

Asiatic Division Mission News



VOL.4

SHANGHAI, CHINA, FEBRUARY 1, 1915

No.2

TRUE RICHES

With place, with gold, with power--- oh
ask me not

With these my little hour of life to blot.
A little hour indeed! And I would fain
Its moments spend in what is worth its
pain.

What traveler would faint through troublous
lands

To gather only what must leave his hands
The moment that he takes his homeward
ship?

Earth's goods and gauds give every
man the slip:

But wealth of thought, and richer wealth
of love,

Must pass for coin in any world above.

The good to others done while here I strive,
Is all at last that shall my dying shrive:
And, setting sail, my slight self-conquest's
store

Is all my freight if I shall come to shore.
---Selected

Shanghai General Meeting

It affords us great pleasure to announce that, regardless of the heavy financial burden under which the General Conference is now laboring--on account of war conditions--they have added to our budget an amount sufficient to cover the expense of holding a general meeting.

THE DATE

The time of holding the meeting has been fixed by local circumstances. It will be necessary to ask the students in the Mandarin Training School to vacate their dormitory--the young men--in order to accommodate the foreigners in attendance at the meeting. To do this a mat dormitory will have to be erected for the students as a temporary home.

A mat building will also have to be used as a kitchen and dining room. It would not be warm enough in Shanghai to use such accommodations earlier than May. The meeting has, therefore, of necessity been appointed May 1-16.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

This must be determined by the expense incurred in transportation. We desire that all foreigners shall attend, and have asked each division superintendent to furnish an accurate list of the number and the expense of all foreigners from his field. The funds

provided for the expense of the meeting are limited to \$5,000 gold. If the transportation can be brought within this allowance, all foreigners are invited to attend the meeting. If not, some basis of reduction in the attendance will necessarily have to be arranged.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Rooms, and bedsteads with Chinese spring mats, will be provided, together with other light furnishings that are necessary. A dining room will furnish warm meals on the European plan,---pay for what is ordered,---a regular price being fixed on each dish. This is a well tested plan, and has proven satisfactory to those who have tried it.

WHAT TO BRING

Each should bring a heavy comfort to use instead of a mattress, and sufficient bedding, including linen and pillows, to furnish their bed; also bed net. Each should bring spoons, knives and forks, and towels, as none of these articles can be furnished.

OBJECT OF THE MEETING

It is needless to speak to our dear brethren and sisters of the solemnity of the times in which we live and how this meeting will convene under the most acute crisis of any meeting ever convened in this field. I am sure all realize that the object of our gathering is carefully to consider the gravity of the times, the nearness of the end, our spiritual needs, and a preparation to discern and meet the needs of the Lord's work. Plans must be laid in unity and order, so that the Divine Presence may accompany us forward in our work even as it led Israel of old to the temporal promised land. We must individually be prepared to stand the test of the judgment which will very soon decide the destiny of all. In view of these conditions let us meet and partake of the feast of good things the Lord will provide for us, that we may be fitted as never before for the finishing of our work.

LABORERS

Elder A. G. Daniells, President of the General Conference, with his wide experience, and large grasp of the scope and needs of our work, will attend the meeting throughout. His wife and niece will be with him, and to these also we extend a

warm welcome to our midst. The division superintendents and other field laborers will share the burdens and privileges of the meeting. We have extended an invitation to the General Conference to send another member of their executive committee if consistent.

Let us pray daily for the success of our meeting, that we may have a spiritual awakening in keeping with the demand of the tremendous issues now confronting the world and our work.

R. C. PORTER.

All Eyes Turning Toward Rome

In the *China Press* of January 3 the following interesting telegram appeared: "The Italian papers say that the dispatch of Sir Henry Howard as envoy extraordinary by England to the Vatican will mean a re-opening of the diplomatic relations between the two countries which was discontinued 400 years ago. It was decided upon in order to ward off the intrigue of Germany and Austria to obtain the help of Catholics in England, and therefore it is of much significance. Even Turkey, refusing to deal with the French ambassador in Constantinople, who tried to be a mediator on the question of the Christians in Turkey, has desired to send a representative to the Vatican as the representative of Turkey. France also is trying to renew diplomatic relations with Turkey."

