

# The China Division Reporter

VOL. 6

SHANGHAI, CHINA, FEBRUARY, 1936

No. 2

## Planning for Advances During the Year

*(Extracts from an address given by the president  
of the China Division at the opening of the  
Winter Council, Shanghai, Jan. 23, 1936)*

**I** REGARD this as one of our most important Councils ever held; first, because our work is larger in extent and numbers than before; secondly, inasmuch as we face serious conditions in the earth, and the territory within this Division is one of the world problems to-day. We are aware of our opportunities now, and of God's helping hand. We believe the work will close in a very short time, and we should plan accordingly. We need to hold all we have gained, and to plan on an aggressive advance in a year when many of our workers will be out of the field, in attendance at the General Conference session, or on furlough.

We must plan to staff our border provinces. We have held intact the funds given for this work for the creation of a base with which to operate in these borderlands. To develop and train workers for these fields, is one of our ever-present responsibilities. We learn of great results among native peoples in other lands, — of thousands responding, by giving their hearts to the Lord. We have just such an opportunity now among the tribes-people of China, if we can place our forces into touch with them for the reaping of the harvest.

Mongolia and Tibet are still mission problems before us. We have just begun, as it were, the evangelization of these peoples, with workers stationed along the borders of these lands. Tibet and Mongolia are not provinces like the States of China, but countries with languages, racial characteristics, and religious forms that are distinctive. These countries must be entered. Such an advance must be planned for on a larger scale than we have resources to cover. Our budgets are entirely inadequate to cover plans that we need to set into operation in order to do an effective work for Tibet and Mongolia. We need a base of not less than \$10,000 gold for each of these fields. We are now prepared to launch forth as never before; and our Winter Council of January, 1936, in days to come, will doubtless be recalled as the time when plans were settled upon to enter these farthest fields in an effective way, so as to make sure of completing our task of warning every kindred, tongue, and people throughout the territory for the speedy evangelization of which we are all of one mind and one heart.

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## MISCELLANY

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### "For Thy Sake"

For Thy sake, beloved Lord,  
I will labor in Thy Word;  
On the knees, in patient prayer;  
At the desk, with studious care;  
In the pulpit, seeking still  
There to utter all Thy will.

### In Commemoration: Four Hundred Years of the Printed English Bible

FROM the *Bible Society Record* for July, 1935, we quote a portion of a general announcement of the commemorative exercises to be held in many places throughout the world during the four hundredth anniversary of the printing of the English Bible:

"On October 4, 1535, there came from an unknown press the final sheets of the first printed English Bible, in the text prepared by Myles Coverdale, later Bishop of Exeter. In the four centuries since 1535, the English Bible, in its successive translations, has molded, as has no other book, the very life and thought of the English-speaking people of the world. With the New Testament and the gospels, it has far surpassed in circulation any other book in the world. Its words and its cadences are in our very speech. Its themes have inspired great achievements in literature and in art. It has molded for righteousness the inner character of public institutions. It has been the indispensable guide and companion of millions of persons of every degree and walk of life.

"The completion of these four hundred years should be the occasion for a nationwide expression of gratitude to God for this great gift, and for a new and concerted effort to bring the people . . . into vital touch with its matchless resources. There is no other year at hand when the power of a great commemoration can release such deep and penetrating influences upon our national life. For such a commemoration this Committee covets the thoughtful cooperation of all who value the Bible.

"The nature of the Commemoration in any community will depend primarily upon the initiative and effort of members of the community itself; for no national or regional committee can be responsible for promoting local celebrations or for providing the unreached with Bibles. In every community there will be those whose gratitude for this great book and whose desire to share it will be incentives in working out the best local procedure."

### Journeyings in Borneo

J. G. GJORDING

(Supt. of the Malayan Union)

I HAVE just returned from a very interesting trip to Sarawak, British North Borneo, and Brunei, where our work is advancing steadily. In South Sarawak there are more than a dozen villages the inhabitants of which have styled themselves Seventh-day Adventists. By that they do not mean that they are members of our fold. In the strictest sense of the word they are not Seventh-day Adventist members, but are merely living in villages the majority of whose citizens desire to study the truths we have to offer them.

We baptized five fine young men while we were visiting the Ayer Manis station. The interest in the school is growing.

At our medical station on the Tatau River, Dr. Morrow and his helpers have done splendid work since the departure on furlough of Brother Youngberg and family. As a result, twelve families have been led to leave their old village and to establish what we believe is now the only

Christian village in all Sarawak. These families have nominated a man of their own number as chief, who, as soon as the government sanctions the nomination, will become the headman. The one nominated is the most active lay minister we have in all Sarawak. He never goes anywhere but that he tells the people how he used to be afraid of certain birds, of certain noises, of certain shadows, of certain tones, of certain happenings, and how all this has now passed out of his life, and now he has no fear except his fear of God. Really, it is wonderful how the fear of God makes even the Dyak impervious to all other fears. It will not be long until these twelve families are ready for baptism.

On my return from British North Borneo, I had two days between boats at Labuan, so went over to Brunei, just four hours distant. Brunei is an unfederated Malay state of about thirty thousand inhabitants, chiefly Malays, and is administered by a sultan. Surely the time is at hand when the gospel should be given Brunei's people.

We certainly have every reason to be grateful to God for His manifold blessings bestowed upon His work in Malaya.



A Lay-workers' Bible Class, Yutze, Shansi

(See article, page four)

### Weekly Offerings

(Schedule adopted during Winter Council, Division Committee, January, 1936)

WE RECOMMEND, That the General Conference method of taking up weekly offerings throughout our churches and companies be followed in the China Division, devoting the—

- First Sabbath Offerings to Home Missionary Work
- Second Sabbath Offerings to Foreign Missions
- Third Sabbath Offerings to Educational Work
- Fourth Sabbath Offerings to Local Church Expense
- Fifth Sabbath (if there be a 5th) to Poor Fund (or optional)

## Lessons in Gospel Finance

### From the China Division Treasury

DURING the recent Winter Council of the China Division Executive Committee, a presentation of Division Treasury items covering the past six years, was made one evening by Pastor C. C. Morris, Treasurer. This study, while given as a rapid survey, left upon the minds of the hearers a clear and vivid comprehension of the financial aspects of our growing work,—the receipts of tithes year by year, the Ingathering returns, the Big Week, the Christmas Offerings, the Week of Sacrifice, the *per capita* for missions; also the lessening budget funds, and the amounts allocated the various union and institutional organizations. Not the least illuminating was the presentation, in chart form, of the relationship sustained by various unions as between budget receipts and net returns in gains in church membership.

The entire presentation was illustrated by carefully prepared charts and graphs, giving perhaps the clearest view of Division Treasury matters that has ever been seen by us at an annual council. Some of the returns in offerings were encouraging; others were lower than in former years, the trend being downward. But this is not always an indication of lessened faithfulness, as pointed out by Brother Morris. One of the main features of his report was the enunciation of the general principle that our constant aim must be to make sure of *faithfulness* in tithes and offerings, whatever the trend as regards the totals. "A downward trend does not necessarily indicate non-faithfulness," he stressed, "but rather that the conditions shaping during these closing days of earth's history are such as to make very difficult the maintenance of former averages. *On the other hand, a lessening of returns may indicate lessened interest and fidelity*; and it is our constant responsibility to make sure that the church members are *faithful* in the payment of their tithes, and that they be *taught to abound* in the *grace of liberality*.

"It is not for the best good of the church to permit of any downward trend that comes as a result of a lessening of our endeavors to encourage and stimulate in every proper way the bringing in of the tithes and the giving of substantial offerings."

One of the immediate fruitages of Brother Morris's presentation, was the drafting and adoption by unanimous vote of fresh resolutions on tithes and offerings, and comprehensive plans for promoting the various plans so successful in times past in connection with efforts to increase totals. Harvest Ingathering goals and projects were given attention. Considerable study was made of the Week of Sacrifice plan, and of methods whereby this may be brought to the front as a very vital part of our effort this present year to raise the average of our missions offerings. The Big Week plan, also, received enthusiastic and substantial backing, through the fixing of goals, and the actual placement of orders with the Press for stocks.

A general recommendation was passed, "That we undertake to increase our missions offerings over 1935 by fifteen per cent., in harmony with the General Conference recommendation."

On the promotion and increasing of tithes throughout the China Division, the following resolutions were adopted and ordered spread upon our Minutes as our working basis during the current year:

*Whereas*, A great deal of instruction has been given us regarding the giving of an honest tithe by all, in signal blessing to the givers; and,—

*Whereas*, A faithful tithe-payer is faithful in other matters; and knowing that if all should pay an honest tithe, there would be no lack for funds to carry on our work; therefore,—

RESOLVED, That we endeavor to greatly increase the tithe receipts in the following ways:

(a) By continuing the reading of the selection on tithing prepared by the Division, in all of our churches and chapels each Sabbath before the offering is taken at the preaching service.

