

Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers

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To/from Alice and Ben Baker (1922, 1925)

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From Mr. Baker.

Aug. 15th
Chaochowfu.

Dear A -

I know you want news and I want my brain kept busy. It is so hot here to go carefully. Last night I had done too strenuous work. So to-day I am taking it easier even if the things get wet and we lose all of them. If I can come and write a while and then go to work again, the change meets the situation, if rest is well timed in.

It is very hot. I am afraid it means we shall have a storm again if not a typhoon. So it is very trying, and getting things started is slow. One is awfully dead, everything being or getting awfully hot. Things are very expensive, if they have them at all; labor is scarce and dear, for many people have things to do for themselves. They get a better day for ordinary labor, and I am told that skilled labor, carpenters etc., are getting \$2.50 in the City.

For every reason it seems that not to rush to get the permanent repairs done. It will simply mean as big a disaster again. I am to get 50 actions of bamboo screens to-morrow, and have ordered 50 more; they are in great demand.

With these we can make this roof fairly proof against ordinary rain, if no storm comes. Then we can have some clearing up done, and get our course planned right.

I have done over now clearing up. There was six to eight inches deep all over our front verandah; that and the room over the dining room are being cleared. Just gathering together remains of useful material and clearing will take hours and hours of time. We can do

Eng Khim did stand by during the storm night. I can't help thinking of those parsons who had their nerve and refused to go to the aid of their patients, while their dogs, back above on their houses, stand by and did wonders to preserve things.

I do not tell them open, and one man could not close them - that, too, with the blinds still closed. But they tried. Then Eng Khim had the sense to open the hedge-side window things. Blow open on the rest, so the storm might shoot that and not blow out the west wall.

Beams from the house blew down to the
gold pond. That Pride of India tree near
patcher got torn out with big section of
the wall and flying down the hill. Quava tree
north of patcher left a few roots to tell where
it stood. The big one in the garden is down,
with big hole around it to show how wind
began & worked to get it out. One and a part
of peach trees left. Of some 100 Labor
pops perhaps a dozen can be found. And
in the midst of that trouble, some queer
things happened. Those 2 pretty pop we
bought at the fair, were on the
veranda and covered with debris. One of
the both intact with the plates; also the
little one. The little fiddle tree on the
slippery rock disappeared entirely,
while that pretty water bottle splattered
all over with mud. I can't understand such things.

From Mr. Baker.

Chaochowfu.
Aug. 17.

Dear A.,

So far as I can, I want you to know just how it is here. I can never tell it all nor make you see it, in fact if you do not see it, so much the better.

I have gotten hold of a few ordinary workmen and they are clearing out. We have cleared both verandahs and inside the houses. Then we have had to go to my roof and clear off the debris from on top of the ceilings. It was inches deep and lots of it large enough pieces to fall thro and knock a man west. That had to be done before we could attempt to put on any kind of roof, however temporary. The ceilings has all been prenched, of course, and as that loosens the hold of the mortar, it may fall at any time. We have cleared about half of ours off. Kildreth's has little in this line, for while his roof is badly torn up, aside from several large holes, the tiles and mortar are all there. Cuiho was all torn up, and what did not blow off, fell thro on to the ceiling. That is what crushed the ceiling down in our south east corner room, next to the sleeping porch, and all that falling crushed the bed and the trunk with my clothes. It is a marvel to me why my clothes were not all wrinkled, ruined!

Now that everything is wet, white ants have appeared both up stairs and down.

See Atlantic Monthly -

It is some hot. Not having lived here during August for so long, I do not know whether it is unusual or not. But, believe me, it is some warm, if you get where the sun can get at you. I had men working below the ceilings this morning. But I went out a morning ago and called them down and put them to carrying off debris in the shade. It is too hot up there for them to work to any purpose, it seems to me. I have been up, but realize that in the sun it would mean my end, so gave up roof work except very early and very late.

Please send all
Enclosures to Edgemoor
as soon as you are
thru - as they have
not seen.

