

**NATIVE OF CARTWRIGHT
MISSIONARY IN CHINA
IS HOME ON FURLOUGH**

Miss Laura H. Hambley, since 1904 a Missionary for the Methodist and United Churches in China, is at present visiting with relatives in the Township of Cartwright. Miss Hambley could not have timed her visit more accurately than to coincide with the Centenary Celebrations. Miss Hambley comes of two of the pioneer families of the Township, being a descendant of the McLaughlins and the Hambleys. This charming lady, who has spent the greater part of her life in China gets a visit home every seven years. Letters telling of her work in the field have appeared in The Statesman.

1934

Mrs. C. R. Carscadden, wife of the Principal of Ontario Ladies' College, Whitby, who both were missionaries in China for a number of years, has sent us a letter from Miss Laura Hambley, native of Cartwright, who has spent over 30 years in the foreign mission fields. Miss Hambley is no stranger to Durham County audiences and her letters have frequently appeared in The Statesman and read with considerable interest. Her latest letter follows:

Tzeliutsing, Oct. 13, 1939

Dear home folk,

You will have heard it over the radio that Tzeliutsing was bombed on the 10th — China's Republic Day, the Double Tenth. You will be worried, and I wish we could have gotten news to you quicker.

Our retreat, or refuge is in our basement, and just lately Miss Sparling had a door opened on the upper side, to allow for entrance on both sides. This time the alarm siren had scarcely gone off when we heard the planes. Other times there was lots of time between the alarms and one would dally around, and by and by get to the basement. We will know better next time.

Miss Darby and I took to the verandah to go down these outside steps, and called the two women working here to come along. The noise of the planes came closer and closer. We were barely inside the

place and had not gotten to the places we had planned on, just inside the door in the middle thick brick wall, when the bomb struck about 20 feet away. We were thrown down on our faces, but soon got into our places.

I had had a low wall made of sand baskets just outside these steps going in, and it was that sand wall that saved us, for the stones and lumps of concrete flew all over and that middle door was just in line with the outside opening. I sat on a low ledge with my back against a solid brick wall, of double thickness made by a chimney, and there was no vibration at all. There was no feeling at all of the walls shaking.

Thank God for our solid brick walls. The lumps of stone and concrete peppered the house, smashing all glass on that side. Then a bomb dropped on the Playing Ground down to the front of the house and we got all that knocked against the house too. Then we heard bombs falling in other places. We did not move as the planes seemed to come and go. They said that nine planes circled over and around this group of foreign buildings three times. Presently we heard Mr. Reed's voice calling that the Li house was on fire. That brought us out in a hurry.

The Li house is far higher than ours and immediately behind the Women's School building. The three just as close together as can be. The flames were roaring straight up into

Native of Cartwright Describes Japanese Air Raids in China

Donated by Mrs. Sam McLaughlin



LAURA H. HAMBLEY

Laura H. Hambley was sent to had to leave China and the men in 1904 by the Methodist Church and women that she taught as and since 1925 has continued children. The word of her death United Church. She has had 4 fu was received from Winnipeg by Canada, and in 1943 after 39 years her niece Mrs. Fred Bailey. returned home to retire.

the sky. The next thing was to see if we could get anything out quick enough. While sitting by the brick wall in the basement I did not feel especially frightened, but just kept holding on to God and praying quietly. The woman beside me, one of my earliest pupils was praying aloud.

When I got out and tried to carry a suitcase, and the typewriter, to rush down to the outer gate by the back door, my limbs were wobbly, and I was not much use. All the men around the place started carrying things out of the house. Mr. Stinson our new missionary whom we so gladly welcomed to Tzeliutsing a couple of weeks ago rushed over and helped, till the garden was full of furniture.

I had given up all hope of saving our lovely home that has meant so much to us, I was going to try to be resigned. But — I had forgotten two factors that the Lord had prepared to save us. A few weeks ago the city got a small fire engine for the first time in its history. I had seen it by the river, with a splendid gang of men well trained, as you could see. I also forgot about the splendid set of men in Government employ who have their headquarters in our big school, since it is empty, now the school has moved to the country. These men are Nanking University trained men, sent here by Madame Chiang to fight the Rjnder pest epidemic amongst cattle. It is really a great privilege to have them around.

