

Chapter 11

1923 - The Middle Years

Estimates: \$7,323 for current expenses; \$1,237.50 for specials. Chapel Building Fund- \$1,400 Mex + assets of Rug Industry= \$2,500. *So the rugs had sold well!*

(1-17-23 Duncan to Mr. Cunningham at Tachienlu) Marion, as treasurer, asked that Mr. Cunningham, the CIM missionary, who had been helping the TCM by forwarding mail, freight, cash, etc., take \$50 from the TCM funds as a Christmas gift as a partial recompense for all that he had so willingly and indispensably done.

1-29-23 Dr. Shelton's parents wrote to thank Dr. Hardy for thinking of them as he remembered that the doctor had mentioned their Golden Wedding Anniversary and hoped he would have time to send them greetings. Apparently he did not get them sent before his fatal trip. They said they knew he was thinking of them. He had sent a picture of himself sitting with all his missionary babies. "He did look as if he were enjoying it and he told of how lonesome and homesick he was after he got there and wanted to see his own family so bad."

Nina Hardy while on furlough, had spoken to a South Dakota Convention for Women and had received \$700 to be used for the construction of an electric plant to be run by a turbine powered by the mill stream in Ba. No one knew anything about such construction. When it was asked that Nina write and suggest another use for the money she didn't want to do it and never did. Dr. Hardy said candles were fine for himself. He knew nothing about x-rays, but he felt that lights should be provided for all and not just the hospital. "Dr. Worhley probably has specialized in x-rays..." (Hardy to Corey 2-6-23)

World Call had told of the Ogdens joy in returning and in their faith, courage, determination and happiness to say, "Yes, We are going back, the Lord willing."⁵²

During 1923 Dr. Hardy was not only busy settling the estate for Mrs. Shelton, getting the Mill House ready for two of the new families, managing the entire medical work, doing what was needed, being available for counseling for both colleagues, Christians in the community and any officials, merchants or the poor. He also had some personal interests, which is vital for any missionary as a means of

⁵² World Call: "We Have Purchased the Right to Serve the Tibetans," JCO, May, 1923, Vol. 5, No. 5.

relaxation.

His relaxation was as a member in the Royal Meteorological Society. He sent for meteorological instruments to send in monthly records of daily observations to the Society and to the Customs in Chungking. This was arranged by his friend, A.J. Clements in Yengin. "They would be glad to get systematic observations from such an outpost as Batang." FJ Wyatt of Middle School, Mien Chow, to AJ Clements, 2-25-23.

The apples that Baker had planted were bearing fruit. The buckwheat is ready for harvest. MacLeods are having clothes made for furlough. Marion has sprained his ankle and Herbert is not well with his teething. Letters: Louise D- to mother, 1923.

4-3-23 Dr. Hardy teased Minnie: "Heard you were to ride a goat into Eastern Star. Hope you find it harder than the road between Ba and Yunnanfu..."

4-6-23 Clements wrote Dr. Hardy that "it was very regrettable that the Chinese authorities are so supine about Shelton's death, but at the least suggestion of outside interference it was patriotic now to shout that China's sovereign rights were jeopardized. Yet in protection of foreigners sovereign authority is deplorably lacking. Clement's leave was drawing near. He did not know where he would be assigned next. Hardy told him to bring back a wife. Civil war and drought, with the Yangtze running low, may affect his movements. Military factions chose this spring to commence their annual antics with one trying to recapture Chengtu for Peking. But some, having tasted the sweets of self-government, are reluctant to revert to subjugation to the Central Government," He signs himself, "not your humble servant..."

4-23-23 Nina H- sent a welcome to the Petersons telling of the house being prepared for a right royal welcome and a happy home for them. This has been the most quiet year since their own return and not to worry about the children as theirs had grown fat and thrived on the fresh air and trip up from Yunnanfu. "Molly is disgusted with the preponderance of the male sex and Billy is anxious as he thinks Peterson is a strange name, while if yours were such as Ge Zon Ong Shu it would fit his idea." She advises them to bring a good supply of tennis balls as it gives exercise and keeps down the avoirdupois. She was very glad they were 'music folks'.

Both Morses and Duncans had passed their second year exams and been out in Batang for a year so they now had voting privileges. The Duncans felt happy with being 'real' missionaries. Herbert was very active but kept having bad colds from the severely cold dust storms which were the worst part of the winter season.

One incident that horrified Louise was the day word was

brought that her washerwoman was being beaten by the soldiers. This was a typical punishment for less severe crimes. She was accused of lying and stealing. This meant she was tied up by her hands and a horsewhip was used on her bare body. Louise got there before any skin was broken but she was badly bruised back and front. She called for Marion and Morse and they ascertained that there had been false testimony so she was released and taken to the hospital.

