

# The China Division Reporter

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## More Souls for Christ

BY W. H. BRANSON

*Nineteen Hundred Thirty Eight has come and gone, and its record is made up. What is written in the record is written, and cannot now be altered. What we did or what we failed to do for Christ and for a lost world must now stand the test of the judgment. Not until then will it be fully revealed whether our work for the year will merit the "Well done" from the lips of the great Judge, or whether we shall be counted as having been slothful servants.*

*As we enter into the new year we should seriously ask ourselves whether in all our labors for God we have been putting first things first, or whether, perchance, we have permitted a multitude of details to consume our time and energies, to the resultant neglect of the big things that should have claimed our attention. If it were only possible for us to view our work today in the light in which we will view it when we stand at last before the Judge and render to Him our final account, what changes, if any, would we make in our methods of labor?*

*To the worker for Christ there is given a single task—that of winning souls from sin to the kingdom of God. He has no other business in this world. In the accomplishment of this task one may be called to employ this method, and another that. But regardless of the method of labor, the goal is the same. If souls—many souls—are not being won year by year through our efforts, then we are failing—hopelessly failing—to measure up to the standard that the Master set for His disciples.*

*We may succeed in perfecting a great organization, in building up great institutions, and may make a great parade of activities in the work of God; but if the net result of it all is not a great harvest of souls for the kingdom of Christ, it amounts to exactly nothing. Our gathering has been of wood, hay and stubble only, and not of gold, silver and precious stones for the Master's living temple.*

*We believe that our entire evangelis'tic force throughout the Division should be set to work in definite public evangelism. Public efforts should be conducted in every town and village where we have a preacher and have liberty to do so. These efforts should be held in the best halls available, so that our message may be brought prominently and favorably before the masses. Such meetings should be held continuously, night after night, ten, twelve or more weeks, and the great cardinal features of the advent message should be presented in all their beauty and power.*

(Please turn to page 7)

## For the New Year

Let us walk softly, friend;  
For strange paths lie before us, all untrod;  
The new year, spotless from the hand of God,  
Is thine and mine, O friend!

Let us walk straightly, friend;  
Forget the crooked paths behind us now,  
Press on with steadier purpose on our brow,  
To better deeds, O friend!

Let us walk gladly, friend;  
Perchance some greater good than we have  
known  
Is waiting for us, or some hope flown  
Shall yet return, O friend!

Let us walk humbly, friend;  
Slight not the heartsease blooming round  
our feet;  
The laurel blossoms are not half so sweet,  
Or lightly gathered, friend.

Let us walk kindly, friend;  
We cannot tell how long this life will last,  
How soon these precious years be overpast;  
Let love walk with us, friend.

Let us walk quickly, friend;  
Work with our might while lasts our little  
stay,  
And help some halting comrade on the way:  
And may God guide us, friend!

—Lillian Gray.

## A Happy New Year

BY FREDERICK GRIGGS

"RING out the old; ring in the new." The year 1938 is gone, and the year 1939 is come. The record of the past year is a fixed one; it cannot be changed; but in our hands is the making of the record of the new year. This new year may be a very happy and prosperous one for us; but this happiness and this prosperity will depend, in the true sense, upon our spiritual life.

"All things are yours," said the apostle Paul, speaking to his converts of the gains to be had in Christ. Yet Paul tells us that he was in need often of many physical comforts. He knew what it was to be beaten with rods, to have his feet fast in the stocks, to be stoned and left for dead. He knew privation and want. And yet out of his rich experience in the things of God he could say to these men and women who were learning the way of eternal life, "All things are yours." Paul looked not on the things which are seen, but on the things which are not seen; and by beholding he was changed.

After all, the mind and the spirit are above the body, with its demand for food and clothing and physical comfort. "Peace I leave with you," says Christ. "My peace I give unto you." And His is a peace that passes all understanding.

This new year should not only begin in happiness, but as its days pass along, this happiness should

be increased. At one time I saw in the lower left hand corner of a big store window a little pine tree painted on the glass. Next to it on the right was a tree a little larger; then another still larger. The fourth tree was the largest of all. Underneath were the words, "As I live I grow." Real happiness is a growing happiness. Each day is to be better than its predecessor. It is the privilege of every Christian to experience this growth in happiness.

There is an atmosphere of cheer and good will surrounding every true Christian. We are all affected by the unconscious influence of

those whose lives we touch. The cheerful smile, the happy word, may lighten the dark pathway of another. Courage is infectious. Paul's words, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me," has led to great achievements in the spread of the gospel of love and good will. Our task may be hard and unpleasant, but we may learn to do the work at hand with all our mind, and to be content in whatever state we are.

The year 1939 must bring us a steady, growing happiness and a greater efficiency in the service of God. Let this be our New Year's resolution.

## Paul, Missionary to the Thessalonians

PAUL came to Thessalonica with Silas and Timothy. The three missionaries lodged with the Jewish colony, which was naturally prominent in such a large commercial city. At this time Thessalonica was a free Greek city, . . . the capital of one of the four divisions of Macedonia.

