

The China Division Reporter

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Dedication of the Signs of The Times Press Building on Ningkuo Road, Shanghai

SIGNS PRESS BUILDING DEDICATED

By JOHN OSS

IT was fitting that the last public meeting of the Quadrennial Session of the China Division, held on the afternoon of May 14, should be the dedication of the new building and factory extension of the Signs of the Times Publishing House.

In his opening remarks H. L. Shull, the manager, extended a welcome to the three hundred guests present, and then proceeded to review the leadings of Providence in the work of this institution, established at Ningkuo Road just thirty years ago. Construction of the new buildings was begun in the summer of 1937, but brought to a standstill when hostilities broke out in Shanghai. Work was resumed again in the autumn of 1938.

The new addition, Brother Shull stated, would be dedicated free of debt. He thanked the constituency and the members of the board for all they had done to make possible these added facilities, and expressed his hope for the publishing house in the following words: "Although the thought of the dedication of these buildings is uppermost in our minds today, I trust that we shall not forget the need of rededicating ourselves to the task of utilizing these material things that God has placed in our hands for the rapid proclamation of the gospel in all the world."

In his dedicatory address, Pastor W. H. Branson emphasized the important part that literature must have in giving the third angel's message to the Chinese people, and also the high regard that Seventh-day Adventists should have for the printed page as an evangelizing agency.

Remarks by Y. H. Chu, E. L. Longway and the writer followed; the dedicatory prayer was offered by Pastor Wang Fu-yuan, director of the Pinkiang Mission and a delegate from Manchuria to the Division Council.

The guests were then conducted on a tour of inspection of the factory and offices,—through the foundry and the typeroom to the pressroom where are the eight presses of the publishing house, and where the 65,000 edition of the 1939 Chinese Harvest Ingathering paper was in process of production; then to the shipping room, and from there to the editorial department on the second floor of the new office building. Here editors, translators, artists and proof readers had already moved in and were carrying on their work.

The library of over 10,000 volumes, the reference room and the art department are also housed on the second floor. One room on this floor of special interest was the historic museum of the Seventh-day Adventist Mission in China, where many articles pertaining to the early history of our missionary movement in China have been placed.

This new addition to the publishing plant fills a long-felt want and provides much-needed space and equipment for a more efficient operation of our publishing work in this field. May the advantages and the pleasure it affords to the publishing house staff engender in every worker a new spirit of service in and devotion to the cause of present truth, and help to make the publishing department of the China Division a still mightier factor in giving this last gospel message to China's millions.

MANCHURIAN UNION MISSION

By K. H. WOOD

IT is a privilege to bring you a short resumé of the blessings and providences which have attended the Lord's work in the Manchurian Union during the past year. Soul winning has been the goal of all departments and institutions throughout the field, and we have seen the promise fulfilled that the gift of the Spirit is the blessing which brings all others in its train.

Our leaders and evangelists conducted many series of meetings, and developed a number of new interests during that year. Protracted courses of Bible study were also conducted for those preparing for baptism. As a result, 521 souls received this rite and joined the church. Evangelistic campaigns are now being carried on in all our local missions. During the past two years an average of one new Sabbath school has been organized every two months. We have sixty-five Sabbath schools with a membership of more than 2,400. During the two years, the Sabbath school offerings have increased 42%.

The literature work in Manchuria has markedly prospered. Although much of the time our shipments of papers have been from three to five months late in reaching us, and although constantly faced with almost insurmountable difficulties, yet the force of colporteurs continued steadily at work,—with the result that the list of Signs subscribers climbed to more than 25,000 during the year.

The sanitarium has had the largest patronage of any year in its history. This fact, together with careful management, has made possible the liquidation of an indebtedness which has been a load on the institution. The city clinic also has made an enviable record. Patients have been crowded into

the halls and the doctor's examining room for so long, with the outpatient department's 100 to 140 patients crowded to standing capacity daily, that it seems trite to say that Dr. Miracle needs larger and better accommodations. To provide for this need, the doctor has accumulated a fund which, together with the savings of this year, will be sufficient to erect a new two-story unit to replace the old portion of the building. In the basement of this unit there will be a combination classroom and chapel, dining-rooms for the nurses, and other service rooms.

During recent months, urgent appeals have been received for branch medical missionary centers to be opened. The most recent call was accompanied by a gift of \$2,000, and a building site. May the Lord continue to prosper our two medical institutions that they may be able ere long to respond to these calls.

