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Hazel Todd History Notes

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Shucheng, Anhwei, China
April 27, 1932

There is one experience one often hears other missionaries relate that I began thinking would never happen to me. That is to find a baby girl parked at our door step. She is a lovely baby to have been accorded such treatment. Of course, the only thing we could do was to take her in. I think her age is near two months. Her big eyes were wide open when we first saw her. That was the only attractive thing about her. She was dressed in rags, most of them too dirty for mop rags. The baby is really not badly nourished, but was terribly sore from not being kept clean. These sores have healed much faster than we thought they would. Much of our time this week has been spent in getting the baby some clothes. We have not yet decided on the name. We thought of "Happy Sound", the name given to most mission halls, but it does not meet the approval of the Chinese. Our teacher suggests "Loved Precious", and I suppose that will be the name.

November 26, 1934

(A conversation after service at an out-station) These men had before their conversion gone on long pilgrimages to worship idols. They took with them small stools to kneel on every few steps. These stools were reckoned as idols also, and they were to wash their hands before touching them. That evening each of them were telling how they split these up and burned them for kindling after they became christians. One of the young men pointed out the passage in Matthew here it speaks of "burdens grievous to be borne" that had been put upon them before they became christians. It seems they could scarcely finish singing that evening. Along about midnight one of the young men started to apologize about keeping us up. But the new man christian from here said, "Of what importance is that? Think of the times we have spent the whole night gambling."

December 18, 1935

This year more than ever our Christmas we plan to give up to the Chinese. In the forenoon is to be the Christmas program for the Chinese when we expect about three hundred people. My job will be to look after the ushering, and it makes a hard forenoon's work. After the program is over one of the women christians has invited us to her home to talk with some people who have had little contact with the gospel. After that I plan to walk about nine miles to the out-station. We should have a hundred or more people there in the evening. Several of the christians plan to go with me.

August 4, 1936

Playing the organ falls to me now. The other girls used to play and look after it. But I have to blunder through. Also I am beginning to understand its anatomy rather well. Yesterday I took the reeds out one by one and cleaned them. Is there anything a missionary does not need to know? Bookkeeping, housekeeping, gardening, nursing are included in addition to a good thorough knowledge of the Bible and its practical applications.

Mr. Hanna the superintendent insists I am to take charge for the present of Tungcheng, the next station to the south. The church is small, less than thirty members but it is the only one in a Hsien of a million people. I ~~wrote~~ and told him it was the last straw, a Big Straw too

May 2, 1937

Three experienced workers and a new worker are being sent to take to take my place where I have been trying to carry on alone the last year.

Hwokiu, via Pengpu, Anhwei

Here we are on a boat. The boat man is rather amused. I woke him up when I wanted this paper out of my suit case to write this letter. I was also doing some rather urgent talking about starting off. As the wind is down, he pulled up anchor and started off. A very few minutes after leaving the shore, but too late to call him back a number of the military came to commandeer boats. I am not very much blamed for waking up the boat man. Anyway we are started again.

Shucheng, Anhwei, China
July 8, 1940

We have one woman church member who is a widow and has seen much better days. She was baptized the fall before I went home on furlough and just before that her house in which she lived and all its contents were burned. For ordinary occasions the women go about in blouse and trousers, but for special occasions or all the time if one bears the name of teacher there should be a skirt worn. She felt that for so special an occasion as seeing me off when I left to come home she should have a skirt. She bought cloth which she could scarcely afford and had a new skirt made. The next year when she met brigands, they stole the bundle of clothes she had in her hand but left her with her skirt hanging over her arm. This year she met brigands again. She was sitting in a sedan chair wearing the skirt again. They stole the money she had on her person but failed to see the bundle she had in the back of the chair as it was hidden by her skirt. The bundle contained enough money to last her several months, most of her clothes, and Bible and hymn book. She seems to be very sure now that the Lord guided her about obtaining that skirt. She could sell it for all she paid for it as cloth is now much more expensive, but she is not thinking of doing that.

September 27, 1940

We are not progressing very well with plans for our new house. Everything is going up so in price. It has been decided I am the one to "Bell the cat", in other words go to one of our towns across the lines after the necessary hardware. To tell you the honest truth I would almost rather go without the house than to go. Yet we often have some ticklish thing to do. This morning I shut the door in the face of about a score of soldiers who very much desired to come and occupy our chapel. They had their guns with them. There is no use giving in to them even an inch for we would soon see them in control of the place. If I had opened the door, they would have despised me for being weak.