Paul, with Silas and Timothy, lodged at the house of Jason, their fellow countryman, and spoke in the synagogue on Sabbath, converting many Gentile proselytes and many of the Macedonian women.

The success of Christianity in Thessalonica stirred up the orthodox Jews exactly as it had previously done in Pisidian Antioch and Iconium. They stirred up "certain lewd fellows of the baser sort,"—corner boys is an eloquent modern name for them—and with these agitators running here, there and everywhere, public opinion was soon turned against the preachers.

Paul and his companions were evidently not in the house of Jason when the Macedonian police came to arrest them. But, taking Jason and other Christians, they charged them with actions contrary to the decrees of Caesar, by "saying there is another king, one Jesus." Jason and his friends were ordered to keep the peace and were then discharged. "And the brethren immediately sent Paul away by night unto Berea."

Timothy, it seems, was not a target for the wrath of the Jews. Perhaps he had remained in the background. He stayed in Thessalonica on instructions from Paul, while the apostle and his companion Silas made their way to the town of Berea.

The first letter to the Thessalonians was probably written from Corinth, within a few months of his flight from Thessalonica. It was sent in order to refute Jewish slanders, to strengthen the affectionate links which bound Paul to his converts in the city, and to give

instruction on a subject which was agitating them: The Second Coming of Christ.

Reading between the lines, it seems that Timothy came to Paul with information that the Thessalonian Christians were loyal to the faith and wished to see him again; that enemy Jews had charged him with self-interest and had in other ways impugned his motives; that certain converts were liable to slip back into their old ways; that some of them were using the imminence of the Second Coming as an excuse for idleness, and that others, who had lost their friends and relatives by death, were anxious to know if these would share the resurrection.

Those were some of the main questions which Paul set out to answer when he dictated his first epistle to the Thessalonians. The epistle gives us the picture of a loving pastor anxious for the spiritual welfare of his flock, and is infinitely touching.

Paul reminds his followers how hard he had worked while in their company. "Brothers, you recollect our hard labor and toil, how we worked at our trade night and day, when we preached the gospel to you, so as not to be a burden to any of you, . . . "encouraging you, and charging you to live a life worthy of the God who had called you to His own realm and glory."

The personality and personal example of Paul must have been tremendous. He left behind him in the cities little self-governing brotherhoods bound together by the good news of the Christian message, held together by the Spirit of Christ and by the memory of the apostle's teaching and example. Nothing like St. Paul and his Christian communities had been seen in the world. And how near his converts were to paganism, or to a relapse into paganism, is clear from his earnest exhortations:

Finally, brothers, we beg and beseech you in the Lord Jesus to follow our instructions about the way you are to live so as to satisfy God; you are leading that life, but you are to excel in it still further. You remember the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus. It is God's will that you should be consecrated, that you abstain from sexual vice, that each of you should learn to take a wife for himself, chastely and honorably; no one is to defraud or over-reach his brother in this matter, for the Lord avenges all these sins, as we have told you already in our solemn protest against them."

What a picture such words give us of the apostle: his hands weary with work, sitting down in the evening among a circle of his converts and speaking to them with earnest simplicity as a teacher speaks to his children. The gentleness, the tenderness and the charm which Paul, a man capable of so much nervous temper, expended on these simple converts is one of the most beautiful things in ancient literature.

Reading the concluding sentences in this second letter, it seems to me that the centuries fall away and we are admitted into the little workshops and the weaving sheds of Thessalonica in the first century.

"Brothers," writes Paul, "we charge you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ to shun any brother who is loafing, instead of following, the rule you got from me. For you know quite well how to copy us; we did not loaf in your midst; we did not take free meals from anyone; no, toiling hard at our trade, we worked night and day, so as not to be a burden to any of you . . . We are informed that some of your number are loafing; busybodies, instead of busy. Now in the Lord Jesus we charge and exhort such persons to keep quiet, to do their work and earn their own living. As for yourselves, brothers, never grow tired of doing what is right. Only, if anyone shall not obey our orders in this letter, mark that man, do not associate with him—that will make him feel ashamed! You are not to treat him as an enemy, but to put him under discipline as a brother."

Then, as his habit was, Paul took the reed pen from his amanuensis and wrote:

"The salutation is in mine own hand, Paul's; that is a mark in every letter of mine. This is how I write. "The Grace of our Lord Jesus be with you all"—*In the Steps of St. Paul.*"

## Manchuria

W. H. BRANSON

THE first field we had the privilege of visiting after arriving in China was the Manchurian Union. Three days after reaching Shanghai we left for Mukden in answer to an urgent call for counsel regarding a number of very pressing problems. Elder K. H. Wood, the union superintendent, recently returned from leave of absence, had called the union committee together, and invitations had also been extended to Elder W. J. Harris, superintendent of the North China Union, H. A. Oberg, superintendent of the Chosen Union and S. Ogura, department secretary of the Japan Union.