(b) By bringing new believers the blessings that will be theirs in tithing their possessions and placing the tithe in the treasury of the Lord.

(c) By preaching at least one sermon to make the line tighter each quarter on some phase of the tithing question; and that frequent reference be made by our workers in their sermons and Bible studies to this important obligation as well as to the many blessings which accrue from its faithful observance.

(d) By encouraging all learners as soon as they understand the tithing-principle, and before baptism, to sign the tithe covenant card, thus entering definitely into a covenant with God to be faithful in bringing all the tithes into the storehouse.

(e) By frequent mention of specific instances in which marked blessings have been received as a result of faithfulness in returning to God all the tithes.

(f) By asking our unions and missions to keep before our membership the importance of faithfulness in tithes and offerings, by distributing tithe leaflets, by writing brief articles and letters to churches and isolated members—pointing out the importance of fidelity in this matter.

(g) By using charts and posters in our chapels in order to promote and encourage the paying of tithes. We suggest, however, that the amount of tithe given by individuals not appear on the chart.

(h) That a comparative statement of tithes and offerings received from the local churches be prepared by each local treasurer, and that a copy be sent to each local church and company; the same to be posted in the chapels.

(i) By employing only those who regularly and faithfully practice tithing as workers in our conferences, institutions, and other organizations; and that our churches elect only faithful tithe-payers to hold office in our churches and Sabbath schools, thus upholding the high standard of leadership in our work.

(j) By asking the Division secretary to prepare a small booklet of stories giving instances of special blessings received by Chinese believers who have been faithful to God in their tithe.

(k) By singing the song, "Bring Ye All the Tithe," in our churches and chapels at the time the tithe is taken up week by week.

## The Hainan Mission

A. L. HAM

THE Hainan Island Mission was organized last May, at the time of their first annual delegate meeting. This followed an action taken by the South China Union Mission in biennial session authorizing this Island field being set off as a local mission. Pastor Woo Tuck Shan was made the director, and later a committee and departmental secretaries were elected, and a new mission was added to the other six in the South China Union.

The work in the Island was first carried on by occasional visits by our colporteurs until Brother Tso Wing Ki moved his family here to take up definite work as a self-supporting worker. The expenses connected with opening a chapel and locating Brother Tso were paid by the Tungshan Church Y.P.M.V. society. They have continued their interest and support right up till the present time. It has been three years since Brother Tso settled here. He is now located at Nam Fung in the southwest part of the Island, where he is in touch with the tribes-people; and recently a small piece of land has been purchased in the Pak Sha district, which is 45 miles farther inland among the tribes-people. Brother and Sister Wang, natives of the Island, who speak five dialects, are to locate there and begin a new mission station for these poor, needy people.

Three new counties have been entered definitely by this mission during the past year, and plans are now being laid to enter a new county early the new year. Brother and Sister Lung are now in Hoihau studying the language and then will take charge of the new station. That will establish our work in the north, south, east and west portions of the Island, from which points other places can be reached and worked. This will make six counties entered in Hainan Island Mission, and six stations. Twenty-nine have been baptized during the past year, and there is a nice group of young people accepting the message. Five students from this field are now attending the school at Canton, while there is an enrolment of 35 children in our school in Hoihau.

Harvest Ingathering results this year were \$230, which is considerably in excess of their goals. Each station and worker took an active part in raising these funds.

The work of the various departments has been promoted very encouragingly through the year.



*Class of lay Bible workers, Sining, Chinghai*

This is a very promising field, and we are anxious that a strong foundation be laid for our work here. Pastor Woo and his associates are of good courage and happy in the work. They are facing the problems with faith in God's blessing and leading in their work for Him.

## The Church now Forming

C. C. CRISLER

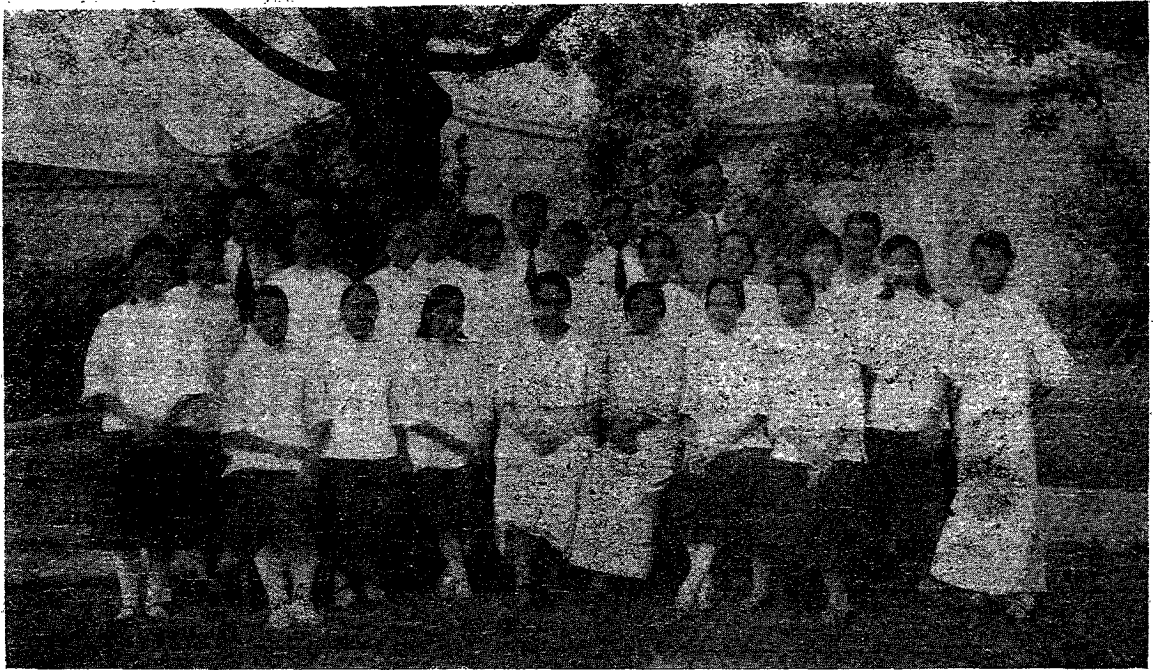
WHEN a strong and cautious nation decides to undertake an intensive campaign in a distant province, or to conduct a colonial war, in the hope of maintaining or adding to lands already possessed, it necessarily sets itself to the task of reviewing its resources, and of consolidating its chief assets and its main lines of self-defense close by, while at the same time encouraging the people to sacrifice in support of those at the front. Men are released to go to distant parts of the country, and at much cost, foodstuffs and supplies for the men going into war, are carefully arranged for; and the sacrifices often are very great, in order that those who have gone into doubtful positions may still have special safeguards and substantial backing vouchsafed them.

Seventh-day Adventists, in carrying this special gospel message to the world, have the unique distinction of being engaged in a campaign that is to be finished in our own day. How glorious is the prospect before us—of engaging in a conquest of territories not yet claimed for Christ, and of completing our task, and of entering into the joy of our Lord! No nation today, no body of disciplined soldiery in mere worldly aggrandizement, no business organization, however diversified its interests and vast its ramifications, can compare with the army of the Lord, of whom we are an integral part; and so, brethren, we have the privilege to-day of linking ourselves anew with Heaven, and of pressing together in this good Advent Movement, and in this conquest of China for Christ.

What a wonderful day is before us! How wonderful the words coming down to us to-day, as we press the battle, advancing, advancing—those words the angels themselves were heard repeating—Press together; press together; press together! And as we press together, and gather strength and courage and inspiration, the Lord will help us advance; and He will give us souls for our hire.

Our joy, our crown, our rejoicing, brethren, is the church now forming. Are we in charge of a congregation? or ten congregations? or a hundred? Has the Master placed us in a section of His vineyard? Does He ask of us returns, a multiplication of the talents entrusted? Does He expect fruitage? Does He anticipate we shall care for this flock, the beautiful flock given? Oh, what a burden shall we bear! We shall be a thousand Pauls, in one united body; and we shall have strength a thousand fold more than had Paul as we unite in this one work of winning the lost, and of seeking out the torn and bleeding ones, and restoring them to the fold.

This will solve Brother Rebok's problem of conservation of the youth—for they are among the lambs and the immature. It will solve Brother Longway's problem; for all will be linked with the Master-worker. Some stay at the base; some create the sinews of war; others go forth to conquer; but the reward is for all.



*A training class for lay Bible workers, 1935, Foochow, Fukien, conducted by  
Pastor V. J. Maloney and associates*

### Training Classes for Lay Bible Workers

E. L. LONGWAY

DURING the last two years six thousand copies of the booklet, "How to Give Bible Readings," have been distributed among the members of our churches over this Division. During the year 1935, in the North China Union Mission alone, five hundred of our church members completed the course, and have been issued certificates of attainment.