In the same paper, in the issue of January 9, appeared the following dispatch: "It is reported from Copenhagen that Japan intends to establish a diplomatic representation at the Vatican."

But why should all these powers turn toward Rome? Let a New York telegram explain: "It is entirely possible that when the time comes for a move toward ending the war, the Pope may be induced to make it. This, perhaps, is the main reason why English policy seeks representation at the Vatican at the present time."

About four hundred years ago England decided that she would not permit Rome to meddle in her affairs. At the same time the princes of the German States reached a like decision. Within the last decade France, separated from Rome, while Turkey has always refused to recognize the authority of the Pope. But

now all is changed. England and Germany, the bulwarks of Protestantism, are courting the favor of Rome. We also hear that the most notable effect of the war thus far upon France has been the turning of her atheistic masses once more to the portals of the church of Rome, and even Japan is negotiating to send a representative to the Vatican, though at one time that country banished every Catholic from her territory and executed all who would not go.

While the men of the world attribute political reasons for this change of attitude, we know that it presages the speedy fulfillment of prophecies which we have long studied. It indicates that the spiritual apostasy is keeping pace with political developments, and the only thing that now hinders the closing of earth's record is an unfinished work by God's people. Herein is cause for greater earnestness on our part.

J. E. SHULTZ.

Greetings From Kobe

Since my baptism at the close of the week of prayer in 1905, the yearly recurrence of this season of prayer and consecration has never failed to bring new blessings and courage. Heretofore this season has always found us at some of our institutions or centers where many other workers and brethren have been gathered, so this year is the first time we have spent the week of prayer without the company and encouragement of fellow-workers of the same nationality; but we have found the Lord the same, and just as willing to bless. In meeting with our Japanese brethren, and uniting our hearts and voices in devotion, and by hearing their earnest prayers and testimonies, we have been cheered and helped.

The first Sabbath and Sunday I spent with the believers in Tajima district, where our last summer's tent effort was held. After Sabbath-school in the morning, we had the reading from the pen of Elder Daniells, followed by a season of prayer and a social meeting. The afternoon was spent in close study of the Scriptures on the subject of the Holy Spirit. Then in the evening before supper was ended, several inquirers came in from neighboring villages to hear the Word spoken.

Early Sunday morning we had the second reading and devotional meeting, and the remainder of the day was spent in visiting interested souls in two or three nearby villages, in company with Brother Maehata, our worker who lives at Yoka. I was glad to meet quite a number of men and women who are now studying the truth regularly with this worker. Sunday night being a regular appointment for public meeting, I again spoke to a little company who came out in spite of the snow and cold of this mountainous region.

Returning to Kobe on Monday, I found that here the believers had decided on the early morning as the best time for the daily meetings. Each morning at six-thirty, with a good attendance, the readings were given, and prayer and testimony meeting followed.

It was a profitable week, and one of blessing to us all. For some time prior to the week of prayer a spirit of earnestness and special seeking of God had been felt in the church, and preparation had been made for a good season, and we were not disappointed. For a number it was the first week of prayer, and their testimonies revealed genuine heart work. This fall the Lord has blessed us with several new Sabbath keepers, and increased attendance at all the meetings. Two have been added to the church by baptism since I last reported.

At the time of the last reading on Sabbath the annual offering was made, amounting to over one hundred twenty-nine yen in cash and pledges; but what made this an acceptable offering was that all (except one or two strangers) arose testifying that with their means they gave themselves anew to God. It was a fitting close to the week of blessings we had had. We can feel sure in saying that there will not be many more annual offerings to make or annual weeks of prayer. The condition of these great fields, however, tells us that much must be done yet, and that mighty works must now accompany the message of the third angel.

