

# Asiatic Division Mission News

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No. 0

## The Mustard Seed

One planted a seed—'twas a little thing  
To sow in the Field of his Lord and King;—  
A grain of mustard. It grew and spread  
Till it sheltered the weary toiler's head.  
And under its branches sweet songsters rare  
Sang hymns of praise, as they nested there.  
And he who had planted the tiny seed  
Forgot his shame at the humble deed.  
And one gave his Life—'twas a little thing,  
But 'twas all he had to give to his King.  
The Master sent him where Darkness dwelt,  
Where the Blind and Lame to strange idols knelt.  
'Twas a lonely land; but he looked Above  
As he brought to the hopeless the message of Love.  
And many whose gropings had been in vain  
To the life of the Spirit were born again.  
And his life poured out for a world in need  
Was multiplied like the Mustard Seed!

—Selected

## Canvassing in the Philippines

It is remarkable how God is blessing the work in this part of His vineyard. This is certainly true with reference to the literature work. Our hearts are made to rejoice as we see the progress made by our native brethren.

A little more than two years ago we started out several young men to sell "Thoughts on Daniel" in Tagalog. And almost from the beginning they had good success. In less than a year some of them were taking orders to the value of \$100.00 per week. And others did correspondingly well. This was done in territory where the average wage is from forty to fifty cents per day. To our



Star Paper Seller in Manila.—In two weeks this woman sold over 800 copies of the native paper.

American canvassers this may seem large, yet it is true. And our deliveries here average about as good as they do in the States. It is true that the "padres" (priests) sometimes warn their flock, and thus cause us some trouble. Yet we have not had a great deal of trouble from that source.

We have made a small beginning in three other languages: the Cebuan, the Panayan, and the Ilocano. The books used in these three languages are small books, corresponding in price to our English juvenile books. But some of our boys are doing remarkably well with these small books. I shall take the liberty of quoting from letters written by some of our newest canvassers, from our newest field, and with our smallest book. These letters were written to Brother Hay, who is in charge of that mission station. The letters are as follows:

"We are now very far away from our city spreading the printed page to the people. My work here is much better than last week. I have raised the bounteous sum of \$54.80 (\$27.40 gold).  
"We have founded the 'Canvassers' Institute,' in which every Sabbath we have a meeting and one of us discusses a topic of the Bible. I am the secretary-treasurer of the Canvassers' Institute, and in the two meetings we have had I raised forty-five cents donations. This will be for the Vigan Sabbath school's benefit.

"I cannot give you statements referring to the experience I had during the week. I reserve them, and will relate them when I arrive at Vigan.

"I close my letter and pray God to dwell among us."—Juan.

Juan is a young Ilocano boy, who has been living with Brother Hay while he attended the English school.

Manuel writes: "I am glad to state that we, the colporteurs, have very good orders. We thank God, for He puts His hand on us at every time we need Him. Every morning we have morning devotions and and we feel in our hearts that Jesus is dwelling in us. He is leading us.

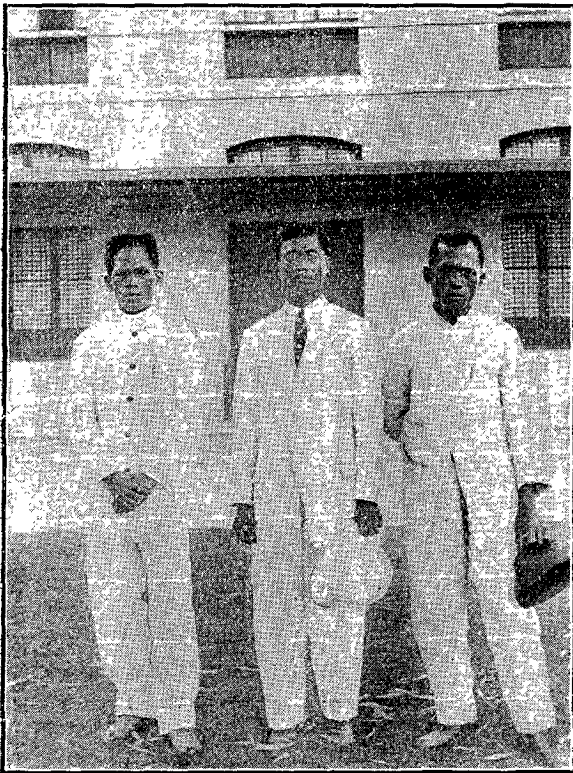
"I am glad also to tell you that we have a society named the Canvassers' Institute. The purpose of this Institute is to strengthen our faith and to help us to serve the Lord as closely as possible. The last two Sabbaths we had Sabbath school, being three members. The first Sabbath we had donations of twenty cents and the next of fifteen cents. We have also regulations, and if any of us neglects to obey these regulations he is punished. Now, Brother Hay, we are trying hard to control ourselves."

