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No. 1

Parable of the Straying Sheep

By Mrs. E. G. White

THE parable of the straying sheep should be treasured as a motto in every household. The divine Shepherd leaves the ninety and nine, and goes out into the wilderness to seek the one that is lost. There are thickets, quagmires, and dangerous crevices in the rocks, and the Shepherd knows that if the sheep is in any of these places, a friendly hand must help it out. As He hears its bleating afar off, He encounters any and every difficulty that He may save His sheep that is lost. When He discovers the lost one, He does not greet it with reproaches. He is only glad that He has found it alive. With firm yet gentle hand he parts the briars, or takes it from the mire; tenderly He lifts it to His shoulders, and bears it back to the fold. The pure, sinless Redeemer bears the sinful, the unclean.

The Sin-Bearer carries the befouled sheep; yet so precious is His burden that he rejoices, singing, "I have found My sheep which was lost." Luke 15:6. Let every one of you consider that your individual self has thus been borne upon Christ's shoulders. Let none entertain a masterly spirit, a self-righteous, criticizing spirit; for not one sheep would ever have entered the fold if the Shepherd had not undertaken the painful search in the desert. The fact that one sheep was lost was enough to awaken the sympathy of the Shepherd and start Him on His quest.

This speck of a world was the scene of the incarnation and suffering of the Son of God. Christ did not go to worlds unfallen, but He came to this world, all seared and marred with the curse. The outlook was not favorable, but most discouraging. Yet "He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till He have set judgment in the earth." Isa. 42:4. We must bear in mind the great joy manifested by the Shepherd at the recovery

of the lost. He calls upon His neighbors, "Rejoice with Me; for I have found My sheep which was lost." And all heaven echoes the note of joy. The Father Himself joys over the rescued one with singing. What a holy ecstasy of joy is expressed in this parable! That joy it is your privilege to share.

Are you, who have this example before you, co-operating with Him who is seeking to save the lost? Are you co-laborers with Christ? Can you not for His sake endure suffering, sacrifice, and trial? There is opportunity for doing good to the souls of the youth and the erring. If you see one whose words or attitude shows that he is separated from God, do not blame him. It is not your work to condemn him, but come close to his side to give him help. Consider the humility of Christ, and His meekness and lowliness, and work as He worked, with a heart full of sanctified tenderness. "At the same time, saith the Lord, will I be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be My people. Thus saith the Lord, The people which were left of the sword found grace in the wilderness even Israel, when I went to cause him to rest. The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love; therefore with loving-kindness have I drawn thee." Jer. 31:1-3.

In order for us to work as Christ worked, self must be crucified. It is a painful death; but it is life, life to the soul. "For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones." Isa. 57:15. *Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 6. pp. 124, 125.

News from the Field

Personal Work in Manchuria

By H. N. BRODERSON

"YOU ought to become a Christian, have a real purpose in this life, and a hope after this life," was the admonition given to Mr. Liu by his friend, Mr. Hsu, as they were conversing one day. Though Mr. Liu and Mr. Hsu did not live in the same village, they met occasionally, as they were in the same business (that of selling medicines). Mr. Liu started studying and before long joined one of the popular churches, of which Mr. Hsu was already a member. Some time later, Mr. Liu, while in conversation with another friend, asked him why he did not become a Christian. He replied, "If I were to be a Christian I would go to the S. D. A. church. They are holding meetings every night now, not far from here."

They decided to go and hear what was being preached in the church. Mr. Liu's heart was touched, and he came every night while the effort lasted, later joining the Bible class; and finally he and his wife were baptized. Every night Mr. Liu would bring some friend with him to the meeting, and through his faithfulness others have since joined the church.

Then Mr. Liu thought of his friend Mr. Hsu, who had first helped him to become a Christian. Mr. Liu wrote to him about the new faith he had found, urging him to read the tracts enclosed. Mr. Hsu felt very sorry that Mr. Liu had been thus led astray, and he tried to get him to come back. After some correspondence between them it was decided that Mrs. Hsu should come to attend a series of meetings that were then being held. She attended the meetings every evening. Being a real student, and aided by the Bible worker who visited her every day, before long she saw that she had not been living up to the teaching of the Scriptures. She joined the baptismal class and was later baptized. Her husband came to persuade her that she was wrong, but soon he himself was persuaded that the Seventh-day Adventists were right, and he is now studying preparatory to joining us in the near future. Since Mrs. Hsu was baptized this summer, she has been visiting friends and relatives and

giving them Bible studies. She is now in the Bible Institute for women, planning after this preparation to give all her time to the Master to be used in winning souls for His kingdom.