May 1915 find us all, and our all, on the altar for service, and be a year of blessing to each believer and worker in Asia.

B. P. HOFFMAN.

Malaysian Mission Field

Our work in the Malaysian Mission is moving on in a very encouraging way, and we see many evidences of the Father's love and care. The enemy is also doing all he can to hold the souls of men in the clutches of his power.

A number of good, honest ones have been baptized recently, and others are looking anxiously for the next service of this kind so that they, too, may follow the Lord's command in this respect.

In one of our recent baptism services were several from heathenism, among whom was a man who had been keeping the Sabbath since he first heard it something over a year ago. He has had many trials, and the enemy has attempted to overthrow him in every way, but he has been true to God. He is a barber, and because he closes his shop on Friday evening, and doesn't open it till after the Sabbath, he has lost much trade. Some months his income is very small. His wife doesn't like this, and scolds very hard at times, but he continues faithful. He tries to tell the truth to his friends and brings them to the services.

For about six months we have been holding Sunday night services in the

church, with quite a regular attendance. This effort is being followed by personal work, visiting, giving regular Bible studies, etc. Brother Mershon has found so many interests that he could hardly find time to follow them all up. Miss Chan Teck Sung, our Chinese Bible worker, has also had her hands full giving Bible studies to interested ones. We now have a young man who is beginning work for the Tamils here in Singapore.

Brother and Sister Adams arrived November 26 to take charge of the training school. We are all very happy to welcome these new workers to our field, and feel sure that this school will fill a long-felt need in preparing workers. About thirty-five are already attending the church school, and we hope to see all our young people who are taking work in other schools come to our training school. Miss Yarnell is doing faithful teaching in the church school.

We plan to hold a workers' meeting for all the foreign workers when Elders Daniells and Porter come the first of February. We ask to be remembered by all our fellow laborers in the Asiatic Division.

F. A. DETAMORE.

Baptism at Bukawe, Philippines

One of the first to accept the truth in the Philippine Islands was a school teacher by the name of M. A. Roxas. Some two years ago he moved his family to Bukawe, and as he went home each Friday he spent the Sabbath in telling his neighbors of the truth. Many of them became interested, and he often requested that a worker might spend a little time at his home town. In response to this we sent one of our evangelists there several months ago. He found many already keeping the Sabbath, and others interested. At the end of a month he had more than fifteen keeping the Sabbath. A week ago I was called to hold a baptismal service with them. It was a beautiful day, and as we gathered at the bank of the river several hundred people came to see their first baptismal service. The Spirit of God was present as I spoke to them of the sacred rite we were about to celebrate. Just before the baptism they sang a hymn written in the Tagalog language for the occasion by the native evangelist. Below is a translation of the thought into English.

"I, the one whom Thou hast redeemed, am returning; now I submit myself with all humility. Though long my heart and life have been astray, now that I am called, I do respond; and in the presence of many I now witness: extend thy continued help that I may be victorious. I now lay me down, and will truly give up my former life: help Thou me. When I rise again with thee to walk in newness of life, always extend to me the help of the Holy Spirit which Thou hast promised to give."

The words so well fitted the occasion that a deep impression was made upon all. Many expressed the wish that they

had at that time followed their Lord, but promised that when another occasion came they would be ready. We have calls from two other places where baptisms will be held this month (December).

L. V. FINSTER

En Route to Singapore

Under God's care we have safely arrived at Singapore this morning, December 28. Our trip was an excellent one. We were two days and a half reaching Hongkong, where we broke our journey. Elder B. L. Anderson and Brethren Ham and Nagel met us here, and the following day we left for Swatow. We spent one Sabbath each with our parents. My father-in-law has a very good interest where he is laboring. I was invited to speak one evening, but it being very cold only about sixty were present. More than twenty were not able to get out. I found this new company all of good courage, and although their former church pastor tried in every way to frighten them, telling them that if they continued to attend those Adventist meetings their names would be blotted from the church books, their answer was that they wanted their names written in the books of heaven.

