

The China Division Reporter

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No. 1

1950 IN RETROSPECT

DAVID LIN

Secretary, China Division

THE Lord's promise that His word shall not return unto Him void, is demonstrated again and again in the many encouraging reports from different parts of the China mission field. While we are experiencing an unprecedented shortage of competent workers throughout the field, the Lord is raising up consecrated lay workers and young people to carry on the work. The general situation in this part of the Lord's vineyard may be epitomized in a report of the work in the Mokiang district.

None will forget the thrilling stories told by Milton and Helen Lee of their pioneer days in the "Inky River" district, where Miao, Ichia, and other tribespeoples abound. When they left that field, it seemed that the work would surely be retarded by lack of missionaries, and many regrets were expressed by those who desired to see the Lord's work advance into these borderland areas.

But what appeared to be a retreat was evidently regarded as an advance by the One who works in mysterious ways His wonders to perform. The work in Mokiang is onward. Brethren Chin Ming-kao and Neng Ta-deh, who recently made an itinerary through the Mokiang district, report that there is a tremendous awakening among the tribespeople. Everywhere, instead of the twenty to thirty baptized members meeting in small groups, they found hundreds of newly-interested ones gathered with them, singing gospel hymns and talking about the wonderful hope of Jesus' coming. New congregations have been organized, and they are asking for more trained workers to help them.

Lacking consecrated volunteers from the coastal areas, the Southwest China Mission has resorted to using students from the West China Training Institute for the work in this area, and they are giving a good account of themselves. No trained physician has been sent to Mokiang, but a former laboratory technician of the Chungking Sanitarium, Pan Tai-kang, is operating a dispensary. He is referred to as "Doctor Pan" by the local populace. Patients who plan to be hospitalized must bring their own beds, bedding, and furniture, and provide their own food, as the dispensary is totaling lacking in these facilities. "Doctor Pan" is the only medical worker within a radius of fifty miles, and the dispensary is more than self-supporting financially.

On the itinerary just mentioned, the visiting brethren met with a total of fifteen hundred people in eight different places. In many cases, where only one member of a family is a believer, the entire family would follow him to the church, and in some cases entire villages would come to hear what one individual had accepted.

The situation here is representative of that prevailing in many parts of China. The foreign missionaries have been withdrawn, but the Lord's hand is not shortened thereby. What the foreign missionaries have begun, the Lord is finishing with the aid of new instrumentalities. Already, from partial reports available by November, 1950, total baptisms in the China Division for the first three quarters of the year amount to 2,223. We are confident that by the time all the reports are in the 3,000 figure will be reached. And this will be the first time the China Division has ever baptized that many souls in one year. The East China Union, with more than a thousand baptisms, leads the field in the number reported thus far.

—Please turn to page 7

The Maker of New Years

God of the years that lie behind us,
Lord of the years that stretch before,
Weaver of all the ties that bind us,
Keeper and King of the Open Door.

Grant us hope and a courage glowing
White and pure as the stars above;
Grant us faith in a full stream flowing
Down from the heights of Thy matchless love.

Out of the ruins of doubt and sorrow,
Out of the ashes of pain and tears,
Help us to fashion a new tomorrow,
Free from the anguish of blighting fears.

Build with us, lest our great walls crumble,
Broken stone upon useless clay;
Walk with us, lest our slow feet stumble,
Grope, and falter, and lose the way.

All through the seasons of sowing and reaping,
All through the harvest of song and tears,
Hold us close in Thy tender keeping,
O Maker of all New Years!

—Selected.

Prospects for Rural Evangelism in China

DAVID LIN

EIGHTY-FIVE per cent of the population of China reside in rural areas. The evangelization of China, therefore, demands extensive efforts in the thousands of villages in this land. Experience has taught us that with properly directed effort, the rural church is the most promising investment for mission funds. The farming population is composed of very stable elements. Farmers live for generations in one place, and there is little loss in our country churches due to the moving away of members. Farmers are also economically self-sustaining, and although they have very little money to give to the Lord's case, they have something equally if not more valuable—a simple, working faith which propagates itself. We shall cite a few typical instances of the vitality of the faith of the Chinese farmer.

Pai Feng Chiao, Chekiang, was a typical deserted mission station when Chao Tien-lai, a China Training Institute ministerial student, was sent there to take over the work. We had no fixed place

for a chapel, and the members, like sheep without a shepherd, were scattered far and wide.

