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GOD KEEPS COVENANT

I. H. EVANS



MOSES, to whom God spoke face to face, "as a man speaketh unto his friend," left on record many wonderful statements concerning God's faithfulness. One of these is found in Deuteronomy 7:9: "Know therefore that the Lord thy God, He is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love Him, and keep His commandments, to a thousand generations."

No man could keep covenant for a thousand generations; the average brief span of life to-day is only between thirty and forty years. Even were it to be materially lengthened, it could not reach to a thousand generations. Suppose we count thirty-five years to a generation, a thousand generations would stretch to 35,000 years, or nearly six times as long as we believe the world has been inhabited. The thought, however, is not merely a thousand literal generations; it spans eternity. God *never* forgets His covenant.

Hebrews 6:10 strengthens the thought: "For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which ye have showed toward His name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister." A Christian who does a service for God in love, even by so humble an act as ministering to His people, need never fear that his work is not observed, or that the Lord will not notice what has been done. Not to remember would be, according to the apostle, unrighteousness on the part of God. "But God is not unrighteous to forget." Though a thousand generations pass, yet will He keep covenant.

Many instances of God's keeping covenant with His people are recorded in the Bible. His covenant with Abraham that his seed should inherit the land of Canaan was literally fulfilled. Abraham slept with his fathers; Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph were laid to rest; other generations lived and died. But God remembered His covenant with Abraham, and fulfilled it to the letter. "Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was four hundred and thirty years. And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years, even the selfsame day it came to pass, that all the hosts of the Lord went out from the land of Egypt." The coming of Messiah is another instance where God kept a promise made to Adam, to Abraham, Jacob, and David, and to Daniel and many other prophets. Every prophecy was literally fulfilled, though 4,000 years passed between the time when the first promise was given and the day when Jesus was born in Bethlehem.

God not only keeps covenant with His people, but He also keeps "mercy with them that love Him, and keep His commandments, to a thousand generations." How can we become discouraged, and feel despondent in our experience, with such a promise of the great God, our Father, standing on record in His Word?

Every sinner who comes to Christ for forgiveness and pardon needs mercy; every Christian seeks it and hopes for it. Our weaknesses often betray us; and sometimes in our downfall we lose hope in the mercy of God. But we must never forget that—

"There's a wideness in God's mercy,
Like the wideness of the sea."

His mercy is equal in length to His covenant-keeping—to a thousand generations. The life of man is a brief span at best,—a handbreadth, a shadow, a vapor, as the grass of the field, perishing like the flowers,—to-day here and to-morrow gone, even his very memory forgotten. So no man must dare to think that his sinning extends beyond the mercy of God. A thousand generations of mercy! Who can compass it? What finite imagination can comprehend it? No wonder we sing—

"There is welcome for the sinner,
And more graces for the good;
There is mercy with the Saviour,
There is healing in His blood."

But we must not forget the conditions attached to the promise. God, "the faithful God," keeps covenant and mercy with those who *love* Him, and *keep His commandments*. "If we lose our love for Him; if we fail Him, and continually follow our own desires, we cannot expect God to keep covenant and mercy with us. Even in earthly courts it is not required that one party to an agreement shall keep faith if the other breaks His promise. We can not be disobedient to God, unfaithful in His service, and hard and merciless in our dealings with our fellow men, and then expect God to keep covenant and mercy with us. No; we are to "love Him, and keep His commandments."

The humblest worker for God may find comfort in this promise if he will comply with the conditions—love and obedience. When this is done, and self is completely eliminated from our service, we may rest on the assurance that God will not forget and His mercy will not fail.

Seminar Merienhohe, Darmstadt,
Germany, August 19, 1928.

SHANGHAI SANITARIUM

H. W. MILLER, M. D.

OUR SANITARIUM at Shanghai has enjoyed a very good patronage all through the summer months. During August its rooms were generally filled and during September every available bed was occupied. Indeed, we may say that with the exception of a very few days, since the first of July until the present our institution has been running full to capacity. Very heavy burdens were of necessity placed upon all the workers in all the departments, since, in addition to caring for these patients, arrangements had to be made for the regular summer vacations. During the month of August, the writer was away from the institution, spending this entire month in the Philippines qualifying for practice in the Island. Dr. Paul also was away for about one-half of the month, leaving the burden of the medical work, both in the city and at the sanitarium, with Dr. Griggs, who connected with the Shanghai Sanitarium during the last week of July. Dr. and Mrs. Paul spent a very profitable month in North China, taking some special work in obstetrics in the Peking Union Medical College. Our patient patronage is running more largely Chinese, since the greater number of our patients are among the merchants and officials of China, who usually occupy our best rooms.

