

Asiatic Division Mission News

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The Tinguian Pagan Tribe Calling for the Truth

In the mountain province of Abra, in the northern part of Luzon, there lives a large pagan tribe who have always resisted the efforts of the Catholic Church to convert them to their faith. They are raw pagans, worshiping stones. Four times a year they gather at certain places and offer a pig in sacrifice to these gods. Last month Pastor Hay and Brother Leon Roda visited a Tinguian who has accepted the truth, and held some meetings with the people of the town. They are calling for someone to come and teach them the truth. Pastor Hay wrote the following concerning his visit:

"I had a very interesting time at Lumaba, the town where Brother Abawag lives. We held two meetings there and had a number of Bible studies with the brothers of Lumaba. Every Tinguian town has a stone before which they offer sacrifice. They say that this stone is an evil spirit, and they offer sacrifices to him so that it will keep the evil spirits from other towns from doing them harm. After we had visited the stone and the synagogue where they eat their sacrificial feast, we went to visit the old man who always offers the sacrifices and makes the prayers before the stone. The oldest man was sick, but another who was but a few years his junior,—perhaps about eighty,—consented to talk with me about their customs. Brother Abawag was with me. The old man instructed me to come to the home of the older man who was sick. We found him lying on his mat on the floor. As we came in he sat up, brushed his long hair back and adjusted the bark which was tied around his head to hold his hair in the true mountain style, after the fashion of his ancestors who were headhunters. He did not know how old he was, but said that when the town was established he was a small boy. That was over eighty years ago.

"For more than an hour the old man talked away telling me of their traditions and customs. The sun dropped behind the mountains, but he still talked on. A small smoky lamp was brought, and by its light I saw the doorway packed by his tribes-people who were listening in an adjoining room. After he had

finished telling me of the sacrifice, how they offer a hog four times a year, and how they always rest from one to three days after the offering, I spoke to them in Ilocano, as they all understand that, although they speak Tinguian in their own homes. I told them of a greater God than Pinag-ing (their town god) or Cabunyang or Cadacalan (general god over all),—the great God who created all things, and how sin entered and made necessary the supreme sacrifice of the Son of the great God. I also told them of the Sabbath rest which helps us always to remember the great God who created all things. Every point, as it dawned on the mind of the old man, was met with an explanation of approval, and when I shook hands all around before leaving, they asked that I come again and tell them of the great God and how His Son had come to this earth.

"This meeting has stirred me, and I feel that we must make a decided effort for those people. We have not asked enough in our budgets by one-half for what ought to be done for those people. The people that I have come in touch with are good material, and I believe that they will make as good a showing as the Ilocanos. Most of them own their little farms, and they are much more diligent than the lowland people."

In another letter Brother Hay urges that we start our work for this tribe at once, and not wait until 1917, when our appropriation arrives for this field. We desire to begin this work, but of course we do not have the money at hand. We pray that the Lord in some way will raise up workers and money to carry the gospel to this needy people. Brethren, pray for these that still sit in darkness, but are stretching out their hands for the light of the gospel.

L. V. FINSTER.

Borneo Headquarters

During the month of July it was my privilege to make a trip to British North Borneo in company with Pastor G. A. Thompson of Kuala Lumpur in the Malay States. It takes eight days to go from Singapore to Sandakan, where our headquarters for Borneo are located. Brother Roy Mershon, who went there to relieve Pastor R. P. Montgomery last November so that

he could go for a furlough, met us at Jesselton, which is two days' journey from Sandakan. At this place we have a native worker, and the Lord has blessed his efforts so that four were asking for baptism. While our boat was loading and unloading we held several studies with the interested ones and then administered baptism to those who were ready.

We then resumed our journey, Brother Mer-shon accompanying us, and arrived at Sandakan Sabbath morning in time for Sabbath school and meeting. Two preaching services were held on Sabbath, and the little hall that is being used for a chapel was filled with our people, all of whom seemed earnest and zealous. We were especially glad to see their interest in missionary work, and to note their good reports as they gave them at the close of the Sabbath school.