Three days were spent together in earnest councils over vital problems that concerned the entire future of our work in that field. It was reported that because of the exceeding difficulties facing them, a number of missionaries of other societies had resigned their posts and quit the field. True to the spirit of the advent message, however, and believing that God would open the way, our brethren decided to press forward with courage and faith, resting on the promises: "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world," and "The Lord will give us favor before the nations until our work is done."

A delegation was appointed to go to the capital and interview certain men in authority, and a courageous and favorable report was received from these brethren following their first interview, and before we left again for Shanghai.

There are many evidences that the Lord is greatly blessing the work in Manchuria. Elder Larsen reports sales of 22,000 and 23,000 copies of the *Signs Magazine* monthly. Forty-five colporteurs did 6000 yen worth of business in November, and 500 persons were baptised into the faith during the past year.

The sanitarium, located in the beautiful garden of the royal tombs, is doing a splendid work, and Drs. H. C. and Ethel James report that they have been able practically to clear the institution of debt through its earnings. All who know of this splendid institution will be happy to learn that assurances have been given that it will be permitted to carry on its work as heretofore. In this matter, as well as in many others affecting the field, we can clearly see the mighty hand of God.

In the Mukden Clinic we found a very congested situation. The rooms were all crowded, and there were patients lying in the hallways, on the treatment and examining tables, and wherever one

could find sufficient space to stretch out. The nurses were living in the attic, and there was no way by which they could get away from the moans and cries of the sick for a little rest. The purchase of a new compound for the foreign workers will, however, greatly relieve this congested condition, and make it possible for Dr. Miracle and his staff to carry on their work under more pleasant and helpful surroundings. This institution has also shown splendid gains recently, and the workers believe it has a prosperous future before it.

Due to certain government requirements the academy at Wen Kwan Tun will probably have to be moved to a new location. Brother Andrew Robbins, the principal, and the union committee members believe, however, that this change can be made practically without cost to the denomination.

In addition to those mentioned above, we were privileged to meet Brethren Brodersen, superintendent of the Fengting and Jehol Missions; F. B. Knight, secretary-treasurer for the union; R. F. Cottrell, superintendent of the Kirin Mission; M. Popow, superintendent of the Russian work; K. H. Kim, superintendent of Chien Tao and Wang Fu Yuan of the Pinkiang Mission, together with the families of many of these workers, as well as numbers of our native laborers. We left the field feeling certain, despite the difficulties in the way, that the new year will bring to the work in the Manchurian Union the greatest degree of prosperity it has ever experienced.

## Evangelist Course at China Training Institute

(Continued from page 8)

of practice required each week of the students:

Missionary visits . . . . .	626
Persons taken to meetings . . . .	370
Persons given needed help . . . .	82
Missionary letters written . . . .	74
Tracts distributed . . . . .	870
Christian help work done in the neighbouring villages . .	654
Medicines, food or clothes distributed . . . . .	108

Thus the Institute is promoting practical training along evangelistic lines. We trust that our missionaries throughout the field will remember in their prayers the work of the China Training Institute, and that in sending students to the school for training, will select young men who are consecrated as well as eager for scholastic learning; for it is the youth who are wholehearted and devoted who are needed for the coming harvest in the China field.

## From Hongkong to Ichang

By D. E. REBOK

In the events of the past few weeks, while I have been spending time at some of our interior mission stations, or traveling through areas subjected to war and destruction, it has been forcibly impressed upon me that the God whom we serve is abundantly able to protect His children and to guide them to success in their endeavors for Him, no matter how forbidding the circumstances or how difficult the task.

In the late summer, in response to a vote of the Division Committee, and accompanied by E. L. Longway, I set out from Hongkong with Canton in mind as our first destination, and thence to Hankow. Here it was expected that we would separate, Brother Longway pushing on to the West, and I in company with Pastor Appel to Sian and Lanchow, in the Northwest, where appointments were out for meetings to be convened. On this first stage and, indeed, throughout the entire journey which occupied seven weeks, we were repeatedly reminded of God's special guardianship and help; and, moreover, received many, many evidences of the kind and friendly spirit of the Chinese nationals toward the foreign missionary and his work.

### EVACUATION OF HANKOW

Nearing Hankow on the sixth day of our journey, we found the Chinese setting up new defense lines. Soldiers were busy stringing telephone wires, digging trenches and gun placements and moving artillery into place. These and many other tokens gave evidence that the fall of the city was near at hand. In the Wuhan city we found very few soldiers on the streets, but policeman still stood at the cross sections. Wuchang had already been deserted by the 9th of October, although the city did not actually fall until the 25th. The reason for this early evacuation was that Wuchang was a military headquarters, and the people had been commanded to leave before the soldiers should carry out the plan of setting a thousand fires in Wuchang, Hankow and Hanyang, in order to burn over the entire area before the enemy occupation.

