

The China Division Reporter

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HAVE FAITH IN GOD

By W. H. BRANSON

“**A**ND JESUS answering saith unto them, Have faith in God.” Mark 11:22. I like to dwell on those few words of the Master, “Have faith in God.” There isn’t much left in the world in which we can with safety place our faith. The things of this world are pretty well gone to pieces; but when everything else fails, God is still there. Our own kindred may fail us, our brethren may disappoint us, our most trusted friends may prove untrue, but even then we can have faith in God. He is always true. When everything is dark, and we cannot see our way through, it is our privilege to trust Him. The outlook may be ever so discouraging, but the uplook is always good; and we are assured that the prospects are as bright as the promises of God.

God’s promises are wonderful. I turn through the Bible and read what He says He will do for His people when they trust Him, and I marvel at His promises. May I really expect their fulfilment? Certainly the prospects do not look encouraging. We are short of funds and men. Our material resources are depleted. From a human viewpoint everything is disheartening. I am tempted to become discouraged until I once again recall the assurance that the prospects are as bright as the promises of God. It is our business to have faith in Him. He is omnipotent. With Him is no failure. In fact, “in Him is no darkness at all.”

Again Jesus says to us, “What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.” Mark 11:24. Most Christians find this verse a little difficult. How can one believe that he receives something when he has no evidence of the fact? One German translation says, “Believe as though you have already received.” In other words, when one asks God to fulfil to him one of His promises, one should believe and act just as though the thing requested had already been done.

“Faith,” says the apostle, “is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” The Egyptian manuscript shows that this word “substance” really means “title deeds.” Faith is the *title deeds* of things hoped for. If, after asking God to fulfil a promise of His, I fully believe that He will do so, it is just like having a deed to the thing asked for. It is mine. God will see that I have it, for my faith is the evidence of possession. It is as though I have already received it.

Suppose a son asks his father for a certain tract of land on which to build his home. The father replies, “All right. I give it to you.” And the father hands over to his son a clear title deed to the property. It is his.

Now, God declares to us: All the things I have promised you are yours if you only believe it to be true. They are yours if you believe. Your faith is the title deed to heaven’s vast resources. To the church today, as certainly as to Joshua of old, the Lord declares, “Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage: be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.” And when God is with us all power in heaven and in earth is at our command. We cannot fail.

Let us have faith in God.

REFORM IN SABBATH OBSERVANCE

By MRS. E. G. WHITE

THE Sabbath is a golden clasp that unites God and His people. But the Sabbath command has been broken. God's holy day has been desecrated. The Sabbath has been torn from its place by the man of sin, and a common working-day has been exalted in its stead. A breach has been made in the law, and this breach is to be repaired. The true Sabbath is to be exalted to its rightful position as God's rest day

The Sabbath question is to be the issue in the great final conflict in which all the world will act a part. Men have honoured Satan's principles above the principles that rule in the heavens. They have accepted the spurious sabbath, which Satan has exalted as the sign of his authority. But God has set His seal upon His royal requirement. Each Sabbath institution bears the name of its author, an ineffaceable mark that shows the authority of each. It is our work to lead the people to understand this. We are to show them that it is of vital consequence whether they bear the mark of God's kingdom or the mark of the kingdom of rebellion; for they acknowledge themselves subjects of the kingdom whose mark they bear. God has called us to uplift the standard of His down-trodden Sabbath. How important, then, that our example in Sabbath-keeping should be right.

In establishing new churches, ministers should give careful instruction as to the proper observance of the Sabbath. We must be guarded lest the lax practices that prevail among Sunday-keepers shall be followed by those who profess to observe God's holy rest-day. The line of demarcation is to be made clear and distinct between those who bear the mark of God's kingdom and those who bear the sign of the kingdom of rebellion. The Lord has been greatly dishonoured by those who have not kept the Sabbath according to the commandment, either in the letter or in the spirit. He calls for a reform in the observance of the Sabbath.

Remember the Sabbath

At the very beginning of the fourth commandment the Lord

said, "Remember." He knew that amid the multitude of cares and perplexities man would be tempted to excuse himself from meeting the full requirement of the law, or would forget its sacred importance. Therefore He said, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy." Ex. 20:8.

All through the week we are to have the Sabbath in mind, and be making preparation to keep it according to the commandment. We are not merely to observe the Sabbath as a legal matter. We are to understand its spiritual bearing upon all the transactions of life. . . .

