

# Asiatic Division Mission News



VOL. 6

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No. 4

## Our Pioneer Agency

"Do you consider your work with the *Signs of the Times* worth while, and are any of those who subscribe for the paper interested in the message?"

Such was the question I put to Tien Su, a colporteur of several years experience in the Amoy territory, South China. In reply he began the recital of many experiences which he thought would be a better answer to this question than a direct "yes" or "no." These experiences were told with keen enthusiasm, which was fully justified, if we may judge from the facts he related.

Tien Su said that above the city of \_\_\_\_\_ for one hundred and fifty miles was a stretch of territory where he had been doing business for seven or eight years. There are several towns in this territory where over three hundred people await his coming each year, to renew their subscriptions. Quite a number of people save copies of the paper which contain things they do not understand, to ask him for explanations when he comes to seek the renewal of their subscriptions. He has many interesting times explaining the truth to them. Many of these people acknowledge the truth of the Sabbath, and have many times requested that we open work among them. They are genuinely interested, and this young man feels that if we were able to open in that district we would not be disappointed in the results. About half of

these subscribers are heathen, and half are Christians of other churches. He says that there are instances where people have begun to keep the Sabbath as the result of reading the magazine.

In one city are twenty people who are keenly interested. They have urged Tien Su to stay among them and act as their guide and teacher, so that they might worship on the Sabbath and be instructed in the truth.

Some nine or ten miles north of Amoy, about four years ago, he took a subscription from a native pastor of another mission. He has renewed his subscription each year since that time, and on the occasion of Tien Su's last visit there this pastor gave him a most cordial welcome, escorted him around to his people, and aided him in securing many subscriptions.

In this same place three years ago a deacon of another mission took the paper and read in it an article on the tithing question. Then he reasoned, "Now if I pay tithes the Lord will prosper me." So for one year he paid into his own church tithes amounting to seventy-five dollars. He is a fisherman, and that year he had remarkable success in his business. His partner objected

to the tithing proposition, so the second year he quit the practice, with the result that they lost money in their business. So as the result of actual experience this deacon found that it paid to pay tithes, and during the present year he has again been doing so, and is consequently being prospered in his business.

## Trust

"I launch my bark upon Thy sea,  
Dear Lord of all,  
Knowing Thou wilt be near to me,  
Whate'er befall,  
And that through all life's mystery  
Naught can appal.

"I launch my bark upon Thy sea,  
Most blessed Lord,  
For Thine own voice has called to me,  
And I have heard  
Thy love-song sung so pleadingly  
My soul has stirred.

"I launch my bark upon Thy sea,  
And now away!  
My hopes and help are all from Thee;  
And rising day  
Doth scatter myriad lights so free  
That gem the spray.

My bark is launched upon Thy sea!  
Sea, bark—both Thine!  
Blow with Thy breeze where'er it be  
Across the brine:  
This is my cry—"Send me, send me,  
O Love Divine!"

He is enthusiastic also about the Sabbath truth, and is calling for us to go up and open work there.

Tien Su went to Formosa one year ago, and three Chinese doctors who there read the paper became very interested in the message, and wrote for books. Later they began to keep the Sabbath and advocate it among their friends. Several months later, when this colporteur was again in their town, they heard of his presence and made search for him; and having found him they called a meeting of their friends on the following Sabbath, at which ten were present. These three men were then keeping the Sabbath, and he believes they are doing so still.

It certainly encourages us to hear of these splendid openings for evangelistic labor which are being made everywhere by our missionary paper. In all parts of China this same story is told, and it is by following up these interests that our work is growing so rapidly in most parts. Literature has been the pioneer of this message in all lands, and while even here we are permitted to witness great results from this line of effort, eternity alone will reveal how great a factor our literature has been in bringing this great work to a glorious consummation.

H. M. BLUNDEN.

### The Sabbath-schools Pushing Ahead

NEVER in the history of our Sabbath-school work has so much interest been manifested by the workers, or so much increase seen as is shown by our reports for the first three quarters of 1916. The offerings for the year 1916 were \$3,172 86, and at the close of the third quarter of 1916 we had received \$3,823.21, a gain over the whole year 1915 of \$650 35. Our membership also showed a gain of 662 during the same period.

#### Our Thirteenth Sabbath Offerings

Encouraging reports have been coming in with reference to our gifts on these special days. In some places special services have been conducted, and subjects bearing on the different phases of our work, the progress made, and the sacrifices some of our people are making, were placed before the people, and it touched a responsive chord in their hearts and caused them to make greater efforts in giving on these occasions.

Our Japanese brethren and sisters gave more on last thirteenth Sabbath offering day than they had ever given before, and this is also true of most of the other fields. From Malaysia the word comes that the company in Borneo sacrificed by abstaining from part of their food, clothing, and books needed, in order to have something to give when this day should come. Two young men went out into the jungle and cut and carried firewood on their shoulders to get money for

the same purpose. One young boy learned the Chinese characters on a bank check to earn twenty-five cents from his father to give, and then divided this with his little brother so that he would also have something to give. Please note the large offering shown in the report from Malaysia.