January 13, 1941

Sunday I had my first experience in seeing bombs dropped. There was some loss of life and property, yet only one of the planes that flew over dropped bombs. One bomb dropped in the river bed where it did the least possible damage. This house shook like when there is an earthquake. Mr. and Mrs. Costerus have two German police dogs which were certainly frightened. As the planes came nearer we went to the cellar.

June 25, 1941

Yesterday I returned from Tungcheng. We went down in one day a trip of fully thirty five miles. We came back by wheel barrow the first twenty eight miles and then we walked the rest of the way. In all while on that trip within one week I walked no less than fifty miles. One morning while we were out we saw four planes fly over and back. Every one says the invaders will be here soon.

(Three letters were written home by Hazel in September 1941. The last letter was written October 20, 1941. She died November 17, 1941.)

October 20, 1941

These days I am alone again for a month. It will be two weeks tomorrow since Ruth went to Tungcheng. In these two districts together there must be fully a million people. We are so near the border we do not like to say too much about wanting help. But we do need it. Neither of us mind a great deal being alone when things go smoothly. But there are so many queer things that go on.

Until today I have been selling considerable quinine. I ran out this morning. There is so much malaria about I hope I can get some more. Medicine is becoming increasingly hard to obtain. There is Chinese medicine for many things, but it is more difficult to prepare.

It may be settled today whether our gardener will be drafted, My difficulty is that it is so hard to get good help. We need an able bodied man to do some of the work on this compound.

Our newspaper continues to come days late usually about eight or ten. One would surely like to comment on some things but one had better not. The letters coming to me are marked censored although nothing has ever been blotted out. News is a big topic of conversation, and the christians try to keep informed.

The stores ordered in July have not come yet and will not come this week. Passes have to be obtained to bring in medicines and many other things we need.

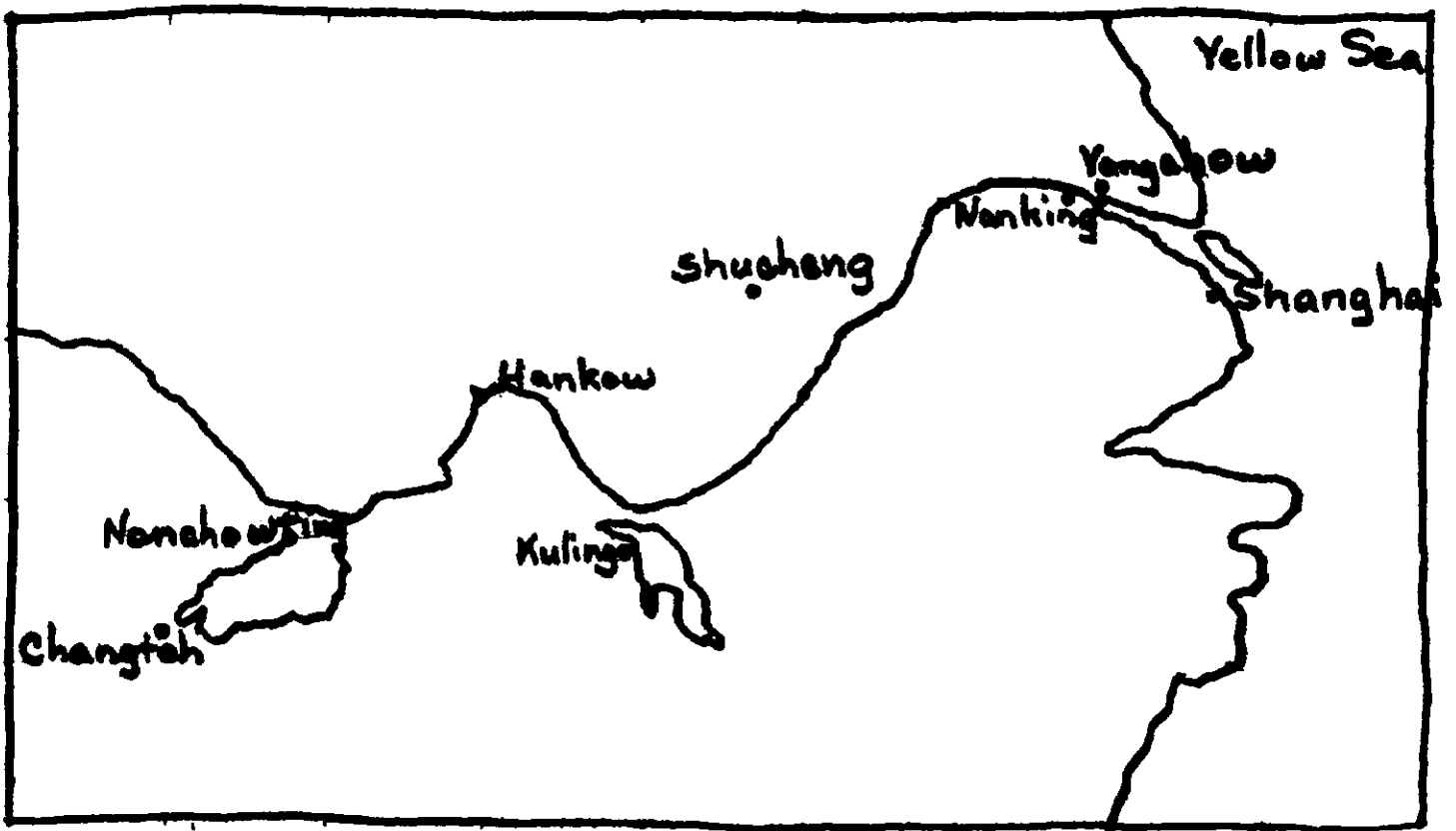
The blind girl I asked for magazines for use for writing died during the summer. She had so very little help. It was only a very few months she ever had the opportunity to go to church. She never had anything more to read than about four books of the Bible. But she knew more about prabyer than some who attend church all their lives. The woman relative who helped her come in contact with the gospel said because she could not see natural things heaven always seemed the more real to her, and she spent all the more time praying.