Leeds
Rochford -
Stretton
Bridgwater
Higham

Posts of our garden fence were taken away, and the whole fell to a cornell with debris. The old steam launch was blown down in front of Marion's (Miss Rose's) door. You know how thick the young pines were on the hill opposite us about the children's swimming pool: well, all are blown flat, lying in all directions so all those on up on the Rock Mountain. That is the thing in grief. But I haven't told you how it looks and seems. I can't. I can't tell it, I just feel it. It is terrible.

On Kildreth's side.

Two walls blown away of the guest bath-room. All the veranda roof is gone, beams and all, of about half of it, and all but the beams and tile-strips of the rest.

Some forty feet of the east wall blown, (compound wall). The bid roof is so badly injured that it leaks nearly everywhere. Shutters gone in some instances, attached in other, with four broken. Door to north east corner room first floor jammed in. There is not a room but leaks badly. Yard littered with debris, and so much on the verandahs of both houses that we can't open the doors.

It is impossible to give the whole thing. The whole ceiling is two big pieces in our south east corner room, letting the sunshine and rain in, when it comes, without hindrance. All the ceiling, have been soaked with days of rain since the awful night, and will come down everywhere, no doubt, as they have in places. There are holes in all ceilings now. That room, Yours just mentioned is a terrible sight. The bed is jammed, and other things are covered with debris.

This is part of what I have to write, but it gives you the idea. The plain fact is that now there is not a room in either house that will protect from the rain, if it comes hard. I have made my bed for to-night in Kildreth's dining room, where I also eat. I fear to sleep upstairs lest the ceiling fall. So it is not yet any place for you and the children.

I have not considered the personal damage we have met, for I simply cannot tell so quickly. My plan right off the bat is to get bamboo fascines, sufficient to cover enough of the roof to insure a room or so in each house. These will have to be nailed to the roof, and if no high winds come, and not too heavy rains, that should be proof. Then it should try to assemble the possessions under that roof.

On first impression it is absurd for me to think of getting away for weeks, three or more at best, and that everything will still be exposed, for it will not be possible to get the whole house fixed for a long time, fixed enough for normal occupancy I mean, not really all done as before.

There are many reports of damage all around. I heard a man say this morning that Tsam Tsen, the Presbyterian had lost 250 members. Paper reports thousands lost; some places where there were a thousand in the village, only ten would be left. From what I see all about us, I can believe it; if we were here 25 miles from the coast.

Kim's school (by government school) is gone, and houses in sight from here in many places. The loss of boats must have been awful, wreckage still lines the other shore. And so bare of birches, and of cedars, and in many instances of themselves, are many of the trees that in every direction you seem to be looking into the heart of things, to have gotten beyond the veil.

Kuo Tsien (the village at the foot of our hill) lost over ten people, men working on the river boats. There have been two deaths of children I know of personally already, where extreme fright appeared to be the starting cause. A so (Mrs. Kater's young sewing woman) has lost her little girl, and the Gardner one is now quite ill, as is the old mother, and the child's father (our milk man).

A number of houses at this end of the village had fallen down, and the school has two or three families living in it.

The railroad is out of commission, and no definite information yet.

Lien Hsi village (our two) has lost its bamboos and some of the larger trees, the one just where we go down to the boat being one of them. The boat which we use to cross the river was destroyed.

But snuff for to-night, if not for you, at least for me. It is very hot, and I have to keep going. Will send more as I get time. I want to get as much as possible done before you get back. It is heart breaking just to see it all. I fire will still be enough to see even later, that will make you almost weep. I have felt like it to-day, but haven't had the time.

The servants have done pretty well. I wonder at Bro Khim's (Pacale) nerve as he worked to save our things. They have brought piles of debris back which blew away all down to the pond. Bro Khim says that if one had gone out in front here at the height of storm, he would have been blown away—

 Ben L. Baker

Holyoke -

Use as all fit
but send as soon as
you are through with
it to Rockport where
the folks have not yet
seen it.

Rockport please send
to all members of family
also show Shubert
please.

Be sure that George and
John see

Worcester
Rockport
Stoneham
Andover
Hingham

(From Mrs. Chubb.)

Suataw, China Aug. 19, 1922.