Hu Ging Wen lived among his neighbors in a small village. He had the reputation that, no matter what he did, he put his whole heart into it. From childhood he had been brought up a devout Buddhist; and as he became older, he spent most of his time studying the Buddhist religion. On several occasions he was all prepared to enter a temple, so that nothing might detract him from his study. But on every occasion, at the last minute, something would always prevent him from entering.

God had a work for him to do that he did not understand about at that time. One day Mr. Hu's neighbor, a Mr. Lee who was a business man, came to a city where we have mission work. He chanced to pass our church just as we were having a prayer meeting, and went in. After the meeting he stayed, met the evangelist, and asked to have explained to him some of our fundamental doctrines. When he went back to his village, he in turn explained the truth as best he could to his neighbors. They wanted to hear more, so sent word asking for someone to come and help them. Mr. Liu went out and stayed three days, holding meetings every evening. Mr. and Mrs. Hu came also to the meetings, but would not enter and sit down. They came at first out of curiosity only, to hear what this new doctrine was like. Though they stayed outside each time, they came to all three evening meetings, and later told Mr. Lee that this was the best and most logical doctrine they had ever heard. The seed had been sown and it was not long till a call came asking for an evangelist to come again. This time they had bought a building for a chapel. Mr. Liu was sent there again, and the next year twenty-two were baptized, Mr. and Mrs. Hu being among this number.

Five years have now passed. The following year Mr. Lee closed his business, and after receiving a little training, started preaching and is doing very good work. The work in the village had some setbacks. Several members moved away, and not until last year did there seem to be any reason for continuing work there.

Two years ago Mr. Yuen, the present evangelist, after working a

few months came to me and with tears in his eyes, said that there was no use to continue working there, for the people in those villages would have nothing to do with religion. Nevertheless, he with Mr. Hu kept up house-to-house visitation. Wherever tracts would be received, they were given. Now every home in the villages within a radius of several miles has been visited. Mr. Hu and the evangelist are out every day, and as the result of this faithful work, this year I had the pleasure of baptizing twenty-nine precious souls. They came from seven villages, the farthest being fifteen *li* (five miles) away.

All this has been accomplished because of a faithful laymember. If all our members would work for others as Mr. Hu has done, what a wonderful harvest we should have! The work would speedily be finished, and we go home to the place prepared for those awaiting Christ's appearing!

At the time of baptism this fall we organized a church, Mr. Hu being appointed elder. Let us pray for this church and let us all strive to make better use of our time.

Women's Institutes in East China

By MRS. B. MILLER

ANOTHER year is in the past, and we realize that much of God's blessing has been bestowed on the work done for our Chinese sisters in the East China Union.

Our first Bible institute last year was held at Bengpu, Anhwei. We had a large attendance, and a good interest was manifested throughout the meeting. We arranged that fourteen reading classes for the illiterate should be conducted in various stations. The 1936 Reading Course was also promoted, and many enrolled.

The next institute was held at Nansiang, Kiangsu. There we spent a most profitable time with our workers and believers. We studied our message, and each day had our workers give the previous day's study. Some are able to present the message to the people very clearly. We closed this meeting with an earnest consecration service.

Another institute was held at Ging Hwa, in the North Chekiang Mission, where many of our believers and

inquirers were in attendance, and a good interest was manifested.

Last fall we held our first meeting of this kind at Mohweits, in the North Kiangsu Province. This station is about one hundred fifty li from Chingkiangpu, the headquarters of the field. We held the meetings in our mud-hut chapel, but many had to find seats in the court yard. About two hundred people attended most of the time throughout the institute. My heart was made happy to see the earnestness of our dear people there. Miss Chu, Miss Helen Wu, and Pastor Swen Tsung Gwang, the director of the mission, were present and gave valuable help. Miss Wu and I treated about eight hundred sick people during the ten days of our institute. We also promoted the reading courses among our people there and hope to have good results during this coming year.

Our last Bible institute was held at Hangchow. Not so many people were present, but it was a ten days' spiritual feast for our workers. We believe as a result they will do better work in their stations; and that they will be more faithful in teaching the illiterate to read. We ask an interest in the prayers of all for our work in behalf of the women in the East China Union.

Harvest Ingathering at South Fukien Training Institute

FIVE hundred dollars seemed like a large Harvest Ingathering goal for the South Fukien Training Institute, but with the encouragement of our union superintendent, Pastor Ham, we decided to accept it, and made preparations to hold a field day—the first in recent years. We were to have no experienced help, as Pastor Ham had to return to Hongkong, and our mission director, Pastor Anderson, was away on furlough. But with faith in the Lord we started out.

To add interest to the work each band was given a special insignia. The boys had the names of animals, while the girls had that of flowers. Our principal, Mr. MacIntyre, promised a special prize to the band that received the most money. He also suggested that the girls and boys hold a contest, so it was with a spirit to win that everyone started out.

