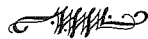


CHAPTER VI

“Here We Go Round”



Over the years, as has been suggested in these pages, Bliss Knapp's relationship with the Mabury family had been growing more intimate. As he explained in a letter to Israel Pickens (April 19, 1918): "Twenty-one years ago, when she (Eloise Mabury) was going through 'prep' school, she roomed at No. 2 Batavia St. and I lived at No. 4 Batavia St. so you see I have known her for a long time." It is nevertheless probable that the announcement by Paul Rodman Mabury of the marriage of his sister to Bliss Knapp on Wednesday, March 27, 1918, came as a surprise to many. The couple were married at Baldpate Inn, Georgetown, Massachusetts, in the old parlor, at ten in the morning. Only family members were present: Bliss's two brothers, Sprague and Ralph, and their wives; his sister, Daphne; Eloise's brother, Paul, who gave her away; and two of her sisters, Bella and Mrs. Jeanie Fosbery and her husband Arthur.

The party enjoyed a wedding breakfast, at which the couple were toasted in good old New England cider. Subsequent events were reported in a letter to Daphne:

Grove Park Inn
Asheville, N.C.
April 4, 1918

Dear Daphne et al.:

That was a very interesting letter you placed in my hand to read on the train to New York. The memories of Belfast and Berlin

fitted in very well with the manner of our escape from Georgetown.

I know you must have had a very happy day the twenty-seventh of March 1918. Everything went without a hitch. The lunch to follow must have been pleasant, too. Bella wrote that you served lunch to them last Friday.

Well, we made the trip to Hawes Street in one hour and thirty-five minutes. Matilda was there to open the garage, and we took the 12:36 train for South Station, which allowed fifteen minutes to get aboard the Knickerbocker Limited for New York. We had a drawing room, as privacy was much desired, — naturally. The journey to New York was the shortest and pleasantest I ever had. Before supper we had time for a walk over to the river, and then we had supper at the Belmont, where rooms were already engaged.

Next morning we took the eleven o'clock for Washington, visited the Senate and listened to Senators Gore and Owen of Oklahoma and two others. We paid our respects to the House, having seats in the gallery reserved for relatives of Congressmen. An automobile ride about town to see the chief objects of interest, and we were ready for the sleeper to Asheville.

Our room here was in readiness, and such a happy time as we have had ever since we arrived. We have really been too busy to get much writing done. I have received some business letters that needed attending to, and the dear relatives simply had to wait.

The hotel, as you may know, is pretty well up in the mountains, and we have had some wonderful walks hereabouts. We have been up in the woods gathering Mayflowers (*arbutus*), violets, and so forth. We have an organ recital at the hotel every afternoon, and another in the evening; and the latter is supplemented with moving pictures of a very interesting nature.

Eloise and I visited the George Vanderbilt estate known as Biltmore yesterday afternoon. We had a pair of horses and a covered wagon for the afternoon. Although the rain fell for a while on the way down there we otherwise had a perfect day and enjoyed it all immensely. The wonderful Biltmore dairy would have pleased Sprague. The most modern methods characterized all the work on the big 13,000 acre farm, with the big \$5,000,000 castle on the highest point overlooking the whole region.

Our pleasantest walk, of about five miles, came this morning.

Lots of local color characterized the experiences along the route. Conversations with the "poor white trash" brought us very close to the actual conditions hereabouts.

We are now planning to leave here Monday, the eighth, and reach Boston Wednesday, the tenth.

Last evening for the first time I was recognized, and for the first time had the experience of introducing Mrs. Knapp, to Mr. and Mrs. McAdoo. They too were married about a week ago.

This is intended for all the Knapps; so you may read it to the others, as a time saver.

Love from us both to you all,
Bliss

Among the first to congratulate the couple by mail were Bicknell Young, the lecturer, and Judge and Mrs. Hanna, now living in Pasadena. "We hope we shall see you out this way ere long. We need not remind our sister that she has a *very beautiful* home in Pasadena."

Mr. Knapp planned his Association meeting for just before Labor Day. He wrote Mr. Pickens that the nature of the meeting would be somewhat different from that of the past. Mr. Knapp was, this year, sending out a number of questions on the subject of treatment to a selected number of students whom he asked to prepare written answers. Mr. Pickens was among those selected.

Even though a world war was still being waged, Mr. Knapp was scheduled to give a series of lectures in the Far East and South Africa. Mrs. Knapp would make the trip as his secretary and assistant. There were multitudinous problems connected with this trip, not the least of which was Mr. Knapp's obtaining a clearance from his draft board to leave the country. Permission was finally granted on September 25, after the filing of the usual innumerable affidavits, not only by the lecturer but by the church.

After a short stay with the Fosberys, Mr. and Mrs. Knapp sailed from San Francisco, October 7, on the S.S. *Siberia Maru*. As they sat on the deck of the ship the Knapps must have given much prayerful consideration to the fact that their passports were good only until January 24, 1919, and to the fact that if the war did not come to a quick conclusion, they would have to make their way home from South Africa by the same route they were now taking.

At this point the biographer's task becomes easier in one sense and

more complicated in another: easier because the records for this round-the-world trip abound, in two diaries and a series of personal letters; more complicated because, with this abundance of fascinating detail, it is very difficult to omit anything.

It is not every wife who enjoys a trip of this magnitude during her first year of married life. Mrs. Knapp wrote on the fly leaf of her diary: "Grand trip safely and satisfactorily accomplished. Thank God, Who blessed and guided us all the way!"

The passage was wonderfully smooth, through clear and balmy weather, although, as Mrs. Knapp noted, it was the third or fourth day before everyone appeared in white. Several other Christian Scientists were aboard, one of whom had formerly lived in Singapore and wrote friends there to have an automobile available for the Knapps when they arrived.

Upon landing in Honolulu on Sunday the thirteenth, the Knapps were greeted by a committee of Christian Scientists, who took them to the church service in an edifice, which, although incomplete, was serving as both Sunday School room and church auditorium. Mr. Knapp noted that the congregation numbered about 150. Some were Hawaiians. An evening service was also held for the benefit of the soldiers; a camp of 10,000 was nearby and a Camp Welfare committee was ministering to their needs. The afternoon was spent pleasantly in the company of Mr. Gurrey, the Second Reader of the church, and his wife, who drove the Knapps about the island and enabled them to visit some friends of Eloise's. (Eloise had been to Hawaii once previously.) Then, after a "most happy day, banana- and grape-laden, and wreathed with a frangipani lai, we went on board the *Siberia* again and set sail at 5 p.m."

Early in the morning of the 24th, the Knapps landed at Yokohama and were met by Mrs. A. H. Mallory and Mrs. Lula A. DeWette who took them to the Grand Hotel. There they spent a quiet day, resting and looking out upon the local life. A trip to Tokyo by electric train provided a drive through the palace grounds and afternoon tea with a group of Christian Scientists. The entire week was filled with interest. Mrs. Knapp's letter to her family and Mr. Knapp's diary entry provide us with details too fascinating on the one hand and too important on the other to be omitted:

Grand Hotel
Yokohama, Japan
October 30, 1918

Dearest Family:

Bliss and I had such an interesting experience last night that I must tell you about it. Mrs. Matsukata is a full-blooded Japanese lady, who was born in New York, and lived there until she was twenty, and then her parents betrothed her to a Japanese nobleman's son, whom she had never seen, and she went back to Japan to live. She became interested in Christian Science, and is so earnest, and helps the church in every way she can. She is so eager for her husband and relatives to get interested, too. So she invited Bliss and me to her home to dine, and asked Bliss if he would talk about C.S. to a few of her relatives.