With a prayer on his lips and a song in his heart, Chao Tien-lai went to work visiting from home to home, giving Bible studies. Scores of new believers rallied to the standard of Christ, and they were determined to have a chapel. Mr. Chao wrote to mission headquarters for money,—but there was no money. The directing committee had not anticipated such a need when the year's budget was made up, so the believers at Pai Feng Chiao had to turn elsewhere. They turned to God. They prayed for a chapel.

But they not only prayed—they went to work to translate their prayers into accomplishment. Some gave rice, some gave hay, some gave lumber, others donated labor. Workers and members in other parts also heard of their need and their zeal, and made gifts toward the chapel. Inexperienced in building, but very willing and determined, they went to work. Their enthusiasm knew no bounds.

Their enemies cajoled, threatened, and scoffed. Someone even sent a petition to the authorities demanding that the work be stopped because it interfered with government policy and for a score of other reasons. Every day it appeared that their work would be hindered or stopped, but within a year of Brother Chao's arrival in that territory, a new chapel was joyously dedicated to the Lord by an energetic group of farmers. Who said they were poor? "Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which He hath promised to them that love Him?"

In the Mokiang district lives a wealthy farmer, Hsu Cheng-kwen, who is known by his community as "Old Man Sabbath." He leaves his farm to his family to work, and every day finds him travelling over hill and dale and mountain path to search for the lost sheep of the house of Israel. With Bible in hand, he goes from village to village and tells the people of the Saviour's love. Nobody knows how many souls he has won to the truth, but it is known that the Pien-shan, Fushan, and Pen-pai churches were all raised up by his labors. He has petitioned the Southwest Mission for two more workers to be stationed at two new outposts where scores of believers gather every Sabbath to worship God. "Old Man Sabbath" is an earnest lay worker, and thanks to his zeal and consecration the people of the Mokiang district do not have to wait long for an opportunity to hear the third angel's message.

Brother Hsu is another outstanding example of the tremendous possibilities bound up in the simple Chinese farmer. When one hears of the two sons he has lost, and of the many head of cattle which died on his farm after he accepted the truth, one need not ask how far he has traveled on the road of Christian experience. When these trials are mentioned, he simply says: "The Lord is very good. I have not yet met the afflictions of Job; why should I repine?"

Hsia Chiu Cheng is a village reputed to be one of the oldest inhabited spots in China. The

dynasty of Hsia, the first dynasty in Chinese history, is supposed to have had its capital here four thousand years ago. Around it many legends entwine, and in the dirt mounds near by are found ancient pottery and monuments. Located a bare hundred miles south of Peking, it has been a thriving center for rural evangelism. Our work was first started there in 1938, but at the beginning of the Pacific War this mission outpost was left without a preacher. The church at Hsia Chiu Cheng was already well established, however. They had already built their own chapel, and knew the truth well enough to propagate it. After six years the sixty-odd members had grown to a company of 150 souls, meeting each Sabbath to worship God. The work of lay evangelism had been conducted under the leadership of an elderly matron of more than seventy years. Every day she would go from village to village, walking on her little bound feet, with the help of a cane, and share with others the hope of eternal life. Like many other rural churches, the company at Hsia Chiu Cheng is composed of living witnesses to the miracle-

working power of God. Every one of the believers can tell of divine healings and evil spirits cast out in Jesus' name. At one meeting a sister rose to testify of God's care for her slightest need. "The other night," she said, "I was stung by a scorpion. The pain was unbearable, so I prayed to God to heal me. His help came instantly and the pain left me." A brother in the same meeting smiled, and said he did not believe God was to be bothered with such trifles. That same night he was bitten by a scorpion, and hastened to the sister he had derided, begged her forgiveness, and asked her to pray for him. She prayed, and he was healed.

From experiences such as these we may catch a glimpse of the simple faith of these country folk, and we may learn much from them. Because their faith is so strong, the Lord rewards them to the glory of His name, and many souls are won to Christ. We pray for wisdom to develop the endless possibilities to be found in the rural areas of the China field, and we believe that a numberless multitude will yet be gathered out of this part of the Lord's vineyard.

meetings, and in many of them staff members may be seen giving valuable assistance.

