

The China Division Reporter

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No. 3

What Cheer

By Frederick Griggs

I HAVE read that among some people the common salutation in meeting friends is not "How is your health?" or "How are you feeling today?" but "What cheer?" Both of these salutations, "How is your health?" and "What cheer?" are of the right sort. The aged apostle John in writing to a dear friend said: "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." So it is in keeping with the spirit of the apostle that we should be concerned about and wish for the health of our friends; but Jesus, when speaking of the tribulations which were to come to His followers, enjoined them to be of good cheer.

Christians, above all others, have great reason for cheerfulness. Jesus has said that He would be with us and dwell within us that His mind and heart might be ours; that He would take away our stony hearts and would give us hearts of tenderness, kindness, hope and cheer. He has given to us exceeding great and precious promises that by these we should be partakers of His divine nature and that by these we should escape the corruption that is in the world. Moreover He has given us His peace,—not the peace of someone else, but His own peace; for He said: "Peace, I leave with you, My peace I give unto you." And He gives it not as the world gives it. It is not a peace that is affected by unhappy circumstances, but a peace so great that it passes our understanding.

We have an illustration of this peace in the experience of Paul and Silas in the Philippian prison.

These faithful, hardworking Christians were in a terrible plight. In their endeavor to bring the gospel of peace and cheer to others, they had been arrested by the authorities, severely beaten, rudely cast into prison and their feet placed in the stocks. There in that dark, dreary place their peace and their cheer were such that they sang songs in the night and prayed to God. They must have prayed for deliverance, and they must have given Him sincere thanks for the privilege of testifying for His name. It must be that the songs they sang were spontaneous, the overflowing of a heart of gratitude.

Truly, this is the privilege the Christian has that the world does not and cannot have. This experience is the answer God gives to those who put their trust in Him. The experiences and problems of this life are fraught with perplexities that are often overwhelming. Naturally clouds as well as sunshine enter every life, but it is given to the Christian to see the clouds grow thin as he lifts his eyes in gratitude to the throne of his heavenly Father, at whose right hand stands the same Jesus who walked among men pleading with the Father for those who look to Him.

All provisions have been made for men to be full of cheer. And cheer gives courage. It is infectious—a smile begets a smile. Said Jesus, "Blessed are the peacemakers; for they shall be called the children of God." We are the makers primarily not of material but of spiritual things.

WHAT CHEER? ALL CHEER!

General Articles

When Our Friends Come Back Again

A Poem of Welcome to Professor and Mrs. Griggs

The ship sails forth from the Golden Gate
 With a cargo for you and me,
 It brings the friends that we love so well
 From a land beyond the sea.
 There are days of sadness and grief and care
 In a world of toil and pain;
 But O there is gladness everywhere
 When our friends come back again.

The world may gather its golden store
 And bask in its sunlit glow;
 Far fairer to us are the faces loved
 In the days of long ago.
 The hours may be dreary and full of care;
 What matter the clouds and rain?
 For O there is gladness everywhere
 When our friends come back again.

— May Cole Kuhn

Saved from Brigands

BY JOHN OSS

WHILE I was in attendance at the recent meeting of the North China Union Publishing Department leaders held at Peiping, I learned of a most interesting and exciting experience of one of our colporteurs, Brother Yen Hsi Chen.

As Brother Yen was working in a bandit infested area, he came to one of the larger cities and there tried to get a money order for some hundred odd dollars that he had received for literature sold. He was unable to secure the postal money order because of the unsettled conditions prevailing, and thought it unsafe to stay in the city, as people knew he had money on his person and would in all probability try to rob him.

He found himself in a perplexing situation; for it was difficult for him to leave the city, as he feared the people would see him go and would overtake him and rob him on the highway. He finally decided, however, that as soon as it grew dark he would leave under cover of night and make his way to a small village some distance away. The way was new to him, but he felt that there was at least a possibility of getting away safely.

It was the 14th day of October. The weather was cold as he made his way on his bicycle over the strange highway. After riding for some time, he lost his way and as it

was late he made ready to spend the night out in the open a short distance from the roadside. Describing the experience Brother Yen said that he used the earth for a mattress, the sky for bedding, and that he did not need a fan to keep himself cool.

Awakening the next morning Brother Yen found that the village he had planned to reach the evening before was just a few paces from where he had spent the night.

Reaching this village, he learned much to his surprise that a number of brigands had come on horses the previous evening looking for him. They had stayed for a long time and had made a careful search for him thinking that the village folk were concealing the man they were looking for.

