

# Hazel Fryer Travels Around The World

By ELIZABETH STEWART  
Hazel Herndon (Mrs. F.M.) Fryer has been around the world in seven weeks.

The popular Kings Mountain librarian traveled approximately 35,000 miles from New York to London, Turkey, Israel, Jordan, Egypt, Pakistan, India, Nepal, Thailand, Hong Kong, Singapore, China, Japan, Hawaii and back to San Francisco and home via Douglas Airport in Charlotte.

"It was a fascinating trip and I loved it," said Mrs. Fryer, who is already back at work at Mauney Memorial Library and sharing the memories of her fabulous trip with visitors. Hazel has prepared a scrapbook covering her travels and brought back a memento from each country she visited which is characteristic of that country.

Mrs. Fryer joined a 24-member tour group for the trip by air which featured a week in China.

"I had always wanted to go to Asia," said Mrs. Fryer, "and I still have to pinch myself to realize that I made it. It's a different continent but altogether a different world from the one we live in Kings Mountain," she said.

In addition to traveling the major part of her journey by air, Hazel Fryer rode a bicycle down the streets of Hong Kong, a camel in Egypt, an elephant in India, a horse, a Trishaw in Singapore, a Chinese train, ate with chopsticks during her entire stay in China and sat on the floor in Japanese tea rooms with shoes off just like the natives.

Mrs. Fryer said she was especially impressed by Chinese

art and said that the Chinese were just as curious about Americans "as we were about them. Everywhere we went crowds followed us," she said. In Shanghai their tour guide took them to a typical Soochow house, an industrial commune occupied by 25,000 people, and a kindergarten. The strange gods in the Jade Buddha Temple and all over Asia were "hard to believe for an American and Christian and once we stepped on Asian soil we felt the difference," said Hazel. The "Reds" signs were all along the streets and the people were dressed in drab blue and appeared enthralled by the colorful dresses worn by the Americans. Hazel wrote her notes from China while sitting under mosquito netting and the travelers carried their own water jugs as soon as they crossed the bridge in Turkey and into Istanbul and Japan also. In Shanghai they noticed the high walls around the farming and in-

dustrial communes and visited one two bedroom apartment which had a tiny antiquated bathroom and an antiquated kitchen. The owner of the apartment was quite proud of his home, said Hazel, and the apartment must have represented some of the modernization of the area.

By the time Hazel, who was the only North Carolinian on the trip, reached Hong Kong, her suitcase was bulging and she realized that her 44 pound limit had already been topped. "I decided I'd rather have some mementoes of my travels to share with my Kings Mountain friends, so I shipped most of my clothes back to the U.S.A.," said Hazel. She and her traveling companions found the weather hotter than they expected in Egypt and India and had to purchase several cotton skirts and blouses.

First class accommodations were provided in high rise luxury hotels in all the countries they visited and the food was delicious, although Hazel said she tired of eating Chinese food which is not cooked in China as it is prepared in America. There were 10-18 courses at each meal, for instance, and was eaten with chopsticks.

"The food was marvelous everywhere we stopped," said Hazel and the people were friendly.

Seeing the Taj Mahal in India was a thrill for the Kings Mountain woman who said the inscription by Edward Lear is typical of the feelings of a visitor to that shrine. He said, "Henceforth let the inhabitants of the world be divided into two classes, them as has seen the Taj Mahal and them as hasn't."

Thailand is a mixture of old and new and the old palace complex where the book and movie, "Anna and the King of Siam," originated. The novices with their saffron robes and shaved heads and the floating market at Bangkok were interesting. At Singapore Mrs. Fryer saw Repuls Bay, scene of "Love Is A Many Splendored Thing" and got a glimpse of Mt. Fuji and her picture made with a group of giggling school girls at a Shinto Shrine in Japan.

Attending a cremation ceremony on the river bank in India was an unforgettable experience, as was watching Hindu priests sit under umbrellas at the riverside as the people bathed at daybreak in the Ganges River as purifying rites with the strange ideas that no evil germs were permitted. Even as the bathers took part in the rites, the visitors noticed a dead cow floating down the river. "It was all very strange to us but we always got up early and tried not to miss anything," recalled Hazel.