Another class has entered our Training School, which brings the enrollment of our Nurses' Training School up to forty-three. This represents a group of fine young people gathered out here in the Orient for medical training. The prospects are that in a few years we shall have a very splendid group of nurses to help forward our medical missionary efforts in the Far East. The enrollment of our new nurses is as follows: Chi Nai Ti and Chi Ching Shia, Peking; Chia Ye Chun, Shansi; Fu Loh San, Hangchow; Ho Ni Ming, Kirin; Eveleen Goodenough, Miau Tze En, and Phang Hock Chin, Singapore; Hung Ching Yun, Amoy; Pastoria Laurente, Catalino Lamanero, Angelica Mondejar, Angel Anisido, and Marcela Valdelon, Philippines; Helen Lu, Shanghai; Shen Swen Su and Shen Dju Liang, Shantung; Tang Tchou Chun, Wusih.

With this large group, together with the help, and with our institution full of patients, all our room space is occupied, both in the nurses homes and the Chinese houses.

Thus we have practically reached the maximum of our capacity to carry on work with our present accommodations.

The three-year lease which we had on the City Branch expired on October 10. We have already moved into our own quarters on Range Road, which is just beside our city church. Here we plan to develop a hospital, working in conjunction with the sanitarium. Dr. and Mrs. Paul are taking the lead in this enterprise, and have our present building shaped up for dispensary and hospital service, which they hope will be open to the public in about a week. We feel most thankful for the success that has attended the opening of the sanitarium and for its prospects for future development. Surely God has blessed in a signal manner. We believe that He has great things to work out for the people of the Orient through the medical branch of our work.

ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS FOR CHAMPION BABY

THE *Straits Times*, Singapore, of September 27, contains the following interesting news item:

"The champion baby of Singapore is James Youngberg, a delightful, five months' infant, who won a prize of \$100 for his proud parents at the Baby Show held in the Victoria Memorial Hall yesterday by the Child Welfare Society."

Other prizes were also given for various classes of babies, and for the different nationalities, among which we find other advocates of health reform holding prominent positions, as for instance:

"Class B, one to two years (all nationalities), Verna Joyce Hendershot, age thirteen months, First Prize.

"Class C II, Chinese infants, Bernice Lee, eleven months, First Prize." (Bernice is the daughter of Brother C. M. Lee.)

These two first prizes and the championship of Singapore babies are a striking testimony to the value of a vegetarian diet and the principles of healthful living which the Lord has graciously made known to us through the spirit of prophecy. As degeneration and disease are more and more making their inroads upon the human race, may we be the more faithful in living up to the light we enjoy, and the more zealous in bringing its helpful influence to those in ignorance, who wait for light.

A. MOUNTAIN

THE AUTUMN COUNCIL

A SPIRIT of quiet confidence in the speedy consummation of the Advent Movement, seemed to characterize the Autumn Council held during the closing days of September and early in October at Springfield, Massachusetts. We were on historic ground, where Seventh-day Adventists first labored. Upon nearing Springfield, the writer chanced to glance over a truckload of express, and noticed some parcels consigned to Middletown, Connecticut, where the earliest copies of *Present Truth* were issued in 1849. It was in these quiet and lovely valleys that Father James White and his companion in labor drove about with horse and carriage visiting "the scattered and torn flock." In those days the hope of the second coming of Christ was very precious. The realities of those earlier days of faith were ours in Springfield during our recent meetings. The reports brought in by the officers, the union presidents, the general departmental secretaries, and heads of world divisions, all breathed a spirit of full confidence in God's leadership and in His purpose to complete quickly the work now in progress.

It was a blessed gathering. Unanimity was so much the rule as to be scarcely thought of as an outstanding evidence of the workings of the Holy Spirit. Of one heart and one mind, the delegates quickly disposed of the business, and gave much time for reports, and for seasons of consecration and thanksgiving. The Lord met with His people. He is still leading on and on. Glorious will be the triumphal day of days when He shall come to gather home His own.

Budget appropriations for missions during our recent autumn council, were in excess of those of any former year. We return glad of heart, and determined to unite anew with our associates in the exercise of living faith in the omnipotent God, who is so wondrously leading His church on to victory.

c.

WEEK OF PRAYER
DECEMBER 8 TO 15, 1928

"Every right action and true thought sets the seal of its beauty on person and face."