I visited one of the Chinese shops one evening, and while there I had a chance to give a Bible reading on health and temperance to several young people. The result was that two men pledged together with God in prayer, that one would give up the drink habit and the other the use of tobacco. Others said they were willing to use peanut butter instead of lard and pork.

I thank God that He has helped His children to reverence His name in such a marked manner, and that His Spirit is leading many to the truth everywhere. As we are to enter another line of work we earnestly request the prayers of our brethren and sisters that God will help us to serve Him faithfully, that many souls may be saved through our labors.

C. M. LEE.

Women's Work in Kiangsui

At the end of this another year, I praise and thank God for His protecting care, for health and strength, and for the souls who have learned to love and serve the true and living God.

Our work at Nansiang is very encouraging. We have there the poor, the blind, the maimed, as well as the educated, preparing to meet the Saviour. We have a Bible class twice a week studying the prophecies, and it is wonderful how the honest ones quickly get an understanding of the message. A little crippled girl who suffers so much is such a bright and shining light. She can read, and can almost explain the sanctuary and the 2300 days. These people seem to have a burden for souls. Every one works for others, teaching them of the Saviour. An old

lady between sixty and seventy years of age walks miles to learn of Jesus. God's Spirit moves on the hearts of this people.

At Gading the work is very encouraging. We have a large class of women there studying the Bible and learning how to read. I find as we go to the country, God has many precious souls there to be gathered in for Him. I hope and pray, as we enter upon a new year, that we may see many more souls than we have in any year before except of the last message to this world, for surely this is our time to work in China.

MRS. B. MILLER.

Swatow

In September I made a visit to Tug Khe, where Brother Tshen, from Singapore, has located. I was glad to see so many come out to our meetings. The people here in the surrounding villages all speak Hakka, so I felt at home once more. The business people of the place are mostly all Swatowese, and speak as a rule either Hakka or Hakklo.

The English Presbyterian mission owns a neat church here. They have had a station here for forty-odd years. We have only one or two brethren from this place; however, the prospects are now bright for a good ingathering soon. It will not be done without some opposition.

From Tug Khe we went to Peh Thup. This is Elder Ang's village home. He built a good house for his aged father to live in, and after it was finished his father came and enjoyed it for one week only, when he died. At present the mission has the use of it as a chapel and school. I was much pleased with the way the evangelist has carried on his work. The people seemed to trust him, and he acted as a sort of father to them. He also teaches their school of twenty-two students. While here one old farmer every evening brought me a couple of handfuls of roasted peanuts that he had roasted himself. He was close on to seventy years old. Though old, and clothes looking the worse for wear, he would come and hand his peanuts to me--the best he had to give--as nicely and grandly as a king would give out his choicest presents. He, I suppose, had spent a long time preparing them for me. There are many such good, whole-hearted souls among the farmers which can be found if pains are taken to search for them. He is a heathen, but we hope that ere long he will join us. He comes to all of our meetings.

From Peh Thup we came home, glad to enjoy its comforts for a few days. At present Mrs. Anderson is teaching arithmetic in our school here. The pupils enjoy it very much, as arithmetic (foreign) had not been taught in it before to speak of.

Brother and Sister Bates are laying siege to the Swatow language in dead earnest. We enjoy having them with us very much. We are of the best of courage.

J. P. ANDERSON.

Hunan Province

Most of my time the past three months has been spent making the rounds of our fifteen out-stations. After traveling several thousand li by railway, wheel-barrow, small steamer, sail-boat, on foot, and by chair, in all sorts of weather, it is truly good to settle down at home for a change of work.

Brother White and I are planning to lead our Chinese brethren in conducting a vigorous evangelistic campaign here in our Changsha chapel, and we are expecting that the Lord will do great things for us.

We have nothing big to report this time for the work in Hunan. There are some disappointments, some encouragements. There are three or four places pleading for workers as usual.