On reaching Wuchang, we immediately went to the sanitarium, where we found the workers in a state of considerable alarm. Dr. Miller was still absent, not having yet returned from Manila; the cooks had left; and all the patients who could do so were leaving. The situation was very tense. There is something very exciting as well as distressing in the approach of an

enemy army. Each day the reports would come in: "They are within thirty miles;" "they have advanced another five miles;" "only twenty miles away;" and so on.

That evening we met with some of the workers at the sanitarium together with the brethren from Hankow; and the next morning we met with the nurses and other workers. All were anxious for some one to tell them just what they ought to do. However, in spite of the counsel to stay by and help meet the emergency and pass through the crisis right there rather than some other place, they all secretly hoped for the word that would enable them to move on.

As we walked about the city it was only too evident that Hankow was doomed. Passing through the streets we found many of the shops empty and boarded up. All schools were closed. Many of the hospitals had also closed or had moved into the city of Hankow to occupy one or other of the big bank buildings that had been evacuated and placed at the disposal of hospitals or other foreign interests. The machinery from many of the factories had been moved up river. Telephones were being taken out from houses and offices and plans were on foot to dismantle the water and electric plants. People were moving in all directions. Every kind of available vehicle was loaded with personal belongings.

The French Concession seemed to be the only place of refuge in all that area, and here even a small space was renting for \$300 and \$400 per month. And one was compelled to rent for a period of from three to six months in order to get anything even at that price. That Friday we rented a house in the French Concession near by the consulate in order to have a place for our Chinese nurses and for Mrs. Sevreus and her son. This brought relief to our workers who had to remain in the city.

### ATTEMPTS TO REACH THE NORTHWEST

Our attempts to get to Sian and Lanchow met with failure. By the time we had arrived in Hankow, the city of Sinyang, north of Kikungshan on the Peiping-Hankow Railway, had already fallen; but we still hoped that by taking a car up along the Han River we could get to Yencheng, for which station we had some twenty cases of supplies. After some interesting experiences in getting a permit, Brother and

Sister Appel and I boarded the mission car and set out.

About five o'clock that afternoon we came to a place where the road was washed out by heavy floods. There was a detour, however, and we made this over very bad roads, traveling till 7 p.m. Then we were stopped by soldiers who told us: "The road is washed out; you can never get over it at night." But we showed them our pass, and they said, "Go ahead."

The soldiers had spoken the truth; for the road was indeed dangerous. We soon struck some soft dirt and found ourselves traveling on a ribbon of land with flood waters on either side. In places the road was so narrow that the car tipped perilously as we pushed our way across.

Finally we came to a bridge on which men were still working. This was very loosely put together, and swayed from side to side. Mrs. Appel and I crawled out of the car and went ahead with a flashlight to see what was ahead of us, while Brother Appel followed closely with the car. In this way we traveled until 9 o'clock that night, crossing successfully two ferries. By the time we reached the third ferry a strong wind had come up, which soon increased to a gale. There was no regular ferry here; only two small junks roped together and joined by a wooden platform. The workmen looked at us and then at the water. It was too dangerous to cross.

It was not very pleasant to think of sitting there all night on that narrow neck of land with that dangerous road behind, but there we had to sit on the front seat of that small car. Toward midnight it grew very cold; but fortunately the Appels had brought along their fur coats, and under these, huddled close together, we shivered through the night. By morning the wind had grown worse, and to add to our discomfort and the seriousness of the situation it was raining. Furthermore, the winds and rain had washed away the approach to the ferry. It would take four days to repair this road to a state where it would bear traffic, we were told. There was nothing to do but to return to Hankow.

One further attempt we made to get through to our appointments in the Northwest. This time we hoped to go up along the railroad and cross just south of where the fighting was going on. But by the time we could get messages through to Sian, inquiring about the safety of the roads, the rains had made all roads impassable. "Come by plane; roads impassable," was the message that came back to us. We then

sought to get plane tickets, but were told that every seat was taken for two weeks and that it was very doubtful if the air service could be continued longer than a few more days. So there we were. The train service finished; the plane service finished; the roads impassable. Clearly, all ways were closed, and we now felt justified in canceling our appointments in the Northwest.

#### A THRILLING EXPERIENCE

By this time I was prepared to stay in Hankow, though still impressed to move on if this were possible. Being directed to the Standard Oil Company as a probable means of getting passage on an outgoing boat, we went there to inquire about possibilities. At first there seemed no way of getting booking on the boat leaving shortly for Ichang; but later we secured one that had been cancelled by a lady newspaper reporter.

Before giving me my ticket, however, the manager handed me a sheet of paper, saying, "Will you sign this?"

"What is this?" I asked.

"This explains that you are traveling on very dangerous cargo, and that if you lose your life on this trip, the Company is exonerated from all responsibility."

"That is all right," I said, and signed my name. Then, a bit curious to know what the cargo was, I asked and was told: "We have 12,000 tins of aviation gas and 600 drums of oil, and all the other stock we can remove from Hankow. I ask just one thing of you, and that is that while you are on this boat you do not smoke."