There was another letter from Domingo, but I did not get it. But these give some idea of the devotion of our canvassers here. These boys are so young that when Brother Hay sent them out, he wrote me that he felt as though he were sending out children. But praise God, they are proving men in faith. Juan for two successive deliveries made a hundred per cent delivery. Manuel made an average of a ninety-five per cent delivery for his last two deliveries. Domingo's was good, but not quite so good as the others.

We now have about thirty canvassers besides paper workers.

I might tell you something of the results of the literature work, but I will reserve them for some future time.

W. E. LANIER.



Three Native Cebuan Canvassers.

## Further Study of the Map

Leaving Shanghai March 29 for Korea and Manchuria, I took passage by a Japanese steamer for Moji Japan. We had a fairly pleasant trip across, and ran close in to Quelpart Island, with its snowclad mountains. I afterwards learned that our work has entered here, and that Pastors Butterfield and Wangerin of Korea had been holding meetings there. Here is another isle that has waited "for His law." At Moji I met the American steamer that was bearing Brother and Sister Barrows to their new field of labor. With them I spent a few hours of the Sabbath before re-embarking for Korea.

Korea on my former visit was cold, dull, and muddy; but on arriving there the morning of April 2nd it was bright and warm, and I could well believe it might be called the "Land of the Morning Calm." It can belie its name, however, for a day or two later the wind blew and the snow fell. But its calmness may be largely a morning calmness.

A few pleasant days were spent at Seoul with our workers, planning over the work. We were glad of the good reports of the progress of God's work in Korea. We were made sad, however, to find that Brother Wangerin had failed in health, and that it will be necessary for him to retire from the field. He has done faithful service, and I am sure many are praying for his recovery. Brother Oberg also has been suffering from appendicitis, but the readers of the NEWS are glad to hear of a successful operation, and he will no doubt be soon able to work again.

From Korea the writer went to Manchuria, where he spent about ten days counseling with our workers about their work in this field. It was planned for Brother Grundset to move to a point north of Mukden to open up a new location. We went as far north as Harbin, where, besides the European city, is a Chinese city also. But we did not think best to start in Harbin. The Chinese city is very low, lying on the river bank, and it was feared it might be very unhealthful.

At the time of our visit there it was cold, the Sungari river being frozen, and people passing over with sledges. While in Harbin we visited some of our Russian brethren and sisters, for we have a church at this place. Two of our ministers whose headquarters have been at Harbin have been banished, and their wives and families are still there. We found them both in need of assistance, as they were not receiving sufficient to keep them.

On our way to Harbin and on our return we visited Changchuan, a large city near midway between Mukden and Harbin. This has been selected as the city where Brother Grundset will locate. It is a large city, and the center of a great district. While we were looking over the city we were part of the time in a blinding snowstorm. The writer saw the most snow and ice on this trip he has witnessed in over twenty years.

Brother Grundset turns over his duties as secretary-treasurer, before going north, to Brother Gjording.

The brethren in the Manchurian Mission are hoping for more help from the States, so as to open up other parts of this great northern country. We know these brethren have the prayers of God's people in their work for souls. Manchuria is said to have about eighteen million people, and thousands are moving there and making homes. It is a wonderful country, and presents a great opportunity.

J. E. FULTON.

### Kuala Lumpur

No doubt the readers of the Asiatic NEWS have wondered why they do not hear from Kuala Lumpur, and perhaps have guessed that the work is moving slowly. We were told that this had proven a hard field before coming, and had we consulted our inclinations, we would doubtless have chosen another place. Yet since we left the matter of selecting our field to those more experienced, we have not felt like complaining, even though results have been disappointing. Rather have we felt like redoubling our efforts in placing the truth before the people, trusting that "in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

Recently several have begun keeping the Sabbath, and several others have promised to do so soon. Our work has been mostly among the Tamils, who are nearly all government employees. Several have made application for the privilege of keeping the Sabbath, only to be refused.