The Union Training Institute and church schools are continuing to operate without hindrance. The church schools are full to capacity, and requests have come for the opening of others. The enrolment at the training institute is more than 50% greater than last year, and our present capacity is wholly inadequate to care for the student body. The distance, the expense involved, and other conditions make it impossible for most of our students to go elsewhere to continue their education. Hence it is imperative that provision be made to give them work above the present tenth grade standard and that we have space for necessary expansion.

Considerable progress has been made toward self-support and the development of native leadership. Believers are assuming an ever increasing proportion of the local church expenses. A number of new

WEST CHINA UNION REPORT

By G. L. WILKINSON

meeting places have been provided. Further basic strength is evident in a greatly enlarged tithe income. Our total tithe has increased 52% during the past two years. We recognize that self-support and the development of an indigenous leadership are fundamental to the future growth and strength of the work.

We trust no one will gather from anything that has been said in this brief report that obstacles to the work in Manchuria are few. The very opposite is the case. One problem is no sooner solved than another looms before us. Yet the work is the Lord's, and we have confidence that He will keep the door of opportunity open for the proclamation of the gospel as long as there are souls to be saved.

A NEW CHURCH FOR FANGLING

By D. E. REBOK

A SEVENTH-DAY Adventist church near the old home of Confucius, made up largely of direct descendants of the great Chinese philosopher, is an item of news which will interest Seventh-day Adventists around the world.

Our interest in Fangling, a village in Shantung only a few li from the great Confucian temple near Yenchow, was first aroused by a report of twelve baptized members and forty-five other descendants of Confucius now in baptismal classes having donated a piece of land to our mission for a new chapel. That was good news. And when it was stated that the little company had also contributed over \$200 towards the church building, there took shape the idea of asking the delegates and visitors attending the China Division Council to contribute of their means to help the brethren and sisters at Fangling to put up a model church center by the home of Confucius. In ten minutes \$552 was donated, and then another \$248 was added by the China Division in order to bring the amount up to \$800.00, as a special gift to commemorate the 1939 Division Council.

We can imagine the joy of the little group in Fangling when the news reaches them. It is hoped that they will erect a building to house the chapel, the church school and a local health center. That will be a fitting memorial to the cause of God to be located near that other memorial to Confucius.

Many prayers will follow the gifts to Fangling for the special outpouring of God's Spirit upon that center.

THE provinces of Szechwan, Kweichow, Yunnan, Sikang, and Tibet make up the territory of the West China Union. Its previously estimated population of ninety-one and a half millions would now probably be well over one hundred million; for in the last two years the population of cities like Chungking and Kunming has more than doubled. The West has come into the limelight as the nation's new industrial, agricultural, and mining regions, as well as being the cultural and political center of the multi-millions. By far the richest and largest province is Szechwan. Next in importance as to resources is Yunnan. Sikang and Kweichow also are full of untapped treasures. It is estimated that the petroleum wells in the Sikang mountain ranges have sufficient reserves to last the present world for three hundred years.

At the end of 1932 we were conducting work in forty-one *hsien*, or counties, in the West China Union. At the end of 1937 this number had increased to seventy-five, or an 83% increase in five years. During the same period the membership increased from 1384 to 2512, or an 81% increase. During the last four years 1201 have been baptized, and there has been a net gain of 797. About 150 have already been baptized this year which would bring our present membership to about 2750.

In four years the West China Sabbath schools have increased from 92 to 145, and Sabbath school membership from 1808 to 3755. The present attendance is now 4131, the

Sabbath school attendance being 1500 more than the church membership. The totals for mission offerings for the years are given as follows: 1935, \$9,879.33; 1936, \$11,510.44; 1937, \$10,555.85; 1938, \$38,358.71. Literature sales: 1935, \$4,290.61; 1936, \$11,731.45; 1937, \$10,956.51; 1938, \$13,922.69. It is encouraging to see that literature sales show an increase of \$3,000 in spite of war and exceedingly difficult transportation facilities.

The printing industry at Da Bao has had all the business it could handle this last year. Several truck loads of paper have been brought up from Hongkong by way of Haiphong by our men, and this has meant a great saving to the industry, as the price of paper in Chungking has soared very high, and some kinds were unobtainable there.

Medical work is being conducted for the Tibetans by Dr. H. E. James, in charge of the hospital in Tatsinlu In Yunnan, dispensary work is being operated for the tribespeople; and more recently a refugee medical unit has been organized at Chungking as a branch of the Wuhan Sanitarium.

