Far Lastern Division Outlook

VOL. 14

GETTING A GOOD START

L H. EVANS



GOOD start means much in all the affairs of life. This truth has passed into a proverb, "Take time (another word for opportunity) by the forelock." The very forces of nature seem to favor whatever gets a good start. It does not matter whether it be a field of wheat, or corn, or weeds, a good beginning promises a good harvest. In animal life, be it beast or man, a good start counts largely for A sickly, undernourished child, a stunted calf or colt, is greatly handicapped. success. The child may win in the end, the calf or colt may develop, but the struggle must be much greater than it would have been with a good start. In competitive feats of speed, or strength, or skill, the winning or losing often depends on the start. Each seeks to lead when the word "Go" is spoken.

The year 1924 has ended. Its victories and defeats, its gains and losses, are all in the keeping of Him whose servants we are. We have done with 1924 till the judgment day. The records are filed in the archives of Heaven. Some day we must account for all we neglected to do, or receive the reward for faithful service. In some sections of the Far Eastern Division the best record in soul-winning that we have yet seen was made. In other parts of our field little was gained. We do not know what the totals will show, when all the reports are in ; but, taken all in all, it is certain that 1924 will be the best year of the Far Eastern Division.

Now 1925 is here. We stand at the beginning of a round of days and months, that will be filled with a record of our individual lives. We are the authors of our own biography,the makers of our own history.

Shall we make 1925 the banner year of all our service for God in purity, in holiness, and in soul-winning? If so, we ought to make a good start this very month. January is onetwelfth of the whole year. It has thirty-one days. If we get a good start for this year, January must be a month of active service in winning souls to Christ. It is not enough to let the days slip by because it is too cold or too hot, too wet or too dry, to work. As God's men we must set all our forces at work to bring souls to Christ.

A good start means that January will see us at the front with all our men doing full work. A successful January will give heartening promise for a large harvest next December. Four thousand souls added to our church membership ought to be our goal for 1925. That means that January should see 334 souls added to our membership above all losses.

Let us get a good start for 1925 by making January produce its full quota of results. The end of probation is near, and we ought to count it all joy to double our service for Christ.

Statistical Returns for the Third Quarter of 1924

ANOTHER thousand members have been gained during the second and third quarters of 1924. At the beginning of 1924 our net church membership stood at 12,845; at the end of the first quarter it was 13,065; now, at the end of the third quarter, it is 14,124. This represents a net gain of 1,279 baptized believers during the first nine months of the year 1924. The net gain during the third quarter alone, was 772. While the aggregate is not as much as our goal called for, it nevertheless gives us ground for gratitude. God has been adding His blessings, and to Him we would ascribe all praise.

Where the Gains Have Been Made

The gains for the first nine months of 1924 were made by union missions as follows: Philippines 564; Chosen 121; Japan 34; Manchuria 30; Central China 106; North China 2; South China 43; East China 105; Malaysia 168; East Siberia 106; West China remained stationary.

Notable provincial gains: Celebes 30; Malay States 19; North Sumatra 12; South Sumatra 16; West Java 69; West Chosen 87; South Chosen 31; Kansai (Japan) 14; Kanto (Japan) 11; Fengtien (Manchuria) 25; Northern Luzon 217; West Visaya 428; East Visaya 97; Kiangsu 69; Anhwei 20; South Chekiang 16; Hunan 39; Honan 95.

Tithes and Offerings

A gain of about ten per cent. is noted in tithes and offerings, over the same period a year ago,

Educational

Five hundred more are in attendance at our denominational schools, than at the beginning of the year.

Sabbath Schools

During the first nine months of 1924, the enrolment in our Sabbath schools increased between seventeen and eighteen hundred. Nearly twenty thousand are numbered in our Sabbath school membership at the close of Sept. 30, 1924.

The Report for the Fourth Quarter

It is planned to publish the report for the fourth quarter of 1924, in the April 1, 1925, issue of the OUTLOOK. The annual statistical summaries, with comparative tables, will appear in the May 1 number. Meanwhile, we shall be getting well into a new year, when new records will be made. Let us labor as unto the Lord, and He will see to it that there is an abundant harvest. c.

Helping Out in South Chekiang

DURING the time that Pastor G. L. Wilkinson and wife are on furlough in the States, the brethren of the East China Union are doing what they can to continue the work in the South Chekiang Mission in a strong way. Prof. B. F. Gregory, in charge of the school, is permanently stationed in Wenchow, the headquarters of the South Chekiang Mission, and he and Sister Gregory are carrying heavy responsibilities. From time to time Pastor J. G. Gjording and others have been going down to help. At present Brother Gjording and his family are giving another six weeks to South Chekiang. Sister B. Miller is with them, and will hold two institutes for the women during January. Pastor and Mrs. John Oss have given a few weeks of their time, also, to the work in the Wenchow language area, and a few weeks ago Pastor H. J. Doolittle spent a month there. Several baptisms are being reported.

Thanksgiving Week of Sacrifice-Feb. 22-28, 1925

Funds Received During Week of Sacrifice

AS MENTIONED in the November issue of the OUTLOOK, our field received notice from the General Conference regarding their plan for the Thanksgiving Week of Sacrifice offering too late for this offering during Thangsgiving week of 1924. Our Committee has therefore set aside the week February 22 to 28, 1925, as a time when we should plan on receiving this offering throughout the Far Eastern Division. It is our understanding that these funds should be treated like other regular mission offerings, and be forwarded through the regular channels to the General Conference office; also that such funds apply on the Sixty-cent-a-week Fund. We wish to encourage all who give for this purpose to report such funds separately from the annual or other mission offerings, so that we may render a correct, compiled report to the General Conference. Let us as workers and believers in the Far East all join cheerfully in this plan which has been adopted by the General Conference in Fall Council as one of the regular means of gathering funds for the support of our world-wide mission work.

H. W. BARROWS.

The Harvest Ingathering Work

Raising Funds in Japan

THE Harvest Ingathering campaign in Japan has been carried forward again this year. Our goal for our field was 15 yen per member. Whatever we raise in this field must be done through the sale of the paper. The publishing house was asked to put out a thirty-two-page Harvest Ingathering number, which we are selling for fifty sen each. For the most part there has been a hearty response on the part of the members, although this is the second year we have had such a campaign. Last year many did not get out on account of the conditions following the earthquake. Every church and company have done something this year. Reports are not all in yet, so we do not know just how much has been raised to date. The largest amount given thus far was one hundred yen received from a Japanese firm. They took two hundred of the papers.

