

The China Division Reporter

Vol. 13

SHANGHAI, CHINA, JULY, 1948

No. 7

Progress of the Public Evangelistic Efforts

W. H. Branson

REPORTS coming in from the many evangelistic efforts now in progress throughout China are extremely encouraging.

Concerning the meetings in Peiping, being conducted by Elders Frederick and Milton Lee, Pastor James writes: "Last night, April 27, there were about one thousand out to hear the Sabbath presented." On April 30 he wrote again: "Last night was the third presentation of the Sabbath question and there were between seven hundred and eight hundred present. For the next week or ten days we have to move our place of meeting because the universities are taking over our regular meeting place for displays. Next Sunday night we begin meetings in an out-of-door amphitheater. We are sorry for this enforced change, since we are just at the most critical stage of the meetings. Last night 160 people signed up, signifying their desire to keep the Sabbath, and no doubt a number of them will attend the Sabbath service tomorrow."

On May 10 Elder Milton Lee wrote that on Sunday night, May 9, there were three thousand people in attendance at the open-air meeting. Thus it seems that the interest is constantly increasing. They expect to return to the big hall inside the old Forbidden City very soon, and resume the meetings there.

Pastor Wang Wei-gieh, working in the city of Chinwangtao, reports a regular nightly attendance of 300 to 400. Pastor Davis, of South China, reports that the interest in the effort in the large hall in Kowloon is holding up well, and that the presentation of the Sabbath message has not affected the attendance. Pastor Liang Sui-seng reports an attendance of 80 to 120 in Yihyang, Hunan. He, like many others, is conducting meetings seven nights a week. From the city of Taiyuan, Shansi, Pastor Chang Poh-ching reports an attendance of 140 to 180 in an effort being held in our chapel. Pastor Gao Shang-lu is also preaching every night in our chapel in Nanching, Szechwan, to over one hundred persons.

Recently the writer visited Pastor Meng's effort in Hankow. We were thrilled as he presented the great prophecy of Nebuchadnezzar's dream to a crowded house. Some 400 to 450 persons were present and sat with rapt attention throughout the entire service. How wonderful is our truth! And how marvelous is the privilege of telling it from the public platform to hundreds and thousands who seem so eager to hear.

The following word has just come in from Pastor Wang Wen-hwei, who is preaching in Kanhsien, Kiangsi: "I am happy to report on the evangelistic effort at Kanhsien. This is an important place. During the war years the Generalissimo's son was here and everything was improved. The population is 80,000. We did not start the effort on April 4, but started on April 11, as we had to erect the matshed for the meeting and also get permission from the government. We are very thankful that in good weather the place is filled, and even on rainy days the attendance is around ninety. The majority come every night and some bring their Bibles. Now we have started a Bible class with more than forty members. We are happy to report that many students are coming and are very attentive. Two bought Bibles recently. One person comes every night and he holds a meeting at his home every day and invites children and their parents. Everything shows that people are hungry and thirsty for truth." Pastor Wang's effort opened with an attendance of some 250.

Pastor Fu Yu-ying reports from 150 to 250 in attendance at his meetings in the city of Wusih, Kiangsu. The Sabbath school secretary of the Shansi Mission, Brother Chang Yen-tsai, began a meeting in Fenyang on April 25, with an attendance the first week of 170 to 180. From the beleaguered city of Mukden, Manchuria, word comes of well attended meetings in our houses of worship.

Pastors David Lin and James Wang find that their congregation in the Range Road church in Shanghai is largely made up of those who have taken the Bible correspondence course and are anxious to study the truth further. Hundreds come with Bibles in hand and often read the texts in unison with the speaker. They have splendid prospects for a large harvest of souls from this effort. The Detamore-Meissner effort in the large tabernacle in Shanghai continues to draw large crowds. At the time of this writing, Pastor Detamore is just beginning to present the Sabbath truth, and the interest is very great. Many prominent people of the city are seen often in the audience.

(Concluded on page 7)

Better Men Needed

M. L. RICE

GOD'S plan, as outlined in the Bible, is to make much of men. The entire plan of salvation is founded upon the Man. This plan has been lost sight of many times as men attempt to accomplish their ends by means of better procedures, by new and better organizations. In this machine age it is very possible to forget that God is looking for *men*.

It is not better plans, better equipment, better organization, that is so much needed today, as it is better men and women. The world is suffering, not from a lack of facilities, inventions, or plans. It is suffering because men's hearts are not right. Because their hearts are not right, their relationships are wrong. No organization can function for good, no plan for betterment will work, without men and women who are good and who will be good to their fellowmen.

What every church needs today is better men. The methods may need to be varied to suit changing situations and conditions, but we must never lose sight of the fact that God uses *men*, not machinery. The Holy Spirit gives power to *men*. God dwells in and works through *men*.