The opportunities for work in the West were never greater. The greatly increased population has enlarged the field; the new means of communication make travel easier; and the distress and trouble which have come are leading people to inquire, "What do these things mean?" All these circumstances are calls to an entire consecration on our part that we may be more fully used to finish quickly the work God has given us to do.



Church group at Fang ling, near Confucian temple.

THE YUNNAN MISSION

By C. B. MILLER

SEVENTH-DAY Adventist mission work in Yunnan was opened up a little more than eleven years ago, and since that time the Lord has marvelously blessed the labors of His servants. The province of Yunnan compares in size with the territory of the East China Union or the state of California, and has a population twice that of the Pacific Union Conference. It is reported that there are 140 different tribes in this province. Today we have converts from nine of these tribes.

To the north we have work almost to the Tibetan border. The journey from Kunming to Likiang, which used to take twenty days, can now be made in nine or ten. Likiang is a beautiful place. The Yangtse flows on three sides of the *hsien*, and the water is clear. The city is situated at the foot of Snow mountain, which rises to an elevation of 20,000 feet. Last year I baptized a man five days west of Likiang.

On the Mekong, a few days' walk from the border of Burma, is another point of contact. A worker there has been conducting missionary work for the past two and a half years. There are two baptismal classes being conducted at this place.

An unusually interesting work is going on south and west of Kunming, where Brother and Sister Milton Lee are stationed. They had been in that place only a few days when they were invited to open a Sabbath school in a village some 20 *li* out of town. Mrs. Lee said, "I will take care of the one in town." Her husband replied, "Then you will have to conduct two schools, for the people living in the town are Chinese and those in the valley, tribespeople. Mrs. Lee answered, "That will be all right." So at twelve o'clock each Sabbath Mrs. Lee held Sabbath school for the tribespeople. She played the opening song and led the singing. Then she offered prayer, and after another song she taught the Sabbath school memory verse. After that she gave a sermonette on the day's lesson. Next came the roll-call, then another song and the school was dismissed.

Mrs. Lee then would go home for lunch, and in the afternoon call the Chinese Sabbath school together and repeat the morning service. She must do all this alone, for each Sabbath morning her husband went 20 *li* into the country and conducted a Sabbath school and preaching service there. This means that he must walk from twelve to fourteen English miles every Sabbath. There

is now a large baptismal class in both places.

There are 900 baptized members in the Yunnan Mission. The Sabbath school attendance is over 1500. Thus is opened the way for hundreds to learn the truth.

I should like to mention an incident which shows that the Lord is able to use even bandits to bring the truth to those who are hungering for it. Two years ago, Brother Bartholomew and I were traveling in the northern part of the province, in a new and mountainous district. Hearing that there were bandits in that region, we took a long detour to avoid them.

One day on this road we met some men who asked us, "Do you know that there are robbers ahead?" We replied that we knew it. But when our carriers heard this, they refused to go any farther with us. There were no villages near, and there were still 60 *li* to go before night. We finally decided to tie the loads on the horses. This took some time, and while we were adjusting the load twelve men came up. They were dressed in farmer's clothing, though I noticed that each man carried a rifle and all had knives in their belts. They did not molest us, but were curious about our packs. They examined our canteens and saddles, and wanted to see how we used our camp cots. Finally, our loads all arranged, we told them we were moving on. We started off, and they went their way.

We had been on the road perhaps another quarter of an hour when we saw men coming toward us. While we were still some distance, they called, "Did they rob you?"

"No," we replied; "we have seen no robbers."

"Didn't you meet twelve men?"

"Yes," we said; down by the river."

"Did they have rifles and knives in their belts?"

"Yes."

"And they didn't rob you?"

"No."

Then they told us that these men had robbed six villages, and soldiers had been called out to give them chase. They said, "These men have been on this road a month, and have robbed every one that passed. We cannot understand why they did not rob you." But to us there was nothing out of the way in this. We knew that the Lord had been with us and protected us.

Through this delay we were unable to make our stage that day. At sunset we were still far from our goal and obliged to find shelter for

the night. In a distant cornfield we saw a man who proved to be a Miao, and who told us there was a village just over the hill. We asked him if he would give us a place to stay that night; and when he learned that we were ministers he said he would be glad to have us come.