God had worked in behalf of His servant; an unseen Hand had directed him to spend the night alongside the highway and thus escape robbery and perhaps bodily harm. He went on his way rejoicing over God's guiding and protecting care.

Obituary of Glenn George Hamp

BY O. A. HALL

AS a runner drops from sheer exhaustion after a strenuous race, so, with strange suddenness, our beloved brother, Glenn George Hamp, passed away from among us after only three days of illness.

Brother Hamp was born on November 6, 1893, at Lyons, Michigan. Fifteen years before he was born his father and mother became ardent believers in this message. He was baptized and joined the church at the age of eleven. His academic training was received in old Osega, now Cedar Lake Academy. He taught his first church school at the age of eighteen, later returning to school at Berrien Springs, Michigan, and finishing the commercial course. After this he taught public school for two years until he was drafted into the army, where he served one year.

He then returned to college, receiving his degree in 1923. In that same year he was joined in marriage to Marguerite Rader, and together they served wherever they were called until death separated them. For one year they taught together

in the Indianapolis Boarding Academy. In March, 1925, the Mission Board called them to China, a call to which they gladly responded, giving eleven years in service, and Brother Hamp his all. Two boys, Victor and Melvin, were born to them in China. The first ten years Brother Hamp spent in the educational and secretary-treasurer work in Changsha, Hunan.

On June 6, 1935, Brother Hamp with his family moved to North China in response to the call of the North China Union committee. Here he, with his wife, took over the responsibility of principalship at the North China Industrial Institute. In heading up this school he devoted all his talents and strength to the training of the young people not only in the mental and physical, but also in the spiritual preparation for the proclamation of this message in China. Many a future worker of North China will recall with pleasure his guidance and counsel in their early training.

About two weeks previous to Brother Hamp's death his younger boy, Melvin, was taken sick with scarlet fever; and for about ten days the parents anxiously watched and prayed for the life of their little son, rarely leaving him even for food, as moment by moment doctors gave no assurance. Finally, under the strain, Brother Hamp fell ill with pneumonia, and, completely exhausted, was unable to rally. He fell asleep in Jesus on February 11 at 7 a.m., having rested his boy's case as well as his own in the hand of Him who doeth all things well. A tried and faithful worker has fallen in service and awaits the call of Jesus.

Brother Hamp leaves to mourn his wife and two boys, his aged parents, four brothers, four sisters, and other relatives. His fellow laborers in China, and a host of friends sorrow deeply over this great loss, but in the great resurrection day when Jesus shall come they will meet Him with joy.

The funeral services were conducted in Peiping by the writer, assisted by the North China staff, and interment took place at the missionary cemetery outside the West Gate. Our brother rests in hope and will be remembered when the Life-giver comes to gather His chosen from every nation. He rests from his labors, but his works will follow on.

We Can and We Will

M. V. MOTTO FOR 1937

BY D. E. REBOK

FIRST place in the World M. V. Report in per cent. of M. V's observing the Morning Watch, and in the per cent. of M. V's receiving the Bible Year Certificates! That is not so bad for the China Division. But even at that, who is satisfied with only 63 per cent. following the Morning Watch when 100 per cent. can and should be receiving that morning blessing?

As we look at the accompanying analysis report for the second quarter of 1936, there are eleven items which make us happy. Not happy over our grand success, but happy that we as young people have done what we could for our own improvement, and for the joy and happiness of others in our missionary service.

To be sure we are not satisfied. For with over 700 Sabbath schools in our division is it possible that we have organized only 222 of them for missionary volunteer work? We should have at least 266 missionary volunteer societies—one in every organized church.

With over 22,000 Sabbath school members, is it possible that only 6,572 of them are under 26 years of age and entitled to membership in our missionary volunteer societies?

As we have studied our report, it seems that there are about eleven items in which our missionary volunteers should put forth greater effort and really greatly improve the report for the second quarter of 1937.

Let us all join in and say our motto for 1937: "We can and we will."

A Personal Word

FREDERICK GRIGGS

MRS. GRIGGS and I wish to take this opportunity to say that we very much appreciate the warmth of welcome which we are receiving as we begin life and living again over here in this great land of China. There are no friendships it seems to us that are dearer than those formed in this blessed hope, and we appreciate the privilege of renewing our old friendships and of forming new ones here in this land. Our great desire above all others is that we may unite with all our believers in the hope of the soon-coming Saviour; that we may do our full part in hastening that glad day.