God's plan is shown in His dealing with the early Christian church. They were very few in number for the task committed to them. They needed power for their work. There was only one way to obtain it. They must be prepared to receive the power. They must be better

men. So to the "upper room" they went. There they prayed and confessed their sins. "These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication." When sin was put away and all wrongs were made right, they were where the Holy Ghost could use them. They were the same group, but they were better men. They were small in number, but they were mighty in power. They moved the world.

God is calling today for better men and women. It is not outward respectability that is needed. No man with a superficial conversion will have power to move the world. The need is for the truth to be stamped upon the heart. "With the heart man believeth unto righteousness." "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength." Mark 12:30. The forgiveness of sin is not the only gift that was made to man through the death of Jesus. He made the infinite sacrifice that human nature might be "reconstructed from its ruins" and made fit as a dwelling place for the Holy Spirit.

While the Holy Spirit awaits our demand and reception, He will come only to those who are willing to have that "upper room" experience. The heart must be prepared to be His dwelling place. A man of power is a man of prayer. Men who pray are better men. And the greatest need of the hour is for better men. — *Atlantic Union Gleaner*.

Living In A World Of Need

(Concluded)

"The people who are the next greatest sufferers are the refugees and displaced persons. Literally millions of these are there from other neighboring countries, and in most instances the feeling toward them is not friendly at all because Germany feels her problem is sufficiently great with her own people, to say nothing of having to divide with these others. But they fled from their own countries in advance of the invaders who were taking over their lands, or they preferred to be taken prisoners

by the Americans rather than become slave laborers for the others. Also a great many of them were exchanged between Germany and these other countries, and are now stranded and homeless.

"To add to the misery, the last two years have produced very poor crops. Last summer had the least rainfall of any year for the last one hundred years. Consequently, also, there is a very great shortage of power, and because of this there is a very meager supply of gas,

coal, or fuel of any sort in the entire country. Only those so fortunate as to live in rural sections and in farming areas can go to the woods and haul with their little wagons a supply of wood for the cook stoves. The same is true, as well, with the food problem. These refugees were permitted to go into the fields after the farmers had harvested their crops, and could turn every inch of the soil over again, hoping to find a few stray potatoes, carrots, and sugar beets. In this way many a destitute family has been able to add to their most meager supply of these vegetables. Or if they possessed a prized trinket they might trade it for a few cabbages or other produce.

Only those who had lived in the rural areas before and during the war, and who have built up somewhat of a home in the country, are now the fortunate ones. Even their buildings were in most parts not too greatly damaged. Except for the economic conditions, and having to turn over much of their income from their land to the government in order to feed the entire country, these rural people can pick up life almost where they left off when the war broke out, save that they are restricted to their own products, for there is nothing much as yet to buy in the markets or in the stores.

"And now to the city folks. Did I say the refugees and displaced persons suffered most? Perhaps I was wrong—for here are the ones who have in most instances lost *almost everything!* Among them are many thousands from other lands, who did not own land in the country towns and villages, or near some farming section. Their houses and businesses were wrecked, and they are quite helpless. There is not yet very much rebuilding being done, and consequently these are the people with the most hopeless outlook for the future. In the large cities, 50 to 75 and even up to 90 per cent of the buildings were destroyed, and the people who remain have to find shelter as best they can. Many a rubbish heap has a stovepipe sticking up through its gaping and tottering sidewalls, and when you look closely you will discover a hole somewhere for an entrance to an excuse of a room below and under the debris. Or

if one corner of a building still stands upright, this has been fixed up for a shelter, but it looks as if it might also fall at any moment. Many a wrecked home stood there with its disemhoweled plumbing hanging in mid-air, two or three stories high; with a bathtub just on the verge of sliding down off the third floor; or a bedstead hung on a bent girder, as if it had all happened only an hour or so before I saw it—instead of several years ago.

"And then I saw how these people try to make the best of it. Over and over I stood on some street corner in one of those moods when you just love to watch the people go by and wonder how they live, what they do, and what they are like in general. Many a home-made cart went by, pulled by one woman and pushed from behind by another. To my great relief I noticed that in many instances their hair had a nice finger-wave, although their hands were cracked almost to the bleeding point from their daily foraging trips into the country for wood or whatever might fall to their lot. I somehow always felt glad that they had so much self-respect and pride—yes, even the necessary energy—to try to keep up their morale by keeping themselves at their best. Like the Germans we have always known, they keep their clothes and hats well brushed. Don't feel surprised when they write and ask you for a box of shoe polish at the same time they enumerate their food needs. In the trains and on the street cars there is a good-natured jostling and banter, as the people try to bolster up one another's courage, instead of sewing up their lips and showing bitterness.