The fall Week of Prayer at the South China Island Union Training Institute, with Pastor A. R. Mazat leading out and teachers assisting, was unusually successful. About forty per cent of the 144 students enrolled are non-Adventists, and nearly all of these took their stand for the truth during the Week of Prayer. Baptismal classes have been organized to prepare these youth for baptism. The Seventh-day Adventist young people in the school are earnest Christian young people who are desirous of fitting themselves for service in the Lord's work. Many of them are now very active in missionary work in villages in the vicinity of the school, and many of them will doubtless become successful evangelists, teachers, doctors, and other church workers.

Tithes and Sabbath school offerings for the first three quarters of 1950 amounted to US\$16,047.98. This does not include foreign mission offerings, or funds contributed for local evangelistic and other church work. Under the strong leadership of our union home missionary and publishing department secretary, the Ingathering receipts are over eleven thousand dollars US, and almost eight thousand dollars worth of truth-filled literature has been placed in the hands of the reading public.

The new Kowloon church, with a seating capacity of 476 in the main auditorium, is now in use. It is a very beautiful building, well located to serve all Kowloon church members, and in an area very heavily populated. Because of its location it will contribute much as an evangelistic center.

God is abundantly blessing every effort in His service, and we thank and praise Him for all that He is doing for the salvation of souls in this newly organized union mission.

On Sunday evening, January 14, Pastor C. I. Meng began a series of evangelistic meetings in our new Kowloon Church, where he will speak three nights weekly for the next few months.

Island Union Advance

C. H. DAVIS, *President,*

South China Island Union Mission

THE South China Island Union Mission is made up of the Hongkong-Macau, Hainan, and Taiwan missions, the Hongkong Branch of the Voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence School, and the South China Island Union Training Institute. The current year will be the first full year of operation since its organization into a union mission. Though the smallest union in the China Division, this is a very important part of the China field.

The territory of this union mission supports a population of fourteen million. They are found in cities, towns, and tribal and rural areas, and they speak a multiplicity of Chinese and tribal languages and dialects. The people of much of this interesting territory are waiting for our mes-

sage, and the doors are open, inviting us to take the gospel to them. Our group of less than seven hundred members is facing the task of taking the last gospel message to these thickly populated islands in the little time that remains before Christ returns for His people.

At present there is considerable evangelistic activity in our field. One English and five Chinese efforts are being conducted, with a good attendance in each case. Other efforts are being planned for the near future. The Voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence School, with approximately ten thousand active students in the Hongkong Branch, is contributing much to our evangelistic program. The influence of this school is in evidence in all of the evangelistic

Progress in Our Departmental Work

Educational and Missionary Volunteer Departments

SINCE Pastor Ho Ping-tuan's arrival in Shanghai to take charge of the educational and young people's work of the China Division, these departments have been making excellent progress. A general tabulation of all our educational and young people's secretaries in the field, in addition to a detailed survey of our educational system, is putting both departments on a sound footing. The *Friend of Youth*, a monthly publication temporarily suspended in 1949, resumed publication with the July issue and has been enthusiastically received by our young people. The East China Union Mission has held several youth rallies, and a youth's summer camp was held at Wusih.

Reports from the field indicate that our primary church schools have suffered most under the present administration, due to government regulations and restrictions. A number of these have been closed, and we are not permitted to teach the Bible in the classrooms or during regular class periods. Government textbooks must be used, and our own textbooks are no longer acceptable. However, even under these restrictions, many mission schools—including our own—are able to continue to operate. Even the Catholics are still permitted to operate their schools.

Among our secondary schools there seems to be a different situation. An increase in enrollment is reported for every one of our academies, and there is a tolerable amount of government control. Bible courses cannot be made compulsory, and in certain cases we are not able to teach Bible in our classrooms or during class periods; but we can still teach it in our chapels, and our young people, with very few exceptions, elect to take Bible courses.

Registration of our middle schools has not yet been completed. It appears to be the inevitable thing, but thus far our special appellation of "training

institute" has presented a peculiar problem, and we have not been classed with other so-called schools. In the case of the Northwest Training Institute, at Sian, it is registered with the department of social affairs instead of the department of education. The institute at Fengtai was to be required to register according to one of three standard classifications, but we argued that we belong to neither class, and the matter has been suspended. The China Training Institute at Chiaotoutseng has not yet been recognized as a school, and when we ventured to change its name to the San-yü Theological Seminary the authorities denied us the privilege.