WORKERS' INSTITUTE IN CELEBES

A. MUNSON

THE Celebes Mission is so far out of the beaten path of steamship travel and the cost of a visit to this fruitful field so great, that it is rarely our privilege to have a visitor from the Far Eastern Division headquarters or from the General Conference. In 1924, Elder C. C. Crisler paid us a well-remembered visit, but it was five years before Elder MacGuire came to our shores. In the intervening years our membership has grown from 50 to over 600 souls. Needless to say the news of the coming of Elder Meade MacGuire and his good wife caused quite a stir among our believers. On September 14, the steamer entered the beautiful harbour of Manado and our dear Brother and Sister arrived in the mission home after a voyage of thirteen days from Hong Kong.

First in order came the itinerary among the twelve companies of believers in Minehassa, Northern Celebes. The journey was no hardship, as the roads are tolerably good. Our car passed around the base of a great volcano and through cinnamon, nutmeg, and clove plantations. It was interesting indeed to them to actually pick the clove buds from the trees and to see the vanilla vines growing by the roadside. But the fruitage of earnest souls was of far greater interest to us. The believers welcomed us everywhere with singing; for the Manadonese are sweet singers; and the wrapt attention with which they listened to Elder MacGuire revealed genuine sincerity.

After the itinerary more than three hundred souls came by freight auto to the town of Manado to attend the baptism, the Lord's supper, and the Bible Institute. The baptism was conducted by the writer in the Manado harbour, when twenty-one souls were buried with their Lord. Following this all returned to the meeting house and united in celebrating the Lord's supper. The praise meeting at the close of the service was inspiring, and again and again groups of singers representing different sections came forward to praise God in song.

The following day was the beginning of a nine days' institute conducted by Elder MacGuire. We shall never forget the wonderful studies presented. The quiet working of the Spirit of God was evident. All felt its power. The meaning of the cross of Calvary was impressed upon the minds of our leaders and workers as

never before. All readily responded to the stirring appeals for a full surrender of the heart and life in consecration to God. Many took a new stand, and these look back to this event as the beginning of a work of revival and reformation in their lives.

It was impossible for Elder MacGuire to make connections by boat with the Ambon Islands, where we have over two hundred earnest Sabbath-keepers. Time was limited, and after spending a month of blessing in the Celebes Mission Elder and Sister MacGuire sailed south for Java.

Very few can appreciate how greatly we enjoyed the companionship and wise counsels of Elder and Sister MacGuire while they were in our home. Mrs. Munson especially appreciated the kind help Sister MacGuire rendered in caring for our sick child while Mrs. Munson attended the studies. Isolated as we are on this lonely Island, we drank in these wonderful studies as a thirsty deer would drink the cooling waters of some mountain glacier.

CHINESE READING COURSES FOR 1929

WORKERS in the China field will be interested in knowing the books selected for the 1929 Reading Courses for our Chinese teachers and young people, and we trust will lend their aid in encouraging the reading of these books. "What is put into the first of life is put into all of life." Can we not lead our Chinese youth, through their reading, to store their minds with that which is worth while, that it may bear fruit in characters of worth in days to come? The Courses are as follows:

JUNIOR MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER: "Winged Victory," the life of Mary Reed; "The Boy's Life of Christ," by W. B. Forbush; "Followers of Christ," by Eleanor McNeil.

SENIOR MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER: "The Lighted Way," by M. E. Kern; "Up from Slavery," Life of Booker T. Washington; "The Life of Martin Luther," by Young J. Allen.

TEACHERS': "The Lighted Way," by M. E. Kern; "Up from Slavery," Life of Booker T. Washington; "General Methods of Teaching," by Fan Shou Kang; Material for teachers published in the *China Christian Educator*.—*Educational and Missionary Volunteer Departments.*

THE SOWING TIME

"YOUTH is the sowing time. It determines the character of the harvest, for this life and for the life to come."—"Desire of Ages," p. 100: "Unless parents plant the seeds of truth in the hearts of their children, the enemy will sow tares."—"Counsels to Teachers," p. 121. What is the nature of the seed that is being sown in the minds and hearts of our youth through the channel of their reading? Will it yield the fruit of life eternal? To quote again from the spirit of prophecy: "Our youth should read that which will have a healthful, sanctifying effect upon the mind. This they need in order to be able to discern what is true religion. . . . We should select for them books that will encourage them to sincerity of life, and lead them to the opening of the work."—"Fundamentals of Christian Education," p. 547.