"The food question interested me most of all. It was my fortunate lot to be in private homes for my entire stay in Germany, and to see first-hand just how they lived. Except for the food packages that come to them from America, or what comes to them from various organizations and relief funds, they have to subsist almost entirely on a diet containing only half the amount of calories necessary to sustain normal health. Black bread is the main item at all meals. A glass of milk is practically unknown, even to children. Consequently the quest for food, or just the next meal, is the most

important problem of the day. Fruits and fresh vegetables are scarce, especially during these winter months, and almost impossible to obtain in the larger cities. It became a very strong impression with me that we over here must keep up the flow of food parcels for at least this winter, or even until they have harvested another crop. They showed me CARE packages that had just arrived, and I was most pleased with their contents. The food was fresh and well packed, and the people are most pleased and happy to get it. Their appreciation is touching indeed as they try to express their thanks for all the efforts put forth in their behalf, to supply both food and clothing.

Truly our people have done a noble work in behalf of their 'brothers' over there."

Facing this condition, not only in Germany and other countries in Europe, but also in areas in other continents, the General Conference Committee took action recently asking our people to raise \$500,000 by a special offering to be taken up on October 23, 1948. The church in China has been asked to contribute \$2,500 of this amount. This Division has been a recipient of relief funds for many years, and is still receiving such funds. Shall we not do our part to promote this offering so that on the date set we may not only reach but exceed the goal assigned us?

Our Church Offerings

JOHN OSS

OUR church offerings form a definite part of our worship. As we attend church services we worship God through bringing our tithes and offerings as well as through song, prayer, and the study of His Word. It is only as we thus look upon the giving of offerings that we receive the fullest blessing.

As the ancient Israelites came to the temple to worship, they were admonished not to come empty-handed. Provision was made for all, from the lowest peasant to the richest landowner or official, to have a part in the offering. The offerings required ranged from a turtle-dove to a bullock. In like manner today, rich and poor may have a part in supporting the work of God through the giving of offerings.

Our offerings for the different Sabbaths of each month have been designated for various purposes, as follows: First Sabbath, home missionary work; second Sabbath, foreign missions; third Sabbath, educational work; fourth Sabbath, church expense; fifth Sabbath—when one,—poor fund.

Careful attention should be given by the leaders of the local churches to acquainting the members with the different offerings and their purpose. Each Sabbath, before the offering is received, mention should be made of its intended use. We have observed that at times the statement is simply made that the offering will be taken, and no reference is made to its object. We believe that the church members will take a keener and more

definite interest in the matter of the offering if they know what it is to be used for.

There is another matter that we believe also needs attention. In some of our churches we have observed that the one announcing the receiving of the offering sometimes asks one of the deacons to offer the prayer. We believe that this is not the best plan to follow. As the deacons who are about to receive the offering have their backs turned to the audience, the prayer they offer is often inaudible. At times these prayers are offered in a monotone which makes them unintelligible. It is our opinion that it would be far better for the one announcing the offering and its intended usage to offer the offertory prayer. It should be done in such a way that it is clearly understood by all present. A sincere, earnest prayer, mentioning the purpose of the offering will inspire greater liberality in giving.

Carefully prepared reports also promote greater liberality. At regular intervals a detailed report should be given to the whole church body on the amount of the different offerings received, and the projects for which they have been used. The regular church offerings are a great factor in providing means for carrying on the work of the local church as well as helping to give the message in distant lands. Let the receiving of these offerings be done in a way that will enhance their importance in the minds of our membership.

A Trip to Ninghsia

E. L. LONGWAY

ON the first day of April, the writer, with Pastors Wang Fu-yuan and Chen Pei-tao, accompanied by Brethren Tsin and Chien of the Northwest colporteur force, left Lanchow by the Northwest jeep for a trip to Ninghsia. Pastor Chen, formerly acting director of the Shensi Mission, had been chosen as Ninghsia Mission director at the time of the Northwest Union session, and Pastor Wang and I were happy for the privilege of escorting him to Ninghsia to enter upon his duties in that needy field. The first day we journeyed about two hundred miles, and reached the little city of Chungning, where we have a church of approximately thirty members. Evangelist Liang Kwei-san is in charge of the work there. Much of the journey was along the course of the Yellow River, but for one stretch of some fifty miles we traveled over barren desert country.

