

November, 21 [1949?]

[Written on Air Mail letter]

[Handwritten letter]

Bangalore. nov? [sic]

Bill, this is also a radio letter. enlarge upon the ending portion, not enough paper.

My dear Bill & Russ:

Just received a telegram from Hubert Mitchell that the money arrived OK. Thanks a million. This will last the rest of the trip. I want to bring a few things home for the board. There are beautiful things here to be had for a song. Will have something nice for you both, also for Ray. Since writing you last we have journeyed by auto to South India some 100 miles south east of mysore. [sic]. This is where Mr. & Mrs Elmer Fricke are laboring. To get there we had to drive through dense jungles where wild elephants, tigers & many other wild animals are in abundance. We just missed running into a herd of elephants, but we saw deer & many beautiful birds. Beyond the jungles is the Gobi plains which extend hundreds of miles far beyond the horizon & we could see the hundreds of villages in every direction, & this is where the Indian Villagers live. I shall never forget the church services here & the meetings we had with the Christians until the mid-night hour. The village people are real India because there are ~~hundreds~~ a hundred [illegible deletion] of them— just ordinary simple people having a great struggle for existence but they proved a fertile field for the Gospel. We followed the missionaries along the narrow unpaved streets & as we went the missionaries kept announcing that the Americans had come & that there would be a meeting in the little church at 7 o'clock [sic]. He had to explain that 7 o'clock [sic] meant right away. They do not have watches & clocks of any kind. The churches ~~were~~ are made of dried mud with grass roof & have a seating capacity of about 100. All sat as close together as possible – no chairs, all sat on the floor & because they could not read or write the missionaries were the only ones who had books of any kind. But these people have learned the great hymns of the Church by heart in their own language & it was a foretaste of heaven to hear them sing. They must have sung for more than an hour without a stop – one hymn after another. Then one of their number gave an address of welcome through an interpreter concluding with the placing of beautiful garlands about our necks. Every place we have visited has welcomed us in this way. Then we gave gospel message followed by a question hour which continued until mid-night. What questions we [sic] asked! One asked me if I had a wife; when I said that I had, he said “How old is she?” Does she have much hair etc etc. They are [sic] questions about the Bible, heaven, the second coming of Xi [Supposed word].

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I believe they would have remained until now had we been willing to stay. Mr & Mrs Fricke are doing a wonderful work among these simple villagers. ~~Who~~ They are so appreciative of everything done for them. But the harvest is great & the laborers are few. There are still hundreds of these villages in the Gobi district who haven't heard the name of Christ. We got about 700 ft. of pictures of this district alone. On our return to Bangalore we spent a day at mysore [sic] & went through the palace of the maharaja. What a display of splendor & wealth. The doors of the palace are solid silver, the knives & forks etc used at tables are solid gold. At night the palace & grounds & miles of hills around are illuminated with a blaze of light & splendor. I could not help but contrast this glory with that of the Fricke work among the village Christians. The one

glory ~~was~~ is passing-only for a moment, the other is eternal. Tomorrow we leave to visit Tom Major & other Biola grads. These are laboring with the lepers. I am sorry we have only three weeks to give to India. This is far too short because the missionaries needs us. God bless them all. Radio friends please stand by the radio & write regularly. Bill this letter sadly needs editing. Please do this. With much love,

Louie T. T.

*[Air mail letter stamped 21 Nov.]*

*[Air mail letter addressed to Rev William Orr D.D, Bible Institute of Los Angeles. 558 So. Hope St. Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.]*