Friday a Special Preparation Day

While preparation for the Sabbath is to be made all through the week, Friday is to be the special preparation day. Through Moses the Lord said to the children of Israel: "Tomorrow is the rest of the holy Sabbath unto the Lord; bake that which ye will bake today, and seethe that ye will seethe; and that which remaineth over lay up for you to be kept until the morning." "And the people went about, and gathered it (the manna), and ground it in mills, or beat it in a mortar, and baked it in pans, and make cakes of it." Exod. 16:23; Numbers 11:8. There was something to be done in preparing the heaven-sent bread for the children of Israel. The Lord told them that this work must be done on Friday, the preparation day. This was a test to them. God desired to see whether or not they would keep the Sabbath holy.

This direction from the lips of Jehovah is for our instruction. The Bible is a perfect guide; and if its pages are prayerfully studied by hearts willing to understand, none need err upon this question.

Many need instruction as to how they should appear in the assembly for worship on the Sabbath. They are not to enter the presence of God in the common clothing worn during the week. All should have a special Sabbath suit, to be worn when attending service in God's house. While we should not conform to worldly fashions, we are not to be indifferent in regard to our outward appearance. We are to be neat and trim, though without adornment. The children of

God should be pure within and without.

On Friday let the preparation for the Sabbath be completed. See that all the clothing is in readiness, and that all the cooking is done. Let the boots be blacked, and the baths be taken. It is possible to do this. If you make it a rule, you can do it. The Sabbath is not to be given to the repairing of garments, to the cooking of food, to pleasure-seeking, or to any other worldly employment. Before the setting of the sun, let all secular work be laid aside, and all secular papers be put out of sight. Parents, explain your work and its purpose to your children, and let them share in your preparation to keep the Sabbath according to the commandment.

We should jealously guard the edges of the Sabbath. Remember that every moment is consecrated, holy time. Whenever it is possible, employers should give their workers the hours from Friday noon until the beginning of the Sabbath. Give them time for preparation, that they may welcome the Lord's day with quietness of mind. By such a course you will suffer no loss, even in temporal things.

There is another work that should receive attention on the preparation day. On this day all differences between brethren, whether in the family or in the church, should be put away. Let all bitterness and wrath and malice be expelled from the soul. In a humble spirit, "confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed." James 5:16.

Before the Sabbath begins, the mind as well as the body should be withdrawn from worldly business. God has set His Sabbath at the end of the six working-days, that men may stoop and consider what they have gained during the week in preparation for the pure kingdom, which admits no transgressor. We should each Sabbath reckon with our souls to see whether the week that has ended has brought spiritual gain or loss.

It means eternal salvation to keep the Sabbath holy unto the Lord. God says, "Them that honour Me I will honour." 1 Sam. 2:30.—"Selections from the Testimonies," pages 34-39.

TIMELY COUNSEL

To our Ministers, Conference and Institutional Workers and Believers—Greetings:

THE officers of the General Conference take this opportunity of addressing you upon a matter of great importance. We are living in a time of great spiritual and moral crisis. Of these times Jesus prophesied thus:

"As it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all. Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; but the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed." Luke 17:26-30.

Jesus illustrated His point by drawing a parallel between the days of Noah and Lot and the last days just previous to His coming. The moral conditions of those evil times were deplorable in the extreme. Just as Jesus predicted, we have come again into just such times. The world today is like another Sodom. The sins and loathsome practices of the antediluvians again prevail in the world. On every hand salacious exhibitions, insinuating and impure theatrical plays and motion pictures, low-class radio programs, so-called beauty contests vulgarly portraying the nudity of young women, mixed bathing in indecent costumes, and a flood of vile literature, all contribute to the breaking down of moral restraints and standards. These evils threaten even the life and spiritual well-being of the church. We know that the great body of our workers and believers are godly men and women of moral integrity. But some who have stood as shepherds of the flock have fallen before the temptations of these perilous times. We desire to sound a solemn warning against the intrusion of these evils into the church. We call upon the ministry and all our workers and members to turn away from every practice and association that tends toward laxity and indulgence. We exhort every worker and church member to keep himself free from moral contamination and from all tendencies in that direction, and shun a

careless, world-loving, easy manner of life that invites temptation and leads to wrong doing.

We call upon all our workers and members in this cause, both men and women, to conform to the highest standards of rectitude and moral conduct, and to avoid all unbecoming and improper relationships. Let it be known everywhere that this denomination will not tolerate or condone any laxness in these matters on the part of those who as leaders or workers should be examples to the church and to the world. The highest spiritual and moral considerations should lead every worker to avoid even the appearance of evil.