The China Training Institute is now a thriving institution. It has a record enrollment, and its faculty has been strengthened by the addition of Dr. Andrew Chen in its pre-medical department, and Pastor Chiang Tsung-kuang in the Bible department. Its industries are taking shape. A new printing plant with two foot-operated job presses has been set up in the basement room in the science building. A weaving industry, using locally manufactured looms, furnishes work for about a dozen students. The dairy, the poultry farm, and the vegetable garden are also on a sounder financial footing than before. A metal-work factory was recently put up in record time with the help of student labor, and at a cost of only \$800 plus some material already on hand. On the fortieth anniversary of the founding of the institution, this building served as an assembly hall for nearly four hundred people. This metal-work factory has already turned out a supply of double-deck beds for the dormitories. The home economics department is making remodeled fur coats, sweaters, aprons, etc., and the grounds department has planted thousands of small trees to beautify the campus.

The hospital at Chiaotou is an accomplished fact. After some

delay, it was formally opened to the public on September 22, and it is now a busy place. The institution is well equipped, and patients come from many miles away. With two doctors on its staff, it is easily the best hospital in the county.

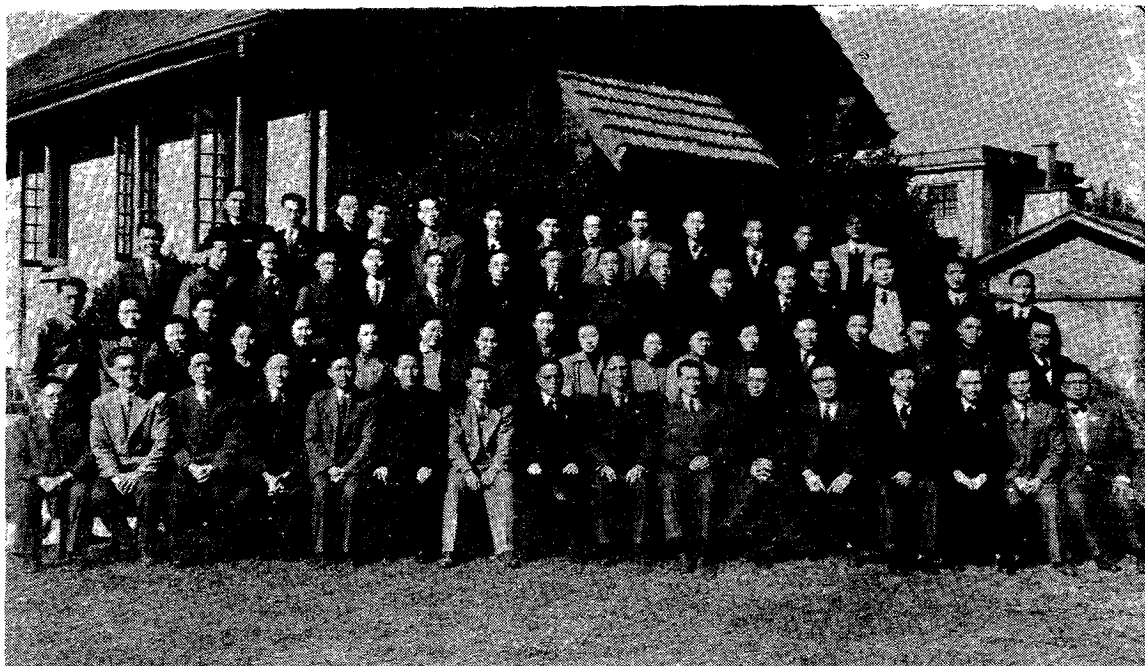
The young people in the China Training Institute are wide awake to the needs of the hour, and scores of them are determined to be used of God. Recently a special group of some thirty-five young people have organized a band to study the missionary needs of Sinkiang, and other bands will be formed to study other horderland mission fields, with a view to entering these fields with the message in the future. The ministerial department is comprised of a fine group of intelligent and progressive youth, who have been organized for service in the villages surrounding the school. Already a company of believers has been baptized from among the local peasants, and a chapel will soon be built near the gate of the campus, outside the fence, for these believers. The meeting place in use at present is not large enough to accommodate them all.

Due to the fact that the school plant is still incomplete, no adequate meeting place is available for church services. A large basement room is the temporary chapel, and we hope that we shall secure enough funds to erect a building simple in structure but large enough to serve as a church.

