

THE CHINA DIVISION REPORTER

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Called to Do Our Best

DR. H. W. MILLER

HOW often, dating from the days of our childhood, have we said, "I did my best." Many times we try to do our best; but are we in the work of God every day putting into it our very best? Our best effort, coupled with God's promise of power and Heaven's blessing, will accomplish much; and our Heavenly Father will be satisfied with nothing short of our very best. Our gifts and talents differ; we can not always compass what others do, nor should some other individual attainment serve to discourage us if we feel we have not reached the results we see them accomplish. If we are satisfied we have done our very best in God's service, then we can be encouraged. The more we do, the more we develop our capacity to do, and we personally reap benefit, as well as bringing benefit to the work in whose interest we are laboring.

"Our Heavenly Father requires no more *nor less* than He has given us ability to do. He lays upon His servants no burdens that they are not able to bear. 'He knoweth our frame; He remembereth that we are dust.' All that He claims from us we through divine grace can render.

"'Unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required.' We shall individually be held responsible for doing one jot less than we have ability to do. The Lord measures with exactness every possibility for service. The unused capabilities are as much brought into account as are those that are improved. For all that we might become through the right use of our talents, God holds us responsible. We shall be judged according to what we ought to have done, but did not accomplish because we did not use our powers to glorify God."— *C. O. L.*, pp. 362, 363.

All about us are opportunities for doing good. Shall not every servant of the Most High reckon with time and money as given to bring blessing and salvation to those among whom we daily live? No day should pass that we can not say, "We did something in some way;" and better could we say, "We did our best; we gave our best." We think of our nearness to the end as being only a few years. Were we to think of remaining time in the light of the seven years' interfurlough term of service, how short it would seem! But who knows that this old world will last longer? First one year passes, then another; how quickly it is all passed by! What have been the accomplishments during the past seven years? Suppose we have seven years more of service in China. Then we shall need to reckon the results of each day's labor. A great work lies before the China Church, and every member should enlist for service. God "sometimes selects the humblest instrument to do the greatest work; for His power is revealed through the weakness of men."— *C. O. L.*, pp. 363, 364.

Inviting Fields of Labor

MONGOLIA

THE purchase by our Mission last fall of land and some buildings at Kalgan, the capital of the province of Chahar, which is a part of "Inner Mongolia," marks an advance step in the plan to conduct evangelistic work on a permanent basis in behalf of the people of Mongolia. During recent years a beginning was attempted in the northeastern section of Mongolia, but it was soon found that changing political conditions were resulting in the shutting out entirely of our mission workers from territory known as "Outer Mongolia," at present under the political control of the U. S. S. R. Finally some of our workers who had been studying the Mongolian language, were transferred from the Sungari Mission (in Manchuria) to the North China Union, and established at a new base; namely, Kalgan; and it is here that properties have been secured for a permanent headquarters.

One plot of ground has been set apart for a Hospital-Dispensary, and already nearly sufficient is in hand

for constructing the main building. Dr. and Mrs. Elmer F. Coulston are now hard at work in a study of Mandarin at the Peking Union Language School, and will later be settled permanently at their new home in Kalgan. Pastor and Mrs. Otto Christensen, formerly of the Minnesota Conference, reach Shanghai on January 7, and proceeded at once to Peiping and on to Kalgan, Chahar Province, where they are studying the Mongolian language, preparatory to evangelistic work for the Mongolian people.

Writing of Mongolia and the Mongols, Mr. McLeish, of the World Dominion Press, in "The Challenge of Central Asia," declares:

"Mongolia lies immediately north of the Great Wall of China, and Chinese Turkestan; thus it separates both Sinkiang and China proper from Russia. The country is surrounded by mountains, and is a wide, shallow, basin-like plateau, lying at an altitude of three thousand to five thousand feet above sea level.

"Broadly speaking, Mongolia may be divided into three parts: the Northwestern region, which covers the high terrace of the plateau; the Gobi (using this term in a wide sense), which occupies the lower terrace of the plateau, and Southeastern Mongolia, which covers the eastern slope of the Khingan Mountains.

"In Northwestern Mongolia there are great tracts of forest and undulating steppes, where the flocks and herds of the semi-nomadic Mongols find pasture, and herds of antelopes and wild asses roam at will.

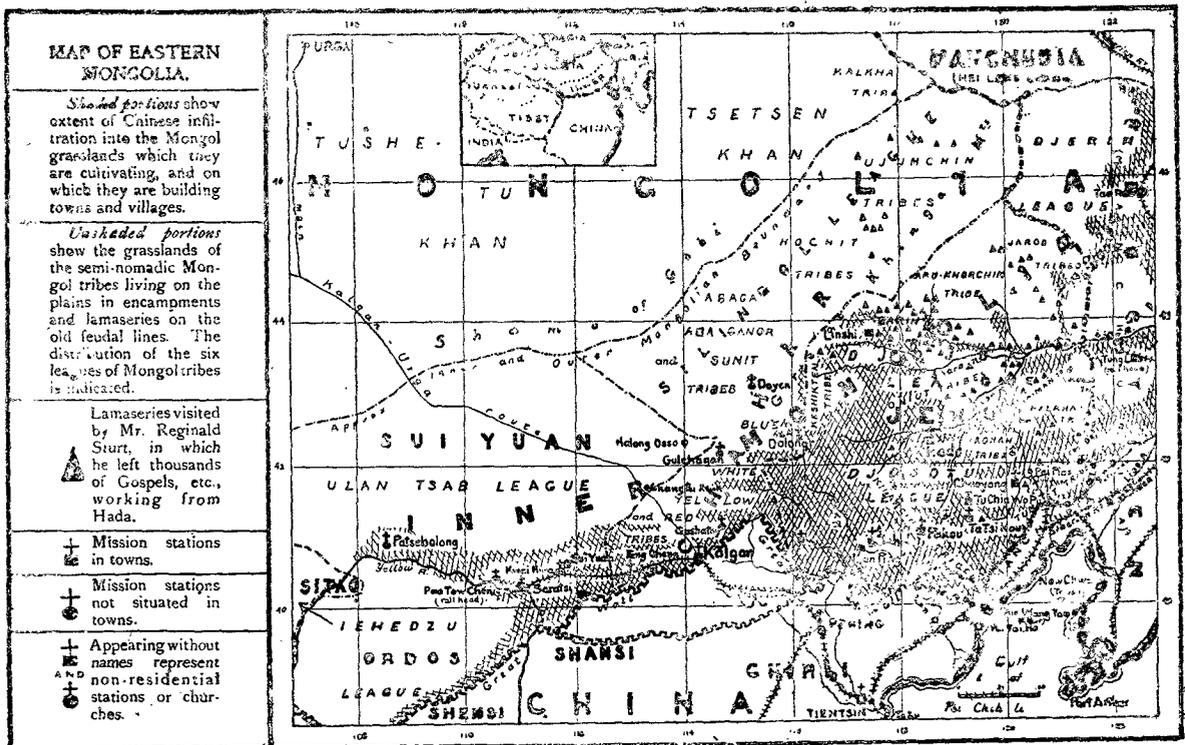
"The glens of the Altai Mountains are a refreshing change from the plains. In springtime there is about them a freshness and fragrance which recalls the Scottish Highlands. The streams are full of water, and the sides of the valleys are clothed with larch and poplar, birch and willow. Sometimes a forest of larch will spread from the hills to the plain, joining the grassy meadows which are deep in flowers: gentian, purple and blue, crimson cyclamen, anemones, and masses of purple, violet, cream and yellow violas. These pastures are full of flocks, and here and there on the grassy hillside stand Kirei encampments. The whole of this region is well watered, and it contains several lakes. One of the largest of these lakes, named Kossogol, lies at an altitude of 4,320 feet above sea level, close to the Russian frontier, at the foot of a great snow mountain.

