small Chinese boat and saved his life. That happened some years ago here in China. Thank you for the kodak pictures, Ruth. You and Hilon look as happy and loving as ever. Tell Milo next time to not hug you quite so tight, then I can see better how your dress is made. I like the new outfits you are wearing and the sample of your new silk is as pretty as can be. Your hair looks very nice. Next time turn around part way so that I can see some of the back. Glad the chopsticks and bamboo rings solved the wooden wedding gifts so nicely. I remember Mrs. Staley, was very favorably impressed by her.

Well, the mosquitos are eating me up so guess I will have to stop for tonight. I thought they would get their fill after a time and leave me alone but from the numbers swarming around they must be inviting more all the time. Lewis has been trying making lantern slides this evening. He has finished his work and gone to bed.

Thought of you on your birthday, Papa, and if we had had a sending station would have sent you a radio message. We will celebrate yours the same time we celebrate Jerrold's, Ruth.

Lots of love from us all to you all,



The next day after the trial he seemed much better, so inasmuch as according to Dr. Hill's original plans he was to start that day for Tzechow, we didn't write. That night the kiddie became worse having five movements before daylight. It was difficult to get anything in the way of gruels that he would take at all. He didn't have a noticeable fever, but that we didn't test accurately because our clinical thermometer was in use at the boarding school in the country, theirs having been broken and a student out there being in a very dangerous condition the thermometer had not been returned. He did want to drink water though and drank a lot.

After a week he was a pretty thin little kiddie, and he still makes Clara sigh when she is bathing him. But he is his old self again now, and whereas two days ago he couldn't crawl but a few feet before giving up, this noon he got a third-way up the steps while we were looking after a guest. He is beginning to take some milk with his food now, and his stools are practically normal. Dr. Hill not knowing of our difficulties postponed his return several days, and I don't know whether he received our letters or not, but according to later news he should be reaching Tzechow this afternoon.

The sickness was especially inopportune because Miss Griffiths is leaving for America on furlough (she left on Tuesday, rather) and so Clara had an extra amount of work in connection with the schools, in which I could not be of much assistance. She would take part time with the baby and then I would take part time in the effort to get some work done.

Now things have eased up some. To-day is the last of the school final examinations, and outside of housecleaning, packing for the hills, letter-writing and quarterly accounts, we don't have much to do. We expect to leave for Junghsien, and Douglass Heights for the summer, next Tuesday, July 1st. I think the bungalow should be practically completed by this time.

My new store-cupboards and book-cases have received their last coat of paint, too, and will be ready for the books by Monday. The carpenters are now busy building me a "mountain chair" as hitherto we have had only one sedan chair between us.

The last letter received from you was written May 15th, which was during General Conference. I suppose you know that West China didn't get a resident bishop even tho many speeches were made in favor of it. I understand Bishop Keeney does not return to China, but Bishop Brown of Syracuse takes his place, and Bishop Grose will live at Peking. We were glad to learn of the passing of the motion for unification of M.E.'s and Southern Methodists. We are still wondering how the proposition of our church refusing to cooperate with the government in any future war no matter what the cause has fared. "Outlaw War" is a movement that I hope our church proved big enough to push.

One thing which has caused us intense sorrow is the news of the suicide of our lay-delegate to General Conference, Roger Rahn (a Chinese). Because of his lack of health many did not favor his election, but he was sent anyway and was terribly afflicted with insomnia from the time he left Shanghai. Clippings from the Springfield papers gave us the news and Mr. Peat also wrote quite fully. We don't know yet what effect this will have upon the Chinese church.

Your letters are full of the changes made in the house interior. You surely have been made to pay for it, and I don't blame you for wanting to get some good out of it, unless there is likely to be a drop in the prices of building which would necessitate you selling at a sacrifice. Yet I agree with you, - "If you sell, what then?" For when Muzzy feels that she

cannot even leave Canton for a visit without suffering ill effects from it, it would certainly be hard for her to adapt herself to new circumstances and new localities. And of course with Harry and Lucile planning to move to California sooner or later you would not feel like buying or building in Canton.

By the way, Clara has fallen more or less in love with the plans of a cottage illustrated in the March number of the Modern Priscilla, under the title, "Ross Crane's Little, Big, Low-Cost House". She says she is going to preserve the plans so as to build like it "when we retire". I am afraid that it is not a California type, but if you have access to this magazine it might be interesting to you and perhaps give you some acceptable ideas in case you later do decide to build.