So I dressed in my wedding gown — of a French blue embroidered in sand color you remember — and we set out at 5 P.M. for Tokyo, with Yamaguchi as guide. We went by train . . . and in the distance saw Fujiyama, snow clad, against a sunset sky.

By the time we reached Tokyo, it was pitch dark, and we were glad we had Yamaguchi along. He got rickshaws for us, and we sailed along . . . up this street, teeming with natives, and down the next, past markets . . . lighted by flaring torches, which made the scene . . . so like a stage setting. . . .

We finally entered the courtyard of a large garden of trees and shrubs, and found ourselves at the entrance of a small European house, attached to other buildings rambling away in the background. . . . As we got out of the rickshaws, there we saw four or five pairs of tiny sandals. . . . and I wondered if I should have to take off my shoes.

When we entered, Mrs. Matsukata was there to greet us. . . . Then we were ushered into the living room, where Mr. Matsukata came forward and bowed low in most courteous Japanese fashion. He had a high-bred face, and wore a black silk kimono, embroidered with . . . small circles of white, with storks in them. Next, we met Mrs. Matsukata's elderly aunt, an elegant lady of the old school, who spoke no English. . . . Another guest was the Japanese teacher of English literature at a Japanese girls' school, who had studied Christian Science a long time, and wondered why her healing

didn't come. Then there were two young Japanese ladies of high degree, one the daughter of the wealthiest man in Japan, who had been healed in Christian Science of paralysis of the face; and what they considered even more of a demonstration, she had been delivered from an unhappy engagement, for in Japan the engagement is considered absolutely binding; but in spite of the great fortune he was losing, the young man himself broke the engagement and freed the girl from an impossible union. The other young lady was the prettiest Japanese I have ever seen — a belle indeed. Miss Boynton, an English woman or an American, who is a teacher of English in Tokyo and an earnest Christian Scientist, and Bliss and I completed the number of guests. . . .

We had been there but a few minutes when the children were brought in to meet us. Their names meant "Spring" and "Middle One"; but the baby, Tani or "Seed," we did not see. . . . The brilliant coloring of the children's costumes contrasted charmingly with the soft and sober colors of their elders. The children stood all the time they were in the room.

After the children were gone, we were all invited in to dinner. . . . The dining room was long and narrow. . . . The table was spread with an exquisite white Damask cloth with an iris pattern woven in it, napkins to match with a beautifully embroidered "M" on them. The centre-piece was a silver basket filled with white chrysanthemums. In one corner of the room was a good screen with a tall vase of white chrysanthemums in front of it. Our hostess was dressed in the loveliest kimono of sapphire blue silk crepe, with a twelve inch or so border of delicately traced mountains and clouds. Her obi or sash was of exquisite brocade of beautifully blended colors, with a green jade clasp, and folded about her neck was a small strip of more exquisite brocade. . . .

After we were seated, two "amas" brought each guest a lacquer tray with four or five covered bowls and dishes on each tray. Our host and hostess asked Bliss and me whether we would prefer knives and forks or chop-sticks. We said of course we would use chop-sticks, and how merry they were over our attempts, showing us just how to use them, and we having the time of our lives trying to balance morsels of food with two thin sticks held in one hand! Our host was so expert that he could remove from his mouth a

tiny fish bone a quarter of an inch long. This secretly won my great admiration.

The first bowl contained soup, which was very salty, with a strong flavor of fish, in which were floating a vegetable like a small bunch of celery, and two pieces of lobster. We drank our soup from the bowl, and fished out the solid food with the chop-sticks, which I found I could manage quite well. Another dish was of mushrooms with roots attached, chestnuts, and a pretty little chrysanthemum cut out of some white substance. I had gotten along so well with everything so far, so I fished up the chrysanthemum and put it whole in my mouth — as of course I had to do as there was nothing to cut with — and then the tears began to roll down my cheeks — for the flower was cut from horseradish! Then one bowl contained rice and on it boiled fish stuffed with hard boiled egg. Another dish was a compote of fresh vegetables, bamboo shoots and meat. . . . The dessert was — chocolate ice cream and sponge cake, both delicious!

After dinner, we adjourned to the living room, and Bliss talked C.S., or tried to, to the company . . . then we both told them testimonies of healing, which Miss Boynton . . . said she would rehearse to them at their English lessons. She also translated on the spot to them. . . .

We finally bade them a friendly farewell, and they sent us to the train in their Franklin limousine! We had spent a unique and most interesting evening, and had been treated with the utmost courtesy. . . .

Eloise

Mr. Knapp's diary entry for Japan:

By permission of The Christian Science Board of Directors . . . I gave a lecture in Yokohama . . . by invitation of the Christian Scientists there, Monday evening October 28th, at nine o'clock. There were about seventy-five people present and they listened very attentively. . . . English newspapers in Yokohama, Tokyo, and Kobe published short reports. . . . The Kobe editor followed that by a lengthy editorial adverse to Christian Science, to which I replied briefly, and although the editor promised to publish the reply it had not appeared when we finally left Japan. Commander

F. J. Horne, U.S. Naval Attache stationed at Tokyo, and an earnest Christian Scientist, introduced me. The newspapers seemed to be quite eager to report his introductory remarks . . . due . . . to his prominence in the country as the one who had complete charge in chartering a considerable tonnage of Japanese boats for the U.S. Government in exchange for steel.

Christian Science services . . . are held regularly in Yokohama and Kobe. The number of attendants is about equally divided between the two places, averaging from fifteen to twenty. There is a third group of Scientists in Tokyo, but the distance to Yokohama is only 18 miles, and they attend services there. All three groups united in giving the lecture.

The Yokohama field gives evidence of greater development and maturity than the other two, and I advised them to take the necessary steps to advertise their meetings in *The Christian Science Journal*. Mr. and Mrs. DeWette have been the chief standard bearers from the beginning of the work there, and now they have the active assistance of Mrs. Mallory, a student of Mr. Kimball who has done some excellent healing work. The progress of the movement in Japan evidently depends, in large measure, upon the work of those two ladies and a Mrs. Clement of Tokyo. Although she is employed as a teacher, Mrs. Clement is a very earnest Scientist who has done some good healing.

I have endeavored to make a comparison in the work as it was when I visited Yokohama six years ago and as it now is. Unquestionably there is a very encouraging growth both inwardly and outwardly. When considering the lectures, it may appear on the surface to be otherwise. At the first lecture given by Mr. Chadwick there were present about 200 people; at the second one given by Mr. Rathvon there were about 100; and at my lecture which was the third there were about 75. Only three Japanese people came to the last one, the others being Europeans and Americans. Curiosity may have influenced more to come the first time. Now the thought of official cast seems to hinder many, but that belief received quite a shock when it became known that the lecturer was introduced by Commander Horne.

There seems to be a desire on the part of some to reach out more to the Japanese people and even to provide them with

Christian Science pamphlets with translations in the Japanese language. That subject I have considered carefully. Unquestionably it is right that the Japanese people should have Christian Science, but there are certain impediments chief of which is expressed in the language. The vocabulary of the language has been evolved, as in other languages, by writers. In the case of Japan those writers or lexicographers have been worshipers of Shinto or Buddha. Consequently they have no word in the language to convey the meaning of the love of God, nor even of human affection. Having inquired directly into this point in particular, I was informed that a sense of great kindness is the nearest approach in their thought and vocabulary to the Scientific meaning of love. Their metaphysicians are heathen and have developed no terminology in the language to interpret the nature of God. The Japanese naturally look from their own viewpoint when one speaks to them of God, and their constant effort is to make our statements about God fit their own heathen conception of deity. The result is confusing to say the least. Until a terminology is introduced into the Japanese language which will adequately interpret the meaning of God's true nature, it is folly to think of translating a Christian Science pamphlet into the Japanese language. . . .