When the totals for the various lines of Home Missionary activity for the first nine months of 1935 were made up, it was evident that this campaign of "education" is bearing fruitage in more Bible readings given and reported. This can have but one result: more souls saved in God's kingdom.

Besides voting the recommendations concerning this line of activity as listed below, the Division committee authorized a third edition of 4000 copies of "How to Give Bible Reading." This new edition will soon be coming from the Press, and will be furnished to the field as needed.

I urge upon you the careful study of this series of recommendations as listed below, and your co-operation in carrying them through to complete success.

We recommend (a) That the movement to train lay members be continued and intensified, until every church shall have trained some of its members in the work of giving Bible Readings.

(b) That our colporteurs join actively in this work of giving Bible Readings, and that this work be pro-

moted in a strong way in all our colporteur institutes, making use of ten lessons made available in the book, "How to Give Bible Readings."

(c) That in all our medical and educational institutes we endeavor to conduct a class in "How to Give Bible Readings," encouraging students and nurses in training and institutional helpers to enrol and complete this course.

(d) That the home missionary secretary and the mission director keep in touch with those who have finished the course, and encourage them to persevere in their soul-saving work.

(e) That when a class has completed the course of ten lessons it continue its organization, functioning as a Bible Workers' Band, with the teacher or some other well-trained member of the class elected as leader of the band arranging for at least one meeting per week; and that these bands be urged to use the series of Thirty Bible Readings prepared by the editorial department of the Press.

(f) That the local pastor or district evangelist be urged to recognize these lay Bible workers as his helpers in evangelism, and take special interest in developing and directing their activities.

Section (e) is perhaps the most important of the series. Brother Frederick Lee, just before he left for the homeland, completed this series of Thirty Bible Readings. You will find them most suitable for the purpose intended. Please see that your tract society has a supply on hand to meet the calls that will soon be coming from the churches and companies in your field. Remember that March 7th is the day when this program should be promoted in all our churches.

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## Home Missionary

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### Report of the China Division Home Missionary Dept. — Nine Months of 1935

E. L. LONGWAY

"LIFT up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal." The news items reported recently make an inspiring story of the "sowing and reaping" being done in the China Division by the members of the home missionary society. [These stories, for lack of space here, must appear in a future number of the REPORTER.]

The Big Week campaign for 1935 turned in \$6,242.10 to the mission treasury, and these funds will do much to assist in the development of our educational work in China. Among other projects to benefit is the Foochow Intermediate School. Aside from material benefits, the spiritual benefits are many, as witness this news item from Shantung: Brother Yung Han-chang, of the Tsingtao district, took his Big Week books into a new area. There he visited over sixty villages, sold eighty books, and conducted a number of Bible studies. He found a man who through his own Bible study had discovered the seventh-day Sabbath, and had been keeping it for about a year. The workers at Wehsien went to Ching Chow, where they found people interested in Bible study, and followed up this interest, with the result that seven persons were baptized. A meeting place was provided by these interested ones, and a Sabbath school is now in operation.

In the Harvest Ingathering in the China Division during this year of financial difficulty, God has given us favor with the people in all parts of the Division. Brethren Esteb and Cossentine, visiting the governor in Taian, found him coldly disposed to mission work and pessimistic over the world situation. He doubted the value of the American missionary endeavor while the American government was allowing the manufacture and sale of munitions of war. Brother Esteb took his Chinese Bible from his portfolio and proceeded to explain to the governor that Christ two thousand years ago

had foretold the present condition. One reference led to another, and for two hours Brother Esteb studied the Scriptures with the governor.

Although he had refused to give an Ingathering donation at the first, he now volunteered to contribute \$100. As our brethren left him he said, "Carry on your good work of saving as many as you can; never be discouraged nor give up."

A bank manager in Hankow said, "My salary has been reduced one third, but I'm going to increase my gift this year by \$5.00.

Dr. Miller had promised to raise \$500. As the end of the year approached he had not yet found time to solicit this amount. Rather than disappoint the brethren he wrote his personal check for \$500. On the last day of the year a gift of exactly \$500 to assist in our work in China was handed Dr. Miller by a former patient.

Such experiences could be multiplied many fold, but these few will bring to our attention the many benefits accruing to the China Division through the Harvest Ingathering campaign. While final totals are not available, we anticipate a gain of at least \$2500 over the 1934 returns.

Goals for the two financial campaigns of the department for 1936 indicate no slacking of interest, for the combined goals for 1936 total \$7,950. The 1936 Harvest Ingathering goals total \$70,000.00. Other lines of missionary activity are, The Dorcas Society, larger use of Present Truth and Scripture portions, and an unabated promotion of the Bible Readings Training Class work.

I urge the importance of each union and local mission appointing a full-time secretary to foster and develop the interests of the Home Missionary department. From the experiences of the past year the preciousness of the labors of the laity has been demonstrated. The reports for the first three quarters of 1935 indicate 995 new members added as the result of the work of our laity, being a gain of 101 over the number reported for 1934. This is the great objective of the department, and we hope and pray that the figures may be doubled and trebled during this new year.

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### Ingathering Returns in Hongkong

PASTOR LARSEN, of the Hongkong Seventh-day Adventist church, reports that the Ingathering campaign closing the last day of 1935 brought into the mission treasury \$2,643.75 Hongkong currency. This is surely a most excellent record. It means in Chinese standard dollars \$3,359.51.

Brother Larsen refers hopefully to the plan the brethren have in Hongkong of securing at some future date a permanent church building for the housing of the various spiritual activities centering in that city. He writes most encouragingly of the spiritual blessings enjoyed in recent months at the Hongkong headquarters.

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## "Tidings from the Air"

IN vision the prophet John saw an angel flying in the midst of heaven proclaiming with mighty power God's last ringing message to the nations of the earth. To-day, out of the very heavens, come voices proclaiming to men everywhere the thrilling news of Christ's soon return. To many otherwise inaccessible, the radio is carrying the joyful tidings of the coming of the King. "Tidings from the Air" is a resume of the best talks that have been delivered over the radio in Shanghai by Dr. H. W. Miller, Pastor Frederick Lee, Pastor R. H. Hartwell, and others.

128 pages; well illustrated. Mandarin. Price \$ .40

Signs of the Times Publishing House  
515 Ningkuo Road, Shanghai, China

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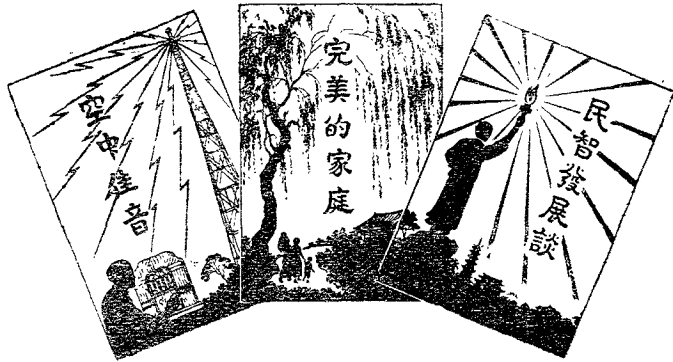
**Harvest Ingathering Supplies**

The layout for the 1936 Harvest Ingathering paper has been completed, and we can safely promise that this year's paper will be a real art treasure, as well as a faithful pictorial representation of our work in every union of the China Division. The printing order for these papers and supplies has been placed with the Signs Press.

It is still six months until the time these papers and supplies will be needed, but we are anxious that all orders be in hand in the very near future. Please review your supply of promotion materials, and also your order for the Ingathering papers. Any increase in your orders, or special shipping instructions, should be forwarded directly to the Signs Press management, 515 Ningkuo Road, Shanghai, China.

Thorough preparation at this time will mean much to the success of our campaign this fall. E. L. LONGWAY

**"The Busy Man's Library"**



Busy men everywhere will welcome the new Busy Man's Library Set

- "The Nation's Progress" by D. E. Rebock
- "The Ideal Home" by Mrs. E. G. White
- "Tidings from the Air" Shanghai Radio Talks

Just what the busy business man is looking for!  
Just what the colporteur has been waiting for!

One dollar per set

SIGNS OF THE TIMES PUBLISHING HOUSE  
515 NINGKUO ROAD, SHANGHAI

**Resolutions Regarding the "Shepherd's Call"**

(Adopted during Winter Council, China Division Committee, January, 1936)

Whereas, The Shepherd's Call has been brought into existence and has been published these many years with the object of supplementing the efforts of our mission officers, pastors, and evangelists in building up the spiritual life and work of the church, and preparing a people for the soon-coming of the Lord, —

We recommend, 1. That this paper be recognized by our mission leaders and workers as a medium of communication of their messages, plans for labor, and reports of accomplishments to the entire church in China, and that workers be invited anew to make contributions to this church paper and thus in a general way give the entire constituency in China the benefit of their teaching and experience.