Many, we believe, have heard of our work for the first time through this campaign. We see great blessings in this endeavor, besides the money we may realize. The manager of one of the leading banks in Japan gave us opportunity to explain our work, and he was especially interested in our educational system. One man, a member of another church, has taken some of the papers and is working among his friends. He promised to do all he could himself, and to get some of his friends to join him in giving. One woman, although not yet a member, has volunteered to solicit help from some of her rich friends.

We see great possibilities in this work in Japan, and believe that as our people realize this, we may expect greater returns in the future.

V. T. ARMSTRONG.



Evangelistic Work in the Japan Union

DURING November meetings were held in Wakamatsu in the church. Pastor Okohira assisted the local workers in this meeting, aud he reports a profitable time. The members of the church received much help from the meetings, and two interested people have begun keeping the Sabbath.

In Sapporo meetings were started November 20. These will continue until the latter part of December. This is the longest series of meetings we have held in Hokkaido, and we look for some to take their stand with us. Last September six were baptized in Sapporo, and others were asked to wait for more study and instruction. Pastor Kobayashi, who is assisting in these meetings, writes that some will be ready for baptism at the close of the series of studies.

The Week of Prayer was a time of spiritual blessing in our field. Reports received from workers thus far tell of good meetings. The members in Tokyo rejoiced to have the new building in which to hold their meetings. Meetings were held each evening in the church. The last Sabbath of the week the members joined in the ordinances of the Lord's house. Good testimonies were borne by all the members present, and we believe the Tokyo church enters upon the coming year with new courage. Pastor Kuniya and his helpers are finding more openings for readings and cottage meetings than ever before.

Some months ago Pastor Kuniya, through the introduction of one of our Japanese sisters who is a nurse, became acquainted with a family who stood high in the government some years ago. He began to give studies first to one of the family; later another member of the family joined and others have become interested, until today there are thirteen of this family receiving studies. We hope they may see all the light and decide to walk therein.

V. T. ARMSTRONG.

A Letter From Brother Gilbert

PASTOR F. C. GILBERT, in a communication sent from South Lancaster, Mass., November 10, says:

"I have been in attendance at the Autumn Council at Des Moines, lowa, and have also spent ten days at the camp-meeting in Orlando, Florida. My heart was greatly cheered as I saw hundreds of people present at the early morning hour when at times the only way they could get to the tent was by walking on boards, in mud, and through slush. It showed to me that there is still power in the third angel's message to attract people to the message of God.

"The program at the meeting all the way through was very good, and one evening was devoted to the graduation exercises of the nurses at the Florida Sanitarium.

"In opening up the things of the mission fields at the camp-meeting, the Spirit of God impressed the hearts of the people, and there was a very liberal response. We received some \$15,000 as an offering for missions, and in addition to that I saw a brother who gave me \$2,000 for a worker especially for Szechuan."

Prospects for the Literature Work in Shensi

BROTHER I. O. WALLACE, of Sianfu, Shensi, writes hopefully of the colporteur work in that part of the field. He says: "When our colporteurs were working in Sian, I spent three or four hours each day with them, during which time they did splendidly. I hear they are still doing well in the northern end of Shensi. We hope to have eight regular colporteurs in Shensi in 1925, and a local leader. This will give us two in the north, two in the south, and four in the more populous central section.

"In the south of the province there is an interested group of about twenty who have been trying for several years to get help. A few days ago Brother Gillis received a letter from a man in the southwest who has been reading the Signs for some time, and who now wants to become an Adventist. Both these interests, I believe, are the result of colporteur work.

"Shensi will take over the management of the book work in this province in 1925, and we hope to have a sufficient number of workers to enable us to place the message over a wide section."

(News note from a Shanghai daily paper)

Motorists Have Narrow Escape in Bandit Raid

Walled Town in Honan Looted by Band of 200 Armed Men

"Yencheng, Honan, Dec. 9.—Bandits are bestirring themselves in the country round about. A large walled town twenty miles east of here, Siaoyao, was raided by the bandits early in the morning of December 7th. A band of about 200 armed men broke into the town and began a systematic looting of the place. Two of the foreigners connected with the Seventh-day Adventist Mission here happened to be in Siaoyao at the time. They had started on a tour of the eastern part of the province, but their car had broken down the day before just as they reached Siaoyao. So they were fairly caught in the trap.

"After an hour or so of the looting the bandits discovered the foreigners, and one of their leaders came into the chapel to see about it. He was well treated, given a meal, and food provided for several of his men. Soon others of the horde came pouring into the place, and were for taking the foreigners and holding them for ransom, but the leader would not allow it. The bandits closed all the gates of the city, allowing no one to leave and no one to enter. They held the place for many hours, and when their work of looting and of taking of hostages was done, took their departure in a northwesterly direction.

"Only a few houses were burned, and it is reported that but three men were killed and seven wounded. Some of the wounded have since been brought into our hospital here. Yesterday your correspondent made a trip to Siaoyao to find out what had happened to the foreigners and also to our property there. I was glad to find that none of our property had been damaged, and that none of the people had been taken for ransom. The countryside is in a state of terror, and few people are to be seen on the roads. . . .

"Late last evening the two foreigners with the crippled car arrived here. They look none the worse for their experience, but say that once is aplenty, as the bandits are armed to the teeth with automatics, rifles, and bayonets, and are skilled in the handling of weapons."

The West China Union Mission

THE return from furlough of Pastor C. L. Blandford and Dr. J. N. Andrews to Szechwan a few weeks ago made possible the holding of a union committee council in Chungking. Pastor S. H. Lindt and family had come in from Chengtu, and Brother Alton Hughes and family had arrived from the States. This brought all the foreign members of the West China Union Mission together after two years and more of separation. A union committee council was held, and Pastor M. C. Warren, the union superintendent, reports the blessing of the Lord throughout their meeting. Consideration was given the Miao work, but it was decided that the slender force now in the field should be kept in the three centers already opened. The coming of reinforcements next year may make possible the entering of new territory.