It is interesting to live over the Boston days with you again thru the medium of your diary. We did not keep a diary while there, excepting of expenditures and class-room lectures. I hope we have the chance of such a time together a few years hence.

We learned from Clara's sister Rena at Waterloo that one of the Johnston boys who expected to come to West China has had to give up the idea because he has contracted tuberculosis. It must be Paul Johnston at whose home we visited in New Hampshire over Sunday. We fear it is and yet we hope that the report is false. Paul's father and mother live in Waterloo, you know.

The Manly's and one daughter are due to come back here in the Fall; probably both daughters will be with them.

We have received the first bundle of Northwesterns, about twelve Christian Century's, two photo magazines, several women's magazines, and I don't know what all. The gateman had to make two trips to the post-office to carry it here, and both times it was as heavy as a man would want to carry on his back. So it looks as tho we would have reading enough at the bungalow if we care to pay four days' wages to get it there.

We have had a travelling or folding cot with screened sides made for Jerrold. It is rather heavy but one man can carry it and his bedding, and I think it will prove very convenient, not only on the way to the bungalow and while there, but whenever we want to go visiting for the night.

He has not begun to talk yet, tho he manages to make himself understood pretty clearly. I think I wrote you of his imitation of a cough which tickles us so much. Just now he is looking up at me and pretending to frown considerably. He just loves to play hide and seek.

Thanks for the seeds! We bought some from the Nanking Agricultural College which were planted. The portulaca hasn't responded very well. The perennials will be planted in the Fall after our return.

Jerrold has a door swing or jumper which came with our freight, so we can only thank Lucile for her good intentions. The little sulky pleases the youngster most just now; it was a great help during his sickness. With regard to other things such as you mention, money in the bank is the best plan if any is necessary. For we have just come back with a supply of things as you know. Of course we will welcome toys for Jerrold. Later will tell you how we want the money spent. In the meantime save on postage and export customs. As for local customs outlay, usually only our freight is taxed. When the parcel comes I will send you ours and Jerrold's thanks for the bunny and doll, the handkerchiefs and all those many things you mention. But now I must stop so I can send some pictures.

All of us send much love.

Lewis, Clara and Jerrold.



*Pictures  
Jerrold + family  
family Dec 30  
Jerrold + Clara + bunch  
Jerrold in bowl.*

Douglas Heights.  
July 6, 1924.

Dear Home Folks :

My letter to you has had a long unavoidable delay. I believe my last letter was written just before Jerrold's birthday. About a week after his birthday he was taken down with dysentery. At first we did not recognize it as such, merely that is was a diarrhoea from which he would recover in a day or so. He refused food but I knew it was best he did not eat much until it stopped so did not worry about it. But he got no better and most unfortunate of all, Dr. Hill had gone to Chengtu several days before expecting to be gone two weeks. We tried to send him a telegram requesting his return at once but the wires were down. It would take three days to reach him by letter and another three for him to reach Tzechow. We knew what to do for an adult having dystenery, but not any of us had had any experience with a baby. We read all we could find in our doctor books and Miss Nelson even the not a nurse is very valuable in case of illness looked up all the medical books they had. As a result we gave him his second dose of castor oil and even tho his little body had begun to fall away so that it made my heart ache every time I bathed him, still we took away all milk and only fed him gruels made of browned flour or rice. We could not get any barley which would have been the best. The treatment accomplished its purpose. After about two or three days I began to add a little milk to his gruels and after about a week he was back on practically normal diet. He was a very patient little patient. He tried to keep up his smiling but they were weak little efforts. The freight had arrived only a few days before he became ill so we had his gocart and he was quite willing to be propped up in it and be wheeled around the house. When he was well on the way to recovery, we had less than a week to get ready to leave for the hills. Work had piled up during Jerrold's illness. There was still some sewing that just had to be done. On top of all this my sewing woman got ill and could do no more work. Before leaving all curtains must come down and be washed and put away till after the summer. Next the house boy whose work it was to do the washing and ironing took ill. So even the things looked impossible for a few days we had to delay our starting only one day. I found another woman to help three days with the sewing and I helped the water carrier to do the washing and by that time the house boy had recovered enough to do the ironing.