These are only a few of the sacrifices being made for this work. The Filipino people manifested much enthusiasm when I told the members of the Trozo Sabbath-school that our last thirteenth Sabbath offering was for building up our medical work in the Asiatic Division. Their enthusiasm was shown in a material way when the offering was taken.

#### General Interest

In connection with general meetings Sabbath-school programs have been rendered in many places, and we were especially fortunate when the general meeting convened in Manila to have present Elders A. G. Daniells and J. E. Fulton, who took a lively interest in our work, and gave valuable instruction pertaining to it.

In addition to these programs some general instruction has been given at general meetings in several places. The different provinces of East China have been visited by Sister O. A. Hall during the latter months of 1916, and a marked interest is reported from that field. Sister Scharffenberg is sending to the schools in Korea translations of different pieces of our Sabbath-school literature, which is very valuable to them. It should be noted that this work in Central China is receiving special attention from Sister Cottrell, who returned last fall from furlough. During a recent meeting an interesting device calculated to increase the general interest in all lines of this work was introduced, and we hope will result in strengthening the Sabbath-schools in that field.

By a glance at our report one can readily see the increase in both membership and offerings on Manchuria and West China. This shows us that our workers in both these fields are busy, and the Lord is blessing them in their efforts.

With these splendid figures before us we should feel greatly encouraged, believing that greater progress will be seen as we journey on.

In company with Elder and Mrs. Finster I am leaving to-day for San Pablo, where the second church building in these islands is to be dedicated, and a Sabbath-school convention held. In giving of our strength and energy toward building up this part of the work we must have the aid of the Holy Spirit to assist us. The following thoughts are found on page 180 of "Desire of Ages": "So with the followers of Christ. We can receive of heaven's light only as we are willing to be emptied of self. We cannot discern the character of God, or accept Christ by faith, unless

we consent to the bringing into captivity of every thought to the obedience of Christ. To all who do this, the Holy Spirit is given without measure."

NANNIE L. WOODWARD.

### News from Yencheng

THE two months which have passed since Brother Lee left on his furlough have been banner months so far as the work is concerned, and with the blessing of the Lord upon us, all is running smoothly. I have made two trips to our outstations during this time, and found our people in the various places all of good courage. The testimonies borne by some were a source of strength to me. Two or three testified strongly of the blessings received as a result of a faithful tithe. And these testimonies were a real encouragement to others. I feel sure that when our people understand what it means to pay a tithe, the church of God in this land will have taken a mighty step forward. While all church members have formally agreed to pay a tithe before the rite of baptism was administered, it has been an acquiescence in the matter without a real knowledge of the demands of God. The Lord says, "All the tithe of the land . . . is the Lord's; it is holy unto the Lord," and sooner or later He will require it of us. I feel that a special effort must be made this year to get this important subject impressed upon the hearts and minds of our people.

To-day is so cold and windy that I cannot keep my office warm, so I am keeping a fire in our sitting room and endeavoring to catch up belated correspondence. With the thermometer ten below freezing, we are having a regular dust storm. Some who have visited this place will understand, but one must have the experience before the situation can be appreciated. We are so thankful to-day for a shelter from the storm. The cold is intense, and the poor people about us must suffer greatly. A number of the students in the school have already frozen either face, hands, or feet, but with Dr. Davenport here all are being cared for. The river here has been frozen over the last ten days, but skating is not much sport with but one pair of skates for us all. The extremes of temperature here are almost unendurable, it seems, as the seasons come and go, but the Lord keeps us by His strong power. Our courage is good. The work is onward. May we all keep pace with the message is my prayer.

O. J. GIBSON.

### Work in the Cantonese Field

A SURPRISING interest has been awakened among the people of Tsing Un City in the truths which we as a people teach. Some time since a company of people in this place have urgently asked us to visit them and open work here. On account of school work I have been delayed in visiting them, but am thankful that at last I have been able to meet with them in worship, and preach the truth to them in person in their own meeting place.

At the last general meeting here in Canton, the leader of this company, who is a doctor by profession, attended the meetings and was baptised. He seems a real whole-hearted Christian, and is using a part of his own building for meeting purposes. Since coming to China I have never had the opportunity of visiting new members who seemed as much like newly converted people in the homeland as these people do, and especially Dr. Tsang and his family.

There are about thirty or more at Tsing Un who desire to unite with us, and eight desiring membership are from heathenism. These from heathenism, I understand, are the direct fruits of Dr. Tsang's medical missionary work. This company is composed of people from almost all classes—the coolie, farmer, merchant, doctors, and teachers.

A trip to and from this place was most pleasant, though dangerous this time of the year. We traveled by train and by boat up north river, past prosperous cities and villages which we have not entered with our message, except as our literature has found entrance, and this made me plan as never before to reach these multitudes with the gospel of salvation.

It was very fortunate that we did not board the boat which left a day later, as the robbers in that district took advantage of the low water and made an armed attack upon the boat. Judging from the appearance of the boat—for it was full of bullet holes—it must have been a terrible affair. Many people who were robbed returned to Canton for sufficient clothing and supplies to replace what they had lost.

I am glad that, although dangers lurk about on every hand, God protects His children as they go forth with His message.