1936 2nd Quarter ANALYSIS OF DIVISION MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER REPORT

No.	Comparative Items	China Division	11 World Divisions	China's Rating in Each Item	Above - Below World Report
1	% Soc. executive committee meetings weekly	15%	21%	6th *	Below -
2	Churches in division - 1935	266	7,349	8th	Below -
3	MV societies in division	222	5,437	10th *	Below -
4	% Ch having MV societies	84%	74%	5th *	Above
5	Division ch memb - 1935	15,651	409,259	10th	Below -
6	Estimated y p connected with families of church	10,434	272,839	10th	Below -
7	Division MV membership	6,572	115,849	9th	Below -
8	MV's per 100 ch members	42	28	3rd *	Above
9	% MV's reporting	53%	50%	6th *	Above
10	Young people baptized	200	3,630	7th *	Below -
11	Y p bap per 100 ch memb	1.3	.9	3rd *	Above
12	% MV's obsv M Watch	63%	36%	1st	Above
13	% MV's rec B Y cert	8.6%	3.8%	1st	Above
14	% MV's rec R C Cert	7.2%	8.1%	2nd	Below -
15	% MV's rec SSL, SA cert	3.5%	2.7%	2nd	Above
16	% MV's invested	7.2%	2.9%	2nd	Above
17	Bible read or gospel meetings per society	83	38	2nd	Above
18	Mis visits per M.V	3.5	2.7	4th *	Above
19	Treatments per MV	1.2	.9	4th *	Above
20	Literature dis't per MV	3.1	9.2	9th *	Below -
21	Total soc off per MV	1¢ U.S.	17¢ U.S.	11th *	Below -

* Indicates the items in which the China Division can and should make marked improvement.

"We Can and We Will" - Our motto! !

West China Union

West Szechwan Mission

BY A. B. BUZZELL

IN bringing my report for the West Szechwan Mission I would invite your attention to the words in Psalms 126:3: "The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad." This is the sentiment of our hearts as we review the work of the mission during the past year and a half. Surely the Lord has done great things for us, and we have seen His hand leading in many ways.

West Szechwan is one of the older missions in the West China Union, and progress has been slow; but we are glad to report that now for the first time in its history we have a membership of 203. For this we thank Him who gives all the increase. In the absence of the director on furlough the work was taken care of by the union superintendent and also by Pastor Hwang. As a result of the faithful work of Pastor Hwang a fair gain was made in membership. Much of the time since my return to the field in September has been used in visiting the stations and in Harvest Ingathering work. The Lord blessed our Ingathering work this year and we were able to gather \$1,204.01.

Our educational work is showing improvement in West Szechwan. We have had only one school in the whole mission for a long time, but are glad to report that we are adding two more this year. Our school in Chengtu is headed by Professor Ma Chin Ping, who is giving his youth and energy to the education of our young people in the mission school. There will be about forty in attendance after Chinese New Year. The two new schools being opened are in the cities of Chungking Chow and Szfang.

There is a small industry connected with our school in Chengtu which supports several students. It is the making of soy bean milk. We are sorry that we have not been able to help this industry in a financial way. We need more bottles for this work.

I must here mention our colporteur work, which I believe is the best in West China. We have a splendid force of eight colporteurs

all of whom are doing a fine work. We have just opened a new *hsien* as a direct result of the colporteur work. The Lord has blessed these workers in a financial way. None have debts, but on the other hand, a good surplus.

The West Szechwan Mission shows the best tithe per capita in West China (about \$1 per member).

The needs are great and many. Our budget barely covers our present needs to say nothing of answering the many calls that come from day to day. The tribes work is among the most needy at this time. About four years ago we opened work among the Chiang Ming Tribe, but because of lack of means it has been handicapped to a great extent. These tribes are waiting for the gospel, calling upon us to give them the hope of the soon-coming Saviour and to help them train their children. We are calling at this meeting for an addition to our appropriation that we may help in answering these calls. We now have eight members from among this tribe but we have prospects of hundreds in the near future. These tribes live at an altitude of about eight thousand feet and are a strong and honest people. They do not worship idols as do the Chinese but have many customs that are much like those of the Jews of old. They believe in a Supreme Being but do not know just who or where that Being is. They represent the Supreme Being by a pure white stone. White being for purity, they thus show their belief in a pure God.

