

Asiatic Division Mission News



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God Understands

It is so sweet to know,
When we are tired, and when the hand of pain
Lies on our hearts, and when we look in vain
For human comfort, that the heart divine
Still understands these cares of yours and mine;

Not only understands, but day by day
Lives with us while we tread the earthly way,
Bears with us all our weariness, and feels
The shadow of the faintest cloud that steals
Across our sunshine, even learns again
The depth and bitterness of human pain.

There is no sorrow that he will not share,
No cross, no burden for our hearts to bear
Without his help, no care of ours too small
To cast on Jesus: let us tell him all—
Lay at his feet the story of our woes,
And in his sympathy find sweet repose.

—Selected.

Pentecostal Showers in Korea

Our field is divided into four divisions. In each division there has sprung up a company of believers who have come into the light of truth wholly through reading our literature. First there was one company in the southern division more than one hundred miles from Brother Wangerin's station, out in the mountains where only one of our canvassers had gone, and he only once. They became interested in the truth through the paper they bought, and sent their subscription for the same to the office here. Correspondence was kept up with them for about a year, and they bought copies of all of our literature. Then Brother Wangerin visited them and was surprised to find a well established company of Sabbath keepers grounded in the truth. They have continued to grow, and in September are to be baptized, and a church organized. There will be about twenty in this company.

The next company is in the north division. While I was in Mukden last October to assist in finding a location for the new workers to that field, I met and studied with a Korean who was not a Christian. After returning home I sent literature to him, and he in turn sent it to his home. Later he wrote me that his people had commenced to keep the Sabbath and wanted further instruction. More literature was sent to them, and later Doctor Russell sent a native helper to visit the people, and now there is an organized Sab-

bath school of about thirty-five members, and three men of the place have been baptized. One of them, the younger brother of the man I met in Mukden, was baptized a few days ago and has gone out in the canvassing work. Several more will be baptized as soon as they have further instruction.

The third company was in the central division, in Seoul. The native elder of another church had been reading all the literature we print in Korean and Chinese, and decided that we had the truth. He began to preach Seventh-day Adventist doctrine to his congregation until, just after we returned from the Shanghai meeting, he with about fifty of his congregation of about three hundred decided to keep the Sabbath and unite with us. However, they decided that as those who were coming to us held the deed to the church building and had, they said, built the building, they would hold their meetings in that church, and from that time forth it would be a S. D. A. church building. We were invited to come in and take charge and organize them. We went and held a few meetings, but told them that we could not go there any more, neither could we do anything about organizing them in that place. If they would meet in a private house, then we would take charge, or we would be pleased to have them come to our church about a mile distant. They would not agree to give up their building, and said that they would organize a Seventh-day Adventist church of their own. We did what we could for them, but they were quite firm that they would remain there and keep the Sabbath. We were very sad that they did not give up the building, and come with us, but perhaps this is the trial they need to prepare them to stand all the tests God may have for them.

The fourth place is also in the central division, and yet so near the eastern division, and in touch with that division, that the work has been looked after from there. They also have had much help by reading literature, but the beginning of the company there was by one of the church members from Wonsan moving to that place, and as a result there are now about thirty keeping the Sabbath. Pastor W. R. Smith recently visited the place and organized a Sabbath school.

This report is too long for me to take space to tell of the tent effort in the northern division during June and the fore part of July, when about fifteen accepted the truth; nor about the work in the central division, where fifteen were baptized last week, and where many more are waiting for me to go and administer the rite. And so the work is going all through the field. God is opening the way, and we must step into the openings. Our great cry at the present time is, More help! we must have more help!

C. L. BUTTERFIELD.

Notes of Progress From Szechwan

Our friends will be glad to know that we now have the deeds for both pieces of land, duly stamped by the magistrate. Now we can truly say we have our stakes set in Chungking, which place is undoubtedly the best center for our work in Western China. We have the best available sites on the Chungking side of the river, our land being about twenty-five to thirty minutes from our chapel. Doctor MacCartney, the senior missionary of Chungking, who has a hospital and equipment in Chungking worth over \$100,000.00 gold, said that he had this site in mind for a sanitarium. We feel truly thankful to our heavenly Father for giving us this beautiful place, and are fully satisfied that it was His direct leading that directed our steps to this site.

Building operations have now begun on our bungalows, but owing to the leisurely method of the contractors, the first house will not be completed till the middle of December. The bungalows have ample cellar room, all the living rooms being on the first floor. We will also have a large attic, with a sleeping porch opening off the same. The basement is to be of stone, with the remainder of brick, and native tile for roofing.