Last Tuesday we started for the hills. It took a caravan of thirty men to carry our things, ourselves, our secretary, and the cook. The other servants walked. It was raining as we started but we did not mind that as we preferred the rain and the coolness to the sun and heat. Jerrold enjoyed riding in the chair. He slept well and more than usual and his appetite increased. After the two and a half days on the road his cheeks are again rosy. We have now been here three days. He continues to sleep and eat well. I believe he has gained all he lost. The people here rave about what a pretty and fine baby he is. The Bells', Canadians, who were home on furlough the same time that we were, and who also adopted a little boy, are here at Douglas Heights. Their baby is about five months older than Jerrold. They call him Neal. They said their baby refused to eat till they came up here and now he is always ready when his feeding time comes. That is the effect of the warm weather here which makes it necessary that we come to the hills.

Our second evening on the road was spent at Jungshien. This is where the contractor for our bungalow lives. He called on us that evening and said our bungalow was all ready for us with the exception of grates that had to be put in the Chinese stove and the making of the fireplace. So you can imagine our surprise upon arriving the next day to find every room full of workmen, not a door or window in place, and many other things about the house unfinished. We were just trying to decide what to do when Mr. Taylor appeared on the scene. He said he had heard us coming, knew the condition of our bungalow, so came to offer the use of the nearest bungalow that was not yet occupied. He said he knew the owner well and would be glad to take the responsibility. That solved our problem. We stayed there four days and just this morning moved into our own bungalow. There are still many things to be finished, but it is livable. I think we are going to like it fine. We are anxious to get things fixed up as we have them planned. If the films come that we are expecting we will take some pictures of it before the summer is over.

I started this letter Sunday forenoon but did not get much more than one page written when it was time to go to Taylor's where we had been invited to dinner. In the afternoon Lewis had been asked to preach at the home of the Bells. They have a little chapel here but only a few families have come as yet so the regular church services have not started yet. Several more families are expected this week. There are now seventeen bungalows here and I think all but one will be occupied. Most of the people are Canadians, a very social and congenial crowd. We enjoy them all.

Your last letters all speak of Jerrold's coming birthday. We had a party for him inviting all the English speaking community which included our Chinese pastor who studied in America and the principal of our High School. Jerrold served on the reception committee only, then retired. We had the verandah decorated with flags and bunting.

Tuesday Afternoon. Callers came yesterday so I did not get much farther with my letter. This forenoon Lewis used the typewriter. Will get this off this evening even tho I can not write all I want to. Will just start where I leave off next time.

To continue about the birthday party. The time before supper was given over to a patriotic program at which John McCormack sang The Star Spangled Banner; Patrick Henry favored us with his famous speech on "give me liberty or give me death"; "America" was sung by a chorus of 1500 voices among which the ladies said they could recognize (?) Helen Griffiths' voice as she had sung in the chorus for the making of that record when she was in New York. Supper was served on individual tables for the men and trays for the ladies. There was a little surprise upon unfolding their napkins (?) to find bibs with animals in bright colors of "Papa's Pet, Baby, or Mama's Darling" in large letters. Helen remarked that even lolly-pops were not forgotten. After supper the first stunt was to fill in printed cards guessing on Jerrold's weight, height, etc. The next was to guess his age at the time various pictures were taken, the pictures displayed around on the wall. Later the dining room table was filled with various articles of his wardrobe, toilet, and toys; all marched around twice and then made a list of as many as could be recalled. Prizes were given to highest and lowest in each contest. All reported a very good time.

At one year Jerrold weighed twenty-seven pounds and was thirty inches tall. Will leave the rest till next time which I promise you will not be more than a week from now. Yes mother we did get pictures in several letters. Sorry if I have not mentioned them because we were very glad to get them. I believe the first were those taken before we left of us girls and later some of Alma and her car. So glad to get all.

Love to all,

Douglas Heights.

July 16, 1924.

Dear Mother, Father, and All:

I have only an hour till it is time to get Jerrold's supper and put him to bed. This has already been put off three days longer than I had planned, so I will do my best to get something off this evening. We are enjoying our bungalow even tho many things are as yet unfinished. The contractor has work at so many bungalows on the hills that he has only a few men working here now and then. They now have the lattice in the windows in the kitchen and bedroom and also the shutters up. The only windows still left open are those in the living which are to have glass in them. The bathtub and fireplace are both started but not finished. The closet and bath-room has not had the ceilings put in yet. As soon as we can get hold of a carpenter we will have the screens for the windows and verandahs made. The mosquitoes are terrible after the sun goes down. If we do any reading after supper we have to wrap blankets around our feet and if I have short sleeves, put something over my arms. Gloves might be a help to keep them off the hands but have not tried them yet. But it will be a real comfort when we get our screens up. The last two days the men put in a stone road from the main road up to the bungalow.

