

November 30, 2009

## Charlotte Illingworth

*Charlotte Illingworth was a sister to Katie Illingworth, who married Wendell Long. She was working in Insein, Burma, and spent many years as a missionary in Burma before settling in the United States. Here is a brief summary of information about her:*

**Born in 1874 in Burma**, nationality English, as estimated from 1906 ship arrival in New York. Her ship arrival record in 1922 said she was 47, thus possibly born in 1875.

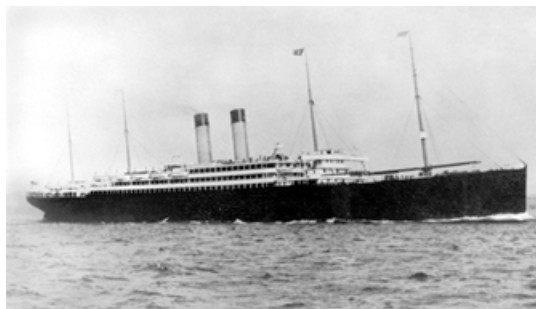
**In 1898**, Charlotte graduated from Allegheny College. The yearbook entry said she was from Pittsburgh. (If she was born in 1874, she would have been 24 when she graduated.)

**On August 16, 1906**, Charlotte arrived in New York aboard the ship *New York*, sailing from Southampton. She was 32, estimated birth year 1874. (The ship record mistakenly said she was "male.") She was identified as a missionary, coming from Burma, going to Meadville PA, to join a sister at Allegheny College. She had \$50 with her. Her way was being covered by a missionary society. She was asked if she had previously been in the U.S. Yes, 1889, Meadville PA. Charlotte's sister Katherine (Katie) Illingworth graduated from Allegheny College in 1909, and it is likely that Charlotte was going to visit her there in 1906. The ship manifest is provided in the website for Ellis Island. Charlotte appears on page 155, line 14. Search on Charlotte Illingworth of Berks, England, arrived in 1906, age 32. The ship *New York* is below:



On **February 27, 1915**, the *Indiana (Pa.) Evening Gazette* reported, in big letters, "BURMESIAN IS TO SPEAK IN CHURCH. Miss Illingworth to Tell of Life in her Land." The story said "Miss Illingworth is a pleasing speaker and she will tell of her ten years' work among Burmese children before she came to college in this country."

On **May 8, 1922**, Charlotte arrived in New York aboard the ship *Baltic*, which had sailed from Liverpool. The certificate provided by Ellis Island said she was 47, with estimated birth date about 1875. She said she was born in Vizianagram, India. She was a missionary. She was English, born in Burma, India. Her closest relative in Burma was a sister, Mrs. J. A. Rorke, living in "Juseine," Burma (possibly the record keeper meant Insein, where Charlotte was a missionary –no record of "Juseine" has been found). She had no ticket for onward travel, but said her way was paid by a Methodist Missionary Society. She had about \$50 with her. Traveling with her on this ship was a person identified as Wilhelmina Travers Illingworth, 13, a domestic, who also listed the same "sister," Mrs. J. A. Rorke, as her closest relative in Burma. Mrs. Rorke apparently was a half-sister of Charlotte and Katie. Both said their destination in the U.S. was Naples NY, where they would meet a sister, "Mrs. Long." This probably meant they were going to visit Samuel Parker Long and May Long. Their length of stay was uncertain. No other evidence has been seen that Charlotte had a sister Wilhelmina, who was 34 years younger than Charlotte. Wilhelmina gave her birth place as Calcutta. Perhaps she was a niece, or simply a servant or aide who was traveling with Charlotte and gave the immigration officer the same contact information. In the ship manifest, Charlotte was described as being 5 feet 2 inches, having sallow complexion, grey hair and brown eyes. Wilhelmina was described as 4 feet 9 inches with fair complexion, brown hair and blue eyes. (The descriptions suggest they were not sisters.) On the website <http://www.ellisland.org/>, the ship record can be found on pages 999 and 1000, lines 20 and 21. Search on Illingworth and look for Charlotte Jane Illingworth. The ship *Baltic* is below:



**1930 census** showed Charlotte living at 118 University Avenue, in Delaware, Delaware County, Ohio, age 55 (would have been 24 in 1898), born in India, father born in England. The record said her mother was born in India, but it is more likely she was born in England. Charlotte's occupation is field secretary for religious education. Living in the same house with Charlotte was Richard Illingworth, 18 (born on December 19, 1911), an electrician. He told the census taker he was born in West Virginia but his father was born in India (a brother of Charlotte) and his mother in the United States. Richard was a son of Charles Illingworth, who was one of the many children of Charles and Ellen Illingworth of Burma and a brother to Charlotte. Richard

went to Ohio Wesleyan University and later became an air conditioning executive in Indianapolis, where he died in 1983.