School problems received attention, and all were united in planning for a central school conveniently located to serve the various provincial missions. The present constituency calls tor only the lower grades of work, and at present all students are accommodated in the higher primary schools being conducted in Chungking and Chengtu.

Concerning the provincial mission in East Szechwan, Brother Warren writes of many encouragements. A company of nine were baptized recently. One of those baptized is a young man of promise who has given up much in order to keep the seventh-day Sabbath. His father has been praying for him for some time, and now the young man has taken a firm stand. c.

Providences in the Kiangsu Mission

THE Women's Bible Institute in Shanghai closed with the baptism of twelve women, which number is probably only a third of those who would have been baptized had not the war broken up our plans and made it impossible for us to itinerate.

I am now doing some of my belated itinerating, and thus far I am greatly encouraged with the progress of the work in the field, in spite of the war. There are believers ready for baptism in every place I have been, and others preparing for baptism next spring.

Today I have visited a company of believers two days' journey south of Hangchow, and about three hours by chair from our nearest station, where I am now, Tsu Gi. We have been conducting a Sabbath school in that place for only a little over two months, and there are now nearly forty adults, besides a large group of school children, in regular attendance every Sabbath. The leader of this company, and superintendent of the Sabbath school, is a B. A. under the old system of the Manchus, which together with being sixty years of age, gives him much influence and prestige in the village. He is also one of the village "elders." He began keeping the Sabbath about a year ago, and takes our magazines regularly besides reading many of our books.

This village where our Sabbath school is located is a family village, with all the families of one name. There is an estimated population of more than four thousand, owning more than three thousand mow of land surrounding the village. Our meeting today, though unannounced, was attended by more than one hundred adults, besides scores of children, and was held in an ancestral hall, where our Sabbath school is also held. After I had spoken on the subject, "The True God and His Son, the Saviour of the World," the leader proposed to the people that they turn over to us one of their public buildings, the library building, which had fallen into disuse more or less, for our regular church building. The trustees of the building then left the meeting and talked the matter over. When they returned they reported that it was decided unanimously to turn over their library building to our Mission for a church, and that it would be rent free for at least ten years, or until our work outgrows the building. I should like to have stayed longer to hold a "praise meeting," but as this was impossible, I have been praising God in my heart ever since, while walking the thirty-five *li* back to our chapel here.

There is a story connected with this library building which is of considerable interest. While the building was in process of erection a couple of wealthy scholars heard about it, and took a trip to see it. After leaving they sent back two large whale or shark ribs to be used as arch supports over the doors. This was their donation to the building. This was many years ago, but the ribs are still there and seem as solid as ever. The two joint ends which fastened to the backbone are left projecting out into the open. People from distant places stop, in passing, to see this building with the fish-bones for door-arch supports. The stone tablet over the main entrance reads, "The Fish Bone Arch Library Building."

The fact that the people so willingly gave up this famous ancient building to be their Christian church is evidence to me that their desire for the gospel surpasses their desire to preserve their ancient relics and landmarks. And this is another instance of how easily the doors of heathenism and superstition open when the Lord unlocks them to set the captives of Satan free, in contrast to the difficulty with which we pry open the doors and move the age-bound hinges. My daily prayer is that I and my fellow workers may discern the Lord's leading hand, and recognize the doors that are opening for the entrance of the gospel. Thus we may step in at the opportune time to lead the people out into the light of truth.

K. H. WOOD.

Island Work in a Sister Division

MISS BESSIE A. DOWELL, of New South Wales, in a recent letter writes thus of the island work in the Australasian Division:

"Our work in the Solomon Islands has been richly blessed of God. Lately we have entered another island of this group in Bougainville; and we are also expecting to hear of the island of Malaita being entered within a short time.

"The prospects for our mission work in New Guinea are also very bright at present. Last Saturday, the 26th, Brother and Sister Lock and family, accompanied by other mission workers, left Bisiatabu for Efogi, where the natives have already erected a house for the missionaries. This journey takes five days to make, and is a very dangerous one. In some places the children will have to be let down over cliffs. Not only this, but there are rivers to ford, brush scrub to scramble through, high mountains to climb, with the rays of the tropical sun beating down upon the travelers. The natives of Efogi are anxiously awaiting the arrival of the white missionary woman and her children. The Missionary Volunteers of Australasia are supporting by their offerings the workers in New Guinea; and as they do this, and pray for them daily, we believe that God will answer their prayers by turning the hearts of these dark-skinned people to the Saviour of all mankind.

"In the New Hebrides our four families of missionaries have had much to encourage them. While attempts have been made in Ambrim to bring in a Sunday law, this failed miserably—broken up by Sunday-keepers who found it hard not to shop on that day. Opposition on that island has increased the interest in our work."

Annual Meetings in Sumatra

THE second annual meeting for North Sumatra was convened on October 10 at Medan. It was a happy surprise to see the large number present at our first Sabbath meeting —an attendance more than double that of a year ago. The new director, Brother I. C. Schmidt, has been greatly blessed of the Lord in his work during the past year. He has not yet received his permit from the Government to do public work, but we hope this will be granted in a short time. In the meantime he is devoting his energies to building up the colporteur work.

Our workers are all of good courage, and are learning better ways of presenting the truth. We look forward to a larger increase in membership during 1925. The North Sumatra Mission expects to have a new tent in December, and as soon as permission to do public work is granted, a strong evangelistic effort will be begun. At this meeting Mrs. Finster gave many lessons on Sabbath school work.

After this meeting we went to Batakland, Sumatra. The school at this place is not so large as last year; but there is a splendid spirit among the older students. Almost every member of the highest class expects to go to Singapore next year to complete his studies. Pastor Youngberg and his wife had just arrived to take charge of the work in this field, while Pastor D. S. Kime returns to the homeland for his well-earned furlough. We visited many of our members in their homes and found them all of good courage in the "blessed hope."

From here we went to Padang, where the second annual meeting in the South Sumatra Mission was held. We found Brother Wood and his workers of good courage. The attendance during the meeting was excellent. Brother Wood has been detained in the southern part of the island much of the year on account of the sickness and death of some of his workers. For this reason the number of baptisms was smaller than would otherwise have been. However, he expects to baptize a larger number in 1924 than in 1923.

While at this meeting plans were made to send one of our Nias boys to take our first Nias literature to the small island by that name lying to the west of Sumatra.