When the bomb destroyed the laneway leading out of the Compound, and broke down half the connecting bridge between the school and the house, it looked as if there was no way to go from one building to the other. But just as soon as the head doctor in the school saw the terrible volume of fire from the Li's house it seems to break out all at once from these awful incendiary bombs, he telephoned the Fire Dept. and they were soon on the spot.

As I say, I forgot the two factors the kind Father had prepared to help us. I even forgot these men had a telephone. All at once I looked up from my despair, and saw the fire engine playing a fine stream of water higher than the huge Li house. The water in Mr. Reed's cistern next door saved the day.

Our house was certainly in a mess, with all the windows on two sides smashed, but not much of the screening gone. But when we got time to look around we found the other houses over at the Hospital side in far worse condition. Our biggest loss is the Boys' School,

Either an enormous bomb struck it, or several, and it is a complete wreck. Mrs. Edmonds and the little girl felt it terribly in their retreat in their basement, so near the boys' school. Lucky there was no one in the school building as that school is also away in the country.

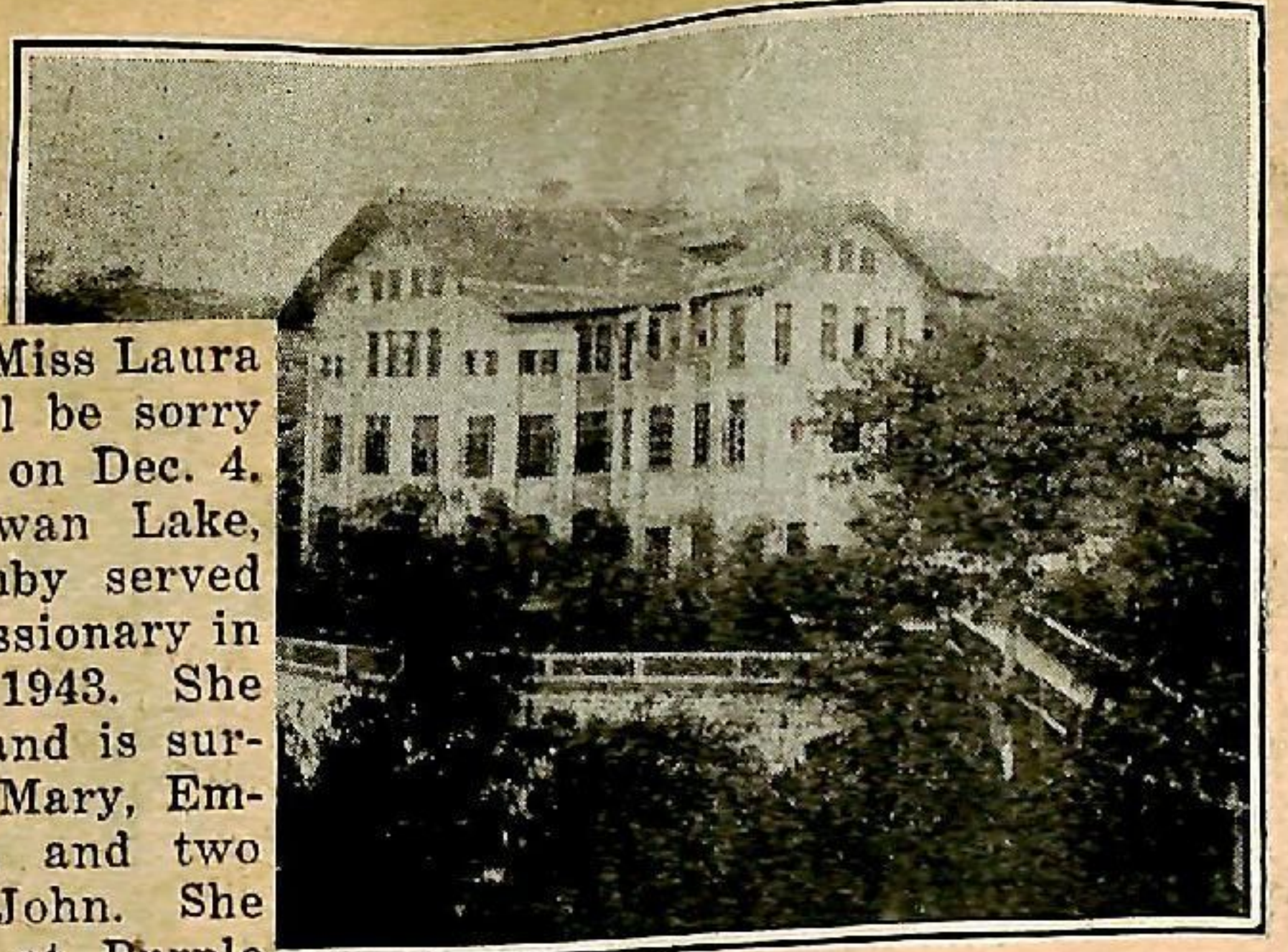
The men's wing of the Hospital is all smashed in. The planes following so soon on the siren alarm, must have given the nurses little time to get the patients moved down to the basement, but all were saved, except one man who refused to be moved.

