

# Asiatic Division Mission News

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## In God's Care

I know not what beyond may lie,  
When sunset tints illumine the sky;  
To-morrow, be it dark or bright,  
Is sealed and hidden from my sight;  
When flowers fold, and shadows creep,  
I lay me down in peace to sleep.

I know not what the day will bring,  
What lesson hold, what new strange thing  
In life's deep meaning I may trace,  
Where light and shadow interlace;  
My Father's hand the way doth keep;  
I lay me down in peace to sleep.

I know not what the day will bring  
Of joy or pain—what changes ring  
Ere day and night complete the year;  
But calm I trust and have no fear,  
For God's great love is strong and deep;  
I lay me down in peace to sleep.

—Julia E. Abbott.

## The Hok-lo People Accepting the Message

The general meetings in the Foochow, Amoy, and Swatow speaking fields are now in the past. Pastor Porter was in attendance at the first named place during the whole time of the meeting, and it is needless to say that his teaching and counsel was much appreciated by all. The meetings were appointed so that the believers in each place would have the privilege of receiving Pastor Porter's instruction, and he would reach Hongkong in time to make good connections for his trip to Borneo. But on account of the irregularity of the steamers for Borneo, a cable was received while at Foochow informing us that the steamer would leave Hongkong earlier than was first expected. It therefore became necessary to go direct to Hongkong, stopping only a few hours on the way at Amoy and Swatow, and this was before the meetings were in session. This was very unfortunate.

I am not giving a report of the Foochow meeting, as the president of the Asiatic Division Mission will write up this meeting for the *Review*, and Pastor Hankins will report the Foochow and Amoy meetings for the Asiatic Division Mission News.

Because the steamer for Swatow was a day ahead of the regular scheduled time it became necessary for Pastor Keh and the writer to leave right in the midst of the Amoy general meeting in order to assist Pastors J. P. Anderson and T. K. Ang in their meeting for

the Hok-lo people. This meeting was held at Ang Swatow, a large village located in a very fertile district between the two large cities of Kityang and Chaochowfu. The meeting continued four days and the attendance from the first was very good. The commodious chapel was packed to overflowing with attentive listeners. Part of the time the meetings were held in the dining hall, which originally served as a shed for sawing lumber. This place was generally cool and afforded us good air, and would easily accommodate 200 people. The attendance ranged from one to two hundred.

At the close of the meeting twenty-four souls went forward in baptism, not so much as a result of the meeting but as a result of the faithful labors of Pastors Anderson and Ang and their fellow laborers, coupled with the blessing of God. Several hundred people, large and small, stood on the banks of the small river and witnessed the burial and resurrection of these souls in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. With but possibly one or two exceptions, these newly baptized converts are all from heathenism, and a good many of them are heads of families.

When the different workers gave a report of their respective places of labor, it was interesting to learn of the good interest and progress in both evangelistic and school work. The reports showed a good Sabbath attendance at all the stations and a healthy growth in the church. At nearly every place where there was a company of believers there was also a live church school. The total enrolment at the seven schools was 284 students, and the Sabbath attendance at the ten stations reporting was 442. Nearly every church and company had taken a practical interest in the annual offering, at the present time the total amount being over \$300.00 Mex. The company at Ang Swatow, where the general meeting was held, raised \$70.00 Mex. for the general meeting expense, and it must be said to their credit that they looked well after the temporal needs of the workers and believers from other places and entertained them very acceptably. At Lau Kng, where the meeting was held last year, and where the work has been opened only about fourteen months, the company of believers have built a church and school with quarters for the evangelist. This structure has cost more than \$1000 Mex., but they provided the money themselves.

The work in the Swatow speaking field is making splendid progress in all lines of the work, and promises fair to become self-supporting in the near future. Close supervision of the evangelists and continually visiting the companies, with house-to-house visits by the pastors in charge, will, as a rule, always bring forth good fruit in mission work.