"That will be easy," I replied; "for I have never smoked in my life."

"Good; then we wish to make you a committee of one to see that no one else smokes." And with the assurance that I would do my best at that, except that I would not be responsible for the captain, I went off with a guest ticket safely tucked away in my pocket.

We left Hankow on Sunday morning, the 23rd. The day was beautiful. We had traveled up river not more than sixty miles when we met with a thrilling experience. Being very tired after a sleepless night, I had retired to my cabin after tiffin for some rest. Suddenly I was awakened out of a sound sleep. Quickly putting on my shoes and buttoning up my shirt, I made my way to the deck; and hardly had I reached it when there was a great whirring of motors. Two Japanese pursuit planes were coming right after us. They zoomed down beside us until they were level with our deck. Their glasses were trained on us, and it was evident that they

saw the big \$ sign on the funnel of our boat as well as the American flags painted all over our ship. To our relief and joy they went on past. Then while we were trying to calm ourselves we heard more noise at the rear and rushed back to see three big bombers coming straight for us. But they zoomed over, made a sudden turn and went back.

Near by to our rear was a small Chinese steamboat, which we had passed on the river a little while before. It was loaded with refugees. As we watched, the planes swooped down on this boat. About one hundred feet above it one of them dropped a bomb, and in a few seconds the little ship was a mass of

flames. And of the 400 refugees aboard not one escaped. This was truly an awful sight.

"What are you going to do when they come after us?" I asked a fellow-passenger standing at my side.

"I am going to recall all my sins," he replied, "and try to make them right."

Said the Chinese comrade: "I shall not think of one sin. There will not be time; and, anyway, it will be too late."

Surely the Lord was good to us on this journey. All felt that we had experienced a miraculous deliverance, and that God's providence alone had averted the impending destruction.

## Two Months in Chekiang Province

BY R. H. HARTWELL

LEAVING Shanghai the 25th of October, in company with Brother Li Keh Ying, our Home Missionary Secretary, and Brother Chang Kwan Hwa, our Sabbath school secretary, I took boat for Tinghai, on the Chow Shan Island group, in the mouth of the Hangchow Bay. Here we found our evangelist and his wife faithfully visiting the people and trying to establish a Sabbath school. They had been in this station only two months, having been placed there after their former station on the mainland had been completely burned and their baby had died. They had been separated from each other for several weeks, during which time they had searched anxiously for each other. When finally they were united they agreed to open work on these islands.

Before the hostilities we had a Sabbath school at Tinghai; but the members had now fled, and it was necessary to begin again. For over a month the evangelist and his wife had cheerfully slept on the floor, until they could afford to buy a bed. One month they bought the bed; the next month they bought a quilt, and the next month a winter garment. They had lost all in the city that had burned, but offered no complaint.

Our next stop was with a little church in the country, about fifteen miles from Ningpo. This church is held in the home of one of our aged members. We had not seen these brethren and sisters for nearly a year and a half, and were glad indeed to be able to spend a Sabbath with them. They have provided the land for a new church building, and have started a branch Sabbath school of more than forty children in one of the near by day

schools. It sounded good to hear these children singing "Precious Jewels."

Our next stop was south of Ningpo about fifteen miles, at the temporary home of one of our evangelists, who is a refugee. Aside from this evangelist's family we have no church members at this place, but a Sabbath school has been organized. In the evening we held a meeting for the neighborhood, when more than 150 persons crowded into the little room or stood across the street to listen to the story of Jesus and His love.

Journeying farther south we stopped at the home of Pastor Woo Tien En, where were a number of sick people who were glad to see us; then after a good night's rest we went on to Ninghai. This station has not been visited by a missionary for two or three years. No work has been established here permanently, but a number of persons are studying the truth and the prospects are good for organizing a church in this city in due time.

Two days of walking over mountain roads brought us next to our church at Siangshan. Since there is another church six miles out in the country from Siangshan, we spent several days in this section, visiting the members and holding meetings every night. In leaving those parts it was necessary to cross a bay by junk. We had a terrible wind to contend with, and after crossing about one-third of the way the junk turned back. This was a disappointment, as we were about twenty miles from any Adventists and had no way of returning before dark. But after walking about two miles we reached

an inn and after eating supper found an old inquirer living just across the street. We visited this family, and in doing so were able to locate some chapel furnishings that had been brought to this place by junk when hostilities broke out. The next day we crossed the bay at an early hour and proceeded on our journey to Yu Yao. This was a three-day stage.

In the Yu Yao district are two stations where seven persons have recently been baptized. We found a number of inquirers at these places, and had the joy of holding Bible studies in several homes. Our people there are of good courage and are working to bring their neighbors and friends to Jesus.

Many of our members in these parts earn their living by gathering salt. This process of separating the salt from the sand is a very interesting one and to me seemed quite original. They skim off the surface of the ground and pile this up. Then they pour water over it, washing it into a sieve. The salt dissolves in the water and the sand drops down through the screen. The salt is drained off with the water, which is evaporated in large wooden troughs, after which the salt is scraped off. Some of our sisters in this section of the country weave a very good grade of cloth.