One seldom sees more enthusiasm than was expressed on that early morning of November 26, when all the students met together for worship before starting out. They could hardly be restrained long enough to have a picture taken. Soon we were scattered to all parts of the Island of Kulangsu, and in the city of Amoy. All were to meet in the city church at noon. However, so great was the desire to work that several bands did not stop for lunch but worked steadily until evening.

It was an excited, happy group of students that met that moonlit evening at the boat landing to return to Kulangsu. While the goal had not been reached, still everyone was happy for the experiences of the day. And so great was the enthusiasm that another day was allotted for the work. By the second evening we were well over the general goal, but the desire for each band to make its individual goal was so great that a third day was allowed away from school work.

We were not surprised when the reports showed that the girls received the most money. The older girls, a band of six, received ninety-five dollars, and another, sixty dollars. Among these two groups of girls are three, who came from very wealthy, but non-christian homes. To show their appreciation for our school, they worked very diligently in raising money. Two of them secured their mother's help in soliciting from her friends.

Perhaps the most interesting was a group of three girls, who were thought too young to solicit. They were assigned neither a band nor territory. But they were determined to work, and so secured a receipt book and started out. For three days they collected sums of ten and twenty cents until they had over twelve dollars. Thus everyone worked and every band received its goal.

Thankfulness fills our hearts for this experience, and that we were able to raise seven hundred and thirty dollars.—almost half of the South Fukien Mission Harvest Ingathering Goal.

“As a stream partakes of the property of the soil through which it runs, so the principles and habits of youth invariably become tinged with the character of the company in which they mingle.”

Women's Work in Wenchow

By MRS. ALFRED FOSSEY

BY July the members attending the women's meetings in Wenchow were getting fewer and fewer, so that the two Bible women were almost without an audience. During the hot weather the meetings were suspended for a couple of months. When the time came to open up again I suggested that we hold our meetings from house to house in the members' homes, but the women thought it would be a terrible thing to drop the regular meeting in the church building, which Sister Wilkinson started several years ago. They never loved their meetings so well as when they thought they were going to lose them. So there is a better attendance now than for some time previously.

Those who have been attending the women's meetings know the truth much better than the members who do not, or rather, can not attend. They are an alert, zealous group, and spend a great deal of time outside visiting other members, praying for the sick, and doing all they can to interest their neighbors in the truth.

The members are very poor, but at each meeting they lay by about twenty cents to be given to the poor at New Year's time, either in clothing, rice, or cash, as the need may be.

The mission has one paid Bible woman for the city, who spends all her time visiting members. Another Bible woman who lives in the city is an itinerating worker, who spends part of her time working in the city. I also have a Bible woman who is my helper, and goes with me when I am out working. I pay her salary, and we spend three afternoons a week giving Bible Readings to outsiders in non-christian homes. I also pay a student who spends one or two hours each day helping the new members to learn the memory verses, Sabbath school lesson, sing hymns, and read characters.

The girls in the school are having better success than the boys in holding out-schools on Sabbath afternoons. They can also be included in our women's work, as they all take part either in singing, telling Bible stories, or in swelling the audience.

Considering our women members as a whole, I must acknowledge that they are all earnest, live missionary workers.

Field Missionary Secretaries' Conventions

BY JOHN OSS

EAST CHINA UNION

THE field missionary secretaries of the East China Union met in Shanghai for a short convention, November 30 to December 2, to study together some of the special problems confronting the work in their field at this time, and to formulate plans for the year 1937.

Pastor O. A. Hall and Mr. H. L. Shull, of the Signs of the Times Publishing House, and the writer met with the East China book leaders, and it was felt by all that it was a most profitable gathering.

As a result of the discussions during the convention, a number of plans were agreed upon to help the colporteurs in their work, and to make their endeavors more fruitful in increased sales and in the gathering in of souls.

Our East China book leaders returned to their fields full of courage. They are determined to complete the work of the present year in a strong way and to make 1937 a bigger and better year for the literature work.

SOUTH CHINA UNION

IT was the privilege of the writer to be in attendance at the field missionary secretaries' convention of the South China Union, held in Hongkong from December 13 to 17. It was a representative gathering of our book leaders. C. E. Wimer and E. H. Ngo, union and assistant field missionary secretaries, were present, as well as the secretaries from each of the local missions. Pastors A. L. Ham, J. P. Anderson, and P. V. Thomas were also in attendance.

Most of the meetings were of a round-table nature, and all greatly appreciated the practical and helpful things learned from the discussions.

Reports of the year's activities were given by the field missionary secretaries at the evening meetings. They revealed earnestness on the part of our group of faithful leaders and colporteurs.

Special study was given to improving sales methods to meet the ever-changing conditions, and to making the literature ministry a greater soul-winning agency.