From Chungning to Ninghsia is another hundred miles, following the east bank of the Yellow River, with the lofty snow-covered peaks of the Holan mountains in constant view. We reached Ninghsia early Friday afternoon and visited there until the following Tuesday noon. Our church in Ninghsia is well located near the center of the city. Around fifty members, aside from enquirers and visitors, were present for the Sabbath services. Pastor and Mrs. Chiao Wen-hi have labored faithfully and well in this Ninghsia district for the past five years. The respect and love in which they are held by the membership in Ninghsia was evident when the whole church, along with many enquirers and friends, gathered on that last Monday to wish the Chiao family Godspeed as they prepared to leave for their new field of labor in Chengtu, West Szechwan.

Pastor Chen decided to remain in Ninghsia, and made plans for Sister Chen and the children to join him there this summer. The Chiao family, Pastor Wang, and I journeyed together from Ninghsia back to Chungning, and thence by a newly opened road through Kuyuan to Pingliang, and thus on to Sian. Tuesday afternoon we reached Chungning, and there found a warm welcome in the home of Brother and Sister Ma. That evening we were visited by many of the church members, along with Evangelist Liang,

and a certain Captain Chang, an enquirer who had become interested in the Sabbath truth through reading a copy of *The Marked Bible*. Later this Captain Chang advanced personal funds to make it possible for our brethren in Chungning to take advantage of an offer of certain buildings which will give us a place for worship and a home for the evangelist. Pastor Wang studied the truth with Captain Chang until late in the evening, and we hope that he will soon be a baptized member of our church.

We had hoped to reach Pingliang on the second day of our journey, as it is less than two hundred miles from Chungning. But by midday it began to rain, and the road became increasingly difficult, so that it was nightfall when we reached Kuyuan, some eighty miles from Pingliang. That evening the rain turned to snow, and by morning the ground was covered with a four-inch blanket of white. Our jeep mired down four different times during the first thirty miles of this third day's journey, and it was late afternoon before we reached Pingliang.

While in Pingliang we visited with Evangelist Shen Keh-chang, and found him, with the church members, busy with plans for the evangelistic effort to be held in that city. Later a suitable location was found, near the East Gate of the city, in an old theater which will seat from 250 to 300 people. The place has been tidied up and the effort is now in progress, with good attendance and interest. Brother Liu Mao-hsiu, who serves as evangelist at the Lanchow Sanitarium, is assisting with this effort.

The two hundred and more miles from Pingliang to Sian were covered by mid-afternoon of Friday, and we were happy to be ready to greet the Sabbath and enjoy its blessings with our large company of believers in Sian.

Ninghsia is a needy field. Formerly work was conducted in six centers, but due to military conscription of our workers, shortage of budget funds, and other difficulties that beset the work during the years of the war, three of these outstations have been closed down, and at present we have work only in Ninghsia city, Chungning, and Chungwei. The membership of the mission stands at just under

130, but it was gratifying to observe that almost every name on the church record can be counted as actively obeying the truth. The population of the whole province of some thirteen *hsiens* numbers around 650,000. It was good to hear Pastor Chen say, again and again, "Let us make plans to bring the message to every one in Ninghsia Province within the next two years." It is his plan to reopen work in at least two of the places that have been closed, and to launch out into at least one new place before the close of this year.

While we were in Ninghsia it was possible to complete the purchase of the mission headquarters property, and since then the Division has made an emergency appropriation to provide for the rebuilding of the church—which due to a city road-widening program must be demolished—and also to build homes for the workers connected with the mission headquarters. Brother Yuan Shu-ren, formerly acting treasurer of the Shensi Mission, with his family, has been called to serve as treasurer of the reorganized Ninghsia Mission. Budgets have been provided so that two or three more evangelists can be added to the working force, and arrangements have been made with the provincial authorities so that these workers will be exempt from military service.

Brethren Chien and Tsin have begun their literature ministry in Ninghsia city, and will work all thirteen counties of the province, with the goal of placing some of our literature in every village in the whole area. They also plan to work over into northern Shensi, to the Yulin district, where we have a company of believers. Due to political and military disturbances this little company of believers has not been visited for many years, but now the way seems open for our literature evangelists to enter that section of the field again. Please pray for the work in Ninghsia, and for Pastor Chen and his fellow workers.

Special Offerings

Mid-summer Offering

June 26

* * *

Educational Offering

July 17

Northwest Union Session

F. Y. WANG

(Translated from the Chinese, and adapted.)

THE Northwest Union Session was held in Lanchow, March 17-24. It was the first meeting of this kind for this field in more than ten years. About one hundred delegates were in attendance from the local missions, the hospital, and the union training institute.

Pastors W. H. Branson, James Wang, and E. L. Longway were present from the Division, and their help was greatly appreciated. Pastor Branson's inspiring talks, enriched by his long and wide experience in our work, had a wonderful appeal and will long be remembered by the delegates. His promotion of our program of evangelism met a hearty response. The spiritual studies conducted by Pastor James Wang were particularly helpful in arousing our young people to go forward in their work for the Lord, giving them a new vision of what they may do and many ideas for service. It was the first visit of Pastors Branson and Wang to our field, and they noted many differences between it and other unions.