2. That a very special effort be made during 1936 to place this paper regularly in every Seventh-day Adventist home, —

(a) By our workers in their public work and their visits to the homes and churches of our people, keeping this goal constantly upon their hearts, and presenting the value of this paper to our people;

(b) That Shepherd promotion efforts be made in every revival effort, and in institutes and general meetings all through the year;

(c) That again during the 1936 Week of Prayer a final effort of the year be made to lead all our people to provide for themselves this means of spiritual instruction and growth.

3. That in order that our workers and people may obtain the greatest possible help from this paper, —

(a) That all be encouraged to a more thorough reading and study of the contents of the paper;

(b) That we encourage our workers and members to preserve these papers, and suggest that they bind and file them for future reference;

(c) That our evangelists and church officers make use of the articles and quotations contained in the paper, in an interesting way in connection with their sermons, Bible readings, prayer meetings and missionary meetings.

4. That the goal for the Shepherd subscription list for 1936 be 3,500, distributed as follows:

Central China	500
South China	700
West China	250
Manchuria	350
East China	900
North China	500
Northwest China	300

That each union apportion its goal to the local missions, and each mission apportion the same to its local churches.

**Translations into Mandarin, of Writings of Ellen G. White**

"Experiences and Views" (Mandarin and Wenli).—An abridgment of the book "Early Writings." 100 pages. Paper cover. Price, 25 cents.

"Christ Our Saviour" (Mandarin and Wenli).—The story of our Saviour's life and work on earth, told in a way to appeal to the heart. 72 pages. Paper cover. Price, 30 cents.

"Steps to Christ" (Mandarin).—True to its name, this little book points the way to Jesus as a personal Saviour and Friend, and guides the Christian to the fullest enjoyment of service for Him. 118 pages. Paper cover. Price, 10 cents.

"Gospel Workers."—A translation of the first seven sections of the English "Gospel Workers." Contains helpful and timely instruction for all who would be successful soul-winners. 292 pages. Paper cover edition, specially priced at 25 cents; printed on better paper and bound in imitation limp leather, specially priced at \$1.00.

## With Our Union Mission Superintendents

Reports rendered by heads of Unions  
during the recent Winter Council

### South China Union

(Synopsis of report rendered by Pastor A. L. Ham during the Annual Winter Council, Shanghai, Jan. 23-29, 1936)

THE years 1930 to 1936 in the South China Union have been years of advance in "finishing the work" under unusual difficulties. The world depression which settled down on China, and especially on South China, has brought many perplexities during 1935. But God has manifestly blessed that which has been available as He blessed the meal and oil in the days of the prophets. During this period the Island of Hainan has been opened to the message, believers have been baptized and the field organized into a local mission with five stations in as many counties. The sanitarium in Canton has been completed and opened to the public, and a camp established for those afflicted with tuberculosis. A new girls' school building has been erected in Amoy by Sister B. L. Anderson and presented by her to the mission as a gift to the cause. Well located property has been purchased in Nanning and Wuchow upon which churches have been erected. And we have a beautiful church building in the city of Amoy.

Public efforts and revival meetings as well as week-end conventions have been held, resulting in 297 baptisms during 1935. Thirteen new counties were entered during the year. The membership now stands at 3,466; the net gain for 1935 being 257.

We have enrolled in our three middle schools and thirty-three primary schools a total of 1,351 students. Fifty-four advanced students are attending the China Training Institute, nine of whom are ministerial interns. The trend of the Sabbath school department is indicated by twelve new Sabbath schools, increased membership, and increased offerings, and that of the publishing department by an increase in sales of \$3,086.00 over the previous year. Home missionary activities have been faithfully promoted by the secretaries of that department and others. I should men-

tion the faithful work of C. F. Larsen in the Harvest Ingathering work in Hongkong. The Lord has greatly blessed his faithful labors.

Our medical work is represented by one sanitarium, three hospitals and dispensaries and one tuberculosis camp. The Lord has blessed this branch of His work in our union. The hospital at Nanning, Kwangsai, in charge of Dr. D. D. Coffin, has shown a steady growth, last year being the best. The doctor and his staff have shown a very commendable spirit of helpfulness in a time of great need. We desire to express our appreciation for the persevering efforts of Pastor E. L. Longway and Sister John Oss in securing funds for the Canton Sanitarium. Surely no workers could have done more. We are grateful also to Brother E. C. Wood for his supervision of the construction work, and to Dr. Miller, the Division Committee and the Shanghai Sanitarium Board for all they have done and are doing in the establishment of this new institution.

God has given His servants liberal hearts. Some of our workers have used personal funds to keep from releasing workers or cutting salaries, or allowing debt to result in operating. This spirit of sacrifice and helpfulness has enabled us to close the books of nearly all of our missions and institutions in a satisfactory condition.

Our tithe receipts for 1935 were \$27,535.32, the native tithe for this year being \$20,355.56. Sabbath school offerings amount to \$7,892.91, showing a gain over the previous year. Harvest Ingathering totals \$11,052.87; Missions Extension, \$1,546.92; literature sales, \$31,849.60. We thank God for all these indications of His special blessings.

We will not list our needs, except those we have in common with others. Concerning the Master we are told that "He was possessed of but one purpose in life; He lived to bless others." May this be the motive which prompts us to service as we press on in the "advance, to the finishing of the work."

### North China Union Mission

(Synopsis of report rendered by Pastor W. J. Harris at the Spring Council, Shanghai, January 28)

WITH the close of 1935 we come to the end of an important five-year period. In the North China field these years have witnessed more than double the progress of the previous twelve years, since the North China Union was organized. At the close of 1929 our membership stood at 547; by the end of 1935, 1,827, showing a net gain of 1,280 for these past six years. In the past five years 1,427 have been baptized in this field.

The Lord has blessed also in other lines. Our literature sales for the five years 1930-1935 total \$165,842.85; and for the previous twelve years, or from the beginning of the literature work in North China, \$114,309.69. In other words, we have sold \$51,533.18 more literature in the past five years than during the previous twelve. As you travel by rail from Shanghai to Peiping, every station at which your train may stop from the southern border of Shantung to Peiping has been worked by our faithful colporteurs. At least 272 of our 397 *hsiens* have been worked by the colporteurs during 1935.

During this period several new missions have been organized in the union. In 1929 there were only three provincial missions. The Shensi Mission was organized in 1929; the Mongolian Mission in 1931; Cha-Shui Mission in 1932; Jehol, our last entered field, in 1933. Thus these five years have been a time of expansion in North China. Within the period has been built the North China hospital at Kalgan and our union school at Fengtai, — built largely from funds raised in North China through the Harvest Ingathering campaign.

One of the most encouraging features of our work the past year has been the development made by our North China Training Institute at Fengtai. Brother G. G. Hamp, formerly of the Central China Union, is doing splendid work here. With the addition of the tenth grade at Fengtai, we have also given a one-year evangelistic course for the training of workers for the border fields. These two features have aided in the good progress the Institute has made. Our enrolment this year is 82.



A special grant of \$1,825 gold for advance work in our border provinces has enabled us to open several new stations. Jehol opened the stations of Chihfeng and Chiaoyang, having secured evangelists from Shansi and Shantung for this work. Cha-Sui established a new station, brought in a field secretary, and is adding still another evangelist for 1936. A Bible woman has also been added. Five scholarships have been provided from these special funds, allowing five workers to come into Fengtai for one year of special evangelistic training.

The work of literature ministry is enthusiastically fostered by Pastor A. A. Esteb, our departmental secretary. The Mongolian Press has issued our first Mongolian subscription book, and already 125 copies have been sold. During the few years of its existence, this press has published more literature in Mongolian (aside from the Bible itself) than the combined efforts of Protestant missions in their century of labor for the Mongolian people.

A few figures will give some idea of developments. Thirty-six outstations are being operated; there are 98 evangelistic workers; 60 *hsiens* are occupied; there are 1,827 church members; 272 *hsiens* have been worked by the colporteurs; there have been 252 baptisms the past period of twelve months; Sabbath school offerings, \$3,150.95; Harvest Ingathering, \$9,315.23; literature sales, \$28,439.46. And the work represented by these figures was done with a reduced staff of both foreign and native workers.

One of the most interesting and at the same time most difficult parts of our field is Mongolia. Mongolia flings out her challenge to the heralds of the Advent movement.

"Shall we whose souls are lighted  
with wisdom from on high?  
Shall we to men be lighted the lamp  
of life deny?  
Salvation, O salvation! the joyful  
sound proclaim  
'Till earth's remotest nation has  
learned Messiah's name."