During one noon hour those in attendance were taken to visit the grave of Abram La Rue, our first colporteur to the Orient. As we

viewed the last resting place of our faithful pioneer, we determined to emulate him in earnestness and devotion to the literature work.

Immediately after the close of the convention, the field missionary secretaries returned to their respective fields of labor to do aggressive work in finishing up the year's program in a strong way, and to lay plans for greater activities during 1937.

On the way back to the division headquarters, the writer made short visits to Canton, Swatow, Amoy, and Foochow, assisting in selling literature and in planning with the secretaries for the following year's work.

Prospects look most encouraging for the literature work in the South China Union, and all look forward to greater things in the distribution of the printed page and in the ingathering of souls.

Successful School Industries

BY D. E. REBOK

I have been asked to write on the topic of successful school industries, and what we can and should do to make the industries in our schools a greater success.

This is indeed a very big and a most important subject for us to consider because so much depends upon our industrial work. In the China Training Institute over two-thirds of all the students are working in school industries. Many of them could not be in training at all if they could not earn a part or all of their expenses in industrial work. The same is true of all our other Institutes.

The essentials for successful school industries are few in number and are easy to remember:

1. Have a thoroughly qualified man to head up the industry for which he is technically trained.
2. Give him suitable and adequate tools and machinery and an operating fund.
3. Assure him the support and cooperation of faculty and student body.

With these three essentials provided, the industries of every school should be successful.

"In industrial training there are unseen advantages, which cannot be measured or estimated."

A Prison Becomes A Place of Refuge

By JOHN OSS

While working to spread the gospel literature in a communistic and bandit-infested area, two of our colporteurs recently had an unusual experience. They had to flee for their lives, and in so doing lost part of their clothes, their bedding, and some of their books. Fortunately they saved their subscription guarantee books and sample copies of the *Signs of the Times* magazine.

Coming to this city these colporteurs decided to canvass again and called to see a leading man of the place. They found that he was away, so decided to call on the chief of staff, who was in charge, but were unable to get an appointment to meet this man.

They returned to the hotel where they were staying feeling somewhat discouraged. A few minutes later, however, the chief of staff sent a messenger to the hotel inviting them to come for an interview. They rejoiced as they followed the messenger back that they were to have an opportunity to show their literature.

They found, however, that the chief of staff had other ideas in mind. He accused them of being communistic spies and ordered them sent to the police station and placed under arrest. They tried to prove their innocence, but without success, and were placed in prison within the city.

In prison they prayed earnestly to God for deliverance. The under officers in the prison made sport of their religion and their prayers, but the chief of police was impressed by their earnest life of prayer and devotion.

The remarkable part of their story, as they told it to me, was that on the very night that they were ordered arrested the south suburb, in which they were staying, was taken by the communists, and there was great destruction of life and property. Without doubt had they stayed in the hotel, they would either have been killed or taken by communists. The prison proved a place of refuge and safety.

A few days later a letter received from our evangelist at a nearby station verified the fact that our colporteurs were gospel workers, and the first copies of the *Signs* magazine taken some months previous by the father of one of the colporteurs arrived to prove that the statements made by them were true.

God works in many ways to keep in safety those who labor for Him.

Departmental

Branch Sabbath Schools No. 1

WHY HAVE THEM?

CHRIST is soon coming. What we hope to do for our neighbors and friends must be done now or it may be forever too late. There are thousands of people who have never heard this last warning message that has been entrusted to us to give to the world. The ministers are working faithfully, but "the Lord has given to every man his work." To every disciple He sends the commission, "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations."

What a golden opportunity the branch Sabbath school offers us. We live near our neighbors. We have the message. This message is plain; no one need misunderstand it. It is positive; Jesus warns us, "Therefore be ye also ready." Never before in the history of this earth has a message been given that is more important than this one.

The Sabbath school lessons make it easy to give this message. "The Lord desires that those who are engaged in the Sabbath school work should be missionaries, able to go forth to the towns and villages that surround the church, and give the light of life to those who sit in darkness."—*Testimonies on Sabbath School Work, p. 74.*

WHAT OTHERS ARE DOING

ONE sister writes, "Before beginning our branch Sabbath school, I called at each home on our street and invited the children. I took the picture roll that a friend had sent to me and explained to the parents that we were going to start a children's Bible class. After printing several children's songs on large sheets of paper, I was ready to begin. We elected one of the girls to be our secretary. After studying twelve lessons we had a general meeting at one of the homes of the children and called in the parents to hear the children review their lessons, sing their songs, and repeat their memory verses. How delighted the parents were to see what their children had learned. The precious seeds of truth are being sown in their hearts and my soul is being watered." This sister says she has had as many as twenty-two children in her class.