Though Pastor Longway has been in the Northwest many times in the past, he has been located in Shanghai since the war and it was a privilege indeed for many of his old friends and former co-workers to meet him again. The serious instruction he gave for these solemn times could not fail to move all hearts. Following the meetings he accompanied me on a trip to Ninghsia and Sian, and helped to consummate the purchase of property for our mission headquarters in Ninghsia as well as church property in the city of Chungning. A good foundation has been laid for the work in Ninghsia Province. After spending a month in the Northwest, Pastor Longway returned to Shanghai.

Much help was received from these three visitors from the Division, and we parted from them with many thanks for their instruction, which we shall never forget.

At the time of the union session two young licentiates were ordained to the gospel ministry, —Alva R. Appel and Yu Hsien-sheng. Pastor Appel was chosen as the new director for the Shensi Mission, and Gao Chieh was appointed treasurer. Pastor Chen Pei-tao is the new director of the Ninghsia Mission, with

Yuen Shu-ren as treasurer. Gia Bing has been made principal of the training institute, and Gia Tai-hsiang, the former principal, has been asked to become educational, Missionary Volunteer, and Sabbath school secretary for the union. No other changes were made in the personnel of the union or union institutions.

Following the union session Elder Longway led out in a colporteurs' institute. Fourteen colporteurs, full of energy and enthusiasm, were present, and their thirsty hearts drank to repletion of the instruction given. At the close of the institute they were organized into groups for their work. Plans were also laid for again entering Sinkiang with

our literature in July. Please pray for this undertaking.

Though his duties are many, Pastor Longway used two Sabbath morning preaching services—one in Lanchow and one in Sian—to promote the campaign for raising funds for a chapel at the union training school. Hearts were touched and many gave of their means for this enterprise, the gifts totaling \$600,000,000. Several members contributed from \$30,000,000 to \$70,000,000 each. We trust that in the near future we may be able to complete this project, and also the Crisler Memorial Church at Lanchow.

We are glad to report seven evangelistic efforts in progress in the union at present. All have made a good beginning and the prospects are excellent for a rich harvest. We trust that the Lord's Spirit will lead in the conduct of all these efforts, that much fruit may be gathered for Him.

From Southern Europe

A LETTER from Pastor W. R. Beach, president of the Southern European Division, to Pastor Branson, gives some inspiring glimpses of the work in that field, which suffered so greatly during the war. Pastor Beach wrote under date of January 8, a few weeks after his return from attending the Autumn Council in America. We quote a few paragraphs:

"Since my return from the United States we have had our Winter Council. It was held in Zurich, Switzerland. This was the largest meeting of the kind we have had in our Division and I think it was the best. We had representatives from all our fields, excepting Rumania, Bulgaria, and Jugoslavia. We even had representatives in from the Indian Ocean mission field. All joined in laying plans for a stronger work in 1948. . . .

"Our secretary, Elder Fridlin, was able to report that more than 17,000 souls had been baptized in Southern Europe during 1946 and up to September 30, 1947. I think we shall have attained the 10,000 mark in 1947. We shall certainly do this if the last few weeks of turmoil in Rumania do not cut down the baptisms in that land, where we expect more than 5,000 were baptized. This means that our Division membership has now gone over the 50,000 mark. I am sure you realize how won-

derful this is in Southern Europe. We hope and pray that in 1948 we can baptize 12,000 people. We have set this as our goal—1,000 baptisms a month. May the Lord help us in our planning and working so as to achieve this result.

"We have been witnessing some wonderful things in Southern Europe. We were able to hold, this past year, a union session in Prague, Czechoslovakia. It was the first meeting of the kind in that country since the war. It was really a great meeting. We had delegates in from all over Czechoslovakia, where we now have over 4,000 members. For the Prague meeting we rented the largest hall in Central Europe, the Sokol Hall, which seats nearly 7,000 people. We had it well filled Friday, Sabbath and Sunday. Sabbath morning, I think, was the most stirring meeting I ever held. After the sermon I made a call for consecration. I asked all, old and young, who had not been baptized and who wished to join a baptismal class and thus enter the ranks of God's cause in a definite way, to come forward to the altar. I witnessed one of the most beautiful sights I have ever seen. The people began to stream down the aisles from the galleries and from the back to the front, and we counted and enrolled 360 baptismal candidates. . . .

SABBATH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

With Our Sabbath Schools in Shansi

"Were it possible for us to build about twenty evangelistic centers at present, we could bring in members by the thousands. It is very difficult to carry on the work without doing something in the line of building. Most of these European cities have been bombed out and it is practically impossible to find either lodging for the worker or space for evangelistic work. We have set out to raise \$100,000 as a special in our own Division this year to build chapels and evangelistic centers. I hope that from some other funds we can match every dollar raised in the field.