Jerrold and Lewis are playing hide and seek. Lewis will stop behind a door and then Jerrold will quickly creep to the door and as he peeks around it give a big laugh. Oftentimes he will creep behind the door to hide after Lewis steps out. He does not try to walk alone yet.

Just before we came up here we received the book you sent us Mark. It came thru in fine condition. Many thanks from us both. Have not had time to read it yet. It has some beautiful illustrations. We have just received the announcement of Vern's graduation from High School. Even tho I knew he was a junior when we were at home I had not realized a school year had passed since we left, so we have no gift for him on the way. Do not suppose we will have an opportunity to get anything appropriate before we go to Chengtu which will be about next January, but will remember it then. The announcement is very neat and pretty. What are his plans for next year?

So sorry I failed you in getting the ring, Carrie. As I wrote you I asked Mrs. Starrett to get me two and send them to me in time to send with Helen Griffiths when she left. The rings came but were not what I wanted and I did not think they would be what you would want, so did not send them. The only thing to do will be to wait till we go up to Chengtu ourselves. So if you are still wishing me to get you one and Ruth if your friend still wishes one, let me know and I will try to get them when in Chengtu. They will cost between one and two dollars, U.S. money.

We were so glad to get Everett's picture. What a fine little lad he is! I had not mentioned it before expecting to write direct. He looks so cute in his wool suit. Many thanks for the picture.

Stew-  
Pagida  
rain out  
Wall  
Jerrold 9mo  
3 in ch  
Winds  
in basket

We were glad to get the plan of your house, Rena. It looks as tho it will be a very convenient house. Right back in the same neighborhood, too. We will know just where to find you when we make our next visit. We were surprised and sorry to get the news you sent with regard to the Johnson. It must be Paul because he was the one we were expecting to come out this autumn. We had already received word he and his wife were coming with the Manley's. He certainly did not look as if he had T.B. when we saw him in Boston. We are still hoping there is some mistake about it and that they are coming as planned. Since coming here to the hills the two envelopes containing Jerrold's stockings and socks were received. Thank you so much. They came just in time. He wore the pink ~~socks~~ ones last Sunday. The brown and tan trimmed ones are very pretty, too. Here is hoping his birthday rompers come so that he can wear them while up here.

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Lots of love to All.

[Two-page typewritten letter, unsigned, most likely written by Clara to her side of the family; with an addition penciled across top right-hand portion of page 1]

[Penciled addition]

Stereo – Pagoda

&

[...] outside

of wall

Jerrold 9 mo

3 in [...]

Kinds

in basket

[Typewritten]

Douglas Heights [China].

July 16, 1924.

Dear Mother, Father, and All:

I have only an hour till it is time to get Jerrold's supper and put him to bed. This has already been put off three days longer than I had planned, so I will do my best to get something off this evening. We are enjoying our bungalow even the many things are as yet unfinished. The contractor has work at so many bungalows on the hills that he has only a few men working here now and then. They now have the lattice in the windows in the kitchen and bedroom and also the shutters up. The only windows still left open are those in the living [room] which are to have glass in them. The bathtub and fireplace are both started but not finished. The closet and bathroom have not had the ceilings put in yet. As soon as we can get hold of a carpenter we will have the screens for the windows and verandahs made. The mosquitoes are terrible after the sun goes down. If we do any reading after supper we have to wrap blankets around our feet and if I have short sleeves, put something over my arms. Gloves might be a help to keep them off the hands but have not tried them yet. But it will be a real comfort when we get our screens up. The last two days the men put in a stone road from the main road up to the bungalow.

Jerrold and Lewis are playing hide and seek. Lewis will step behind a door and then Jerrold will quickly creep to the door and as he peeks around it give a big laugh. Oftentimes he will creep behind the door to hide after Lewis steps out. He does not try to walk alone yet.

Just before we came up here we received the book you sent up Mark. It came thru in fine condition. Many thanks from us both. Have not had time to read it yet. It has some beautiful illustrations. We have just received the announcement of Vern's graduation from High School. Even tho I knew he was a junior when we were at home I had not realized a school year had passed since we left, so we have no gift for him on the way. Do not suppose

we will have an opportunity to get anything appropriate before we go to Chengtu which will be about next January, but will remember it then. The announcement is very neat and pretty. What are his plans for next year?