Where workers give evidence of carelessness in their conduct or live in a careless, world-loving way, or are continually surrounded by an atmosphere of suspicion, or fail to live up to the adopted standards of the church, they should be released from further service in the cause. It is the duty of conference committees and institutional boards to deal promptly with all cases involving failure along these lines. The church has a right to demand that

every worker who serves this cause shall maintain in his life all these standards, or else give place to those who, in the fear of God, will endeavor to do so.

Workers who in their general deportment habitually maintain a liberal or worldly attitude toward denominational standards, thereby fail to give the spiritual leadership the church has a right to expect. Such workers should be encouraged to change their attitude on these fundamental questions, or if not, seek other lines of employment. We appeal to all our workers to live a consistent example in all these matters.

We also appeal to all our church members, believers, and young people to keep their lives and actions on a high plane of moral conduct in harmony with the well-known standards of the church. The time has come when there should be a clear line of distinction between those who serve the Lord and those who serve Him not. The church must guard faithfully its good name and reputation. While dealing always in a Christlike manner with the erring, there must be no compromise with sin. A clean church must be maintained. Let us "cleanse the camp" from all moral pollution. We call upon all to unite in carrying out such a worthy purpose.

GENERAL CONFERENCE OFFICERS.

HARVEST INGATHERING ITEMS FROM OTHER FIELDS

By W. H. BRANSON

A message just received from Elder Steen Rasmussen, secretary of the Home Missionary Department of the General Conference, contains the following encouraging information.

"Threatening clouds of world trouble hang low and heavy over the nations of earth today as we get ready to tabulate and send into the field the first official Ingathering report for North America. As the telegrams began pouring in this morning, and we scanned the figures, we were reminded of the Saviour's words to His disciples, "O ye of little faith!" We had in our own minds been counting on a total somewhat in excess of \$100,000, but our faith had not fully stretched to \$200,000. The reports, however, indicate that we almost reached the \$200,000 mark. Had all fields reported, we should have exceeded that amount.

"The present total—\$197,846.99—is more than twice as large as that

of 1938 included in the first week's report.

"The Pacific Union reports the largest amount in hand, with the Columbia Union a splendid second, and the Atlantic Union a good third. On a percentage basis, figured according to basic goals, the fields rank as follows: Central 50.9%, Atlantic 37%, Lake 35%, Columbia 34.5%, Northern 28%, Canadian 25.5%, Pacific 25%, Southern 23.5%, Southwestern 9%. Special congratulations to the brethren of the Central Union, who have already passed the half-way mark.

"We are reminded of the Master's admonition, "That thou doest, do quickly;" and of the words, of the Spirit of prophecy, "The final movements will be rapid ones." It therefore behooves the leaders as well as the entire army of God's people to hasten the work in every place and with greater efficiency and productiveness at this time.

(Continued on page 5)

PRELIMINARY INGATHERING VICTORIES FAR AND NEAR

By E. L. LONGWAY

PAUL once wrote to the church at Tessaionica these inspiring words: "We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers; remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Thess. 1:2, 3. I am sure that could the apostle Paul be with us today he would likewise give thanks to God for the "work of faith, and labor of love, and patience of hope" evidenced by so many of our faithful members and workers the world around, and witnessed to by the results of the annual Ingathering campaign. In a recent number of one of our union conference organs there appeared the following example of "work of faith, and labor of love" by one of our sisters in the homeland:

"I received the Harvest Ingathering papers today, and I thank you very much for them. I started out June 5 and made a few calls on Mrs. D——'s people who have given every year. Mrs. D—— died May 4, and I am doing her work. I worked without any papers, for they had not come. In two hours I received \$22 and a promise of \$5 next week. They all seemed willing to give and I heard plenty of words of praise for Mrs. D—— I thought if all Adventists would live a good life and leave a good impression as she has, it would be good and there would be no prejudice against Seventh-day Adventists. I am now taking the Harvest Ingathering papers to those who have given before. I think the paper is fine. A priest who gave last year gave the same offering of \$1 again, and he was very willing to give and wanted the Harvest Ingathering paper to read. He said he might use it in his work. I received one \$10 offering, one \$5, one \$2, eight of \$1, and the rest in fifty-cent offerings. I believe in getting at this work early. It pays. I enjoy it, and there is a great blessing in it. I thought you would enjoy a report of my work and hope it may encourage others to start."