Ruth and I had a long talk one day about living in dangerous places. Our conclusion was that we live in a safer place than do most. You see we do not live in danger of being run over by a car when we cross the street. We do not see one for months at a time. It has been a year since I have seen one with an engine in it. There are compensations for living in the interior of China.

Probably Thanksgiving will be over before you get this and Christmas soon to come. Perhaps I had better wish you a Merry Christmas in this letter lest I be too late.

With love,

Hazel



100 miles

Livan

Nancuowting, Hunan, China
May 25, 1922

Dear Mother,

Your most welcome letter just came this evening. I was sorry to hear of Father's being sick again and of Evan's broken arm. ~~It~~ It does not seem so long since I left home, yet the best part of two years have come and gone since then.

For my next language exam I have to study from Romans to Hebrews and most of Genesis besides such a lot of other things. Do not pity me though about the study for you know I would rather study than eat. When I am able to study and especially on the Bible, I certainly enjoy it. So many times the Chinese version brings out another shade of meaning. Many times the Chinese is more emphatic. In John 14:1-3 where the Lord said He would come back again, the Chinese says He certainly will come again. In the 13th chapter where it says "having loved His own He loved them unto the end" it says in Chinese "He loved them to the bottom". It also says in Heb. 7:25 that He will save to the bottom. By the way, we use that verse for a chorus and teach it to the women as well as Acts 4:12, Matt. 11:28, and "Suffer the children to come unto Me". Today we were teaching the women "Jesus loves me this I know".

You asked me if I find time to practice any. Now that it is warmer in the sitting room again I do some. Mrs. Draffin generally plays the organ for meetings and Mr. Draffin plays the violin. If neither of them are there, the evangelist plays his accordion. I never tried but once to play for a Chinese meeting. Miss Chaffee has both an organ and a violin and she promised me she would play her violin for meetings if I would play her organ. But I never promised to take her up on the proposition.

After women's meeting I went with Mrs. Draffin calling on the sick. At three homes there was someone sick. One place there were four sick. They look to us so when they are ill. It is good we have a Lord "who has borne all our sicknesses and carried all our griefs. If you would see the way most of these people live, you would not wonder that so many are ill and die but that any live. It would be so much easier to keep away from these people than to go among them and sympathize and love them as we should. How little we know of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Their houses not merely are dirty, they are filthy, and the streets just smelled awful today.

Changteh, Hunan, China
November 12, 1924

Things run on here much the same as usual. Last week I sent the Bible woman to the out-station. I wanted to go with her the worst way and tried to arrange to go but without success. The old evangelist told me in the first place that I ought to stay here and attend to my work at this place. Then when he saw I could not go, he said "Praise the Lord" and proceeded to give me some fatherly advice. He said, "You know it has been over nineteen hundred years since the Lord came to earth, and all of His work can not be done in a day". The orient has something to teach us on being patient. One day one of the older women was with me when I started out calling. She begged me to put on another wrap. I finally did so to please her not because of need of it. Several days later I had to advise her about something and she took it at once. The situation was that her room was above an opium smoking den. It had troubled me that she lived there. Last week she had a story to tell at women's meeting of some trouble with her landlord. I told her perhaps it is not the Lord's will for her to live there. The next day she began look for another place and found it.

(In 1926 within sound of guns of battle) The Lord will keep us in perfect peace.