So sorry I failed you in getting the ring, Carrie. As I wrote you, I asked Mrs. Starrett to get me two and send them to me in time to send with Helen Griffiths when she left. The rings came but were not what I wanted and I did not think they would be what you would want, so did not send them. The only thing to do will be to wait till we go up to Chengtu ourselves. So if you are still wishing me to get you one and Ruth if your friend still wishes one, let me know and I will try to get them when in Chengtu. They will cost between one and two dollars, U.S.money.

We were so glad to get Everett's picture. What a fine little lad he is ! I had not mentioned it before expecting to write direct. He looks so cute in his wool suit. Many thanks for the picture.

## 2.

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Lots of love to ALL

Douglas Heights, August 7, 1924.

Dear Mother, Father, and All:

Here it is August already. We have just three more weeks here before it is time to start back to Tzechow. We will have to leave just as we get our bungalow all completed, but it will then be in condition for next year. We are glad to have been here to supervise the finishing of it. We finally sent for a man from Tzechow to make the screens, he is the carpenter that has done most of our work there. He only arrived two days ago, yesterday bought logs and today started work. He was delayed because he did not have enough money to pay his road expenses till we could write again and arrange for him to get some in Tzechow. He had had no work since we had left for the hills. That shows how the working Chinese live from hand to mouth.

Jerrold has now received his birthday parcels and sends many, many thanks to you all for rompers and socks. Only wish you could see them on him, pictures will be the next best. We will take some the first bright day. The suit you sent, Ruth, fits him to a T now. When he outgrows it I am sure I can make it longer by making it up with another material. It is such a pretty material and with his brown eyes and hair he looks well in tans and browns. The suit you sent, Lena, is a little larger but he can start to wear it now. The socks are also just his size and match up so nicely with either suit. He does look so cute in his new outfits. I shall not make up the suit Deag sent him at once as it does not pay to have too many, he outgrows them so rapidly. His first suits of rompers are now most too snug for him to wear, than I think most of them I will be able to remake in some way so that he can wear them again. The two parcels came the same time and also two from Lewis' home. They contained grass and flower seeds, shaving cream, talcum powder, kerchiefs and a rubber doll, and some rubber animals to be blown up for Jerrold. So Jerrold enjoyed a second birthday. He likes the doll but will have nothing to do with the other rubber animals. Yesterday Lewis gave his doll to the rubber elephant. Jerrold screamed his objections and hurried and rescued the doll from the elephant.

Sunday, August 17.

You will notice I did not get very far with my letter when I was interrupted and then a busy time followed so this is absolutely my first opportunity to get at it again. I do not recall what special events was on the eighth but on the next day I made candy in the morning for the community tea which was served in the afternoon in "The Tribes Country" by the people of the "Tribes Country". In the evening we entertained guests to supper. Sunday Lewis preached at the community service and again in the evening we had guests, Mr. Brace of the Y.M.C.A. from Chengtu and Miss Wilson who is a teacher in the school for Missionaries' children in Chengtu. Monday and Tuesday we had special meetings at the church both forenoon and afternoon at which problems and ways of working was presented and discussed. Lewis had had most of the work in planning for these meetings. We were invited to take our dinner near the church so left right after breakfast hoping Jerrold would take his morning nap over there. But being in a new place he refused to sleep, so one forenoon I missed the meetings but the next I took him to the meetings with me. He is very good, sitting quietly in my lap playing. Both days he slept all thru the afternoon service. I had him in a bungalow near the church.



The next day I washed my silk sweater, my voile dress, and some other extras. We had guests for dinner and in the evening was the time of the concert. Lewis sang a solo, the first time he had attempted a solo for a long time. The program was very good consisting of readings, solos, quartets, stories, and a very good little play by the children. Then I got the grades from the Union examinations and the next three days I was kept busy every extra minute trying to get the grades ready to send out to the schools and getting letters written to go with them. Last evening we again had guests to supper. I think we have now just about finished our entertaining for the season. I forgot to say that following the tea at this end was "Children's Sports". These were races of all sorts that all children old enough took part in. On next Monday evening is what is called "Stunt Night". Each occupants of each bungalow must come prepared to give a stunt and that makes up the program. We do have very good times at these community affairs. There is also a tennis tournament on but it has been more or less interrupted by the rains. The summer has passed rapidly and I have not got half the letters written I had planned. Here is hoping I will still get a number off the days remaining.