Dr. Hardy reports re; the Shelton estate and tells Bro Corey that half the 10,000 Rs or \$2000 found in his account is probably what had been given to Shelton for his trip by a Mrs. Douglas. Mrs. Douglas eventually agreed to give \$1000 into the Shelton Memorial Fund and the rest is returned to her. Patience was demanded for this slow job, but even the most patient man has his limits. This is particularly if one is not well. How soon was Bill Hardy in real pain from his very bad teeth?

(8-8-23 Mr. MacLeod to Eric Teichman) Mac, as a British citizen from Canada, is again passing on to the British government a digest of recent events of the Tibetan situation. The Chinese have lost control of the situation on the Border and the Tibetans have sent an official party from Lhasa to collect taxes from Tibetans inside the Chinese Border. He mentions the hatred the Tibetans have for the Chinese and that they are determined to regain territory. This hatred includes the Tibetans inside the Border loyal to the Chinese.

Unfortunately slanging matches were still common at the TCM meetings. All the determined new personalities, without the calming efforts of either Dr. Shelton or Jim Ogden, were ready to argue their points. There was great hope that on the Ogdens return the situation would be calmer. Both Duncans and Morse have a vote now so the exchange of opinion was sometimes rough to take.

9-8-23 For example: The question of buying the house where Duncans were living: as treasurer, Marion D- negotiated the sale. When \$600 instead of \$400 was demanded Marion paid the extra \$200 himself rather than taking it back to the TCM meeting. This angered Dr. Hardy, "shows how well he can co-operate with the Mission; he will be perfectly capable of running the whole station in a few years. He should have the chance to make good or to destroy. I request that I be allowed to withdraw." This was one of the letters that Nina refused to allow the good Dr. to send to Corey. Obviously the slanging matches were not all on one side.

An ability to cooperate within a mission is essential to a missionary. Dr. Hardy was willing to cooperate even though he might grumble. Another factor - one must be strong and of enduring character to make the life and sometimes death decisions and carry

them through. Strong characters can do this, but rigid or weak ones cannot. If their decisions conflicted with others, strong characters could compromise; weak or rigid ones could not. Flexibility with strength is essential...

9-19-23 Hardy to Jim Ogden: He hopes the robbers don't get their party as "books on captures are not selling well - the market is overstocked".

(9-17-23) Dr. Hardy affectionately tells his father of the 'disorganization week' during the Harvest Festival dramas when they had to let school out so all could go. He thanks the Lord for NORMALCY again when Mr. Thompson of the Church Missionary Society and Gen. George Pereira of the British Legation of Peking visit Ba. The visit was partially to prove whether Tibetans would even let the British in Tibet.

10-13-23 Later, telling of the two-week stay of their guests: Dr. Thompson gave two prayer meeting talks. General Pereira was badly crippled- how could he run over China looking at high mountains and watersheds? He is 58, plans a year's tour of Africa and then he will settle and marry! He wrote two letters to 'Dr.' MacLeod telling of his travel problems; one on his way to Ba asking for a place to stay and later telling of asking the Markham Tigi to send word to the Kalon Lama for permission to go through Tibet to Kanze. (9-19-23) He, finally, got the permission and expected to take the same road that Huc took 75 years earlier. Unfortunately he died Oct. 20, 1923 before completing this journey all the way to Lhasa, but he did travel in the nomad country of Inner Tibet to Chamdo.

Hardy tells his father of the school lessons with Molly writing a letter, Billy having an exam, and John running around saying everything in the three languages he knows! The second crop of strawberries keeps them from starving but Dr. H- is just as skinny. The relapsing fever epidemic is about over for this year. A Tibetan guard was killed at the gate yet a dozen soldiers let the man get away.

There had been a severe earthquake predicted by the lamas which hit the North Road but not Ba: 1000 lamas, a French priest and a Chinese official's wife were killed and Dr. Andrews of the S.D.S., Tachienlu, reported 600 fracture cases. (10-9-23 Louise D- told her mother that this is the quake that also hit Japan).

Esther writes to cousins, Sebe and Llor (9-28-23) about the relapsing fever epidemic which has taken many people in Batang incl. two Christians and two children of Christians. Dr. Hardy realized that it was carried by bedbugs and lice so if one keeps themselves and their homes clean of them they are safe. He received proper medication for injection against the fever from the East China Mission so now he can

cure anyone who is willing to receive it. Not all are and some come to the hospital too late.

A Mr. Rosboro⁵³ wanted to be sure the money from the use of Dr. Shelton's films was sent to Mrs. Shelton as "she and her two daughters are in need of funds to help complete their education..." Also, Mr. Ogden, Mr. Dana and others of the Newark Museum Assoc. were seeking to complete the Shelton collection. Eventually not much came of this as the Museum no longer had any ready sources of funds.⁵⁴

Corey to Nina, Sec'y of TCM 2-13-23 Re: The Survey-

An extensive, in-depth study of all the mission work around the world was planned by the UCMS, including the study of each missionary's job; registry of all properties; accurate information of population, environment and opportunities; types of work; number of workers; new work opened, enlarged, changed, abandoned; and change of policy of all mission fields. NOT PROMOTIONAL, "but to seek to avoid misdirection of life or money, to know where we ought to go, and let us refuse to falter"

It should have a VITALIZING EFFECT- "to spiritualize our great cause and enlist the consecration of our entire Brotherhood. "It was to recognize the indisputable trend shown by NATIVE LEADERSHIP revealing a burning desire and determination for self-support, self-government, and self-determination- toward the production of a capable, consecrated Christian leadership toward control of their own churches by the native membership. This means thoroughly educated and consecrated native men, challenged and recognized for their ability and achieving the proper use of missionaries and native leadership.