Dear Babu,

your good note etc. yesterday etc. I had hoped that your situation there had been less serious, and am sorry that it cannot be confirmed. I am interested to know the way the damaged houses and the damaged country affect you as you come to them for the first time, for I wondered if the feeling I have had and especially at the first, was something due to having gone there.

Now as I look back to that night, I can hardly imagine that it was real. It seems as though it was some sort of bad dream or perhaps a very vivid story that I have read. As you may know, I have just been out on a tour of investigation for the Relief Organization here in Suataw - I refer to the one headed by the Mayor and the head of the Chamber of Commerce etc. My investigations led me up to the Tiao - peng district and in going up there, I passed three days - three and four Chia - Ching and other badly damaged villages up there. It all still seems to me like a night-mare. Many of the houses on the sea-front whose walls were fully above the average of pounded walls as indicated by the broken parts - fully up to proportion in some, yet these walls lay flat. I looked purposely to see whether I could see a space where if a person had happened to be in when they went down, it would have been possible to hide near a portion of the wall still standing and as escape being created, but I could not see such a place in most of the houses. Then I remembered that even if that had been possible, the water, the water marks indicated on the sea-front that the water must have been upwards of twenty feet deep and must have been driven in with great violence. Then in it all, I could seem to hear again that awful roar, and feel that awful power of the wind and rain - water that right as we had felt it here in this house, and I could almost feel the relief of the poor people in the house must have felt when the walls finally went down and the end came.

These junks are huge boats.

Great junks were picked up and carried inland two or three miles and left high and dry on the hill sides. Other junks did not get so far but had dashed into village and battered down houses. One or two Cremonter had been left, - caught right in the act so to speak, - standing there beside the ruins of the house they were battering down, - the deck of the junk towering up in the roof or attic and - but it is too awful to think of the feelings of the helpless inmates as this awful thing came crashing into their already battered and ruined houses.

In the villages which it visited, the loss came, however in the way of houses on the rich people, but in some ways it does not matter, for their entire families are gone, and none remain to claim the houses. Sometimes in some cases, and at most, usually only one or two have escaped, some because the old village was built they were not at home and some perhaps on wreckage. The reason is because the old village was built farther back from the sea front.

The loss in boats all along the coast is great and that affects the means of transportation and greatly adds to the cost. The fishing villages etc. are crippled. The shell industry at this sea (for making lime) is injured for their boats are gone. Constantinople help would probably try to remedy these more radical losses and let the people earn their living; - it would rebuild Ayas, etc.

G. W. Lewis.

Extracts from letter about Typhoon Aug. 30, 1922.
by Ben A. Baker.

Slight changes in spelling
made by person copying.

Cheochangfu Aug. 13, 1922.

Return to
polygraph

On arriving at this hill-top I do not think I
so much felt impressions. I was rather agitated.
For a while I was just lost. From our letter I
expected to see our sleeping porch in pretty bad
shape, the roof damaged to some extent, and
was in doubt about that medical room in the
corner of the yard. The coolie's letter had even
raised my hopes instead of giving a bad im-
pression, and I had thought that it wasn't very
bad after all. But when I arrived, I was shocked,
and seem now to be writing in a dream.

When I really got to my senses, my first
feeling was that of gratitude that it tell more
away when it happened. I can't begin to
describe it all. But it is ten times worse
than I expected to see it. You thought
from Dr. Baker's letter that they had it
terribly there, and they did. (No doubt about that.)
But it was even worse here, and apparently
much worse here on our own hill-top, and
especially our part of it.

First go to the storm. If the centre
was at Swatow, then we were as near the centre
as one could want to be. The violence of the wind
is everywhere. What we had at Taiyung was not a
circumstance. And nowhere on the road here, not
even just across the river, was it so bad as it
must have been on this hill-top. I noted
indications from Chuan-king (where we left the boat this
morning to walk over here to the City) that the
storm seemed to have been worse the nearer
we got to the City. The last part of the trip we
came up the shore, and it was a sight to see all
along, walls down, roofs off, trees torn to pieces
and uprooted. So in a wilderness I had to be
prepared for something bad, for the evidence
that we had had a much worse blow than we had
been given to understand was everywhere. The
first evidence from this place itself was the
strange look it had from a cross the river.
The medical room was flat, the roof looked

strange and the whole aspect of ^{the} surroundings was queer. The whole hillside appeared uncanny. And so it is.