My conclusions are that Christian Science must be gained by the Japanese people through the English version. . . .

The Yokohama lecture was given on Monday, October 28th. At the Wednesday evening meeting in Yokohama, one of the testimonies concerned a healing of Spanish influenza at Mr. Knapp's lecture. Thursday was devoted to sightseeing in Enoshima and Kamakura, "where we saw the enormous sitting figure of the Daibutsu made in the 13th century — sensual face, drooping lids — eyes startling when we looked up — silver eyes." They passed through innumerable small villages, noting in the fields the primitive winnowing of grain "as in Bible times." Leaving Yokohama on November 1, they spent a week in Kyoto and Kobe.

Mrs. Knapp's diary picks up the account:

We left Kobe on the S.S. *Tenyo Maru* on November 8th.
 . . . Sunday, Nov. 10th: we spent all day at Nagasaki and saw

men, women and children coaling the ship by passing baskets of coal from the barges . . . a great sight and pitiful as showing the primitive culture of these people — yet they were laughing over the work and took it as natural.

Monday we passed the Island of Formosa, belonging to Japan, and Wednesday, 24 hours before landing at Manila, we sighted the northern end of Luzon on which Manila is situated. . . . The harbor of Manila, at the mouth of which is the heavily fortified Island of Corregidor, is a wonderful winding one, easily protected from an attack. . . . Arrived in Manila November 14th at 4:30 p.m. and the lecture was scheduled for 8:30 that night as we had been expected to arrive the day before. On the boat we had met Mrs. Judge Harvey; he [the judge] had been healed of leprosy through Christian Science and has been First Reader, and came aboard to greet his wife before we landed.

A delegation of church members met the Knapps. One of them, Mrs. Jennie Babcock, was an old friend of Mr. Knapp's; she took them in her car to the Manila Hotel where they had a large room with a balcony overlooking the bay.

At the lecture that evening, in the YMCA Hall, about 150 showed up despite the fact that Governor Harrison had declared the 14th an official holiday to celebrate the signing of the Armistice in Europe. The Knapps' first inkling of the peace came with their landing at Manila . . . "and we devoured all the local papers and longed for the *Monitors* of that date!" Many of the audience were American service men; Mr. Knapp was introduced by Captain C. F. Wieland of the Engineering Corps, First Reader of the church. A few Filipinos attended. Mr. Knapp noted that the general attitude toward Christian Science had greatly improved since he had lectured there six years before. An attractive house had been remodeled into a church which was now dedicated and free of debt. A Reading Room had been established in the heart of the business district.

Mrs. Babcock, the only registered practitioner, invited the Knapps to her home the day after the lecture to meet about a dozen of the church workers. When some of them made it known that they had questions to ask on personal problems, Mr. Knapp gave them "the benefit of all I could in a helpful way."

Mr. Knapp was particularly interested in the work of a Mr. and Mrs. Ichard who were working with the Igorots at a mine, about 175 miles from Manila. About 300 Igorots were employed at the mine. The Ichards began to teach the natives the Commandments and the Lord’s Prayer, which they learned to recite in English even though they could not speak the language. The initial lessons were given through an interpreter. Then Mrs. Ichard began to heal some of their physical difficulties. This healing work led the natives to ask if Mr. Ichard were God! It required much careful explanation to make them understand, and when they did, some of the more intelligent among them began to heal themselves.

Mrs. Ichard told Mr. Knapp that healing was very easy among these people because they had such absolute faith. Healings of injuries at the mine were so convincing that accidents no longer occurred. During the influenza epidemic, Mr. Ichard was instructed to close the mine; he simply replied that it would not be necessary and began to work in Science. The next day fifty workers who had been afflicted returned, and the next day more came back, so that there was no need to close the mine. “The natives would linger around in the reception room for hours, unable to speak a word of English, but happy in the feeling of the spiritual sense those good people so freely manifested.” When the Ichards left the mine, the Igorots had a farewell party for them and gifts, including a gold-headed cane for Mr. Ichard. “Those who know enough English to study Science and Health and have already done a little healing have been left to continue the work. This is enough to show what might be accomplished.”

The two-day stay in Manila included a Thanksgiving dinner (two weeks early) with Mrs. Babcock and a sightseeing trip around the city. They visited the old city, within the walls, where Mrs. Knapp noticed the dress of the women, “with skirts cut in old long-trained Spanish fashion, and thin colored fabrics stiffly puffed out in sleeves and neck.” . . . “We visited Captain and Mrs. Wieland’s most commodious home built on the old wall of Manila, with old Spanish cannon mounted on the wall. . . . We then had a drive out to a country suburb of native dwellings, all palm-thatched and on stilts — and finally made for the *Tenyo Maru* for one o’clock lunch.”

Upon leaving Manila Mr. Knapp wrote this to his brother Ralph:

November 29, 1918

Sunday we had services aboard and we enjoyed the sermon by Dr. Henderson, a medical missionary to Burma. . . . After the service I was speaking to him of some points in his sermon, and we were on the deck leaning over the rail, exchanging our views, when the boat began to make a sharp circle. Whereat we made inquiry, only to learn that a Chinaman had jumped overboard. The poor fellow disappeared and was never after heard of. The chief lament of his brother was that he had some good money in his pocket. A Chinaman's life is considered to be worth very little out here, and the boat soon continued its course.

A two-day voyage took the Knapps to Hong Kong. Here they were lodged

in a large, lofty and dim room, whose redeeming feature is a balcony overlooking a main city street. This balcony is as good as a box at the opera bouffe. Such sights as we see — Coolies being paid twenty cents (HK) for a hard day's labor; mandarins riding by in rickshaws in rich silks; the water cart drawn by two oxen, and the driver's foot on the pedal releasing the water; a funeral with loudly wailing "mourners" . . . and across in the balcony opposite an English diamond merchant selling his wares to wealthy American, English and Chinese customers! (Mr. Knapp's diary, November 18, 1918)

The Hong Kong lecture was given in the Theatre Royal on Tuesday, November 19 at 5:30, "a much better hour for lectures and midweek testimonial meetings than the evening due to the lateness of the dinner hour all through the Orient." Everything connected with the lecture was much improved over what it had been six years before. Mr. Knapp recalled in his diary:

At that time an English colonel rushed into a newspaper controversy about Christian Science as soon as the lecture was announced. He had an article denouncing the subject in every issue of the paper, to which replies were made by Mr. Richardson, until the controversy grew so personal that Mr. Richardson asked

the editor to close his columns to the subject. The day of the lecture the rain came down in torrents and the colonel was present with a few others. The mental atmosphere was anything but pleasant, and three times the colonel tried to rise and interrupt the lecturer and each time he was pulled down by the Governor's Secretary who sat next to him. From that time no newspaper controversy has occurred nor any open antagonism been experienced by the Scientists.

This time the weather was fine, the proper preparations had been made, and the atmosphere was good. Among those who attended were several army and navy officers, a high government official, three Parsees, a Persian, a number of Chinese, as well as British and Americans. The introduction by Mr. E. F. Aucott made reference to recent stirring events in Europe, and this enabled Mr. Knapp to say something about how the Christian Science church had endeavored to help through War Relief and Camp Welfare work. This aroused a favorable feeling toward the lecture, and mention was made of it by the four English newspapers which gave the lecture coverage.