To match this story, we have the following account of preliminary Ingathering victories in Human, as reported by Pastor Dallas White: "Just back from a day's Harvest Ingathering with Pastor Tu, and I'm sitting in the doorway of our little chapel watching two little black puppies romp and play in the yard. Glad to see something with enough

energy left to run! As for me, my feet are good and tired, and the stone slabs of Yuanling's streets must be worn a bit thinner tonight by the many times Pastor Tu and I have walked over them today in our efforts to promote the Ingathering campaign. For the last three days—Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday—we have taken in just \$240 in offerings." Further along in his letter Pastor White adds: "We have had some pleasant visits and good experiences today, and now, Thursday night, we have a total of \$310

to report." A postscript gives us a little sidelight on conditions in Yuanling, where Brother White, Pastor Tu and others have been conducting the campaign: "Have just washed the dust off myself from the bombing of Yuanling. Thirty-five bombers, sixty bombs. Only twelve fell in the city, but a good fourth of the place is already burned out. No important mission property was hit."

May we each be loyal and active through this year's Ingathering campaign, and thus add a new chapter to the record of works of faith, labors of love, and patience of hope, to the glory of the Saviour's name and the hastening of His coming kingdom.

HARVEST INGATHERING RALLY

By R. H. HARTWELL

ON Sunday afternoon, September 10, a Harvest Ingathering rally was held in the Shanghai Sanitarium chapel on Bubbling Well Road. The workers and band leaders from each of the five Shanghai churches gathered, with workers from the China Division office, the Far Eastern Academy, the Signs of the Times Publishing House, the Home Study Institute, the Shanghai Sanitarium, and even new arrivals who are just beginning their language study.

Pastor W. H. Branson, President of the China Division, gave an inspiring talk, showing the great possibilities in any work when the workers depend upon God for direction and success. The East China Union superintendent, Pastor N. F. Brewer, followed with encouraging words: Our results should be proportionate to the effort put forth in most cases, but faithful efforts would not be in vain though offerings received were very small. The writer also gave a brief talk recalling to mind what had been done in past years and stating the Kiangsu Mission goal for this year. Individuals in the audience were then invited to express what they hoped to do individually. Goals of \$1,000 were set by Pastors Branson, Rebok, Brewer, Schroeter and the writer. About ten others set personal goals of \$500; quite a number set goals of \$250, \$100 and \$50.00, and practically everyone promised to take an active part in the campaign as opportunity afforded.

A committee was appointed and met at once to discuss the division of territory.

The Lord has already blessed the efforts of those who have gone out

in the work. In many cases the donors have this year increased their contributions, and that in the face of extremely difficult circumstances. The city of Shanghai is now alive with workers engaged in the Ingathering work, and God is going with them. It is the hope that this year's campaign will really be a soul-winning one.

In North China

Pastor W. J. Harris of the North China Union writes: "Our Harvest Ingathering work is booming along in good style. We are not getting any large amounts in donations, but the church members have certainly gotten under the load. Last week over 600 personal visits were made. The funds received were less than \$200, but I am greatly rejoiced to see everybody taking hold of the work. If we keep this up for six weeks, there is no question about our reaching our goal, even though we do not get any 'windfalls.' Reports coming in from all over the field indicate that other sections are likewise having encouraging experiences."

From the South China Union

From South China Brother P. L. Williams writes: "You will be pleased to know that the campaign in this union started with a bang, and that at last week-end the receipts totaled \$5,000 national currency. Some parts of the field have not yet been heard from; but by September 30 South China should be well over half its goal."

INGATHERING IN HANKOW

By MRS. VIOLA FRICK

AFTER two months of almost ceaseless effort by our union brethren and others, I finally received permission to leave Kiukiang and come to Hankow for a short change. On my arrival it seemed so good to see the Chinese people moving about freely and the streets crowded with life and activity. I used to think that China could never be without many people and without noise and bustle; but during the past many months in Kiukiang, when the streets were empty and it seemed that the people would never return again, I used to long for the old crowds with their gaiety and activity. In Hankow for long hours at a time I would wander about the streets and enjoy getting into the big crowds. I felt like saying to every Chinese: "I am so glad to see you and hear you again." The change was overwhelming.

But only for a little while did this wandering satisfy me. For many months I had been able to do so little, and now a real burden for the salvation of these people came upon me. Work is a blessing, even though it often seems to bend men under its weight. There is no room for idleness in the religion of Jesus.