The storm was simply violent. As I came up the hill pieces of tiles as far down as the road told the story. As I came to the top the scene beggars description. The wall from Kildalton's Chateau (about 100 yds) had our picture snapped in the fall (Oct. 12). - To beyond our gate including gate and pillars lies scattered over the hill. Laid, broken, various parts of roof, tiles, parts of walls are scattered all over our yard on every side of the house. The tiles are gone from our entire roof, just the wooden strips left on the tiled roof proper together with a few bits of lime work in places, and two ridge poles only. I mean the heavy ridges of lime with not wooden poles. The

The northwest verandah roof has the beams and strips to lay tiles on left, so have the two sections of front verandah toward the west end. The section over our sleeping porch room has nothing but sky above it, not even the large beams supporting the roof. They lie down at the foot of the cisterns in front of the bathroom. Even Marion's (Miss Smith) bath room roof and all the east end verandah roof are gone - one half of one pillar there. So you can understand what I say there is no place to live on the second story. Our entire roof will have to be replaced.

Both closed in ends of the front verandah are gone except west end railing, glass woodwork, and all. Upper half of the wooden partition and door forming west end of sleeping room gone. Some work railing on both sides of roof and the kitchen are wanting. The three doors to kitchen and pantry on into the dining room are torn up as by a giant. In some places, shutters are gone some windows not a pane of glass left. Medical room completely wrecked, flat as it could fall, and everything on it still looks the rubbish. Entire roof gone off the cow house, and hardly a tile left on the place. Some of the fruit trees were just taken up bodily, and all the papaya trees smashed.

Chaochowfu, Nov. 8, 1949.

Dear Ben-

To make clear just what has happened in the Tie Sang khu, I will give a brief resume of the whole situation. On Aug. 19 or 20 the Tie Sang representatives at K.C., including Lo Kie Su, agreed to have a meeting of the Tie Sang khu on Sept 15, to determine whether we should stick to Sun Kak or not. You were present at this meeting.

The next meeting was deliberately set, as some charge, on a date when you would be sure to be out of the way, viz Oct. 7. It is only fair to say that there is no proof of it, and the date is not an unreasonable one for the considerations alleged. This meeting was reported to you in full. It did nothing conclusive in the afternoon, and in the evening broke up with a bang.

Shortly after the representatives of six chapels met at Khin Sang shop and formed a uniting organization. Pang Khei was not in on this, as his man had all gone home in disgust at the action of the city folks in insisting on voting at a meeting where they had no standing. This point is of course well taken; but there is something to be said on the other side, about a meeting in which the city was so inadequately represented, coming in to settle the city affairs. Anyway, the organization was formed, and apparently its chief purpose was to tell the world that they would no longer join the Kang tea tang and its actions. They sent Khou, Jin Han, Eng Thiam and Khue Sang, over to see me bright and early the next morning, and the session took the best part of the morning. They hadn't very much constructive to say, but said a good deal denouncing the low this town of the city people. Their great effort was to get me to endorse their side, but I avoided doing so. I told them that I had already sent word to the Kie Tang Comm. that this was their piddin and I was expecting them to come up and settle it. The next day Kie Su, A Si Gou Sang Li came to see me, with about the same result. Their denunciation was more specific. A Si said that Khou was preparing to be another Tang Jin Su and when I said that I had never heard of Khou violating the seventh commandment, he told me not to be sure of anything like that, Khou was li hai. He persistently referred to Khou as he tiou thang, and wanted to have it decreed that Khou was never again to be admitted to the K.T.T. premises.

