

The China Division Reporter

VOL. 9

SHANGHAI, CHINA, AUGUST 15, 1939

No. 10

GETTING RESULTS IN LAY PREACHING

BY STEEN RASMUSSEN

STUDYING the evangelistic methods of our Saviour, we find that Jesus was a great believer in carrying the gospel to men one by one, face to face, in a personal approach and appeal. This method of soul winning has never been improved upon. Always it has been and ever will remain the most effective way of imparting the truths of the gospel to mankind. It is evident that this method of labor brought the very best and most permanent results in the ministry of the Master Himself. It seems very clear that He makes this duty of personal evangelism the first and primal duty of every child of God. He would not have stressed this feature of evangelism had it not been for the fact that He knew this method of labor would bring results.

As He went about throughout Judea, Samaria, and Galilee, teaching and healing the people, He frequently met with people in their homes. The family circle was the audience He delighted to address. While members of His own family undoubtedly were slow to accept of His deity, the faithfulness of His ministry in the home eventually won all the members of the household. The home circle is an important centre for evangelism, and we believe that our lay preachers in their efforts to get results from their faithful endeavors should concentrate very definitely upon the home, especially as they draw near the close of an effort. Endeavor to secure all the appointments possible in the homes of the people, trying to arrange for definite study hours, when earnest,

prayerful appeals should be made to all present to surrender to the pleadings of the Spirit and bring the life into conformity with the plain, clear teachings of the Word of God as they have been presented, both in connection with the general effort and through the Bible studies given in the homes.

In his instructions to the church at Corinth the apostle Paul definitely points out that our work as Christ's followers is to persuade men to accept the Lord. 2 Cor. 5:11. Of John the Baptist we read that he convinced and convicted the hearts of his hearers. Luke 3:10.

While we recognize that man of himself can do nothing, yet at the same time we must remember that God's Spirit working through an individual can accomplish this work. This is evident from such statements as we find in Jer. 20:7 and Heb. 4:12.

Through the Spirit of prophecy the same thought is stated very clearly: "No eloquence of words, no force of arguments, can convert the sinner. The power of God alone can apply the truth to the heart."—*Acts of the Apostles*, p. 240. Another very striking and, at the same time, most encouraging assurance to lay preachers and lay Bible workers is contained in the following: "Do not feel that the responsibility rests upon you to convict and convert the hearers. It is the power of God alone that can soften the hearts of the people. His heavenly intelligences co-operate with your efforts in presenting the

Word of life and salvation."—*Special Testimonies*, No. 7, p. 3.

While it is important to present the clear doctrines and truths as outlined in the Scriptures and given to us as a people to present to the world, yet unless we are able to present an appeal that will reach the hearts of our hearers, we shall not have the joy or the privilege of seeing the results that we are so eager to have.

All through an effort, but especially as one draws toward the close of the series of topics presented, it becomes increasingly imperative that a special effort be put forth to show your hearers that you expect them not only to believe but to obey. Approach them with an expectant mind; impress upon them the fact that as an ambassador of Jesus Christ you are greatly concerned about their salvation, and appeal to them individually to settle their cases with God in prayer.

After several weeks of an effort there are always a number of souls in the balance and if the opportune moment is allowed to slip by, some who might take their stand on the side of the truth will take their position on the side of error because one may have failed to put forth a personal effort or a personal appeal at the right time.

The testing time in a lay preacher's effort comes toward the close. It is that very period when the Spirit of the Lord is working most earnestly upon hearts and also the time when the worker for Christ rightfully may expect to garner in the precious sheaves promised as hire for his labor.

THE PINKIANG MISSION

BY F. Y. WANG

THE Pinkiang Mission has been operating for five and a half years. There are now twelve churches with 424 members, three church schools, seventeen workers, twelve colporteurs. These colporteurs are very faithful. Last year the book sales were over \$11,000. There are ninety students in our schools, and thirty young people from this field are attending the union training institute. In nine stations the chapels are entirely self-supporting.

The tithe last year from the lay members alone was practically \$2,000. There are two church members in this field who for a number of years had no contact with any church body. When I first came, I wrote to these believers and later had opportunity to visit them. At that time I received \$20 tithe from one of these members. This brother was very happy for this, his first opportunity to pay tithe. The next time I went to this town his tithe had increased to \$40, and the next time to \$50. On succeeding visits the amounts were \$78; \$120; \$150; and at the last time, \$178. In this place are four families all of whom have been brought into the truth by the witness of this one member. There is no worker, no church, no church school, in this locality; yet every year the tithe amounts to \$300 and \$400. Last year, under unfavorable circumstances, the tithe receipts were \$378; so that although we have no worker there, the tithe is sufficient to support a worker.