At supper that night I asked the family if they would not like to have a service that night. They said they would, as they had heard something about Christianity. At the close of the preaching we sang a hymn and prepared to put up our cots and go to bed. A man spoke up and said, "Is that all you are going to say to us tonight?"

"Isn't it enough?" I asked.

"No," he said; "we want to hear more."

"All right," I answered; "I will preach another sermon." We had another service, and again offered the benediction. Then another man said, "I don't understand about Christ's coming. Can't you explain that to me." I said I would; but soon saw that they all wanted to hear. It was midnight before we could send them away. Before they left that night I asked them if they would not like to have a Sabbath school in their village, and they said they would. A few days later we sent one of our evangelists into that district. He was finally stationed at a place about 60 *li* from this village, and is now caring for five Sabbath schools and branch schools, one in this village being of the number.

In March of this year there was held in the Yunnan province a baptismal service at which 103 persons went forward in this rite. This I believe is the largest baptism in our mission experience in China. Some of those believers came from this village that I have spoken of. While we were there recently I asked, "How many families are there in this village?"

They answered, "Twenty-two."

"How many keep the Sabbath?"

"Twenty-two."

Thinking they did not understand the question, we asked again; and the answer was, "Twenty-two." Then we asked how many families there were in the valley. They said there were nearly fifty.

"How many keep the Sabbath?" And they answered, "Nearly all. If we had a worker here for just a few weeks, they would all keep the Sabbath."

Surely the time has come for us to follow the prophet Isaiah's exhortation, "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." Hundreds are waiting for the gospel of truth. We have the light. The Lord says to us, "Arise, shine."

"HE THAT HATH PITY"

By E. L. LONGWAY

MOST people are willing to loan money if they can be sure that the one to whom it is loaned will be faithful in repaying it. In the investing of funds the matter of security is of the greatest importance. But it often happens, even when money is invested in the oldest and most reliable firms, that losses occur and disappointment comes.

In Proverbs 19:17 we are told, "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will He pay him again." Here is an investment that needs no guarantee or security! We can safely "loan" all we have to the Lord, without fear of loss or delay in collection. And the interest on the loan is the highest to be had anywhere in this world; for if we invest in an expression of love to the unfortunate in the church we are due to receive the promise recorded by John, "And whatsoever we ask, we receive of Him, because we keep His commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in His sight." 1 John 3:23, 22.

In August of last year a new "investment company" was formed in Hongkong. Its funds are gathered from many parts of the world, and from many of our fellow workers in this Division. The company's business has been prospered, so that to the end of May, 1939, we have investments of \$5,402.56. Of this sum, \$3,569.22 has been loaned to the Lord, in the form of appropriations to the destitute and suffering among our own brethren and sisters in many parts of this land. If we have had a part in this investment we can collect dividends daily and without limit, even "whatsoever we ask."

Below is a statement of the receipts and disbursements of the China Division Relief and Uplift Committee:

	Receipts	Expenditures
Austral Union	\$126.13	
Australia	80.00	
Brethren in U. S.	2999.40	
Central China	313.01	\$1200.00
East China	300.67	1100.00
North China	117.92	400.00
Northwest China	160.81	25.00
South China	65.36	300.00
West China	216.83	450.00
Press	10.38	
Division Workers	1012.05	
Freight and charges on refugee supplies		94.22
Totals	\$5402.56	\$3569.22
Balance on hand		\$1833.34

These funds have been used to relieve such conditions among our own brethren and sisters as are described in the following passages from letters received: "The brothers and sisters there are loyal, earnest and faithful; but today we must add another adjective to describe accurately the condition of most of them—destitute. In one little village church, six old sisters are forced to beg on the streets." "In that section of the country our brethren have lost two harvests; one by the flooding of the almost ripened crops last year, and this year's crop because the flood waters are still over the land." "The cries of those left destitute are heard day and night, but there are no supplies left with which to help. All stores of grain and food were destroyed in the fighting." "This sister, with her six children, escaped with their lives. Their property is completely destroyed, and they are reduced to begging." Do we need to multiply these heart-rending statements of actual conditions among our own brethren and sisters in many parts of this land?