It is in harmony with this counsel from the servant of the Lord, and to aid in sowing good seed in the susceptible minds of our children and youth, that the Missionary Volunteer Department each year selects books containing profitable reading matter suited to youth of all ages.—Senior, Junior, and Primary. The "Senior" course is for youth fifteen years of age or over, the "Junior" for children ten to fifteen years of age, and the "Primary" for children too young to read for themselves, but who can understand simple stories read to them by an older person. Many of our youth have formed the "Reading Course habit," and look forward with pleasure and interest to the announcement of new courses year by year. To all such, and especially to those who have not enjoyed these Reading Courses in the past, we take pleasure in announcing the following excellent choice of books (English) for 1929:

Senior: "Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing," "Isles of Opportunity" (Philippines), "Knowing Birds Through Stories," and "Ideals for Earnest Youth."

Junior: "Stories of Grit," "Trees Every Child Should Know," and "Book of Missionary Heroes."

Primary: "The World in a Barn," and "Spick and Span."—*Missionary Volunteer Department.*

PROGRESS IN ISLAND FIELDS

WRITING from Java, Pastor Finster tells of the rapid advance of the message in that section of his field. He says:

"The Lord is surely blessing the work in these different mission

fields. For the first nine months of 1928, 114 were baptized in the Celebes Mission, 92 here in East Java, and 86 in West Java. We are also looking for a large baptism to take place this next quarter; so I expect that we shall baptize as many this year as our membership was at the close of the first twenty-four years of work in this field."

CHINA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

BESSIE MOUNT

It was a rare pleasure and a real inspiration to spend a few days recently with teachers and students of the China Theological Seminary. The enrollment has gradually increased since the opening of school until it now numbers nearly eighty above the higher primary grades, with a total enrollment in all grades of about one hundred. A spirit of interest, enthusiasm, and earnestness characterizes the work of the classroom, as well as that of the farm, the factory, the dispensary, and other departments. One is impressed with the efficient way in which the work of the school is organized, every teacher and student having his allotted part, and all working together in perfect accord. Surely manual labor will come to have a new importance and dignity in the eyes of the students, as they witness their teachers join with them in this line of work from day to day; and the training thus received will help to prepare efficient workers for future years.

Much credit is due Principal Rebok and his corps of helpers for the neat appearance of buildings and grounds, the result of tireless toil and effort since our re-occupation of the premises a few months ago. A beginning has been made in replacing lost classroom equipment, and every effort is being put forth to do teaching work of the highest standard.

An enthusiastic Missionary Volunteer Society is an interesting feature of school activities. As a missionary venture, this society plans to open a school in the near-by village, where the thousand-character course will be taught to those who wish to attend.

As the train bore me away, my eyes lingered on the group of buildings comprising the material representation of this institution, and there came to my mind the words, "A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid." Surely God had a purpose in planting this institution here on this beautiful hilltop, where it can be seen by the dwellers in the countryside for miles around; and, if conducted according to His plan, it cannot fail to send out an influence for good to all within its reach.

THE HARVEST INGATHERING CAMPAIGN IN SHANGHAI.

WE are very thankful for the good success that has attended our efforts thus far in Shanghai in the Ingathering campaign in behalf of the Sanitarium Clinic which we plan to erect for the poor class of people in the city. The Lord has opened the way before us in a most remarkable manner.

In presenting the nature of our work to the people we showed the amount needed for the institution. We had the various departments of the building segregated, and as we approached the individuals we suggested that they might put up one of these departments. In the main, this project has taken very well with those whom we met, and several firms and individuals have pledged amounts necessary for the erection of departments. We are herewith submitting a list of the contributors to departments and the amounts pledged:

Men's Hydrotherapy Department, Wing On Co., \$2,300; Women's Hydrotherapy Department, Sincere Co., \$2,300; X-Ray Department, British American Tobacco Co., \$2,500; Surgical Department, K. S. Liu, Kailan Mining Co., \$3,200; Special Guest Room, Mrs. W. K. Ching, \$2,000; Children's Department, Yenson Lee, \$3,200; Nurses Dormitory, Wu Yoa Ting, \$8,000; Dental Department, Shanghai Water Works, \$1,800; Eye, Ear, Nose, and Throat Department, Y. L. Chang, \$2,000; Men's Ward, Mr. Lee, \$3,500; Men's Ward, Mr. Chan Puk Chu, \$2,000. We have also received quite a number of \$1,000 contributions, and a still larger number of contributions amounting to \$500.

In soliciting we visited a number of firms that were not able to help much financially, because of the hard times that have been experienced due to the revolution of the past year. These merchants have been willing to contribute large amounts of supplies to help furnish the Shanghai Sanitarium Clinic. We are glad to receive pledges of this kind, for this is the same as money to us; these supplies would have to be purchased later on. One firm donated supplies amounting to \$1,500, another promised \$1,000 worth of equipment, etc.