We could think of no better way to begin than in the Harvest Ingathering work. Brethren Appel and Effenberg agreed in this, but thought I should have a little more rest before beginning; but I did not like even to hear this word "rest" mentioned. There were many handicaps in getting started. We had no English papers, but plenty of Chinese papers. We had difficulties in finding the old records. There were few Chinese to help; our foreign staff was very small, and those who were here were already very busy.

The help of Miss Dunn, Mrs. Effenberg and Alva Appel was much appreciated. On the first morning we went into a little Chinese street, going from door to door and trying not to miss a single family. I have never seen a people so willing to respond. Every shop seemed eager to give, and the donations were liberal. One man, especially interested in our work, would hurry on ahead of us and announce our coming to the other families. He himself had given, but after a few

minutes had followed us up and given another donation.

Many of the people would say, "You are doing many good deeds to help us, and we know that you are the Jesus people. Some of the fathers asked if they might send their children to our school; and they had the tuition ready. Many high compliments were paid to the Wuhan hospital and to the Hankow clinic for the wonderful help rendered to the refugees.

I think the time has come in China when our Harvest Ingathering campaign should be carried on from door to door. The one-dollar donations are just as precious in the sight of the Lord as the one-hundred-dollar gifts. In this door-to-door campaign scores can be reached and will become interested in our work and will receive the light of the gospel message.

Last week we began to visit the big firms and companies, and the consulate offices and gun boats. How they responded to the call!

Harvest Ingathering returns in four unions of the Division at the close of the second week of the campaign are—
Central China Union \$ 1,000;
East China Union \$10,000;
South China Union \$ 7,000;
North China Union \$786 75.

Watch for the figures in the Goal Chart appearing in the next issue of the REPORTER and indicating the progress of the campaign in the various unions.

Many gave double in amount; while others who had seen real hardship and distress made their contributions nevertheless. Many of the large firms and banks have closed and the people have left the city. Others are trying to hold on, hoping for a better day. Many said, "We just live on from day to day. What will happen we do not know; our future is shattered." One noteworthy fact was that in some of the large offices we saw the *Signs of the Times* lying on the very top of the pile of newspapers. Some expressed their thankfulness for this paper.

This week we plan to visit some of the leading Japanese officials. We have already met some. They are interested in the work we are doing in Japan. They love to see their own Japanese Harvest Ingathering magazine, and think it a beautiful paper.

All around us are multitudes of eager, anxious people who are won-

Items From Other Fields

(Continued from page 3)

An Echo From Overseas

"Elder L. L. Moffitt, Religious Liberty and Missionary Volunteer secretary for the Southern African Division, now on furlough in this country, reported to the General Conference workers at the morning worship period August 24, that the South African Union had reached its Ingathering objective of \$30,000, and a little over, in four weeks, and that they are expecting an overflow of \$20,000, thus breaking all previous records. He also reported that one of the conference presidents had already received \$3,500 this year, and several workers had received \$500 each. This is but one more assurance that the overseas divisions are with us in the great annual missionary campaign.

An Appreciation

"A notice appearing in the Gary (Ind.) *Post-Tribune*, is headed, "Paralytic Finds New Faith in Mankind as Young Carolers Sing," and reads as follows: "To the youthful carolers who sang last night a quiet song in front of 560 Harrison: Here's a message for you from Mrs. Blank who telephoned today. She said: 'O' if only there were some way in which I might thank them!' Mrs. Blank is an invalid, suffering from paralysis, and has been bedfast for more than a year. Past the house in which she lies often go young people, noisy and loud; but last night during a lull in the traffic and in the hush of the night, there came eight or ten young people. They lifted up their voices not in raucous laughter but in quiet song. Mrs. Blank said, 'The comfort those fresh young voices in the evening air brought to me, I can never describe. Surely the world cannot be so bad when the young people can do something like that.'"

I am sure that the success attending the Ingathering work in the homeland and other fields will prove to be a great inspiration to all our mission staff in the China Division.

Let us rally our forces for a great drive during October in an effort to reach our full goals.

dering what is the meaning of the events that are happening around them. We know. It is not only our privilege but our duty to give them the message of salvation. And "what is worth doing" at all, is worth doing well."

NOTES ON EVANGELISM

Meetings In Mongolia

PASTOR Otto Christensen, called back from his evangelistic work on the Mongolian plains to care for mission responsibilities at Kalgan, writes thus of several efforts that have been in progress this summer in the Sai-Pei Mission:

"At Suiyuan our evangelist has been doing good work in our Chinese chapel there. He first held an effort for a month and then continued holding Bible studies in a quiet way. I find that his quiet way and loving heart have stirred up quite an interest. Altogether nine were baptized. Among these are four young men, two of whom will go to Fengtai to school and one will enter the canvassing field.