Pastor Su Hsing, the president of the Institute, is full of enthusiasm and looks for brighter days to come. Most of the trouble which arose incident to the change in government has subsided, and conditions are gradually returning to normal. Throughout the turmoil of revolution, the institution suffered no direct harm from military operations, and there was no general looting. The Lord has been a protecting wall around His people, and we are confident that He will always be our Protector.

Ministerial Association

The publication of the *Evangelist*, suspended during 1949, has been resumed as a monthly



Students and Faculty of the 1950 Gospel Workers' Training Class

publication of forty pages, containing promotion material for the different departments, as well as helpful material for our evangelistic workers. This is but one of the forward steps taken by the Ministerial Association since Pastor Chen Ming took over the work of this department. Another successful achievement is the conducting of a Gospel Workers' Training Class, for the benefit of our evangelists. These workers came from different parts of the field, and have now completed a rigid three months' course of training in Shanghai. The training included such subjects as Bible doctrines, evangelistic methods, pastoral methods, church organization, church history, Biblical languages, health and first aid, music, Spirit of prophecy, science, education, and civics. In addition to the class work, field training was also given, in connection with three public efforts which were conducted simultaneously in Shanghai. The young men and women attending the class took their work seriously, and twenty-one completed the work satisfactorily.

One of the principle benefits which has been gained from this plan is the closer acquaintance which the brethren of the Division committee have gained with the

men in the field. We know our workers better, and they have also come to know us. Certain incorrect impressions have been righted. We had thought that our front-line workers were largely vapid and mediocre, but now we know that they are promising men, that they have determination to succeed, and are willing and eager to learn. On the other hand, they have been convinced that the brethren in the Division office are not as unsympathetic toward them as they had thought, and we are now knit together in closer bonds of fellowship.

The Gospel Workers' Training Class has also impressed us with the great need for well-trained workers. We need more men who have received formal theological training. Most of our Bible teachers and evangelists are self-made men, with a smattering knowledge of related sciences, and we are not able to provide strong theological training. It is our hope that we shall be able to send one or two workers to our Theological Seminary in Washington for this specialized training in the near future. In this way we hope to improve on our plans for training local evangelists, by having some specialized instructors to conduct a real training course,

rather than having to depend upon our Division workers taking time out of regular office hours to give instruction.

Publishing Department

Literature sales in the China Division have climbed from \$2,353 in June to \$8,643 in September, due largely to the help of colporteur subsidies during the most difficult period, which enabled our men to remain in the field. With improved financial conditions, these subsidies have mostly been withdrawn, and sales are keeping up.

The *Signs* magazine has not yet been formally recognized by the government, but its circulation, like that of other religious periodicals, is tolerated. In certain areas, however, local authorities have questioned the legality of selling and mailing the *Signs*. In Lanchow, Shansi, Kiangsi, and Honan, colporteurs have been arrested for canvassing for the *Signs*. In certain towns in Honan province the post office refuses to deliver the *Signs*. On the whole, however, its circulation is not restricted. In Manchuria and Yunnan provinces the work of the publishing department is temporarily at a standstill.

A large supply of paper has recently been returned to Shanghai from Hongkong, and it is planned to publish the Ellen G. White books according to the following schedule:

Gospel Workers (revised and complete), and *Great Controversy* (abridged), December 31, 1950; *Testimony Treasures*, Volume 1, and *Story of Redemption* (new translation), March 31, 1951; *Desire of Ages* (complete), June 30, 1951.

The workers of the China Division have already donated more than \$3,000 toward the cost of translating these books, and it is hoped that they will be issued on schedule. We feel that they will be a source of great inspiration and help to our believers and workers. It is planned to publish eventually the entire Introductory Spirit of Prophecy Library.

With the departure of Pastor John Oss, the editorial department of the publishing house has been placed under the leadership of Pastor Hsu Hwa, and we are confident that the work will continue unabated. Our present shortage is in the line of good translating help, and we hope to train more young people to take up this important and painstaking work.

Sabbath School Department

From reports available in November, 1950, a total of 37 new Sabbath schools have been organized, 58 branch and 83 home Sabbath schools have been opened, and 2,165 new members have been added to our Sabbath schools.