Taking a night boat, we started for Shaoshing, which point we reached after twenty-four hours of travel. Here we have our own church building and a church school of about thirty lively children. For about a week we traveled in this neighborhood. Shaoshing seems to be the Venice of Chekiang Province, if not China. Every part of the city can be reached by row boat. We traveled out to about six country churches near by, also using a row boat. We visited over a hundred of our people in these parts and were happy to know that they all had food, clothing, and shelter. The Lord has heard our prayers and blessed and protected our people, though they are very near the troubled areas.

Leaving this district we had ten miles by boat and twenty miles of walking to our next church. More than thirty members gathered that evening to listen to our message, and these had brought as many visitors along with them. Every one in this village is named Wang, which translated would be King. The next church visited was in a village where everyone is named Chang. Our next church had been badly shaken by a bomb that had destroyed the building next door. How thankful we were to be able to meet in our chapel to worship God, who had preserved the lives of

our brethren when the lives of many others had been unexpectedly snuffed out. No one in the church had been injured, though one of our sisters, a widow, had lost her home. This was hit by a bomb one day when she was absent. When she returned she had no home, nor any earthly possessions. Everything had been destroyed.

Days of walking followed and days of boat riding in very shallow water. We shall not mention names of places; but as we visited other churches and companies we were provided with armed police who, we were told, would protect us from unruly elements known to be in the neighborhood. In this sort of country we traveled for a week, meeting with seven groups of believers and hearing stories of miraculous deliverances. In several cases bombs did damage to church buildings, but in no case injured our people. God has been good to His children.

Journeying on south we visited groups of believers in the mountains and valleys. Here many have temporary homes and are cheerful

and happy. On Sabbath we met with a class of twenty children who studied their Sabbath school lesson on the green grass under the shade of trees on a lovely hillside.

It was necessary to return by way of Wenchow, where we had a most interesting visit with Pastor and Mrs. Fossey, who have labored faithfully at their post these many years.

It was a pleasure to be able to visit some thirty stations at a time when there were no mosquitoes. Communications were not very good. Roads were impassable for vehicles; but we were able to secure coolies to carry our baggage and by patient walking were able gradually to reach all the stations. We were pleased to find our people everywhere of good courage and to note how God had especially blessed and protected them in these unusual times. We long to see the work quickly finished in this great land, and in all lands. May the Lord finish His work and cut it short in righteousness, according to His promise.

## The Hainan Island Mission

BY A. L. HAM

RECENTLY there has been received at the South China headquarters a very interesting letter from Pastor Woo, director of the Hainan Island Mission. From this I quote the following:

I thank you for your letter and kind advice. You can be assured that all your instructions will be carried out. The situation in Hainan is serious, and the people here expect trouble at any moment. The government has ordered evacuation from Hoihow and other coastal towns, with the result that the people have become more fearful, and all phases of our work are seriously affected. But notwithstanding these difficulties we are pressing on. We have been holding evangelistic meetings in Lok Ki the past few days, with a full attendance, and from which we expect to see good results. After this meeting closes, we shall try to carry on in other sections. We thank the Lord for making it possible for us to raise \$360.00 in Harvest Ingathering funds under such conditions.

It is certainly encouraging to get this good word from Pastor Woo, since so many portions of the South China field have been so disrupted as to make it very difficult to promote the various interests of the cause. Pastor Woo, when he finds that he cannot work in one center, moves to another, and thus carries on.

The Harvest Ingathering receipts in Hainan are larger this year than for any previous year. A later letter from Pastor Woo says:

Conditions here have greatly changed. The people are panic stricken; but as servants of God we must press on and carry the responsibilities that are ours at this time. Will you pray often for us, that the Lord may give us strength and fortitude for our task. You will be glad to know that we have reached our Harvest Ingathering goal of \$400. We are indeed thankful that this has been possible. Will you not rejoice with us over this?

It is a source of deep satisfaction to get this letter from the Hainan Island Mission and to know that during these difficult times the workers have unitedly pressed forward. They ask us to rejoice with them. Surely, anyone who has any understanding of the conditions prevailing in that field will join them in thanksgiving over this evidence of God's blessing. Pastor Woo has organized his forces in such a way that if it becomes necessary they can retreat into interior places and still carry forward the work. Surely this is the spirit of the Advent people who feel the burden of the work resting on their hearts. May God greatly bless the workers of the Hainan Mission.