Hankow, Hupeh, China
November 29, 1926

Were it not for the Lord and His Keeping power prospects would be black this night. Mrs. Draffin was thinking in the days after the riot about how the Lord opened a road through the Red Sea and that He could also open a way through the Tongting Lake. Usually this way is anything but safe as there are so many bandits about. But we were forced to take it as we could not very well get through the fighting to come down the Yangtze.

There is not much prospect of our seeing the things we left in the house again. I have been praying the Lord will either reconcile me to the loss of the things or preserve them for me. Every once in a while I think of some little thing I want that is gone. There were tracts, gospels, and books, and a few medicines and groceries I should have liked so much to have either put in the hands of those who could use them or in a safe place. Mrs. Draffin was packing the suitcase of my things just as the guards were withdrawn, so she did not make a very good selection of my things. The Lord has a purpose in all this: He gave and He is worthy to receive our all. It will help in the future to comfort others having had my own goods spoiled. Some of the Chinese have lost even more heavily. There was no personal violence to any one of us, and best of all our christians remained loyal. Two evangelists walked the best part of twenty miles across country to see us off.

December 15, 1930

Margaret just has two sisters, and they are both applying to the mission and hope to be in China next fall. She certainly is is fortunate. Perhaps they are fortunate too. If any of my brothers or sisters has a bigger job on hand than I have, I might go and help there.

Shucheng, Anhwei, China
January 12, 1932

One of the girls may be coming again for some help on her arithmetic. The other day she asked me how to do cube root. I had to use some algebra to come to it because it has been so long since I worked that kind of problem. Eva and Margaret thought they would help her with a problem yesterday. But after nearly half the afternoon was over they brought it to me. It took me fifteen or twenty minutes to do it. Margaret had some mathematics in college. She sees through it now, of course. But Eva does not see it yet. She went to school more than I did too.

March 29, 1932

The man with the bad sore on his back I began looking after over two months ago now only comes every two or three days. From a place fully as big as one's hand it has healed until it is about as large as a finger. But best of all both he and his mother have definitely decided to believe the gospel. To be sure I did change the dressings, but the healing of the sore was the Lord's work and even more so His work the changing of the man's attitude toward Him.

1/
Photo album

Broomhall, Marshall: The Jubilee

Story of the China Inland Mission

Air letter from CIM, L.A. Nov. 26

Herbert Griffin - telling of death

Nov. 17

Clippings about memorial service

Letter from Ruth ^{Elliott} (Typhoid or para typhoid)

Passport

(Arrived in China on her birthday)

Nov. 3, 1920 - March 29, 1921 4/
at language center

Yungchow, Kiangsu

April 27, 28 1921

Hankow, Hupoh hospital

May 16 - July 1 ^{on a ~~Chinese~~ ^{Cable} ~~hospital~~ ^{Presbyterian} hospital}
Changteh, Hunan

Aug. 22 - Sept. 30, 1921

Kuling, Kiangsi

Oct. 8 Changteh, Hunan

Oct. 20 - to end of year

Nanchowting, Hunan

Carrie Andrews

Miss Chaffee

Mr. & Mrs. Rannon

Dr. Raffins

Mrs. died of cholera
Mr. joined Presbyterians
and married ^{Miss}

1921 - death of grandmother
Todd's sister, Keturah
and brother, Seamon

1922

Jan. 16 Changteh

Jan. 28 Nanchowling
(conference)

May trip to Changteh

July 10 Changteh

July 17 } Teh Shai - on hill

Aug 4 } overlooking Changteh.

Presbyterians have boys'
school there

Sept. 28 on Changteh

Miss Chaffee in Changteh

Druggies go home on furlough
towards end of year.

1923

3/

Mostly in Changteh.

June 28 Hankow

Between June 28 and
August 30 in Kibungshan,
Hozan province 6 hours
by train north of
Hankow. Then 2 hrs
by sedan chair. In
mountains.

Around Oct. 12 - Tso chi,
an out station

With Miss Chaffee

1924

All year in Changteh
except June 19 - Sept 4
in Kuling.

Miss Chaffee unable
to return after summer
vacation.