On the 8th, I think, Liu S.S.Hie and Lo Chhe ni went down to see to see Fu and Lo, and came back reporting that these two men absolutely agreed with the city contention that the money was to be used for city work only, and that the outsiders had no right to touch a cent of it. Indeed, as quoted by Chhe ni, they went so far as to say that not one cash could be spent outside the city without the consent of the city people. These men also sent word that they would be up on Saturday Oct. 17, for the week end, and they sent out letters to each chapel asking it to appoint two representatives to meet with them and work things out. They duly came up on the evening train, and we all met them. I pause to say that I was in Swatow Friday and brought up an old acquaintance a Canadian Kiu nie from Canton. We came up on the noon train, and I had loads of baggage and overlooked by bike which I left leaning against the fence inside the gate. I telephoned down for it, and it came up on the evening train so I was meeting it as well as the two Chinese. At Capen's suggestion, I had Fu over at the hall so he could be quiet, and he ate three meals with this British subject, and Lo had one, without any fireworks.

Saturday night they had an address by Fu, and some health slides which they had brought up from Sw. Sunday they made nice speeches at the morning service, and spent the rest of the day getting the city point of view. In the evening they had a sort of long sin hwe meeting, followed by speeches by A Lok, Sang Li, et al setting forth what they felt should be interpreted as the city point of view, which I felt was somewhat put on for the occasion, best foot foremost, etc.

Then had just arrived that afternoon, and they spent the early part of the evening at Kaim Sang, talking with him. As they had not given him much of a chance they agreed to meet him at my house the next morning. I went to see my guest off on the first train, and then went to the K.T.T. where we patiently waited till after twelve, for a ten o'clock meeting. In the meantime, Khou was keeping Fu and Lo over at my house trying to get them to see things his way, and they were trying to work out with him a basis of mutual agreement. This was a very praiseworthy effort; but it had a very unfavorable effect on the attitude of the city people toward Fu and Lo. They charged, during the afternoon, that these men had sin Khou S.S. kai un tong. Un tong, ought to mean nothing more than propaganda, and they ought to realize that they had given Fu and Lo a heavy dose of propaganda themselves. Unfortunately, the charge for making Tsou Kun president, consisted largely of bribery, and the word had so come to have that connotation, sometimes. That is the way Fu interpreted the charge, and he indignantly demanded proof that he had accepted a cent from Khou; but that is getting too far ahead.

The meeting was officially set for ten. On Sunday afternoon someone had expressed the opinion that the meeting probably would not actually convene till afternoon; and Fu and Lo took this for official whereas it was entirely an individual opinion, and in my opinion an incorrect one. So they were one more willing to stay and talk things over with Khou, hoping to get a modus vivendi. I think they made a mistake in doing so.

Then the meeting finally did take place on Monday afternoon, the two had a program which they attempted to put into effect. They first said that each side was to bury the hatchet, and had everyone stand up to indicate the fact, while I made a prayer over the grave. I made the best prayer I could, without notice, but it does not seem to have been successful. Or else what they buried was the axe, and each one had a little hunter's portable hatchet in his pocket. The second point was for them to announce the convention policy of ju ku. The third point was that the money which was to be set aside for the 5 ku should be 888 neither 8, nor 10 nor 100 but a new figure, seven, the sacred number, which they hoped all could agree on it. The K.T.T. people were willing to agree on it. But U pish hui, the head teacher at Tang long grammar school, made a rather impolite speech in which he held that this was the business of the Tse Sing Khou, and Fu and Lo had no business meddling with it. This view seemed to get some support, and so Lo asked whether they wanted to omit this point. It is not clear what happened then. They voted by a large majority to leave the point. The K.T.T. people interpreted this as meaning that action on it was to be deferred till a later date when the mediators would be absent, and the country people could come in with a majority, and rob the city at will. In protest against this they indignantly withdrew from the meeting, and could not be induced to return for a long while.

I had not understood the meaning of lau. And as soon as the vote was passed I asked U pish hui, who happened to be in front of

me, what the vote meant, and I understood that it meant the Ys were endorsed. As soon as I found out what the K.T.T. people were mad about, I went up again and inquired and got the same answer. But the K.T.T. people think I misunderstood at first, and that the later answer was intended to placate them and to undo the damage they had done by voting to delay action. Frankly, I don't know whether the delegates meant to leave till a later date, or to retain the item on the agenda. I do know that Pu and Lo and I took turns trying to get the K.T.T. people to come back, with very poor success; that Chih ni and A Si took a strong attitude that they would not approve of giving up a seat, and they were the K.T.T. delegates to the meeting; they resigned their jobs, but were reappointed with the understanding that they could state what their own personal attitude was, but that the rest of the people were willing to accept the Ys out if they could be assured that this would end the matter. It was during this period that Pu and Lo found themselves at a disadvantage in trying to persuade the K.T.T. people who looked upon them as having espoused Kuo's side.