Lewis had ordered a gallon of creosote with the other things from "Uncle Monty". It came just two days before we left for the hills. He diluted it with kerosene and has now stained all the doors and window frames of the bungalow, besides two high seats, one on either side of the fireplace, a dresser and two beds for the bedroom, and a wash stand for the bathroom. He has also colored the fireplace red and marked it in a brick pattern so that looks as tho it was made of red bricks. It took some time to find the right color, but we finally got what is just right. Wish you could visit us in our bungalow. It is now finished so that we can get some pictures of it before we leave.

Since my last letter home we have had letters from Alma, Neva, Petra, and Rena. We were very sorry to hear Papa was not well. Hope the sore on his toe has healed long before this. There must have been some kind of infection to cause him so much pain. Glad you are going to teach nearer town this year, Alma. Not be long now till your school will open. More pupils will mean more work but I think you will find it more interesting, too. Just try walking in one day with your bobbed hair and wearing one of your new dresses and see if we will know you. I like your new dresses. I got a very good idea as to how they were made from your sketches. Quite a few of the missionaries here are now wearing their hair bobbed. I might be tempted to have my hair bobbed, but have decided that two members visiting the barber at least once every two weeks are enough in one family, especially as long as I am the barber.

Glad you won the prize in the "Bluebird" scrap book contest, Neva. We enjoyed your letter. You must write again soon. Wish we could hear Dean talk. Jerrold is much slower about his talking and walking, too, than Dean was. We see him standing alone quite often but he still seems quite unsteady when he tries to walk. It may be partly due to his being rather heavy on his feet. He understands a great deal that we say and has found ways to let us know many things that he wants. There is a little girl up here two months older than he is that neither walks nor talks yet, so there are others as slow or slower. We did not get his jumper before the freight arrived just before coming up here, but he has certainly enjoyed it this summer, both as a swing and as a jumper. He now pulls the spring as far as it can go. Quite often he sits in it and eats his toast while we have our breakfast.

Was sorry to hear of Annie's illness. I hope to get a letter written to her and Carrie before we leave the hills. Now that you speak of it, Petra, I do remember that the book you sent us to belong to Grandpa. We were glad to get it. I like your new dresses. The triangle

pattern one is very pretty. You speak about a suit pattern for Jerrold. I shall be very glad to get it and please do not wait too long before sending it. I really should have put in more of a supply of patterns when I was at home, but he seemed so small then I could not realize how soon he would be needing suits. Glad to hear Nina and the boys are getting along so nicely. Here is another letter I must write soon. Bada surely will have her hands full. Dr. Sellery, who has a bungalow near us, has two little boys nine and nineteen months respectively. Mrs. Sellery says they could not have twins so did the next best. She ofcourse has an amah and other servants, so it is not as hard as at home. Thank you all for the clippings in the last letters. They were all very interesting. We did have one of the family reunion.

Lewis wondered who was responsible for his new degree. He thought perhaps Dr. Bennett had had something to do with it as he had been at Fayette about that time, and on his return to Boston he stopped off at Canton for a day's visit with Lewis's mother. His second sentence after the words of greeting was "Well, Lewis has his degree!" Lewis' mother was like you, Rena, anxious to get a letter off with the D.D. after it. She said she addressed the envelope before she wrote the letter. Later Lewis got the commencement announcement from Upper Iowa and then noticed Dr. Curran was on the committee for awarding degrees. Do you know if Dr. Curran got the letters, two I believe, that Lewis wrote the church. He expects to write another before leaving here. He is supposed to write one each quarter.

Recently we saw a Bulletin from Cornell College which said it was Harold Johnson that was not well and had had to give up his work. So we are hoping Paul Johnson and his wife are still coming to China this autumn.

This letter has extended into Monday but it will be on its way this evening. Lewis and I have decided that for our stunt this evening I am to hypnotize Lewis. We have tried to practise some today so as not to get mixed up on it this evening. I guess some of you know the trick. Jerrold is sleepy already so he will be asleep before we leave. One of the servants will stay in the house till we return.

Now I just must get a letter off to Mr. Liu the principal of the Middle School this evening so must bring this to a close. Always sorry when so long a time passes between my letters. I still have hopes of improving.

Lots of love to everybody from us all,

*Received by Harbin  
Jerrold's mother  
one letter  
one letter*

Jerrold by - school - in cub - with Daddy  
- two - view of all buildings  
Foreign Commission  
Teacher

Tzechow, Szechwan.  
September 16, 1924.

Dear Mother, Father, and All:

We have just received Ruth's letter of July 28th. telling about Mother's illness. Even tho it was very reassuring telling of Mother's continual improving and th Doctor's belief they will not return, still we are anxiously awaiting the next letter. So fortunate the cause was discovered and the proper treatment started at once. It will be necessary to be very careful to not ever exert from now on. We are very anxious to know how Petra got thru her operation, too. But I know you will write again soon.