God has blessed our brethren at Padang in raising enough money to build an addition to their church, to make room for their growing church school. A young people's society was organized at Padang. Mrs. Finster gave daily lessons on Sabbath-school work. Padang is situated but fifteen miles from the equator, but one has access, by a good railroad, to a splendid cool resort at Fort de Kock, a short distance away. The work at Padang was started many years ago; and we were glad to find the truth growing more precious to those who have known it the longest. On our way to Batavia we stopped off for a few hours at Benkoelen and held a service with our growing church in that place.

The Government has given us permission to work in the Lampongs district at the southern end of Sumatra. Plans were laid at this meeting to occupy this new territory. Sumatra is one of the most beautiful islands in the world, and the people are very warm-hearted. The prospect is good for a strong work to be built up there.

For Our Mutual Encouragement

"Victory Through Christ"

"A BROTHER of the Amaraw church, Florencio Domucmat by name, was recently called to be the principal witness against a man who had been falsely accused of the crime of "alienamiento de morada" (house-breaking). This was the second time he was summoned to witness. At the first time he was summoned, several months ago, he was not yet an Adventist. He did not know the law of God, so he readily consented, for a reward, to be a false witness against the accused. Somehow the case necessitated a second trial, and before the second trial took place he became a Seventh-day Adventist, pledging allegiance to Christ and loyalty to God's law.

"The day of the trial was rapidly approaching. It was the trial of a man falsely accused. It was no less truly the trial of a man falsely accused. Was he to declare before the Court that in the first trial he spoke lies? The threat of prosecution for perjury was hanging upon his head. Would he try to escape it by witnessing again as consistently as possible with his testimony in the first trial? Not At the trial, before an immense multitude he boldly declared that he was now a follower of Christ, subject to the law of God. He said that he was sorry he had consented to be a false witness in the first trial, but that was in his days of darkness without a knowledge of God and of His law, and now he feared God, and did not want to break His holy law.

"The trial closed, but the prosecuting attorney left word that he would sue our brother for perjury, which is punishable with six months' imprisonment and heavy fine. In spite of this hard prospect our brother is at peace and happy because he has done his duty to God.

This great spiritual victory should inspire us to be more faithful in the preaching of the gospel, which has not lost any of its power to save from sin. May our people follow this noble example of our brother; and let us pray that God will so overrule things that our brother may escape the difficulty that is before him."—L. Z. Roda, in "Echoes From the Ilocano Field," September, 1924.

Every Year

THE Saviour's advent draweth nearer Every year; Fulfilling signs are growing clearer Every year. And pilgrims through earth's shadows peering Lift up their heads; for heaven is nearing Every year. Creation groans with hands uplifted Every year; O'er earth's bosom snows have drifted Every year. Up toward home our way's advancing, While earth grows less and less entrancing Every year. Oh! there's so much of sin and weeping Every year; Sad, bitter tears for loved ones sleeping Every year; The land is full of pain and dying, Of Rachels for their children crying, Every year. We walk by faith with eyes uplifted Every year. Soon shall we see, when clouds are rifted, Christ appear. Then, welcome friends that ne'er shall sever! Welcome the life that bringeth never Sigh nor tear! --L. D. Saniee.

Statistical Report of the Far Eastern Division Mission for t

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Reports of Provincial Meetings in the Central China Union

The Hunan Mission General Meeting, Changsha, September 19-27, 1924

THE attendance at this yearly gathering, including workers, church members and inquirers, numbered 205. About eighty were from Changsha and vicinity, and the others came from all parts of the mission territory. Among these was an old brother aged seventy-four years, who, in order to share in the spiritual refreshing of this meeting, walked 330 li (110 miles). It was learned that this aged man walks more than 20 li to attend Sabbath school and rarely misses a Sabbath. Another brother, sixty years old, walked 360 li (120 miles). A number of others walked 200 li, and many more came long distances by boat and train.

The instruction from the pulpit was of a very practical nature. The importance of confessing and forsaking every known sin; the privilege of living on a higher spiritual plane; the duty of everyone to labor earnestly to save others; and the necessity of thoroughly preparing to meet our soon-coming Lord were definitely set forth.

Pastor C. C. Crisler gave a number of talks based upon the writings of Sister E. G. White. The quotations had previously been translated and written on charts in Chinese characters so that the people could read as well as hear the instruction and admonition which is of such vital importance to all who are connected with the movement of the third angel's message.

Pastor O. A. Hall gave valuable counsel in solving the many problems which are a part of a large and growing work. His talks from the rostrum carried deep conviction to the hearts of the hearers.

Professor Williams gave special attention to educational matters, and urged upon all the duty to support our church schools and to see to it that the children of believers receive the spiritual help and many other advantages which our mission schools afford. Arrangements were made for a large number of students to enter our schools at Changsha, Hankow, and other places. A few had already gone on to the college at Shanghai.

A number of leading Chinese workers preached the word with clearness and power.

An interesting feature of this meeting was the stereopticon lectures. On three evenings preceding the regular sermon by the Chinese worker, Brother Crisler gave halfhour lectures on our world-wide work and missionary advance.

The evangelists in charge of stations gave reports of their work in connection with a lecture showing views of the different branches of the work in all parts of the province.

The reports of the director, treasurer, and departmental leaders showed that in spite of great difficulties due to political strife, long continued rains, and floods, the work during the past year has advanced. Mention should be made of the excellent reports presented in detail by the Chinese workers who head the Sabbath school, home missionary, and publishing departments. We have seen no more ability in the preparation and delivery of reports on the part of foreign workers than was shown by these Chinese brethren. A spirit of real Christian helpfulness and brotherly love was manifested throughout the meeting. The widows and orphans among us, and other poor and needy, were cared for in the spirit of the Master who came to this world not to be ministered unto but to minister.

The last Sabbath afternoon nearly 150 believers partook of the Lord's supper. These had been blessed during the ordinance of humility, and prepared in heart and spirit to receive the emblems of our Lord's sacrifice. In meetings on other days preceding the closing Sabbath, many had in prayer and testimony given evidence of a work of grace upon their hearts, and had revealed a great desire to be right with God and their fellowmen.

At the Sabbath school service an offering of more than \$250 Mex. in cash and pledges was received, the believers thus showing in a material manner their gratitude to God for blessings bestowed.