Among her souvenirs is an abacus, the Chinese and Japanese adding machine, and many other items which point both to the superstitious beliefs of the Asian peoples and their

beautiful native dress and art. The Shojun Shrine at Nikko has its roots elaborately turned up so the evil spirits can't enter and paths to the houses are also crooked to add to good luck.

Acres of laundry, collected by donkey cart, hanging to dry in a city laundry of Pakistan, the pyramids of Egypt, a living museum, and trips to the Holy Land, including Jerusalem, the Wailing Wall, the Dead Sea Scrolls Museum, the Garden of Gethsemane, and Bethlehem are

among the many memorable stops on Hazel's itinerary.

"I wouldn't have missed this trip for anything," said Hazel who had amazingly little difficulty getting booked for a trip into Communist China.

"I saw many beautiful places and it was a once-in-a-lifetime experience I hope I can share with people who come to the library to help them enjoy more the books they select to read concerning the history of some of these faraway places," said Mrs. Fryer.

## Kings Mountain Herald

### SECTION B

Thursday, November 13, 1980



**BICYCLING IN CHINA**—Hazel Fryer draws a lot of attention from the natives as she rides a bicycle on the streets of China during a recent visit.



**PUBLIC BATH**—The Public bathing facilities in China were a fascinating place for tourists like Kings Mountain's Hazel Fryer. Mrs. Fryer is pictured, at right, with one of her traveling companions.



**KIDS IN SHANGHAI**—Hazel Fryer poses with a group of Chinese children in an alleyway in Shanghai. The Chinese were just as curious about their visitors as were the American tourists.

## New Books At Library

New books on the shelves of Cleveland County Memorial Library include the following:

### FICTION

The Humanoid Touch

by Jack Williamson

Maynard's House: a Novel

by Herman Raucher

New Dimensions II

Edited by: Robert Silverberg

Side Effects

by Woody Allen

Sins of the Fathers

by Susan Howatch

### NON-FICTION

An Elephant is Soft and Mushy

by S. Gross

Dare to Discipline:

a Psychologist Offers Urgent

Advice to Parents and Teachers

by James Dobson

Dog Owner's Home Veterinary

Handbook

by Delbert G. Carlson,

D.V.M.

The Dollar Princesses: Sagas of

Upward Nobility 1870-1914

by Ruth Brandon

Mastering the Art of Beekeeping

by Ormond Aebi

### BIOGRAPHIES

Soon to be a Major Motion

Picture

by Abbie Hoffman

Adrift

by Tristan Jones

Swanson on Swanson: an

Autobiography

by Gloria Swanson

### REFERENCE

1981-1982 Director of North

Carolina Manufacturing Firms

by N.C. Department of

Commerce

Federal Tax Guide 1980

by Prentice-Hall

Jane's All the World's Aircraft

1979-80

Edited by John WR Taylor

Jane's Fighting Ships 1979-80

Edited by Captain John

Moore RN

The Value Line Investment

Survey

## Lion Drive Tops Goal

Kings Mountain Lions Club raised a total of \$1818.43, exceeding its 1981 goal by \$168.43 for gifts for the White Cane campaign for the blind.

White Cane Chairman Don Crawford said the drive was completed in one month and top salesman was Lion George Sherrill, at \$539, followed by the club's newest member, Bill Stone, who reported collections of \$243. Rev. Mr. Sherrill was captain of Team A, which collected \$866.13. Lion Luther Bennett was captain of Team B which raised \$529.42 and Lion Johnny Reavis was captain of Team C which collected \$345.98.

## Voter Survey Set Here

Did you vote on November 4? Were you registered to vote but did not vote?

The Bureau of the Census will ask these and other questions about voting in the 1980 elections in a sample of households in this area during the week of Nov. 17-21.

Interviewers who will visit households in this area are Mrs. Vera F. Morrison and Mrs. Doris S. Brooks.



**WHAT'S ON THE MENU?**—Hazel Fryer looks on the front of a Japanese restaurant that displays its menu for the day. She obtained help from a tour guide to make her selection.



**REFRESHMENT TIME**—Librarian Hazel Fryer pauses for the traditional Saki in her hotel room in China. The Kings Mountain woman has just returned from a trip around the world.



Photo by Lib Stewart

**AROUND THE WORLD DISPLAY**—Mrs. Hazel Fryer, librarian at Jacob S. Mauney Memorial Library points out some of the highlights of her trip around the world to a library visitor, Roy Hips of Grover, a student at Cleveland Tech.