A very busy man finds time to conduct a branch Sabbath school every Sabbath. He writes, "There was one back-slidden member who was about to be dropped from the church. My wife and I visited him and asked if we could hold some meetings in his home. He consented. Others were invited to meet with us every Sabbath afternoon. Now he has been reclaimed and our branch Sabbath school is growing right along. We have about thirty members at the present time."

A new convert has this to add, "I have been visiting my neighbors for months carrying tracts, books, food, and clothing to them. A few weeks ago when I suggested that we have a little Sabbath school, one lady gladly opened her home for the school. I have always wanted to be a missionary but thought I would have to go far away. I thank the Lord for this wonderful work."

A colporteur tells us that in his work he found some people who were interested and began holding a branch Sabbath school with them. Another brother says that an isolated family formed the beginning of a branch Sabbath school. He now has sixteen members. A dear old sister who is unable to leave her room uses the telephone to invite some girls to her home for their Bible Study Hour. She has about twelve every meeting. A brother who has made friends of all the children in his town has from forty to fifty every week in his Sunday school.

A girl, living in the mountains, is conducting two schools every week. Sabbath morning she has her Sabbath school with her younger brothers and sisters; and Sunday morning she conducts the Sunday school in the community church. She never knows how much extra work she may have to do—such as act as secretary, play the organ, lead the music, review the lesson, teach a class, etc. Her school has grown from fourteen members to sixty.

A Sabbath school superintendent in one of our boarding schools informs us that their goal device includes their branch Sabbath school as well. This quarter their goal device is a large tree with as many limbs on it as there are classes in the school. Each time a certain amount is raised for missions, an apple is placed on the proper limb. Each time a member is perfect in attendance and daily study, a leaf is added to his class limb. In the corner of this device is a smaller

tree that represents the branch Sabbath school. It too is bearing fruit.

"The Sabbath school is a missionary field, and very much more of the missionary spirit should be manifested in this important work than has been manifested in the past."—*Testimonies on Sabbath School Work, p. 35.*

Archa Dart,—S. S. Secretary,
Kentucky-Tennessee Conference

THE MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER SOCIETY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

EMMA E. HOWELL

THE Missionary Volunteer Society in the church was organized for the benefit of the young people. Those who do not take advantage of this means for developing in service and deepening their Christian experience are missing one of the most vital opportunities that will ever come to them.

Young people who are members of the church may become members of the society by making application any time of the year. Others who are not church members can still enjoy the benefits of the society by applying for Associate membership.

What will it profit a young man or young woman to belong to the Missionary Volunteer Society? He may learn the lesson of cooperation, doing teamwork, which can be experienced from working in the bands or assisting leaders in planning the work of the society. The programs each week call for public speaking. How many men and women in this Seventh-day Adventist denomination made their first public appearance in a Missionary Volunteer meeting! If it did nothing else, the occasion helped them to realize they must get a training if they expected to have a progressive place in the work of the church.

The society fosters different avenues of self-education and deepening of the spiritual life. Many who would not persevere to the end of the Bible Year or a course in reading will do so when there is the inspiration of a check-up and perhaps a bit of friendly competition. Accomplishment, the finishing of anything, great or small, brings a satisfaction that leads to further undertakings and achievement.

Christian associates, habits of perseverance, efforts to achieve, and knowledge of service for the Master—these the Missionary Volunteer Society offers to the young people of the church.

An Appreciation

BY K. H. WOOD

WHILE the material in all of the Ministerial Reading Courses is good, I have been particularly impressed with the timeliness of the message in two of the books in the 1936 course which I have recently read.

"God's Challenge to Modern Apostasy," by Elder F. D. Nichol is not only thought-inspiring, but also gives one much valuable material on the subject of the crisis in Protestant Christianity caused by Modernistic teaching and propaganda. In this book, the alignment of popular Christianity and Catholicism on the one hand, and Seventh-day Adventists and the Bible on the other, is strikingly portrayed.

This alignment is becoming more and more apparent, not only in professedly Christian countries, but in mission lands as well. The withdrawal on a large scale of missionaries and funds by many Protestant denominations, while Roman Catholic priests are being sent into mission fields in ever-increasing numbers and with vast resources at their disposal is significant. It can readily be seen that eventually the issue here will also be that between the teachings of God's Word and man-made commandments and theories.

The book, "The Abiding Gift of Prophecy," bequeathed to the Advent people by our beloved Elder Daniells, seems to have been providentially timed to meet the existing condition of apostasy. In this volume, the surety of the divine foundation of the advent truth is set forth, followed by a delineation of the complete and all-sufficient provision which has been made for the guidance and triumph of this people in the gift of the Spirit of prophecy. It is a mighty rallying call to the remnant church similar to the one sounded to God's people centuries ago,—"Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe His prophets, so shall ye prosper." 2 Chron. 20:20.