There was a concern for CHRISTIANIZATION so that the intense passion for knowledge did not lead newly awakened peoples from religion but lead them through the maze of present world doubt to a firm hold upon the eternal Christ. How still relevant and true! Partly it was going through the maze of post-WWI and WWII fears which helped bring a chaos of moral and spiritual values that then led to the intense need today for absolutes and resulted in the resurgence of religious conservatism in Christians, Muslims and Hindus today.

Whether and how work should be EXTENSIVE OR INTENSIVE decides whether to saturate an area with Christian activity or cover as wide a field as possible. It is said then that a

⁵³ OA Rosboro of the Vapor Car Heating Co., Inc. Railway Exchange, Chicago; to Newark Museum Association, Letter 6-5-23.

⁵⁴ Letters, lists and notes- J.C. Ogden, exchanges with Mr. Dana, Director Newark Museum, et al. 4-10 to 6-23-23

RECAPITULATION OF OBJECTIVES will fill our hearts in this momentous decade (after WWI) with Europe in chaos; the world distraught and restless; hate rampant; and the tide can only be turned to Christ. (Sounds like today!) The only solution should be to use every atom of strength and money to demonstrate His Love for all humanity. Mr. Yocum and Mr. Doan were set aside for this survey to visit several of the fields. Mr. Ogden was assigned to do the Survey in Batang.

The condition of the country continually upset their nerves due to the battling between the different lama sects, the activities of the brigand groups and the Chinese-Tibetan confrontations even though they and the Mission property were never touched (until the end) and were protected by both sides in Batang. Yet it was hard on the missionaries to be under constant threat; they were not allowed to leave Batang. This close confinement with very rarely a visitor caused an 'in-grown' mentality, overly sensitive to critical situations unless one vigorously refused to let it cooperate.

1923 Annual Report- Russell Morse: Evangelism- Russell was asked to take over this work as the MacLeods readied for furlough. He opened a prayer room in the temporary street chapel.

Teaching a teen-age boys class in the Bible School he organized a club to build all-around development as a Christian citizen, as a leader and to promote friendships between them and non-Christians. He and Marion were asked to do the audit of the treasurer's report.

Gertrude Morse reported supervising the two native teachers who were teaching in the Primary SS Dept. With the birth of Robert Howe Morse (4-18-23) she needed to train two new servants, despite being ill herself. She worried about the possibility of attack by the Shang Chen, which caused the missionaries to develop alternate plans of either moving over to Ja-po-ding for safety or complete evacuation. She had taken over the orphanage until Minnie O- could get there so they moved temporarily over to the MacLeods' home to be nearer the work. Gertrude's duties included checking on the orphans at 7:30 AM, giving out their food and any other orders. Nearly all were in school and after 4PM either she or Roderick needed to go over and set the chores to be completed each evening by the children. Due to the slanging matches Dr. Hardy resigned as chairman, so as vice-chairman Gertrude will have to chair the Annual Meeting, which makes her nervous.

Mrs. Hardy-Women and Children: New Patients-35; Hospital Days-752; Operations- 3; Obstetrical- (at hospital) 4; (outside) 3; modified milk for 3 babies; two sets of babies clothes; instructed mothers how to bathe babies with soap; assisted with 6 operations in

men's ward. At knitting class, materials supplied by Women's Work Funds and articles made were sold at cost or given to poor children. She alternates with Esther MacLeod teaching a S.S. class of 41. Taught her own children 1/2 day.

Women are reticent about coming to the hospital but more are coming recently. She thought a single woman could do twice as much and a nurse could train women in nursing. \$84.54 was spent on two old, blind women, one orphan, food and clothes for needy, and a motherless baby at the hospital. She assisted Dr. Hardy with 50 women and child patients, two obstetrical and four babies. Nina continues her study of Tibetan. *She is a hard-working, compassionate woman and aware of peoples' needs.*

Louise is having dinner for all the missionaries at her home for Christmas 1923 and enjoys the preparations. She wonders about presents as her Christmas orders were all held up in Atuntze. The 'enemy' is sitting across the trail and no runner is brave enough to get by.

Historical Note: KMT-CCP (Kuomintang- Chinese Communist Party) coalition: A marriage of convenience, not a union; Chiang Kai Shek goes to U.S.S.R. and returns to head Whampoa military academy; Borodin comes to China as political advisor to KMT.