Brethren Longway and Shaw reached Changsha near the close of the meeting, and will continue there for some time training a dozen or more young men who wish to enter the colporteur work.

During the business sessions a number of plans, recommendations and goals were discussed and adopted which will further the work.

We all praise the Lord for the good meeting which He so graciously gave us. Brethren Davis and Dixon with their corps of experienced Chinese workers and the many believers face the duties of the coming year with strong courage in the Lord, and believe that under God's blessing many souls will be won from heathenism as all engage earnestly and prayerfully in the work of God. O. B. KUHN.

North of the Yellow River

TWO DISTRICT meetings were held during the fall of 1924 in northern Honan—one at Changtefu, on the Peking-Hankow Railway; the second at Tsiyuan, a city reached by a cart road running westward close to the Shansi border.

That section of Honan lying north of the Yellow River is a little kingdom in itself. In seasons when there is $sufficien_t$ rainfall, the land is productive. In addition to the usual grains and vegetables, there are many fruits in season. The natural resources include timber from the mountains, and extensive deposits of excellent coal.

Under the prospering hand of the Lord, we shall soon have a hundred believers in northern Honan. Some of these are farmers; a few are artisans and shopkeepers. The believers reveal an earnestness and a devotion that gives ground for confidence regarding the future.

In attendance at our Changtefu meeting were some from across the Chihli border. One dear sister had brought two others to the meeting, all ready for baptism. The sister herself, upwards of sixty years of age, had not yet been baptized. Those whom she had led to Jesus, were well spoken of, and upon examination were found to have been faithfully instructed. Great was the joy of our sister as these two were privileged to go down with her into the water to receive baptism. Warm-hearted followers of the Lord Jesus will yet bring to all of China a knowledge of saving truth. God will raise up many humble instrumentalities to unite with those already in service, and thus will He cut short His work in righteousness.

While we were together in Changtefu, several meetings were held daily, and the Lord met with us by His Spirit. Pastor W. E. Strickland, director of the Honan Mission, was in constant attendance, as was Pastor O. A. Hall, superintendent of the Central China Union. The closing afternoon of our stay the ordinances of the Lord's house were celebrated, the nine new members baptized the previous day now uniting with us in sweet fellowship. How the advent message does make of us all one great family!

The cross-country journey to Tsiyuan took us nearly a week longer than the time ordinarily required. War conditions had paralyzed facilities for travel, which at best are somewhat primitive, and a heavy rainstorm lasting three days made the dirt roads all but impassable. Finally we reached the lovely vale known as Tsiyuan. Our days with the brethren and sisters there were altogether too short. It is always a pleasure to remain as long as possible with our church-members who dwell in the more isolated districts. And when finanlly the day comes when we must depart, we endeavor to help them to understand that they are solemnly committed to God, and to the word of His grace, which is able to build them up, and give them an inheritance among all them which are sanctified. c.

The Hupeh Provincial Mission

(Synopsis of the report rendered by the director, Brother A. J. Wearner, at the opening of the annual meeting held in Wuchang Oct. 31-Nov. 8, 1924)

HUPEH may well be called the heart of the Chinese Republic. It is one of the larger provinces, and of importance commercially. It is on an average 300 miles wide and 500 miles long. Within this area live 27,167,244 people. Among these multitudes there are 281 baptized Seventh-day Adventists—"living epistles, known and read of all men."

The message of present truth first reached Hupeh about fifteen years ago. At present we are operating in fifteen outstations, and have two ministers, five evangelists, nine others who are licensed to preach, eleven teachers, one Bible woman, three secretaries, nine colporteurs. During the year we have baptized twenty-three, and have received two by letter from other churches. Several are awaiting baptism. Hundreds have been given the warning message. It is difficult to express in detail, with mere figures, the large amount of work actually done the past year.

There are many openings. People are requesting the privilege of hearing our message. Others who have heard the truth in our chapels or through reading, are writing us for more information. We need zealous evangelists; we need colporteurs who will trust God and conquer discouragement; we need many faithful, genuinely converted members to strengthen the churches. We need a representative church-building in the city of Hankow. Above all these, we need a large measure of the Holy Spirit to link us with the powers of heaven, and to keep our hearts warm in the love of the truths we are proclaiming.

Brethren and sisters, let us determine that this meeting shall mark an advance in the work of God in Hupeh. Let us ask God to help us win men for His kingdom. Let us strive to attain the goal of "one won for Christ for each member this coming year." A. J. WEARNER.

Supplemental Report of the Hunan Mission, for Half Year ending June 30, 1924

WE believe that our God has watched over the work this year, and has bestowed many blessings on us as a people. We thank Him for the spiritual and temporal peace that we are enjoying in Hunan again, for His blessings on the church, for the care and protection of our workers from harm and disease, and for the measure of success that has attended our efforts.

Our work had been practically paralyzed by the war and political troubles that ended with the year 1923; but with the new year came peace, and our workers were able to carry on the different branches of our work once more without political hindrance. But at the beginning of this year another trouble came to us in the form of a rainy season. We had almost continuous rain from January until after the end of June. Our laborers deserve much credit for working as faithfully as they have worked, through the long months of wet, trying weather. There were only a few days during these whole six months when the heavens did not pour down an almost continuous drizzle of rain; and yet through it all, as far as I can ascertain, our men with but few exceptions did faithful work.

At the beginning of the year plans were made for a better shepherding of believers in the outstations, and of isolated members, of whom we have a considerable number. Brother Hwang Djung Seng was appointed to care for the isolated believers and assist with the work of the Sabbath School and Home Missionary Departments, and to give special help to all church officers. He has been a strength to the work, and has been keeping in touch with isolated members whose spiritual welfare would otherwise have been neglected. In addition, a promotion paper was begun, with Ho Moosa as editor; and this has already proven itself a splendid help in keeping in touch with all the believers. The use of this paper has built up our tithes and offerings, and has promoted all branches of the work.

During the spring of 1924 four tent efforts were held. The rain interfered very much with these, and on this account, with perhaps one exception, the efforts did not bring to us as goodly a number of new believers as have come from former efforts conducted in better weather. However, quite a number are preparing for baptism, and a few of these are to be baptized during our general meeting. Evangelistic efforts have been held in seven of our chapels, with more or less success, and there will be precious souls from these places ready for baptism by the end of the year.

