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Kenansville, N. C.  
 January 29, 1929.

## MY DEAR MEREDITH FRIENDS:

Who knew furlough would be so great? Only those who have experienced it, I am sure. Since last June I have been enjoying the privilege of living in the good old U. S. A. The summer months were spent with members of my family, while the fall months were passed in the Missionary Institute, New York.

My thoughts go back to China. Wouldn't you like to have been in our party consisting of a Chinese evangelist, Bible woman, Mr. and Mrs. Fielder and me as we went on a visit to Hsueh Tien, one of our outstations? When we stepped off the train one of the Christians was there with his ox-cart to meet us and in about an hour we reached the chapel. As foreign women had never been to that village many came to see what kind of creatures we were. It was amusing to hear the children, "Are they men or women?" We wore big shoes, skirts, and hats, while they were accustomed to see their mothers and sisters wear tiny shoes for bound feet, trousers, and no hats. The chapel was filled to overflowing with those who heard the Way of Life. Many of the Chinese sisters learning that Mrs. Fielder and I were of their sex, lingered in the yard giving us an opportunity to speak personally of Jesus the Saviour. Reluctantly we left this village for other work, yet joyous because some had heard the Gospel.

Though I could write on and on about visits and work among women in the outstation I must tell you of the opportunities found on returning to Interior China about a year ago after being a refugee on the coast for several months. Now that the Nationalists were really in control what opportunities would missionaries have? Those who have been there longest say they have never seen in the province of Honan such readiness to hear the Gospel. The wounded soldiers occupying our schools and residences begged for tracts and a book, as they called the Pocket Testament. I know of some who read their Testaments through in a few days. This was encouraging when there had been much anti-foreign and anti-Christian propaganda.

Let me tell you of another instance where efforts against Christianity turned out favorably. A Christian mother whose children were attending the government school said that the teacher told the pupils to burn Bibles, and to depend on Sun Yat Sen, the founder of the revolution, as their provider. What was the result? A desire to know the contents of the Bible was aroused. In a short time the book-room keeper came in rejoicing saying that non-Christian pupils from this same school were coming to get Bibles.

Not only has anti-Christian propaganda roused a desire to know more about Christ, but in the Province of Honan General Feng's order forbidding the sale of idols has brought forth inquiry concerning the true God. The Bible women and I were visiting Mrs. Chang whose gods the government employee had recently destroyed. As we

told her of the one true God and Jesus who died for her, she kept interrupting with the question, "How do you worship Jesus?" This inquiry made our hearts rejoice and gladly did we continue to tell her of Him whom we must worship in spirit and in truth. I long that I shall not be delayed one day in getting back to the field that I may help to answer that question for many of these our sisters who are forbidden to worship idols and know not to whom to turn.

Pray that now while the opportunities are so great, we as Southern Baptists shall go forward redeeming the time. Christ is our victorious Captain.

Trusting Christ shall enable each of us to have a share in answering the question of our Chinese sisters "How do you worship Jesus," I am,

Sincerely yours,  
 KATIE MURRAY, '19.

## WHAT IS HATTIE HERRING DOING?

(Continued from page two)

ing in the Institute on the industry phase: I had worked in industry in the North and the South and I had a master's degree. The fact that I was a North Carolinian and was graduated from Meredith were no small considerations in the case, as they wanted some one for this particular subject who had an essentially Southern, and preferably North Carolina, background.

My first work was a study of the welfare activities carried on by mill employers in North Carolina—its history and present status. To collect the material for this I visited over three hundred mills, drove about in the villages, talked with mill executives, mill employees, welfare workers, teachers and anybody I could talk to. (Incidentally I saw a lot of Meredith people on these jaunts, and many of them made me and my faithful collie dog companion and protector welcome into their homes.) And then I had to write it up! Do you older grads remember how hard we had to work on a history paper for Miss Smith and how the thought of the term paper weighed upon us for the whole term? Well, it was like writing about twenty or twenty-five history papers, one right after the other!

But it was finally done and since then I have been working on a history of the textile industry in the South. At present I am roughly up to the Civil War. You did not know there was any textile industry in the South until recently? I am afraid my ideas on the subject were rather vague, but I have found that the carding and spinning of North Carolina women was a matter of interest to the Cabinet of Great Britain in colonial days; that to be a stock holder in a cotton mill marked one with a political stigma during Nullification days in South Carolina; that shortly after this it became a philanthropic undertaking to build a cotton mill. The making of clothing seems always to have been a subject that had a vital bearing on political and social life as well as economic interests.

And so this study of industry, especially the textile industry in the South can lead one on to many phases of regional sociology. We plan to make other studies of the working mother, of the psychology of the cotton mill complex, of labor turnover, of the mill worker's vs. the agricultural worker's freedom and so on through a list that alternately thrills me and makes me despair, for it will last long after the funds we have to work with have been exhausted.

Since these articles by alumnae are written for an undergraduate paper I am sure that, in big sisterly fashion, we ought to point out a nice moral—to cite the lessons well learned that have helped us and the lessons ill done that have made the road harder. But

there are so many things that might be useful! I once made such a bit with a mill executive because I recognized the difference between net and gross income that he gave me one of the best interviews I had in the year's work. But I need so to know more economic theory and to understand corporation finance. I need all the little American history I know; I need to know more Southern history, and never, not even in this study of Southern industrial history, more urgently than when I was being quizzed by a remarkable professor visiting us from the University of Melbourne. My French and my German are sufficient for me to understand the highly accented—but usually perfect—English of visitors with those native tongues, but not sufficient for me to read the books in those languages that are coming out in my field.

I'm glad my work on the annual taught me the difference between zinc and copper plates, but recently I needed to know about the format of a book and the difference between linotype and monotype. I dissected earth worms in biology, but I wish I knew what makes them come out on the lawn on warm, wet spring morn-

(Continued on page four)

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