Again my letter has been delayed much longer than it should have been. Every once in a while I feel like rebelling at having so much put on me. So many things I ought to do and want to do has to be postponed or left undone entirely. But here is hoping it will not have to be for longer than a year.

When we came down from the hills we arrived here about four in the afternoon. Within an hour I had a business caller and the last one did not leave before ten thirty that evening. The first appeared at six o'clock the next day and there was a continual session of meeting teachers, pupils, and a committee meeting till six in the evening when I requested the last one to come again some other time as my head was in too much of a whirl to talk any more business that evening. Fortunately the next day was Sunday when we could refuse to talk business and so had an opportunity to rest somewhat.

The next week I was busy trying to get the house cleaned and in order again between callers and committee meetings. I was also trying to find a woman to care for Jerrold when I had to start to teach. The one that promised me she would work for us when we returned from the hills came but said she was planning to leave the city in about two weeks. She is still with me but will leave this week. I am so sorry to lose her as she is experienced having worked for the Liljestrands and Jerrold likes her, too.

Last Monday Lewis started on his tour of part of the District and in the afternoon I started my class at the school. I teach one hour four days of the week. But it also takes one hour on the road going and returning. This past week was very hot so it tired me very much. Lewis also wrote about the hard time he has had on the District because of the hot days. But there is a change this week which is very welcome. I have found Jerrold alright each day when I have returned. I will not feel as easy about him tho when Jiang sao (the woman we now have) leaves. One woman came up to try it but decided she would be too lonesome here evenings. She is now working for the W.F.M.S. ladies and has all the women of the Woman's Bible School to visit with. I have now found another one that looks promising. She has been here the past few days and Jiang Sao has been helping her get accustomed as to what she was to do. We are expecting Lewis back on Saturday, he has been gone about two weeks.

If I get this off today I will not be able to write more as it is time now to go out to the school. But I do not want to delay this so will continue in my next. Now I know you all are trying to help Mother follow doctor's instructions and taking good care of her. Will write again soo. Lots of love to ALL,



By the way, Miss Oster had her hair bobbed just before coming here but did not like it very well so came up for me to doctor it somewhat. Wish I had taken some lessons from Milo. I tried to shingle it in the back and even tho I improved it much, there are still a few (?) things about it I do not know. I have just come across that cartoon of different style "bobs" that some of you inclosed in a letter to me. Guess I will send it out to her.

Dear Mother, Father, and All:

But I did not tell you all about the anniversary. When Lewis was out on the District he learned of a pottery situated up in the hills some distance off the road he was travelling. He visited this pottery and put in an order for a set of dishes of forty-eight pieces for the bungalow, as my anniversary gift. It is a set for six that is all we can entertain at once. It will save us carrying dishes back and forth each year. Carriage is expensive and there is also the risk of breakage in the carrying. They are plain white with blue bands. They will match the color scheme of our dining veranda. We expect to paint the table and chairs cream with blue band trimmings and use the blue thread work linen.

We have now received your letters written in July and since starting this we got yours, Carrie, written August 20th. We were so glad to learn you were continually growing stronger, Mother. And that you are looking fine after your operation, Petra. I was glad to get Nina's letter inclosed in your last one, Mother. We were surprised to hear of Nina's marriage but think it really best for both herself and the boys. Mr. South is the right kind of a man. I hope to write her soon. I expect they are making their home in Clark.

Thank you for the hat pattern, Carrie and the monogram. Very glad to get both. Hope you will send patterns from time to time that you got for Dean, Petra. If cut out of thin paper, they can be put in with a letter. I should have brought more patterns back with me. I did not realize how soon it would be that he would need pants patterns. I cut a little overall pattern that is doing very well. Being the only child in our station, there is no one near that I can borrow from.

Thank you for the suggestions for cutting Harold's hair, Ruth. You will notice by some of his pictures that we had already changed to the style you suggested. I do the bobbing and Lewis shaves his neck. Altho his pictures do not show it much his hair has quite a little wave in it. On rainy days or very hot days, the crown of his head is covered with ringlets.