This is our task for Mongolia the present year. We are asking Brother and Sister Christensen to move from Kalgan up to Durban-Hodok on the plains and there establish a mission headquarters. We are undertaking to start a school for the Mongol boys and are calling for a doctor to come out and join Brother Christensen in his work. As we advance into this field of need, one of the most difficult and one of the

most challenging in all the world, will you not join us in earnest prayer for strength and guidance in behalf of these men and women who must bear the major portion of burden in this important task.

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## The Manchurian Union Mission

(Report rendered during Division Winter Council, January 17-30, 1936)

PASTOR N. F. BREWER, in his report of the Manchurian Union Mission, included the following items to show that 1935 had been the best year in the history of that mission:

Four new stations were opened up during the year, and two new chapels were built, one-half of the expense being borne by the local churches. The new company at Lindien, the last station opened up in our union, is preparing to build a new chapel this year.

Several new interests have sprung up because of the work of isolated members; as the result new Sabbath schools have been established.

Two hundred ninety-seven precious souls were baptized during 1935, — more than for the first twelve years of work in this union.

At the end of the third quarter there were 52 Sabbath schools with an average membership of 2,018. During 1935 seven new Sabbath schools were opened. The Sabbath

school offerings for the year were \$4,148.60, which is a good gain over 1934.

You will notice in the December Press report that the Manchurian Union stands second in the list of unions for subscriptions to the Chinese *Signs*. At present 11,646 subscriptions to the Chinese *Signs* are going to the homes of the people monthly. If we were to add 2,334 Korean and Japanese *Signs* subscriptions taken in our field last year, it would total 13,980, thus doubtless taking first place in *Signs* subscriptions. Brother Larsen and his corps of loyal local field men and faithful colporteurs sold \$40,513.95 worth of gospel literature during 1935. This shows a gain in sales of \$8,456.52. Of the total sales, \$5,056.15 was for Korean and Japanese literature.

Several new stations have been opened as the direct result of colporteur work.

We are happy to report good gains in our church members' tithes and offerings. The total union tithe for the year was \$14,633.18. The total offerings received were \$8,794.95

Our eyes are on the vast stretches in our union where this truth is not now being preached, and where millions are in darkness without hope and without God in the world. Our local committees are giving serious thought and prayerful study as to how best to open these large unentered areas. May the Lord give us great faith and vision as we plan for advancement.

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## A Preacher Such as Paul

"Would I describe a preacher, such as Paul,  
Were he on earth, would hear, approve, and own,  
Paul should himself direct me. I would trace  
His master-strokes, and draw from his design.  
I would express him simple, grave, sincere,  
In doctrine uncorrupt; in language plain,  
And plain in manner; decent, solemn, chaste,  
And natural in gesture; much impress'd  
Himself, as conscious of his awful charge,  
And anxious mainly that the flock he feeds  
May feel it too; affectionate in look,  
And tender in address, as well becomes  
A messenger of grace to guilty men."

— Cowper.

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## Multiplying Agencies

### Strengthening the Ministry

*(Resolutions adopted during Winter Council, China Division, January, 1936)*

*Whereas*, In these days of wide-spread culture and enlightenment, the successful prosecution of the work of the ministry calls for adequate preparation and continuous mental and spiritual growth; and, —

*Whereas*, We are told that "there must be far more personal responsibility, far more thinking and planning, far more mental power brought into the labors put forth for the Master;" and, —

*Whereas*, "Their whole experience in their high calling is cheapened because ministers are content to remain where they are;" and, —

*Whereas*, Many of our losses are undoubtedly due to superficial work on the part of our ministry and to the fact that many of our workers have not had an adequate preparation for their work, —

*Resolved*, That our union and local mission committees give careful study to the strengthening of the ministry, —

(a) By the holding of ministerial training institutes for periods of from six to eight weeks, at which time definite instruction can be given on the Bible, pastoral training, and denominational endeavor courses, and that the credit for courses completed at such institutes apply on the Five-Year Course for Evangelists.

(b) That our union and local mission officers make special efforts to enrol every evangelistic worker in the Five-Year Course for Evangelists.

(c) That special efforts be made to enrol all our workers in the reading courses.

(d) That encouragement be given our workers to seek constantly for that heart-preparation that will materially assist them in their ministry and to make most effective the knowledge being gained through pursuing the courses of study as outlined; thus preparing them to be workers that need not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

## Exhibits from Training Institutes at the Canton Medical Conference

A. L. HAM

THERE was a fairly comprehensive exhibit made of various lines of our work in China during the recent Medical Conference held in Canton. We secured two rooms located on the ground floor of the new Canton Hospital building which was dedicated during the Conference, and was the place where the Conference was held.

Brother Brett, of the China Training Institute, was present from the very first, and displayed in one room the hospital furniture made by the Institute. His was indeed a very attractive exhibit, and drew many compliments from visitors. He also received many orders, and made contacts which doubtless will result in future orders.

In the next room were shown health foods manufactured by the Shanghai Sanitarium and Hospital, the China Training Institute, and the S. Y. S. Food Factory in Canton. There were also some other industrial products displayed, such as brooms manufactured by the Training Institute in Central China; and handwork done by the girls of the Canton Training Institute under the direction of Mrs. E. G. Annofsky. Our health literature was one of the special attractions in this room, and many people were seen looking over these books and magazines. Really, we have a health literature in both the English and Chinese languages to be proud of. Attendants explained to visitors our aims and plans along health lines, and told about our health program in China as well as elsewhere in the world.

One very attractive device used was a large map of China with little colored electric lights indicating the location of our many sanitariums and dispensaries and our most important training institutes over the whole country. This map caused a great deal of comment and many expressions of surprise as the visitors learned how the medical work has spread out over the land. Thus the Lord's work, with which we have the honor to be connected, was, we believe, favorably presented to many people through these exhibits. Pastor V. M. Hansen had charge of the exhibits in the second room.

We trust that through this presentation of the various endeavors

we are engaged in throughout China, a favorable impression was made upon the minds and hearts of those attending this Conference, and that much good may result.

## The Uplifting Power of the Gospel Message

JOHN OSS

THIS morning as I listened to the testimonies of the workers and believers gathered in the Shensi annual meeting, I was impressed anew with the power of the gospel to change the lives of those who have accepted Christ as their personal Saviour. During the meeting one of the first to testify was a man who is now a leader in one of our small country churches. He related how he had been an opium smoker for eighteen years, and how the gospel had given him power to overcome this habit. Now he was rejoicing in the freedom that he had found in Christ Jesus.

Another brother had given up a good position because he could not keep the Sabbath, saying "it was impossible for him to serve God and mammon." Now in spite of difficulties he is operating a self-supporting school. He closed his remarks by saying he rejoiced in being able to give his life in service for Jesus.

Another interesting testimony was given by a young man who had recently joined the church. He told how he had overcome gambling and opium-smoking. He had tried many times in his own strength to break these evil habits that were pulling him down, and had failed; but when he had accepted Christ as his Saviour, he had received power to overcome both these vices.

As the believers one by one gave their testimonies, our hearts were touched. It was difficult to bring the meeting to a close, as one after another arose to testify of what Christ had done for them.

Truly the gospel message is doing its work in China. As one sees these souls who were once bound by the vise of sin now rejoicing in the hope of Jesus' soon return, "new creatures in Christ Jesus," the heart is made glad, and new courage comes to press on the work of saving souls for the kingdom,

Sianfu, China  
November 1, 1935

# Trends and Responsibilities

C. C. CRISLER

*Annual Report, China Division Secretary,  
Winter Council, Shanghai, Jan. 23, 1936, 4 p. m.*

TO-DAY we meet as members of Christ's church upon earth, and also as representatives of the hundreds of millions comprising more than a fifth of all the peoples of this world. We have come together to consider anew our relationship with our Heavenly Father and with the many men and women in this land who have not yet heard of a Saviour, much less believed on His name. Let us at this time give thought to those memorable petitions included in the prayer that Christ offered in behalf of His disciples as they were about to be thrown upon their own resources, as it were, and be sent forth to labor under conditions that were new and that at times would be most perplexing. It is noteworthy that when so especially burdened for His beloved followers, Christ was likewise burdened in behalf of those who would be brought into the Christian faith through their witness. He linked inseparably in the minds of these chosen ones their own spiritual status as a determining factor of success in discharging their responsibility toward the unwarned.

"Neither pray I for these alone," He said; "but for them also which shall believe on Me through their word; that they all may be one; as Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be one in us: *that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me.* And the glory which Thou gavest Me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and Thou in Me, that they may be made perfect in one; and *that the world may know that Thou hast sent Me, and hast loved them, as Thou hast loved Me.*" John 17:20-23.

