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SEPT. 22 ENROUTE TO HANKOW, CHINA

VIA YANGTZE RIVER

Dr. P. C. Wolcott Writes of Interesting Trip Being Made in The East

Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 22 I do not think there can be a more interesting river trip in the world than this. I had forgotten how fine the scenery is and how many interesting things there are to see.

We came aboard at Nanking yesterday morning about ten o'clock, and ought to be in Hankow tomorrow noon, but we are late. The river is so high and the current so swift that we lose time, but we will arrive some time in the afternoon.

The boat on which we are to go to Chungking does not leave until 11 p. m., so we are not concerned about it. We half expect that Roger will come aboard at Kiukiang, (which we should reach about eight o'clock this evening), as he spoke of coming down to meet us but we are not counting on it.

This is a steamer very much like the one I made the trip on thirty years ago. It is much like our lake steamers and is very comfortable. The upper deck is reserved for Europeans and has large cabins and wide promenades. There are only three or four other first class passengers so we have the ship almost to ourselves.

Second and third class passengers are on the two decks below, but we see nothing of them, and except for occasional whiffs of opium smoke would hardly know they were there. The service is excellent and the food the best we have had since we came to China, except at private hotels. The ship is 335 feet long and 52 feet beam, twin screw.

The Yangtze is a very wide river about like the Mississippi, but is very high now and over its banks so that we constantly see submerged farms and villages. It is pitiful to see the poor people living in their water-soaked huts, where it is possible to remain in them. Many are abandoned, and crops are spoiled so that there is sure to be much suffering and famine. The current of the river is very swift and we keep near the shore as much as possible to keep out of the most rapid current. The water is a yellowish brown, muddier than the Missouri. It discolors the sea, fifty miles out from its mouth.

The number of native crafts on the river is astounding — junks, lorchas and sampans all with lateen sails stiffened with bamboo. We have counted as many as fifty sails in sight at one time. We have passed four river steamers going down stream within the past couple of days, but we saw none this morning. Yesterday we saw two or three ocean going ships, for they come up as far as Hankow. At every port too there are one or two river gun boats — British, Japanese and Chinese. We have seen no American gunboats up here but there are a couple at Shanghai.

On both sides of the river are ranges of high hills or mountains, range behind range, sometimes in the distance, and sometimes coming to the water's edge and ending in precipitous cliffs.

A little while ago we passed "Little Orphan Island," a cone shaped rock probably four hundred feet rising out of the river, with abrupt cliffs on every side. On the very top is a pagoda and half way down the side against the face of the cliff a temple with what I suppose are Manista buildings. We saw four men come out on a rock platform and make low bows to us as we passed. How they can get up to the place is a mystery. It is most picturesque, and a few miles further down we saw a similar group of buildings built into the face of a rocky cliff which jutted into the stream.

Not long ago we passed a village in a valley which opens to the river. A stone wall with crenelated top makes a circuit of the hills about it, climbing up the mountain side, where it looked as though a goat could scarcely go, up over the crests.

Why this Herculean wall enclosed the vast space in the center of which these little towns nestle is a mystery, but then China is a land of mysteries. Perhaps there was a large city there but we saw no signs of it.

Every now and then we see a pagoda on the shore, generally old and dilapidated, but sometimes imposing. We saw one at Auking which is very fine and lofty and in perfect repair, which is unusual, for most structures in China are in a more or less tumble-down condition.

I have been interested in watching the great junks and lorchas we pass. The junks have great high prows and blunt prows and eyes on either side with two masts stopped at various angles and carrying on either side great bamboo stiffened sails some of them in rags and tatters, but they seem to sail smoothly and are well handled. The lorchas are more like our schooners in build but with higher and more curving stems. They have sharp overhanging prows and have deck houses and are steered with a wheel, western fashion, but they are rigged with three masts and great lateen sails like the junks. The first officer of the ship tells me that these lorchas which are of large tonnage

and carry big cargoes, often trod between Shanghai and Hankow and frequently spend five or six months on a round trip and then make money on their freight. It seems preposterous that they should be so long but heavy winds and the very swift current delay them.

The river is lighted and marked by the Chinese customs service, and steamers go at full speed all night. This ship has four river pilots aboard, all Chinese who have spent years learning the channel and the marks. "Number one pilot" as he is called, is in charge at night with an assistant and "number two pilot" by day. The current is so swift that it piles up considerable waves as in a rapid, so that the small boats wallow about in an alarming fashion. On this account they generally keep near the shore in slack water.

The mountains grow higher as we get further up stream, and they have serrated ridges and many stray peaks. They are snow white like the Catskills and Adirondacks as seen from the Hudson, only higher and more tumbled about, and wilder. I had forgotten how picturesque they are.