Several times each year they offer their sacrifices of a lamb or a bullock for the forgiveness of sins and for healing. Many times the blood of the offering is sprinkled on the white stone, thus showing, even though in ignorance, the blessed truth of forgiveness through the blood of Christ. How great is our responsibility to these people, one hundred thousand of them, who are waiting for the story of salvation. Shall it be held from them longer?

We need a good evangelist to open up the city of Omei. A few months ago Pastor Hwang Dji Gin gave a gift of about \$1,000 for this purpose, but as yet we have not found a suitable man for the place. We appreciate this gift from Pastor Hwang and pray God's blessings to be with him in his work.

Remember West Szechwan in your prayers, that God may bless us as we go forward.

Report of the Yunnan Mission for 1936

BY C. B. MILLER

IN spite of invasion and war 1936 has been one of the best years in the Yunnan Mission. The Lord has blessed us in every branch of the work. We have been able to open work in seven new districts, thus entering four new *hsien*. The prospects for opening new work in the year before us are very good. Several of our students are finishing their courses this year and will be returning to Yunnan for work in our mission. There is now definite work in fourteen of the 123 *hsien* in the Yunnan Mission.

The membership increase for 1936 is next to the highest in the history of the Yunnan Mission. During the year 149 were baptized, bringing the total membership of believers up to 570. Because of unsettled conditions in the province, we were unable to visit three of our stations. However, it is the goal of our workers to far exceed this number of baptisms during this year. With the special financial help that the Home Study Institute and Mrs. Crisler are giving, we hope to enter several new and very promising fields. I have talked with many of our workers who wish to set a goal of 200 baptisms for 1937.

We wish to thank the General Conference and also the China Division for the appointment of Mr. and Mrs. Milton Lee for new work in our field. The prospects in that part of the province are very encouraging. With the blessing of the Lord, there should be a large membership in that part of the province soon. We trust that this new work will be permitted to develop as the Lord leads, and that it may be given financial assistance. A strong work should quickly develop this into a local mission. Just before leaving Kwenming I again called on Mr. Yu; he is still willing to assist us in starting work there.

At this time we wish to call the attention of both the division and union committees to the Hwei Li Ning Yuen Valley. This is a district—as large as many of the missions in China—which to the present date lies unentered. While all this territory does not belong to the Yunnan Mission, we recognize it as a dark, unentered field in our union. May the Lord guide in the opening of this territory.

Our Sabbath school work is also very encouraging. The attendance

is still above the church membership, though we are confident that the membership and attendance reports are not correctly given. In the tribal districts one or two members of each family must watch their cattle on Sabbath; thus many are not members of the Sabbath school. Some of these change about from week to week, and because of this their names do not appear on the Sabbath school record. The past year, our Sabbath school offerings, which amounted to \$1,116.73 Mex., far exceeded that of any previous year.

Last year our two colporteurs entered 36 *hsien*, taking in 1,240 subscriptions to the *Signs of the Times*. At the present time one subscription to the *Signs* costs \$15.00 local currency; and the "Way to Health" in its three bindings sells for \$30, \$50, and \$100 respectively. Our literature during the past three years has been sold in sixty of the 123 *hsien*.

The educational work in the Yunnan Mission is a very necessary part of our program, as a large part of our membership is drawn from various tribes, many of whom do not speak the Chinese language. They must be taught the Chinese language in order to have access to our denominational literature and thus be prepared to teach others. We have eight schools with an enrollment of 200.

Our Miao literature does not meet the demands of the field. At present we are working on a book on Bible doctrines based on the Sabbath school lesson quarterlies for 1937 and 1938. This book will be a great help, but is just a beginning of what they should have.

Last year the Yunnan Mission received \$3,261.38 Mex. in offerings,—by far the largest amount that has ever been raised in the mission during one year. It averages a little less than 15 cents Mex. per week per member. This includes the Harvest Ingathering, which amounted to \$1,449.05 Mex.—without Harvest Ingathering about 8 cents per week. By multiplying this figure by ten we have the amount of local dollars taken in. This represents earnest and faithful work on the part of many of our workers.

The needs of the Yunnan Mission are many and varied, since it is one of the largest fields in China and uses many more languages and dialects than any other field.

With the help of the Lord we trust that this coming year will be one of the best in soul winning in the Yunnan Mission.