In our campaign to raise funds for this Clinic, we have found it advantageous to make friends of those whom we approached. Several of these, in turn, have worked among

their own acquaintances for us. During our campaign we met the Honorable Tong Shao Yee, the former prime minister of the Manchu Dynasty; he is a very influential man in China. We explained our work to him and he was greatly interested. We asked him to give us the names of prominent men with whom he was acquainted who were public-spirited. He thought for a moment and said: "How would it be if I approached them for you?" We were delighted with his suggestion for we knew he would be able to do far more than we who were not acquainted with these individuals. He also told us he would present our work to the executive committee of the Cantonese Guild and ask the members to contribute toward our Clinic. We told Mr. Tong that if it were possible to add another story to our hospital building we would be able to take care of twice as many in-patients. The idea appealed to him favorably and he said that perhaps they could provide the extra addition to the hospital building.

Truly the Lord has greatly blessed us in our work here. We now have nearly \$60,000, in cash and pledges. We are asking the public for \$65,000, but we believe considerably more will be received, making it possible for us to provide a Hospital Clinic that will be a monument to our work in Shanghai. We are thankful to the Lord for His guiding hand in the work, giving us favor in the eyes of the world. We believe the work done during this campaign is going to open a great door for us to present the third angel's message to the people of Shanghai and throughout China.

J. J. STRAHLE.

BROTHER C. D. NICHOLS writing from Kiukiang, Kiangsi, in the Central China Union says: "We are enjoying our work with the Chinese workers and are already beginning to see some results. We made two different calls on one of the Chinese doctors here, giving him some of our literature. Last Sunday this man brought to us two of his students who desire to study Present Truth. We have visited many homes and given away many tracts. Just as soon as we can get our chapel in order we are to begin our meetings. We ask your prayers for our work in this place.

We are of good health. Our courage is good, and with the help of God we hope to build up a good church here.

Reports From the Field

GATHERING OF BELIEVERS IN KIANGSI

E. H. JAMES

ON account of conditions in the province there has been no general meeting in Kiangsi for several years; so it was with a good deal of pleasure that over one hundred believers gathered together at Nanchang in the middle of September for one of the best meetings that have been held by us in that field.

Professor Griggs was with us; and his two studies daily on Christian living and the work of the Holy Spirit, the Church, and the Individual were a help and an inspiration to all. We were also privileged to have at the meeting Pastor Wu of Anhwei who gave valuable help both in meetings and in counsel. In addition there were studies by Pastor Brewer, and devotional meetings, and the work of each department was discussed and plans laid for a forward movement. The reports from the workers indicated that great difficulties had been passed through; but aside from a few who have been shaken out, all seemed to have a stronger faith, and stand ready to do their part in proclaiming the message of a soon-coming Saviour.

Pastor Liu, the Director, had the meetings well planned and the attendance at each meeting was excellent. The goal for the Big Week had been more than reached. The goal set by the Union for Kiangsi Harvest Ingathering was doubled and the burden of raising the amount divided among the stations. Over seven thousand Sabbath calendars were also divided among the churches to be sold by workers and church members.

Subscriptions were also taken for the church papers and there was a good response to the call to take up studies with the Fireside Correspondence School. One young lady living nearby became interested in the truth through visiting the meetings and stood up with others to indicate her desire to take a correspondence course. The lady said that if the course would help her in studying the Bible, she wanted to take it, because she was in earnest about wanting to study this message.

At the close of the meeting fourteen were baptised, bringing the membership up to 111. The little band of workers at the meeting set for themselves the aim to win to Christ during the year a greater number than has ever yet been won by the Kiangsi Mission in the same period of time. We ask an interest in your prayers that these souls may be reached.

The colporteur work has quickly revived; an earnest band of workers are meeting many people and selling several hundred dollars worth of literature each month. The Sabbath school work, under the leadership of Mr. Wang Wen Hwei, has made good gains. The second and third quarters' offerings reached an average of seven and eight cents respectively, per capita, per week. The Sabbath school membership has reached two hundred and thirty-six per cent of the church membership. We are expecting a large fruitage in Kiangsi during the coming year.

PROGRESS IN NORTH CHINA

G. J. APPEL

THE Lord has greatly blessed our efforts during the past few months. Early in September we went out to Taiyuanfu, the capital of Shansi, to secure a location for the new mission, and were able to secure for only \$80.00 Mex. per month a compound large enough to accommodate both our foreign and Chinese workers. The families have already moved out and are settled in their new home. For a time it looked as though it would be impossible to ship freight, as all freight cars were in the hands of the military; but with the assistance of a friend in the army, the brethren succeeded in shipping all their goods at a very reasonable rate. This was providential, as all railway traffic in North China is disrupted and very few of the trains are running.

