

Asiatic Division Mission News

VOL 5.

SHANGHAI, CHINA, DECEMBER 1, 1916

No. 22.

Trust

"Since thy Father's arm sustains thee,
Peaceful be;
When a chastening hand restrains thee,
It is He.
Know His love in full completeness
Fills the measure of thy weakness;
If He wound thy spirit sore,
Trust Him more.

"Without murmur, uncomplaining,
In His hand
Lay whatever things thou canst not
Understand,
If the world thy folly spurneth,
From thy faith in pity turneth,
Peace thy inmost soul shall fill,
Lying still.

"Fearest sometimes that thy Father,
Hath forgot?
When the clouds around thee gather,
Doubt Him not,
Always hath the daylight broken;
Always hath He comfort spoken;
Better hath He been for years
Than thy fears."

To the Glory of God

Sabbath, October 28, was a red letter day in the history of the message in Honan, for on that day was dedicated to the service of God the fine new building which has recently been erected to accommodate the school and provide a large chapel for general meetings.

This building fills a long felt need in our work in that province, and overcomes many disabilities under which our workers have been forced to labor. The ground floor is taken up entirely by the chapel, the second floor is divided into six large school rooms which are reached by means of two outside stairways, one on either side of the building, thus giving a separate entrance to boys and girls. The building is substantially built of gray brick, and presents a very neat and attractive appearance. It is certainly a credit to our Brother Gibson, who has labored arduously and at the

risk of his health throughout the hot summer, so as to have the building completed in time for the general meeting, which convened on October 26. Brother Gibson expressed to us that it was with difficulty he kept back the tears of gratitude as he entered the building, that at last this monument had been erected in Honan, where God's people might gather and render glory to the name of Him who had saved them from the hopelessness of heathenism, and given them the glorious hope of salvation in our precious Saviour, Jesus Christ.

On this occasion of the first meeting to convene in the new church, no less than 350 to 400 people were gathered for the dedication service, thus filling the building to its utmost capacity. We were made to wonder even thus early whether our plans had looked forward far enough into the future. If our work grows during the next year or two as it has in the past like period, and our people attend the annual meeting as faithfully as they have this year, the question of accommodation will still be quite a problem.

The morning service was conducted by Pastor R. F. Cottrell, who preached from the text found in Exodus 25:8: "Let them make Me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them." The burden of Brother Cottrell's discourse was the preparation of the heart as the dwelling place of Jehovah, and modeling of the individual's life to fit into the great building which God is preparing for eternity.

The afternoon service was led by Pastor Frederick Lee, who superintends the work in Honan. The speaker impressed forcibly upon the congregation that while it was important that we now dedicate this building of brick and stone to Jehovah, it was of immensely greater importance that we offer up our hearts and lives as a living sacrifice to the Lord.

Pastor Liu Djen Bang and Du Giau Si told of the growth of the message in the province from its earliest beginnings when the Doctors Miller and Selmon labored in Honan. All were much interested to learn that ten persons were present who attended the first general meeting nine years ago when there was only one baptised member in the field.

Brother Du took his text from Genesis 18:12, where it relates how Sara laughed because God promised her a child. When the child was born she was "Hwan hsi liao buh deh," or full of joy. It seemed just as impossible that from old Honan children should be born into God's kingdom; how then should we rejoice over the birth of these several hundreds of souls present at this service.

Pastor Liu said that the symbol of the angel flying in the midst of heaven is certainly fitting as applied to the rapid growth of the work in Honan. He knew the work when we had but two believers in the whole province. Now we are operating thirty-three stations, and the work in Anhwei, Chihli, Shensi, and Hupeh had been opened from here.

The most interesting social meeting which I have ever attended followed the remarks of these speakers, and the Spirit of God was certainly present in the meeting.