Home Missionary Department

A special effort is under way to enlist more lay members in active missionary work. A special lay-workers' training course has been prepared, with the book *Training Light Bearers* as the text. So far, reports from the field indicate that training classes have not proved as successful as anticipated, because of the lack of well trained workers to conduct these classes. It is hoped that the evangelists who have just received training in the Gospel Workers' Training Class in Shanghai will be able to conduct strong training classes for the lay members in their fields.

The Voice of Prophecy

Our radio broadcast in Shanghai was resumed on March 15, 1950, and the Lord has kept us on the air ever since. We have been on three different private stations, and although the station broadcasting our program at present is low-powered, with only 200 watts output, our listeners in the vicinity of Shanghai are able to tune in with ease. The broadcast is a daily program, at first lasting a whole hour, but now reduced to thirty minutes daily with a sixty-minute program on Sundays, beginning at 8:30 p.m., on 1490 kc. Radio mail is increasing, and we have been able to visit some of our listeners in their homes. In one effort at Wayside, in Shanghai, six souls were baptized who first learned of the truth over the radio.

Our radio staff consists of seven musicians: a male quartet, two women's voices, and an organist; two speakers, a technician, and a part-time translator. At present we are preparing translations of the "Voice of the Home" programs to be broadcast over another station, beginning January 1, 1951. We also have a weekly musical program of thirty minutes on the Christian Broadcasting Station, a non-sectarian private station which has not seen fit to accept our regular Voice of Prophecy program. Most of our broadcasts are recorded on wire and sent to the broadcasting station. When the station installs facilities to handle tape, we plan to make use of our tape recorder. The Presto disc recorder is still useful in certain cases.

Bible Correspondence School

The Shanghai Branch of the Bible Correspondence School continues its work without interruption. In October 1950 we had 30,784 active students in the Chinese section and 633 in the English section. Graduates for that month totaled 657, and baptisms 31. Total baptisms so far as known, total 125 for August, September, and October.

The Chinese Bible Course is followed by a course based on the book *Steps to Christ*, after

which we plan to introduce a course in the book of Revelation. During the year Voice of Prophecy rallies have been held in Shanghai, Tientsin, Chinkiang, Soochow, and Hongkong.

The Hongkong Branch of the Bible School reports 8,255 active students in the Chinese section and 922 in the English at the end of 1950—a total of 9,177. Graduates for the year totaled 2,548—2,159 in the Chinese and 389 in the English section.

The Medical Work

In many of our hospitals and sanitariums we are handicapped by a shortage of doctors. In Mukden, while the sanitarium is still in our hands, we do not have an Adventist doctor on its staff. The Shanghai Sanitarium has recently started a special training class to offer medical training for nine of our young men who have taken the pre-medical course at the China Training Institute. This training project will require two full years of class work and one year of clinical training. Students completing this course, while not qualifying fully for an M.D. degree, would nevertheless be much better than an absentee M.D., fully qualified.

The South China Union, with the encouragement of a well-to-do church member, has ventured to re-open the Toyshan Christian Hospital, with Dr. Cheng Chuan-cheng in charge. Dr. Lao Pi-hwa, recently returned from the General Conference session, will be stationed at the Waichow hospital in Dr. Cheng's place.

A recent government edict exempts all hospitals from the house tax, and the Shanghai Sanitarium has received a refund on taxes already paid for the third quarter. The land tax on the Hami Road property has also been cancelled, and land tax on the clinic property has been reduced fifty per cent.

Baptisms reported for the first three quarters of 1950 are: Central China, 171; East, 987; North, 56; Northeast, 130; Northwest, 195; South, 188; Island, 129; Southeast, 279; Southwest, 55; West, 33. Total for Division, 2,223.

1951 in Retrospect

(Continued from page 1)

An analysis of baptisms for this year bears out the fact that a large number of young people have come into the church. This is a very encouraging sign. It points to a growing church, because young people grow and develop. A study of the underlying causes at work, reveals the fact that the recent social upheaval is the chief contributing factor in leading the youth to take an interest in religious things. Prior to this, young people were less thoughtful and alert. But the new tide in popular thinking and political teaching has served as a stimulus to Chinese youth. The present trend in the press and in the schools is to teach evolution in a very strong way. But the less gullible of the young people are only stimulated by this teaching to do more careful thinking on the subject, and many are coming to the conclusion that there *must be* a Creator. Our Bible Correspondence School also shows a large enrollment of young people. Ninety-one per cent are under thirty years of age.