The printed page has been largely instrumental in bringing our truths to the attention of these people at Tsing Un, and I am thankful to say that this branch of the "gospel tree" is blossoming out in the Cantonese Mission now as never before, and the Lord will certainly bless in the developing of these interests.

A. L. HAM.

Ours is the seed-time; God alone

Beholds the end of what is sown;

Beyond our vision, weak and dim,

The harvest-time is hid with Him.—Whittier.

"Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power." Ps. 110: 3.

# ASIATIC DIVISION MISSION NEWS

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THE ASIATIC DIVISION MISSION  
OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

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## Our Aim Reached

At the beginning of the year 1916 we set as our aim for Sabbath-school donations during the year in the East China Mission, \$1,000. We are glad to report that the Lord has helped us to go above our aim. The donations for the four quarters have been as follows: First quarter, \$213.39; second quarter, \$218.41; third quarter, \$318.46; fourth quarter, \$304.20; thus making a total of \$1054.46 for the year, \$54.46 over the aim we had set.

For the year 1915 we received \$752.24. Since we have been able to give more than three hundred dollars over the donations for the previous year, I am sure that it gives us courage to attempt greater things for the Lord during the present year. What shall be our aim? We shall settle this at the time of our worker's meeting in March. We know that all of our people have an interest in the advancement of the third angel's message, and will do all in their power to help by giving liberal donations in the Sabbath-school. Let us all work to make the Sabbath-school a soul-saving agency during the present year.

MRS. O. A. HALL.

## Important!

It will be necessary for all delegates and visitors attending the Asiatic Division Conference to be held at Shanghai April 5-26, 1917, to bring a good supply of bedding, including a cotton mattress, and bed linen, with them. It may be cold, and with so many people coming it will be impossible for the brethren who live here to supply these to the delegates. Should any neglect to follow these directions, both they and the committee on entertainment will be placed at great inconvenience. We would also request all who attend the meeting to bring knives, forks, spoons, serviettes, and towels, which should be well marked in order that they may not be lost.

J. E. FULTON.

WORD has been received from Hankow that Brother Harlow is the proud father of a son born January 30.

A LITTLE boy arrived at the Loveland home in Nanking, February 3.

## Workers in China, Attention

IN compliance with the urgent requests from the field, the Asiatic Division Council appointed a committee to compile a list of terms in the Chinese language. This list is to include such terms as we use in presenting the various phases of the message, also the terms used for the various units in the organization, such as General Conference, Asiatic Division Conference, Union Conference, etc. This committee has also been asked to prepare a directory giving the names, both foreign and Chinese, of all the foreign workers, and also the names of all the Chinese workers who have either ministerial license or ministerial credentials.

I am writing to ask that you will supply me with a list of the names of all the foreign workers in your part of the field, giving the Chinese names as well as the foreign names. Also make out a list of the Chinese workers who carry ministerial licenses, and a list of those who have been ordained in your part of the field.

Will you make out a list of the terms for which you would like to have the Chinese equivalent? Will you give the Chinese term that you are now using for the various difficult doctrinal terms?

If each one will take the earliest opportunity to comply with this request we can soon have out a tentative list to present to you.

A. C. SELMON.

It is very desirable that the above mentioned list and directory be completed as soon as possible. May we ask all our Chinese workers to supply, as far as possible, the information required. —J. E. FULTON.

## Report of the Asiatic Division Sabbath-school Department Giving the Increase from June 30 to September 30, 1916

Missions	Member-ship	In-crease	Off-erings	In-crease	Thir. Sab. Off.	In-crease
Philippine	850	64	\$115.10	\$ 16.75	\$ 9.28	
So. China	1857		173.96	17.00	36.07	13.87
Malaysia	350	12	416.84	158.32	192.19	1.38
Cen. China	1182	76	153.53	11.69	84.00	10.99
East China	459		159.23	50.02	42.68	18.23
Japan	346	28	235.89	34.70	88.65	13.83
Korea	1601	70	165.00	13.97	68.63	8.72
Manchuria	52	6	42.20	3.08	8.48	
West China	135	5	26.31	6.22	7.66	1.61
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6832</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>\$1458.06</b>	<b>311.75</b>	<b>\$537.64</b>	<b>\$68.63</b>

## Report of the Asiatic Division Sabbath-school Department for Quarter Ending September 30, 1916.

Missions	No. of Schls.	Member-ship	Ave. Att.	Per. Att.	Hme. Dept.	No. Bap.	Total Dona.	Thir. Sab. Off.
Philippine	22	850	661	125			\$115.10	\$ 9.28
So. China	43	1857	1573				173.96	36.07
Malaysia	6	350	316		68	18	416.84	192.19
Cen. China	42	1182	1004				153.53	84.00
East China	14	459	389				159.23	42.68
Japan	15	346	284	55	52		205.89	88.65
Korea	73	1601	1227	161	48	32	165.00	68.63
Manchuria	4	52	44			12	42.20	8.48
West China	5	135	121			2	26.31	7.66
<b>Totals</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>6832</b>	<b>5619</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>\$1458.06</b>	<b>\$537.64</b>