If every worker in this division, national and foreign, would respond to the appeal to contribute at least 2 per cent of the monthly wage to this fund we should receive more than \$1000 per month. What has been your response thus far? How much have you "loaned" to the Lord? The needs are increasing as the areas affected by the present incident are enlarged. Many of our churches have been scattered, homes broken up, and brethren and sisters left destitute. Will you not do your best, not only by contributing monthly to this fund for the relief of our suffering church members, but also by making known all cases of suffering and want among our church members that come to your attention? If you have not as yet joined us in this "investment company," why not write your treasurer today, and arrange to contribute a percentage of your income to this fund every month until such time as the need shall no longer exist.

We believe that the Oriental Branch of the Home Study Institute has been ordained of God. It has become a strong factor not only in the development of both our native and foreign workers, but also in breaking down prejudice, creating good-will and making us many friends. We earnestly request that you remember our work in your prayers.

HOME STUDY INSTITUTE ANNUAL REPORT

By W. A. SCHARFFENBERG

THE Oriental Branch of the Home Study Institute, established in 1922, first as a China Branch, later as a Far Eastern Branch, and since 1930 as the Oriental Branch, began its work in humble quarters. In fact, about all there was to the institute was one desk drawer in one of the offices of the old Shanghai Missionary College. The drawer was labeled "Fireside."

Today, after sixteen years of activity, the institute is carrying on work throughout the China and Far Eastern Divisions, offering over two hundred and fifty courses of study, and has fifty full-time and twenty part-time workers, directly employed in the promotion and development of the Home Study Institute in the Orient.

Matriculations

The Institute since its organization in 1922 has matriculated 4253 different individuals; of these 415 are recorded for 1938. It is interesting to note that more students were matriculated in 1938 than during the first five years of our history.

The Oriental Branch of the Home Study Institute is as international an organization as will be found anywhere in our world-wide work. Outstanding among those enrolled are Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Malay, Tagalog, Ilocano, Visayan, Annamese, Siamese, Tamil, German, French, Norwegian, Danish, Polish, Finnish, Italian, Swiss, Dutch, Swedish, Russian, Spanish, Portuguese, Australian, Canadian, Irish, English and American.

Enrolments

More and more of our students are completing their course of study and are enrolling in further courses. Our record to the close of 1938 shows a total of 10,367, 1,172 of whom enrolled in 1938. Approximately fifty per cent of these enrolments have been received during the past four years. Over 4,700 certificates have been issued to date, and almost fifty per cent of the students complete the courses entered upon.

Income

We list our income in four-year periods as follows:—

1922-1925	\$1,054.62
1926-1929	\$29,778.38
1930-1933	\$62,276.66
1934-1937	\$136,014.80
1938	\$42,784.00

From these records it will be seen that the income for each succeeding four-year period was at least double that of the preceding one.

SOUTH CHINA UNION MISSION

- By A. L. HAM

AS we review the progress of the work in the South China Union for the past four years, we are profoundly impressed by the many evidences of God's guiding providences. In the main, mission property has been preserved and the lives of our people have been spared. It is fitting that we give praise to our heavenly Father for His blessings and guidance through these trying times.

Evangelistic Advance

During this period 118 evangelistic efforts have been conducted throughout the union by the leaders of our evangelistic endeavors, by teachers in the training institute and by students from the ministerial classes. This work has been followed up by Bible studies in the homes.

There has been a splendid response to the summer evangelistic campaign fostered by the Missionary Volunteer society. Led by Brother Luke, a teacher in the training institute, a group of young people have visited 113 villages in the New Territories, giving literature to approximately 7,500 persons.

Closely related to these endeavors has been the conducting of revival meetings in our churches and stations. Such meetings have numbered 181. There were also held 71 week-end or short conventions, to promote the interests of the various departments and further assist our members to prepare for service.

The seven missions report 35 new counties entered and 24 new interests developed within counties already entered. These activities, together with those of our departments and institutions, have resulted in 1162 baptisms. The membership now stands at 3,859.

Financial

The tithe increase for this quadrennial period over that of the previous one is \$12,957.98. Tithe for last year amounted to \$33,088.28. Those offerings showing an increase are: regular Sabbath school offerings; Harvest Ingathering, and missions extension; those showing a decrease, Thirteenth Sabbath Offerings, annual offerings; Week of Sacrifice and literature sales. Doubtless prevailing conditions are responsible for these decreases. It will require the special blessing of the Lord and faithful promotion to turn the trends in these endeavors.