The only registered practitioner, Mrs. Richardson, was very busy, working for people all over the Orient. She had helped an influential Chinese, Sir Robert Hotung, whom England had knighted. He frequently asked for assistance at the time of important business conferences, and he carried *Science and Health* with him when he traveled. "He has already made some demonstrations of the power of Truth for himself, greatly to his encouragement."

Church attendance averaged only 25, but the members had a beautiful church building on the hillside overlooking the business district and were gradually retiring the small debt on it. It was built of white stone outside and marble inside, with four stained glass windows, the central one representing the healing of Jairus's daughter.

One day Mrs. Richardson took Mr. and Mrs. Knapp up to the Peak. This was accomplished on the steeply inclined railway which provided wonderful views of the harbor, dotted with islands. They had tea at the top and a rickshaw ride. Mrs. Richardson also took the Knapps for an auto ride around the island, as far as the road was finished, "beautiful blue water on one side and steep wooded hills on the other. A tiger had been killed there not long before; how he got onto the island no one knows."

Mr. Knapp's letter to Ralph Knapp, mentioned above, continues with a detailed account of a trip upriver from Hong Kong to Canton, including the then current danger of pirates. They faced no difficulty of this kind (although the boat preceding theirs did), but they did face the uncertainty of not being allowed to continue their voyage upriver because Mr. Knapp had not brought along their passports, having secured a police permit in Hong Kong to make this journey. They were allowed to land at Canton, finally, and when they returned to the Hong Kong "frontier" by train, "Fortunately the official to confront us . . . was the very same police Captain who had issued our permits at . . . headquarters. . . . Safe once more!"

Then the Canton visit in the pelting rain! Conveyed through the very narrow streets in sedan chairs carried by coolies, they visited first a carved ivory shop where they saw men carving ivory balls, several within an outer ball. Coached by their guide, Ah Kow, they secured for \$80 (HK) a carved mirror, hair brush, some brooches and buttons for which the proprietor was asking \$180. Mr. Knapp expressed his dislike of shopping, "for above all things I do not like to be deceived or taken advantage of, and unless one enters right into the game and employs the methods of the game, a Chinaman will skin the eye teeth of one before he can say Jack Robinson."

A three-day voyage, from noon November 27, to noon of the 30th, on the *Tenyo Maru* conveyed the travelers to Shanghai. As they steamed out of Hong Kong "the shores of Asia looked wonderful, peaked and topped like bells and pagodas — as Asia's shores should be." Although the trip through the Yellow Sea was rough, the Knapps did not mind. They were among the few who went to the beautifully decorated dining room for a regular Thanksgiving dinner. "We had our special service at the usual time in our cabin and it was a fine lesson. Then to have turkey, cranberry sauce, oranges, nuts, raisins, pumpkin pie, puddings and so on, made the event actually real." They spent the rest of the day writing "grateful" letters.

A tender put them ashore at Shanghai after a very long trip up the Yangtze, a wide, muddy, swiftly flowing river. Again, friends were handy to meet and take them to the hotel, the Palace, where they had a large room with a fireplace. The open fire was very welcome as it rained for three weeks and the room faced the gloomy north. For the last two and a half weeks of their stay, the Knapps were able to enjoy a steam-heated suite on the front of the hotel.

In a letter of reminiscences written in 1966, one of Mr. Knapp's students, Mrs. Dorothy Hughes (whose husband Rowland was to become Director of the Budget of the United States), recollected:

As a girl I lived in Shanghai, China, with my family, and had just returned from Switzerland, where I had gone with friends who offered me the chance to study music, and found that someone had placed the textbook in our home. I started reading and have never laid it down, receiving my first healing from the book, not knowing about practitioners. Two years later a young man who had just completed his training in London was assigned to Shanghai, a member of The Mother Church and a branch church, being at 16 a charter member of Asbury Park, New Jersey. A year later we were married. . . .

Mr. and Mrs. Knapp came to Shanghai on his round the world lecture tour, lecturing in our Opera House, December 4, 1918. We were married Dec. 5 and held over our honeymoon to attend Wednesday church meeting. Mr. and Mrs. Knapp were both there and both testified. We returned in two weeks and found them still waiting for the shipping strike to be solved. We were a small group and they were so generous with their time. Their love was so apparent as well as understanding that I shall never forget those three first weeks acquainting us with genuine operative Christian Science.

The lecture, delivered on Tuesday evening at 9:15 in the principal theater of Shanghai, was, in Eloise's opinion, "masterly." The audience of 200 included a goodly number of Chinese and Japanese, and many members of the international settlement. Two editors of English papers attended; the coverage in the English press was good, one paper publishing the lecture in full. The lecture, spoken and written, stirred the atmosphere to the extent that Mr. Knapp received several letters of gratitude and several others, anonymous, which leveled questions and comments at the lecturer through the columns of the leading English newspaper. Mr. Knapp answered them all in one general, comprehensive article which was published on December 6 in the *North China Daily News*:

Sir—Some questions and comments about Christian Science have been addressed to me by a certain anonymous contributor in your issue of December 5. His conclusions could not possibly be entertained by one at all familiar with the subject. I assume, therefore, that the nameless critic feels a certain incredulity about Christian healing, and sincerely desires to know whether Christian Science is at all practical in the case of a certain class of patients which he mentions. To that I answer in the affirmative, and in proof of this I invite him to read the published testimonials of such healing as is found in the Christian Science periodicals. They may be secured at the Christian Science Reading Room, 21 Nanking Road, where a librarian is in attendance. The testimonials referred to are duly authenticated with a thoroughness acceptable to a court of law, before they are admitted to publication.

Christian Science is an infinite subject, for it deals with the infinity of God, man and the universe. It is stated on page 17 of our Church Manual that the purpose of the organizers of this Church was "To organize a church designed to commemorate the word and works of our Master, which should reinstate primitive Christianity and its lost element of healing." Christian Science therefore presents the Christianity of Christ Jesus in its wholeness, and a criticism of Christian Science would apply equally to the ministry of the early Christian Church. Our great Master healed sickness and sin by one and the same prayer, even as it is done today in Christian Science. Such healing included all manner of diseases, organic and functional, acute and chronic, and it is quite impossible to separate the moral from the physical healing; for the same prayer which heals a man physically will necessarily heal him at the same time morally. God, being the only power, expresses the nature of His power in physical regeneration and mental purification. As the scripture so truly says, "This is life eternal, that they might know Thee, the only true God and Jesus Christ whom thou has sent."

I am, etc.

BLISS KNAPP

After publishing this letter, the editor stated in a brief editorial that, inasmuch as the Christian Scientists undoubtedly did not wish to have any

newspaper controversy over the subject and as numerous letters were still coming to him which were intended to invite such controversy, he had decided to close the columns of his paper to discussion of this subject. Mr. Knapp learned that several readers of the paper did avail themselves of the opportunity of visiting the Reading Room. Mr. Knapp also learned that in the sturdy Christian Science Society, of about 50 attendants, there were some who had turned from drugs and found their healing and reformation. The Society met in the Masonic Building and were saving funds for a building of their own. Mr. Knapp felt that the Cause was in a more flourishing state here than in any other Japanese or Chinese city that he had visited.

The Knapps' principal personal problem during their stay in Shanghai was to find passage to South Africa. They worked hard on this; Mr. Knapp referred to it twice in his letters as “the supreme effort.” War censorship had forbidden the advance reporting of any sailings; with the signing of the Armistice, the N.Y.K. Line, which was the only one with through sailings to South Africa, canceled all those, and so the Knapps had to begin all over again to secure accommodations. Finally, after working through one shipping line after another, the day before Christmas they were assigned definite space on the *Dikwara*, a P. & O. liner, as far as Colombo, to sail on January 7. They had thought of a side trip to Peking, but the journey took two days in each direction and they felt that the time was too short for so long a distance.