On Monday we met out under the trees by the side of a brook and studied for a time, after which ten honest souls were buried in baptism. A number of others are keeping the Sabbath and we think that another company will soon be ready to follow in this rite. Some of these converts have ability to make workers in the cause, and it was arranged for some of them to go to the training school at Singapore to get a preparation for teaching the truth.

While at Sandakan we purchased a property consisting of nearly six acres on which is a large house that will serve the needs of two families. This is high above the sea on a commanding hill where the breezes blow fresh from the sea all the year, and where one gets a beautiful view of the ocean and valley below. This will certainly make it much easier for our workers in that field to conserve their health, and they will be able to do much more constant work. The garden and orchard add much to the value of the property, and the beautiful flowers and shrubbery give it a real home appearance. We feel thankful to our brethren in the homeland that they have given us the means that make it possible for us to purchase this good place.

F. A. DETAMORE.

On Vacation In Korea.

On the morning of the 6th of July the writer and family left Seoul for Wonsan, a port city on the east coast of Korea. We were starting on our vacation trip, the first we have had since coming to Korea almost eight years ago, and even the ride on the train of 160 miles was enjoyed, especially by the children. This railroad could well be called the scenic route of Chosen. It passes over the high table-lands of central Korea and then through a deep gorge through the mountains a short distance from Wonsan.

We were met at Wonsan by Pastor W. R. Smith, and spent the night at their home. The next day we moved into our rented house by the bay. The location

was fine, the house standing only about two hundred feet back from the bay where the swimming was always good, and there was a good sea-breeze almost every day.

A few days later we were joined by Pastor and Sister Smith, Pastor and Sister Oberg, and Miss May Scott. Time went all too fast, and at the end of two weeks Brother and Sister Smith had to leave us and pack their goods and move to Keizan. Brother Smith will have charge of the work in the southern district, and it became necessary for them to move at this time to oversee the building of the house they are to live in.

The rest of us remained until the first of August and then returned to Seoul. Brother and Sister Oberg began to pack their goods at once preparatory to moving to Soonan, where Brother Oberg will have charge of the work in the northern district. We shall greatly miss them here in Seoul, where they have been located ever since coming to the field, but we wish them God-speed as they take up their work in another part of the field. Miss Scott will spend a little time in Seoul, and then, with some of the women of the Soonan women's class, will spend two months itinerating among some of the churches in the north.

We greatly enjoyed the short vacation and now return to our work with renewed strength; and even though we are few in numbers, yet we trust that God will strengthen us for the great work there is to be done. It is still hot here in Seoul, but the summer rains are past and the weather will soon be fine for the fall work.

C. L. BUTTERFIELD.

Shortening The Distance

In the *Review and Herald* of July 22, 1915, Pastor Daniells writes of their travel from Mukden to Peking, and thence on to Yencheng, Honan, a distance of 1,042 miles. Of this distance 521 miles are between Mukden and Peking. Through all this populous district we had no one (and still have not, I believe) to proclaim the message.

Of the 521 miles from Mukden to Peking, Manchurian territory extends about 260 miles from Mukden. All along this distance are large and small villages and two fairly large cities. In one of these, Gindjou, about 150 miles southwest of Mukden, are some who are interested in the doctrines we preach. They have sent us word to come for some time.—over a year. One of our Chinese believers sold them several copies of "Bible Readings" last year, and after they had visited us in Mukden, making urgent calls for some one to come to Gindjou, it was my privilege to visit this city during Chinese New Year (February) 1916. I was somewhat surprised to find on entering the store of the man who was to entertain me that it was all prepared with benches and chairs, and a pulpit improvised (one large box stood on end and one placed across on top,

Town and W. E. Weeks.

Section 2.

Philippines, Dec. 20-Jan. 9.
 Japan, Jan. 15-Feb. 5.
 Korea, Feb. 6-20.
 Manchuria, Feb. 21-26.
 Honan, China, Feb. 27-March 8.
 Central China, March 9-20.
 East China, March 21-April 4.