"A great part of Mongolia is, however, very desolate. One-fourth of the country is either entirely desert, or, if it is not actually desert, it is so arid that only the poorest nomads can exist in it. . . .

"Throughout Mongolia and Dzungaria there are very few oases. The country suffers, in fact, from the lack of mountain ranges, with large glaciers and great snow fields to act as the source of streams in the desert. The consequence is that although sufficient grass is produced to support flocks throughout the year, they are obliged to wander from place to place in order to find the best pasture available.

MAP OF EASTERN MONGOLIA.

Showing Chinese colonization, distribution of the six leagues of Mongol tribes, and the present missionary occupation.



"We have here the obvious explanation of the nomadic life which is characteristic of these vast regions.

"The prevailing impression left on the traveller's mind by this desert country is one of monotony and desolation, yet there are times when the sense of space is most exhilarating. . . .

"At the present day, for purposes of government, the Chinese divide Mongolia into two unequal portions: *Inner Mongolia*, the smaller, which lies to the south and east of the Gobi, and extends to the borders of China and Manchuria; and *Outer Mongolia*, which forms the rest of the country.

"Inner Mongolia is divided into four districts, Jehol, Chahar Sui Yuan and Sitaotai, containing much rich grass-growing prairie land and well-watered hill country. The Jehol territory alone claims more than half the total population of Mongolia.

"Since the establishment of the Chinese Republic there have been more changes in the political status of Mongolia than several previous centuries had witnessed. . . .

"The religion of Mongolia is Lamaism. Introduced into Tibet from India in the seventh century before Christ, it was accommodated to Tibetan superstition and demonology, but it was not imposed upon the Mongols until the reign of Kublai Khan.

"Gradually an elaborate temple service was built up, which is still in daily use. Twice a day at least in the lamasaries portions of the sacred Tibetan scriptures are chanted in deep-toned voices by robed and mitred monks, sitting cross-legged in rows before the image of Buddha, presided over by an enthroned 'living Buddha,' or abbot. These chants are accompanied by the sound of drums, bells, conchshells, cymbals, and enormous trumpets, twenty feet long, with the sprinkling of holy water, and the burning of incense. . . .

"Of all the missions now at work in Inner Mongolia, that carried on by the Brethren, which was begun at Pa Kow in 1887, is the oldest. Since then seven new missions have entered the country. . . .

"The work of these eight Societies is still largely among the growing Chinese population and those Mongols who can be reached. Among the small number of Mongol Christians, some show such sterling Christian character that the future is not without promise. The Christian witness of Europeans, Chinese and Mongols, should have a greater and greater effect. James Gilmour said: 'I am still of opinion that our best way to reach the Mongols is from a Chinese base.' Of late years this possibility has been placed in the hands of the Church. A marked feature of the present situation in Mongolia is the steady flow of Chinese immigration from Shantung. This process of infiltration is for the first time in history setting the plough to the fertile valleys and well-watered prairies of Southern Mongolia, a country which bids fair to compare with Siberia and Canada as one of the great granaries of the world. This fact presents an unparalleled opportunity for the evangelization of Mongolia."

THE KALGAN HOSPITAL

Plans have been perfected for the Kalgan hospital; and brother E. C. Wood, the Division builder, will soon proceed north, in order to assist in getting under way the construction work. There are only a few months at build at Kalgan, inasmuch as freezing weather sets in early, and makes impossible further masonry. The early undertaking of the building program will insure the completion of the structure without delay.

General Articles

PASTOR AND MRS. L. V. FINSTER

At the General Conference of 1901, Pastor and Mrs. L. V. Finster were placed under appointment for service in the Australasian Union. During the year they crossed the Pacific and began their mission labors abroad. For a time Pastor Finster served as president of the West Australia Conference, and later as president of the Tasmanian Conference. In December, 1908, Brother and Sister Finster were asked to go into the Philippines to follow up interests created by Pastor and Mrs. J. L. McElhaney, who had had to return because of health conditions. Brother and Sister R. A. Caldwell had been laboring as self-supporting colporteurs in the Philippines for three or four years prior to the arrival of Brother and Sister Finster, and they also had created some interests. However, when Pastor Finster entered Manila there was not a baptized believer in all that city, aside from Brother and Sister Caldwell, and Brother Finster found it impracticable to bring to the point of acceptance of the Bible truth, some of those who had learned to speak English, and who had become interested. He turned his particular attention to those speaking the vernacular and found his way to their hearts in their native tongue, partly through literature, partly through translations, and partly through some knowledge of Tagalog that he himself secured during his early residence in the islands. His perseverance was rewarded within two years through bringing to the point of baptism in March, 1911, of twelve souls, and the organization of our first Filipino church.

At the time the Philippine Union was organized, at the close of 1916, with Pastor Finster as superintendent, the work had been opened in Northern Luzon, Panay, and Cebu, as well as in various portions of Tagalog territory, and there were between seven and eight hundred baptized believers. The work continued from strength to strength.