"Two of these youth come from a fine, fairly well-to-do home. The father of these young men attended the meetings while I was there. 'I am so happy,' he said, 'that my boys have taken an interest in religious life.' This father is a member of another Christian body, and in the past had urged his sons to attend his church; but they had not been interested. Through contacts made in the Harvest Ingathering campaign, their interest in this message had been awakened. They began attending the meetings and soon were deeply absorbed in learning about the truths of the third angel's message. They studied eagerly for a month or more, not missing a single one of the Bible studies that were held twice each

day. Now the father is talking of changing his business so that he can keep the Sabbath also.

"Another, a drug-store owner who also does medical work, has expressed his desire for baptism after further studies.

"The interest at Paotow is not so encouraging; yet our evangelist there hopes to have four or five candidates for baptism soon. In Cholu also there are four or five who have taken their stand.

"We had good meetings in Mongolia, in spite of wind and rain that blew down our tent several times and hindered our work. There was an average attendance of about thirty, which is good for Mongolia. Because of delay in getting up there and having to get back to Kalgan to attend to mission affairs, we were able to have meetings for only six weeks. Even from a series of three months' effort for the Mongolians, with no opportunity to get back or to keep in touch, only as our Russian worker can go there occasionally, we could hardly expect results of a permanent nature. That is the trying part of work in Mongolia. Yet we feel that something has been accomplished in the giving of the message to these people."

Good results have attended the efforts in the Kulangsu Mission, Amoy. Pastor G. L. Williams, director of that mission, reports seventeen precious souls baptized and added to the Kulangsu church.

Baptisms in Shanghai

Another harvest ingathering of souls brought joy to our Shanghai churches as seventeen precious souls followed their Lord in baptism on the 13th of September. This is the third baptism to be held in the beautiful swimming pool owned by one of our friends in this city.

Sister Miller and her band of loyal Bible women were happy indeed to see ten women rise from the watery grave to walk in newness of life. One friend not of our faith who stood by remarked, "Everybody seems so happy." And a happy occasion it was. Pastor Wu Tz-chiao and Brethren Shen Tien-ran and Fu Yu-yuin have also done good work with the churches in this city. Seven men candidates went forward at this time as results of their labors.

These additions, coming as they do every few months, bring real courage and life into the Shanghai churches. Last week Pastor W. E. Strickland, elder of the East Shanghai church, reports that Mable Davies and Fred Larsen were baptized at the beginning of the school year.

Pastor Chen Lai-fan reports the baptism of five at Lingan, southwest of Hangchow. Others are awaiting baptism in about ten stations. Pray for the way to open up that our pastors may go through to these places at an early date.

R. H. HARTWELL.

Pastor A. L. Ham, of the South China Union, reports two baptismal services in Hongkong recently, when fourteen persons were baptized. He says further: "Twelve were reported from near Canton a few days ago. I think the Cantonese Mission will have as many baptisms this year as last, despite the conditions which prevail throughout the field. North Fukien will also show good results, notwithstanding that field is in very difficult circumstances. The pressure on our men in the field is very heavy these days, but they will do their very best, and I hope that South China will have a good showing at the close of the year when all the conditions are considered."

Situated between Fong Chuen and Pak Hok Tung (White Stork Cave) in Canton is Chiu Village, where a score or more of interested persons are manifesting special interest in the gospel message. A Sabbath school is being conducted with a good attendance, and a number are awaiting baptism.



Group of candidates for baptism, the result of an evangelistic effort in Foochow, Fukien,

SOUTHERN ASIA'S APPEAL*

By N. C. WILSON

SOUTHERN ASIA is happy for the opportunity of presenting during this quarter to the Sabbath schools of the world field a report of the advancement of the message in this division. We often think of Southern Asia as being composed only of India, Burma, and Ceylon. However, this division is also responsible for Afghanistan and other territories to the north. Within this field is to be found a population of fully 400,000,000 persons. What a challenge this immense population presents to the Sabbath schools of the world. There are twice as many Hindus in India as there are people in the United States. Southern Asia has one-third of the Mohammedan population of the world, or 90,000,000. In Africa there are fifty-six missionaries of all societies to each million people, whereas in India there are only nine. And so this division might properly be termed a great "Dark Continent."