Ms. Driffin back in
December

1925

Jan - March Changteh
April - May Nanchow
July - Aug Kibungshan
Dec. Nanchow

With Driffins and Little
to the Verdun and Vera
Building new chapel
to seat 500

1926

Jan until vacation Nanchow
 except for out-station
 June 28 trip for
 vacation Kibungshan
 Sept. 27 Hangchow
 Oct. 15 + 28 Changteh
 Nov. 29 - Dec. 22 Hangchow
 Dec. 22 on way to Shanghai
 Shanghai until
 sailing date about
 Jan. 15, 1927

Term 27-28 Bible Institute
 course for medical
 missionaries

Summer of 1928
 trip east with
 mother to Minnesota

26 mo. away

1929

February Hawaii
Mar. 2 Yokohama
Mar 8, 12 Shanghai
May Nanchow
June 13 "
July 4, 19 Keelung (worked in hospital) ^{July 19 on books}
Aug 12 "
Sept 30 (Nanchow) Shikshaw
Oct 14, 29 "
Nov. 16 "
Dec. 7, 27 "

Raffias Ma Mason 5'1"

1930

until June in Nanchow

June 26 Changsha

July through Sept. - Shanghai

Oct. 28 Ankang

November 25 Shucheng

Mr. Moore and Mr. Mason packed Hazel's things -

Margaret Elliott

Eva Knight (Massachusetts)

Doris Hinckley (England)

1931

At Shucheng all year
Doris, Eva, Margaret
met Costerus family

1932

Shucheng, Amoy
Kuling July 18 to Sept. 4

During summer Ruth
Elliot joins sisters.
Doris Hinckley not
physically able to continue
after summer relief

Margaret + Ruth leave
Shucheng early December

Eva Knight

Mrs. Quaffin doesn't want
to return from furlough
in U.S. Husband joins
her.

1933

Shucheng

Eva Knight

Mrs. Casterus comes
joined by family Elsie 4
Helen 3
end of March

Whipples visit

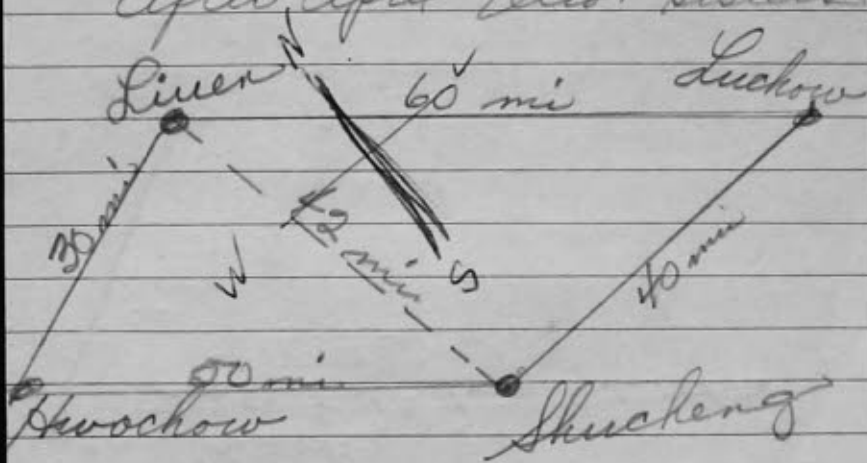
Handwritten notes on the right margin, including the number 18 and some illegible text.

1934

61

Shucheng

Novis and Eva until April
After April Elliot sisters



Elsie Costerus died
in January
teachers name Peng

Elliot's at Tengcheng
on way to Anking
Anking 80 miles
from Shucheng.

1935

Shucheng
Summer in Kuling
for at least 6 weeks

Carl Galloway
arrived in May

Margaret married
in January

Ruth Elliot had
operation in Shanghai
in April.

1936

Delia Bass Todd left toed
in Feb.

Eva arrived in March,
died in Shanghai in June
Carl Galloway leaves in
March

Ruth Elliot leaves in
February but is back for
visit in September
Pern on Growing Old - Oct. 5

7/

Miss Reid, elder missionary
writes in November.

1937

working alone
sails for home in June.

- Oct. 17 - sailed from San Pedro ^{17 mo. away}
1938-39
- Nov. 1 Philippines - Hong Kong
 - Dec. 9 Shanghai (Costas parents)
 - Jan. 21 Shanghai (new children for 2 years)
 - Feb. 11 Fowyang (for 3 weeks)
 - Mar. 10 Huobin
 - Sept. 16 Chengyung (5 weeks)
 - Oct. 30 Luan (Costas)
 - Nov. 30 Shucheng
 - Dec. 28 Luan.

out station
teacher

Margaret Crosset
Paul Hsu

1940

Shucheng Ruth Elliot
arrived in July
in Lunan from July 10 to
August 21
In October went to
Hofei

servant - Mrs. Tang

1939
June 12 - evangelist
news.

81
Mr. Loach - former
Strathmore pastor -
helped Hazel in
Bible study.

hint of bowling
July '7, 1939

wood pecker - Kingfisher
page 194

varnish - product of Detroit ^{Oct. 7, 1946}