The East Szechwan Mission

BY C. B. GUILD

The East Szechwan Mission is one of the most populous in the land of China, and the evangelizing of its people presents a huge task. The magnitude of the work before us is made more comprehensible when we realize that it would cost \$100,000 to give a single copy of one of our tracts to each person within its borders.

In the face of difficulties caused by famines, by the presence of numerous bandits, and from the desolation left by the "Reds" two or three years ago, many lines of advance have been seen throughout the field during the past year. We are thankful for protection. Workers have gone from place to place without harm. Yet members and interested ones have attended evening meetings carrying their crude guns with them, and have returned home afterwards to keep watch all night against the marauders.

Progress in this mission during the past year may be largely attributed to the faithful leading of Pastor G. L. Wilkinson, who, along with his many other duties has acted as its director for the larger portion of the year. As the result of the work of the laborers in different portions of the field, he and Pastor Wang An Hsi have led fifty-two in baptism during that time.

The Sabbath school report shows an addition in membership of 265 over the preceding year, or a 60% increase. The retail sales for our colporteurs and Book and Periodical House amount to \$4,729.34. This is an increase of 82% over the previous year. Our church schools have increased from six to ten, with two hundred and nineteen students at the close of the year. These were all primary schools carrying grades one to four, and were conducted at a minimum cost. While leaving much to be desired in the way of efficiency, yet through this medium many are hearing the gospel story.

With regard to offerings, more than twice as much was raised as the preceding year and not one of the 500 Big Week books was left. The Harvest Ingathering offering (\$1,882) was smaller than for the previous year, but a large number of friends were visited. This amount was received in 319 different offerings from many donors outside of

Chungking in about fifteen different *hsien* cities, as well as here. There was a gain in the Week of Sacrifice offering, but the amount of our church tithe shows a need of earnest labor in this matter.

Among other promotion plans for the coming year, are the following: (1) A number of workers will conduct "Ping Ming" schools during the year, using as textbooks those which cover in a simple way the vital points of our faith. (2) The work of the church schools should be reviewed and all that is possible done to bring them to a higher standard. (3) One worker will move out into new work, and it is hoped that we shall be able to open other new places during the year. (4) Each Sabbath school is being asked to open at least one new branch Sabbath school. (5) At least eight evangelistic efforts of a month or more in duration are to be held throughout the year. Four of these have already been definitely passed by the committee and four more will be conducted during the latter half of the year.

The work in East Szechwan is to be finished. Although the task may seem impossible, yet the Spirit of the Lord is working on the hearts of men and women in this needy field. At one Sabbath school in northern Szechwan, an old brother over seventy years old wrapped up his Bible and song book in a cloth and walked forty *li* and back, a distance of eighty *li*, to attend Sabbath school and service. Why should he do this except for a hunger for the truth that refused to go unsatisfied? In one of our Harvest Ingathering solicitations in the same district, a business man, proprietor of a bank, showed deep sympathy with our work, gave us a good donation, and stated that he had not missed reading the *Signs* for eleven years. This statement was verified by the worker in that place. No doubt it is just such men as these who will take their stand when the tests of the last days indicate the great importance of full obedience to all God's requirements.

May the Lord help us to be thoroughly in earnest, that our resources may be multiplied a hundred fold as He has promised. We are looking forward, and "looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith." Heb. 12:2. Thank God we can know that just as surely as the work in East Szechwan has been begun, it also will be finished.

Annual Meeting of the Yunnan Mission

BY MILTON LEE

"PREPARE to meet Christ" was the keynote of Elder C. B. Miller's sermon, Friday evening, February 26, as he spoke to an assembly of 21 workers, 27 delegates, and a goodly number of visitors, in the Yunnanfu chapel.

The Sabbath service was conducted by Elder Wilkinson, who in company with Brother Dixon had come from Chungking, to assist in the annual meeting, February 27 to March 3. Brother Wilkinson gave a very practical sermon, admonishing workers and all church members to bear one another's burdens and to labor harmoniously toward the furthering of this gospel.

Brother Dixon assisted materially by taking the evening services, in which he drew lessons from the lives of such Bible characters as Esther, Daniel, Moses, and Ruth.

Pastor Miller led out by giving a brief survey of the progress during the previous year. Despite war disturbances throughout the province, seven new districts have been opened, four of which are *hsien* cities. Of the 123 *hsien* in the Yunnan Mission, permanent work has been established in 14. During 1936, 149 were baptized, the second best year since Yunnan was first entered. This brings the total membership of the Yunnan Mission to 570. Brother Miller anticipates a good current year and trusts that, with the offered financial assistance of the Home Study Institute and Mrs. Crisler, our membership will be increased by 200.