From another town, Mongo, come requests for evangelistic help. But we have no one to send, and no money to pay for a worker. Recently one man donated \$400 to build a church in that place; later another man, being impressed to help, donated \$500. He was a poor man with ordinarily little money for spending; but in his pocketbook were a number of pawn tickets. He promised the Lord that if He would help him to dispose of these tickets, all the profits should go to the church. When the time came, he gave \$300. The mission donated a little more to the enterprise and the believers in that place were able to build a chapel. Today this brother not only has no pawn tickets in his pocketbook, but he has several hundreds of dollars in savings,—an evidence of the blessing that comes from faithful tithing and liberality toward God. There are many interesting

stories that might be related concerning the work in this mission. The Lord has opened a door of grace there and many people are asking for a knowledge of the gospel. Not long ago a man flew to Harbin from a distant city to ask that a worker be sent to his home town. When we told him that we had no money to send a worker, he offered to pay the salary. But we had to tell him that we did not have a worker to send. Then he mentioned the name of a colporteur who was already there and asked that this man be the worker. He would give him a place to live, a place to preach, and would provide his salary. Thus the Holy Spirit is working upon men's hearts, and doors are opening for the message to advance.

WOMEN'S WORK IN THE EAST CHINA UNION

BY MRS. B. MILLER

WE have given no report for the past two years of the women's work in the East China Union; but, thank God, His work does not stop. Always it goes on to victory.

In the North Kiangsu Mission last year, out of about 100 newly baptized members ninety were women. It has been evident at the institutes held in this mission that there were among those in attendance some real soul-winners. Although in most cases the education of these women is very meager, yet their zeal and consecration is warm and sincere. We are reaping a harvest as the fruit of their efforts.

For the past two years we have not been able to hold women's institutes as usual, a fact which we deeply regret; for these institutes are the means by which our dear sisters are established in the faith. In February of this year, however, we were able to hold institutes at Wuchow and Bignee. These were good meetings. At Bignee there were between two and three hundred in attendance.

Of our work in Kiangsu outside of Shanghai our Bible women send in very encouraging reports. We have seven Chinese Bible women in charge of stations in the Kiangsu and North Chekiang Missions, and these are doing a good work.

In the city of Shanghai there are more than 100 readers, and from among this number we hope for a good harvest of souls. Please remember in your prayers the women's work in the East China Union.

NOTES ON EVANGELISM

FOOCHOW CITY, FUKIEN

AT the beginning of the present year, the missions of the South China Union planned to conduct nineteen evangelistic efforts this year. While the spread of hostilities in China has seriously upset these plans, yet we are happy to report that at present some are being held and others held earlier have brought good results.

The effort conducted in Foochow city, under Pastor C. H. Davis, was repeatedly disturbed by air raids and the generally unsettled conditions; but our workers persisted, and a measure of success has already been achieved. Pastor C. H. Davis and his courageous associates deserve great credit for their perseverance under difficulties.

The latest word from Foochow informs us that the workers and believers in that city have left for places of comparative safety in the interior. Doubtless many are scattered far and wide, with no certain dwelling-place; nor are they privileged to assemble on Sabbath in church or chapel. They need our earnest prayers that their courage fail not, and that even amid danger and privation they may be protected and given the comfort of the Holy Spirit. Our hearts go out to them in their suffering at this time. May we know how to encourage them in this their "dark and cloudy day."

A. L. HAM.

"GOOD NEWS" FOR OMEI

Mount Omei, one of the sacred mountains of China, and a stronghold of Buddhism, has waited long for the "good news." Pastor Hwang Dz-ging, a native of Omei, had before his death contributed \$1000 to finance the opening of the work there. Pastor Wang An-hsi settled there last January, and since then has held an evangelistic effort. Professor Lu Shou-tao, principal of the West China Training Institute, is joining Pastor Wang for a further effort during the summer months. Several are already enrolled in a baptismal class. It is hoped that before the close of this summer's effort these and others may be baptized and a church organized in Omei.