Mrs. Knapp's diary entries for Shanghai are very full. The Knapps enjoyed the association of a number of working Christian Scientists: Miss Florence Fobes, Miss Floy Cooley, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Shengle, and Mr. and Mrs. Rowland Hughes (who later went through Primary class with Mr. Knapp). There were numerous “tiffin” (luncheon) and dinner parties during the five and a half weeks. One of these dinners, on Christmas Eve, was held at the house of a couple from Berkeley named Sawyer; there was a tree, and pumpkin pie and much merriment — after which “B. talked C.S. till late when we went home in rickshaws in the rain!”

“We spent a quiet Christmas Day, B. and I opening our stockings in the morning” (Eloise found in hers a camera) . . . “and then working in C.S. and writing until time for Wed. meeting — 6 p.m. — when we both spoke, as we always did. All spoke so gratefully to us of our testimonies. . . . We helped to protect the *effect* of the lecture from the malice which desired to destroy it, and the effect of that work no man can estimate.”

For the very good reason that no one today can have exactly this type

of experience in China, the following record from Mrs. Knapp's diary is included:

I went several times to Laou Kai Fook's wonderful silk store and bought several dress lengths of fascinating colors, patterns and fabrics.

Then, the very last afternoon we were in Shanghai, Mr. Fobes and I went to a porcelain dealer on Bubbling Well Road, near Mr. Fobes' house; and he in turn took us in Mr. Fobes' auto to Frenchtown. It was 5:20 . . . and dark, and we turned up one byway into another narrow street, and there we stopped by a row of blank-walled houses, with just a door and some carefully barred windows. Our guide pulled a bell and the big door opened and disclosed a large courtyard with the house built up three stories around it, balconies facing the court. On one I saw a woman standing; a dog barked; some clothes were hung to dry on another, and through the windows of the various rooms I saw rows and rows of fine vases of all colors. We were ushered into one room by 3 or 4 retainers, but told the master was not yet home.

Here was a wonderful collection of Peacock Blue ware — a wonderful, bright glaze — white vases, blue and white, some large, many small and very fine. Then we were shown upstairs where the "sang-de-boeufs" were — one fine tall bottle-necked vase I selected at once, also a Celadon beaker-shaped vase, high and with a lovely flower pattern under the soft, gray-green glaze.

While we were looking at this room-full of large and very choice vases, the master arrived, a big, fat Chinaman of about 45 years, with satin robe, black satin jacket and fur cap, a large jade ring on his finger, and such a magnetic personality, with his flashing black eyes, which he rolled with effect, and his unctuous voice and persuasive laugh. Lo and behold, he recognized Mr. Fobes as being a patron of his former master or porcelain firm he had been with, and immediately knew Mr. Fobes was a connoisseur, and that *one price* only should be quoted. Accordingly he gave us amazingly low prices on what we bought, and showed us in through several rooms to the sanctum, evidently — his bed-chamber, with canopied bed on one side, opium bed and pipes on the other and a fire brightly glowing in the fireplace. Here were several cabinets of choicest carved jade — *beautiful* cups and incense burners all carved so

beautifully — also very old Celadon plates, bowls and vases — everything in the room as to ornaments, of jade or Celadon shade.

By this time, I felt far away and far within that strange Chinese home and shop surrounded with these heathen and bargaining Chinese, and with just a frail, old gentleman to protect me. So I said I wasn't much interested in jade and felt we must be going. I decided on the two tall vases, the lovely rose and Celadon, and we bowed ourselves out. Our guide's nose was quite out of joint, for the merchant, whose prices he had prepared us for by telling us they would be “very dear,” had given Mr. Fobes such good prices (and no bargaining nor hypnotic mentality!) that the guide got a small commission. However, I bought a beautiful red vase of him and asked Mr. Fobes to buy me a tall lovely Peacock Blue vase of the big merchant, it was such an opportunity. It was a demonstration of the way opening when I didn't push, for I had given up all hopes of getting to any porcelain shops. B. didn't want to go and none of the Scientists seemed to know, and we were so busy mentally — but this day the way opened, and thanks to Mr. Fobes, I had a most interesting and *harmless* opportunity.

Mrs. Knapp summarized the stay in Shanghai as follows:

So, after all we “waded through” mentally, we *did* get through, and really enjoyed Shanghai after all.

In another place she said the time there was “profitable and victorious.” “Victorious” refers to their finally securing, after five weeks' wait, passages to India on the Peninsula and Orient ship *Dikwara*.

The long, long journey, halfway around the earth, from Shanghai to Durban, South Africa, was by way of Hong Kong, Singapore, and Colombo, Ceylon. The first leg, to Hong Kong, absorbed three days, January 7 to 10, 1919. The two-day layover gave the Knapps an opportunity to do some more sightseeing, this time under the sponsorship of an official of Jardine, Matheson Company, Ltd., Mr. D.G.M. Bernard, who owned a spacious house overlooking the harbor. Now that Mrs. Knapp had a camera, she could make visual as well as word-pictures, and her diary from this point is studded with snapshots. Mr. Bernard owned a private launch in which he conveyed the Knapps to and from the shabby old S.S. *Dikwara*.

Next stop was Singapore, a pleasant five-day sail. As always, the Knapps were met by Scientists, who conducted them to the famous Raffles Hotel. Mrs. Knapp's description is graphic: "We had a front open porch room, then a bedroom with huge central electric fan and two closely netted beds with 'leg pillows' — and behind that a wash-room, and then the bathroom . . . no flush closets nor plumbing. Our bath was to stand *outside* a tub of cold water and pour it over ourselves by means of a dipper."

Singapore was, however, the most tropical place that Mrs. Knapp had ever seen, and the profusion of plant life, with its myriad colors, impressed her. She was impressed also with the people, men and women, "half naked, draped with skirts of scarlet or brilliant pink and green check, and white scarf thrown over one shoulder," walking down the avenues of tall palms — "the men with flowing long, curly hair and such black skins and fierce, aboriginal savage eyes."

As the stopover at Singapore was over the weekend, the Knapps attended the informal Christian Science service, held in a private home, with about 20 present. "Such a spirit of peace and consecration was there," observed Mrs. Knapp. Two families, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Stetson and Mr. and Mrs. Max Nathan, made the Knapps' weekend very pleasant.

An uneventful passage of five and a half days on the *Dilwara* was succeeded by a rather long stopover at Colombo, from January 26 to February 9. The stay was unexpectedly long. Upon arriving, the Knapps went immediately to the offices of Thomas Cook. The agent informed them that he had booked them on the *Umzumbi* (Natal Direct Line), to leave in a few days for Durban. The "few days" stretched to two weeks. Because of the uncertainty of the sailing, a projected side trip to Bombay was ruled out. They secured a room at the Galle Face Hotel, spacious and airy, with outside corridors. The dining room terrace, facing the Indian Ocean, provided the Knapps with hours of ship-watching. From their room windows they could watch the gatherings of natives, all Mohammedans, at dusk, "men and women, in bullock carts, fine carriages, rickshaws, and afoot . . . one night a Mohammedan spread down his prayer-rug and went through all the kneeling and bowing his head to the carpet which their prayer entails."

They saw no Scientists the length or breadth of Ceylon, but they did meet the American consul who seemed especially glad to have the *Monitor* for his files.

On the morning of January 30, the Knapps left for Kandy by a 6:45 train. They had a compartment all to themselves, a delicious hot breakfast of eggs, chicken, fish and cold meat, and a five-hour ride through plains, precipitous mountains, and valleys in which the natives had planted their rice on crescent shaped terraces. One of the steep mountains was surmounted by a castle where in former times the king of Kandy had lived. Mrs. Knapp wrote: "We got an idea of the rank growth and steepness of Ceylon we could not have had otherwise."