Also in the house was Fannie Perkins (Aunt Fannie), 69, born in Illinois, head of the household and owner of the house. Fannie apparently was the landlady and a friend of the Illingworth family.

Also living in the same house, according to the 1930 census, are Arthur, 54, and Effie Grey, 49, and son Lawrence, 29, who was born in India. Arthur and Effie were both missionaries with the Methodist Board.

Also in the house is Bessie Beal, 46, born in Burma, India, and her son Edwin, 20, born in India but an American citizen. Edwin and two siblings all said their mother (Bessie) was born in India.

In sum, it appears that Charlotte was living with other missionaries who had spent time in India and/or Burma, and that with her was a nephew, Richard Illingworth.

On Tuesday, **April 26, 1932**, the *Uniontown (PA) News-Standard* reported on page 8 that “A returned missionary from Burma, Miss Charlotte Illingworth, will lead the inspiration service tomorrow night at the midweek devotional service in the Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church. Miss Illingworth is employed as a field worker in the homelands in the interest of foreign missions, her services being loaned by the Cincinnati headquarters office to the Pittsburgh conference for the month of April. She also expects to visit Point Marion and Dawson in her Fayette county tour.” The *Uniontown Morning Herald* of the same day said that Miss Illingworth was “one of the best mission platform speakers of the present day.”

On **April 29, 1932**, the *News-Standard* reported that Miss Illingworth, for many years resident missionary in Burma and now field secretary for the Methodist denomination home mission department with headquarters in Cincinnati, gave an excellent address . . . Miss Illingworth was born in India, the child of missionary parents. [Not quite correct. Her father was a military officer and her mother worked with the Methodist Church in Rangoon helping the poor, but she was not a missionary.] She attended Allegheny College, Meadville, where she was the classmate of Mrs. P. P. Long, sister of Mrs. S. E. Hemphill, who entertained her during her stay in the city. After some years as an instructor in the Methodist orphanage school in Rangoon, Miss Illingworth returned to the United States where she has served as field secretary in the interest of foreign missions.” (Mrs. Phillip P. Long – Lizzie -- was deceased by the time of the 1920 census. The 1910 census gave her age as 37, which would mean she was born about 1873 and thus was about the same age as Charlotte and could have been her Allegheny College

classmate. In 1920, Phillip, 48, was living in Uniontown with Lizzie's sister, Ada Hemphill, 34, and husband Samuel Hemphill, 34, and four Long children. When Charlotte visited Uniontown in 1932, Phillip was 61 and Ada 48. It seems likely that these Longs were not related to the Long family of Naples NY.)

On **May 12, 1932**, the *Daily News-Standard* of Uniontown reported that "Miss Charlotte Illingworth, whose spiritual life has been crowned with the privilege of teaching Christianity to young women in India, was guest speaker Tuesday night at the regular meeting of the Anna Chapman Risk Auxiliary held in the parlor of the Asbury Methodist Church. Miss Illingworth comes of a missionary family, and her training in that field had its inception when she was born in Burma where her father and mother served in the mission field [not quite correct, see above]. At an early age, she returned to the United States for her education and upon its completion returned to Rangoon where for 25 years she taught in the Methodist Girls School. Her recital of personal experiences proved interesting and enlightening while her plea for action aroused her listeners to the conscious task of their organization's responsibility to the childhood and womanhood of India. Miss Illingworth is having her second furlough in 25 years and many Uniontown folk will remember her visit here at a reception given by the late Mrs. P. P. Long, who was a classmate at Allegheny College in Meadville. Following her present visit to Uniontown, Miss Illingworth motored to Washington, Pa., en route to her home in Delaware, O., where she is now residing with a brother's family." [This is a reference to Richard Illingworth, a son of Charlotte's brother Charles; Richard lived in Delaware, Ohio.]

After living in Ohio, it was understood by family members that Charlotte lived with Ina, a friend, possibly from Allegheny College, in Washington PA. It is believed that Ina married F. Kendall Lewis, a union representative and officer of Coca Cola. Social Security records show that an Ina Lewis, born on May 19, 1898, died in April 1971 in Sharon, Mercer County, PA. It is not clear if this is the Ina Lewis who lived with Charlotte Illingworth but it may be. No record has been located of Charlotte's death. Family members believe she died about 1939 or 1940, possibly in Washington, Pennsylvania.

*See more about Charlotte Jane Illingworth and her family at this site:*

[http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~boyerlinks/parker\\_long/sam\\_parker\\_long.html#illingworth](http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~boyerlinks/parker_long/sam_parker_long.html#illingworth)

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