Poor old Shantung has had her share of sorrows this year. The province has been so war-ridden and famine-impooverished that the people do not know which way to turn. But through it all the Lord has blessed His work. I have just returned from a trip among the stations there and found a deep interest in the things of God. The chapel at Ping Yuan, Shantung, was the only chapel in North China that was looted by bandits. The evangelist had been compelled to flee for a time; but at the time of my visit we had the largest baptismal class there of any station in all the field. Fourteen were baptised.

I feel much encouraged in spite of many difficulties. The conditions in the field have greatly effected all offerings; but this will be our banner year in baptisms. We are now starting our harvest ingathering campaign for the Chihli Province as well as holding meetings here in Peking at night for the public.

WEST CHINA—ANOTHER MISSION STATION

PASTOR M. C. Warren writes: "With Brother and Sister Smith and Brother Buzzell and family I left Chungking October 1st for Kweichow. We were granted a good trip all the way to Kweiyang. We covered the distance in fifteen stages, and with the two Sabbaths were seventeen days on the road. At one place we met a friendly official, a member of the Methodist Church, who told us that unless we had made arrangements with the governor of the province he feared we would have great trouble entering the capital. He told of a foreigner, a missionary, who had been deported from there shortly after arriving. His suggestion, which he urged very strongly, was that we wire ahead to the governor. We could see no light in that idea, but we did earnestly pray about the matter, and soon after reaching there called on the governor. We were courteously received, and after we had told of our work and our reason for entering Kweichow and establishing a mission in Kweiyang, he told us that we should have full freedom to go ahead with our work and that all rightful protection would be granted us. This governor, Dzou Hai Tsen, is giving Kweichow a good government; but he is an emperor in his domain and rules with an iron hand.

"The Lord is opening the way for us to secure a good location in the capital. The workers here are all well and of good courage. They have a little company gathered out already; and we hope that others will take their stand during the present series of meetings."

PASTOR E. J. URQUHART sends this encouraging word from Soeul, Korea: Work in this field has prospered along all lines this year. Our literature sales for nine months are more than four thousand yen above what they were for all of 1927. I look for this to be a banner year.

IN THE CENTRAL CHINA UNION

FREDERICK GRIGGS

IN no part of China, perhaps, has our work suffered more during the revolutionary period of the past two years than in the Central China Union. For a year and a half a real spirit of persecution prevailed in all the provinces, but particularly in Kiangsi and Hunan. The name "Christian" was anathematized, and banditry added its curse to the sufferings of the troubled people. The claims, promises, and excitement of war propaganda drew some of our people and a few of our workers into its maelstrom; but the greater portion of our believers remained firm to the truth. As a result of this persecution and war, the Central China Union has lost approximately two hundred from a membership of seventeen hundred.

During the Fall of this year I have attended annual meetings in four of the five missions—in the Kiangsi Mission at Nanchang, the Hunan Mission at Changsha, the Honan Mission at Yencheng, and the Shensi Mission at Sianfu. I think I have never been at meetings where the brethren have seemed so happy as in these four meetings. It has been four years since they have been able to meet together in Hunan, three in Kiangsi and Shensi, and two in Honan. They have been in great trouble, as their leaders could not communicate with them; and in many places the mails were so irregular that church publications could not reach them. Very naturally the faith of all was severely tested, and the fact that no more departed from it is evidence of its firm hold in the lives of the believers. Ours is a testing message, and those who fully accept it are slow to give it up.

The recitals of the care and providence of God which these faithful believers gave were inspiring and faith-building. Their deliverances from persecutors and robbers and war-crazed men were as miraculous as many of those recorded in the Scriptures. But sad to say a dozen or more of our people did meet death. At the Honan meeting there were more than fifteen who had been in the hands of bandits. One of the ordained men had been delivered from them at three different times. The head nurse at the Yencheng hospital was captured by them, and he and his relatives were forced

to pay nearly \$1500 to secure his release; and thus the bandits took about all the property they possessed.

I could fill pages with accounts of the awful deeds of these men. I am, however, glad to say that they are being suppressed and that it is much safer now to travel than four or five months ago. On our way from the Honan meeting to Sianfu we passed hundreds of solders who had been and were suppressing banditry, thus making it impossible for people to be robbed on the main roads of travel, as one of our colporteurs was two weeks ago. Ten days before our Sianfu meeting ten robbers were captured outside the city, beheaded, and their heads hung on the city wall. The Shensi government has set itself to the task of ridding the province of these bad men in ten months.