B. L. ANDERSON.

### Philippine Islands

We are glad to report a safe arrival home from the Shanghai meeting, and of course found many things waiting our attention. We greatly enjoyed the spiritual feast at the meeting, but we are also equally enjoying our service for the Master in the field. We found everything very satisfactory on our return. A week ago Sunday I baptized seven at Cavite, where Brother Victor de la Cruz has been laboring. Our brethren came in from several nearby towns, and we had four meetings during the day. There seems to be still a good interest in this place to hear the truth.

Last Friday I went to San Pablo and on Sabbath afternoon had the privilege of burying eighteen dear souls with their Lord in baptism. They came to Manila several months ago and requested the privilege of baptism, but we felt they should be more thoroughly instructed before going forward in the sacred rite. There are about fifty now keeping the Sabbath in and around San Pablo. This work is all the result of our faithful canvassers and the missionary work of those who have accepted the truth. The only ministerial help they have received is a few weeks' meetings given in preparing them for baptism. Our faithful canvassers have returned to these people from Sabbath to Sabbath, and we found them very well established in all points of the truth. It seems very wonderful to me to see what God has wrought with these people through our literature and the work of our canvassers. On Sabbath afternoon we went about a mile through a cocoanut grove to a beautiful small stream. The banks gradually slope up from each side and made a beautiful place for the people to witness this service. Many came to see their first baptism, and the Lord's Spirit was present as we spoke to those assembled there. We believe there will be a large harvest of souls yet in this place.

From a letter from Elder Adams, we were sorry to hear that his little girl was taken quite ill on their way to Iloilo, but he reports she is recovering. Brother Floyd Ashbaugh is now conducting a canvassers' institute at Argao, Cebu. We trust that many earnest people may go from this institute to help circulate the new Cebuano book.

As a result of our tent meeting at Baliwag about fifty have started to keep the Sabbath. The harvest is truly great, but the laborers are few. We feel we should more earnestly pray to the Lord of the harvest to raise up many more workers to help finish His work in the earth.

L. V. FINSTER.

### First Baptism in Manchuria

The Spirit of the Lord is working upon the hearts of the people here in Manchuria, and we are made glad to see that there are some who desire to unite with the church of God and be saved in His kingdom.

About nine months ago we left Shanghai for this field. Since then Brother Grundset and the writer have been busy holding meetings and instructing the people. We are glad to report that our efforts have not been in vain. The Lord has been with and blessed us. For some time several have been anxiously waiting to follow their Master in baptism. We have, however, held them back that they might have a good understanding of the step they were taking, and be fully established in the truth. We finally decided to baptize five whom we believed were ready, and let others wait a little longer. July 12 we gathered with these dear souls at the bank of the Hun River in Mukden where we administered this solemn rite. Brother Grundset

spoke to the bystanders regarding the meaning of this ordinance, after which the writer buried them in the watery grave. It did our hearts good to see how their faces radiated with joy and gladness as they arose to follow their Saviour in the new life. We have just now organized our first church in Manchuria consisting of eleven members. May the Lord bless and prosper this church, that it may be the means of winning many precious souls to the truth.

A little over a week ago the writer made a visit south to Liaoyang. We have had a call from that place for a long time. Our canvasser went there some time ago to sell magazines, and as a result some have become interested. An elderly man has begun to keep the Sabbath. He has a store, but closes it on the Sabbath day. Many others are very much interested, and they are desirous of having us come to instruct them.

This morning our Chinese teacher read a letter to me which he had just received from one of his friends living about 133 miles west of Mukden. While we were attending the general meeting at Shanghai this spring, this man visited Mukden and sought for us. But not finding us here he was given some tracts and other literature to take home. He with others is now convinced that we have the truth and is very anxious that we should visit them soon.

Thus the work is continually going forward. We feel our great need of more workers, but our hearts rejoice to see what the Lord is doing for us in this great field.