Those attending the meetings in section 2 are, Pastors W. A. Spicer, J. E. Fulton, with Brother H. H. Hall representing the publishing department.

Prof. F. Griggs will visit Australia and India before joining section 2.

The Triumphs and Trials of Shandung Province

Several months have passed swiftly by since Shandung Mission reported to the NEWS. In spite of hindrances and trials during this time, we are glad to report progress.

Shandung has been greatly affected by the wave of unrest that swept over nearly all of the country. Parts of this province have been in a state of civil war much of the time for several months, especially in those districts adjoining the Tsingdao Transfer Railway.

Two Anhui brethren were canvassing here in Shandung when trouble broke out, and being southerners immediately became political suspects. One of them, Brother Li Ting Shui, after a marvelous escape from immediate execution, was thrown into prison by the government soldiers. They first robbed him of his money, broke up many of his belongings, tore up his Chinese passport and also his canvasser's credentials. This happened at Wei Hsien. When Wei Hsien was captured by the Revolutionists three weeks later, Brother Li was released and made his way to Chefoo.

Brother Liu Di Seng was at Anchin when fighting commenced there, and was shot dead at the inn where he was staying; whether by government troops or revolutionists we do not know to a certainty. We were relieved to learn that our brother was buried; some of those killed were thrown out for the dogs to eat. Our hearts have been greatly saddened by this affair. Anchin is still in a state of war. It is held by the government now, but is threatened on all sides by rebels.

I baptized seven men on July 7th and organized a Provincial church of twelve members. This is our first baptismal service in Shandung. The brethren who were baptized were ripe for the message when we arrived in Chefoo a year ago, and all have been faithful Sabbath keepers during this time. Four of them spent the last school year at the Shanghai Training School.

The four student canvassers, with one exception, have been doing good work this summer. The man

whom we had practically decided in our minds would be a failure in the canvassing field—he was so diffident and slow of speech—surprised us all by being the best canvasser of the four.

Last week I had the pleasant experience of pitching tent again, and now we are conducting a regular tent effort. My Chinese evangelists are doing most of the actual preaching, and I have splendid help. We are having a good attendance, and a keen interest is beginning to be manifested. Pray for our tent effort that it may be crowned with success.

Next month, the Lord willing, we will move to Tsinanfu, the capitol of the province, to establish permanent headquarters. There are many interested ones there. We are of good courage in the Lord and expect great things of Him. Our faith is that He will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness.

C. P. LILLIE.

The Panayan Station

It is a source of great satisfaction in these days of instability and uncertainty to know that we are building upon a foundation that can not be destroyed. The souls that we are gathering in are true riches that will endure forever. Moses had respect unto the recompense of reward, and it is this thought that has often encouraged me when the work seemed hard and unpromising. I believe that it is right for us to keep our eyes fixed on the reward at the end of the way.

Last Thursday I returned from a seven days' stay in Negros, where we are just opening our work. My visit was especially in the interest of the canvassing work. There were three canvassers and one evangelist at the institute. In planning our program we appointed one meeting each day for consecration, to be held at 5:30. We enjoyed these early morning meetings very much. For the first two days we had a general Bible study and a book drill in the forenoon and the same in the afternoon; and then beginning with Sunday we used half of the day in canvassing. This program was not followed fully through the seven days, as we had some special meetings for the three candidates for baptism, and also baptized them during that time.

As we studied the Spirit of Prophecy, we all realized more the sacredness of the canvassing work. It seemed that the mission of the canvasser was as truly ordained of God as that of the minister. And then we emphasized the importance of prayer. The watchword that we all memorized was, "Humble, fervent prayer would do more in behalf of the circulation of our books than all the expensive embellishments in the world." Vol. 6, p. 319.

Although Bacolod has been canvassed for our books, every time the workers went out they had some success, ranging from one order to five in the short half day that was allotted them.