The financial report was given by Brother Bartholomew. Sabbath school offerings for the year came to \$1,116.72 Mex., far exceeding any previous year. The Harvest In-gathering amounted to \$1,449.05 Mex. with all offerings totaling \$3,261.38 Mex.

In the reports and in the instructional meetings which followed, much stress was laid on the value of training the laity to bear church responsibility, thus enabling the workers to leave their churches and open new stations. Many valuable suggestions were given during the round table discussions such as: encouraging every member to invite others to church; visiting the sick; giving out tracts as one goes about his work; teaching church members to give Bible studies in the home; advising

each layman to set a goal of one soul for the year; giving especially promising church members the chance to lead out in the Sabbath-school and church activities.

The Sabbath school and educational departments gave several interesting programs on how to conduct more efficiently our teachers' meetings, Sabbath services, and schools, of which there are eight throughout the province, with an enrolment of 200.

Of those in attendance at these services, more than half were tribes-people, chiefly Miao. They especially enjoyed the half-hour song service which preceded the evening meetings.

On Thursday morning, our tribal believers, together with several Chinese workers, accompanied Brethren Miller, Wilkinson, Dixon and Bartholomew to Da Lung Tan. As many of the tribes people were obliged to stay at home and cultivate their grain and tend their cattle, they were unable to be in attendance at the meetings in Yunnanfu. Therefore a series of meetings covering five days will be held at this station, our largest tribal center.

These meetings have been an inspiration to those in attendance. Pray for our faithful workers as they disperse to their various stations and commence another year's work for the Master.

Thirtieth Anniversary of the Founding of the Missionary Volunteer Department

BY D. E. REBOK

Thirty years is not a very long time. And yet it is enough for a baby to grow to manhood and maturity. It is enough for a weak, feeble organization to grow to a powerful force for good in the lives of 115,000 missionary volunteers around the world.

Nineteen hundred and thirty-seven marks the thirtieth anniversary of our organized departmental activity in behalf of our advent youth. We cannot but sincerely wish that the organization had been powerful enough to reach out and touch and win the whole of the 272,000 young people connected with the families of the advent movement rather than merely the forty per cent. now definitely mobilized to be servants of God and friends to man.

It is indeed most gratifying to see what this army of youth has been able to accomplish. However, we cannot help trying to visualize what that larger army might have done for God and man. If every missionary volunteer would set to work in 1937 to enlist just one other Adventist boy and girl in this youth's movement, it would not be an impossible task to attempt greater things for God and expect greater blessings from God.

What a splendid thing that would be to mark the thirtieth anniversary of our Missionary Volunteer Department work!

Fifty-eight years ago five boys back in the little church in Hazelton, Michigan, organized our first Missionary Volunteer Society. Little did they realize that they were setting in motion a youth's movement which in just a few years would reach out to earth's remotest bounds, and bring together a great international organization—a mighty factor in the finishing of the work of this great people.

The General Conference Missionary Volunteer Secretary, A. W. Peterson, brings to our attention the analysis of God's purpose in the organization of our young people's work.

The first call of December 19, 1892, reveals that—

1. "God wants our youth to believe the truth—to know the doctrines.

2. "He wants them to be blessed of God—and to be used by the Holy Spirit.

3. "He wants them to help other youth of the movement—youth for youth.

4. "He wants them to represent the truth and witness for it; that is, to live consistent Christian lives, and to be engaged in service.

5. He wants them to develop strength so that they may serve the cause honorably, ever remembering the fine destiny to which God is calling them.

6. "He also calls for the formation of bands for prayer and planning, for the development of methods for united action in service."

Then Brother Peterson appeals to our church leaders everywhere to "place a new emphasis upon the value of the Missionary Volunteer Society in the church. He says:

"The Missionary Volunteer Society benefits the church because

1. "It provides opportunity for the church to work not only for our youth, but by our youth.

2. "It serves as a training ground in giving all its youth experience in planning and in organizing, in team work, in public addresses, and in leadership.

3. "It encourages and trains its youth in personal soul winning.

4. "It directs the unfolding life of the young Christian by teaching those things, and fostering those activities which develop Christian attitudes, and by ministering to his physical, educational, social and spiritual needs.

5. "It tends to keep the young people of the church from worldly associations by making it possible to provide wholesome social life in the church.