The one hundred evangelistic efforts planned for this year have come to a close. The abundant harvest of souls is largely a result of these campaigns. There have been only a few instances where local authorities interfered with these efforts, and in some instances this was due to a lack of wisdom on our part.

Many efforts have been made during past years, especially since the last World War, to bring our church records up to date, but they have not proved successful. This year we have prepared a new church record form to be used in 1951. Duplicate forms are provided, whereby membership lists may be sent to the local mission, the union mission, and the Division offices each quarter. In this way we hope to make a careful check of the exact number of bona fide church members in our field.

The Kiangsu Mission has recently tallied its church membership records, and we find to our dismay that out of a reported membership of 2,800, only 1,600 can be located. Not only are the

other 1,200 missing, but even their names are not known. If this condition is typical of other missions, then the total membership for the China Division would be nearer 13,000 than 22,000.

Several reasons may be given to account for this discrepancy. The past war, which lasted eight years in China, followed by a civil war of four more years, is largely responsible for the shifting of church members, and the loss and destruction of church records. The pastoral work which would have been done under normal conditions could not be done effectively in time of war. We hope that during 1951 we may arrive at a figure that is closer to the truth, and then start from there to double our membership by 1954.

The demands upon our relief funds have been very heavy during the year. Among those in need of help were our colporteurs, who during a certain bleak period found it impossible to earn a livelihood. Many were forced to find other sources of income. Hence daily subsidies were provided to encourage the workers and to enable them to remain by the work. In this way the publishing work was prevented from coming to an absolute standstill, and the circulation of the *Signs* was raised from the low ebb of 17,000 to 31,000 subscriptions.

Famine conditions in northern Kiangsu and northern Anhwei, caused by floods, have also made heavy inroads on our relief funds. In north Kiangsu the farmers have not had a good crop for six years. Our believers in that area are of good courage, however, and they have learned not to live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Total relief appropriations for various needs amounted to \$5,591.

As we look back upon the year which is almost past, we give thanks to the Most High for His abundant grace in carrying us through this first year under the present administration. Considering our weakness and inexperience, the Lord's hand becomes more strikingly apparent, and we give Him the glory.

Bible School Rallies Hongkong Branch

ON NOVEMBER 19 the Hongkong Branch of the Voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence School conducted a rally at Rennie's Mill Refugee Camp, Junk Bay, New Territories, and presented diplomas to most of the 324 refugees who had completed the Bible Course prior to that date. Of some seven thousand refugees from all parts of China who are cared for in this camp, over a thousand are now active students in the Bible Correspondence School, and seventy of those who have finished the course are enrolled in a Bible class which meets three times weekly for further study. This splendid missionary project has been fostered by students and teachers from the South China Island Union Training Institute, who also conduct Sabbath school and a preaching service here each Sabbath.

January 7 was another high day for the Bible Correspondence School, when the fourth rally was held for the Hongkong area—this time in two sections. About a thousand students and friends were present for the morning service in the Oriental Theater, Hongkong, where Pastor Milton Lee has been conducting Bible lectures each Sunday for several weeks. The program was repeated in the evening, in our new Kowloon church, with some five hundred people filling the main auditorium to overflowing. This last was pronounced the best rally yet, and it was indeed a pleasure to conduct it in our own church, in a suitable atmosphere. More than a thousand—in addition to the group at Diao Djing Ling—have completed courses since the October rally. While many diplomas had already been mailed, 465 were in readiness for graduates them on this happy occasion.

The Division Council, meeting in Shanghai, is struggling with grave problems as we go to press. Our work in China greatly needs the earnest prayers of God's people, as it faces the uncertainties of the future.

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Bessie Mount.....Editor

NEWS NOTES

Pastors E. L. Longway and John Oss, with their wives, arrived in Hongkong late in October, having come from Shanghai *via* Tientsin. Pastor and Mrs. Longway left on November 3, stopping in Taiwan to spend a few days with Pastor and Mrs. H. C. Currie and family before sailing for the States. Mrs. Currie is their daughter. Pastor and Mrs. Oss sailed for the States on the *President Taft* November 12.

Pastor Hsü Hwa, president of the China Division, arrived in Hongkong November 10, returning from the States. Mrs. Hsü had come from Shanghai earlier, and spent several weeks in Hongkong during the autumn. Their daughter, Edna, sailed on the *President Cleveland* November 28, to continue her education in America. She will enter La Sierra College. Pastor and Mrs. Hsü left for Shanghai November 29.