This year our native secretary of the Sabbath school and home missionary departments has worked untiringly, traveling from church to church, and organizing, strengthening and teaching our brethren and sisters how best to conduct such work.

A good gain has been made this year in our tithes. We have received from this source the sum of \$185.45 which is an increase of over \$100.00 on the same period of last year. We consider this good, but we are by no means satisfied. Altogether too few of our people are receiving the blessings that God bestows on those who are faithful in returning to God His own. We believe that as our percentage of tithepayers increases, the church as a whole will become stronger spiritually. This year gives promise of seeing us ahead on all tithes and offerings, and we are glad for this gain.

We are of good courage. We are in service for a Master who knows no defeat, and in His name we expect to press forward His work. C. H. DAVIS,

With Our Colporteur-Evangelists

Literature Work in Harbin

I ENJOYED immensely my visit in the Northland, getting acquainted with our Russian work. The Russian brethren are heart and soul in the message. It does one good to see such earnestness manifested among our believers.

I wish it were possible for you to accompany me to visit the Russian church in Harbin. The present membership is 225. Every member is zealous and active in doing home missionary work. The missionary meetings are attended as faithfully as the Sabbath meetings, thus showing that the brethren feel it their duty and joy to be present, and to do their part in whatever is to be done.

Elder Babienco, the director of the East Siberian Mission, has a splendid plan for building up the work. He has started a Bible Training School, which is being attended by thirty-eight of his best educated men and women. The program is as follows: The students study from five in the morning until eight. Then they have breakfast. The Bible School begins its classes at nine o'clock and continues till twelve o'clock. In the afternoon Pastor Popow, the Field Missionary Secretary, takes the thirty-eight students to all parts of the city (definite territory being assigned) to sell and distribute literature and invite people to come to the large hall (Opera House) where meetings are held three evenings a week. A plan of this kind gives the students laboratory work in the afternoon which is very practical. It brings the students in touch with the people and allows them to put in practice some of the things they have been learning in the Bible Training School. And by selling literature they are helped financially.

The whole church membership unites with the students in distributing literature throughout the city for the Winter Gospel Lectures that Elder Babienco is giving in the Opera House three evenings each week. The goal is one hundred new members from the winter's effort in Harbin. I think the above plan is an ideal one, and is a good pattern for other churches and pastors to follow. This is Elder Babienco's second year in holding a Bible Training School. He is very enthusiastic about this plan; for it brings large results.

It was my privilege to conduct studies with the Bible Training School daily on "The Science of Persuading Men." The laity attended these meetings every evening. We also launched the Harvest Ingathering Campaign. The Russian brethren will use Chinese and Japanese papers as well as those in the Russian languge. I shall always remember the earnestness, sincerity and missionary activity of our brethren at Harbin. J. J. STRAHLE.

In Chosen and Japan

IT was my privilege to attend three institutes in Korea, at Soonan, Seoul and Keizan. Our brethren in Korea are not permitted to solicit gifts for the Ingathering Work, so they decided to devote two "Big Weeks" in selling literature, the profits to be turned into the mission treasury as Harvest Ingathering funds.

The evangelists joined hands with the colporteurs to, acquire a perfect knowledge of the *nature*, *plan*, strong points and *leading features* of the book, and skilfully to use this knowledge in making others see as they see. The brethren were shown that a thorough preparation is the foundation of success, and that things are achieved when well begun. The spiritual phase of the colporteur work was emphasized throughout. We as a people should be grateful for the good instruction that comes to us through the Spirit of prophecy. There is something about it that grips the colporteur as nothing else does.

While we were holding our institute at Seoul, we met Mr. ——, the secretary of the ——, representing various Protestant missions. He told us that he had heard we had a book that was written especially for colporteurs. He further stated that he was anxious to learn how Seventh-day Adventists trained their colporteurs to become so efficient in colportage. He then inferred that the secret must lie in the booklet, "The Colporteur Evangelist," and asked if it were possible to purchase copies of this book, so they might supply their colporteurs, in the hope of making them men on whom they could rely. Elder Oberg promised to bring him a copy of "The Colporteur Evangelist," so that he might be able to study its contents.

The workers and colporteurs of the various mission stations in Korea who attended the institute dedicated themselves anew to the service of God. They worked with a will to master their books.

We believe that Korea will make advance strides through the literature ministry. The brethren at the Seoul publishing house are putting forth every effort possible to supply the field with suitable literature. After the Big Week campaign, an effort will be put forth to arouse the laity to take an active part in missionary endeavor. With such a program the brethren will soon develop a corps of home workers. This in turn will enable them to double their colporteur force, an objective that is commendable for every union mission to follow.

In Japan at one church we visited we found every church member doing missionary work. They had used 1600 Harvest Ingathering papers, or an average of sixty-four papers each, for which they received fifty sen each, as they were not allowed to solicit donations, but must sell them at a fixed price. This meant that for each man, woman and child in the church there was raised \$16.00 gold, or about \$400.00 for the church of twenty-five members. They are still carrying on the campaign. J. J. STRAHLE.

Colportage in Hunan

WE have had no foreigner to give much time to the publishing interests thus far during 1924, and the credit for what has been done is due to our native field secretary, Brother Yue Gwang Yao. This year he had to start from the bottom, as it were, and build up the work. Since the beginning of the year, sales have grown month by month. Brother Yue has had all new men to train, and it seems that he has done remarkably well. These new workers are not only selling the literature, but I believe that without exception they are free from debt, and have credits with the tract society. They have traveled far with the printed page and have worked faithfully in spite of the untoward conditions that have prevailed everywhere. All through the half year they worked, rain or shine. At present we have a force of ten colporteurs and are planning to add a few more immediately. The sales for the first eight months of 1924, amount to \$3,090.65 Mex.; and it seems probable that we shall reach our goal of \$5,000.00 Mex. for the year. C. H. DAVIS.

With Our Educational Workers

The Japan Missionary Training School

WE have a very earnest class of students in the training school this year, and it gives us pleasure to see them busily preparing themselves for service. It is an inspiration to be working with them. The forenoon is spent in study; and when the bell rings at one p.m. all are at work. Some are on the way to the city of Tokyo to canvass; some are busy in the offices; some are cleaning the buildings for the next day's school; some are working in the publishing plant.