We have just heard that the McCurdy's are bringing a six months old baby back with them. The Hanley's, Peat's, McCurdy's, and Lawrence's are all returning this autumn. We are glad our two Mothers are corresponding and keeping in touch with each other. The last letter from Lewis' mother spoke of their Y.M.C.A. secretary. She was especially interested in them because of learning that his wife was a special friend of yours, Rena. Their name is Lauterback. Is she one of the girls that taught at Iowa Falls when you were there, Rena? It seems that they have traveled quite a little abroad. Their only child is a son born in Poland, now two years old. They have a maid they brought back with them from Poland. She said she had put many a stitch in your wedding clothing when you were getting ready to be married.





*Handwritten notes:*  
The letter is written in the  
Tzechow, Szechwan  
October 19, 1924.

Dear Mother, Father, and All,

We have had no more home letters and we are hoping that you are continuing to get stronger, Mother, and gradually recovering your speech. Your arm, being totally paralyzed, does not seem quite so hopeful that you will regain the use of it. We are so anxious to hear again and know just how you are.

We are having the rainy season here now. I think it has been over three weeks since we saw the sun. This morning it has peeped out a few times and looks as tho it might come out to stay a little later in the day. The last three days it has been as cold as winter weather. We had our heating stoves put up Friday. Lewis had it done while I was at school. Lewis has also been doing some staining and painting this past week. Our dining table which was an extension table had never been made right. It was not more unsteady than ever. So we have had the carpenter make it over and at the same time enlarge it so that it will now seat twelve people instead of only eight. It was round when not extended but now it is elliptical with six legs, three to a section when extended instead of the one pedestal. Lewis had ordered "old English" stain and rubbed finish varnish for the dining room furniture. The table is now finished and the china closet and the buffet has had the old finish planed off and the new pattern. The chairs are also refinished.

You could never guess what I have done this past week, Mother. I have learned to knit. First I tried to learn it from a book, but the instructions were not clear enough so that even tho I succeeded to get something that looked like knitting, I made very hard work of it. So Friday on my way home from school I stopped and asked Miss Oster to show me how it was done. I had her show me how to both knit and purl. Yesterday about four in the afternoon I started Jerrold's sweater. I had to take it out several times and start over but about ten last evening I had three inches made. I made the first two inches knit two and purl two and the rest I am knitting one way and purling the other way. It really looks much more even than I tho I would be able to make it. I am inclosing a sample of the yarn. I was surprised to find out that we can buy this good English wool here in Tzechow. The cost is three dollars gold for one and a third pounds (a jin). As we do not have our houses heated as well here as at home, Jerrold will have to wear a sweater all the time in the house during the cold weather. With this wool I am going to knit him a little slip on sweater and also a little pair of knee pants, so that he will have a wool suit. I believe this is an English style, they use knit clothes a great deal. They do look cute in these little suits and they are warm, too. I am now trying to get his clothes ready before time for conference as I suppose Jerrold and I will go too. The little grey suit you gave him, Rena, looks so cute on him. It is just right now for outdoor wear. I have remade the little rompers you gave him, Ruth. I will try to draw a picture to show you how I did it. Do not know as I will be as good at it as Alma is. We took a picture of him in them before they were remade but even then they were most too small. Sorry we did not have a picture sooner as they were a nice fit when he first got them. We will send you one of the pictures when we get one printed.



Jerrold has now quite using the bottle. About two months ago he gave up all except the one after supper which he took to bed with him. But now he is satisfied with his doll alone when he goes to bed. If he is not sleep when he is put to bed he may call once or twice before he finally goes to sleep, but generally it is because he has lost his doll. As soon as he finds it he is willing to settle down again. Yesterday afternoon when we went out to the country, he wore his grey wool suit and a little red and blue skull cap we bot in the ten cent store in San Francisco. He did look so cute. It was not cold enough for the grey wool cap. His gums are now quite swollen for his eye and stomach teeth. Jerrold gets along very well with the Chinese woman. Yesterday she asked to have the day off. Several times Jerrold went to the front door and called wanting her to come and play ball with him.

Lewis has now started to print pictures taken on our trip back to China. He has a great many yet not printed, but finds little time to work at them.

This time I will include two taken in Kobe, Japan. This was Jerrold's first trip on land since leaving the States and he enjoyed the ride so much. I had taken along his bottle for him and which it was feeding time I discovered I had forgotten to put the nipple in. He made no fuss about it on our way back to the boat.

I am making a little lock of Jerrold's hair so you can see the color of it now. I wish, Mother and Father, that you had a bedroom down stairs. It would be so much more convenient if you did not have to climb stairs. I have now window on one side and on the other side of the dining room or kitchen. But you will know what is best.

I will try to write again next week. Lots of love from,

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