

DEPARTURE FROM PEKING TO STOCKHOLM

Our financial position now made it absolutely imperative that I should return to Sweden to try and raise the necessary capital. HUMMEL was to bear me company through Siberia.

MONTELL was appointed chief in the Swedish House, where also LESSING and SÖDERBOM would spend most of their time. Professor LESSING had now received a grant from Germany for the pursuit of folk-loristic and lamaistic studies in the Far East; but he was still able to afford MONTELL his support in a variety of ways.

The days before our departure were crowded with a thousand and one occupations. And one evening was devoted to the showing of the film that HUMMEL had taken in the course of the botanical trip to Tebbu that he had just concluded. HUMMEL himself had a high fever, but was still able from an arm-chair to demonstrate his film. Owing to his illness, however, our departure was postponed for some days. A farewell dinner was given for our friends in Peking and last visits paid.

From Sinkiang we received a gratifying telegram to the effect that Professor YUAN had excavated four dinosaurs and that AMBOLT had finally been granted permission to travel from Urumchi to Khotan, to which place NORIN had betaken himself nearly six months previously.

At last, at 8.25 on the morning of January 25th, our train steamed out of dusty Peking. Through a snow-white Manchuria and an equally wintry Siberia HUMMEL and I journeyed homewards via Moscow, Leningrad and Helsingfors, arriving safely in Stockholm at half-past one on February 10th.