There is a good spirit in the school. Students and teachers united in the Harvest Ingathering and Big Week campaigns, and the Lord gave success. The Week of Prayer brought many blessings.

Our new cash policy is giving good returns. Last year our students' debts ran up to over eleven hundred yen. These have now been reduced to two hundred yen, and the credits due the students on their present year's schooling are considerably in excess of their debits. All students choose to pay tithe on the income from their labor.

The work on the new thirty-five-acre school site in the province of Chiba is progressing rapidly and economically. The surveying is completed. Much ground is broken, and fruit-trees are going in. Spring will see the planting of crops; and erelong we hope to see our entire school plant moved from the city of Tokyo to our beautiful and healthful new property on the north shore of Tokyo Bay. We request the continued prayers of our fellow workers in the Orient that in this important center we may build up a school in harmony with our high ideals.

ANDREW N. NELSON.

Reaching Heathen Homes through the Children

DURING this school year in Tsinan we are becoming better acquainted with the homes of our sixty church school children. In company with a Chinese Bible woman we are visiting the mothers of these children, making friends with them, and improving every opportunity to give them the gospel. Many are illiterate, so we encourage these to attend the reading class for women which is conducted three times a week.

A special meeting for women is held each week, at which time talks on health and other subjects relating to the home are given, as well as Bible studies. Many opportunities are opening to study the Bible with women who read; so we are of good courage in this department of our work.

This winter we are holding meetings for children twice each week at our city chapel. There is a regular attendance of twenty or more. Most of them are of poor families and cannot attend school. After teaching them a lesson from "Gospel Primer" we tell them a Bible story and give them a Memory Verse Card. A few minutes also are spent in singing gospel songs.

Through these children we have gained entrance to several compounds where the mothers do sewing to make a living, earning only a few coppers each day. They cannot leave their work long enough to come to the chapel, so our Bible woman visits them regularly and finds them very willing to listen to the gospel message.

We hope to see much advancement in the future in this work for the women, and pray that the Lord may bless our efforts in giving the message to these neglected ones.

Tsinan, Shantung. RUTH GRAHAM.



Students and teachers in the B.ble Training School, Harbin. See the first article on opposite page by Brother J. J. Strahle.

The Sabbath School Department

Meeting the Needs of a Growing Sabbath School

THE Tsinan Sabbath school has been greatly increased this year through the large enrollment of students in the Tsinan Industrial Mission School. Along with this growth in membership several difficulties have arisen in the management of such a large Sabbath school. One preplexity has been the scarcity of competent teachers, which resulted in the crowding of too many students into one class.

During the past few months we have set out to overcome this undersirable condition by organizing a regular Sabbath school Teachers' Training Course class, which meets once each week. Our force of Sabbath school teachers is made up of the Tsinan school teachers, evangelists, a few lay members, and some of the older students who have ability along this line. All have been very faithful in attending the class.

Our principal textbook has been "The Pupil and the Teacher," by Weigle, both English and Chinese translations of which can be secured from the China Sunday School Union in Shanghai. In connection with this text good use has been made of the Chinese Sabbath School Helper and such material as we have translated from the English Worker and other helps.

An examination has just been given on the year's work, and each teacher feels that he has been greatly helped as a result of this study. We plan to continue this class and to put forth every effort possible to make our Sabbath school teachers more efficient in their work.

The primary and kindergarten departments are especially interesting. The children greatly enjoy the sand-boxes and blocks. By the use of these and other attractive material the teacher has no trouble in gaining and holding the pupils' attention. Friends in the States have been very faithful in keeping us supplied with Picture Rolls and Memory Verse Cards.

Tsinan, Shantung.

RUTH GRAHAM.

Har Hastern Bibision Outlook

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中華郵政特准掛號認為新聞紙類

We wish our readers A Happy New Year!

The statistical report for the third quarter of 1924 appears in this issue. A synopsis of gains may be found on page two.

In early December Miss Osborn reached Shanghai from the Lake Union, for service in the educational and publishing departments of the Division offices.

We have had the pleasure of renewing our acquaintance with Dr. and Mrs. Leslie Butka, of California, who are at present visiting Pastor and Mrs. H. O. Swartout in Shanghai.

Pastor G. B. Thompson, whose arrival is announced in another column, has been coun-seled by physicians to return to the States, rather than risk the strain incident to constant rather than risk the strain incident to constant attendance at union sessions in various parts of the Far Eastern field. This brings sorrow to Brother Thompson and to us all; for we had counted on his remaining with us until mid-July of 1925. Let us trust and pray that the present rest urged upon him by physicians, will even-tually bring to him strength sufficient for every emergency. emergency.

Born, to Brother and Sister F. P. Greiner, of Nanking, China, December 13, a daughter, Helen Irene.

Attention is directed to a statement made by Brother H. W. Barrows, Division Treasurer, on page two, regarding the Thanksgiving Week of Sacrifice, which for the Far East has been ap-pointed for Feb. 22-28, 1925. Earnest and painstaking endeavor on the part of us all, will bring to every member of our constituency a knowledge of the plan and of blessings attend-ing those who choose to enter upon its obser-vance in a spirit of willing saarifice.

On December 14, per s.s. "Taiyo-maru," Miss Dorothy L. Whesler and Miss Ruth B. Messenger sailed from Shanghai for the States. Miss Wheeler's address is 2407 Hyde St., North, Nashville, Tenn., U. S A.: and Miss Messenger's is 442 Riverside Ave., Medford, Mass., U. S. A. It is the purpose of Miss Wheeler to return from her furlough by Sep-tember, 1925, if circumstances permit.

Pastor and Mrs. Dallas S. Kime and children, of Batakland, Sumatra, Netherlands East Indies, have left for their furlough after more than eight years of uninterrupted service. Enroute they touch at Singapore and Sydney prior to arrival in the States.

Those having any available photos that would be suitable for use in the 1925 Chinese edition of the Harvest Ingathering Special, would confer a benefit upon this branch of our work by sending these to the Division Secretary during the next two or three months. Views of educational and medical work are especially helpful.

Pastor J. J. Strahle left Division headquarters on December 27 for institutes and conventions in Malaysia and South China, which, with the union sessions that he has been asked to attend in those fields, will occupy his time largely until the Spring Council next April.