Our two canvassers are having remarkable success in taking subscriptions and selling single copies of our paper. In six weeks' canvassing the cities between Wan Hsien and Chungking, they took over four hundred yearly subscriptions, thus securing, including their single copy sales, over \$148.00 Mex. They faithfully turned over to the mission fifty per cent of their sales, together with their tithe, which amounted in all to \$81.42. This is the best piece of real self-supporting canvassing work that the writer has seen in China.

I am sure all will rejoice to know that we have reaped our firstfruits in Szechwan, four precious souls on July 3rd being buried with their Lord in baptism. These people had all been keeping the Sabbath for nearly a year, and the baptism took place just about one year from the time we opened our chapel in Chungking. Before receiving baptism, we gave them two weeks' course of special instruction on the ten pillars of the faith. Others requested baptism, but were asked to wait until they were further tested, and had opportunity for further instruction.

A new chapel has been opened at Lao Chang, a busy market town which is located twenty li out from Chungking on the main paved highway from Chungking to the province of Kweichow. We have organized a Sabbath school here with a membership of about twenty. On market days we often have as many as one hundred attentive listeners in our chapel. We have also received calls from Wan Hsien, where our canvassers have been laboring, asking us to open up a chapel there. This will probably be our next step in the development of the work here, but it will have to wait some time yet, till we are through with our building operations.

Our rented home on the mountain has enabled us all to keep well and strong during the summer, and is situated between our city chapel and the chapel at Lao Chang, so that we have been able to carry the regular Sabbath services all through the summer, Brother Warren accompanied by his wife going to one chapel, while the writer and Mrs. Allum went to the other. This has been a source of strength to our work.

In looking back over the past year we can see how our Father has led us, when we compare our present favorable situation with conditions when we first ar-

rived at this great city a little over a year ago, and were forced to spend the first three weeks in a houseboat outside the walls of the city, being unable to find a place where we could lay our heads. But now we can rejoice that we were permitted to pass through these inconveniences in order that we might have the privilege of opening the work in this great western field.

In conclusion, we can say that we were never of greater courage, and never had greater confidence that the Lord is going to bless His work in this field. We ask you to pray for us as we take still further steps in the development of the work here.

F. A. ALLUM.

Good General Meetings in Fukien

A report of our general meetings in Fukien is now long overdue, but we have had an unusual run of sickness during the last month, which must account for the lateness of the report. All the sick people are now much better, however, and we can praise God for His many mercies. Sister Bates is also much improved. She has been gaining steadily ever since coming to Amoy, and we have every reason to hope that she will get entirely well.

We held two meetings in this province, one in Foochow and the other here in Kulangsu. We were glad to have Pastor Porter with us for the Foochow meeting and were very much disappointed that he could not remain for the Amoy meeting.

Both of the meetings were only fairly well attended, as they were held just at the time of rice harvest, while bad weather also kept many away from the Amoy meeting. In spite of this we had some good meetings, and twenty precious souls were added to the two churches,—eighteen by baptism, and two by previous baptism. This makes a total of forty-one added to the church in this province so far this year.

We are planning on holding another meeting with the Foochow Church as soon as it gets a little cooler. We just received a letter from Pastor Keh to-day in which he says that the work is onward there and that they expect to have a goodly number ready for baptism by the time we hold our next meeting.

Some time ago when visiting one of the churches in the interior, I met a young doctor as I was coming home on the launch. We had a long talk about the European war as a sign of the second coming of Christ, and also on other Bible topics. When the launch reached Amoy I promised to send him a copy of "Thoughts on Daniel and Revelation" in the Chinese, which I did. I heard nothing from him for some time, but he has now been coming to our Sabbath services, and also to the Friday evening prayer meeting for several weeks. I hope that our brethren in China will join with us in praying for this young man that he may come into full harmony with the truth.

For a long time it has been unsafe to send canvassers to Formosa, but we have now sent four of our best men over there to work the island. Already the subscriptions have begun to come in and we look for a large number in the next few months. Our workers all say that it is easier to take subscriptions at the advanced price than it was before.

We ask an interest in the prayers of our brethren and sisters throughout the field that the Spirit of God may be with us and direct in all we seek to do for Him.

W. C. HANKINS.

Flood Experiences in Kwangtung

As others have written about the flood here in Canton I will confine myself in this report to telling about how it has affected some of our out stations.

As soon as possible I went to Im Po, where we have a chapel and school, and found the workers and some of the members trying to repair the chapel and seats so that they could be used again, as the water had been nine feet deep in the chapel. The school building was a little higher and the water did not destroy very much there.