Our property values have increased to about \$300,000. At least two-thirds of this has been raised within

the field. We gratefully acknowledge the blessing of the Lord in these church, school, and medical buildings and lands. We dedicate them all to His service. We also thankfully acknowledge the liberal assistance that the Division and the General Conference have given for these enterprises. We shall long remember the faithful efforts of Dr. H. W. Miller, Pastors Longway and Rebok of the division; Pastors Wilcox and Larsen of the union, and others who have labored to secure funds for these much-needed facilities, as well as our believers and many friends who have assisted with liberal gifts.

Institutional

We operate one union and two local mission training institutes; one union sanitarium with two branches; three hospitals and their branches operated by local missions, and twenty-nine church schools. Our doctors and their staffs have many times risked their lives in keeping their institutions open in war times and in going out to give aid to the victims of bombing raids. They are also giving assistance to other institutions and to refugee camps. In Hongkong and elsewhere our people have been active in various forms of relief work. We would thank our Dorcas societies in America, Australia, and Honolulu which have so generously assisted in this time of need.

The erection of the union training institute in the New Territories of Hongkong is progressing well. We see many evidences that Providence is leading in this enterprise. We hope to have sufficient buildings ready for the opening of the next school year. The construction work on the China Pioneer Memorial Church is nearing completion.

Our Needs

Our material needs are so great and so many that we cannot list them here. We should, however, mention the need for further financial assistance in re-establishing the union training institute. We feel obliged to stress our great need for recruits to fill some of the vacancies in the local missions and in departmental work. We cannot too strongly urge this need, as the field work—"the life-line" of all our endeavors—is being sorely pressed. Our missionary force has been reduced from twenty families to thirteen and the demands of our institutional work require more such help now than when we had the twenty families. May God help us to know how to plan wisely for the present and for the future.

MINISTERIAL TRAINING IN CHINA TRAINING INSTITUTE

By C. I. MENG

I AM very glad for the opportunity to report on the work being done in the China Training Institute for the training of young evangelists; for this work is very closely related to the progress of the gospel message in China.

A successful evangelist should be faithful and consecrated; he should also have much practical knowledge of his calling and skill and ability in the following of that calling. We are endeavoring to train our students in accordance with these principles and purposes.

The general knowledge which a preacher needs is taught in the regular classes. For practical work the group has a ministerial project. The chapels at Kowloon, Taipu, and the many surrounding villages constitute their field. The students acquire a great deal of experience in this organized mission project, for in it they are carrying all the duties connected with a local mission.

We have a ministerial seminar. This assembles every Thursday, and is attended by the entire group. At this time the work that has been done is reviewed and studied with the object of improving our methods. Sometimes one or other of the teachers is asked to address the group.

The students do their field work on Sabbath afternoons and Sunday forenoons. They are developing diligence and faith and zeal besides gaining skill in preaching the Word and in the giving of Bible studies. There are thirty-two students in the group. A report of the practice work done from October 1, 1938, to April 2, 1939, follows:

Homes Visited	1755
Bible readings given	228
Tracts given away	4288
Services to the sick and needy	523
Clothing and food given	24
Persons led to attend services	39
Chapel sermons	126
Helping in Sabbath school	450
Assisting in chapel efforts	128
Evangelistic sermons	38

In closing I would say, If our work in China is to be revived, we shall need many trained evangelists. Let us give earnest attention to this matter that our goal of finishing the Lord's work in this great land may be the sooner realized.

NORTH CHINA TRAINING INSTITUTE

By W. ISMOND

"BECAUSE I want to be saved," came the quiet reply from one of the fifteen candidates being examined by the faculty of the North China Training Institute at Fengtai. The words, from the lips of a young lad of sixteen, made a deep impression on my mind; and as I review the past school year I am grateful that the Lord has enabled us to awaken this desire in the hearts of so many of these dear young people. The following day, Sabbath, we had the joy of seeing this fine group of young people baptized, and hearing them make their covenant with the Lord.

The spiritual aspect of the institute cannot be overestimated; for it is the very essence of our work. The teachers, recognizing this fact, have worked unceasingly for the young men and young women who have been enrolled in the school family. And God has surely blessed our efforts and answered our prayers.

Because of difficulties of travel we have had a smaller enrolment this year than usual; but as conditions have somewhat improved recently, we are laying plans for a larger attendance next school year.

The school industry has shown excellent results. Sales will probably be around \$15,000 by the end of the school year, June 30. This has meant about \$2,500 in returns to our boys and girls. In addition we are experimenting in something new in this part of China, by establishing an agricultural department for seed growing, of both flowers and vegetables. We have been fortunate in getting a trial order from a large seed house in London, and hope to develop this industry into a profitable enterprise.