## China Division Sabbath School Report for Quarter Ending June 30, 1938

Union Mission	No. of Schools	Member-ship	Average Attendance	Birth-day Offering	Investment Fund	Twelve Sabbath's Off'gs	13th Sabbath Offering	Total Offering to Missions
Central Ch.	77	2,683	2,412	\$ 6.71	\$12.20	\$315.51	\$41.72	\$376.14
East China	149	4,351	3,629	16.77	54.09	551.30	76.55	698.71
Manchuria	62	2,341	1,940	13.47	31.34	380.31	96.98	522.10
N. China	64	1,886	1,784	12.41	19.67	296.61	44.32	373.01
N <sup>w</sup> est Ch.	41	1,013	1,076	1.52	1.23	89.75	16.41	108.91
S. China	131	4,119	4,114	29.72	42.03	577.77	91.38	720.90
W. China	145	3,821	4,110			310.89	47.30	358.19
Totals	671	20,194	19,065	\$80.60	\$160.56	\$2,502.14	\$414.66	\$3,157.96

WHILE our report shows a long row of losses as compared with the second quarter of 1937, it is encouraging to note that several unions have made gains in various items. New schools have been added in Manchuria, Northwest and West China; Manchuria, North and Northwest each shows a gain in membership; and the attendance has increased in Manchuria, North, South, and West China.

For the first six months of the year 1938 four unions show a gain in offerings over the corresponding period of last year; namely, South China, with a gain of nearly 23%; Manchuria, 21%; North China 14.6%; and West China, 2.6%. The total offerings for the second quarter are almost

U.S.\$500 in excess of those for the first quarter of the year.

The number of Sabbath schools, membership, and attendance are all lower than for many, many months. This is due, in part, to incomplete reports. Two whole missions—Anhui and North Kiangsu—are missing from East China's report this time, thus reducing our total by 91 Sabbath schools and over 2,700 members. It is our earnest hope and prayer that when the facts are known we shall find that none of these members are really lost, and that the trials through which they have passed have but served to strengthen their faith in the God who is a refuge in time of trouble for all who put their trust in Him.

BESSIE MOUNT,  
Secretary.

honor badges given out, or work done in caring for the poor. All this is good, but unless it results in actual accessions to the church of Christ, no lasting results will be seen.

Christ's commission to His disciples was, "Go, and make disciples;" "I will make you fishers of men," He said. And, "Herein is My Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit." No number of other goals reached can ever substitute for soul-winning.

Shall we not make "More Souls for Christ" our motto for the year 1939?

### Exchanges from Other Divisions Worth Retelling

UNDER this caption the following appeared in a recent issue of the *Constituency Builder*, an exchange sheet sent out by the Far Eastern Division:

#### A HANDLESS MISSIONARY

A brother without hands wanted to win souls. He requested his wife to fill his pockets with tracts. He then went from door to door in a town where there were no believers. He knocked on the doors with his elbows, and as the door opened, he said, "I have a message for you. It is in my pocket. Please take it." This faithful brother has twenty persons in a little Sabbath school now, three of whom are already baptised.

#### THREE HUNDRED TWENTY-EIGHT LAY PREACHERS

In the North Moldavian Conference, Southern Europe, there are three hundred twenty-eight lay preachers. They have taken a goal of over 2,000 souls to be won this year. During January they reported 515 sermons, 2871 Bible studies to 15,000 listeners, and 1,116 missionary visits.

#### DIFFICULTIES BECOME OPPORTUNITIES

The Roumanian Conference said: "We have won more souls since we have had difficulties; so we have been calling these difficulties by their wrong name. They are really opportunities."—H. BROWN.

#### THREE HUNDRED BRANCH SABBATH SCHOOLS

"I have recently attended the meeting in Jamaica and Cuba," writes H. T. Elliot. "A Seventh-day Adventist map of Jamaica is an inspiration. The island is 140 miles long and 70 miles wide, and is dotted everywhere with Seventh-day Adventist churches,—115 of them altogether. The Santo Domingo field has 300 branch Sabbath schools. The work is going forward by leaps and bounds."

### More Souls for Christ

(continued from page 1)

We believe that in this work of public evangelism the leaders should take the lead. A real leader is one who can keep in advance of his men, inspire them to follow, and show them the way. If each field leader in the Division would plan personally to conduct one or two strong evangelistic efforts this year, perhaps associating with himself workers of less experience who would benefit from the training thus received, we believe the entire field would be fired with a new spirit of evangelism. Our churches would be encouraged and revived, and the Spirit of God would be poured out in copious showers.

Now that we have a new year before us, we wish to appeal earnestly to the leadership of our work throughout the China Division, to inaugurate the greatest soul-winning campaign ever undertaken in this territory. The fields are white to the harvest, and unless gathered in immediately much precious grain will be lost.

We believe that every sanitarium and clinic staff should lay new and broader plans for bringing the mes-

sage clearly and definitely before every patient that enters these doors. None should be neglected or passed by. It is primarily for the healing of the soul that God brings these people to us. If only the body is healed we simply succeed in prolonging a life and no lasting good is accomplished. Literature should be placed in the hands of all; public meetings should be conducted for the patients, and much personal work should be done, by doctors and nurses, all in a supreme effort to lead men and women to accept the gospel.