6. "It works in a very special way through its Junior Progressive Classes for its children as they approach that age (the age of decision) from which the church receives most of her converts.

7. "It prepares senior youth through its Master Comrade study to work intelligently for the children of the church.

8. "It trains senior youth through the Progressive class work to do evangelistic work by giving Bible readings and holding meetings.

9. "It unites the young people around the world into a great youth's movement and enlarges their vision of God's purpose for them in the advent movement.

10 "It fulfills God's purpose for advent youth by leading them along the pathway of service, to their destined place in the cause of God, who has appointed the youth to be His helping hand."

With God's purpose for our young people's work, and the benefits which come to the church from its promotion so clearly placed before us, should not every union superintendent, local mission director, pastor, evangelist, and teacher make 1937 Missionary Volunteer Year in all their plans and work?

"Save the children and youth — and you save all."

Any amusement in which you can engage asking the blessing of God upon it in faith, will not be dangerous. But any amusement which disqualifies you for secret prayer, for devotion at the altar of prayer, or for taking part in the prayer-meeting, is not safe, but dangerous. — *Counsels to Teachers*, p. 337.

Branch Sabbath Schools No. 2

THE PROGRAM

SEVERAL have told me that they were anxious to start a branch Sabbath school, but that they did not know just how to arrange a good program. A few days ago I sent out a questionnaire to a number who were conducting successful branch schools; and in reply I found that their programs were very simple. Here are two:

Small School (1 to 6)

Song (Those who do not sing read a hymn)

Prayer

Scripture Study

Study of the Lesson

Song

Mission Study (as found in the Missions Quarterly)

Offering to Missions

Mark Record

Song

Large School (6 or more)

Song Service

Opening Song

Scripture Study (Repeat memory verse, 23rd Psalm, the Commandments, Books of the Bible, etc.)

Prayer

Secretary's Report

Mission Study (as found in the Missions Quarterly)

Offering to Missions

Song or Special Music

Children pass to their classes

Review

Class Record

Study of the Lesson

Song

Prayer

One lady writes, "I find that the people take a greater interest in our school when they have a part on the program."

Another adds, "I never let my program drag. As soon as one part is over, I announce the next number."

A brother says, "I find that forty-five minutes is long enough for my children. We close before they begin to look at their watches."

One leader said, "At first I was afraid to take up an offering, but I found that when the children heard the stories in the *Missions Quarterly*, they were glad to give."

"We began taking up the offering from the first. The people expect it now," adds another.

Speaking of the lesson study one lady has this to say, "At first I just read the lesson to them as it was in

Our Little Friend and still felt very nervous. Then I got so bold I could tell the story myself. Now I tell them the story and ask them questions without thinking how I feel. It is surprising how many questions the children can answer."

WHERE TO CONDUCT THE SCHOOL

There seems to be no problem at all for those who are willing to take hold of the work. The most of our branch Sabbath schools are being conducted in private homes. Some are conducted in the same home week after week, and others "visit about." In some sections of the country where church services are rare, the people are glad for someone to come to their church and start a Sunday school. Others have their meetings in a school house, or hall, or vacant store building.

WHO SHOULD CONDUCT THE SCHOOL

"No, we do not have a branch Sabbath school in our church," a good brother sadly remarked to me. "Our superintendent is so busy, it would be asking too much even to suggest anything more to him."

Poor man! Evidently he did not know that anyone with a vision can start a branch Sabbath school. There are a number of Sabbath school teachers who feel that they are better prepared to lead out in a branch Sabbath school after they have been to teachers' meeting and have taught a class in the home school. There are mothers who find that by inviting some of their children's playmates for a Bible story hour on Sabbath afternoon their children enjoy the Sabbath more. Some with a live missionary spirit find that this is an excellent way to bring cheer to the shut-ins week by week. They say that their visits seem to have a purpose to them now. Some shut-ins find that their lot is not so hard to bear when they can look forward to Sabbath or Sunday when some of their neighbors and friends will come to their home for a Sabbath school. Some of the young people are finding it one of the very best training schools for themselves to learn how to speak in public. In fact, no one who is anxious to see souls saved in the kingdom of God need feel that he must wait for someone to get him started. The possibilities in the branch Sabbath school are many.

*Archa Dart, S. S. Secretary,
Kentucky-Tennessee Conference*

China Division Reporter

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As the "Asama Maru" pulled in to dock about noon on February 24, many of the workers from the various compounds in Shanghai were waiting to greet Professor and Mrs. Frederick Griggs and Mrs. H. W. Miller. We are glad to report that these friends are looking very well.