These monumental works on the pillars of our faith should not only be studied and used by members of the Ministerial Association, but should be read by every believer in the third angel's message. None can fail to sense the fact that we are facing events of far-reaching importance, and a crisis in which it is incumbent upon every believer to be true to "the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."

The College or Training Institute Society

By C. L. BOND

The Christian college or institute occupies a unique position in its relation to the denomination that operates it, and to the young people who assemble in its classrooms. It is the business of a Seventh-day Adventist college or institute to lead its youth not only in the attainment of high scholastic standing and right character building, but also in the acquirement of denominational perspective and training which will enable them to fill successfully their places in the great program of service which the church fosters.

It is imperative, therefore, that in connection with the work of the training center there be an organization especially designed to foster these interests and to bind the hearts of the youth to the church and its work. This is the purpose of the Missionary Volunteer Society. In order for it to fulfill its purpose this society should be operated, as nearly as possible, in harmony with the policies of the Young People's Department of the denomination.

The young people in our schools are the potential leaders of our work. Upon the completion of their work at the school they will go into all parts of the world field to "carry on" for God. But the way they carry on will be determined largely by the training they receive in the academy and the college.

There is a great deal of talent in a training center society. Consequently it is a simple matter to prepare original programs for the society meetings. But unless these programs are so planned and carried out that they lead to definite objectives which are in harmony with the general working policy of the church and of our world-wide youth's organization, the society will fail to give the training needed.

For this reason it is well to follow closely the program outlines which appear from week to week in the *Church Officers' Gazette*. It is always permissible to make adaptations and to add any original material that may be desired. But these outlines are built around certain well-defined objectives for the year, and it has been demonstrated that the school society that follows closely the topics outlined carries a much stronger program and accomplishes more in service and denominational training than does the soci-

ety which develops its own programs entirely.

Young people returning from the school to their home churches should be in a position to serve most acceptably as society officers. In order that this may be so, the school society should foster in a strong way the devotional and educational features; it should carry on the regular band activities, including the Master Comrade and League of Evangelism classes. Let us endeavor to make our school societies as nearly ideal as possible.

The Ministry

DURING recent years the China Division has followed the plan of having the magazine, *The Ministry*, sent to our workers in this division who are connected with this line of our mission work, and also to some others who wish to have the magazine, and make use of it in their work.

If for any reason any worker in the division, who desires *The Ministry*, does not receive it within the next two months, we should be glad to have you call the attention of the Ministerial Association of the China Division to this fact.

Word has also come to us from the General Conference asking that every worker, in case of change of address, be sure to notify the publishers of this change that they may know how to address your paper, and make sure of its being received.

We trust that all of our workers will take note of this request, and make sure that your address is corrected with the publishers in order that this valuable magazine may not fail to reach its proper destination.

— O. A. HALL

WE cull the following from a personal letter from Mrs. H. N. Broderson of the Fengtien Mission:

"The Lord is working mightily by His Holy Spirit here in Manchuria. In the district where Mr. Broderson is working 204 souls have been baptized thus far this year. The goal was 155 for Fengtien Province, and we still have two more stations to go to for baptisms. We may reach 225, or more. People are eager to study and to know the truth. The tent effort is over, but the same faithful company is attending Bible study. It gives us good courage.

"The REPORTER tells of large baptisms everywhere in China, too. Surely the Lord wants not one soul to be lost, and He is pleading with men and women to come now."

Church Members—Untrue

Not all compasses are trustworthy. If the magnetic needle has lost its sensitiveness, or if other parts of the compass are not just what they should be, we have an unsafe instrument. A pastor wrote the following message for his people, in his church bulletin: "I have a pocket-knife designed for camp use. It has a number of things not found in the ordinary knife; one of these is a compass. One day I was turning it about, testing the compass, which was evidently untrue to the magnetic pole. The needle gyrated in a most unexpected way without any apparent cause. A young man standing near by and watching the needle said, 'I should hate to be guided by that compass. It would never get a fellow home.'" Are we the sort that will get people safely home? Other lives are looking to us to show them the way. If we have lost our sensitiveness to the Pole Star, our Lord Jesus, or if, while still sensitive, we are letting things get between ourselves and him, we cannot point true. What a tragedy if others should be saying of us: "I should hate to be guided by that compass. It would never get a fellow home."