"We have outlined a very strong evangelistic campaign in 1948. A number of workers' institutes will be held. We are swinging every worker into direct evangelistic work. We are starting the radio work in German and Italian this year. We already have the message on the air in English and French. Perhaps we shall launch something in Portuguese or Spanish, too. We are building up our radio center in Paris. We are just completing a floor of a new building in Paris which will be entirely devoted to radio studio and Bible correspondence school offices. This radio work, linked with the Bible correspondence school, is accomplishing marvelous results. Reports are coming in of groups of as many as twenty people who are interested in the truth through the radio and correspondence school. I think this will be a great thing for Europe, perhaps the greatest single evangelistic factor ever put into the service of God's cause.

"The young people are launching a junior Bible correspondence course. We expect this will do a marvelous work among the youth.

"All these new plans are being linked up with the old, tested methods which are giving good results around the world. We want to place still larger emphasis on city evangelism. We have a large evangelistic force working in Paris. You will be glad to know that we have nearly 500 members in Paris today. We have bought a second piece of land where we hope to be able to erect a church building and evangelistic center in the coming months. . . ."

The mid-year full meeting of the Division committee convened June 15, bringing to Shanghai pastors Goh Chiao-oh, Wang Fuyuan, Wang Ging-yang, M. C. Warren, C. H. Davis, and E. H. James.

MR. CHANG YEN-TSAI, Sabbath school department secretary of the Shansi Mission, is very active in promoting branch Sabbath school work. In a recent letter he tells of the branch Sabbath school work in Yungcheng County, in the southern part of the province:

"At the outbreak of the war between China and Japan in 1937, there were twenty-odd Sabbath school members in Yungchengsien (the county seat). Some of these members conducted a branch Sabbath school of a few members about twelve miles to the north. When the city was occupied by the Japanese the members were scattered, but thank the Lord, in spite of all the difficulties and the cruel treatment by the enemy, the work still went forward during the eight years of occupation. At the end of the conflict, in 1945, when the scattered members could return, it was found that the parent school in Yungcheng had doubled its membership, and the branch school in Yangyutsun had become a parent school with five branches of its own in near by villages. At the same time the Yungcheng members conducted a branch school in Tungliutsun, about two miles from the city, with over thirty members. This, too, eventually became a regular school.

"In the two years following V-J Day, the Yungcheng school grew to a membership of ninety, and organized six more branches averaging fifteen members each—four of these being in the city and two outside. Three of the five branches of the Yangyutsun Sabbath school—itsself developed from a branch school—have developed into regular Sabbath schools, which have organized three more branches. Thus in 1947 we had six parent schools and eleven branch schools, with a total of over three hundred members, in the Yungcheng district, where in 1937 we had one Sabbath school and one branch with around thirty members.

"Since the occupation of the city by the Communists the members there are having a harder time than under the Japanese occupation. They have been scattered in small groups, some having fled as far as Sianfu in Shensi Province. From these we learn that the scattered mem-

bers in the Yungcheng area are of good courage, and are repeating the experience of the disciples of old, when 'they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word.' Acts 8:4. Please pray for them.

"In the province of Shansi we have an elderly sister, Liu Chiao-chih, about seventy years of age, who lives fifteen li (five miles) from the Sabbath school. She has bound feet, and before she became a Christian she could scarcely walk a mile without becoming weary and experiencing so much difficulty in breathing that she could proceed no further. Since accepting Christ as her Saviour she comes to Sabbath school regularly, walking ten miles every Sabbath, under the hot summer sun or through the snows of winter. Not only does she feel no weakness, but she feels full of energy. To her this is a modern miracle. She is faithful in living up to all the light she has received—keeping the Sabbath, paying her tithe, witnessing for the Lord, and bringing others to Sabbath school. She has led four members of her own family and eight of her neighbors to the Sabbath school, and eventually they have been baptized and have entered the church.

"Mrs. Gao, aged sixty, lives in Kaogiatso, eight miles from the Tungliutsun Sabbath school. She usually rises at midnight on Sabbath, and under the moon and stars walks the eight miles to Sabbath school, reaching the chapel as the sun rises. Her example brings much encouragement and inspiration to all the members of her Sabbath school, and should stir us all to greater faithfulness.

"Sisters Yang Ih-ching and Yang Hou-tsai-hsia are leaders of a branch Sabbath school in the Yungcheng area, and are very active in bringing others to Sabbath school. They fast every Friday, and use that day to visit their neighbors and friends. Some people in the village call them crazy, but the branch Sabbath school in that place has increased to over twenty members who come regularly, and twelve are ready for baptism. Sad to say, these sisters have now fallen into the hands of the Communists, and are experiencing great trial. Please pray that God will preserve them."