E. L. LONGWAY.

REPORT OF THE CHINA DIVISION SABBATH SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT FOR QUARTER ENDING
MARCH 31, 1939

(Offering in national currency)

Union Mission	Number Schools	Average Member- ship	Average Atten- dance	Birthday Offering	Investment Fund Offering	12 Sabbaths Offerings	13th Sabbath Offering	Total Offering to Missions
Central China	70	3005	2741	\$ 14.65	\$ 32.89	\$ 906.97	\$119.72	\$1,074.23
East China	202	6209	5426	244.71	200.42	2,434.20	151.66	3,030.99
Manchuria	50	1828	1637	89.10	168.19	972.65	275.71	1,505.65
North China	54	1988	1794	14.84	33.22	636.58	116.51	801.15
Northwest China	43	1016	1101	24.59	.62	353.18	29.35	407.74
South China	130	4116	4038	105.45	106.06	1,422.46	184.33	1,818.30
West China	145	3726	4064			729.19	76.37	805.56
Totals:								
1st Quar. 1939	694	21,888	20,801	\$493.34	\$541.40	\$7,455.23	\$953.65	\$9,443.62
1st Quar. 1938	738	21,624	20,607	456.75	528.56	6,072.76	943.57	8,001.64
Gains:		264	194	\$ 36.59	\$ 12.84	\$1,382.47	\$ 10.08	\$1,441.98
Losses:		44						

WITH OUR SABBATH SCHOOLS

BY BESSIE MOUNT

THE impossibility of securing accurate reports from certain sections of the field at present, together with our anxiety for the welfare of hundreds of believers scattered by war or floods, somewhat diminishes the joy of compiling our quarterly Sabbath school summary. Nevertheless, the accompanying figures reveal much that is encouraging. That our Sabbath school membership and attendance have been maintained, and even slightly increased over the corresponding period of 1938, is an evidence of the loyalty of our Sabbath school members under adverse conditions, and a proof that they appreciate the benefits of the study of God's word in the Sabbath school. The transfer of the Chientao Mission to the Far Eastern Division reduces the Manchurian Union report by seventeen Sabbath schools and 617 Korean members, but we are confident the rapidly growing work in that field will quickly offset this loss.

One encouraging feature of this report is the high attendance record—the average attendance being 95.5 per cent of the total membership. The world report for the fourth quarter of 1938 shows only one division field—the Southern African Division—with an attendance percentage higher than this. In only two unions was the attendance less than ninety per cent of the membership, while in two unions it exceeds the membership by a good margin, and leads us to wonder whether some of those reported as visitors from week to week should not be enrolled as

regular members. Sabbath school workers would do well to give attention to this point.

A total of 53 branch Sabbath schools is reported, though we are sure this does not include all that are in operation. North China alone reports 33 branch and home schools, and a recent letter from Pastor Harris refers to still other branch schools, newly organized. This union has set a goal of branch Sabbath schools on the ratio of one for every twenty-five members of the regular schools,—an aim worthy of imitation. In addition to the eight regular Sabbath schools now being conducted in the city of Shanghai, four branch schools are in operation, one of which is held in a private school and reaches approximately two hundred children with the truths of the Sabbath school lesson each week.

In this connection mention should be made of the series of special Sabbath school lessons now in preparation, designed especially for use in new schools and branch schools among those who have little or no knowledge of the Bible. These lessons do not displace the regular lessons, but are intended to prepare the members for the intelligent study of the regular current lessons, to be taken up in due time. The first lesson quarterly in this series is now ready, and may be ordered in the usual way. Ask for "Special Sabbath School Lessons, No. 1."

It should be noted that the financial items are reported in national currency this time. In order

to convert these figures to U. S. currency at the rate used for the past two years, these figures should be divided by three. The present fluctuations in exchange rates make very unsatisfactory any comparisons in offering receipts, but it is encouraging to note that in terms of the currency in which the offerings were given, there has been a good gain over those for the first quarter of 1938. As our workers and members rally fully to our offering goal—five per cent of the income—we look forward to the time when Sabbath school gifts to missions will be equivalent to one-half the tithe receipts from workers and believers. When our Sabbath school offering quartet—the regular offerings, the thirteenth Sabbath offering, the birthday offering, and the Investment offering—are alive and working in every Sabbath school, this can be accomplished without hardship to any one. The fact that our division is at the very bottom of the list of world fields in respect to weekly per capita offerings, is a challenge to us to put forth a supreme effort to increase our gifts for the speedy finishing of God's work in all the world.

"There is nothing too precious for us to give to Jesus. If we return to Him the talents of means which He has entrusted to our keeping, He will give more into our hands."
—"Testimonies," Vol. 4, p. 19.