Whatever our assigned responsibility, whatever our sphere of labor, we are closely linked both with the Master-Worker and with one another. And the Father's hand is seen to-day as a directing and enabling force, encouraging us to press together in unity and love while advancing in His name. United with Heaven and with one another, we are assured of success, and may finish in triumph the work undertaken in faith.

The past few months I have made a discovery in connection with the history of the development of our Mission in China, that has done my soul an infinite amount of good. I have discovered that the more closely I look into the deeds of my associate workers, and measure their motives and their real aims, the more I can see the Hand of God in our work; and furthermore, the more I can see of my Master in my own brethren and sisters. It has been a great privilege to review the borderlands; and the farther I have gone into this, the nearer I have been brought to men in the older fields of China who are actually holding the ropes. For it is a fact that advancements into far places are inseparably linked with plannings and sacrifices and hearty support in home bases. The farther we go into the interior, and the more we spread, the closer must we press together where we are supposedly strong, and the greater must be our sacrifices in the older centers in behalf of that which we are launching beyond our own borders. This is a law that rules in missionary activities not only here in China, but all over the earth.

When we find a man who is giving himself wholly to this cause, we find a man who is living with his Lord, and is partaking of his Lord's Spirit; and in his life we see reflected the spirit of the Master.

And so I come to you, brethren, this afternoon, to bear witness that in dwelling with my brethren this year and in going over the story of the Advent Movement in China, I have learned anew that God is ruling in the hearts of His children, and that He is working with them and through them. The fruitage is good; for the Source is good.

One of the fruits being borne month by month and quarter by quarter, is the array of figures we publish

from time to time, measuring thus as best we can our relative progress. Those figures are eternally with us. The blanks come in; a fixed day is given when they must all be spread on the record; that day comes, and the figures are released; they are cast up, and here are the records as they appear to-day. But these soon pass; a new list of figures is even now forming. While we sit together, studying the nine months of returns, we recognize that a year has gone into eternity, and we are already in one of those last few years remaining to the people of the Lord for labor.

I am deeply interested in the returns of the year 1935 now closed, and of the year 1936 on which we have entered; and, most of all, brethren, am I interested in the great world of souls yet to hear. How important it is that we bear ever in mind that we are messengers of grace! This message we bear is a message of mercy, of hope, of salvation, as well as a message of solemn warning. And while we warn, we are also to entreat; while we preach of a day of Judgment that is to come, we are to show forth in daily practice the great love and compassion of Him who is touched with the feeling of our infirmities. We are to have before us the vision of a finished work—cut short in righteousness; we are to have the spirit of every true priest of Heaven,—a spirit that is touched by the infirmities of our fellow men, and that leads us to seek after the straying and the lost. Such a spirit will take care of the resolutions we frame about looking after the church records, and about applying discipline. It will teach us how to lift up the fallen, and help many a disheartened one to start anew in the strength of Christ. In our recognition of the Saviour's love and forbearance as manifested toward our own shortcomings and sins, we shall learn to bear with the shortcomings and sins of these people we are undertaking to win for the Kingdom.

This spirit will drive us to live more and more with our colporteurs, to draw near to them in times of temptation; to be able to say to them in truth, "I have prayed for thee that thy faith fail not." Brother Liu Djung-gwang this summer took with him three colporteurs whom he had borrowed from East Hunan, and used them as his treasury; for he was to travel through territory that was very unsafe for one who carried money on his person. Pastor Liu was searching out a scattered and torn flock in western *hsiens* of Hunan. Do you not think that my own heart is touched, when I read a passage like this from Brother Liu's letter: "I was searching out the members of the scattered and torn flock, and visiting in their homes; and we had meetings with them for a week or ten days"? And those colporteurs? Why, they were trying to earn Brother Liu's travel money, by canvassing while he himself sought out the lost. When they finally reached the Miao districts, they had had money for their trip; and the tract society credits were sufficient to cover every one of those lads' accounts, and give them a scholarship apiece in one of our middle schools.

Well, brethren, we are bidden feed the sheep, and the lambs; and the one who was bidden by the Saviour to do this was that poor fellow who only a few days before had actually denied his Lord. Surely we need to have our hearts broken, as was Peter's. We need to get together, at such times as this, to survey our situation, and our privilege of loving as brethren, and of putting away our little differences—and some of those that seem greater, as well; and of pressing together before the throne of grace. Of our Council there remain only a

few short days; but we may use these in getting together, brethren, as never before. We are workers together when we are workers with God. Those called of heaven into holy service, are called into brotherly fellowship and union of endeavor.

In reviewing statistical data, we may gain not only relatively accurate knowledge of net accomplishments, but of future trends and responsibilities as well. From careful analyses of statistics we may learn what should be undertaken or changed in order to bring about larger net returns in days to come, and make sure also of arriving at our goals.

Of trends and responsibilities, may I call attention in particular to the gradual yet steady development of our leading departments. Looking upon the figures of merely the past year, or nine months of the year, as the case may be (for returns have not yet come in from all parts of the broad field), we may not fully know even trends with certainty; but these we may know upon examination of the annual totals year by year over a series of years. And as we make such an examination, we are constrained to recognize the special blessing of Heaven upon those connected with the departments forming integral factors in our denominational advance. That there is marked progress, cannot be gainsaid; and in several of the departments this progress may be noted as truly phenomenal.

It is thus, surely, with our publishing department, the general trend of which has been steadily upward. The figures of the year 1935 do not indicate, it is true, as much of gross sales as may have been reported in recent previous years; but there are nevertheless advances. The decrease in price on some of the literature, has brought about a distribution of perhaps a larger number of pages than formerly, but with less of financial return; and it is primarily in distribution that we are at heart concerned when weighing relative values. And the advance into many *hsiens* by our colporteurs, continues unabatedly. In some sections, notably in North China and in Manchuria, a movement has been developing, as fostered by Pastors Esteb and Larsen and others, of having colporteurs of special ability endeavor to visit and canvass every village of selected *hsiens* where such work can be done by the aid of bicycles. Pastor Oss has brought out in his annual report the fact that never before have the essentials of saving gospel truth been more attractively set forth, than during 1935. And the spiritualizing of our colporteur-evangelistic agencies, has been continuing apace. In all this we rejoice; for in literature distribution over extended areas, is one of our basic methods of giving to China's peoples the message for our day, in preparation for our Lord's return.

Our world's Sabbath School department is nearly as old as the publishing; here, also, marked progress has taken place. In our world averages of funds raised for missions beyond the provinces and lands already more or less permanently occupied and evangelized, we have learned to regard the old established groups of churches and companies as "home bases" where the Church is largely self-supporting. And these "home bases" have for twenty or thirty years been maintaining a general average, in Sabbath school offerings, of sums equal to approximately half the entire amounts used for carrying the gospel message to "the regions beyond." This marvelous achievement is now being duplicated, in one sense, here in China; for there are established sections of the China Division field that we may now properly begin to regard as "home bases" for the support of work in the borderlands round about—this Division's "regions beyond"—for such our borderlands are in fact. The total net budget of the thirteen borderland missions benefiting from the special appropriation made by the Home Board last spring, was listed in the current budget estimates as \$34,055.04, which in reality had been reduced to less than \$30,000 prior to the addition of the \$25,650 made possible by the Home Board's addition to our former budget bases for these "regions beyond" of our Division territory. Now, even with the additional sums made available, the base budgets aggregate scarcely \$55,000 Chinese standard currency for the entire list (exclusive of the few foreign workers, whose expense is otherwise met by the Home Board appropriations year by year). Our Sabbath school gifts in the Division total about \$39,000 Chinese standard currency for the past year, which is about 71% of the total. In fact, were we to think in terms of the net

budgets of all these borderlands of our Division, and include therein Shansi, Shensi, and the whole of Szechwan East and West, and the two borderland missions of Manchuria as well, the Sabbath School offerings now given year by year in our Division would meet half the total amounts expended for Class 1-A work in these fields, exclusive of those sums covered by regular appropriations from the Home Board for the few foreign workers in those parts. Surely there are possibilities in the development of financial resources through the agency of the Sabbath School department, that should bring large hope and courage to every heart.

Of relative fruitfulness in soul-winning, as between these newly opened sections of the Division, and the older missions, it is too early to report with accuracy; but the trends indicate that the general averages maintained of total net gains of eleven hundred or more in our church membership for the years 1930 to 1935, will be paralleled by like gains in 1935, bringing our church membership by the close of 1935 to about 15,650. This should not be counted as a final figure, but it is within a hundred of being correct. Of the net gains in church membership, estimated as 1,100 for the year in our thirty-nine provincial missions, approximately 40% are coming to us direct from the "borderlands" of our field. The possibilities in net returns in soul-winning in our newly opened provinces, are limitless.