THE VOICE OF PROPHECY

Growth of the Bible Correspondence School

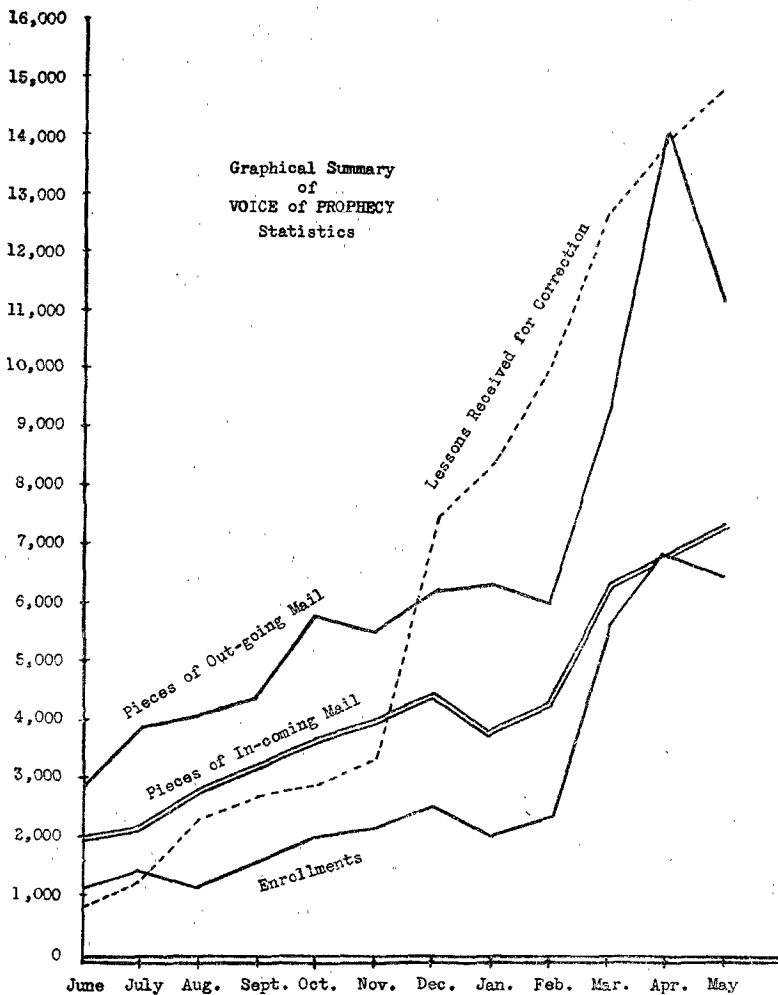
DAVID LIN

THE Voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence School in China has seen a full year of steady growth, and is rapidly assuming unwieldy proportions. Available dormitories, office space, and the evangelistic force in the field are entirely inadequate to meet the demands of the thousands of interests springing up throughout the nation. The accompanying chart gives a comprehensive summary of statistics up to May 25, 1948. The torrent of daily mail only swells in volume as we add new workers to our staff.

822 diplomas have been issued, so far only a small number of baptisms have been reported by the field. One is known to be baptized in Shanghai, and one in Wenchow, without the help of evangelistic efforts. In the fall of 1947, Brother Milton Lee held an effort especially for Voice of Prophecy students, and 31 persons were baptized. Still others are studying further in preparation for baptism. Efforts held in the spring of 1948 should result in another rich harvest.

Many touching letters are received from our students. Here is one from a student in Kansu:

However, despite the fact that



"I am just a buck, private, having received only elementary education. In 1938 I joined the army, and in the past ten years I have heard nothing but cursing and scolding. The most familiar contacts have been slaps in the face, the cruel fist, and rough kicks. I have been living with sneers and frowns all these years. I have never heard a single kindly spoken word like the sweet benediction pronounced upon me in your letter. Although they were but a few lines, they released in my heart a tide of gratitude, and I could scarcely keep back the tears.

"In the past I have always felt that this world is cruel, cold, and unjust; but now I feel differently. I seem to realize that in this frigid world there remains a bit of warmth, because I have felt it in the words of grace spoken by you. And although I am still struggling on in these gloomy surroundings, my head is no longer bowed. I can lift it up, because I now follow a lighted path.

"But dear friend, I am only a babe in the truth, and need to be tendered nursed. I want you to pray for me, that I may assimilate the truths taught by our Lord, so that I shall not again slip into this hellish world.