How To Get Rid of Bed Bugs

This should be an interesting subject and should bring good news to many a preceptor and preceptress, and even to some housewives.

Pastor J. P. Anderson passes on the following formula and method of procedure as very effective. The training institute at Shatin has tried it and the bed bugs have vanished. Here is the stuff that does the work:

Formula—

Oil of wintergreen	1 pound
Carbon Tetrachloride	1 pound
Citronella Oil	1 pound

Mix these in one gallon of gasoline, Procedure—

Put the above mixture in a Flit spray can or Shell-tox spray can and spray the bed all over—especially the cracks and crevices, where bed bugs like to hide and breed. Use this spray once every two weeks.

Give it a trial and sleep comfortably.

D. E. REBOK.

China Division Reporter

Published monthly by the China Division of the General Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists, at No. 526 Ningkuo Road, Shanghai, China. Subscription, 75 cts. [gold] a year. Edited by Mrs. C. C. Crisler.

EVANGELISM IN SHANTUNG

An evangelistic effort was held by Pastor Wang Keh-ming, home missionary secretary of the Shantung Mission, at Fangling, extending from March 24th to May 5th. Fifty-six persons joined the Bible study class at the close of the effort, and of these ten were baptized by Pastor Wang on the 27th of June. On the 24th of June, fifteen were baptized at Wuting, North Shantung. All but two of this number are young people. On the 22nd of July, twenty were baptized and added to the church at Wehsien, central Shantung. Thank God for His mercy in granting us this precious fruitage.

"Prophecy Speaks"—Big Week Book

An initial edition of 20,000 copies of this new book has been printed, and already we are considering printing a second edition. Manchuria has taken 3,000, Hongkong, 3,200, and Shanghai 4,500. This little book has been well received and has promise of a large sale. It presents our message in a very interesting way, and all should be eager to place it in the hands of friends and acquaintances. It contains about 170 pages including illustrations, and sells for 40 cents retail. Let us push its sale during the remainder of the year.

H. L. SHULL.

Morning Watch and Home Missionary Calendars for 1940

It will soon be time to begin work on the Morning Watch and Home Missionary Calendars for 1940. Owing to the disruption of postal facilities in many parts of the field, and in order to get these calendars into your hands before the beginning of the new year, we are asking that you send us your definite orders for quantities desired as quickly as possible. There will be no reprints of these calendars; therefore all orders should

DIVISION NOTES

C. C. Morris and D. E. Rebok were in Hongkong recently to meet with the China Training Institute board. After auditing the books of account for 1938-39, a budget was compiled for the coming school year and arrangements completed for the purchase of essential furniture, equipment, and library books for the new buildings being erected near Clearwater Bay. Everyone is working hard to get things ready. The buildings are coming along nicely, and school should open September 27, 1939. This is a beautiful location and one in which the principles of Christian education can be carried out in a most favorable environment.

Baptisms in the Cantonese Mission thus far this year number 40. These include seven in Hongkong, 28 at Shatin, and five in Kongmoon.

Relief work by the Namkwan and Tungshan churches, Canton, continues. Rations of food are given out and preaching services held daily. A fairly large number of persons have become interested in the gospel. The Canton Sanitarium, at the request of the International Red Cross, has taken over the medical care of three refugee camps, numbering 4,000 persons. Dr. A. E. Wagner and staff are kept very busy attending to the needs of this large group.

The s.s. "Russia," reaching Shanghai August 1, carried several missionary families for Far Eastern fields; namely, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Landis and daughter for China, to connect with the China Training Institute, Hongkong, Pastor and Mrs. E. M. Adams for the Philippines, and Mrs. F. A. Wyman and children for Burma.

After weeks of waiting, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Boynton and family have been able to secure passage for Hankow. They left Shanghai August 7. Mr. Boynton will continue his work at the Wuhan Sanitarium.

Sailing from Shanghai per s.s. "Scharnhorst," on August 11, were

be in our hands before we go to press. You may expect prices to be slightly higher, but we shall endeavor to keep the cost down to a minimum. Announcement of prices will be made later.

H. L. SHULL.

Miss Ruth Lehman and Miss Violet Davis, en route to the States. They were joined at Yokohama by Miss Carol Campbell, of the Far Eastern Division, and will continue their journey by the "President Taft." Miss Lehman goes on furlough, considerably overdue, and Violet and Carol to complete their school education.