Eventually, Pastor and Mrs. Finster were transferred to the Malayan Union, and the Philippine Union continued under the fostering care of others with the same steady advance that has characterized this work from the beginning. In Malaya the Lord brought to us more than a thousand new converts while Brother Finster was in charge. His later work has been at the old Far Eastern Division headquarters, Shanghai, as home missionary secretary, in which capacity he has served for about a year and a half; while Sister Finster has spent a school year as teacher of English in Far Eastern Academy.

During the Autumn Council held in Omaha last October, Pastor and Mrs. Finster were placed under appointment for service in the Leeward Islands Conference, where he is to be the president. Brother and Sister Finster were asked on Christmas night to meet with friends of the Ningkuo Road Compound, and during the little service held there, Pastor I. H. Evans, who has been associated with Brother and Sister Finster from the time the first baptism took place in the Philippine Islands, at which occasion Brother Evans was present, outlined in brief the labors of these servants of the Lord through the years. The brethren and sisters of the compound presented to Brother and Sister Finster a gift in token of their love and their desire that the mercies of the Lord may attend these workers as they journey across the

waters of the Pacific and on down to the Leeward Islands.

In this connection, it may be of interest to know that Pastor Evans, who has long associated with Brother Finster, was chairman of the committee on the distribution of labor at the General Conference session held in Battle Creek, Michigan, 1901, at which meeting Brother and Sister Finster were sent out first as missionaries to fields abroad.

FOR SERVICE IN YENCHENG

(Editorial Note.—This announcement concerning the return of Dr. and Mrs. Brines for further service in China, was to have appeared in an earlier issue, but was held over because of lack of space.)

Dr. and Mrs. R. J. Brines and daughters, the Misses Lauretta and Louise, reached Shanghai on December 19 per s.s. "Tatsuta-Maru," and have volunteered to spend some time at the Yencheng station, where Dr. Brines is to have charge of the Yencheng (Honan) Hospital-Dispensary during the absence on furlough of Dr. L. H. Butka and family, sailing probably in early February. Dr. and Mrs. Brines spent their first term of service in the China field, as members of the faculty of our leading training school, known at that time as the Shanghai Missionary College. From 1916 to 1923, Brother Brines was head of the Science Department of the College, and Sister Brines was connected with the Normal Department. Now after an extended absence made necessary by Brother Brines' desire to fit himself to serve as a physician, he returns as one who, following his graduation from the Loma Linda College of Medical Evangelists, served as head of the Wichita Sanitarium, and later as one of the leading physicians of the newly completed Porter Sanitarium at Denver. It is with especial pleasure and satisfaction that those formerly associated with Brother and Sister Brines in China, have the privilege of welcoming them back as workers of experience, with a knowledge of the Mandarin language, and with a special training to fill a great need in this field. Brother and Sister Brines plan on leaving early in January for Hankow and Yencheng and will be accompanied by their younger daughter, leaving Miss Lauretta in Shanghai as a member of the Far Eastern Academy family.

CHINA DIVISION EXTENSION FUND: PROPOSED BENEFICIARIES DURING BIG WEEK CAMPAIGN OF 1931

- Signs of the Times Publishing House, machinery to the amount of G \$2,810.00
- Working Capital, China Tract Societies, G \$4,000.00
- China Educational Dept. Translation Fund, G \$500.00
- Kiangsu Middle School and equipment, G \$420.00
- Library for Nurses' Training School, G \$200.00
- Manchurian Union Hospital Equipment, G \$1,500.00

Biennial Session, South China Union, at Waichow, March 2-8, 1931

SOUTH CHINA UNION

Report of Superintendent

DURING the opening meeting of the biennial session of the South China Union Mission, held in Waichow, Kwangtung Province, beginning with the afternoon of February 2, Pastor O. A. Hall, the newly appointed superintendent, requested Pastor C. C. Morris, the former superintendent, to make a general statement of progress during the past two years.

The report, in brief, revealed many encouraging items of advance. The years have been trying ones indeed. Considerable portions of some of the provincial missions, have been swept with war. Other untoward conditions have made impossible the visiting of some of our stations. In fact, certain places have been closed to travelers for the entire period under review. It is not easy for one who has not lived in disturbed sections of this field, to understand fully how entire *hsiens* and groups of *hsiens* can be closed against ordinary traffic for so long a time; but unfortunately this has been the situation in some districts.

Notwithstanding various hindrances, the cause of present truth has made progress in South China, the net gain in church membership during the two years having been 439. This brings the union membership to a total of 2,643 baptized believers at the close of the year 1930. Thus the South China Union still heads the list of China unions, in point of church membership, although one other union is now only sixty less in number of believers.

The tithes have increased somewhat, as have mission offerings. There has been a decided increase in the number in attendance at our Sabbath schools. Many evangelists report a desire on the part of the people in their communities, to hear the gospel message. New roadways are being constructed, and communications from place to place promise to be far better in future than ever in the past. Gradually the unsettled conditions that have proven so trying to the workers, are passing away, and order is being maintained by the provincial and local governmental authorities. The colporteurs now find it possible to enter much of the territory throughout the union; and the places still closed against them, it is fondly hoped,

may be opened during the biennial term before us.

The truths of the third angel's message were proclaimed in China first of all in these southern provinces. God has blessed His servants wondrously. There has been more of a continuity of service on the part of some of our workers in South China, than has been seen as yet in any other union in the China field. Some have been here for a quarter of a century from abroad. At present those oldest in service include Pastor B. L. Anderson and wife, of the South Fukien Mission (Amoy), and Pastor J. P. Anderson, of the Hakka Mission (Waichow), also Pastor A. L. Ham and wife, of the Cantonese Mission (Canton).

The school work in South China is continuing encouragingly, although some influences are at work that have led to a lessening of the number of smaller schools in some of the provinces. The Canton training-school is filled to overflowing, there being more than one hundred forty in attendance.

The medical work has never been more prosperous in the South, than at present. Dr. Day D. Coffin has kept closely to his work in Nanning, and has been especially blessed of Heaven with respect to protection, patronage, and receipts. The hospital at Waichow is growing in favor with the people, and some additions have been made to the plant, the latest being a commodious two-story nurses' dormitory, now nearing completion. The Doctors H. C. and Etnel James, with Nurses Schutt, have many associate helpers from among those who have been in training as nurses and assistants. Here it is literally a fact that the blind have been made to see, and the lepers have found healing, some from among the leper patients having been entirely freed from their former supposed incurable malady. A special place has been set apart on the hospital grounds, where the lepers may come for regular treatment.