Their rooms at the Queen's Hotel at Kandy looked out over the village square at the Buddhist Temple of the "Tooth" one block away. Rickshaw rides around the nearby lake and to the famous botanical gardens at Peridenya provided them with many exotic sights. Again Mrs. Knapp was taken with the colors:

We saw a row of Bombay trees, with leaves like a locust only thicker and shinier, with blossoms pendant as if three or four Birds of Paradise had been strung together — and of a delicious Begonia-shade of pink. I have never seen such a tree. Another tall tree had bark and size of a sycamore, no leaves but wine-red blossoms like hollyhock blossoms, and under the tree was a carpet of these red blossoms. Another large tree, like a full-grown Eastern elm, had clusters of upright scarlet blossoms the size and shape of a Canterbury bell . . . We saw nutmeg trees, with the round fruit pendant and inside the husk a nut; clove trees, cocaine bush, the deadly Upas tree, and scores of others . . . We saw the chocolate tree, with new leaves a dark purple color and purple pods the size of a cucumber; inside, large white beans which when dried are chocolate color.

After an hour in the gardens, the Knapps took the rickshaws again and returned to the hotel by way of the market, where Mrs. Knapp bought a breadfruit and had it cooked. They also saw an old man making a book on a narrow roll of palm fiber and with a stylus. Later in the day, on another rickshaw jaunt, this time up a steep hillside, through thick jungle, they came across a neat native thatched hut before which sat a pretty Singalese girl making lace; Mrs. Knapp immediately stopped and bought some. Then, by the bank of a large river, they saw twelve elephants being scrubbed down by their mahouts. Snapshots of these were irresistible.

The following day, February 1, another train ride took them to Eliya, a cool resort 6,000 feet above sea level. Here they spent five noting, as always, the plant life in its myriad forms — tea bushes, rubber trees, cannas, heliotrope. Ceylon being famous for sapphires, they bought several unset stones as well as some other jewelry in the shop of an old Buddhist named De Silva, who, Mrs. Knapp said, used no hypnotism and seemed really honest. A night's train ride returned them to Colombo where they spent two days writing letters and buying a few things for the long voyage to Durban.

Sunday afternoon they were taken out to the S.S. *Umzumbi* in an open boat. The *Umzumbi*, despite its name, was "a fine, steady little ship," captained by a "charming gentleman," R. E. Keen. Twelve passengers, all pleasant, contributed to the delights of this two-week period at sea. "We are so close to the water on a small ship and ride so merrily along. I feel so carefree, vigorous and full of spirits! Boats are wonderful places for leaving dull care and social responsibilities behind. Many times in the future I know I shall remember the glorious freedom of the deck on a blue and gold day." Rain or shine, they sat day after day on the deck in the wicker chairs which they had bought in Hong Kong. Flying fishes skimming over the sapphire-blue water, porpoises playing about the bow, and an occasional coral isle appearing in the near distance provided diversion. One early morning a silver path of the full moon stretched away from one side of the ship while an orange-gold avenue led off to the rising sun on the other side. One night Captain Keen led them up to the bridge to point out the Southern Cross.

Durban, the Knapps' next port of call, is built on a crescent of hills surrounding the harbor; as the ship approached shore they looked up at the Berea, a wooded hillside where most of the residences were then located. They were met by the local lecture committee, Mr. James Downing, who conducted them to the Marine Hotel, right at the water's edge, looking out over the bay, dotted with sailing yachts. Immediately the Knapps began to meet the church members, who took them for rides along the shore and up through the rolling green hills to Zululand. In describing Durban, Mrs. Knapp wrote: "The town is chiefly West Street, not very attractive, but the rickshaw Zulus, dressed in gay cotton strips, sewn together, and in wonderful head-dresses of oxen horns, turkey or ostrich feathers, skins of animals, bangles of copper or nickel wire, and their legs painted to represent white socks, made a most effective and amusing appearance."

Attending the Wednesday evening meeting of the church, the Knapps were impressed with the stability and mental alertness of the congregation.

The lecture on Monday evening, March 3, at the Theatre Royal, brought out an audience of 650, including the Captain of the *Umzumbi*, who had promised that he would be present. Mr. Knapp thought the audience so attentive that lecturing was like speaking to a small group in a drawing room. The lecture had been well advertised, even on the street cars, and the newspapers were friendly in their reports. Many of the Scientists asked for private conferences with the Knapps: from these they gathered that much good healing work was being done in Durban, despite a divided sense of church government. The cooperation of all Scientists in support of the lecture, however, pointed to a healing of the breach between the church and the small splinter society.

A letter received after the Knapps arrived home reported positive results:

197 Lambert Road
Durban
March 10, 1919

My dear Mrs. Knapp:

We cannot express in words how grateful we are to you and Mr. Knapp for all your generosity and loving kindness: I have never known such activity after a lecture. One of our most popular doctors in Durban was there. I wonder what he thought!

A doctor's wife who was there came to me for treatment the next morning, her husband is in France: she agreed with all Mr. Knapp said but was worried as to what her husband might think. I told her that in the proportion that her love deepened her wisdom would do likewise.

A man who has been a thorn in the flesh here for some time (taking offense and refusing to meet the Board so as to become a member, thinking the Board should be satisfied with him without question etc.) went to the man he had been most up against and said, "This lecture has shown me that *I* am the one who is wrong. I have been mesmerized into thinking every one else was wrong, and all the time it was myself." This seems to us (knowing him!) a tremendous thing. If you had seen the happy look on his face compared with the flat, cold-suet-pudding look he has worn for

years, you and Mr. Knapp would have been *very* glad.

Another who is a member has been trailing off, and thinking he will give up this and that because he has not time, and whose interest has been flagging, seems to have got his second wind and is full of interest and enthusiasm. As a matter of fact it was Mr. D. (between ourselves) and he told me that when he walked into the Marine Hotel to fetch Mrs. D., he looked into Mr. Knapp's face and his first feeling was, "Let us alone, what have we to do with thee?" And after that he was so lifted up!

A well known Durban man who went to take his wife rang up and asked if I would see him as he had been very interested in the lecture and wanted to know more (his wife is a beginner).

I asked about ten of our most active workers up on Saturday evening and we told them all we could remember of what you had both said, particularly church building. I have thought a lot about those forty students and the \$1000 and I can see that if one sees the ideal in building, he must prove it by breaking down limitation in one's own consciousness first. . . .

We all send our dear love and most grateful thanks to you both.

Yours very sincerely,
Isabel Hillier

Two days later the Knapps were on their way to Pietermaritzburg. It was a pleasant train journey; as they climbed upward through the rolling hills covered with wattles or acacia, they could look back at Durban, nestled between the hills at the ocean's edge.

Mr. Knapp wrote:

Pietermaritzburg is known hereabouts as Sleepy Hollow, because it is so descriptive of local conditions. The lecture committee, Mr. Shippey, who met us on arrival, is not, however, at all sleepy. He soon began to send us all the chronic invalids he numbered among his acquaintances so that we could tell them exactly how to get well. He makes a good advance agent for a lecture committee, and I would even endorse his candidacy as town crier. A prepaid telegram came to me here bringing the following message: "Vocal solo would make your lecture more fascinating.

Shall I come?" I have wondered if that too might not be one of the lecture committee's friends.