B. PETERSEN.

### Providential Advances in Malaysia

I have just arrived from Kota Bahru, Kelantan, where I went some three weeks ago to look after an interest. I baptized a young man and his mother. They are fine Eurasian people, and will hold up the light of truth. I held meetings every night, and spoke at the Bahru Club by invitation on "The War and Its Outcome" from the Christian point of view. Some fifty or sixty were out, many of whom were Malay Mohammedans. A Malay translated for me, and he told me afterward that they believed that the end of the world was near at hand, and that wars would grow worse and worse. I sold nearly \$25.00 (gold) worth of literature. We are considering the advisability of sending Brother C. M. Lee there to follow up the interest and to create others. I believe it to be a good place to work, for no other missionaries are operating there.

When I got home I found four Malay boys from Battakland here. They are about twenty years old, and have come to be baptized and to go to school. They wish to prepare for the work. I had a long talk with them last night, and they are well informed on the points of doctrine. These fellows sold their small farms, and walked four and six days to get to the port, and then spent nearly all they had to come by boat the rest of the way. We shall keep them in school and later on baptize them. They say they do not care to learn English. "What is the use to learn English?" they say; "all we want is to know how to teach the Bible to our own people." Three of them have taught school before. This shows the need of a good man to teach Bible in Malay. We certainly need a good, strong man to go there at once. A number are calling for baptism, but we dare not baptize until a man is sent there to give full instructions, and to start the work properly.

Everything looks as though we had but a short time in which to finish the work in these great lands of darkness. I believe the Lord is going out before us and preparing the way for a great and large work to be

done in our field. Things are taking shape in many ways, and we have evidences of the guiding hand of Providence. This is cheering to us, as we bear the heavy loads.  
F. A. DETAMORE.

### Another Monument to the True God

Sabbath, June 26th, will long be remembered by our people in the Hakka field, as it was the occasion for the first meeting in the new church at Waichow. For some time the workers here have felt their need of a church building, and as time went on their membership increased so much that they could not meet in the rented chapel for want of room; and it being impossible to rent larger quarters it was decided to raise money and erect a building on the mission property just outside of the city gate. Many small, and some large donations were made by our mission workers and their congregations in different parts of the field, making possible the erection of this house to the worship of the true God. The boys' schools and the girls' school gave useful articles such as a clock, scrolls, and other things to be used in beautifying the church.

The building, which is made of brick, is 34x48 feet. It is equipped with a beautiful rostrum, an organ, and seats for about 250 people. The front of the building has a beautiful as well as appropriate painting representing a shepherd with his flock of sheep. In all it presents a fit and encouraging monument to our work in this part of the field.

There were 170 persons present to enjoy the interesting Sabbath school. The school was divided into nine classes and the teachers were supplied largely from the corps of workers and students who had just arrived from the Shanghai and Canton schools. It was gratifying to see how these young men and women who had been attending our own schools had profited by their opportunities and were able to conduct an orderly, interesting study of the lesson. I am more than ever of the opinion that what we need is more good schools in which we can train our young men and women for successful workers in all lines of mission work.

It was my privilege to speak to these people during the hour following the Sabbath school and Elder Nagel interpreted for me, as this is quite a different language from the Cantonese. My text was Ps. 92:13, "Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God." It was indeed a privilege to encourage these people in their church building enterprise which had already made them so happy. The first chapter of Haggai was cited to show that God desires His people to furnish material and build houses to be dedicated to His worship. We told them we had noticed that in the cities and towns of China the people had built many temples to the worship of their idol gods, and by contrasting the true God with their gods, His power with their supposed power, His ability and willingness to help His people with their inability even to help themselves, showed them that it is much more profitable, elevating, and noble to build churches for the worship of the God who "sits on the circle of the earth" and governs all by wisdom and power.

What we saw Sabbath greatly encouraged us, and I am sure that the news of these recent developments will especially interest and encourage Pastor and Mrs. J. P. Anderson, who labored long and faithfully in laying a strong foundation for the work in the Hakka field. "Cast thy bread upon the waters, for thou shalt find it after many days."