Dr. and Mrs. F. E. Bates and two sons have just returned from their extended furlough, and following the close of the meeting will unite with others in medical work in this needy field. The prospects before the medical department in South China, are bright indeed. We were sorry not to have Brother Victor Hansen with us at our biennial

session, he having gone on to Nanning to relieve Dr. Coffin, whose presence at our session is desired, as medical secretary of the union.

Pastor O. A. Hall, in outlining the future, stated to the delegates and friends assembled, that it is not possible to foretell with accuracy just what may come; but we do know that it is Heaven's plan that we advance in faith, and do everything in our power to press into new territory with the warning message. We are to make evangelism foremost in our program; for the times demand of us an untiring effort to seek and to save that which has been lost. There is every prospect of success before us, and of a growing church, if only we keep consecrated to God and keep at work with all diligence in the doing of that for which we have been called out from the world as God's special representatives. Surely we may take heart, and go forward in faith; and God will add abundantly of His blessing, and lead us safely through these perilous times, and prepare a people ready for their Lord when He shall come.

THE HAKKA MISSION

J. P. ANDERSON

(Synopsis of report rendered during biennial session of South China Union, by Pastor J. P. Anderson, director of the Hakka Mission. This report covers the years 1929 and 1930.)

The 750 members and 41 workers of the Hakka Mission feel very grateful that they are privileged to have the South China Union session held in their midst. And we are also grateful to our Heavenly Father for the many mercies and kindnesses bestowed upon us during the past biennial period.

It has been the privilege of the director the past two years to visit all of our stations but three. In general, progress has been noted. Our chapels have enjoyed a good degree of interest. The membership has increased from 640 in 1928 to 750 in 1930, making a net increase of 110 for the past biennial period. During this time we have employed 5 ordained ministers besides licentiates, Bible women, teachers, and colporteurs, together with our nurses at the Fui-On (Waichow) Hospital. Some of the chapels have suffered much because of the Communists having destroyed the furniture, and having been in possession of the city or market-town for some time, thus hindering the work of the evangelist.

Educational work:

We have operated 4 primary schools in the outstations. There has been an attendance of 150 in these. The teachers have all shown commendable zeal. Some of the pupils have been baptized. In addition to the schools of outstations, we have had the

Two Years of Progress---South China Union---439 Net Gain, Church Membership

Bethel Girls' School in the city of Waichow, with an attendance of 30. We have had about 46 pupils in the Canton school, and on an average of 15 in the Chiao Tou Djen school.

Medical Work:

The Fui-On Hospital Dispensary in charge of Drs. H. C. and Ethel James, has enjoyed a good patronage. Some new buildings have been erected, such as the improvement of the kitchen so as to serve as a kitchen and dining-room for helpers and also quarters for some of the helpers. A drying shed for clothes has also been put up, and now we have a nurses' dormitory erected. Much equipment has been added, and improvements have been made in facilities for the treatment of the sick. The treatment of the lepers has been very gratifying in some cases. The nursing force has been materially strengthened by the addition of Brother and Sister Schutt, both graduate nurses.

Literature Work:

This branch of the Lord's work has shown commendable progress. Brother Wong Tet Min, our field agent has, proven a live wire, and the figures speak for themselves. The past two years we have sold \$7,394.04 worth of literature. This is a large advance over the 1927-1928 period, during which sales were \$3,265, a gain of \$4,129 the past two years. Our territory is mountainous, the market towns are small, and there are no large cities in our boundaries, so we feel that in accomplishing what we have in selling literature, "hitherto the Lord hath helped us."

I was gratified some time ago, while visiting a shop off of the highway, to hear the proprietor, in course of our conversation, mention many things of interest. When I inquired where he got his information, he proudly told me he read the Chinese *Signs of the Times*. He said he liked the paper very much; for it "dared" to print much about Christianity. It turned out that he was a member of another mission. I informed him we were responsible for getting the *Signs* to the various subscribers in the Hakka territory. It is refreshing to meet with those who are benefitted by reading our literature.

Home Missionary Work:

The Home Missionary Secretary reports much work accomplished by the Hakka Mission. We feel that one of our pressing problems for the church membership is to enlist their help and co-operation in doing their part in sharing the blessings and burdens of carrying on our work.

Sabbath School Work:

We have enrolled in our 26 stations 798 Sabbath school members. More interest needs to be taken by each worker to make the Sabbath school really interesting and profitable to those who attend.

The following table gives a comparison of the various offerings for the past two biennial periods:

	1927-28	1929-30
Church Tithe, Mex.	\$ 459.94	\$ 986.71
12th Sabbath Off.,	1,673.90	2,206.11
13th Sabbath Off.,	264.11	362.75
Birthday Offerings,	34.17	66.64
Investment Fund,		27.24
Annual Offerings,	380.68	294.80
Home Miss. Off.,	23.21	97.13
Big Week Offering,	381.59	485.02
Chapel Exp. Donations,		297.60
Week of Sacrifice,	337.40	797.72

Our Needs:

Our greatest need is for a more consecrated life to the work of preaching the gospel. For the laity, our need is for a more consistent daily living out of the Christlike life. The lack of fully trusting and walking in the way of the Lord undoubtedly is the cause of our small increase in membership. This condition each worker and member can change by getting a new vision of our Lord. The experience of Ephraim as given by the Prophet Hosea, where he says that Ephraim will have nothing more to do with idols because he has seen Him and observed Him, can be ours if we only wish it ardently enough.

Another great need is for a school up to the 9th grade. This is a crying need.

We also need to own more of our places of worship. It would give us much better standing to own these places. This is especially so in strategic places.

It is the mind of the director that there is as good or even better opportunity to preach the gospel than ever before. I have personally met most of the magistrates and other officials, and I have never been treated with more kindly consideration, than of late. The villages also present many opportunities, and there is practically no limit to the influence that a good evangelist can exert over these sturdy people if he lives near to the Lord.

May God help us to lay hold upon the right arm of His strength, and like Jacob of old, prevail with the Lord, and travail as in birth until all who will shall have been gathered into the fold of Christ. We solicit the prayers of God's people for the Hakka Mission.

they were arrested by the Kwangsi soldiers as spies of the Canton army. Their statements, books, baggage, etc., were disregarded as proof of their working for the Mission, and they were put to torture. With hands behind them they were tied to a bench in a sitting posture, their knees were bound to the board, their feet were tied together, and then raised and bricks were placed under their heels. One colporteur suffered twice this way, with three bricks the first time and four the second. The other was tortured once. After that, they were confined in prison for forty-one days before their release was effected. They are considerably broken in health now, but as soon as they are strong again they desire to continue the colporteur work.