Our finances so far this year make a good showing. We are just finishing our Harvest Ingathering work. Our papers came late. Brother Duckworth, who had been laboring in Java and had a hand in making the good showing for Batavia, found that on coming here there were four hundred papers for two of us to handle, which meant that he must take the larger share, inasmuch as my time is mostly taken up in studying the Chinese language. But as usual, we found the hardest part of the battle was to get started. We have collected for this fund nearly six hundred dollars. When we have collected some pledges, will have \$600.00.

I learned a few days ago that one of our new Sabbath keepers expected to sell his estate, and felt impressed to write him about the tithe. The result was that I received from him over \$200.00 tithe. I believe this will do much to establish him in the truth.

Our Chinese worker is doing splendidly in selling the Chinese *Signs of the Times*. We are using between five and six hundred papers each month. We are looking forward with eagerness to the time when our command of the language will permit us to follow up these silent messengers with a good tent effort. The Chinese are in the majority here, and not so dependent on the government positions. They give promise of a more fruitful field.

G. A. THOMPSON.

### Fields White—Already to Harvest

The work here in Sandakan is moving rapidly. Brother Eng Fook, our Chinese helper, has found over twenty new Bible readers in the last two months. During the week I was away he found three more. These are all of the better class. We have set our aim at doubling our membership in 1916.

The Spirit of the Lord is certainly moving upon the hearts of the people here. Many who have heard the message before are beginning to take their stand. We have about twenty preparing for baptism.

One young man from the Catholic mission came to our evangelist and asked him why we were so foolish as to think we were right. Our helper gave him the Bible reasons for our faith. They studied about three hours, and when he left he asked if he might come back the next night. He was assured that he might. He came three or four nights in succession, and declared that he was convinced. The Sunday following he went to the Catholic church to find some of his friends and tell them about the true religion. While waiting for the priest to come in this young man began to tell his convictions. In a little while he went up in front and began to give them a sermon on the truth. Someone ran for the priest, and he was put down. They tried to make him recant, but he would not. In telling me about it, he said that he told them that he "was not going to worship the beast and be lost;" that he wanted a home in heaven, that the Bible said the seventh day was the Sabbath, and that the Catholic church had changed the day.

This young man has begun to pay tithe, and discontinued the eating of pork. He comes every Sabbath, and in our missionary meeting has a good report of work he is doing. He is teaching school at present, but I hope that by another year we may send him to Singapore to get a training for our work. I believe he will make a good worker.

We have been wondering how our brethren in the other fields find their work. As we consider our present success, we find it began shortly after the General Conference Committee at Loma Linda finished its work. Since then we have heard that all of our requests for men and means have been granted. It certainly seems to us that God is setting His hand to finish the work. Nearly every time I go to town someone whom I do not know stops me and asks me about our message, and what we believe. Pastor Montgomery's faithful work is certainly bearing fruit. Some sow, and others reap the results of their labors.

We trust that all our workers will remember Borneo at the Throne of Grace, and petition the Lord of battles to open up the way for our message to go quickly into the places where we can not go at present. We expect to present a petition to the governor in a short time, when he has returned from England. This will be signed by all our brethren and friends who desire us to go into the forbidden portions of our field to teach and preach.

ROY L. and MRS. MERSHON.

## ASIATIC DIVISION MISSION NEWS

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## NOTES

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**Soonan, Korea**

On Sabbath, April 29, we had the privilege of baptizing at Soonan twenty-two persons, eleven of them being students. The others were largely the result of the student young people's work of the Soonan school for the past year.

We are very glad that Brother Tee and family are back in Soonan and that he again has control of school affairs. The school year commencing April 1 has opened with about all the new students that can be accommodated.

Brother H. A. Oberg was operated on in Seoul, Chosen, for appendicitis on April 21. He is doing well and expects to leave the hospital in a few days, and will soon be in the harness once more; for which we are all very thankful.

Brother Wangerin is not improving as rapidly as we had hoped, and it is thought best for him to return to the States. They will be sailing on the *S. S. China* July 1 from Yokohama. It is with great reluctance that they take a much needed furlough, but our prayers go with them for a speedy recovery.