A telegram received at division headquarters on August 7 announced the safe arrival in Lanchow, Kansu, of the four families of missionaries who set out from Hongkong in July. These included Pastors C. B. Miller, N. O. Dahlsten, J. H. Shultz and L. H. Davies with their families. The journey has been attended with many interruptions and hardships and risks. We are grateful indeed for this word of its successful completion and of the safety and well-being of the travelers.

The enrolment at the North China Training Institute, Fengtai, the past school year was smaller than usual, but a fair proportion of the students planned to enter the colporteur work during the summer vacation. Twenty-five of the students attended a class for colporteurs in preparation for this work. Fourteen of this number, or one third of the entire enrolment, will engage in the sale of literature this summer.

Pastor John Oss, editor of the Chinese *Signs of the Times*, left Shanghai August 1, on the s.s. "President Coolidge" for America to attend an editors' council to be held at the Review and Herald Publishing Association's offices at Takoma Park, Washington, D.C., the first part of September. This council is to be a delegated gathering of world denominational editors. Pastor Oss expects to return to China about the first of November.

Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Wood, returning the latter part of July from an extended absence in the States, left their boat at Kobe and proceeded directly to Mukden, Manchuria, where Mr. Wood will superintend the building of the new Manchurian Union Training Institute. Professor D. E. Rebok, accompanied by his son Edward, left Shanghai August 9 for Mukden in the interests of this school enterprise.

The China Division Reporter

HARVEST INGATHERING

W. H. BRANSON

THE time is almost at hand for another Harvest Ingathering campaign to be launched throughout the China Division. How quickly the years roll around! It seems only yesterday that we were engaged in the 1938 campaign, and now it is time for another to begin.

The year that has passed since our last Ingathering effort has been a year of distress and perplexity, and the cause of God has suffered great loss. In the past two years of hostilities our division training institute has been destroyed; some of our middle schools have gone; a number of our medical institutions have been damaged and closed and scores of our churches and chapels destroyed. These institutions and churches have in the past meant much in the stabilization of our work in the China Division, and we cannot well get on without them.

This is not, however, a time for discouragement, "Truth crushed to earth shall rise again." It is impossible that the cause of God should suffer defeat. God's hand is not shortened, and He has promised to be with His church even unto the end of the world. The prospects for the future, therefore, should not be judged by the situation we face today but by the promises and the power of God. Through His strength and grace, His cause will yet gloriously triumph.

Our material assets that have been destroyed must quickly be restored. The God who gave them before is abundantly able to give them to us again. Already our brethren and sisters in America have given many thousands of dollars with which to rehabilitate our work, and a good beginning has been made to this end. Funds have been granted through the General Conference to assist in building a school plant for South China, which will temporarily house the China Training Institute, and for erecting new chapels, etc.

The money thus given will go a long way toward rehabilitating and reviving our work, but the amount is not nearly sufficient. We must have several hundreds of thousands of dollars more if all our buildings and equipment are to be fully restored and our work extended. Much of this additional money must come from the people living in the China Division territory.

It is the hope of the writer that we may raise \$100,000 in the 1939 Harvest Ingathering campaign. The division goal has been set for \$68,000, but I believe this mark is much too low. This is a time when we should "undertake great things for God and expect great things from God." If there was ever a time when we had just cause for asking our friends everywhere to assist us in our efforts to carry on the work of Christian medical missions it is now. During the past two years Seventh-Day Adventist missions have cared for scores of thousands of destitute refugees, many of whom would no doubt have perished had they not received the help thus given.

Our greatest accomplishments in the work of God, however, are just ahead of us, and we must quickly prepare for a mighty advance. Long ago the message came to us that "the same work must be accomplished in Australia, New Zealand, in Africa, India, China, and the islands of the sea, as has been accomplished in the home field. Under the appropriate symbol of an angel flying through the midst of heaven is represented the work of the people of God. In this work heavenly intelligences co-operate with human agencies in extending the last message to the inhabitants of the world. But the plans and work of men are not keeping pace with the providence of God; for while some in these countries who claim to believe the truth declare by their attitude, We want not Thy way, O Lord, but

our own way, there are many who are pleading with God that they may understand what is truth. In secret places they are weeping and praying that they may see light in the Scriptures; and the Lord of heaven has commissioned His angels to co-operate with human agencies in carrying forward His vast design, that all who desire light may behold the glory of God. We are to follow where God's providence opens the way; and as we advance, we shall find that Heaven has moved before us, enlarging the field for labor far beyond the proportion of our means and ability to supply. The great want of the field open before us should appeal to all to whom God has entrusted talents of means or ability that they may devote themselves and their all to God. We are to be as faithful stewards, not only of our means, but of the grace given unto us, that many souls may be brought under the blood-stained banner of Prince Immanuel. The purposes and ends to be attained by consecrated missionaries are very comprehensive. The field for missionary operation is not limited by caste or nationality. The field is the world, and the light of truth is to go to all the dark places of the earth in a much shorter time than many think possible."—*Fundamentals of Christian Education*, pp. 208, 209.