"I cannot *not* praise God" was the opening remark of the first speaker. It happened to be our aged brother Djang Dje Deh, who for many years was a Mohammedan and has given years of service to the cause as a bookseller. The second man to speak was a young man who, for the gospel's sake, has suffered fearful persecution from his parents, among other things the membrane of his mouth was scraped out with his father's long finger nail, because his mouth was corrupted by the words of the "foreign devil." He is now a trusted evangelist, and reports his persecuting parents as interested in this message. One of the most interesting testimonies borne was that of Pastor Liu of Gospel Village, Shensi. He praised the Lord that after forty years of Christian experience the blessed truth had at last found him, and with tears and broken voice he asked all to pray for the work in Shensi, that his family and former Christian associates may be led to accept the truth. He reports about sixty regularly attending the Sabbath services in Shensi. Among the eighty who bore testimony were many others who gave very interesting experiences, one of them being the sister who owned the house where the Doctors Selmon and Miller first lived upon their arrival at Shang Cheng in Honan, fifteen years ago.

At the close of the meeting, led by the ringing voices of the school children, the congregation sang, "Praise God from Whom all blessings flow." It was sung so heartily that one could not help but feel that they looked upon their new building as one of the greatest blessings that God had conferred upon them.

To be present at this meeting was certainly a privilege and an inspiration, for it was a demonstration of what the grace of God can do in heathen China through the instrumentality of the Third Angel's Message.

H. M. BLUNDEN.

The China Missions Training School

At the recent council held at Shanghai, Pastor F. A. Allum, who has been laboring in West China, was called from that field to take the principalship of the China Missions Training School. Pastor Allum with his family arrived a short time before the opening day, got his family settled, and began to lay plans for a large school.

The Opening Day

On October 30, the school opened for its seventh year of work. The first chapel service held at eight o'clock was opened with singing, "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love." As foreigners and Chinese mingled their voices in the singing of that grand hymn, our hearts were made to appreciate in a measure the tie that makes us members of the same large, Christian family. A program consisting of special music, both vocal and instrumental, and short addresses by Pastor R. C. Porter, Brother C. E. Weaks, and the writer, filled up the hour.

Faculty

The school is very fortunate this year in having for its principal, Brother F. A. Allum, who has had a long field experience. He will be able to instruct from the field standpoint, and thus we believe help to fit our young people for successful soul-winning work when they leave the school. He also will give special attention to the Bible. Besides the regular outlined Bible, twice a week he will have a class in pastoral training, at which time, aside from general instruction for ministers and Bible workers, particular emphasis will be placed upon sermon construction and outlines.

Brother H. J. Doolittle, who was the principal last year, is still with the school and serves in the capacity of treasurer and science teacher. Mrs. L. I. Bowers teaches the English, having a class of nineteen. Mrs. C. E. Weaks, who has had considerable experience as a preceptress, is acting in that capacity in connection with Miss Liao, the Chinese preceptress. Mrs. S. L. Frost teaches sight-singing, and has twenty-four students taking organ lessons. Brother Lyman Bowers, who is treasurer of the press, acts as chorister. Mrs. W. P. Henderson will conduct a regular class in lacemaking, as an industry. Brother Kung Chang Chang and Brother Wu Dzeh Shan, who is preceptor, are regular Chinese teachers of considerable experience, and besides these there are six student teachers. We believe that with a faculty like this the school will have a very profitable year.

Students

On the opening day, ninety-two students were enrolled. That number has now increased to 108, and Brethren Allum and Doolittle find themselves puzzled to know where to put them all. They tell me in all the rooms 9 x 11½ feet, they have three students

each, and in rooms 9 x 9 feet, two in each, and two boys room in the dispensary. Nine students are being accommodated at the *Signs of the Times* press living quarters. If any more students come it will mean three in the rooms 9 x 9. Of these 108 students, six come from the Shantung Mission, two from Manchuria, nine from Honan, twelve from Hupeh, five from Hunan, twenty-three from Kiangsu, thirty-four from Anhwei, four from Kwangtung and the South, and thirteen from the *Signs of the Times* press.

Special Features of the School

Already a colporteur class has been organized, and after two weeks study and instruction conducted by Giao Wenli, a company of ten go to Shanghai every afternoon and engage in canvassing work.