Pastor Nagel is happy and courageous in his work and is looking for greater things.  
A. L. HAM.

### Conference and Baptism

The spring general meeting for the Swatow division was held May 9-13 at Ang Swatow. Pastors B. L. Anderson and N. P. Keh were present throughout the meeting. Their labor was much appreciated. About three hundred were present. Twenty-three souls followed their Lord in baptism, afterwards to walk in newness of life. With the exception of one, all were from heathenism. The meeting was held just after harvest, so some were prevented from attending. Some will be baptized at their stations as we visit them. Thus far this year twenty-five souls have been baptized. The brethren at Ang Swatow collected money and entertained all of us free. The last two years the mission has not been out any expense for our general meetings. Holding them in the interior makes much less expense than bringing all down to Swatow.

It was beautiful to see men seventy years old, in the eve of their life give their hearts to God and unite with His church. The youth just coming into manhood also followed their Lord. The harmony and good-will that prevailed at the meeting is a pledge of what the Lord can do for those who trust him. May His sweet Spirit take possession of us all, so that when He comes to call His children, a finished and perfect work may be found among the Hok-lo speaking people.

One feature of the meeting was that each evangelist was given time briefly to tell about the work of his station. This was indeed interesting to all present. All places showed progress. Remember Swatow in prayer.  
J. P. ANDERSON.

### Batavia Java

Our work in this city has been moving forward, although not so fast as one would wish; yet something has been accomplished, and souls won for the precious truth. We have not only been gladdened by new ones taking their stand, but also backsliders who have trampled God's holy truth under foot for some time have come back again and are obeying all of God's commandments.

A short time ago we had a visit from Pastor Detamore, which proved a great blessing to all. We held meetings every night for a week, and these were real revival meetings. We made these meetings special seasons of prayer for those who had wandered away from the fold of safety, that they might come back again. The Lord heard our prayers, and the spirit of conversion came in. Several came and confessed their evil habits, and desired to give them up.

Two old men at the ages of sixty-two and sixty-seven years, had been using opium for thirty years or more. They had been desiring for some time to give it up, but they had tried in their own strength. This time they learned to lean upon an unseen Power. When they first stopped smoking opium they felt terribly sick, and felt they were going to die, and thought if they only had something to satisfy that awful craving for a little while, it would not be so hard, and therefore one of them asked Pastor Detamore if he did not have some medicine that would do this for them. "No," Pastor Detamore replied, "I have no medicine, but I can point you to the great Physician above, who has a more powerful medicine than anything that can be obtained anywhere on this earth, and that will give you immediate relief." Hearing this they decided to ask more earnestly for that medicine from above, and surrender their lives into the hands of that great Physician, whether it would mean life or death.

# ASIATIC DIVISION MISSION NEWS

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As soon as that decision had been firmly made, that Doctor from above could begin to work with His touching battery, and as soon as this new life and power came into their beings, it drove out that power of darkness that had bound them as with a chain for those many years. The voice of victory was heard, and the great Physician from above received all the praise and glory. Their sad, gloomy faces had been changed and become bright and shining with joy. Oh what joy it gave me to see this!

I hope to meet these two brethren on the sea of glass, shouting praises of victory and singing the song of Moses and the Lamb with the redeemed host of God, who have the Father's name written in their foreheads. Reader, will you also clasp hands with these happy souls there on that other shore?

Let us have more faith in God, dear brethren and sisters. He is able to do wonderful things; yes, He is able to save to the uttermost all those that come unto Him. Pray for our work in Batavia, Java.

THEBE TUNHELM.

## Typhoon at Shanghai

The most severe typhoon in the history of Shanghai occurred July 28. After the storm the city gave the appearance of having been in the war zone and most severely bombarded. There were roofless houses, shattered buildings, torn fences and uprooted trees.