Mrs. Mi Deh Fen, for many years dean of women of the China Training Institute, sailed on the *President Cleveland* November 28, to visit her daughters in the States.

Pastor T. C. Chin arrived from the States November 27. Following his attendance at the General Conference session, he had spent some time at the Theological Seminary in Washington and visited his daughter, who is a student nurse at Boulder.

Pastor Shen Tien-ran, president of the Central China Union, and Miss Claudia Yen were incoming passengers on the *President Wilson* when it arrived in Hongkong December 19. Pastor Shen had been in attendance at the General Conference session and later at the Seminary in Washington. Miss Yen has been in the States for

further nurse's training at the White Memorial Hospital. Pastor Shen proceeded at once to Hankow, and Miss Yen to Canton, where she is assisting in the Sanitarium.

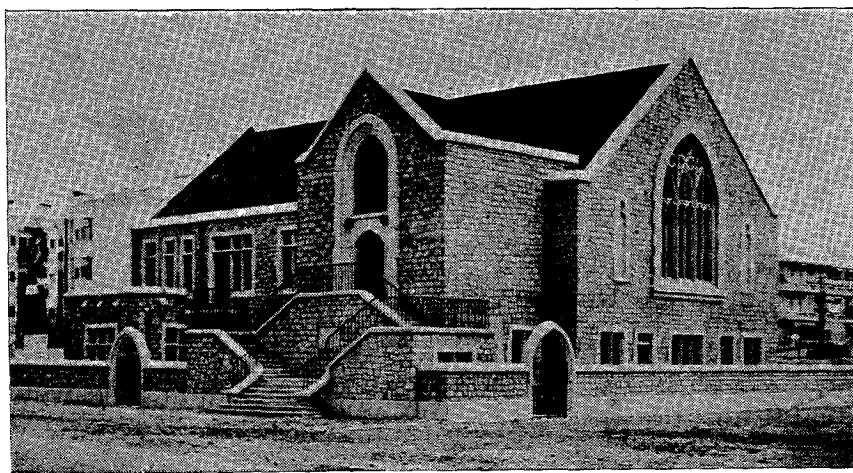
Mrs. Thelma Smith, Bible instructor for the South China Island Union Mission, left Hongkong December 1, to spend a few months assisting in connection with an evangelistic effort in Tainan, Taiwan. Pastor H. C. Currie, superintendent of the Taiwan Mission, launched this effort on December 17, when he spoke to nearly five hundred people.

Pastor T. M. Lei has recently been appointed associate pastor of

the Pioneer Memorial Church in Hongkong, and Pastor Chu Tien-ming has become pastor of the church at Yuen Long.

Pastors T. C. Chin and T. M. Lei left Hongkong January 2 to attend the China Division Council in Shanghai, appointed to begin January 5.

Pastor F. Y. Wang, president of the Northwest China Union, arrived in Hongkong January 13 on the S. S. *President Cleveland*. Since attending the General Conference session, Pastor Wang has spent four months in our Theological Seminary at Washington, D. C. and visited various centers of our work in the States.



New Seventh-day Adventist Church, Boundary and Fa Yuen Streets, Kowloon, Hongkong

SABBATH, January 6, will long be remembered by members of our Kowloon Chinese and English churches. Their beautiful new church was dedicated to God in a fitting service on that day. Palms and flowers added to the attractiveness of the entrance lobby, as well as the main and secondary auditoriums. Approximately six hundred members and guests were in attendance, filling the main auditorium to capacity and overflowing into the auditorium on the ground floor, where a public address system had been installed. It was a happy, yet solemn occasion. A talk by Pastor Meng Chao-ih on the work of Seventh-day Adventists, a sermon by Pastor Milton Lee on "The Blessed Hope," appropriate choir numbers

and a vocal solo were special features of the program. Pastor C. H. Davis, president of the South China Island Union Mission, conducted the dedicatory service and Pastor H. S. Leung, principal of the South China Island Union Training Institute, offered the dedicatory prayer. Others taking part in the day's service were Pastors Chung Wai-po and D. M. Barnett, of the Kowloon Chinese and English churches, respectively, and Pastors H. H. Morse, Chu Tien-ming, and S. H. Lindt.

This new church fills a great need, and members of our Kowloon churches are extremely grateful to the General Conference for their assistance in making possible such a memorial to God in this city.