When the water came into the city the workers removed to the school, but in a very short time they found that they could not escape without boats or rafts, and these were very hard to find in such a time, but they were rescued in due time and taken to a high hill, about a mile from the city, which is used as a burying ground. Here old and young, men women and children were brought by boats and launches which were engaged in rescue work. Nothing much could be provided for them, and they were left to shift for themselves as the work went on. Hundreds of people were gathered there among the graves without shelter from the rain, nor from the hot burning rays of the sun.

The evangelist pointed out the spot where the villagers were massed together, and said that there among the graves on every side old people passed away in death, some who went there in good health became ill, and there babies were born into the world. The food which they were compelled to eat was the poorest of Chinese rice and what they could find on the hill. Those who were Christians recalled what they had read in the Bible about the flood, and they imagined that the suffering must have been great when all of the world was destroyed by water.

I saw many buildings which had fallen on account of the action of the water on them. Streets were covered with sand, trees, and bricks from fallen houses, and it all presented a pitiable sight. People were returning to their homes only to find them ruined and their things spoiled. Some of our people lost all they had, yet they assured me that they believed that the Lord would take care of them and that they would have a home in the earth made new where there would not be any destroying flood. One brother felt badly because he planned on having \$100.00 tithes this year, but the water had spoiled his business and he would not have very much.

Very little damage was done to our places, yet there will be some repairs needed. We feel thankful to God that He has protected His children in this great danger, and many feel that He has especially cared for them under great adversity.

A. L. HAM.

Japanese Claimed for God

Just before the Shanghai meeting our mission committee met and it was decided that we were to move from Tokyo to Kyushu (the southern island of the Japanese group) to take charge of the work there. Accordingly shortly after returning from the meeting we came to this place. We secured a good Japanese house in a healthful location, and at the close of the rainy season pitched our tent and began a series of meetings.

This place is new soil for the third angel's message, but by no means new to mission effort. Already eight other missions are operating here. In the tent effort much good gospel seed was sown and the Spirit of God is working on the hearts of those who listened from

night to night. Already three have begun to keep the Sabbath and we expect others to take their stand later.

One of these is a man over fifty years of age. He has been a Christian for thirteen years, and had received baptism, but he had never been able to find that which filled the longings of his soul. In his own words he says, "I am sure I was led to that tent by the influence of the Holy Spirit." As he rejoices in his new-found faith he often asks, "Why was it I did not know this when I first became a Christian?" In order to keep the Sabbath he will be required to discontinue a very profitable occupation, but he says he will do that willingly to keep God's holy Sabbath and to prepare for Christ's soon return. The outlook for a good harvest of souls in this place is very bright.

P. A. WEBBER.

Itinerating Under Difficulties

It was Brother Ham's desire that I accompany him to Kongmoon. The trip occupied the most of the day. In the section between Canton and Kongmoon one may see thousands of acres which have been flooded. The rice fields have been totally destroyed. The water is still unusually high. In many places the farmers are unable to plant new crops.

When we reached Kongmoon, we found that much of the city was flooded. We took off our shoes and waded through the water. On the Sabbath the attendance was not good because of the flood, but we experienced God's blessing and felt encouraged at the prospects for real missionary work in that large city.

Brother Ham spoke to the people concerning the worship of false gods. He called their attention to the one true God. The texts that he read were very plain. It seems that wherever one goes it would not be amiss to emphasize the fact that the God whom we serve is the Creator of heaven and earth. This statement of truth seems to make a deep impression upon the Chinese mind.

In the afternoon we went to a city about five miles distant from Kongmoon. Here we had an interesting Bible study with a family of three adults and several children. There was good attention paid, and a profitable hour was spent.

We were very much interested in the family where the reading was given. They are deeply interested in gospel work and for some years have had services in their home. They have a little chapel, and have invited our evangelist to hold studies with them. They have fully decided to obey the truth and are asking for baptism. We feel much encouraged to see this family so earnest in the service of God.

When we went to our boat we waded through water up to our knees. If the water had not been so deep we could have met more people, but we feel that as it was, our trip and visit was not in vain.

This work of carrying God's sunshine to darkened hearts is the most precious employment in which man may engage. Let us be always in His service.

B. A. MEEKER.

Tent Meetings in Korea

We have had two tent efforts since the Shanghai meeting. Our second one is running now at Pyen Yang, the second city in Chosen for size and importance, and the interest is good. We plan on running for six or eight weeks, or until the weather gets too cool.

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We are anxiously awaiting the coming of the new school man, but as yet no word has reached us as to who or when it will be. I hope it is not put off too long, or we may not need him. Things are closing up fast here in this country, and the minds of the people are changing rapidly. Some of the other people are losing large numbers of members, but right in those same places where the other people are losing out, the truth always commands a hearing and arrests the minds of the people.