Brother E. R. Thiele, of the Signs of the Times Publishing House, has been with Pastor H. J. Doolittle in Anhwei, visiting various out-stations; but after finally getting through the gates into Yingshanhsien, in the northern sec-tion of the province, these brethren were com-pelled to leave because of the persistent acti-vities of armed bandits who have gotten full control of that district. The brethren report that the prospering hand of the Lord is over His work, despite untoward conditions now prevalent.

Representatives from the Home Board

Pastor C. H. Watson and G. B. Thompson, of Washington, D. C., U. S. A., reached Shang-hai December 7, and went on the next day with Pastor and Mrs. 1. H. Evans to Manila, where they have been in attendance at the fifth bien-nial session of the Philippine Union Mission. These representatives from the Home Board will attend all the biennial union sessions that can be held prior to mid-July, 1925, when they plan on returning to America. The brethren and sisters in the Far East are deeply grateful to the General Conference for the help given our general meetings.

If present plans carry, Pastor M. E. Kern is to arrive in Yokohama January 15, and will visit the northern section of our field prior to the opening of the departmental conventions scheduled for April 3-14, 1925. Prof. W. E. Howell had hoped to accompany Brother Kern, but may be held in the States for a time because of educational needs not yet fully met. c.

Making Friends with the Bandits

Pastor W. E. Strickland and Brother W. I. Hilliard, of the Honan Mission, recently met with a party of bandits, and made friends with the leader and others by conversing with them and offering them food. The story of their eventual escape from threatened kidnapping is told by the Yencheng correspondent of a Shanghai daily newspaper, and is reprinted on page three of this issue. We learn further particulars from Brother Strickland himself, who writes thus of the incident:

Brother Hilliard and I started on our Week of Prayer trip last Friday, intending to spend Sabbath at a mission station called Hunghwai. Just out of Siaoyao our car broke down, and we spent Sabbath in Siaoyao instead, intending to fix the car if we could and go on to Hunghwai Sunday. Sunday morning just before daybreak the city was taken by bandits, about two hundred in number, and we were in their hands. It was my first experience of having a pistol pointed at my head, and to say the least l was startled. However, the Lord delivered us, although for a while it looked as if we were going to be carried off and held for ransom. God ruled otherwise, and about sundown the bandits left without us. None of our brethren and sisters in the city were molested, nor did they lose anything. Several bands of the bandits visited our chapel, but took nothing. Since returning home we have heard that they took an Italian priest and nearly a hundred Chinese, when they left, and these they have been holding for ransom. They looted as much as they could during the day they were in the town, but killed only three persons. Brother Hilliard and 1 praise the Lord for His goodness to us. We know that He alone was our protector."

Offered for Sale

A friend in the interior informs us that he is placing on sale an equipment for illuminating a stereoptican with acetylene. The equipment consists of a prestolite tank, a Victor high power acetylene burner, rubber tubing, and two pastils. The entire outfit is offered for \$29Mexican, besides transportation. Any inquiry sent to the Division office will be forwarded on.

The Address of Pastor C. E. Weaks

In a communication from Washington, D. C. Brother C. E. Weaks, who has been appointed to serve as the Field Missionary Secretary for the European Division, writes of his plan to sail with Sister Weaks for Europe December 6th. His address henceforth will be Hoheweg 17. Bern, Switzerland. Sister Weaks will spend the winter months at the Gland Sanitarium, and may be addressed in care of the Lake Geneva Sanitarium, Gland, Ct. Vaud, Switzerland.

A New Year—and New Goals

A New Year—and New Goals With the advent of the new year many of our workers in various parts of the Division field will be making new goals in soul-winning. Some who made such goals a year ago, are now rejoining in the attainment of their aims; and these laborers will surely be thinking in larger terms as the work in their mission stations continues to develop under the pros-pering hand of the Lord. As regards the soul-winning goal set for 1924, we must wait until the first of April to know definitely the outcome. Meanwhile, let us labor as unto the Lord, remembering that He, the Master-workman, holds us individually responsible to labor in all diligence for the souls of men within the sphere of our influence. c. of our influence.

The East Siberian Union Mission

Beginning with January 1, 1925, that portion of the East Siberian Union Mission which lies north of the Amur River will be administered by the European Division. The territory thus transferred includes the provinces of Transbaikalia, Amur, Yakutsk, Maritime, and Sakhalin. The Russian work lying within the borders of Manchuria remains with the Far Eastern Division. The future administrative status of this work is to be determined at the time of the Spring Council of the Far Eastern Division Committee next April.

Of the Russian work in Harbin, Pastor T. T. Babienco reports :

"The Lord is good to us here, and is blessing our weak efforts. We have had very good meetings in Harbin this winter-better than any we have ever had before. People are coming to listen to the message, and we hope many will accept the truth. Our Bible school is going very nicely.'

In connection with the small training school conducted in the basement of the Harbin church there is a hand printing press which is kept running many hours each working day. The latest publication completed by this press is a translation by Mrs. T. T. Babienco of Pastor O. A. Johnson's "Bible Doctrines." The Russian edition contains upwards of one hundred eighty pages, and is neatly bound. c.

Accessions from Mohammedanism

Pastor L. V. Finster has been spending several weeks in attendance at the annual provincial meetings in Siam, Sumatra, Java, and Singapore. The work is growing in all these places. Among those baptized in Java the past few weeks are a considerable number who have come to us from Islam. At a baptismal service in Batavia attended by Brother Finster recently, eight out of the sixteen baptized had been earnest Mohammedans. In Soerabaja there is a young man who is con-ducting a little school of about thirty. Seven Javanese in attendance at this school have been baptized during the year, and of these, six are from Mohammedanism.

The Week of Prayer Readings

The December Week of Prayer readings for the Far East were run into the Malay language by Pastor M. Munson, editor of the Malay Sign of the Times, and mimeographed for use in vari-ous parts of the Malaysian Union field. This is the first time that the Week of Prayer readings were given so wide a distribution in the Malay language.

Other Far Eastern languages in which the readings appeared this past year are Mandarin, Japanese, Korean, Ruesian, Tagalog, Ilocano, Panayan-Visayan (Ilongot), and Cebuan, These a diagonic visagan (nongot), and Cebuan. I hese translations represent many hours of labor and considerable expense. The results seem to warrant the preparation of the readings where constituencies number several hundreds for each language area served. c.