

MISSIONARY RETURNS

VALUABLE WORK IN CHINA.

Miss Nellie Smith, of the Church Mission Society, stationed in Linchow Fu, an ancient walled city; 18 miles from the seaport of Pakhoi, arrived in Brisbane this morning by the Arufura. She has spent five years in China, and prior to taking up her residence there, was living in Sydney. Her duties are educational and evangelical. She, mentioned , many stirring incidents and told of mothers who were forced through poverty, to discard their baby girls, many of whom are thrown into the streets to take their chances as best as they can. The great danger is that their fate will ultimately be either to be devoured by dogs or pigs, or picked up by women of questionable repute who train them for evil lives or else sold them as slaves. "This is where we as a mission society, come in," added Miss Smith, and "we take them in hand and when old enough they are provided with a Christian education and turned to be workers amongst their own people. The war in China causes much unrest in Linchow and from day to day one hardly knows what province one belongs to. "For example," she said, "two days prior to Christmas Day 1924 we belonged to the Kwong-si party, and a day's journey away a battle was fought between the Kwong-Si and Kwong-Tung, the honours going to the latter and therefore Christmas day dawned with the city in possession of the Kwong-Tung party. Our fears for a troubled festive season were not realised, and the true Christmas spirit of peace on earth and good will towards men was to some extent realised. Miss Smith intends spending her furlough in Sydney with relatives and friends, prior to her return to the mission field next year.