

Hwei Wen School, Nanking, June 4, 1946

Dear Ruth & Clara:

It has been a long time since I have had any mail, so I don't feel much like writing. Your letters came through so regularly for a while that it was quite stimulating. We get so annoyed about our Shanghai paper which comes so irregularly that it is really quite an event to get a paper at all.

Marie has been away from home for two weeks. She went to Wuhu for a Board meeting but when she got there, she found it had been postponed, so I don't know if they ever did have it. She took the occasion while she was there of visiting several outstations. She is coming back this week, she says. I am planning to go to the country for the weekend this week, to a place named Chiang-lin-chen. We will go Saturday and stay over Sunday. I'm not sure if we will come back on Sunday or Monday. There is another place near there which I also thought of visiting, but it would take another couple of days, so I probably shall not do it. I am in the throes of preparing a speech to give in Chinese on Sunday. I'm not sure that it is worth what it cost me in effort but I suppose it is.

Tracey is expecting his wife and little girl in soon now. He had expected to go to Shanghai today but finally called the steamship company long distance telephone and found that they had no word at all when the boat would be in. So he is going to wait three or four days. I suggested that he let me go to meet her, and I would tell her that he had already become so important that he could not get away from his work. I said that should please her to know he is making such progress, but he failed to agree with my reasoning. We have long discussions and arguments on philosophy and religion. Unfortunately I usually get the worst of it. He can read through in a couple of hours a book which I would spend days on. He is a graduate of Yale Divinity School and quite a brilliant young man. He embarrasses me by digging up some old books on theology which have my name in them, but which I have not read. Expects me to know something about them which I don't.

I am reading an interesting book called "Diagnosis of our Times" by Mannheim. A professor at the University of London. It goes rather slowly as I am busy and when not able to work, I am too tired to read such a book. His general thesis is that a planned society is inevitable but that it is up to the democratic forces to see that it is a democratic planned society rather than a fascist. I have held a somewhat similar theory myself but he has some new ideas on the subject too.

I have not felt very well the past week or two, have felt so tired that I could hardly move. I think I have not been taking enough theelin as I cut it down to one dose enough. I got the aching in my ankles which I had in Berkeley and had difficulty sleeping for a while. So I think this month I will take two doses again and see if it won't help me. My supply is getting low on that as well as on the Vit. B. I got my gm past this week and am beginning to feel a little better once more. I have so many things hanging fire that I always feel a little bit pushed about. I never saw work push itself onto one as it does now.

I go down to Wesley Church on Sunday and stay all day, eat dinner with the Bible women there. It takes me all day Monday to recover from the effects of Sunday. I have a Bible class at nine-thirty and then is the church service. We have a children's service going on at the same time, a very haphazard noisy affair which worries me a little but about which I simply do not have the time to do anything for the present. Then I eat dinner and rest until two o'clock and then I have another English Bible class, and then at three there is an Epworth League group which I usually stay for. If I am still conscious, I can go to an English service at the University. I have done it the last two Sundays. I left the Young people's meeting

early and got to the other service late. I went to it because I wanted to see some folks who would be there to try to get substitutes for my classes while I am gone. It is about the only time I see the workers down there so I think the time is well invested.

Next week we are having an institute in the church with meetings every night. The half day school which is a school for adult women which meets in the afternoon is going to close on Saturday. It seems that I am the principal and so I shall have to be present then, and not only be present but make myself heard in my bad Chinese. Then the next week we will close out the home study classes which are held in the homes of the church members, and I have been promising for a long time to visit all of those so that will take up another week. After that I hope that things will lighten up a little. I think I really am getting tired. It has been a matter of full work and no play for the past five months.

My doctor friend is considering going to Yunnan as she is very much dissatisfied with the work she is getting in the government hospital here. She is in OB and all she has is normal deliveries and she is on duty twenty-four hours a day seven days in a week. The head doctor is a woman and is a slave driver. So she moves the residents work very hard. So I think that Shu-liang is tired in the same way I am. Her family all live here and her friends so she did want to stay on here but I thought that satisfaction with her work was more important than seeing her family & friends once in a while. So she has had to consider Wuhu which is some distance away and had to get to now with the bad transportation we have here now. She made up her mind too late to change to get into the hospital here. She went up there yesterday to look the situation over and see what she thought about it. I think she has also had a case on one of the doctors which has perhaps broken off so she is willing to leave. I hope it has freshened up the type to marry.

We have had fairly warm weather, but still quite nice. The nights are cool. We have a ceiling fan in our dining room now which the Japanese left in one of our buildings. Hand tracings have never been here. He is a little anxious about his wife and child coming out here at the beginning of the hot season. She is the daughter of a missionary so she ought to have less difficulty being adjusted. I am reading an interesting book. At last we are getting two missionaries to Chiankiang. They are to arrive this week. Everyone seems to have to wait months for a boat so I guess I was pretty lucky to get off so quickly. I have not heard that Pearl McGain is enroute. I can imagine that it would be pretty wearing to sit around two or three months all ready packed and ready to go on a moment's notice. That would give you a worse case of battle fatigue than you got getting me off. So you can see how much worse I might be than I am.

well, I can't think of anything to say so I may as well stop for the present. I'll probably get a letter from you as soon as I get this off. Let me know how fast my letters come through, as I might save a little money by sending them ordinary mail. That may be the way they are coming.

Lovingly, Jessie

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