A faithful colporteur working with small books and tracts, contracted dysentery, and died after reaching his home. The star colporteur of the Hakka field -- a young man recently out of the Canton school -- died in January of the same disease. Our hearts are saddened by the loss of these earnest workers.

It was during 1929, while on the way to hold a colporteur's institute in Hsing-ning, that our associate field missionary secretary, Pastor Tan Kia Ou, was taken by bandits and held captive for three months.

Because of communists and bandits, many portions of our territory have been inaccessible, and most all of it very dangerous for travel. This has been a great hindrance to the work; yet we thank the Lord for the protection that He has given His servants.

There is abundant opportunity within our territory for a greatly increased sale. At present we have twenty-two colporteurs. Let us do all we can to create a strong colporteur spirit throughout the field; and let us pray earnestly that "the Lord of the harvest will send forth laborers into His harvest."

THE PUBLISHING DEPT. — SOUTH CHINA UNION: YEARS 1929-1930

R. M. MILNE

(Synopsis of report rendered at the biennial session of South China Union Mission, Waichow, Kwangtung, March 2-8, 1931, by R. M. Milne, union field missionary secretary)

Another two years have passed so quickly, we scarcely realize they have gone. During this time the Lord has greatly blessed in the sale of literature, and we thank Him for His leading.

Repeated efforts to reach our goals have met with varying success. At times the hindrances have been many; but our men have pressed in, and used every possible opportunity to sell literature. For example, in November, 1929, a pause in the Kwangsi war gave opportunity to hold an institute at Nanning. After two weeks of training, all went out to work, with high hopes and a big goal. One week later war began again, and in its spasmodic way has continued even until the present. Communications have been broken, and we have been cut off from the tract society nearly all the while, and have been unable to get any supplies to them, excepting occasionally. The men have nevertheless worked when they could, and the totals for 1930 actually exceed those of 1929.

Two new colporteurs out on their initial trip have met perhaps the hardest experience in the history of South China colporteur work. On the fifth day out

RECORD OF LITERATURE SALES SOUTH CHINA UNION

Mission	Yr. 1929	Yr. 1930
Canton . . . Mex.	\$ 11,277.82	\$ 16,943.12
S. Fukien	3,542.05	4,783.87
N. Fukien	3,132.09	3,374.97
Kwangsi	1,611.88	2,025.70
Swatow	4,425.16	3,760.06
Hakka	3,507.39	4,386.84
Totals	Mex. \$ 27,496.82	\$ 35,275.55

THIRTY YEARS OF PROGRESS

During the South China Union session, attention was called to the fact that the first Seventh-day Adventist baptism in China took place in Hongkong on the first of March, 1902. Pastor J. N. Anderson had sailed in 1901 from the States, and reported to the General Conference this baptismal service, and spoke of those who received this rite as "the first fruits of the great spiritual harvest to be gathered from the great empire of China." Brother Anderson's prophetic words have met fulfillment through the years. During 1930 alone there were 1,557 Chinese believers baptized in this land, giving a net gain to our church membership of 1,125.

Biennial Session Reports of South China Union---Progress during Yrs. 1929-30

THE NORTH FUKIEN MISSION 1929-30

V. J. MALONEY

(Synopsis of biennial report rendered by Pastor V. J. Maloney, director of the North Fukien Mission, covering the years 1929 and 1930.)

The members of the North Fukien Mission send Christian love and greetings to the assembled delegates of the South China Union Mission. We also extend a welcome to our new union superintendent, Pastor O. A. Hall and family, and to the new officers of the China Division, Dr. Miller, Pastor Morris, and others. To these brethren we pledge our prayers and our co-operation in carrying on to completion the work of the Lord.

As we review the events of the years 1929-1930, our hearts are filled with gratitude for the blessings God has given us, and for His protecting care. When perplexities and trials have come, God has been near, and He has given us blessed experiences and victories that have drawn us closer to Him and deepened our faith. Without the assurance of God's presence and help, we would not have the courage to face the great task before us.

We had hoped that this biennial period would bring greater peace to the field so that our workers could pursue their labors in greater safety. However, instead of getting more peaceful, conditions have gotten worse. The last year has been an unusually difficult one in North Fukien. There was fighting between the general in the up-river section and the Foochow district. The fighting cut off our stations up river. For a time not even letters came through. Later letters could pass, but for more than eight months we have been unable to send money-orders, Sabbath school supplies, or other packages to this district. This has worked a great hardship on the work in that section. Workers were without money, colporteurs without lesson quarterlies.

In addition to this fighting between the soldiers, bandits and communists have been very active. It was in this upper Min River district, above Kienning Fu, near Chungan, where the two British ladies, Miss Nettleton and Miss Harrison, were captured and later executed. With all the warring and banditry, it would seem useless for us to hope to receive as much tithes and offerings as usual. You may imagine how surprised we were when the totals of tithes and offerings were made, to find them, in this year of trouble, greater than any other year in the history of the mission. There has also been an increase for the biennial period in members baptized, there being a total of one hundred twenty-five. Deducting from the roll those who have died or left the truth, there is a present membership of four hundred twenty-five. There would have been more baptized in 1930, but conditions were such that we could not get to some of the stations to baptize those who were waiting.

Evangelistic work is being carried on in twenty-six centers. In nineteen of these places workers are stationed, or else go every Sabbath. In the other seven places workers make visits as they can, to unite with the members and interested ones who meet for worship. Calls have come in from other places desiring us to open work. Recently a member of the Seu 'I au church

visited his daughter in another village. There had been some opposition on the part of the son-in-law to Christianity. Now this brother reports that he is not opposed, and that he, with others in this village, are asking that we come and open a church there. If all of our members will thus witness for Christ in every place they go, we will see a marvelous change in the matter of church membership.

We are endeavoring to carry on the work of each department in harmony with the worldwide policies. The Sabbath school department has been under the direction of Mr. Diong Chiong Mi, and he has worked earnestly at this work. We are glad to note an increase in the Sabbath school offerings, and appreciate the efforts made to have the Sabbath schools carried on in a more orderly manner.