The students have a very live young people's society of which the whole school are members. After a short service Sabbath afternoons, they separate into six bands of sixteen to eighteen each, and go to the little villages close by to preach and give out tracts. It was my privilege to go with one band last Sabbath afternoon. We had a company of about eighteen. Arriving at a little village just a short distance from the school, the company sings a hymn, and the people gather around, curious to see the singers. After the song, one of the young men steps forward and gives a talk of about ten minutes. If he can speak in the Shanghai dialect, he needs no interpreter, but most of our students are Mandarin, and so one young man translates into Shanghai from the Mandarin. This is repeated in four or five places so that during the afternoon by one band five short sermons are preached, and the attention of more than one hundred people is called to the message. Then to those who can read, literature is passed out explaining the truth. The other bands carry out about the same program. In this way by the society in one afternoon about twenty-five to thirty short sermons are preached, and many pages of the silent messengers are left for study afterwards. Who can estimate the good thus being done, or the results that will come from sowing the seed by the wayside? "Cast thy bread upon the waters."

There are a large number of Mandarin-speaking people in Shanghai. In order to reach these people, every Sunday evening the pastoral training class will hold a meeting. These meetings will be conducted in part by the students, and part by Principal Allum and others who may assist. The afternoon preceding the meetings will be spent by the students in giving out literature and inviting the people to attend. We believe that this will bring the knowledge of the Word to many souls.

Each student, in addition to his regular studies, is taking either writing, romanization, or drawing. One special feature of the drawing class will be to reproduce on the blackboard for the Sabbath-school the illustrations found in the *Sabbath-school Worker*.

Prospects

Never, we believe, has the China Missions Training School opened under more favorable conditions. With such a large increase of attendance, with such a strong faculty, and such a missionary spirit on the part of the students and faculty, and withal, the willingness to cooperate to the fullest extent with God for the completion of His work, what may we not expect from this school? We desire for Brethren Allum and Doolittle and the other members of the faculty the ability to draw upon the Divine Teacher, the Wonderful Counselor, for the wisdom that will make their work abide, even through the eternal ages.

The Needs of the School

The crowded condition of the school this year calls our attention to the fact that should this school maintain its present status as a training school for China, it is imperative that more room be provided before another school year comes, or we shall have to turn away many students who are anxious to qualify for the Lord's work. Shall we not now be taking the necessary steps to supply the needed room and facilities? Will not our people in the homeland remember this great need, and help to make it possible for our young people here who are so full of the missionary spirit to get the needed training so that the message may soon be carried to all parts of the world's field?

S. L. FROST, *Sec. Ed. and Y. P. Departments.*

Since writing the above ten more students have been enrolled, all coming from Nanchang in the province of Kiangsi. This makes the enrolment 118. With the coming of these, the problem of providing room is a serious matter. We hope in some way they may be accommodated.

A Record

In a letter from Sister Agnes Hare in Burma, to her father, Pastor J. E. Fulton, we learn that she and her husband, Brother Eric B. Hare, have successfully passed their first year's examination in the Karen language after a study of only eight months.

They were permitted to have their examination on Friday instead of Sabbath, the day appointed for all applicants to be examined. With much trepidity they appeared before their examiner, the director of the Baptist College, who received them very kindly and spoke encouragingly of their work.

After an examination of three hours they were surprisingly pleased to find that they were credited with 98 per cent and 92 per cent, respectively. Sister Hare was commended for studying the language with her husband as, it was explained, so many missionaries' wives take little interest in language study.

They were told by the director that 98 per cent was the highest record thus far obtained by anyone for first year's work in that college, and that only one other had received so high a mark.

ASIATIC DIVISION MISSION NEWS

PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY BY
THE ASIATIC DIVISION MISSION
OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

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The Study of Modern Languages through Correspondence

The Fireside Correspondence School, Takoma Park, D. C., desires to announce the completion of arrangements for the study of German, French, Spanish, and Italian, through correspondence, either with or without the phonograph. For particulars and the "Nutshell Catalog," address as above.