The saddest sight was on the water-front along the Bund. Here the poor Chinese were seen trying to save what little of earth's possessions were not entirely swept away. A hopeless task it looked, for all in a heap and a tangle were piled launches, junks, lighters, houseboats and sampans, hundreds of them, and with the freight of many of them, such as flour, cotton, beancake, etc., so mixed as almost to make the water seem like slime. Many of the vessels had sunk, and with the sinking carried not only the freight but hundreds of these poor water-men and their families. Here and there was seen sitting on the bank a poor distressed woman with her little ones clinging to her, keeping guard over a few bits of wreckage, all that remained of the only home they ever knew.

The city park looked most desolate. The wind had driven the waves far over the beautiful lawn, burying it under a mass of mud, and with every tree down, the fence ruined, and scarce a trace of where once grew the lovely flowers, it looked the wreck it was. One large American navy collier had snapped the chains that held her and came over and tried to take refuge in the park. With the aid of two tugs, and by burying two heavy anchors in the park she was prevented from wreckage until the typhoon subsided. It is reported that two hundred people have been picked up dead, but the officials say the death roll will reach a thousand at least.

Our own compound suffered no great damage. The trees in front were all blown down, but being young were only bent, not broken, so most of them have been reset. The bamboo curtains over windows and verandas will not lend us their cooling shade again, for

had all the fence given way they would have followed the typhoon out to the Yellow Sea. A few windows were blown in and a few blown out, and with the others defective, what rain did not fall outside seemed to fall in. But we had no disposition to complain for we fared far better than our neighbors. A large cotton factory just across the way from us had the roof taken off.

Up to date we have had no very hot weather. Only one day has the thermometer reached one hundred, and then only for a few hours.

## NOTES

Almost every report in this issue records baptisms, the total number equaling eighty. One sows and another reaps, but God gives the increase.

Pastor S. A. Nagel writes of the arrival of a little son into their home. Sister Nagel, it will be remembered, is in the States, so Brother Nagel did not learn of having fallen heir to this fortune until the baby was a month old. Congratulations are in order.

The two canvassers working in Chefoo took 102 yearly subscriptions for the *Signs* in five days at fifty cents a year, and in addition sold 200 papers out of hand. Other agents are doing equally well, so reports our missionary agent, Brother Blunden.

Brother C. P. Lillie says that under the influence of a genial climate he is gradually regaining his health. He says it is hard for him to be patient with his infirmities. He sees such a need for laborers, and the day so far spent, that occasionally he tries his strength at labor, but only to regret it later.

Our readers will rejoice together at the good word received from Pastor Petersen of Mukden, Manchuria, that land has now been purchased for our headquarters there. A full description of the land and the providential way in getting such a desirable place, will all be told in a very interesting way by Pastor Petersen himself in our next issue.

The flood has done us no harm in any way except to shut us off from the world for about a week. Most of our chapels were flooded, but no damage was done. As far as we know none of our people were drowned, but some of them lost their crops. In the past we have thought it unfortunate to live so far from town, but we can see the providence of God in placing us in a high, dry place. We thank God for His protection and care at this time.—P. V. Thomas.

I am very glad to say that Mrs. Bates is improving rapidly. She has had practically no fever now for nearly three weeks and all signs of active disease have disappeared. She has had no hemorrhages now for almost five weeks, so we feel quite safe from that standpoint. The rich blessing of the Lord and the kind sisterly attention and good wholesome food which Sister Hankins has given us is largely responsible for the rapid advance Mrs. Bates has made. She has been putting on flesh continually ever since we arrived in Amoy and we have hopes that another month will see her well and strong again. We are devoutly thankful that the Lord had mercy on us and has spared us to work in this heathen land, and we are only anxious that we shall be able to meet His mind in our work here. Remember us in your prayers that good health may be continually our portion and that the work committed to us may be faithfully done.

—Floyd E. Bates.