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I went out the first morning with one of the canvassers. He has had experience as a salesman, but not much in selling our books. There were only the wife and little children in the first house. She said that she could not read. But no matter, the canvasser said, likely she could get some one to read it for her. After a little urging she sent for her husband. By that time the neighbors became curious to know what was the matter. Among others that came up was a rather elderly man. Soon he went away, but only for a short time. He had gone for his glasses, and he became so interested in the book that he bought it and paid the cash right down. That left the canvasser without a book and it was quite a way to his house. I suggested that he borrow the book to show it to others, which he did. At first he was not going to visit the next house for they had already seen the book in the first house. But I told him to give them another chance to buy. I did not go in, for I thought that it would be a matter of only a few minutes. But I got tired waiting. And when he came he reported three orders. It was then time to go home. The district was small fishermen's houses by the sea.

We had the baptism on Wednesday morning and I left them doing good work.

ELBIDGE M. ADAMS.

NOTES

A letter from Washington, D. C. states that Sister Griggs will accompany Prof. Griggs to the Orient.

Pastor W. A. Spicer is in Europe attending general meetings. He expected to return to the States in time for the Fall Council, Oct. 10-20.

M. C. and Sister Conger, and R. D. and Sister Loveland will attend our language school at Nanking this year before going forward to North China.

Sister E. H. Wilbur and children passed through Shanghai the 23rd en route to America by the Empress Japan. Sister Wilbur will be greatly missed in South China where she has been rendering efficient service in our Canton girls' school.

The last of the new recruits left for Nanking the evening of the 18th, to enter upon language study. Prof. Frost and wife and Brother and Sister Bowers have taken up their duties here at headquarters, and while doing so are hard at work on the language.

On account of questions raised by the Nanking Language School Board regarding the attendance of our students, the Asiatic Division Committee have

requested Doctors A. C. and Bertha Selmon to conduct a language school for our students at Nanking the coming year.

Dr. Law Keem writes of the onward march of the message in his territory. Another church was organized at Linchow, twenty-three miles north of Pakhoi. Seven new believers were added to this church by baptism. Nine were baptized at Chingchow. New students are continually being added to the church schools at Nanning.

A prominent Chinese gentleman living four hundred li (one hundred thirty-five miles) from any of our chapels, has accepted the truth through reading. He is closing the doors of his shop on the Sabbath, and instead of his Sunday sign he is now hanging out his Sabbath sign. This man's influence has spread all over the country, and many are the calls for our gospel workers.

Our India Christian Training School opens the 13th of Sept. There will be about thirty bright young men in the school this year. The school is under the able directorship of Prof. and Sister I. F. Blue. They hope next year to exchange their rented building for a permanent school building. A large per cent of those attending school last year are now in the work as evangelists.

The Shanghai compound will soon miss from their midst the family of Brother C. N. Woodward, who in about two weeks will remove to Manila. Saying that we will miss them does not express our loss. Their faithfulness in the work here recommends them to their new work in the Philippines, and our loss will be gain to a place a little further along in the vineyard. May they be the blessing there that they have been here.

Miss Swen of Nanking, who has been teaching in the Methodist Girls' School, has accepted the truth. This school has urged that she remain with them this year, and she has consented provided she can have the Sabbath off. To this they have agreed. Pastor Hall says: "This is almost an unheard of thing, but it ought to show them that it is the truth we are trying to lead people to, and not to lead them away from one mission into another."

Sisters B. Miller and Florence Shull conducted a most successful Bible institute at Shanghai of three weeks' duration. At the close thirteen Chinese women were admitted into church fellowship by baptism. Had sickness not prevented there would have been several others baptized. These dear sisters are untiring in their efforts to reach the women of China, and their efforts are not without results. Last year a nice class of women were baptized all of which are remaining faithful, and some of them are making good Bible women.

Pastor W. C. Hankins writes very encouragingly of the school work at Foochow. One hundred and sixty boys were turned away last year for want of room to accommodate them. This year they rented an old house to accommodate the overflow. This makes the rent high and they are hoping that it will not be long before they can have their own quarters. The church now numbers 108. Pastor Hankins reports the workers all well, but feeling the strain of the hot weather. They have taken no vacations this summer, and every day has been full of work. They are thankful that the Lord has given them strength to carry the work through the season.