All that is raised in the Ingathering campaign this year will be used to assist in the rehabilitation and extension of our medical, educational, and evangelical work in the respective fields of the division. We do most earnestly solicit the full co-operation of all our believers everywhere in gathering in the largest amount we have yet received. The end is almost in sight. What we do must be done quickly.

JUNIORS CAN HAVE A PART

BY LECLARE E. REED

SEVENTH-DAY Adventist Juniors, the world around, love to do their part in forwarding the work of the Lord. I say this both from my experience as a former Junior and my observation as a church worker. They have the same hearts beating in their breasts, and those hearts are readily touched by the Holy Spirit, their tender years increasing rather than hindering their joy in serving. This willingness to help on the part of Juniors is universal and spontaneous. I was impressed with this just the other day when gathering in Ingathering experiences.

I had read how our Juniors in America were taking a letter of introduction to their neighbors and collecting dimes and quarters for the world work. "Now, is there any reason why our Shanghai Juniors could not do that also?" I thought. "At least I can give them a chance to try, if they want to."

And so I wrote the accompanying letter. It is much after the order of the one the Juniors across the ocean were using, except that this is also written in Chinese.

Dear Friend:

This Junior is calling to present to you the official annual report of our organization. We are sure that you will be interested in the worthy program herein set forth.

The children love to act their part in helping to raise funds for the support of such work and are giving their time entirely gratis. Accordingly we are writing this introductory note, which they are authorized to use from September 29 to October 15. Any donation you wish to give to assist should be recorded on the following pages.

Thanking you in anticipation for any gifts you may be able to bestow and bespeaking a

kindly word of encouragement for the young people, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

LECLARE E. REED,

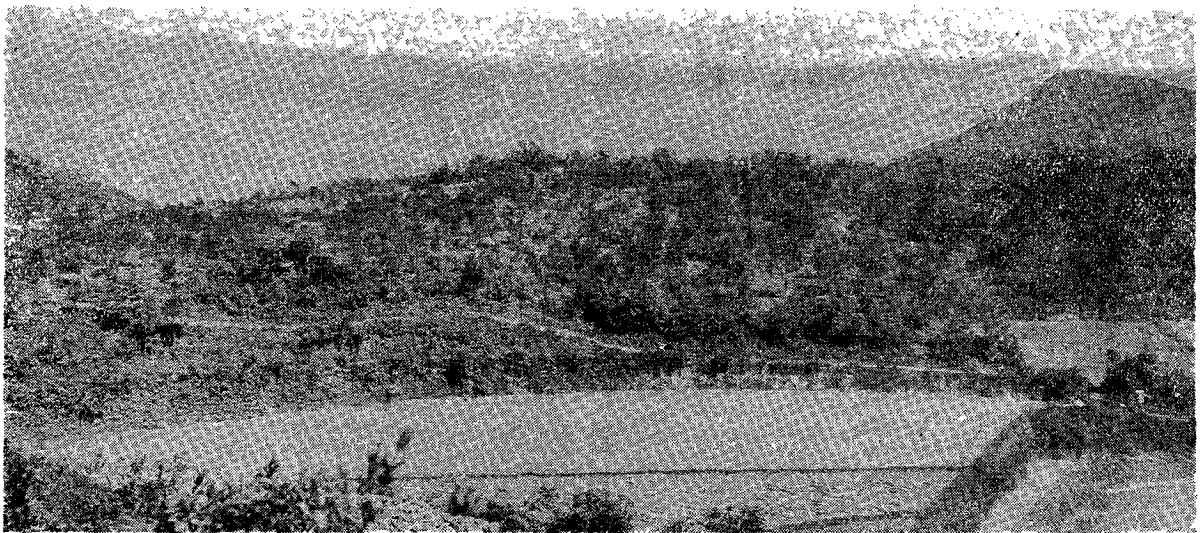
Young People's Department Secretary.

As I was leaving on a trip, I sent this letter over to the church school. A similar one was prepared for the Russian young people.