In the spiritual guidance and the training of our children and youth, through the educational and Y.P.M.V. departments and the Home Commission, reports already received give cause for gratitude to God. We should patiently yet determinedly strive after the ideal of meeting the plans as outlined by these departments—and in particular is this vital in the educational features of our advance. The constructive contribution being made by this department toward the conservation of the goodly heritage already within our homes and institutes of training, is one that should have the firm and unwavering support of every worker in this cause; for herein, also, lie potential possibilities in soul-winning and in accessions to our church, beyond any calculations ordinarily made. From within, our gains should be as large year by year as are the gains at present from without—and they might be, if all were of one heart and one mind in fostering the interests of our youth throughout our ranks.

Some of the most outstanding and instructive of all our statistical summaries, are connected with the outcome of campaigns conducted under the auspices of the home missionary department. In nearly all the more comprehensive statistical reports, one column is devoted to a recording of the ever mounting returns through the Harvest Ingathering campaigns. The Big Week sales, also, are being watched with enthusiasm. And as for the giving of Bible readings, and the free distribution of literature among friends and neighbors, and visits to the homes of such, and Christian Help work, the results, while difficult to calculate and report, are nevertheless substantial, as witness the report for the third quarter of 1935, naming the total of accessions of members brought into church fellowship through baptism by the labors of our lay members, as having been 453 for the three-month period—a most remarkable figure, when we recall that for the entire Division our *net* gain in church members during that same period totals 415, the entire list of baptisms having been 551. We may at least observe with accuracy that the *trend* is wholly right, and warranting our putting forth every reasonable effort to stimulate further labors on the part of our dear brethren and sisters throughout our ranks.

Mention might be made in detail of results attained through the ministrations of the medical department, in which to-day there are listed many engaged in medical evangelistic endeavor—a total of 486 workers, which is as many as workers of all classes in the China Division only 18 years ago. How marvelously has the Lord gone before us in this great departmental advance!

In the large, it may be reported of the past year's averages (full and detailed figures not yet being available for the closing quarter), that in departmental advances there are many reasons for encouragement. And it is well that these many branches of our organization be strongly promoted and constantly kept to the front. Not one department has become too strong; every

one should be encouraged to continue to develop in power and influence. In proportion as we encourage initiative and achievement in these various lines, shall we attain our many goals. But it is essential that controlling committees carefully study the totals in our statistical summaries, in order to make sure that the fine art of maintaining a proper balance as among all these interlocking departmental endeavors, shall be continued. And herein lies one elemental fact in connection with our 1935 advances, that should lead to a survey of our responsibility during the year 1936 upon which we have entered. I refer to our need of making sure, this year, of a more than ordinarily extensive evangelistic advance, and of undertaking great things in soul-winning through the preaching of the Word, and through entrance into *hsien* after *hsien* hitherto untouched by us in any permanent manner.

For, brethren, the commission of old to those disciples that were the precursors of all who have since followed their Master's bidding, was to preach the gospel. And as the Saviour when giving the commission to go forth, "said unto them," so to-day He says unto us, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." As we meditate upon this, the Lord by His Spirit brings to us yet another word spoken by Him in prophetic anticipation of our day and of our heavy responsibility; namely, "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and *then shall the end come.*"

Trends indicate probable results, and bring home to us our responsibilities; and in our statistical review of the past year we must take note of two or three trends that surely should command our prayerful consideration, to the end they may be immediately remedied. We have room for improvement in the bringing up of our tithes and offerings; and to this financial privilege we may well address ourselves throughout the present year, in order to make sure the trend be right in our next annual summary as for the year 1936. And we can go far toward doing this, if only we plan for it early in the year, and keep at it in a way that will help our brethren and sisters to recognize in the grace of liberality, and in faithful tithing, a two-fold means of adding to the spiritual upbuilding of the individual members of the church, and of our organization in its entirety.

The second trend is equally evident, and serious withal; namely, the lessening number of our net gains in membership year by year. This trend is not seemingly heavy as yet; for with our net increases year by year of upwards of a thousand, without a break for seven consecutive years, including the year under review, we do have ground for encouragement. The maintenance of the general average, however, is not in keeping with our increasing membership, which should bring to us added power in soul-winning. With nearly sixteen thousand members at work to-day, our power to add to our membership should surely be greater than when in the year 1929 we recorded the accession of a net increase of a little more than a thousand members. In that year there were only eight thousand members at work, to win the thousand; now, with double the number of baptized believers, our gains should be doubled, at the least; in reality, according to scriptural methods of calculation, when two have so much more of potential power than one, we should be trebling and quadrupling that thousand average. And by the grace of the Lord, we may.

Yet another trend, it would seem, is a lessening of average gains in *hsien* occupancy. Herein, also, we have opportunity of girding up anew the loins of our determination and going forward in this occupancy with ever gathering momentum.

We are a people greatly beloved of Heaven, brethren and sisters; and as Heaven's chosen ones we are thrown together in the bonds of Christian love and fellowship. Let us make sure that we love as brethren, and that our fellowship be sweet. It may be—and it must be; for only as we are workers together with God and laboring in fullest unison of effort shall we find that these peoples will be led to know that the Father has sent us and may be constrained to enter that place of power where God through a united people, may finish His work in China.

## Educational Dept.

### A Proper Landscaping of the School Grounds

*A Landscaping Adventure of the Junior Garden Clubs of America*

There are many reasons, almost too numerous to mention, why every school, be it large or small, would profit greatly by well-planted and attractive grounds.

The effects of beauty, care, and order upon the plastic minds of children will be evident throughout their entire lifetime. A child who has daily entered well-planted and attractive school grounds, will not later turn a deaf ear to conservation projects and beautification of public grounds. There was a time when as young people we looked forward to our trips to the parks. In the same way, we can bring our children to look forward with pleasure to their schools by making them interesting and attractive to the eye.

The value of well-planted school grounds in training pupils in nature, is becoming more evident each year. There is no better method of awakening and retaining a child's interest in nature and the school, than to allow him to take part in the planning, planting, labeling, and caring for the plant life on the school grounds.

There are few schools without some surrounding ground. A portion must, of course, be used for the playground. This may be set off to itself preferably back of the school. To the side and front of the building is usually the best location for planting and gardens.

It is wisest to have a landscape architect draw plans for the grounds, as time-energy, and plants will be saved in the end, and more satisfactory results will be obtained.

If, however, this is impossible, and the school board leaves the teachers, parent-teachers' associations, and children to do

the planting, it would be wise first to place the background planting along lot lines and the foundation of the schoolhouse. When building a house, do we not always lay the foundation and then put up the walls. So it is with planting the garden. First, make your wall or boundary planting of shrubs, and then plant around the foundation of the buildings. For this purpose it is wise to use different varieties of hardy shrubs that are easily grown. For high growing shrubs of six to ten feet, the honeysuckle bushes in variety are hardy, quick growers, and produce an abundance of sweet-scented flowers and attractive berries. The Viburnums are beautiful both in flower and fruit, but often need a nicotine spraying because of the aphid pest that seems to enjoy them. Lilacs are ever beautiful and hardy, but rather slow growers. Witch-hazels, elderberries, dogwoods, and sumacs all offer charming material for high informal plantings in the background or along the boundary line. If a formal clipped hedge is wanted, the lovely gray Russian-olive, wild hawthorn, Japanese barberry, or Amur privet will be satisfactory. Should the grounds be very large, informal clusters of shrubs in variety of three to seven each as we show in our cut-out plans along the boundary line, will offer more interest. The clipped formal hedge planted in straight lines is more fitting to the small grounds, as it becomes monotonous and uninteresting used on large stretches. In front of the background planting of shrubs, may be placed the flower border. If the grounds are large and the border long, inundating or gently curving lines are used for the flower border. If, however, a clipped hedge background is used, the straight line border is better.

Each grade in the school might be responsible for certain flower families in the school garden. For instance, the upper units such as fifth and sixth graders are capable of caring for the larger plants for background planting against the shrubs; such varieties as hollyhocks, plumepoppy (*Boccania*), peonies in variety, perennial asters or Michaelmas daisies, and chrysanthemums.

The fourth- and fifth-grade students

might be responsible for the flowers that are to be planted in front of the taller growing ones just mentioned; plants of medium height such as daisies, columbines, marguerites, Iris, daylilies (*Hemerocallis*) and Oriental poppies.

The third and fourth grades will enjoy planting the tulip and daffodil bulbs as well as forget-me-nots and pansies.

The kindergarten, first and second grades will be responsible for the border planting of violets, nasturtiums, sweet alyssum, dwarf Iris, and plantain lily (*Hostas*). Such annuals as China-asters, cosmos, and snapdragons will be raised by the older children, while poppies, zinnias, annual or Drummond phlox, and marigolds are easily grown by the lower grades.

So much for the boundary planting and flower border.