The women's wing and the central part of the large building are intact, and Dr. Sheridan and five other doctors, Chinese, worked at top speed from when the bombs dropped at 11 a.m. till away into the night, with two operating tables going. The moment a patient was off the table another was on, and limbs were amputated and operation after operation followed as fast as possible. How thankful we are the hospital did not suffer more, and that they were able to serve the people. The city authorities had a temporary hospital ready in the park in short order, where all the first aid patients were cared for. There were over 100 operated on in the Mission Hospital.

I do not know the number of deaths, but as I was coming away the next morning I could see plenty of ruins. One long street, where my Evangelistic Band hold meetings was completely wrecked and half burned. I passed right through the length of it. At another street where we hold meetings and a school, our building was smashed in and six people killed with the collapse of the hill behind. The son and daughter of the woman who was with me in our basement, were almost buried alive, but escaped.

All afternoon friends began coming in to see if we were safe. They got a bad scare when they saw the fire mount up from the Li's house and did not know if it was ours or theirs. City authorities came, and nice people we did not know came, anxious to see if we were safe.

The church people and workers who came urged me strongly to get away at once, as everyone predicted a continuance of the bombing. The schools had left six months ago, but I was not willing to go. Miss Darby and I had been going out to the 55 li each week to our classes. But that day I seemed to see my duty plainly, I feel that I was saved by the many prayers of all the loved ones at home, and it would be foolish to run great risks that were not absolutely necessary.



I left the next morning with a lot of my things, and most of the supplies I work with. The alarms had started for that day's raids, and my carriers were urgent and we joined the excited mass of Tzeliutsing citizens rushing from the city. Miss Darby would not go yet, but in a day's time followed me out to our school here in this lovely country place. Miss Sparling was away in Luchow for a few days trying to be a help to Miss Ward, with our lovely W.M.S. property there all in ashes.

We are likely not over with it yet in Tzeliutsing. The enemy seem to be deliberately destroying our plants, but they cannot stop the work among the people or injure the Christian Church. We are all suffering together. Sometimes I wonder why we Canadians are here during these stressful times, but it must be for some purpose. And I feel that the Canadian Church will not let us down. I am sure there is plenty of love and money in Canada to put our schools and hospitals and homes up again when the wreckage is over.

Do pray, all you dear friends, that it may be so.

It is remarkable how little hate there is in the hearts of the people. It is accepted as lightning strokes would be accepted. But isn't it terrible it is done by man. It is an awful thing to see death raining out of the sky. But it would be worse if we had to hit back. How thankful that the Japanese army cannot get into our province. I prefer them to keep to the air.

Keep praying for us, and we will feel the comfort of your prayers, and be greatly helped. Surely many were praying for us on October 10th.

Many Former Cartwright Ministers Expected To Visit Township Sunday

Former Cartwright ministers and natives of the Township who are now in the ministry will return to the scene of their labors of youth, on Sunday, when many of them will preach at services in the various charges in the Township.

It is expected that Rev. S. T. Taylor of Westmount, Montreal, will take part in the service at Blackstock United Church. Rev. R. J. Fallis, Toronto, and Rev. H. T. Ferguson, London, have also written that they are planning to be present. It is quite likely that a minister will be available for all the United Church and Presbyterian charges in the township. Rev. Walter Creighton of Lakefield will fill the pulpit, so long held by his father, Rev. John Creighton, in St. John's Anglican Church on Sunday.

At the time of going to press definite information as regard to preachers for Sunday was not available, but it is expected that several others will make a point of being present if it is possible to get away from their own charges.

Other dignitaries expected to take part in the ceremonies in connection with the Township's 100th birthday are Lieut. Governor Col. the Honorable Dr. Herbert A. Bruce, Russell Nesbitt K. C. M. P. P. of Toronto, Fred W. Bowen M. P. W. J. Bragg, M. P. P. and others.