General Notes

Brother E. C. Wood recently spent two days in Shanghai. He came from Hankow, where he has been supervising the building of our new Wuhan Sanitarium, and left Shanghai by the Italian steamship, "Conte Verde," for Singapore, Straits Settlement, where he will join the Far Eastern Division committee in counsel and in working out plans for the new Far Eastern Division headquarters' offices. We pray that wisdom and enlightenment from God may be given in locating the headquarters and in providing suitable buildings and facilities for this new center of administration for our church work in the Far East,

Reassuring messages from three centers of the Northwest Union came to us recently by wire, and from one center by radio, and from another by letter. While we understand that conditions are not yet really peaceful in that union, hopes are entertained and prayers are continually offered that God will protect His work and workers in this troubled section of China. Shall we not all earnestly and unitedly pray for

these workers who are in the midst of danger that our Divine Helper will be a Refuge and Strength and a strong Tower to all His people in Shensi, Kansu, Chinghai, and other parts.

Reports concerning financial results in the world field for the first seven months of 1936 have recently come to our division office at Shanghai, from Pastor H. H. Cobban. He states: "I note that all but three of our world divisions show an increase in mission funds, and the three that show a decrease are not so far behind but what it is possible for them to catch up before the close of the year." We are sorry that China is one of the three divisions that shows a decrease of funds, but hope that before the year's report is made up that there will be a better showing.

Pastor Cobban further states: "It is encouraging to note that outside of North America the increase in mission funds is 7.8%. The net increase for the world field is 8.5%.

"I am glad to call your attention to the fact that the per capita giving for the world field shows an increase of three-tenths of a cent. This is due to increased per capita giving in North America, Southern Africa and Southern Europe. All other divisions save one show a decrease in per capita giving, and that one (Northern Europe) maintained the same per capita as for last year at this time. We are glad for the increase in per capita giving, and hope that all divisions can show such an increase by the end of the year. This would mean much to our work in the world field."

Pastor H. T. Elliott adds a paragraph in a recent letter as follows: "We are indeed cheered by the Harvest Ingathering in this country this year. The tenth report indicates that we are over \$102,000.00 ahead of what we had received last year this time. Many of the unions have reached their goals. We hope the gain will continue until the campaign ends."

Pastors Oss and Rebok returned from South China the evening of December 26, and report good meetings and progress in the various local fields of that union. Brother Rebok sailed for Manchuria January 7. On this trip he will visit the two unions, Manchuria and North China, attending committee meetings and giving help to schools and teachers in these unions. Brother Oss will be holding conventions and attending meetings in North China

from January 16 to February 7, and following this will be in Manchuria from February 8-18 for colporteur institutes.

Pastor J. T. Jacobs, one of our ministers of the Upper Columbia Conference, in the North Pacific Union, having been granted a leave of absence for six months, is making a trip around the world. He arrived in Japan by the "Asama Maru," transhipped to the "Shanghai Maru," arriving here December 20. He spent a few days in Shanghai, made a fast trip to Peiping and return, and continued his voyage to Hong Kong and Manila by the "Empress of Canada," December 29. We wish Brother Jacobs a safe and helpful tour, and trust that through this visit a vision of the work and its needs may be brought back to the churches under Brother Jacobs' charge and be instrumental in leading many to a deeper consecration of life and means to the cause of God, which is soon to triumph gloriously in this earth.

Under date of December 27, 1936, Professor P. E. Quimby writes: "Our Ministerial Project Mission is working hard. We now have fifteen soul-winning projects in operation in the nearby towns and cities. . . . We as a Ministerial Project Mission have decided to give up our anticipated and much needed New Year's vacation, and use that time conducting six efforts for ten days long in Nanking and Chinking." Brother Quimby encloses a list of the speakers, subjects, dates and hours of holding meetings. Pastor Meng is taking a leading part in all the missionary features, and in this special effort in Nanking and Chinking.

Under date of January 7, 1937, Brother Quimby, in speaking of the meetings being held, suggests that the boys are very happy in the effort, that they are doing exceptionally well in presenting the message with power, and that the attendance is good. He himself has been greatly surprised and inspired as he has seen the young people throw themselves into the work, and has received a new and larger vision for evangelism in China. A number of teachers and regular workers have rendered assistance, among them, Pastors Effenberg, Hall, Reed, Rebok, Blandford, K. H. Wood, and President B. A. Liu. The final statement of the letter says: "I sincerely believe many will be saved in the kingdom as the result of these efforts."

China Division Reporter

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The third quarter's statistical report for China has been sent on to the General Conference offices. We are not printing the full report in this issue, but briefly calling attention to the baptismal figures.

The baptisms for the quarter total 757. By unions the results are as follows: Manchuria leads with 226, East China next with 178, South China 130, West China 96, North China 93, Northwest China 32, Central China 2. With these additions our baptized membership for the division is 16,604. We trust that the fourth quarter's figures which will soon be made up—will show a good increase over the third quarter.