I had intended to inquire immediately upon my return as to whether anything had been done or not; but before I could get around to do this, a badly-worn letter with sheets attached was handed me. After a second look, I recognized it as the one I had prepared for the Chinese church school. Scribbled around in almost every available space of the signature sheets were names, addresses and amounts donated. Small amounts, comparatively, ranging from 10 cents up to \$1.15, and written in several languages. "Fine!" I thought. "Even though the amount is not large, it surely shows a wonderful spirit. Then I came across a slip from the adding machine totaling up those dimes and to my surprise there was a total of \$30.75.

It seemed unbelievable that this little group of students could gather in \$30.00 in a short campaign—and yet there it was, dime by dime. The reason there was not more, I think, was that the letter of authorization ran out. Later I learned that the Russian young people had done the same thing and had collected several hundred dollars.

Yes, Juniors the world around not only love to try to do their part, but they can do it, by the help of their Master. And His help can always be counted on. Let's always include them in our campaign plans.



"Beautiful for Situation." Site of the South China Union Training Institute, one of the main projects for the 1939 Harvest Ingathering campaign.

THE NORTH FUKIEN MISSION 1938 HARVEST INGATHERING

BY C. H. DAVIS

WHEN the time arrived for the opening of the Harvest Ingathering campaign in North Fukien, the outlook for a successful outcome was not very promising. Because of the war, the frequent air-raids, and the many appeals that were being made for funds from house to house, the general impression was that soliciting money for our work would, to say the least, be hard going. Nevertheless we put on the campaign, in an endeavor to carry our share of the load. Perhaps money would come in in small amounts. And by making many contacts it might be possible to reach the goal. There was no reason to expect great improvement in conditions very soon; the thing to do was to go to work. And this we did.

The goal was divided among the churches on the quota basis. This was made as fair as possible to all by taking into consideration the constituency, the size of the town or city, and the ability of the worker in charge. The goals were sent out to the responsible persons, with a letter urging that an unusual effort be made to reach them. In the final outcome nearly all churches and companies took part, and most of them reached the goal set. Some were very fearful about making a beginning, and some very frank in expressing their disfavor of the campaign. But others went to work, and the money began to come in. Good reports of experiences made by these who were taking part helped to get the pendulum swinging; and then it was only a matter of keeping it going until we could sing the song of victory.

In Foochow a \$100 gift from the Governor's office was the largest amount received. Other officials had in general left Foochow for the new capital of the province located in the interior; but still we found a few, and these responded willingly to our appeal. The campaign kept under way until Foochow had passed its goal, and had made up for those places throughout the field that had been unable to make theirs. One morning we called on a man in charge of a small customs office, hoping for a donation of five or ten dollars. He did give us a small amount, but not satisfied with what he could give himself, he began soliciting from his friends, sending his servants out repeatedly while we waited, to bring in man after man. He did not cease until apparently he had brought in every one whom he thought should help. When the small sums were counted up they amounted to just forty dollars.

Why should we be fearful about approaching people, when men of the world are thus impressed by God's Spirit to do this work for us?

This successful campaign of 1938 has set a precedent for 1939 and for future campaigns. The attitude of the North Fukien Mission toward Harvest Ingathering is changed. Hardships and difficulties are lost sight of in the belief that "it can be done!" If such an attitude is maintained, we feel assured of a successful campaign again this year.

It pays to advertise; and what better way is there of doing this than through the Harvest In-

MEMORIES OF THE 1938 HARVEST INGATHERING CAMPAIGN

BY DJANG DJEN-KWOH

DURING these times of great stress, when it seems that people are at their wits' ends to know what to do or where to turn, to think of promoting the Harvest Ingathering campaign would seem to be out of the question. But as we went forward in faith, depending on the power of God, the results were indeed surprising. And I thank Him for His mercy, and praise His name for the blessings that came to me during the campaign. This brief report of my experiences in last year's campaign is given to encourage all who will take part in the Ingathering work this year. It is written with the sincere hope that our united efforts will bring far greater returns than we have ever had in any year of the past.

Last year the East Szechwan Mission voted that I should visit the churches along the lower reaches of the Yangtse River in the interests of the Harvest Ingathering campaign. I reached Fowling on the 19th of November, and with our brethren there began the Ingathering campaign. I can truly say that the Lord was with us everywhere we went. All whom we approached not only gave offerings willingly, but also spoke words of appreciation of the work our church is doing throughout this field. And several of these donors, besides giving an offering themselves, solicited further offerings from their friends and relatives. In just a few days' time we had received more than three times as much money as from any previous Ingathering effort in that city.

