

responsibility and energy, which fact is very admirable and gratifying. I am urging you to stay and continue your work to fulfil the mission. — KU MENG-YÜ.»

And not long afterwards we received a telegram saying that the additional sum we had asked for had been granted, and deposited in the Deutsch-Asiatische Bank at Peking. Our position was thus secured.

ARRIVAL OF THE LORRIES

At about six on the evening of September 4th YEW and I were sitting on our verandah when a familiar hooter was heard outside the courtyard gate. We hurried down; the gate was thrown open, and truck »Edsel» rolled into the yard. GEORG, CHIA KUEI, CHOKDUNG and NIKOLAI jumped out.

Three weeks earlier we had sent TSERAT, with a sufficient quantity of petrol, in a cart to Korla, where he had met the whole convoy. If everything had been ready, they would have been able to start for Urumchi at once, and would thus have been with us a fortnight earlier. But Colonel PROSHKURAKOV had passed through Korla with a lorry about a month before, and had found there the lorry we had left in the charge of the Russian garrison. He had taken certain vital parts of its engine that he needed for his own lorry, with the result that GEORG had had to travel the whole distance from Korla to Toqsun twice over. This had meant that a good deal more petrol was used, and the convoy had thus not been able to get farther than to Toqsun, leaving GEORG to drive on alone to Urumchi with »Edsel». He had now, therefore, to return to Toqsun with a fresh supply of petrol to fetch the others. Two days later, on September 8th, we were all gathered together, CHEN, EFFE and JOMCHA having now arrived. We celebrated the reunion with a dinner — one of the really happy memories of the expedition.

Some of the baggage we had left behind at Korla had been stolen by Russian soldiers; and the parts of the engine taken by PROSHKURAKOV were never restored, so that we were later on obliged to leave the damaged lorry in Urumchi. We might have known that anything one handed over in that country would be stolen.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS CAUSE US TROUBLE

On the 13th one of SHENG TUPAN's adjutants appeared at our house with orders that all archaeological finds should be left within the province, as the law forbade their removal. He also informed us that one or two other adjutants had been ordered to go to Lop-nor to find out what we had done and where we had been — a brilliant idea, seeing that we had visited only uninhabited regions.