The home missionary and literature work has been under the direction of Mr. Cieng D. U. and more recently Mr. Ngu Bek Gi. Many pages of tracts have been distributed, and the subscription books and "Signs" sales have been good. In the year 1929 there was a total of \$3,869.62 Mex. worth of literature sold, and in 1930 \$3,912.19, making a total for the period of \$7,781.72 Mex., which exceeds the sales of any previous years. Recently the writer baptized a man who told him that he first heard about the truth from reading the Signs several years ago. Later, when the evangelist came to that place and instructed him further, in a little while he was ready to accept fully of Bible truth.

Five church schools have been conducted, one not being open all the time; and in Foochow City, the Foochow Intermediate School, under the direction of Brother Quade. In the Foochow School, Sister Quade has worked hard in developing the rag-rug industry for the students, and not only has good work been turned out, but the students have been earning a portion of their expenses. The total enrollment for all of the schools is approximately two hundred fifty.

One new chapel is under construction. Two more have been purchased, one of which has not been put in proper condition. One or two other places are preparing to build in the near future. Just before the close of the year the members of one of these places turned in four hundred dollars they had raised for this purpose. In yet another city an old gentleman gave two hundred dollars to the church, and plans to give two or four hundred more. He also gave ground for a church graveyard. At another place where a new chapel was built three years ago, it will not now hold the congregation. A place was rented in a village near here to hold service, so as to divide the people, but still there is not enough room, and we shall have to enlarge the building. At Ciong Iu Bang, we planned to hold a general meeting. The program as worked out by Pastor Chai, looked rather strenuous to me, but I thought if they were willing to try it out, I was also willing; so we started in. The schedule for each day for about seven days was as follows: Prayer meeting at 4 a. m.; breakfast, 6 a. m.; singing, 7:30 a. m.; Bible study and sermon, 8-11 o'clock in the forenoon; dinner at noon, and in the afternoon usually one meeting and then everybody was asked to go out onto the streets to preach and distribute tracts. At 7:30 p. m., we had preaching again.

At the 4 a. m. meeting there were present every day from thirty to as many as fifty, some of them coming with lanterns, or with torches of bamboo, for one or two miles. The day meetings were well attended, and on the streets hundreds would listen as the different groups preached on the street-corners. At 7:30 p. m., these were from one hundred to one hundred twenty-five present.

As we go about our labors here in this land of China, confronted by apparently insurmountable obstacles, if we hold out our hands to God in faith, He will not turn away, but will be with us until the end. Let us pray that God may send forth the showers of the latter rain, not only in North Fukien, but in all China and in all the world, that His work may be quickly finished.

DEATH OF PASTOR LING SING CA

On December 18, 1930, at his home in Foochow, Pastor Ling Sing Ca, aged seventy-five, fell asleep in Jesus. Pastor Ling lived a long and useful life, and it was his pleasure to use it in the service of the Master. Before accepting Christianity he was a doctor in the Chinese Navy. While stationed at Shanghai, he accepted Christianity and entered the Baptist church. Later on, returning to Foochow, he was connected with the American Board Mission as teacher in their school for many years. Dr. Ling was a very earnest Bible student, and when in 1914 he heard the doctrines of the Seventh-day Adventist church he accepted them and united with us in 1915. Since that time he has continuously lent his strength to the preaching and teaching of the third angel's message. Dr. Ling loved this truth, and was not satisfied unless he was giving it to others.

For a long time Pastor Ling would not receive any salary for his services. When he did receive a salary he used most of it to make offerings to the cause, or to help some needy person.

At the age of seventy-four, he was accepting quite regular preaching appointments and doing personal work. At seventy-five he was still preaching occasionally, holding the ordinances, and doing personal work up until a few weeks before he died. Most men in China at that age have ceased to undertake any labor. "Preaching is my life," he said, and so he pressed on in this noble work until called to rest by the Master.

After his ordination, he desired to change his name, yet he did not want to make the change conspicuous. His name being "Sing Ca," he chose a name that in the Foochow dialect was similar in sound, and yet which conveyed to his mind the high regard he felt for the work of preaching. His new name was "Sing Cha," which means "holy ambassador," and was indicative of the great urge he felt within to preach this last-day message, and be Christ's ambassador.

In responding to the call to preach this last-day message, to give of his means for its support, in his knowledge of the Bible and his faithfulness to labor on as long as life lasted, he has set an excellent example to all.

To his wife and son and daughter and other relatives, we extend comfort and sympathy.

V. J. Maloney

NOTICE--Special Week of Prayer
(May 3-9, 1931)

CALL FOR SPECIAL WEEK OF PRAYER AND SACRIFICE

Our advance this year into the open doors must be made through much of sacrifice on our part; for budgets have been reduced to a point that might lead some to seek to retrench rather than to advance. The brethren of the China Division Executive Committee have given this matter most careful, prayerful study; and action has been taken that calls upon every worker associated in this cause throughout our Division field, to plan on a special personal sacrifice of a week's wage, in addition to the usual week of sacrifice that is to be faithfully observed next autumn. And we are asking that the invitation be extended to the believers in all our churches and companies; for funds are needed to cover the expense of undertaking and maintaining in a strong way these many evangelistic campaigns now planned.

Even with appreciably lessened working staffs now being arranged for in several of the missions because of a lack of funds to support as many as hitherto, we may do a work greater and more fruitful than heretofore if we plan wisely, and sacrifice unitedly, and pray that Heaven's blessing may be upon us in the carrying out of the program adopted by the China Division Committee as outlined in the following series of resolutions, to the study of which we invite every worker and layman of the China Division:

"Whereas, World financial depression has resulted in reduction of the funds coming for the support of our mission work in China this year; and, -

"Whereas, There are unprecedented opportunities to-day in China for the furtherance of the work of the gospel, making increased demands for funds; and realizing as we do that there always comes to the Church a blessing through sacrifice on the part of one's self and liberality towards the work of God, -

"We recommend to our division, union, local, and institutional workers, together with believers everywhere throughout China, that they set apart the first week in May as a special week of sacrifice, in which their salary or the earnings of their business during this week shall be made a gift to the work of God in China; and that such funds as are received from the special week of sacrifice shall be used, insofar as may be found practicable, without affecting allowed bases, by the respective unions where the funds are received, and shall be administered under the direction of these union committees as may best advance their work; it being understood that proceeds from division institutions and the division headquarters staff that may be realized from this special week of sacrifice, constitute an evangelistic fund held by the division treasury for appropriation in behalf of special evangelistic efforts.