"Then I think of others who are in like situation. Their number runs into thousands and tens of thousands. Do pray for all of us who suffer mistreatment, that we may all tread the path of Jesus."

(Concluded from first page.)

Thus around the circle of China men and women are being given an opportunity to hear God's last appeal to the nations, and thousands are improving the opportunity. We cannot speak here of all the efforts that are in progress. If all fifty efforts, from many of which we have not yet heard, are having an average attendance of 200, it would mean that some 10,000 people are listening to the Advent message nightly.

Surely the harvest is fully ripe. Let us thrust in the sickle today and gather the golden sheaves into the garner of God. Heaven waits to receive us, with the fruits of our labor. Let us hasten to the finish.

Shansi reports 25 more baptisms, Shensi 27; at the Bible Auditorium in Shanghai 36 have been baptized, and 35 received this rite on June 12 at Ningkuo Road.

CHINA DIVISION REPORTER

Published monthly as the Official Organ of the China Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

526 Ningkuo Road, Shanghai 19, China.

Overseas Subscription Price, \$1.00, U.S., per year.

Bessie Mount.....*Editor*

DIVISION NOTES

Dr. and Mrs. A. J. Patt and child reached Shanghai on the S. S. *Pacific Bear*, May 23. Dr. Patt joins our medical staff in Shanghai as eye, ear, nose and throat specialist.

Brother H. W. Barrows, who spent many years in Shanghai as treasurer of the former Far Eastern Division, and who is now an associate auditor of the General Conference, arrived from America May 27. He is hard at work in the treasury department, auditing the Division books.

Word has been received that Pastor and Mrs. C. A. Carter sailed from San Francisco for China May 15. These former China workers will be warmly welcomed in South China, where Pastor Carter is to serve as educational secretary.



The above photographs are of Elder and Mrs. R. H. Adair, who have recently come to China. Elder Adair is treasurer of the China Division, and will be located at our Division headquarters in Shanghai. Mrs. Adair will assist in the office work in the Division office.

Elder Adair has had many years of experience in Division administration in Australia, and more recently has been connected with the General Conference work in America. We are very happy to have these new workers with us. Their coming to China will add great strength to our work.

The Pan-American Clipper reaching Shanghai June 7 brought to us Miss Mildred Ostich, of the Northern California Conference. We are indeed fortunate to secure the services of Miss Ostich to assist in the coming summer school for teachers. She will visit

several of our union training schools before the opening of the summer session at the China Training Institute.

The Far Eastern Academy closed another school year during the last week end in May. The baccalaureate service was held in the school chapel on Sabbath afternoon, May 29, followed in the evening by a very fine recital rendered by Mrs. Wood's music students. At the commencement exercises the following day, twelfth-grade diplomas were awarded to Naomi Ismond and Derwin Landis, and eighth grade certificates to Achin Effenberg and Daryl Coberly. During the next few days June Dyer and Mary Lou Ragsdale returned to their homes in the Philippines, and Carolyn Boynton to her home in Hankow, for their summer vacation.

Word has been received of the death of Pastor Chen Wen-hsioh, at Lanchow, Kansu, May 23. Pastor Chen loved the Advent message, and was a loyal, devoted worker, laboring for a number of years in the Shensi Mission and later in Kansu. He had been in ill health for more than a year. He rests from his labors, and sleeps in the blessed hope of a soon-coming Saviour.

Voice of Prophecy Radio Log for China

City	Call	Frequency	Day	Time
<i>Chinese Program</i>				
Shanghai	XORA	900 kc	Sunday	8:45
Shanghai	XMHD	600 kc	Sunday	19:30
Nanking	XLAW	1030 kc	Sunday	19:30
Hankow	XLOA	1000 kc	Wednesday	19:30
Canton	XTPA	1160 kc	Sunday	20:00
Changsha	XLPA	930 kc	Sunday	16:30
Chungking	XGOB	1200 kc	Saturday	18:30
Sian	XKPA	1300 kc	Sunday	19:10
Lanchow	XNRA	1400 kc	Sunday	18:20
Kweichow	XPPA	1000 kc	Saturday	19:30
Shenyang	XQPA	835 kc	Sunday	21:30
Ningpo	XLAS	890 kc	Sunday	17:00
Nanchang	XUPC	1030 kc	Sunday	18:00
Pactou	XKOP	580 kc	Friday	18:00
Soochow	XAEF	930 kc	Saturday	22:40
Hangchow	XOPB	1440 kc	Sunday	
Chinkiang	XOPA	1330 kc	Sunday	15:30
<i>English Program</i>				
Shanghai	XORA	800 kc	Sunday	19:30
Shanghai	YMHD	600 kc	Sunday	19:00
Hankow	XLRA	830 kc	Sunday	21:00

Effective June 15, 1948