Dr. P. A. Webber, principal of our Japan Training Institute, is in Shanghai for about two weeks. He brings report of the progress of our work in various lines in Japan. Several Chinese students in attendance at the training school are doing well, and are much appreciated for their faithfulness and willingness to work hard. Dr. Webber while here is giving some lectures on "foods and nutrition," with special emphasis on the high merits of the soy bean in its many forms as a nutritive of the first quality. A much more general use of this valuable plant, not only for food purposes but for building and automobile construction is forseen.

The same boat, "Taiyo Maru," that brought to us the Krohn family for the China Training Institute and Dr. P. A. Webber on a visit here, brought seven other Seventh-day Adventists, three new workers going to the Far Eastern Division field and four for India. Brother and Sister Nearness were enroute to Sarawak, Borneo, for evangelistic service, and Miss Jennie Carrier going to the Far Eastern Division headquarters at Singapore for office work. Brother and Sister C. C. Cantwell and two children are returning to western India after a furlough in the States. We were happy to greet all these new workers as reinforcements to our ranks in these three large divisions of our church organization.

A letter from Pastor Bernhard Petersen informs us of their new address,—807 Linn Street, Atlantic, Iowa, and their new work,—that of shepherding a group of fourteen churches and companies of our believers in the Iowa Conference. Brother and Sister Petersen regret that for health reasons they shall not be able to return to China at this time, but are glad for an opportunity to continue to work for God. They ask for their names to be retained on the subscription list for the China Division REPORTER, and suggest that they shall never forget the China workers, and pass on best wishes for the new year. We know the REPORTER readers will continue to remember these fellow workers at the Throne of grace, and shall often thank God for the work accomplished in China by our dear Brother and Sister Petersen.

The "Asama Maru," sailing January 9, 1937, for San Francisco, took as a passenger our dear sister Lucy Andrus, who because of ill health has been confined to her room at the Shanghai Sanitarium since May. Sister Andrus has made some progress toward recovery, and with a little help is able to walk about the room. A Chinese friend, Miss Grace Hsu, attended Miss Andrus to Yokohama. At this port Miss Dorothy Wheeler is boarding the "Asama," sailing from the Far Eastern Division on furlough. Miss Wheeler has very kindly offered to assist Miss Andrus until arrival in San Francisco, where Miss Andrus' brother is expected to meet her.

Miss Andrus is making her home for a time with her brother, whose address is, care F. L. Andrus, R. 2, Box 5099, Hayward, California, and will later be with her sister who lives not far from Portland, Oregon.

Our prayers shall go with this faithful sister, who has so earnestly labored in China, first as a church school teacher for our foreign children, and later from 1925 on for the women of North China. We know that we shall all greatly miss Sister Andrus, and especially will the Chinese sisters of North China often long for her counsel and instruction.

A word back from Miss Andrus suggests that she is getting along fine on the boat. We shall pray that God will be gracious to our sister, giving her comfort and joy and peace on the journey to the homeland, and, if consistent with His will, healing of body for further service.

Brother and Sister Clarence Krohn and daughter Eva Mae arrived in Shanghai on the "Taiyo Maru," January 4, 1937. They come to us from the Broadview Academy, La Grange, Illinois, where Brother Krohn has been in charge of the agricultural work. After a good start on the Chinese language has been made by them in our language school in Nanking, Brother Krohn will take up the same line of work at the China Training Institute. We heartily welcome this new family to our educational work in China, and trust that with their coming the agricultural interests of the Institute will be given needed direction and guidance. And as our Chinese young people receive and impart this practical agricultural training, spoken of and emphasized as essential so often by the prophet of the Lord for these last days, may not our educational institutions in China in a fuller sense "reveal how far divine instruction excels the learning of the world."

Miss Gertrude Green, a new nurse for the Shanghai Sanitarium, arrived in Shanghai on the "Shanghai Maru," December 20, after transshipping from the "Asama Maru," in Japan. She is now attending our Chinese language school in Nanking conducted by the Home Study Institute. After language study, Miss Green will connect with the Shanghai Sanitarium. We welcome Miss Green to China, and to the "healing ministry" of the church in this field.

We were most agreeably surprised to welcome Pastor A. W. Cormack, associate secretary of the General Conference, Monday, January eleven, who arrived in Shanghai unannounced on the "Hakosaki Maru." Pastor Cormack is on his way to attend the Spring Council of the Far Eastern Division Committee, and to attend their union committee sessions. Our Shanghai believers, Chinese and foreign, were truly blessed as they listened to his spiritual instruction, given in the two services held in the Ningkuo Road chapels. It is Pastor Cormack's plan to return to this field and to be in attendance at the Spring Council of the China Division Executive Committee, possibly, also prior to this date, May 5 to 18, visit a portion of the China field and become somewhat acquainted with our church work. We shall look forward to this visit, and sincerely welcome him at that time.