"We recommend to our people, that they make this also a special week of prayer and of earnestly seeking God for His continued blessing upon the work in China; and further, -

"We recommend, That in view of the date in April already set by the North China Union for this week of sacrifice, they proceed as planned instead of changing to the date in May; and that for the West China Union the date of this week be fixed as for June 14-20."

THE SWATOW MISSION

DAVID HWANG

(Synopsis of report rendered by Pastor David Hwang, acting director of the Swatow Mission, during the South China biennial session, Waichow, Mar. 2-8, 1931. This report covers the years 1929 and 1930)

The territory of Swatow Mission, in Eastern Kwangtung, includes all Swatowese-speaking *hsiens* and some in which Hakka is used; and in our relatively small area there are over 7,000,000 people. Our working force at present consists of two ordained ministers, five licentiates, sixteen with missionary license, four Bible women, two regular colporteurs, and two helpers - thirty-one in all. This is too few for so large a population; and we need to increase our working force, and would also appreciate the help of a foreign family. We regret that Pastor Ang's health the past year has incapacitated him to help us as much as hitherto.

Our membership of 296 in the year 1929, with 3 organized churches and 14 companies, has been increased to 325 members. There are 600 enrolled in our Sabbath Schools, with an average attendance of 572. We have 8 church schools, with 304 students.

Conditions in the interior have been very unsettled. The Kwang-Im-Sui chapel was occupied by communists for a time. The deacon of this church was an "elder" of this village, and would not unite with the communists. One day when going to market he was waylaid by four men and shot. Two other chapels are in districts where communists and bandits still have control, and it has been impossible to care for these places. The dangers seem to increase year by year, and conditions continually get worse. We do not wish to emphasize overmuch our difficulties; for we know that as the end draws near, these may be expected; but we do feel sorry that the work does not advance more rapidly than during the past two years.

One of our church-members in Swabue has for several years been buying tracts and books and sending them to his friends and relatives in his home town over two hundred fifty li distant. Recently this literature has borne fruit, a good interest has developed, and already, about fifty are keeping the Sabbath.

For many years we have had a small company in Chaochowfu. During the past three years this has been developed until the membership is 60; and ten miles out in the country several large families have become interested and some have already begun the observance of the Sabbath.

We give to God the praise for progress made, and reconsecrate ourselves to Him for soul-winning service.

COMPARATIVE FIGURES - SWATOW

	Yr. 1929	Yr. 1930
Organized Churches	3	5
Companies	14	15
Membership	296	325
No. Baptized	20	29
S. S. Membership	458	650
Church Schools	4	8
Students	147	304
Tithe (Church) Mex.	\$ 446.77	Mex. \$ 916.23
Tithe Wkrs. Slry.	849.23	" 963.50
Tithe per Capita	4.37	" 5.78
S. S. Offerings	950.19	" 617.19
Har. Ingathering	752.69	" 683.18
Big Week	577.75	" 560.35
Wk. of Sacrifice	67.23	" 114.33
No. of Workers	27	31
Literature Sales	4,442.25	" 3,760.06

MISSIONS EXTENSION FUND

(Big Week, May 23-30, 1931)

GOD'S PURPOSE IN THE MISSIONS EXTENSION PLAN

C. H. WATSON

(A synopsis of a statement from the General Conference President regarding Big Week, appointed for May 23-30 in the China Division)

One of the precious promises the Lord has written for the sower of gospel seed is that found in Psalm 126: "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." This scripture presents the work of seed sowing in a very encouraging way. Although weeping and trial are of necessity associated with the giving of the gospel as the seed of the kingdom, we are assured of rejoicing in the certainly of the harvest.

The statement of this scripture is not limited to any one class of workers. It applies just as directly to the layman as to the minister, and is for all who labor in the name of the Lord whether at home or abroad. Its assurance of success and fruitfulness is as much for the humble layworker as for the preacher who addresses hundreds.

"Every power in the church is to be actively engaged on the side of Christ. The followers of Christ are to combine in a strong effort to call the attention of the world to the fast-fulfilling prophecies of the word of God." - *Testimonies*, Vol. IX, page 42.

Clearly the Lord has purposed that every church member shall do his utmost to give the light of truth to the souls about him. The Big Week effort affords us all an excellent opportunity to engage in soul-winning endeavor. The first objective of the Big Week is, of course, to place the largest amount of soul-saving literature in the hands of the people in the assurance that it will be used to save some. Incidental to that first purpose is the gathering of funds by the effort for the purpose of extending the work of God abroad.

The people of the earth in their perplexity and distress are greatly needing the comfort and the blessing of the truth. Shall we hold back from making a special effort in their behalf at this time? May God give us grace to go forth bearing the precious seed, and to know that if we sow in faith, making it a heart-work, we shall come again with rejoicing, bringing our sheaves with us. May He bless His people with a mind to serve and succeed in this Big Week; and may He give them present blessing as they go forth to sow the precious seed of the truth.

FROM HANKOW

Pastor H. L. Graham, director of the Hupeh Mission, writes under date of February 22:

"We are opening four evangelistic meetings outside of Wuhan in the next few days, and I plan to take the lantern and help in each one of them for a few days. The prospects are bright for the best year Hupeh has ever had.

"We have just made up the membership records for 1930. Our baptisms for last year were 72, bringing our membership to 428 - the first time Hupeh has ever topped the 400 mark, though she has been hovering around it for several years. Our workers have set a goal to pass 500 by the end of this year, and I am fully confident it will be done."

The China Division Reporter

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"FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH"

With sadness inexpressible we record the death of our beloved associates, Mrs. Claude B. Miller and Mrs. Dallas R. White, of the Yunnan Mission, by the hand of an assassin. Knowledge of this tragedy came to our Shanghai headquarters first through the American Consular Service, the Consul at Yunnanfu having telegraphed to the American Consulate-General in Shanghai the dread message. Brethren Miller and White were in the district of Talifu, many days' journey away from their home; and it was not until they had started back, after several weeks of intinerating, that enroute they learned they must hasten to Yunnanfu. They made the last nine stages (usually requiring nine days of travel) in less than four days. Not until they had reached the city of Yunnanfu, did they learn of that which had occurred nearly a week before.