At this time when the world is re-arming for the final struggle, may we also arm ourselves anew with the Holy Spirit, and prepare for the great day of the Lord, dedicating the best that we have for the finishing of His work.

Last year, in the smallest mission of the Manchurian Union two colporteurs sold over \$4,000 worth of literature, and this in territory that has been torn by battles and guerilla warfare. Often these colporteurs have taken their lives in their hands, as it were, in order to continue their work.

INVESTITURE SERVICE

MONDAY evening, May 29, was the occasion of an investiture service at the East Shanghai compound, when members of the Far Eastern Academy Missionary Volunteer society were received into the ranks of Friends, Companions and Comrades. Five Master Comrades were present to assist in the service. L. E. Reed, secretary of the East China Union M. V. department, spoke of the purpose of the progressive class work, centering his remarks about the words of the apostle Paul: "Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect."

D. E. Rebok, secretary of the China Division M. V. department, gave the charge. The candle ceremony impressed the idea of radiating the light. Those receiving Friend pins were Harvey Decker, Wilma Jean Figuhr, Sylvia Shaw, Winston Clark, Mrs. Anderson, Fred Larsen, Harold Coffin, Phyllis Davis; Companion, Betsy Maloney; Comrade, Halcyon MacEachern and Alva Appel.

The candidates were presented for investiture by Miss Rachel Landrum, leader of the society. The society's members are diligently working toward meeting the requirements of the progressive classes. Among these are a group of seven studying for Master Comrades.

EVANGELISTIC-RELIEF ACTIVITIES IN CANTON

One feature of evangelistic work in the South China Union has been in connection with relief work undertaken, under the direction of Pastor J. P. Anderson, by the Namkwan and Tungshan churches, in Canton. These two churches have distributed by tickets over a period of five weeks, rice and wheat to the needy. Before the distribution of food each day, a period of time was allotted to a preaching service, when all would gather to hear the gospel. It is most heartening to witness the faithfulness of our church members in this good work, and the amount of medical and material help being extended in this time of adversity, as well as the large opportunities on every hand for gospel work.

S. S. Wong.

APPRECIATION OF THE MINISTERIAL READING COURSE

THE Ministerial Reading Course for this year will have a special appeal to workers in the Orient inasmuch as two of the books were prepared by Elders I. H. Evans and C. C. Crisler, former leaders in this part of the world field. Not only does our personal acquaintance with the authors make these books of particular interest, but each is a recognized authority on the subject treated in his book.

"The Preacher," by Elder Evans, is a veritable storehouse of inspirational material on the work of the gospel minister. The lofty ideals it sets forth are fitting standards for those called to carry the last message of mercy to a lost world. The author's deep conviction on these matters is expressed in his logical, convincing style, and those who read cannot but feel a determination to reach yet higher ground in their service for the Master.

Throughout my reading of the book, "Organization," I sensed a feeling of gratitude that this record of God's leadings of the advent people has been left us. Based as it is on Elder Crisler's unique experience and intimate personal acquaintance with many of the pioneers in this movement, his testimony is of inestimable value to all who are engaged in the finishing of the work.

"Diet and Foods," another timely book in this year's course, is compiled from the writings of Mrs. E. G. White, and contains much material not now available in other published form. Although many of the principles outlined were given us as a people several decades ago, when they were not understood nor appreciated by the medical profession, yet medical and other scientific research of recent times reveals their value to all who are seeking health. This book sounds a clarion call to the Lord's people to follow fully the principles of healthful living which He has given. "Christianity and Politics," while a work of a different character, treats of a subject which all should understand. The quality of the material and the variety of subjects covered in the reading courses year by year bear evidence to the care which is taken in the selection of the books.

K. H. Wood.

May 15, 1939.

China Division Reporter

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OPPORTUNITY FOR S.D.A. YOUTH

By E. L. LONGWAY

MANY youth in the world today are exceedingly uncertain as to their future. Conditions are unsettled, the outlook discouraging, and many young people, because they do not know how to plan for the future are drifting along with the tide. It may be that among these confused and uncertain ones are some of our Seventh-day Adventist boys and girls, but this should not be; for Seventh-day Adventists have the "more sure word of prophecy" and may know positively what the future holds for them individually and for the world. As conditions in the world become more unreliable and the signs of Christ's coming are most strikingly fulfilled, they should take courage, and mark out their course with boldness and confidence.