I am very glad that we spent two days at Nanking. One might write a book about the interesting things one sees there. What fascinated me most was the great city wall. The greatest wall in China, higher and thicker than the great Tartar wall or the wall of Peking.

It is from 40 to 80 feet high and in some places thicker than its height and all of solid masonry brick and stone. It has a total length of 32 miles and is pierced by eleven gates crowned with three storied towers and protected in some cases by bastions.

The city, which was at six different periods the capital of China, has been so often burned and sacked and devastated that there are now vast vacant areas within the walls and extensive farms and gardens. One sees great arched stone bridges with three wide roadways standing in the midst of grain fields, where once the pomp and ceremony of the imperial court paraded.

Everywhere are ruins, tiles and carved stone and broken columns. The glory is gone like that of Nineva and Tyre and yet a population of more than half a million occupies a corner of the city area. I don't know anything which makes a stronger appeal to the imagination. And then there are the great Ming tombs in the hills outside the city walls and the avenue of colossal stone images, elephants, lions, strange mythical beasts and warriors leading to the tomb. All are now in the midst of fields and peasants' huts. Sic transit gloria mundi.

(Friday, Sept. 23) Roger did not come aboard at Kiukiang but we will surely see him this afternoon at Hankow. I suppose that we shall all go on tonight to Chungking in the SS. Kiang, getting there Sunday afternoon.

ADOPT RESOLUTIONS TO DISPOSE OF FUNDS

North Shore Catholic Woman's
"County Fair" Receipts to
Be Given Away

The North Shore Catholic Woman's league adopted resolutions to dispose of funds raised at "the county fair" given at the home of Mrs. F. H. Jones of Highland Park on Sept. 10, as follows:

Whereas, at a meeting of the N. S. C. W. L., held at the residence of Mrs. F. H. Jones July 26, it was resolved that a County Fair be held for the benefit of Rosary College, St. Francis Hospital and the treasury of the League; and

Whereas, it was resolved that out of the proceeds of the County Fair, one-third should be given to Rosary College and \$250.00 to St. Francis Hospital; and

Whereas, the net proceeds of the County Fair were \$1,566.20;

Be it hereby resolved and ordered, a check for \$522.90 be sent to Rosary College and a check for \$250.00 be sent to St. Francis Hospital.

Furthermore, be it also resolved, that since the County Fair went far beyond our expectations a donation of \$250.00 be made to The Associated Catholic Charities of Chicago and a donation of \$250.00 be made to St. Francis Hospital, Evanston, Ill., from our treasury.

MANY DISREGARD POSTAL REGULATIONS HERE

Report Recently Made Shows
50% of Homes Unnumbered No Mail Boxes

The Postmaster General of the United States recently issued an order to all postmasters at free delivery postoffices directing them to have their carriers report the address of every dwelling and place of business on their routes not properly numbered and equipped with a suitable receptacle or opening in the door for the receipt of mail. On October 15th that order was carried out and the reports are on file. Nearly 50 per cent of the houses in Highland Park are listed in the reports turned in. If your house is not numbered or if it is not equipped with a suitable receptacle you will be notified to provide both. No particular style or type of receptacle is required by the department, they cost very little and

can be purchased from dealers in hardware in Highland Park or elsewhere. If you are in doubt about the proper number of your house, that information may be obtained from the City Clerk. The postmaster General invites the cooperation of the public to make this order effective in the quickest possible time.

ELKS BOWLING LEAGUE STARTS ITS SEASON

First Games Played This Week;
Each Team to Be Given Handicap

The Elks Bowling League began its 1921-22 season Monday evening. Games are being held each evening at the Majestic Bowling alleys. The various teams will be given handicaps so that all will be evenly matched. These handicaps will be changed from time to time in order to keep the teams bunched. Captains are asked to get in touch with their men and use every effort to promote attendance at the games. The teams are as follows (the first man in each group is captain):

Team No. 1, W. Morris, H. Nielson, E. A. Cooks, J. Huhn, J. Conrad; Team No. 2, T. P. Clark, E. Campbell, M. Lencioni, W. Jones, F. Gieser; Team No. 3, R. Greenmide, G. Hessler, J. Hockettsweiler, G. N. Sheahan, John Sobey; Team No. 4, E. Prye, Lloyd Larson, John Witten, H. Sheahan, Francis Rohr; Team No. 5, Tony Lencioni, F. R. Kuehne, C. Hampton, E. Carlson, A. E. Smith; Team No. 6, Wm. McNally, J. Ford, R. M. Cobb, B. G. Stuffs, A. R. Wahlman; Team No. 7, Wm. Scheakie, J. Eiffer, John Larson, Paul Wohlbrock, Tony Frauenhoffer; Team No. 8, S. Santi, James Collins, Floyd Koon, Fred Johnson, Tom Plimmer.

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