The foundation walls of the schoolhouse are best planted with clinging vines if they are of brick. Boston ivy or Englemann ivy will cling to brick or stone unaided, and give the hard walls a cool, attractive appearance. At the corners and entrances of the building, we know, of course, that tall, pointed shrubs or trees add accent and interest. Pyramid shaped evergreens such as arborvitae or cedar are very good for this purpose as are the tall viburnums and even certain poplar trees for the tall buildings. Under the windows low shrubs are clustered that will not shut out the light or view of the grounds. For this purpose, snowberry, coralberry, dwarf syringas, azaleas, or rhododendrons may be used.

The mulberry trees is always interesting in some corner, or in the boundary planting of the schoolyard because of its relation to the silkworm which all schools study. The birdbath and sun-dial, garden seat, birdhouses, and feeding tray should always find a place in the schoolyard. These garden accessories are best placed as an axis or vista feature of the flower and shrubbery border or under a large shade tree, rather than marooned in the middle of the yard. The sun-dial, of course, is to be placed in an ever sunny spot with perhaps an ivy vine climbing around its base.

— From "Better Homes and Gardens"

## MOBILIZE AGAINST T. B.

Do you know —

- That tuberculosis is one of the greatest enemies of mankind to-day?
- That tuberculosis is responsible for more deaths than any other single cause?
- That tuberculosis is preventable?
- That tuberculosis is curable?
- That tuberculosis may be wiped out?
- That tuberculosis has in many sections already been largely eliminated?

Do you know —

- How to prevent tuberculosis in those not yet affected?
- How to cure tuberculosis in those already stricken?
- How to do your part in helping to rid mankind of this great plague?

For answers to these questions, read "Tuberculosis — The Hidden Enemy"

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## China Division Reporter

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With deep regret we announce receipt of word from the Home Board and from Brother and Sister Howard L. Shull, for many years laboring untiringly to assist in building up the China Training Institute to its present position of large influence and usefulness, that physicians advise their non-return for at least a time.

The return of some now on furlough, is somewhat delayed because of health conditions of certain members of the families. Thus it is with Pastor and Mrs. A. B. Buzzell, whose son needs further medical care. Miss Ruth Ladd, now at her home in Battle Creek, Mich., is doing splendidly, but must have further opportunity for gathering sufficient strength for another term of service. Mrs. Coulston is planning to return following the close of the General Conference session. Pastor and Mrs. J. Harold Shultz and children may soon be given favorable word by physicians who have been seeking to make sure of affording this family all essential medical care. It is a great aid to the foreign mission cause when the closest of attention is given to the building up of health and of physical reserve power; for service in some mission lands does draw very heavily upon one's reserves of strength.

Among recent visitors to Shanghai headquarters—workers passing through to other fields for service—may be noted the delegates and visitors from Japan and Chosen to the Spring Council of the Far Eastern Division;—Elder V. T. Armstrong, Professor and Mrs. Nelson, Elders W. M. Lee and E. J. Urquhart; Brother and Sister Ithiel Gillis, Brother and Sister Thurston, Brother and Sister Arthur Douglass, recruits from the Columbia Union for service in the East Visayan Mission, P. I., and Brother and Sister R. B. Thurber, formerly of the Watchman Offices, Nashville, Tenn., en route to Poona, India, for editorial responsibilities, were visitors to our Shanghai compound about the same time.

### Winter Council Proceedings

A LITTLE glimpse of some features of the Winter Council of the China Division Executive Committee, appear in this issue. It is planned to include a more full record in the March issue. Many spiritual blessings came to those in attendance, notwithstanding the perplexing nature of problems that are multiplying in consequence of disturbed areas and also because of lessening amounts of funds available for maintenance and for advance.

Three reports as rendered by union superintendents appear in the current number; the remaining four (in abbreviated form) will be given in next month's paper.

### To and From the Homelands

PASTOR and Mrs. Z. H. Coberly and daughter Lois Faye sailed on February 3 for Seattle, on furlough leave. Upon their return they will take up labor in Szechwan. While on furlough they may be addressed at 722 Southeast 61st St., Portland Oregon, U.S.A.

Brother and Sister A. Fossey returned early from their furlough, reaching Shanghai January 6, in time to be in attendance at the East China Union annual committee meetings, and also at the Winter Council of the China Division Committee. It was a pleasure to have these tried and true workers with us for a season; and now as they return to their field in South Chekiang, with headquarters at Wenchow, their service during this their second term in the Wenchow language area will be followed by their friends with prayerful and sympathetic interest. The present membership of the South Chekiang Mission is 1,209.

### Out from Our Division Offices

OF Division workers who left the Shanghai offices very soon following the close of the Winter Council, for service in the field, may be mentioned Dr. H. W. Miller for Hongkong, Manila, and Canton; Pastor C. C. Morris for Hongkong and Canton; Professor D. E. Rebok for educational centers in the South China Union; Pastor E. L. Longway for solicitation work in Kwantung Province; Pastor John Oss for colporteur institutes in Nanking, Peiping, Tsinanfu, Hankow; Pastor E. R. Thiele of the Press for a bookmen's convention at Peiping; Pastor O. A. Hall and Miss Bessie Mount for annual meetings in Yunnan (accompanied by Pastor Geo. L. Wilkinson); Professor W. A. Scharffenberg for special service in behalf of Training Institute problems in Chosen (accompanying Professors Frederick Griggs and W. P. Bradley of Far Eastern Division on this important trip); and the Division secretary to appointments in Shantung and in the Northwest. Sometimes visitors to our Shanghai offices find very few to welcome them; but it seems essential to leave the offices frequently for field service; and it will doubtless always be thus in connection with our rapidly advancing work.

### From the China Church

AMONG the guests at Ningkuo Road Compound during our Winter Council, were several representatives of the Chinese church, including Pastor Djang Djeng-hai of Central China Union (Honan); Giao Wen-li of North China Union (Shansu); Wang Fu-yuan of the Manchurian Union (Harbin); Wu Dzeh-ren of the East China Union (South Chekiang); Lei Tat-min of the South China Union (Canton); Liu Fu-an of the Northwest China Union (Lanchow); T. C. Chin of the Signs Press; Dr. Ling of the Shanghai Sanitarium and Clinic; Professor B. A. Liu of the China Training Institute. Others of our Chinese ministers and workers met with us from time to time during the Council, as they lived close by and could occasionally drop in, especially for the morning worship and Bible study hour, and for the evening services for the receiving of reports from the union fields and from Division departmental secretaries.

### To Sianfu, Shensi

RECENTLY a transfer was effected as between the West and the Northwest China Union Missions, the West releasing Pastor A. E. Hughes and family, of Szechwan, for service in Shensi, in exchange for Pastor Z. H. Coberly and family, formerly of Shensi, for service in Szechwan following furlough. Pastor Hughes crossed over quickly by air from Chengtu to Sianfu; and on February 9 Sister Hughes and daughter left Shanghai by train for Sianfu. The son, Ross, remains in Shanghai to complete his year of schooling in the Far Eastern Academy.

With Sister Hughes and daughter was Sister Appel, returning to the Northwest from a brief sojourn in Shanghai during the Winter Council. Pastor Appel had gone ahead to arrange Shensi Mission affairs with Pastor Hughes. Brother Appel's plan is to leave for Lanchow by auto, on Sunday, February 16, taking with him for service in Lanchow a family of Chinese workers.

### For Service in the Philippines

RECENTLY those who chance to be stationed in Shanghai were called upon to bid two esteemed families goodbye as these friends responded to invitations to take up service in the Philippine Union, at the Manila Sanitarium and Hospital. The first to leave was Dr. Hjalmar Erickson and family, the doctor leaving to serve as medical superintendent.

Because of health conditions Dr. Hall had had to return to the States. The second family we lost from our Shanghai circle was Brother and Sister Bruce Failing and daughter, Miss Dorothea, leaving the latter part of January. Brother Failing is being asked to serve as business manager and chaplain of the Manila Sanitarium. For about two years Brother Failing has had business connections in the city of Shanghai.

We wish both these families success in the island field where they have accepted responsible posts. Any correspondence for them may be addressed in care of the Manila Sanitarium, corner Indiana and Vermont Sts., Manila, Philippine Islands.

A MESSAGE received from Flier M. E. Kern bringing word of the death of Mrs. H. W. Barrows on February 5, at Washington, D. C., cast a gloom over the compound at Shanghai headquarters where for upwards of fifteen years Sister Barrows had been esteemed and loved as a neighbor and a friend. A hope clung to by old associates on this side that Sister Barrows might some day return to the China field must now be resigned. The assurance that she will live again in the land where sorrow and death can never come, brings solace to those who now mourn her passing. Our Division families extend deep sympathy to her bereaved companion and to Walter and Irene. May they find consolation in the words of the Saviour spoken to all His children who suffer under the hand of the dread Reaper: "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live."