There is a world to be warned of its coming doom; for "this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness; . . . and then shall the end come." One of the greatest agencies in giving this warning message is the printed page. And just now when there is so much of turmoil and uncertainty, is our day of opportunity, for men everywhere want to know what these things mean, and are looking for a message of hope and comfort.

The Signs of the Times publishing house is one of God's appointed agencies for giving the gospel message to the millions of this division. It is no accident that this institution is able to complete its new building at this time. Our press is now in a position to publish \$1,000,000 worth of literature each year.

We have over 490,000,000 people in this division; yet at the end of 1938 our colporteur force in the whole field numbered but eighty-three, the lowest it has been in many years. This is not because the public has lost interest in our literature; for it is also true that the average sales per colporteur during the year 1938

were the highest in the history of the publishing work in the division. Our colporteurs last year sold an average of \$1,260 worth of literature per colporteur, which gave them an average income of \$500 per man. While many in the world are left without employment, and are hard put to it to make a living, this work of distributing the printed page offers opportunity to hundreds of Seventh-day Adventist youth.

We hope that every church officer and worker in this division will study carefully the resolutions on recruiting our colporteur force that were passed at the recent division council held in Shanghai. We repeat them here, and ask that you give special heed to the extracts from the Spirit of prophecy that appear in the preamble of the resolution.

Division Recommendations

"Whereas, 'The canvassing work is a most successful way of saving souls,' and we are further instructed to 'let not the canvassing work be left to languish,' and that 'presidents of our conferences and others in responsible positions have a duty to do in this matter,' and that 'canvassers are to be educated and trained to do the work required in selling the books upon present truth which the people need,' therefore

"We recommend, that in all the unions and mission fields of this division a systematic colporteur recruiting campaign be promoted, and that union superintendents and mission directors take the lead in this campaign; and, further,

"We recommend, That colporteur personnel goals for the various unions be set as follows; and that we exert our utmost to attain to these goals before the close of 1940:

Union	Colporteur Recruiting Goal
Central	50
East	50
Manchuria	60
North	50
Northwest	20
South	60
West	40
Total	330

"We further recommend, That each union distribute these goals to the various local missions, urging each one in responsible position to make frequent check as to the number of colporteurs recruited and in the field."

Recruiting the Youth

It is true that our work has been disrupted by the prevailing conditions, that communications are

uncertain, and that at times the work must come to a standstill for short periods. But it is now high time that we face the situation and realize that "the work we failed to do in times of peace must be accomplished amidst great adversity and hardships." We still have our force of field secretaries; and our tract societies are located in strategic places from one end of the territory to the other. From all sections of the field come reports of victory and progress. Let us talk courage, and step out depending on the Lord of the harvest to give us success.

Our goal calls for a colporteur force of 330 by the end of 1940. At present we have over 700 churches and companies scattered over the territory of this division. Surely there is an average of at least one young person in each of these churches and companies who should find a place in the colporteur work. We earnestly urge our workers to take this burden upon themselves, and to influence at least one young brother or sister to offer himself for service in this important phase of God's work. Thus many of our youth may find a way to make a good living in these uncertain times; thus many of them may get a training that will fit them for places of greater usefulness in days to come; and thus shall we the sooner reach our goal of "the gospel to all the world in this generation."

The canvassing work is truly an opportunity for Seventh-day Adventist youth. We urge them to take advantage of it.

SAILINGS

Recent sailings of furloughed missionaries, with in a number of instances the home addresses, are: Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Wilkinson and their two sons, of Chungking, Szechwan; home address, Route 5, Box 1162, Modesto, California. Mr. and Mrs. P. E. Quimby and Donavan, of Hongkong; 128 Carr Drive, Glendale, Calif. Dr. and Mrs. D. D. Coffin and their two sons, of Nanning, Kwangsi; Amboy, Washington. Mr. and Mrs. V. J. Maloney and daughter, of Shanghai; Granbury, Texas. Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Wilcox and family, of Hongkong; 907 Adler St., Centralia, Washington. Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Erick and family, of Yencheng, Honan; 335 Garland Ave., Takoma Park, Washington, D. C. Mr. and Mrs. A. Hughes and family, of Hankow; Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Christian, of Peking; Miss M. Ragsdale, of Yencheng, Honan; and Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Guild, of Chungking, Szechuan.