When they came back, I forget whether the Ys was the first problem attacked; oh, I guess it must have been, but I don't remember whether they came to a vote on it or not. Presently they came to point #4 which provided for a sort of constitutional convention to determine a plan for managing the Tia ang khu. This was to consist of 7 from the Ting, one from each. 4 from the K.T.T.; 3 from the Hia Tang Executive, and myself for the 15th. In that case, if the K.T.T. came appealed to us outsiders as reasonable, we might could outvote the 3 from the country; but it would take the whole of us to do it. The K.T.T. people were not satisfied that this was safe, and wanted 7 from the city. This was too cumbersome, and someone suggested two from the city, two from the country, two from Hia tang, and me. This found no favor with the country people, who (so the city folks say) wanted to keep the advantage of their majority, or (as they would probably say) didn't see that it was fair that one chapel should have as many votes as seven (this reminds me of some discussions about the large number of British votes in the League of Nations). Anyway none of the plans found acceptance, and finally Lo said there was no use in trying any longer, so they would do something else.

He thereupon gave the account of your statements to the Hia Tang Comm, and what I had done, gave a gist of your letter, endorsed by me and said that before coming up here he and Pu had talked it over with all the members of the executive that they could get hold of, including officers, and that they all agreed that if it was impossible to produce harmony at this time the best was was for the Hia Tang to take it on as you had asked them to do, and in the meantime to ask me to continue temporarily in charge of the school and the city work. This appealed to all as quite correct. The country folks are willing to give up their claim to a right to control this as an affair for of the whole field, in exchange for the fact that it is officially recognized that it does not belong to the city folks. Vice versa for the city folks. As it is expressed in Chinese, so as is. Inasmuch as I was already in charge of the work for the remaining months of 1935, by voter of the Reference Committee, and perhaps for other reasons, I was a little surprised to find myself asked by Hia Tang to carry on for these few months as their representative; but as it means that they are accepting even more responsibility than we were asking them to, I had no objection.

So Pu and Lo went down to Swatow the next day, and on Saturday Oct. 24 they called a meeting of the Hia tang exec. and invited the Y

three representatives (Kia Su, I ti and Lok, three lo's) and also invited me to attend. After quite adequate discussion they voted to keep Jin that the tui gu pu tau and the Chin Kuang were the business of the Fia Tang, and that they would accept the responsibility; that at their next meeting, a month later, at the time of conference, they would phai hsu Chiang and chi a pu tau wan. They also voted to set aside, not a percentage, but \$100. for the 5 kou a slight increase over 75, assessing it against the three funds proportionately.

A day or so before, I had talked with the Pang Khoi preacher and a few of the brethren, and thought there was chance that Pang Khoi and Che Thau would join the K.T.T. in voting in favor of continuing in the Sui Kik Kua. If it should happen that these three tag were well represented at Phau Thai, and the others were not, we might be able to get a vote to cancel the action at the meeting at which you were present. But I did not want to expose myself to the charge of having worked a secret propaganda for this end; whatever can be said against that first meeting, it was certainly done openly, and everyone had his eyes more or less open. To avoid such a charge, I wrote a letter to each chapel, asking them to instruct their delegates on this point, and in so doing helped to make the split absolutely tight. I had hoped for a good representation from Pang Khoi and C.T. and a light representation from the others. What I got was this. P.K. and C.T. planned to get there the second day and encountered military difficulties; one got there after the question was settled, the other a day later, after we had worked out our course of action and Khou et al had gone home.