Our school faculties should lay broader plans for winning each student that comes under their care to Christ. Every school should carry on almost constant public evangelistic work in the community in which it is located. The older students should be associated with faculty members in this field work, thus giving them an opportunity to receive practical training in actual soul-winning ministry while still in school.

Our departments should all be vital soul-winning agencies. We must not rest satisfied with piling up a large sales report, a large record of financial goals reached,

## The China Division Reporter

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### The China Training Institute

#### Evangelistic Course at the China Training Institute

BY C. I. MENG

The past two years have constituted a sad page in the history of the China Training Institute. During the latter part of the year 1937 hundreds of our young men lost their homes and were scattered. The teachers also have been scattered, and some have even lost their lives. Buildings have been leveled and equipment destroyed or carried away.

The training work of the evangelist course, however, has not stopped. Soon after the evacuation from Chiaotoutseng, Pastor Quimby, president of the Institute, went to Hongkong and availed himself of the classrooms at the South China Training Institute, and in these were accommodated a number of the students in the evangelistic course, and the curricula formerly followed at Chiaotoutseng continued.

In the training of evangelists the classroom work is only part of the completed course. Studying evangelism without applying the principles to actual practice may be likened to the discussion of strategy on paper. It is obvious that the right way to learn is to apply the theory to practical demonstration, and to learn from practice the experiences of success or failure. Learning coupled with application, then, makes the evangelistic course effective and successful; for in practice one learns diligence, bearing, dependence on God, sacrifice, skill, promptitude and other essential virtues and abilities.

Here is a condensed report of practical work made by something over ten students in the evangelistic course being conducted this year at the China Training Institute at Shatin. These figures represent only the

(Please turn to page 3)

### Welcome

ON December 13 Pastor and Mrs. W. H. Branson and son arrived in Shanghai, where they will now make their home. The workers and believers in China extend to them a hearty welcome to this Division. We assure Pastor Branson of our support as he takes up his responsibilities as president of the China Division of the General Conference.

Since it was impossible for Professor and Mrs. Griggs to return to China, we are indeed fortunate in the appointment, as president, of such an experienced and capable leader as Pastor Branson. His many years of missionary service in other lands qualify him to render most valuable leadership in China at this critical time. There are many large and important interests of our work here which have been greatly affected by the present situation in China. For these interests there must be wise and careful planning. We are indeed grateful to the General Conference for making it possible for Pastor Branson to come to China at such a time of crisis and need. May the Lord richly bless his ministry to the saving of many precious souls, is our united prayer. And may the Lord also give to each of us as workers large vision, strong faith, courage, and sympathetic hearts as we unitedly plan and labor for the many interests of this movement throughout this sorely troubled and needy land.

A. L. HAM.

### News Notes

ELDER and Mrs. K. H. Wood, back from leave of absence in the States, have taken up their duties once more in the Manchurian Union.

BORN, on January 1, to Mr. and Mrs. Leighton Holley, of Peiping—a son, Leighton Junior.

Dr. Y. C. So, medical secretary of the Hakka Mission and physician in charge of the Waichow-Hospital-Dispensary, has re-opened this institution, which, it will be remembered, was evacuated on the fall of Waichow.

BROTHER E. L. Longway, in from the field to attend the officers' meeting held this month at Division headquarters, Shanghai, reports unusually interesting experiences in connection with Harvest Ingathering work in the West. We hope for a full report from Brother Longway in a later issue.

Work is progressing on the Pioneer Memorial Church at Hongkong, which it is hoped will be ready for occupancy not later than early May.

Our brethren in Hongkong are continuing their solicitation work in behalf of the South China Training School, and are meeting with good success.

Word has come through that the group of workers who left Hongkong for West China by truck the first week in December have reached Chungking safely, after spending over a month on the way.

### OBITUARY

#### MRS. FREDERICK GRIGGS

BLANCHE EGGLESTON was born at Lancaster, New York, August 2, 1871, and passed to her rest at Los Angeles, California, January 12, 1939. Between these dates stretch a golden record of noble Christian living and loving service. She was united in marriage to Frederick Griggs on August 16, 1892 and to this union were born two sons, Bruce (deceased) and Donald, now on the staff of the College of Medical Evangelists, Loma Linda, California.

Mrs. Griggs labored unselfishly and untiringly with her husband in his educational and missionary endeavors. Her spirit of loyalty and buoyant optimism was always an inspiration to him and, indeed, to all who came under the influence of her devoted life. During her recent illness her thoughts were often of China and of the workers in this section of the world field.

To the workers and believers of the China Division the life of Mrs. Griggs has become a precious legacy. The memory of it will live on and bear fruit. Our hearts go out to Professor Griggs in this hour of bereavement, and we pray that sustaining grace may be given him as he continues life's journey.

We convey to Dr. Donald Griggs and family and to other relatives our heartfelt sympathy, and commit them to the tender consolation of our heavenly Father. They cannot fail to find comfort in the promise of the Word: "Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord from henceforth; yea, that they may rest from their labors, and their works do follow them."

—John Oss.