We see many evidences of God's leading in the work, so we thank Him and take courage.

C. P. LILLIE.

South China Workers' Meeting

We have just finished holding our workers' meeting for Fukien Province. All our workers were present except Elder Keh, who was kept from attending on account of the pressing need of the work in Foochow and Thian Su. He has been canvassing in the Swatow field for the last four months, and will attend the meeting in that field.

Three services were held each day during the eight days of the meeting, besides a prayer meeting each morning. Elder B. L. Anderson gave a series of studies on the responsibility of this people to warn the world in this generation, and the writer gave a series of studies on the ministry, and the necessity of receiving the fulness of the Spirit of God. One hour each day was given to the Chinese workers in which to present whatever they liked, and it would have done your soul good to have heard some of the sermons. One sermon on the Holy Spirit, by Keh Hok Siu, will be written up in Chinese and sent to the *Signs of the Times* for publication.

One thing that did our hearts good was to see how the different workers grasped the spirit of the teaching that was being presented from day to day, and echoed it in their own sermons. The Spirit of God was present with convicting and converting power, and we believe that a work has been done that will bear fruit during the year to come in holier living and more efficient service for the Master.

Sunday was spent in a council meeting planning how to increase the fruitage in our vineyard, and how best to care for the work already started. We find that we are short of workers, not having evangelists enough to look after all our stations. Provision was also made for increasing the number of our subscriptions to the *Signs of the Times*. We hope to have a substantial increase this year over the year that is past.

Asiatic Division Mission News

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

THE ASIATIC DIVISION MISSION
OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

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I feel that our workers in this field have been advancing in their knowledge of this truth and how to present it. Some of the sermons that were preached during this institute would compare very favorably with sermons that I have heard preached by some of our seasoned workers in the homeland; not only in the way the subject was handled, but in the spirituality of the subject as well.

We would like to take this occasion to greet all our old friends among our workers in the Asiatic Division, as well as those whom we have not had the pleasure of meeting. We are glad to be back among you once more, and wish you all the continued blessing of God during the year that is just before us. We believe that God hears and answers prayer, so we would like to request your prayers for the work in this field this year.

W. C. HANKINS.

The Soonan District Meeting

I have just returned from Soonan where I have spent a week in the Bible class and district meeting held there. About one hundred attended the daily Bible studies, and from two hundred to three hundred the evening preaching services.

At the close of each evening meeting an invitation was given to unbelievers to give their hearts to God. Our native Korean brethren did the preaching, and during the six nights that I was there, I gave the invitation, and altogether over forty responded. Some of these attended the meetings every evening, and we hope that many of them will continue to obey the truth.

When I returned to Seoul I brought 187.00 Yen in tithes and offerings, that had been brought in by those attending that meeting. This is the largest amount that has been brought to the treasurer at one time since the organization of this field. There was a splendid spirit all through the meeting.

C. L. BUTTERFIELD.

The Walls Fall

When we first started our work here in Manchuria and saw that our chapel would seat forty people, we thought we would be glad to see that filled to begin with, at least until we knew the people and the language a little better. But already it has proven too small. Day before yesterday Brother Grundset and I went to see the owner of the compound about taking down a wall that separates the chapel from a large hall, and he immediately

granted our request. Yesterday the wall went down. We have not yet put out a sign to announce our meetings, but some have found the place just the same, and seem to be seeking after truth. We believe the Lord has many honest souls here in this great city, and by His help we desire to do what we can to bring them the light of the message.

B. PETERSEN.

Singapore Training School

A little folder announcing the opening of the Singapore Training School is received, and from it we learn that this new school opened January 18, and will continue until December 17 with but two intermissions, the first of two weeks duration, and the second of one month.

Prof. K. M. Adams is the principal, with two assistant teachers, Miss Mary Yarnell and Mrs. Florence K. Adams.

The object of this new school is to train the young men and women of the Malaysian field for gospel work, and to afford a Christian education for these young people under right influences.