Khou and U Pish Hui came on bicycles. There was some inconclusive conference in the few minutes that were available before the hour when the powers that be had decreed that on the stroke of the clock this question should be settled. At 11 the business session opened. Khou airily walked up and claimed to represent the seven chapels. He once challenged his claim. I did not feel justified in doing so on the strength of what I knew about P.K. and C.T., and they did not have any representatives there. He gave a very clever series of eye wash, and when Kia Su arose to speak for the other side, it turned was presiding, told him to sit down, and he would not have had a chance to speak at all, if matters had not arisen and asked if the meeting did not want to hear the other side. So the It Tshai gave Kia Su permission to speak, but admonished him to make it brief; in addition to that he was once interrupted in his speech, which was only a fraction as long as Khou's had been, and told to cut that out, and get there quickly. When he had finished, he was asked a question that I could not have answered with out consulting the delegates, and pressed for an immediate answer. He gave what was in my opinion an incorrect answer, that the the K.T.T. stated to stick to the Tia Ang Kua in what Khou had said was the tie Ang Kua desire to have our meeting with Sui Kik but the business separate. The chair immediately asked whether the Kk people would allow us to remain on those terms and two men got up promptly and said they thought not, the matter was put to the vote, and settled by kicking us out. All safely within the time limit which had been fixed for the settling of this question, one half hour. I must admit that I was thoroughly indignant; at It Tshai accepting Khou at par when I know he isn't worth more than 75%; at his accepting Kia Su as thaua Khou thoi piau for the K.T.T. when there were others there who really belong to the church, and using his words to our disadvantage, without giving the rest a chance to be heard; at the attitude, that they wanted to get the rubbish carried away as fast as they could as it was in their way. Perhaps there were other thing but I don't think of them at present. I did however ki tai kue for Lo It Tshai. As a matter of fact, altho it seems to me to have been a

very bad way to settle the question, the fact of its having been settled, and settled in a way so that there is no chance of its being reversed, seemed to clear the air, and the feeling, for instance between Khon and Kia see seemed considerably improved. Spaiser agreed me that it probably is dress parade, and they have daggers in their hip pockets, and I recognize the possibility. But I hope the other interpretation is the correct one; viz that there is nothing to dispute about now. It is settled that the city money is not subject to raids from the country, nor is it under the control of the city congregation. If they want to put in Thong Ngai as principal there is no object in trying to control the Tia Ang organization, for it will have nothing to say about the matter; Tia Ang is now officially taking up and likely to stay so for a long time, and we have all got to get along together so we might as well do the best we can at it; and perhaps Khon realizes that he has nearly reached the end of his rope, and he had better be cautious or he will get a bad bump.

We had a Tia Ang meeting the next morning, and agreed to have a choir picnic here at Phu Le on Nov. 11. K.T.T. and Tang Lim also had and appointed 4 representatives. PHU PHU is one then and Kip are it and have three. Kim C and Tangiang are pia and have 3. It is agreed that this is to deal with association affairs only, and have nothing to do with Chin Kuang and tui gua. But as the tang is one of the tag, it is to be represented there just like Tang Lim and Phu Le, which also will not ask for any subsidy. It is agreed that the \$100 set off by the Tang, will stand. And I hope that there will be no squabble. Lo is pessimistic. He says that Khon's claim to represent Tia Ang Khon was recognized at Phu Le, but will be challenged here at home, and that he thinks that some of the churches will not recognize his action in surrendering their claim to control the K.T.T. It does not seem to me likely, as it was clearly stated on Oct. 19th, and unanimously agreed to. I think Lo is a unduly pessimistic about this as he is unduly optimistic about these new military not being anti-Christians. At any rate we shall know in a few days. I am sorry to have kept you waiting so long for a report on this above. It was late when we adjourned at Phu Le, but since then we have had military troubles, and while I have had time to write, I haven't had exactly the right attitude of mind.