Mr. Knapp's lecture tour in South Africa had been handled by a central lecture committee, Mr. Philip H. Simpson, in Pretoria. He had arranged the itinerary so that the Knapps could attend a Wednesday evening meeting in each of the churches for which Mr. Knapp would lecture. Both Mr. and Mrs. Knapp always spoke and so contributed as much as they could of their background and knowledge of Science in the short time they had in each place.

The Pietermaritzburg lecture was given in the supper room of the Town Hall on the sixth of March. The First Reader, Miss Myrtle E. Foss, introduced Mr. Knapp "in a very pleasing manner." An audience of 260 poured in, the largest ever gathered in that city to hear a lecture on Christian Science. Many came in from their farms, many who often could not attend services on account of the distances. Others who attended were the chief magistrate and his wife, the matron of the hospital, the wives of several physicians, and several prominent business men. "B. lectured splendidly," Mrs. Knapp wrote, "and a local editor, who is interested in C.S., had two articles on C.S. for two days following." This editor interested Mr. Knapp. A temperamental fellow, he was brooding over the consequences to himself on the return of his wife from a vacation in England. "As a short cut to sobriety and a more rigid economy before his wife learns the true state of his exchequer, he has of late become a model Christian Scientist, lifting his voice in the testimonial meeting and writing editorially for our benefit." Seriously, the editorials were of real service in getting the lecture before the public "in an attractive and newsy manner."

Mrs. Knapp's reactions to the trip from Pietermaritzburg to Johannesburg were less than enthusiastic. "The train accommodations are very poor, bugs ate us at night, food very poor; rolling country but bare and monotonous, though we passed through Ladysmith and Majuba Hill, both historic." The trip was twenty-four hours long. A delegation for the church saw the Knapps to their hotel, the Carlton. Mr. Knapp takes up the story:

We reached Johannesburg on March 11th, and the lecture was set for the 14th. From the time of our arrival, we began to hear how different members of the church were being captured by spiritualism, by using the decoy of a son lost in the war. The husband of

a member of the lecture committee, and one who had held many prominent offices in the church, had taken up spiritualism actively, following the death of their son, and was holding seances in their home and claiming to hold communications with Mrs. Eddy, Col. Fell, and others. The most active practitioner there lost her son very recently under circumstances which pointed directly to the workings of spiritualism, and the practitioner employed on the case was attending seances at the time she was treating the boy. Many other cases were related which enabled me to know the necessity of dealing with that problem from the lecture platform in addition to what might be accomplished privately . . .

To overbalance all this, the church dedicated its new and beautiful church building last Thanksgiving day, the attendance and membership have greatly increased, a practitioner whose card is advertised in the *Journal* has been expelled from membership without the threatened split or following after a personality, and a very active and thorough distribution committee is at work. Furthermore, 1250 people attended the lecture in the Town Hall, the largest attendance they ever had at a lecture on Christian Science.

The belief of echo was so great in the hall that it kept many from hearing every word of the lecture, and all were under more or less of a strain to catch all that was said. However, I went right after the conditions I had heard of, without any great necessity of changing the lecture very much, and it so electrified the audience and held their attention that not over half a dozen people left during the entire course of the lecture. I entertained the conviction that the error met its death blow there, and many cases of healing were reported as having occurred at the lecture, among them several cases of deafness.

The lecture was so well received, and those who did not hear it all but got the conviction of the spirit of it, were so eager to hear it again, that the Board asked me to repeat the lecture the following Sunday, which was two days later. I advised the necessity of proper metaphysical preparation, and recommended the postponement of it another week, which was done. Then I invited the church officers to our hotel where I covered the work in conference with them so necessary to complete the work begun at the first lecture,

and prepared the way for the second lecture. The way was opened there for the Readers to handle the press reports for the second lecture, and the necessary metaphysical work was so evident to them that it goes without saying they succeeded admirably in winning the press to their view and all the papers gave good reports of the lecture.

The second lecture was given in a smaller hall which was well filled. The day was a beautiful Sunday afternoon, and everything seemed to be as it should be — just a most loving and cordial response to the message of Christian Science told in simplicity and quietness. The President of the church, Mr. Cheesman, a master in one of the public schools, gave a good introduction. Spiritualism was again referred to in the lecture and I am sure the Scientists were awakened, and what is even better still were glad of the awakening. Thus I was able to leave Johannesburg with a satisfied sense of God’s goodness in providing the means through lecture work of healing that field.

On the Sunday following the first lecture, a *Monitor* meeting was announced to be held after the evening service. By invitation, I addressed the church members, after preliminary reports had been given to all who cared to remain after the service. Nearly all the members remained to hear how the Christ, Truth, operates through every column of the *Monitor*, and how its healing ministry is reaching into every human problem. They all seemed grateful for gaining the broader metaphysical meaning of the *Monitor*. . . .

The Knapps were so busy in Johannesburg that there was not much opportunity for sightseeing. Their one outing was a visit to the Crown Gold Mine. And they had only one evening to themselves.

Their next stop was the Grand Hotel in Pretoria, to which they moved on March 18. The situation in Pretoria proved a bit trying because of the Dutch (Boer) opposition to the English which was reflected even in the work of the Christian Science Society. The Dutch and British were both represented on the board of the Society; Christian Science had proved a harmonizing force in composing their differences. One of the members of the board was the granddaughter of the late President Kruger, a large, fine-looking woman “with a masterful way of presenting her Dutch views and grievances against the British.” Her accounts of the cruel treatment the

British inflicted upon the women and children in the concentration camps during the Boer war gave the Knapps a new insight into the South African problem. Her husband, Col. Bredell, was head of the Pretoria police. Both had had healings and were eager to get all they could of Christian Science.

The leading practitioner, Mrs. C. M. Joubert, of French Huguenot background, had had a striking healing. When six months pregnant, she contracted flu (this was during the 1918 epidemic). She was taken ill at 9:30 one evening and experienced an hour of excruciating pain. The midwife who was called indicated that the babe was dead of the fever and in a sitting position so that the delivery would be painful. Then came to Mrs. Joubert the passage from *Science and Health* on page 393:21: "Your body would suffer no more from tension or wounds than the trunk of a tree which you gash or the electric wire which you stretch, were it not for mortal mind." She thought, "Yes, this is only a stretching process," — and in half an hour the baby was born alive, though the nurse had said it couldn't come for twelve to fifteen hours! Mrs. Joubert immediately arose, took a bath, had a good night's rest, and was at church the next morning. Mrs. Knapp noted that she was enjoying motherhood greatly. Mr. and Mrs. Joubert gave the Knapps a fur robe made of jackals' and wild cats' skins.

Although the little Society, with an average congregation of fifty, produced an audience ten times that number for the lecture on the twentieth of March, there were some unfortunate aspects about the lecture which made Mr. Knapp feel that the metaphysical preparation had not been adequate. For one thing, the president of the Society, Mr. Belairs, gave a wretched introduction. He emphasized the fact that, though sweet to the taste, the study of *Science and Health* was bitter in the digestion. "Then," according to Mr. Knapp, "he essayed in the most doleful and forlorn manner to picture how much alone in the world our dear Leader was." Mr. Knapp added, "Well, really, it was like throwing a wet blanket over the audience and not for the first twenty minutes did they get entirely out of the gloom. It was the least receptive audience I have met in South Africa." The newspapers, however, gave good reports; a one-column resume of the lecture was printed in Afrikaans. The evening following the lecture the Knapps invited the officers and workers in the Society to their sitting room in the hotel and talked to them until 11:30.