While there is still so much work to be done in those parts of Southern Asia which we speak of as entered, still our hearts are set upon lengthening our cords and pushing on into Afghanistan and other northern fields which are at present untouched. No mission society has ever entered Afghanistan, but we have a great desire to erect the advent banner in this country with its nearly 15,000,000 people, almost all of whom are Mohammedans. In India, Burma, and Ceylon, where our work has been established for many years, we have churches and institutions in the important centers. There is a vast amount of work to be done for the millions who live throughout the great countryside between the places where workers are located.

As we think of the great unfinished task in Southern Asia, and especially in those countries which at present are closed, we have tried earnestly to know how we should best plan to care for the situation. Our workers in the field have often given themselves to prayer that heaven's wisdom might be theirs in solving this greatest of all problems — the speedy fin-

ishing of God's work in Southern Asia. Our only hope of winning Southern Asia for God, and of finishing our task here, is quickly and carefully to train a much larger group of native workers, and then send them forth with the light and glory of the third angel's message. The burden of this great task must largely rest upon the hearts and shoulders of the sons and daughters of Southern Asia. This plan means the training of many more indigenous workers in Spicer College and Vincent Hill School and College. In order to care for such a group of students as should be under instruction now, we need added facilities and an adequate staff of consecrated workers to train them.

Mokiang Sabbath School

IN a recent letter received from the Sabbath School Department there were set forth the five goals of the Sabbath School. In response to that letter I should like to mention some of the conditions existing in our Mokiang Sabbath School and refer to what is being accomplished.

The members of the Mokiang school are almost all heathen; yet they are to be respected for their honesty and devotion. We have found these people very happy to enroll in the Sabbath school, and they listen with much interest to what is taught. It is difficult, however, to meet the goal of daily study, for many of them cannot read. One half of the members are women; 20 per cent are men and about 30 per cent children. Less than one-third of the children can read.

We made this matter of teaching them to read one of our first works, using the simplified Sabbath school lessons as the text; now several can read, and these are teaching the memory verse each week to some who cannot read. This helps greatly.

We have tried to impress upon the members the importance of coming on time, and they are learning to do this, even though some come long distances. Some come to the city on that day to do their trading, and plan also to attend the Sabbath school. It is difficult for these always to be on time, but

Another plan which we feel will mean much to the extension and strengthening of our work is the preparation and printing of literature in new languages, especially the languages of the unentered fields; so that when the living preacher may have difficulty in gaining access the message of God may be carried by those who constantly pass back and forth over these borders. In order to assist us in putting into operation these plans, we come to you at this time asking for an interest in your prayers, and a liberal share of the funds with which God has entrusted you.

Let us undertake this work for God while the opportunity is still ours. To this end the workers in the field dedicate their all and send forth these mission readings to encourage the hearts of God's people everywhere to arise and possess these lands for God.

gradually even they are learning to be punctual.

The several offerings, including Birthday and Investment, are being promoted in the Mokiang school. The first quarter of this year our offering goal was over \$70.00. Of this the Birthday offering amounted to \$2.00 and the Investment to over \$3.00. We are grateful for this first quarter's record, and believe it will improve in the future.

The work at this station is making progress. There have been difficulties, but the Lord has opened the way before us. A large work is waiting to be done here. We hope that very soon it will be possible to have a school, so that these young people may be instructed in the principles of Christian education.

LING CHUNG-HSI.

Publication of Russian Literature

A good supply of Russian literature is in stock at the Signs Publishing House, and orders for the same will be welcomed. A list of this literature will be supplied to those who are interested. The Press Board has taken action looking toward the early publication of suitable Russian literature such as Sabbath school quarterlies, tracts, booklets and magazines. Further announcements will be made concerning progress along this line. A Russian Harvest Ingathering paper is being issued for use in the 1939 campaign.

H. L. SHULL.

*Inasmuch as the English Missions Quarterlies for the fourth quarter have thus far failed to reach us, we are passing on herewith the following appeal from the field to which the Thirteenth Sabbath Overflow for this quarter is assigned.—Bessie Mount.

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.

"The Last Day Shepherd's Call"

Circulation reports for the *Signs* (73,828) and the *Sabbath School Helper* (1,763), should bring encouragement to the hearts of our workers throughout the field. Especially do we rejoice in the continuous growth in the circulation of the *Signs magazine*. In spite of very many difficulties encountered in mailing and distribution, our colporteurs everywhere are loyally pressing forward. The present trend indicates that we shall soon be back to the highest peak of sales, which was reached in August, 1937. May the Lord bless the efforts of our faithful field leaders and colporteurs in maintaining the splendid showing made thus far during 1939.

