

Dear Wesley, Now that the heartache can be controlled I will try to answer yours of Jan. 13, and 21st. I can only touch the highlights of course. Now for yours of the 13th. You are on the Prince's Highway 250 miles from Sydney, enjoying the pleasure of your beloved HYKE thru Australia, your travel tent, lamp for night letter-writing. We admire your wise precaution, in case of accident, those who found you would know exactly what to do. The Durham Methodist Church Pastor ought to have been your attorney to act for you, however, if such should happen, (WHICH WE PRAY WILL NOT) you have made very wise provision for emergency.

Buy all you are advised to buy by the oldtimers on field, if you don't use them you can easily sell such to other missionaries there. You mention being kept busy, yes, indeed, I had no time for afternoon teas, or tennis in West China, so I guess you will be asked to more than you can guess.

Nice trip you are having, the girls you met on the San Josef, cost you hunting to find them, I hope they did not give you the FROZEN MITT you got in 139... The Church, at Trafalgar, the Local Preacher, and his slip-up in doctrine was quite easy to do, you may forget, your own groundwork sometime, and say what you don't mean at all, beware!!! He was a nice fellow when you talked with?

If you sold the Panther profitably, it would be to your advantage, but I am too late with such a suggestion. We guess that it will be a long time before we get our next letter after you sail, you will land at your destination we think 21 days, after the 4th of Feb. will be the 28th. end of the month???. ~~Now for yours of 21st.~~ Evelyn was in pretty good shape, but very thin, stood the trip well, Eric is a good driver. Mrs Cohoe, is nicely housed just next door to Mr Kramer with Mrs Jeffrey very good kindly woman. Your list shows you are taking to the Solomons much more than your allotted cubic space on the SS Malaita, hope you won't be charged excess baggage. I have mailed my first letter to Barakomo Airfield yesterday, I will watch to send any surface mail to P.O. GIZO, Br. Sol. Isl. Protectorate. Fred will likely mail this letter, as I am not very well, snow and heavy wakkng, is too much, so Fred will take our mail as he can.

I don't know what kind of business Fred will go into, but if he opened a SERVICE STATION, there are some things of yours which would be very useful to him. Fred and His Wife would like a home with a wee garden etc, and Murray's children are growing up and may want more room than they have now. I trust you will find the work in the Solomons such as you can do, that you will like doing work for God there.

I felt sure that Revs Andrews & Gribble, were veterans, like Senator Ss here, but to be younger and more vigorous, they had COLD HANDS,

The 25th of Jan. was a poor birthday for your Mother, going to Catherine's funeral was a hard shock, we will feel it for a long time to come. Shakespeare among the garbage on the road was quite a FIND. Hope it is not too heavy, good reading. Wilford will likely be in Minneapolis to-day, and Douglas and his wife be on the long trip to Colorado, Betty & Murray would be on their way to Fredericton on the 26th. Evelyn and Eric, would get home to Ottawa on the night of the 26th. we sent Jay, a birthday card, he is 5yr old to-morrow. All the rest are well, and we are all shot with this grief, but "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning" Ps. 30:5. Now

I will close this letter, praying for you everyday, and every bit of the way. AsEver, Your Father.

William M. Leonard.

10 am, Sat 29th 1955

Dear Wesley, This morning - 2° here, calm and sunny, so the therm. may thaw out.

Quite a contrast to your 110-113. This delay in sailing may affect your pocket money, eh? E theridge replied to my letter telling him of Catherine's death on Jan 21st, he recalled many incidents in which he & Catherine were concerned, I don't know whether we'll get to church tomorrow, it is so cold, but likely we will, a couple of weeks ago Reg Jay did not come for us, so father walked and I stayed home. Mr Lumley said to father "you must not do that any more or I'll be real cross with you".

We have had so many letters and cards, send a nice letter from Sarah Bell Webster (Gloucester) she said "The sorrows of my girlhood friend are my sorrows" her sister a cripple for 20+ yrs, but new sympathy too - the crippled hands & feet, she can sew a little and crochet or "tatt" - her Aunt Sarah can crochet too, tho 88, both she and Eric are quite well. Eric grieves for Cath. too, she says Evelyn & Cath. are closer to having lived than with her thro their normal terms - P. Cath. looked beautiful and peaceful, flowers were many. The Inpls people of the church, sending whole prepared meals to the house Cath. said (probably her last words) "It is too bad to go away & leave such nice people".

Er. & Eric left here 8 a. m. wed. & reached home 5.30, distance 332 miles, so the distance reduced by short cuts and new bits of highway (See front page)



8/3/55

MR WESLEY W. LEONARD.

METHODIST MISSION.

BARAKOMO AIRFIELD.

VELLA LA VELLA.

BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS.

SECOND FOLD HERE - PLIEZ ENSUITE ICI

SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS - NOM ET ADRESSE DE L'ENVOYEUR

William M. Leonard.

Box 3.

DELHI.

ONTARIO.

CANADA.

NO ENCLOSURE PERMITTED - NE RIEN INSERER.

Mrs May & Betty & baby had a much
in drive to their business
it would I think take 2 days
to get to home with Ruth also
stayed at the manor place
at the west corner
Millersburg St.
It is very cold, the
first real winter
we have had, our
home warm but in
but cold under foot.
As soon as possible
to get plan should be
on the ocean now
for Canada
reaches in N.B.,
baby girl +
boys
and
on voyage
Happy Landings.
Mother

FIRST FOLD HERE - PLIEZ D'ABORD ICI

TO OPEN CUT HERE - POUR OUVRIRE, COUPEZ ICI

TO OPEN CUT HERE - POUR OUVRIRE, COUPEZ ICI