All these moves toward safety in travel and living are making it possible for our workers of all classes to get into their field and claim the attention of the people. The anti-Christian feeling of a year ago is giving way to an interest to learn what the Christians really teach, and it would appear that the people have never been so ready to read and to listen as now. This is shown in the results of our work. During approximately the first eight months of this year there have been 236 baptisms in the Union: in Kiangsi 16, Hunan 60, Honan 90, Shensi 5, and Hupeh 65. This is better than the average of recent years when our work has not been subject to troubled conditions.

The coming of Professor C. A. Carter to the Union as Educational and Missionary Volunteer Secretary is a great boon to these departments. Professor S. L. Frost is spending some six weeks with him going through the Missions reorganizing and establishing the work of these departments.

The Sabbath School Department is being headed by Pastor E. H. James and the Home Missionary Department by Brother A. Mountain. Brother E. L. Longway and family returned from furlough the first of December, 1927, to find the colporteur work practically destroyed. Before the trouble the Central China Union had between fifty and sixty colporteurs. Brother Longway has been able to revive the work so that now there are from forty to fifty colporteurs, and these are selling more literature per hour of work than

the larger number before the trouble. And now Brother T. A. Shaw has come back from his furlough to assist Brother Longway, and the literature work bids fair to be far stronger than ever in the Central China Union. The fact that these departments are being thus supervised assures the building up of the churches, and their development into strong working factors in the advancement of the cause.

A notable feature of progress is the work being undertaken for the Chinese women. It is possible for much more to be accomplished for them by Bible women than by the evangelists, and an organized work seems necessary in order to reach many of them. Sister Ida E. Thompson, who has connected with this Union, has been asked to lead in this work. She attended each meeting save the one in Shensi, and each day held meetings for the sisters, many of whom attended because of her presence. Sister Thompson is to conduct classes and do special work in preparing some of the more capable of our sisters to enter the Bible work.

Pastor Wu of the Anhwei Mission accepted the call to the directorship of the Shensi Mission. He attended the Honan meeting and went with us to the Shensi meeting, where he was heartily received by the brethren and sisters of that mission. The plans laid to speed up the work there as well as in the other missions presage a rapid advance of our message throughout the Union this coming year.

All the foreign workers rejoice exceedingly in being back in their fields, and they have abounding courage. Pastor N. F. Brewer, the superintendent, has the hearty support of workers and people, both natives and foreigners, and altogether they are a united and happy band of workers. The amount of reconstruction work on property, and in all the other lines of work which they have been able to accomplish in the last five months testifies of this. No property suffered so severely as that at Yencheng. Every building, particularly the school buildings, was seriously damaged. But the school buildings will soon be ready for service. Again Dr. Butka has the Yencheng hospital in the Honan Mission in full running order and filled with patients. Pastor Strickland is already able to get away from building and reconstruction work in the compound, and into his field. Altogether the prospects for the Central China Union are very bright.

Far Eastern Division Outlook

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中華郵政特准掛號認爲新聞紙類

Pastor and Mrs. I. H. Evans set sail from San Francisco November 7, per s. s. *Siberia-Maru* of the N. Y. K. Line, and arrived in Shanghai November 30.

Pastor C. K. Meyers, world secretary of the General Conference, sailed from Vancouver, B. C., November 17, for an extended visit to the Far East. His first stops will be in the Japan Union and Korean Union. He plans to reach Manila in time for the biennial session of the Philippine Union, the latter part of December. Visits to Malaysia and to China are to follow in due course. It is a privilege indeed to have with us at general meetings our Home Board secretary.

Professors Frederick Griggs and S. L. Frost have been with Pastor N. F. Brewer and associates at various provincial mission annual meetings in Central China, and report encouraging advance notwithstanding many hindrances. As we advance in faith, a way seems to open before us. This brings cheer in the midst of difficult situations, and helps us to continue to press on. The brethren have returned to Shanghai to unite in counsel with others preparatory to going out again for fall and winter appointments.

Among those on furlough who were in attendance at the Autumn Council in Springfield, were Pastor V. T. Armstrong and family of Japan, Pastor and Mrs. B. L. Anderson and Pastor A. L. Ham of South China, Pastor R. R. Figuhr of the Philippines, and Miss Tillie E. Barr of the Division Office.