Friends in Yunnanfu had done all that thoughtful, loving care could suggest, in preparation for the funeral services and the interment on Thursday, March 26. The two children of Brother White are being cared for by Mr. and Mrs. Parker of the Y. M. C. A. The American Consul, Mr. Stevens, has shown our brethren many, many kindnesses throughout this time of severest trial. In fact, the entire community, both native and foreign, have done all within their power to comfort and assist those in sorrow.

The obituary, with biographical sketches, will be given in the next issue of the Reporter.

The Far Eastern Executive Committee were in session in their annual Spring Council when the first word concerning this loss came through by wire from Yunnanfu; and they prepared and sent forward to Brethren Miller and White, and to the parents and other relatives of the deceased, the following—

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

Whereas, Telegraphic word has just come of the loss by martyrdom on the night of March 14, 1931, at Yunnanfu, of our beloved missionary associates, Sister Claude B. Miller and Sister Dallas R. White, of Yunnan Mission,

Resolved, That we, the members of the China Division Executive Committee in annual council assembled at Shanghai, hereby express to Brethren Miller and White, and to the parents and other relatives of the deceased, our sorrow and deepest sympathy. We sorrow not as those who have no hope; for in the midst of our grief we are comforted by our knowledge of the consecration of these sisters who now sleep in Jesus; and we

confidently look forward to the morning of the resurrection, when those who have sacrificed all in behalf of the advent message will be awakened to life immortal with those whom they have helped to win for the Kingdom of our Lord. We commit those who mourn, to the God of all grace, "who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ. And our hope of you is steadfast, knowing that as ye are partakers of the sufferings, so shall ye be also of the consolation."

ARRIVALS

On the "*Empress of Russia*," January 26, at Hongkong, Professor and Mrs. L. C. Wilcox, with their three children, from furlough in the United States, for another term of service in the Canton Middle School, Canton. The illness of one of the daughters delayed somewhat the return of this family. We extend welcome.

The "*Empress of Russia*," on February 20, brought to us Pastor and Mrs. O. A. Hall, who were enroute to Hongkong from the States. Pastor and Mrs. Hall have labored in various parts of China for many years, first taking up work in 1909. In 1925 they were obliged to return to the States on account of the ill health of Mrs. Hall. Pastor Hall has been appointed to serve as superintendent of the South China Union, and will be located at La Ue Villa, 40 Stubbs Road, Hongkong.

On February 19, per s.s. "*Tatsuta Maru*," Pastor and Mrs. N. F. Brewer and two children, from furlough in the United States. The "*Tatsuta Maru*" also brought Brother Philip H. Shigley for service as stenographer in the Division offices.

Pastor and Mrs. M. Popow and daughter, per s.s. "*Shinyo Maru*," March 16, from furlough in the United States and Canada, for another term of service in the Sungari Mission (of the Manchurian Union). Their address is S. D. A. Mission, Box 20, Newtown, Harbin, Manchuria, China.

DEPARTURES

Dr. and Mrs. L. H. Butka and children, from the Central China Union, February 3, per s.s. "*Derflinger*," for furlough in Europe and the United States.

Dr. D. D. Coffin, from the South China Union, per s.s. "*Empress of Russia*," March 18, for furlough in the United States, where he will join his family, who went last year.

On April 4, per s.s. "*Empress of Japan*," Pastor W. H. Branson; and on April 13 per s.s. "*Empress of Asia*," Pastor W. H. Williams. These brethren are returning to the United States after an extended visit to the Far East, during which time they assisted in the dividing of the old Far Eastern Division, and have attended the Spring Council of each of the two newly formed Divisions—the Far Eastern and China Divisions. The help rendered by these brethren has been a blessing to the work and workers in the Orient.

BIRTHS

Born, March 3, to Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Brett, of China Theological Seminary, Chiao Tou Djen, a daughter, Yvonne Lynton.

A Week of Prayer and Sacrifice

A SPECIAL WEEK OF PRAYER AND SACRIFICE—MAY 3-9, 1931

In addition to the regular annual week of sacrifice in behalf of missions, appointed for Oct. 4-10, 1931, the observance of which we shall be emphasizing in later issues of the Reporter, a special week of prayer and sacrifice has been appointed for the China Division for May 3-9, 1931.

This special season of prayer, with a sacrificial offering on the closing Sabbath, May 9, has come as the result of a careful review of possibilities in evangelism this very year. The times are propitious for an immediate and long-continued effort to carry on evangelistic campaigns throughout the provinces of China. In many places there are open doors for the entrance of the living preacher. Doors not a few are closed, it is true; but many are open; it is our responsibility to enter. We know not how soon these open doors may be closed in part; but we do know that we must advance in faith. c.

THE SPRING COUNCIL

From March 26 to April 4 the brethren from various union fields were in to attend the Spring Council appointed for Shanghai at Division headquarters, during the time when we might have with us Brethren W. H. Branson and W. H. Williams of the Home Board, Washington, D. C. The Council was preceded by the usual annual constituency meetings of Seminary, Press, and Sanitarium. The reports rendered by those in charge of these institutions, and later by union superintendents in from the field, brought courage to all. God has wondrously blessed, even during times marked with much civil strife and confusion and anarchy in considerable sections of the China field. The net gain made during the past year, are slightly in excess of those of any previous year. We are now in a year that gives promise of more settled conditions, and of opportunity to labor in areas long closed against us; and the prospects are bright for the best year in our history as a mission. Throughout our Council meetings there were sounded notes of courage and of advance. Plans were laid for entering upon evangelistic campaigns on a scale hitherto unattained. Let us pray in faith for results commensurate with Heaven's plan for the many in China who are as yet unwarned.

All in attendance from the unions, have already left for their populous fields, —Pastor O. A. Hall to South China, Pastor B. Petersen to Manchuria, Pastor N. F. Brewer to Central China, Pastor Geo. J. Appel to North China, and Pastor K. H. Wood to his work in East China. From the Sungari-Mongolian Mission we had with us Pastor M. Popow, just returned with his family from furlough. Pastor M. C. Warren, of the West China Union, met with an accident that delayed his return from America until after the Council had closed; and Brother C. A. Woolsey came down from Chungking to serve as the representative of the West China Union.

The Bible studies morning by morning, led by Pastor W. H. Branson, were well attended by our mission workers stationed at Shanghai; and as the meetings progressed, it seemed as if the Lord in special measure blessed us during the devotional hour, bringing to us a spiritual revival and an intense desire to engage in soul-winning endeavor.

Reports of resolutions adopted, and other actions taken during the Council, will appear in our next issue. c.