What I have hinted at about Lo's attitude seemed to me to be a persistent refusal to be bothered with anything except the primary kind of business. Though a girls' school has been run by the Sui Kak since 1908 for several years. We had a little business in connection with it, and he appeared to resent being bothered with a girls' school matter; it wasn't our function to run girls' schools; that belonged to the women's board. Likewise with an effort that I made to get them to take on Chhit Mah. All the effort and money that has been put in there is (at least now) going to waste because Miss Sullivan keeps a woman there, and the situation calls for a man. Miss Sullivan had money to send a woman there, but what is the use. These folks have money, but there were not willing to touch Chhit Mah, and suggested that perhaps Miss Traver would furnish the money to send a man there, or some kind of scheme, and then proceeded to apportion all the money, and forget Chhit Mah. This was not done in a mean way, and I am not saying that their decision was not correct. I am only making the point that they didn't seem to want to be bothered with these things which are slightly irregular. The Tia Ang affair was very irregular, and in the same frame of mind they didn't want to be bothered with it. It would be far easier for them to run the Sui Kak than if Tia Ang were out of it, therefore out with it. But this intolerance toward an irregular affair involves something of not

saying what happened to Shanghai mag-oh or Chait Hah of Tie Ang khu and this is what I didn't like. It would undoubtedly be easier for them to run their khu without these things. But also in running is not the only desideratum.

It seemed strange for Lo It Tsh'i to recognize Khau as representative of the whole field, and one might suspect that he and Lo the two had it all out and dried as a means of getting Tie and Khe out, Lo wanting to throw it out and Khau to pull it out, each for his own reasons. But apart from the fact that there was hardly time to work up such a deal, and it could hardly be done secretly as there was no time and place to meet secretly where no one has charge any such deal, apart from all these considered one it seems to me unlikely in itself. It seems much more likely that Speaker (or was it Water is right in thinking that Lo had made up his mind that the logic of the situation called for Tie Ang to secede, and he wanted to get it done with as little fuss as possible, and that is why he didn't want Kie Su to speak.

Perhaps later, I can write you more about Anso. I had hoped to visit, as long as the following Sunday; but the military situation seemed a bit doubtful. Defeated soldiers had appeared at Kuan pou, apparently over from Kie Su. Others had come overland from Gifu to go to the front at Kopo. Launch service was disorganized. I decided that I would stay at Pheuthai and go overland by bicycle to Wenlung Sat. and Sun. And if the military situation had got bad by Monday, I could go overland by bike. But (fortunately) I had a blowout Fri. P.M. and that caused a revision. Twelve miles a day two days in succession was rather a bore; I was crippled about getting home in a hurry; I felt that it was important for me to be at the K.C.T. when the delegates reported. So Saturday I went by boat to Gou Luk Kie, missed the noon train, and instead took it to Swatow to get money to pay salaries on Monday, also to get bicycle repaired. The alternative would have been to go down on Monday. Sw. Sun M. was normal, and so was Cafe Sun noon, but by 4 P.M. the word was the defeated soldiers would be here that evening or the next morning. And I was glad I wasn't planning to go to Sw. on Mon. I think I never saw so sudden a collapse. Sat. P.M. Lau Chi Lak was making a speech that he was victorious on all fronts, and the folks knew that pai pia had appeared at Kuan pou, it was not so bad that he was obviously making a ridiculous statement. But by Monday it was evident that he had been defeated on all fronts, and that the only way to escape was by Fioh Pheng (or Fungleng), which a limited number took from Sw. Down the river, and up the railroad and presumably overland from Phao thai; a steady streak thro the city all day Monday; a lesser lot on Tuesday. On Wed. the first of Khau's men had arrived, and Lin Chak took who had been to Su since Siow Tshuen's resignation (wasn't he lucky to get out in time) had been accepted by both sides as Kue to Su, but I don't know whether he is still in now or not. Douglas writes that the head of the Su ien hue has been made mayor of Sw. and the 1st head of the seamen's union has been made chief of police. Carman writes that the strike-boycott is reviving, but Douglas hears that the Canton gov't has officially approached the HK govt to negotiate about ending this. I don't know. These people are not soldiers and talk nice words, how China has no use to keep and they are going to try to see that it does get some. Are going to protect, are not going to bother the church, etc. He is optimistic, but I am skeptical. However these men do not like to be hired them, and when they came in all baggage was carried by soldiers or hired coolies and that is a most unusual condition. Khau may have reformed; we shall wait and see.