



Fig. 16. Manega, the old Mongol lady at Tsondol

### MARSCHALL'S RETURN

Early in the afternoon of November 3rd MARSCHALL made his appearance. Quiet and imperturbable as usual he came leading his riding-camel and asked in pure Swedish: »Can I get something to eat?» His request was immediately complied with, while a storm of questions showered down on him.

The distance to Mao-mu was 223 kilometers. He and the two students had taken nine days on the journey there and eight days for the return journey. They had lost one of their six camels. After 130 kilometers the wood had come to an end, and the last twenty-five kilometers had taken them through settlements, gardens and fields along the banks of the river. The little town of Mao-mu lies near the right bank of the Edsen-gol and is surrounded by a square wall with a side of about 200 meters and provided with gates to the west and the south. Here live a bare three hundred Chinese, and there are only three shops. There are about a thousand families in the entire district.

Our emissaries had been extremely well received by the jovial burgomaster, in whose hospitable house they had stayed. He lived with Spartan simplicity, as became one of FENG YÜ-HSIANG'S men.

Flour, sugar, vegetables, potatoes, sheepskin coats and other things we were in need of they had bought from a Chinese merchant, who also agreed at a cheap rate to hire out ten camels for the transport to Tsondol.