The Malaysian field has long looked forward to the time when such a school could be started in their midst, and now that the desire of their hearts is realized, the readers of the NEWS will rejoice with them, and pray that the blessing of God may so rest upon the school as quickly to train the young for a part in the closing work of the Lord.

Itinerating Among the Women of Korea

I returned home this week after having been out in the country among the companies for just three months. It was a very interesting experience. But oh, the lack of sufficient instruction among this needy people is so great. The work among the women has especially been neglected. We have so few Bible women.

We need Sabbath school teachers for the women. In many places the women have no one to teach them. The custom in Korea is for the men and women to meet in separate rooms, or else there is a curtain drawn between them. If a man tries to teach a class of women, it is very difficult to get answers from them. So to get a woman trained as a Sabbath school teacher is one of our great needs. I am planning to hold a month's institute for women this coming February. I am planning on getting one or two women from each place to attend, then they can return home and teach the rest. We are of good courage and constantly feel the helping power of God.

MIMI SCHARFFENBERG.

Encouraging Words from Soonan, Korea

Our District meeting closed to-day. The work has gone forward very encouragingly during 1914. Sixty-nine were baptized, and we gained two hundred fifty-eight new Sabbath school students, which means new believers. We now have seven hundred thirteen Sabbath school students, and three hundred thirty baptized members.

Tithes and offerings for the year amounted to 1522 Yen, or about forty-three per cent baptized members, natives only.

We treated over nine hundred patients at our dispensary during the year, and best of all, several became Christians and are attending our services.

I am convinced that there is a place for the medical evangelist in our mission fields that has not as yet been filled or realized by us as a people. The Saviour was the only One on earth that was able to see the value of the relief of the diseased sufferer, and never lost the opportunity to point the sick one to the Fountain of Life at the opportune moment. Our commission calls us to follow the perfect Pattern until the work is done.

I am of good courage, for God is working mightily, and removing hindrances so that we can go in His strength and finish the work.

RILEY RUSSELL, M. D.

Appointments

Singapore,	Feb.	1-17.
So. China,	Feb.	22-March 2.
Philippines,	March	5-13.
Japan,	March	25-31.
Korea,	April	2-8.
Mukden,	April	9-12.
Peking,	April	13.
Yencheng,	April	16.
Hankow,	April	17-24.

The above schedule of appointments may be varied as steamer connections and other conditions may require. This outline is the best information we have upon which to plan at present.

R. C. PORTER.

NOTES

Brother H. J. Doolittle of Nanking spent a few days in Shanghai early in January. Elder O. A. Hall returned from Nanking the 21st, having spent two weeks in the interests of the work in the East China Mission Field.

Elder R. C. Porter left Shanghai the 24th to join Elder Damiells at Singapore for a tour of the Division.

Elder J. E. Shultz left Shanghai the 24th inst to attend a general meeting at Changsha, Hunan. He will be absent about two weeks.

Sister B. Miller has been spending some time among the woman of Gading and Nansiang. This needy work rests heavily upon Sister Miller's heart, and the temptation is great to work beyond her strength.

We have word that Brother C. P. Lillie is not in the best of health. Will not our brethren throughout the Division send up their petitions daily to the Great Physician that Brother Lillie may be spared to the work in China? His place would be hard to fill.

Brethren Gillis and Blunden left Shanghai the evening of January 9 to attend general meetings in Central China. Brother Gillis will be absent about two weeks, while Brother Blunden will remain two months, as he will attend the three meetings, as advertised in our last issue.

In December we got out a special number of our native paper, and printed double the number of the past months, but today we are all sold out and have received orders for five hundred more, and this is but the 10th of the month. Our missionary society has sold over 1000 copies. I have baptized thirty-eight this month. This makes 127 for the year. So you see we have more than doubled our last year's number of 56. We feel very thankful to God, and will try and double this number next year. We now have two tent companies running with good interests

L. V. Finster.