Professor Griggs was not long in getting his things through customs and somewhat settled, then plunged into committee work, and has been extremely busy since with division and East China Union committee meetings. On March 11, he with Professors Rebok and Frost, left Shanghai for Amoy and points South. In Hongkong these brethren will be joined by Brother W. H. Williams, undertreasurer of the General Conference. From South China they will go to Central, Northwest, and North China, and Manchuria for committee work, returning to Shanghai about April 26.

On Saturday evening, February 27, in the academy chapel, a welcome was given to Professor and Mrs. Frederick Griggs and Mrs. H. W. Miller. After words of welcome by the division brethren and Pastor K. H. Wood, representing the union superintendents, and a response from Professor Griggs, refreshments were served and an interesting program of readings and musical selections was rendered.

On March 9, Mrs. Lyman Bowers, of the Far Eastern Division, arrived in Shanghai to spend a few months with her daughters, who are attending the Far Eastern Academy. At the close of the school term, Mr. Bowers will join the family and they will proceed to the States, on furlough.

Pastor and Mrs. V. J. Maloney have recently arrived in Shanghai from Foochow, and are located at 1207 Yu Yuen Road. Pastor Maloney is now busy in his new work as treasurer of the East China Union.

Miss Josephine Holmes, who has recently recovered from scarlet fever, is now at the North China Training Institute, Fengtai, Hopei, where she will remain until the close of the current school year, after which it is hoped that she may be able to take up Bible work in the North China Union, to fill the vacancy made by the return of Miss Lucy Andrus to the homeland.

In a letter from Miss Lucy Andrus written just before reaching Honolulu, she reports a pleasant trip across and herself feeling very well. Later word from Miss Wheeler assures us that Miss Andrus was met by her brother in San Francisco and taken to his home.

Annual Meeting of the China Division Committee of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

THE next annual meeting of the China Division Committee of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is appointed for May 20-29, 1937, in the division office, 526 Ningkuo Road, Shanghai, China. The first meeting is called for 7:30 p. m., Thursday, May 20. Members of the China Division of the General Conference Committee, together with the ten representatives from the seven unions and the major divisional institutions as named by the controlling committees of these respective organizations are cordially invited to be present throughout the session. An invitation to this session is also extended to the treasurers of the seven unions and the business managers of the major divisional institutions.

Frederick Griggs, Chairman
S. L. Frost, Secretary

Annual Meeting of the Constituency and Board of Directors of the China Training Institute

THE annual meeting of the constituency and of the board of directors for the China Training Institute will be held in Chiaotoutseng, Kiangsu, China, May 12-15, 1937. The first business meeting will be called for Wednesday evening, May 12, at 7:30 p. m., in the administration building. All members are invited to be present in order that the

regular business of electing a faculty, the making of a budget, and of other items which pertain to the business of the institute may be transacted for this coming year.

Frederick Griggs, Chairman
B. A. Liu, Secretary

Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Signs of the Times Publishing House

THE annual meeting of the board of directors of the Signs of the Times Publishing House is called for May 16 and 17, 1937, in the division committee room, 526 Ningkuo Road, Shanghai, China. The first meeting of this board will be held at 7:30 p. m., May 16, 1937. The usual reports will be rendered and necessary business transacted.

Frederick Griggs, Chairman
T. C. Chin, Secretary

Annual Constituency and Board Meeting of the Shanghai Sanitarium Hospital and Clinic

NOTICE is hereby given of the annual constituency and board meeting of the Shanghai Sanitarium and Clinic, called for May 18 and 19, 1937, at 150 Rubicon Road, Shanghai, China. The first meeting of this constituency is called for 8:30 a. m., May 18, 1937. At this time annual reports will be rendered and the usual business transacted.

Frederick Griggs, Chairman
J. C. Shull, Secretary

Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Far Eastern Academy

THE annual meeting of the board of directors and constituency for the Far Eastern Academy will be held in Shanghai on Wednesday and Thursday, May 19 and 20, 1937. The first meeting will be held on Wednesday evening at 7:30 p. m., in the chapel room of the China Division office. All members are invited to be present in order that the regular business of electing a faculty and making of a budget and all other matters which pertain to the business of the academy may be transacted for this coming year.

Frederick Griggs, Chairman
H. H. Morse, Secretary