C. C. LEWIS, *Principal.*

A book is a friend; a good book is a good friend. It will talk to you when you want it to talk, and it will keep still when you want it to keep still—and there are not many friends who know enough to do that. A library is a collection of friends.—*Lyman Abbott.*

NOTES

Pastor J. E. Shultz, who has been attending the general meeting at Nanchang, in the province of Kiangsi, has just returned. He promises a report for the News soon.

On the Empress of Asia were Pastors Daniells and Knox with their wives, and Brother Crisler, who are on their way to the Philippine Islands. Pastor J. E. Fulton joined them here, and proceeds with them to the Philippines. Paster Spicer will not visit this field, but will go to Europe.

Brother Nathan Brewer and wife and Brother Jesse Barrows and wife were also on the Empress of Asia. Brother Barrows goes to the Philippines to take up work; Brother Brewer intended to sail on the S. S. China, August 1, but was delayed. He has been appointed secretary of the book work of the East China Mission. We welcome these new recruits to this field.

Mrs. Hazel Blackenburg-Severns, who stopped off at Shanghai for ten weeks in order to do stenographic work for Pastor Porter, left Sunday, November 5, for the Philippine Islands. While here she had a chance to see Chinese life, and also to visit her old friend, Miss Florence Shull. Brother Severns, who is already at Manila, will teach in the school soon to be opened, of which Professor Steinel will be principal.

We were pleased to greet Brethren J. P. Anderson and W. E. Gillis and family, who have just returned from their furlough. They returned on the Empress of Asia. Sister Anderson will remain in the States until the general meeting in April. Brother Anderson will go on soon to South China, where he formerly

labored, and Brother Gillis will proceed to Central China, where he will be director of the Kiangsi mission.

We were pleased to have Mrs. Josef Hall spend a few days with us, having come from Nanking to have her eyes attended to. She reports much interest among the students in the new language school.

Brother C. E. Weaks, publishing and home missionary secretary of the Asiatic Division, left November 5 for a trip in the interests of these two departments. He will visit South China and attend some meetings there, then go on to the Philippine Islands and take part in committee meetings, afterward making a tour of the field. May these important interests be advanced until every member of the church is aroused to action.

Our publishing and home missionary secretary for China, Brother H. M. Blunden, who has just returned from a general meeting at Honan, is on his way to South China with his wife and family. Here for two months Brethren Blunden and Mountain will be engaged in holding canvassers' institutes. Sister Blunden appreciates the opportunity of visiting her brother, A. Mountain.

Pastor R. C. Porter and wife left on the S. S. China November 5 for an extended trip. They will visit the following countries: Philippine Islands, Malaysia, India and South China. While on this tour, they will be joined by Pastors Daniells and Knox, who are now en route to this Division. Together they will unite in council with the brethren in these separate fields for the advancement of the work. Our prayers ascend in behalf of this company, that the protecting hand of God may be over them, and that He will so guide in wisdom's ways that the plans formed may give a mighty uplift to the work of lightening this dark portion of the world with the glory of God.

Pastor Frederick Lee and family sailed from Shanghai, November 19, on the S. S. China, en route to the United States. They go on furlough to recuperate in health and strength, after having spent eight busy years in the mission fields of China. We trust that they may enjoy the needed rest, and that Sister Lee, whose physical condition is poorly, may fully recover. Their address for some time will be Falmouth, Maine, R. F. D. No. 4.

On the S. S. China, with Brother and Sister Fred Lee, go Sister B. Miller and her son, Percy. Sister Miller has spent nine years working for the women of East China. She regrets very much to leave even for a furlough, but having almost worn herself out with arduous labor, it seems best to take a furlough. She will place Percy in school, and probably remain in the west until spring, when they will visit friends and relatives in the New England States. Our prayers go with all these workers as they leave, that God will place over them His protecting hand and bring them back again to help finish the giving of the last warning message in China.