

# ANNUAL LETTER

Kowloon City Station 24<sup>th</sup> Nov 1921

*Attention is given to paragraph 191 on page 52 of the Rules and Regulations of the Society (Part 11, 12<sup>th</sup> Edition ) which enacts that Annual Letters (dealing with this year ending 30 September) should be posted no later than November 30. You are asked to conform to this Rule and not wait until your statistics (to December 31) are made up.*

*The purpose of an Annual Letter is to give the Parent Committee a general view of the work accomplished by the missionary during the year. But matters of detail which are interesting or important should be included, as well as references to outside events which have any considerable influence on the missionary enterprise. It will be helpful if you will begin your letter by indicating as briefly as possible (a) the sphere in which you work; (b) the department of work in which you have taken part during the year. Also (1) when any of the work referred to in the course of your letter is new please indicate the fact plainly, and in the case of a new station or out-station state where it is situated; (2) kindly make it clear whether the work to which you are referring is done in connexion with a church council or other church organization.*

*Missionaries engaged in Literary Work are asked to give in tabular form a clear list of the translation and revision work, etc., (A) in which they have been occupied, (B) which they have completed during the year. Those who edit papers or magazines should state the fact.*

*All native names should be written in English capitals, and nothing beyond paragraph headings should appear in the margins. Please state if any part of your letter is not for publication.*

## 1<sup>st</sup> Years Work

Arrive in "Hong Kong" on August 18<sup>th</sup> 1920 to be with Miss Barber at the "Pokfulam Foundling Home" (late German Institution) where most of my time was devoted to the "language". During the first few months I assisted in the work by giving the children English & Drilling & undertaking the "Housework". Gradually the numbers decreased, owing to Xhau people adopting the younger ones and Xhau husbands were found for the older ones.

Much earnest prayer is needed for each one, that they may not forget all the Christian training they have enjoyed for many years, and be found justified in passing on the "Good News" to others.

On September 18<sup>th</sup> 1921 I passed my first years "Examination", one felt humbly thankful to God for his faithfulness in undertaking all the way, & it is with perceived courage one faces the second years study.

On September 16<sup>th</sup> 1921 C.M.S Conference transferred me to "KOWLOON CITY" to assist Miss Ston during Miss Hollis' absence on furlough.

I was very much impressed by the many bright and intelligent looking girls among the 140 odd inmates of the "Home", one could not help thinking what untold possibilities there are here, as one by one, they came forward & take a Christian stand, imbued with an earnest desire to win their own people for Christ Jesus.

## Education

One is immediately struck with the magnificent "Educational" work throughout "HONG KONG", it's splendid "University" in times past for "boys" only, but now opened to "girls" with neighbouring "Hostels" controlled by C.M.S. where influence must ever inspire the promising youth of the wonderful land of "China", to aim for the highest ideals which alone are found in Christ Jesus "Boys" & "Girls" Colleges controlled by the C.M.S. & other Societies, & the secular Schools scattered throughout Hong Kong & Kowloon & many other Centres.

One is deeply impressed with this branch, the work, C.M.S. is responsible for, for in almost each instance, these "Schools" are in the centre of a large heathen population, & the influence for good must be \_\_\_\_\_ character.

## A Newcomers Impression

After a quick survey of the Chinese Area here, "HONG KONG", one concludes, that the "Home-life" of the majority of these truly interesting people, is spent in the streets. It is in the streets where "meals" are eaten, one passes family after family, in happy groups, with "chop-sticks" & \_\_\_\_\_uis sitting on footpath, gutters & road-side, quite unconscious of the rude stare of the "passers-by".

Here the "Mothers' Meetings take place, sorrows and joys publicly discussed, & no attempt to hide "tears" as they freely flow.

It is the "playground" & "nursery", the 'nurses" very often no bigger than their little "charge" – upon their back.

Then here again one views the "laundry", each balcony display by long "bamboo poles", arrayed with "coats", "trousers" etc, representing the family washing, ornamenting the streets.

The "women" & "children" call for much pity, especially the former, for not only are they the "child-bearers" but the "burden-bearers", working equally as hard as the men, and in many instances harder.

Very frequently, are women to be seen carrying loads & “earth” “stones” etc, & breaking stones with babies on their backs, their smaller children playing by their side, & others, both boys and girls of tender years, taking their part in the “stone-breaking”. How it makes ones heart ache to have this vast number of human “Souls” under “harness”, young & old, man, woman & child, straining & toiling under heavy loads only fit for beasts of burden.

This alone apart from Christianity, is a horrendous appeal to all who have realized & experienced the meaning of “Brotherhood”, but especially is the responsibility great to those who have sworn allegiance to Him who said “Bear ye one another’s burden, & so fulfil the law of “Christ”.

During my short term here I have been to three (3) schools & visited many “heathen” homes in “Kowloon City”, in company with the “Bible women”? The latter is most fascinating, after the usual invitation to be seated & drink tea, the “Bible-woman” starts with the “Gospel message”, the women gather around, each one busy with some “household” duty, for time is too precious to sit with idle hands.

One enjoys watching the faces brighten, & the hands slackening in their work, as the message becomes more clear, & then follows the quick eager questions & answers, of those who have grasped the meaning. Here one prays for these heathen women, that they may experience the fulfilment of His promise, “The entrance of My Word given Light”.

One very interesting group which left a deep impression on my mind was a woman plucking pigeon for the evening meal, another chopping up the pigs food, one mending clothes, (already so wonderfully patched that one wondered which was the “patch”, & which the original coat!) here a woman enjoying her pipe, & on the earth join, babies, “ducks” & fowls mixed up together.