From the circulation report of our church paper, *The Shepherd's Last Call*, we cannot gather much encouragement, although thankful that the total number of subscribers has continued to remain fairly even over the past seven months. With a church membership of over 25,000, it does seem as though there should be a larger subscription list than 1,634. The *Shepherd* contains some of the best material obtainable for the encouragement and spiritual uplift of believers and leaders. Therefore, should we not put forth every effort to see that each family of believers and each isolated member has from month to month the help which this periodical affords? The *Shepherd* is published at a considerable financial loss each year; but a far greater loss is being sustained monthly by the church if its members are not receiving and reading its messages.

The regular price of the magazine is \$1.00 per year of 24 issues, including the *Sabbath School Quarterly*. If ordered at general meetings the price is only 75 cents per year. May we appeal to our leaders everywhere to put forth an earnest effort to build up the circulation of the *Shepherd* during the remaining months of 1939.

H. L. SHULL.

Kiangsu Mission News Notes

We are happy to report that the students who canvassed in Shanghai this summer did very well. They are now waiting for the day when they may return to Hongkong and Wenchow to resume school work. One young man, a medical student, sold about \$800.00 worth of health books.

The radio broadcasts are reaching a large audience of interested listeners. Almost daily we meet with, or hear of, those who have been listening-in regularly for a long period of time. We believe that God will give the increase in His own good time and way.

Harvest Ingathering is well under way. One man who was visited told us that there was no use to ask his company for any help because they had done only one very small piece of business in a whole month; "but" he added, "I shall be glad to help you myself." He wrote out a check for \$100. He is well pleased with the work he knows we are doing to uplift those who are in need. "Even unto the end of the world" we have our Lord with us as we do His work.

R. H. HARTWELL.

Big Week in Amoy

RETURNING from the China Training Institute, Shatin, to Amoy just at the time of the Big Week campaign, I was happy to identify myself with this interest, and am now glad to report what was done. Workers, teachers, students and church members all put their hearts into the effort and worked unitedly to reach the goal. Even the sisters joined the campaign and in spite of heat and rainy days persevered until they had won good records. Some got as high as \$30 and \$40. Then after the work was finished we gathered one moonlight evening in the garden of Pastor Williams' home and had an experience meeting, when each group reported its work and the amount that had been sold. It was a happy occasion.

We thank the Lord that He gave us success in Kulangsu. This city in its present state of blockade is not an easy place to sell books. Living costs are very high. But there are no hard circumstances with the Lord, and He went with His children and revealed His power in their behalf. Our aim was to sell over a thousand books and we reached our goal.

S. S. YUNG.

Division Notes

Pastor and Mrs. O. A. Hall reached Shanghai, per s. s. "President Coolidge" on September 12, returning from furlough.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Milton Lee, at Yunnanfu, Yunnan, on August 8, a son,—Frederick Milton.

A word by personal letter from Pastor E. L. Longway dated Haiphong, September 13: "We are a hopeful and despondent party, depending on the prospects for moving along to our destinations. Just now the sun is shining again, as we have a special dispensation from the Governor-General of Indo-China, and hope that we shall be able to clear customs and get started on our journey in another three or four days." Dr. Lilly is staying by in Nanning, which is being severely bombed; we expect to spend at least a few hours with him when we pass through."

Further recruits for the China field arriving in September were Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Winter and Miss Mildred Dumas. Brother Winter has been appointed to teach science in the China Training Institute and Miss Dumas to secretarial work in the Division headquarters' office.

Notice

Due to the decline in the value of the Chinese dollar, resulting in a general increase in operating costs, the Board of Directors of the Home Study Institute has voted an emergency surtax of 25% on all charges listed in Chinese currency as from September 1, 1939.

W. A. SCHARFFENBERG.

"Unquestionably, the Harvest Ingathering is the most far-reaching, united missionary endeavor of the church. Through no other channel are God's people brought in annual contact with all peoples of the world. This involves solemn responsibility upon the individual solicitor and upon the church as a whole, for making these contacts spiritual and soul-winning. Let each one determine that his part in the work shall not be of a merely mercenary nature,—working for money only, but that along with this phase of work there shall be maintained continual watchfulness to find souls who are seeking for light, and to record faithfully every name for follow-up measures."