One man, a member of another church in Pyeng Yang, said to me, "Missionary Russell, I think there will be a large S. D. A. Church in this place, for all the people are talking, and say that the message you preach is true."
RILEY RUSSELL, M. D.

Hunan Mission

The work of God in this province is still prospering. The success granted of God to our literature work has certainly brought encouragement to our canvassers and has led them to a deeper consecration and greater diligence.

The value of literature sales and subscriptions taken is increasing monthly. Since May 1 considerably over five thousand subscriptions have been sent from here to the publishers, of which two thousand were taken during the month of August. Our monthly club of papers is also being enlarged. Compared with the same four months of last year the workers have received over two and one half times more money from their efforts.

Sabbath afternoon, August 28, five dear souls were buried with their Lord in baptism. In addition Changsha will have several who will apply for entrance into the church at the time of general meeting.

Reports from the field indicate a large number waiting for baptism. Since last fall no itineracy has been made by a foreign worker, so the privilege has not been granted to those unable to attend our general meetings. After our meeting this October the writer hopes to visit all of our outstations.

S. G. WHITE.

NOTES

A letter from Pastor R. F. Cottrell says that he and his wife have been invited to spend some time at Pacific Union College, in the interests of mission work.

From private correspondence we learn that Brother F. E. Stafford is spending some weeks in Colorado in quest of health. His wife and family are remaining in Mountain View.

Word has been received that C. F. Glascock of College View, Nebraska, is joining the group that are sailing from San Francisco for the Orient September 11.

A letter from Pastor B. Petersen under date of August 20 reported him at Hwangchengpu, northern

Manchuria. There was a strong call from this place for the establishment of a chapel. This is the first chapel to be opened in Manchuria outside of Mukden.

By the time this issue of the News reaches its readers Pastor R. C. and Mrs. Porter will be en route to America to attend the Fall Council of the General Conference Committee to be held at Loma Linda. In our absence any matters of business should be referred to the vice president, Pastor DeVinney, or the secretary, C. N. Woodward; and matter for the NEWS will receive attention by the associate editor, Florence Shull.

Notice has been received that Montgomery Ward & Co. are raising their freight rates in the near future, twenty-five cents on the 100 lbs. Just when this advance will go into effect is not definitely settled, but those wishing to make orders from this house in the near future would do well to do so at once in order that they may avoid this raise in rates if possible. The new rating will be \$1.75 per 100 lbs. from Chicago to San Francisco.

Pastor J. E. Fulton, his wife and eldest daughter left Australia July 5th for America, where Pastor Fulton is attending camp meetings in the western States. Before leaving Australia he united in marriage his younger daughter, Jessie, and Brother Eric Hare, who has just completed the nurses' training course at the Wahroonga Sanitarium New South Wales. This young couple have accepted a call to labor in Burma, and will soon leave Australia for that field.

Sister B. Miller is conducting a most successful Bible institute for women at Shanghai. Twenty are in attendance. Several will be baptized at the close of the institute. Two or three have accepted the Sabbath truth while in attendance. One Seventh-day Baptist lady teacher united with us on all points of our faith. Florence Shull, after ten months study in language, during which time she has carried the stenographic work for the Asiatic Division office, was able to assist Sister Miller with the work of the institute.

We are sorry to record that Pastor J. E. Shultz, editor of the Chinese *Signs of the Times*, has been having a long and severe run of typhoid fever. Thursday, September 16, he began having sinking spells and the physician in charge pronounced the case most serious. Prayer was offered and Pastor Shultz's case was placed in the hands of the great Physician. That night he rested well, and at this writing is making a safe recovery from a forty-five day's run of fever. Thus another worker was rescued from the enemy and saved to serve for God yet a little longer in China.

A letter from Pastor J. J. Westrup says: "I am now in Iowa conducting the Swedish work. We have a large tent pitched here in Des Moines, and have a good attendance. We have three meetings in Swedish and four in English each week. Last winter I conducted meetings in Oregon, where we won fifteen honest souls and organized a church. Mrs. Westrup and Joseph helped me in playing, singing and visiting, and attending all the meetings. Mrs. Westrup is not strong yet. The doctor and friends advised her to remain in Portland until September, as it not so warm there as here in Iowa. I miss the Asiatic News. Have not had a paper for a long time. Suppose it has been sent to Portland and has not been forwarded. Our hearts are constantly in China. How my dear wife longs to get stronger so that we may be able to return. We are constantly praying for our dear brethren in China. May the Lord's blessing rest upon you all."