Mrs. Bredell and her brother, Mr. Eloff, took the Knapps to the Premier Diamond Mine, about 25 miles north of Pretoria. The roads were

muddy and Mr. Eloff drove very fast but the sights they saw made it a "glorious day." They also saw President Kruger's home and the church (Dopper) across the street where he often preached. They noted the long, low houses of Pretoria, surrounded by gardens. They visited the zoo and the South African Union Buildings, set on a high hill and affording an expansive view of the city below and its surrounding hills. The building was designed by an architect named Baker, whose education in art had been provided by Cecil Rhodes. Baker also designed the Rhodes Memorial in Cape Town.

The week from March 25 to 31 was devoted to Port Elizabeth, a small seaport town, two long days distant from Pretoria. The Scientists in the latter city had put up for the Knapps an elegant picnic basket which kept them in goodies for the whole trip, so that they didn't have to go to the dining car even once. Mrs. Knapp spent part of the time on the train using the portable typewriter to write letters of thanks. There were frequent stops at small towns with Dutch names, but it was warm and dusty and the travelers remained in the train, reading *Monitors*. Bunton's Grand Hotel in Port Elizabeth reminded Mrs. Knapp of Italy because of its courtyard containing high flowering hibiscus shrubs. The dining room, however, was pure Africa, decorated with the mounted heads of many wild animals. Their table looked out at the lighthouse beside which was a perfect little stone pyramid in memory of Elizabeth Donkin erected by a heartbroken husband one hundred years before for his twenty-two-year-old bride. Mrs. Knapp felt that the husband's grief still seemed poignant. The gardens of the houses which their hotel window overlooked reminded Mrs. Knapp of Nantucket.

The church services were held in a hall right across the block from the hotel. The Knapps had not been in Port Elizabeth long before they discovered that negative influences had opposed the growth of the Christian Science Society. One of the male practitioners had had some experience with hypnotism before coming into Science, and he still had not released some of its dominating features. Good Science work was going on, however, so that the attendance at services, which had dwindled from 75 to 5, was now back at about 40.

About 350 people gathered in the Town Hall to hear the lecture on March 27, and although Mr. Knapp had been warned that two individuals had threatened to interrupt him with questions, nothing of that sort happened. The lecture was published in full in the English newspaper and

in a short translation in the Dutch paper.

The Knapps left Port Elizabeth with a sense that the Society with its earnest workers, who needed only to be awakened to the outside influences which were trying to cause dissensions among them, had a future of steady and healthy growth.

Some of the finest scenery in South Africa lay between Port Elizabeth and Cape Town, where the Knapps arrived at noon on Wednesday, April 2. Immediately upon arrival, Mr. Knapp, with some of those who were at the train to meet them, went directly to Cook's Travel to find out about passage home. A cable which Mr. Knapp had sent from Shanghai had not been retransmitted from Colombo, and nothing had been done. Eight thousand applicants had their names on file with the shipping companies. Mr. Knapp got busy metaphysically. An unexpected offer of help came from Sir Thomas Watt, Minister of the Interior, who had entire control of shipping for Government purposes. Mr. and Mrs. Watt invited the Knapps to luncheon at the Parliament House. Among other guests were the Acting Prime Minister, Hon. F. S. Malan, who confessed his interest in Christian Science and began to ask searching questions of Mr. Knapp. The latter was suspicious that Mr. Malan had read a popular book by a man named Peabody, on hypnotism, but had not been convinced of its veracity. Sir Thomas Watt professed no interest in Science but enquired particularly about the Knapps' prospects for getting home. He volunteered to help all he could. It was through another channel, however, that passage was finally secured.

Meanwhile, there was a lecture to be delivered. It was held in the Town Hall on April 4, two days after the Knapps' arrival. "B. did splendidly." The audience of 900 was gratifyingly receptive, despite a wind that howled around the building — but subsided after the lecture got under way. The introduction was made by the President of the church, Mr. Bakker; the afternoon paper gave a one-column report and the leading Dutch paper a short translation. One newspaper editor, Sir Maitland Park, who had the year before bitterly attacked Christian Science, refused to publish any portion of the lecture. But the controversy of the previous year had served to awaken public interest in Science so that Mr. Knapp's lecture was better attended than usual and was given the closest attention throughout.

Cape Town, according to Mr. Knapp's record, had at this time the largest and most active Christian Science group in South Africa. The hall in which the services were being held had become so crowded that the

church had acquired a lot and was about to begin building. There were two teachers of Christian Science in the city, one of whom, Mrs. Violet Hay, was an old friend of Mr. Knapp's. Her husband, Commander the Honourable Sereld Hay, was the youngest son of the Earl of Erroll. The Hays were among the twenty earnest workers whom Mr. Knapp invited to the hotel sitting room for a talk on church building.

As the lecture was over early in their stay, the Knapps had a real opportunity to see the beauties of the area, and the Scientists took advantage of being with the workers from headquarters in Boston. The Hays had the Knapps to lunch at their new home, "Lincarty," on a hill with a wonderful view, after which they took the Knapps on a drive to the Rhodes Monument, a Doric portico with many granite columns and eight bronze crouching lions keeping watch on the many steps leading up to the monument. Here a bronze bust of Cecil Rhodes gazed out over the whole continent of Africa from its southern extremity, with the Indian Ocean on one side and the mighty Atlantic on the other.

On another day, there was lunch with Mr. and Mrs. Wilkes, followed by a trip to the Botanical Gardens, under Table Mountain. They drove to a height from which they could look out to the Cape of Good Hope itself. They went out to the very end of the Cape on still another drive with another family. Here, where a lighthouse is located on the top of a steep cliff, a point of land projects beyond the light and it was at Magellan's Point that the Knapps had their picture taken, looking back at Africa.

Two weeks to the day after the lecture, that is, on April 18, the Knapps, through the kindness of the Immigration Officer, Mr. R.P.H. Cochran, secured the cabin of the second officer of a cargo ship, the *City of Agra*, bound for London. Mr. Knapp's account follows:

The distribution committee of The Mother Church had placed on this boat a copy of Miss Wilbur's life of Mrs. Eddy. The Captain read it, and declared as a result that he just loved Mrs. Eddy, and when he knew we were Christian Scientists, he wanted us to take the trip home with him so he could talk Christian Science and learn more about it. Some opposition of the Agents was swept aside and we left that evening for London. After a pleasant journey, we reached London the 13th of May, spent a week there and sailed for New York on the S.S. *Rotterdam* the 21st of May. We landed in New York the 31st, and reached Boston giving thanks for the

successful termination of a most satisfactory world tour.

The tour had not been without its moments of difficulty and even sadness. Four days before leaving Cape Town, Mr. Knapp received this cable from his brother Ralph: "Daphne passed quietly away." Perhaps this eventuality was not entirely unexpected. Daphne's newsy letters of January 24 and February 22 indicated that her housekeeper and nurse, Mrs. Mosher, was taking good care of her, and that she, Daphne, was finding more comfort in her Bible and Christian Science books than ever before. Her letters did, however, show an active interest in all that was going on in Boston, the return of President Wilson from Europe, the return of the troop transports, the Science lectures delivered in The Mother Church. Also, her poignant conclusion to the second letter or "visit" was: "Our next will be face to face."

From Mr. Charles W. Tennant in London, on the way home, the Knapps learned of what Mr. Knapp called "the doings in Boston." This was a reference to the litigation between the Trustees and the Board of Directors of The Mother Church, really a test of the legal integrity of the *Church Manual*. "The house cleaning will evidently leave things in a much better condition and whatever will not stand the light of day should not be supported," wrote Mr. Knapp to his brother Ralph. "The Truth will stand any test needful and there is no fear." These were prophetic words, delivered with the confidence born of spiritual sense and experience.

With the conclusion of the world tour, the Knapps turned their attention to the wholehearted support of their church during the most difficult days it had known since its founding.