"Reports from almost all our fields are most encouraging," writes Pastor L. V. Finster. "Borneo, where only six were baptized last year, has already baptized sixty, with many preparing for membership. From Celebes Pastor Munson reports eighty-two baptized and Brother Zimmermann fifty in preparation for this rite. Brother Lake, for the first six months baptized fifty-nine and expects to baptize fourteen or fifteen more to-morrow. West Java is also having good success."

BIRTHS

Born, September 14, to Pastor and Mrs. W. H. Berghern, of the West Visayan Mission, Iloilo, P. I., a daughter.

Born, on October 8, to Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Wiedemann, of the Philippine Union, Manila, P. I., a daughter.

Born, on October 18, to Pastor and Mrs. E. J. Urquhart, of the Chosen Union, Seoul, Chosen, a son, Stanley Parker.

Born, November 19, to Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Watts, of the Chosen Union, Soonan, Chosen, a daughter, Barbara Jean.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Herbert K. Smith, of the West China Union, Kweiyang, Kweichow, a son, Herbert Arnold.

GREETINGS FROM AMERICA

DURING the few weeks spent in North America at the Autumn Council and at institutions and churches along the way back to the Pacific Coast, we have heard many kind words expressed by brethren and sisters regarding the work and workers in the Far East. Among those sending greetings are several fathers and mothers of missionaries within our borders. Some of these parents were at the Autumn Council; some at Sanitarium centers — Washington, Madison, Loma Linda, Glendale, St. Helena, Portland; some at schools — Washington Missionary College, Mt. Vernon, Berrien Springs, Broadview, Union College, Loma Linda, La Sierra, Pacific Union; some at churches — Philadelphia, Battle Creek, Riverside, Los Angeles, Santa Monica, Mountain View, St. Helena, Vancouver.

Many have come, saying, "We are the parents of ——. How are they faring? Please give them our love, and tell them we are glad they can serve in a mission field."

These greetings have oftentimes included many friends and former associates; and as the writer surveys the list of those named, it seems to include almost every member of our working forces from the homeland. For this reason these words of greeting are being passed on thus in a general way to all within our borders.

The brethren and sisters in America are solidly back of us. They are praying in our behalf; they are sacrificing to the limit of their ability — and in many instances far beyond their ordinary capacity for giving. The budget allowances granted are heavy indeed. Let us so live and labor among the peoples of the Far East, that the Lord's prospering hand may continue with His own, and bring into fellowship with us many of the honest in heart who are seeking spiritual guidance and comfort and salvation.

It is the plan of the undersigned to return to Division headquarters per s. s. *Empress of Russia* reaching Shanghai December 2. C.

Manado, Celebes

A. Munson

The light is daily shining brighter and brighter in Manado. We have over 600 believers in Manado (Minehassa), a company in Tagaelandang and one in Sangi Island. And now a new field is opened in Gorontalo, about 200 miles down on the South coast from here.

The work is struggling along in Ambon, where 270 are keeping the Sabbath.

CHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE

I take this means of calling attention to the fact that on the return of Elder I. H. Evans to the field the last of November all administrative correspondence which has been coming to me during his absence should hereafter be directed to him.

F. Griggs.

"THE MINISTRY"

FREDERICK GRIGGS

EVERY up-to-date trade has at least one magazine devoted to its special interests, containing suggestions as to how improvements and economies may be introduced, and how production, sales, and profits may be increased. Worldly organizations put forth strenuous efforts to increase their efficiency and the capabilities of their employees.

The task of the Gospel worker is the highest, the most delicate, the most far-reaching ever undertaken by any organization. Its branches extend to practically every country, and to the islands of the sea. It is the oldest organization; God is its chief executive; and its work will extend throughout eternity. Should not such an organization as this do everything in its power to increase its efficiency in every branch? Should not the men and women who are privileged to join in its service desire above all else to take advantage of every means of improving their work?

The Ministry is the special organ for the officers and workers of the Seventh-day Adventist Denomination. Every issue is filled from cover to cover with rich material for the Minister, the Teacher, the Bible worker, and for the Gospel worker in whatever line. The best the denomination has to offer in the line of suggestions and illustrations for our ministers and workers will be found in *The Ministry*. You cannot afford to miss this periodical.

Your subscription will expire on December 31, 1928, unless you have renewed it. Do not forget to renew your subscription at once, or you will miss a few issues. All workers in Malaysia, Japan, The Philippines, and Chosen, should send their renewals to their Union Publishing House. Our workers in China, Manchuria, and Sungari-Mongolia should renew through the Signs of the Times Publishing House, 25 Ningkuo Road, Shanghai.

N. B.: WEEK OF PRAYER,
DECEMBER 8 TO 15, 1928