From Fowling I went on to visit the churches in Fengtu, Hsuanhan, Tahsien, and Nanchung, and in all these places our returns were at least double what they had been in former years. From these experiences I have come to realize that what man may think to be impossible, with God's help is altogether possible. I count that last year's Ingathering experience was the best of all those in which I have had a part. The actual time spent in Ingathering efforts was not more than two weeks, but in that time we took in more than \$500.00. May the Lord greatly bless us during this 1939 Ingathering campaign; and may we all exert ourselves to the utmost to the end that the church may soon reach a self-supporting basis is my wish and prayer.

gathering method? The best people and those in authority are approached; our excellent paper is placed in their hands; then fitting words are spoken that give these people a good opinion of the work we are doing in China, and make them our friends. Sometimes the greatest of all good comes by these very ones who are approached deciding to cast in their lot with God's people and becoming Seventh-day Adventists. The work should be done from the standpoint of soul-winning endeavor; then it will have its rightful place in our hearts, and the portion of our time that we give it each year will be given with willingness and enthusiasm.

IMPRESSIONS GATHERED FROM THE 1938 INGATHERING CAMPAIGN IN THE SAIPEI MISSION

BY TUAN YUNG-CHIEN

LAST year our watchword for the Ingathering campaign in the Saipei Mission was, "Not to beg for money, but to visit friends." I think you all know who originated this good watchword, so there is no need to record his name here. And as we approached the solicitation work from this angle we lost our fear of the campaign, and found the work to be a real pleasure and joy. Moreover, to our surprise we found that we were still able to get the money and at the same time greatly to increase the number of true friends, who are much more precious than money. From the time of our last campaign to the present we have kept in constant contact, through correspondence, with three or four "friends" who were found at that time. And there are five or six other "friends" whom we hope and expect to see baptized into the church in the very near future as a result of last year's campaign to "visit friends."

No matter what it is that we are attempting, if it is worthy of our effort, we need not spend too much time in self-pity, and thus increase fear of the task before us. Let us settle it that we are able to accomplish the task, and this self-confidence will be a potent factor in helping us reach our goal. It may be difficult for us to have much confidence in ourselves; yet we can at least try, and if circumstances are so unfavorable that there is no chance of success, we shall still have the consolation that we have done our best, and cannot be blamed for the failure. But it is a fact that a person who has this spirit of confidence never need admit defeat or failure.

Last year, at Ingathering time, conditions in the Saipei Mission were most forbidding; but realizing the importance of the Ingathering work in the program of the church, we went ahead with the campaign. And as we approached our friends in this new frame of mind, we found that they were willing to give of their means to assist our work to the extent of \$944.97. This is one of the largest Harvest Ingathering offerings we have ever received in the Saipei Mission.

From this experience we learned anew the importance of visiting our friends, keeping in mind their need of the gospel of salvation. And as our workers were faithful in exalting Christ, they found

many troubled hearts anxiously seeking for truth. These people were ready to accept the gospel with honest hearts. I have never experienced anything of this sort in Harvest Ingathering campaigns of former years. Friends! Let us unite this year to carry out this plan of "visiting friends;" for it will surely bring rewards, both spiritual and financial.

12 SUGGESTIONS FOR SUCCESSFUL INGATHERING WORK

1. Believe it is God's work.
2. Believe it is the work God wants you to do. Therefore have perfect poise.
3. Remember you are not a beggar. Have confidence in yourself. Place yourself on the same level with the one you canvass.
4. Remember you are a representative of the great King, and a king does not beg from his subjects. He offers them the privilege of making gifts.
5. Remember there are all kinds of men in this world, and some will refuse to make a gift.
6. Remember business men are busy. Be well prepared and speak briefly.
7. Do not be afraid to suggest larger sums. Most men do not know just what they ought to give. Aim high. You may not get what you suggest, but more often it will be just what you get. Elisha told the widow, "Borrow not a few."
8. Do not become discouraged over a few refusals. Keep smiling until your "prospect" smiles back. Then your victory is own.
9. Never argue with your prospective donor. Make friends. Suggest; never antagonize.
10. Pray without ceasing. Where two are together, one can pray while the other solicits.
11. Remember you are searching for souls. Money is not the greatest thing. Remember names and faces. Reach the heart.
12. Keep hold of God. "Trust in the Lord, . . . and He shall bring it to pass."

The Harvest Ingathering Campaign begins September 9, 1939.