RILEY RUSSELL, M. D.

**A Faithful Missionary's Life Spared**

We are now only one day out from America. Are expected to arrive at Victoria Sabbath morning, if all goes well. We have on the whole had a very nice, smooth trip, with the exception of one or two days.

From Shanghai on to Kobe Mrs. Anderson was very poorly, so between Kobe and Yokohama we called the doctor, and sought his advice as to whether it would not be best to land in Yokohama rather than to proceed on to America. The doctor thought we might as well proceed, and so we did. For his kind advice and help we are very grateful now. Mrs. Anderson feared that she would never be able to stand the trip across the Pacific, and if it must come to the worst, she preferred to have it happen on land; but after leaving Yokohama she has improved some, being able to take more food without causing her any trouble. I do not see how people can get so low and still be alive. One evening the doctor was somewhat alarmed, as he could not feel her pulse at all. At present that awful deathlike appearance has left her face, and we feel sure she will soon recover. She is still too weak to stand alone.

We have met many missionaries on board who have kindly offered their assistance, and some have visited us in our stateroom; yet, kind as they are, nothing has equaled the good cheer brought to our hearts by meeting our own people in Shanghai, Brother Hoffman in Kobe, Sisters Hall and Herboltzheimer and Brother and Sister Benson in Yokohama. Truly this cause makes all our hearts one. I am sure that the united prayers offered in behalf of Mrs. Anderson by our brethren have been heard and answered, and that ere long we can return to our work again; for which we thank God.

The ship's people have done all they could to make it pleasant for us. Yesterday I put Mrs. Anderson in a chair and carried her up on deck, where she stayed about a half hour.

J. P. ANDERSON.

J. P. Anderson has been invited to work among the Cantonese speaking Chinese of San Francisco during his furlough in America.

In one of our exchanges we note that Pastor M. M. Hare has left his work in Canada and is spending some time in Loma Linda, California, preparatory to sailing in the autumn for India, to which field he has been appointed.

The Pitcairn Islanders are building themselves a boat with which to take the tithes of their produce to a market. An Australian—one not of our faith—has become interested in the project and has proposed to furnish them an engine for the boat.

Brother O. J. Grundset writes from Manchuria that they have decided to open a new mission station at Changchuan, a hundred miles north of Mukden; and Brother Grundset and his family expect to move up to this place in a week or two to take charge of the work in that section. The Chinese, he says, are flowing into this northern country by the thousands. "After some investigation we find that the three daily trains going north on the South Manchurian railway are insufficient to handle the influx of settlers going north. To meet this extra need, the Japanese are hauling the Chinese northward in box cars. The number of freight cars making up a train depends on the crowd, but they are running a daily freight for passenger service. We were told that this has been going on for two months or more, and will likely continue for several months. One evening we saw a freight empty out at Changchuan. It had twenty-seven carloads of human freight, estimated to be about two thousand men, women, and children. The next evening the freight brought fifteen carloads, with over one thousand people. When one adds to this those who drive north in carts or who walk or wheel their little belongings in wheelbarrows, the numbers coming in become significant. Manchuria will soon be well populated."

The folks in Szechwan are suffering considerable annoyance and inconvenience, on account of the activities of the revolutionists in that Province, in getting supplies through. Pastor Allum says: "Just now, as far as obtaining foreign supplies is concerned, we are entirely cut off from Shanghai. Our Montgomery Ward order which we ordered last June is still in Ichang, and is likely to remain there for quite a long time yet, as there is no means of getting it up the river now. Yesterday we sent into the city to see if we could buy a bag of foreign sugar, but the one foreign store in this city has sold out, and there is none obtainable. However, none of these things trouble us very much, for we are all well, except that I am having some trouble with my lungs. I had the same difficulty last year, but got over it when I went to the hills. I am praying that the Lord will take this away, for I do enjoy talking to the people about the truth. Last month I gave no less than fifty-one Bible studies, and my wife and I had forty-three other meetings and classes. We now have four day schools in operation with an enrolment of 111 students, so you can see we have made some progress since our last report."

**Study at Home.**—The Fireside Correspondence School will show you how. Agents wanted. Send for our "Nutshell" Calendar. Address, C. C. Lewis, Principal, Takoma Park, D. C.