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Workers Together With God

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THE work of God on earth is a partnership. God has ordained that it be so. This partnership is God in man. It has not been declared that angels preach the gospel, nor that the Godhead will proclaim the good news, but that man shall preach the gospel. Christ did not say to the heavenly host, "Go ye into all the world and make Christians; this commission was given to His disciples and to their successors. It is not said of angels, "We are workers together with God," but of the followers of Christ. "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

The principal, the chief one in this partnership is the Godhead. He it is who has called man to join Him in this soul-saving work. He is the One who supplies the power to carry forward the work, and who makes the work a success. Of himself man has no power to win men to serve God. Christ says, "Without me ye can do nothing." He also says, "He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit." Notwithstanding man's limited ability and resourcefulness in the things of the world, his results in soul-winning are dependent on the indwelling, power-imparting presence of the Holy Spirit. Separate man from God, and the work that man can do will not glorify God. Man may be glorified, and win the applause of his fellows, but God is not honored by the efforts of any agent who acts independently of that partnership which God has ordained.

The apostle Paul recognized God as his helper. He says: "We are workers together with God." And again, "We then as workers together with Him." Paul does not here isolate himself in the work done for others, and take the glory to himself, but he identifies himself as working in God. The Lord is his helper, his source of power, the one through whom he can do all things. "God, who worketh in me mightily," is Paul's viewpoint from which he preached the gospel.

Sometimes we think our lot hard, and that others do not share our hard trials. Sometimes we forget that other men in bygone days, and even men to-day, have passed and are passing through trials far greater than our own. God has always used men to do His work on earth. Men have become princes of God through sufferings and hard toil and great sacrifices, but never through holding office, nor by preferences of their fellows. Many men have entered darkened lands where the name of God was unknown, and have lived and died for His dear name. The road from heathenism and the lowest types of humanity have been stained with the blood of martyrs, and have been paved with the sacrifices of men and women who were willing to suffer for the sake of the kingdom of God. The world has been regenerated, as far as we see it today, through hard years of toil, abandonment of home and friends, and the loss of all earthly things, by men and women who have recognized this co-partnership between God and man, and who were willing to suffer for His dear sake.

God in man is the divine ideal. The Almighty God working through finite man consecrated to God is the pattern shown us in the mount. Man doing his best for God, and God dwelling in man, using him to speak in His name is what the scriptures teach. George Eliot set forth the divine plan when she made Stradivari say:

"When my master holds 'twixt hand and chin
A violin of mine, he will be glad
That Stradivari lived, made violins,
And made them of the best. . . .
For while God gives them skill,
I give them instruments to play upon,
God giving me skill to help Him.
. . . If my hand slacked
I should rob God. . . .
Leaving a blank behind, instead of violins,
He could not make Antonio Stradivari's violins
Without Antonio."

God counts on His men being true to Him and full of zeal. He cannot make up for any willing lack on our part. He will do well His part, and we should do equally well our part in toil and service. Without zeal, without toil and suffering, the cause of God will languish because the human instrument has failed God. It takes God and man to finish His work on earth. Will you do your work well, and do even more than your share? Or must others do their own work, and make up for what you fail to do for God? Our business is to win souls to Christ. That is our commission, and the reason why this divine-human partnership is formed. God counts much on you. Will you meet His expectations?

Health in the Far East

The Testimonies of Veterans

THE Rev. J. R. Saunders, of the Graves Theological Seminary, Canton, China, in his volume, "Men and Methods that Win in the Foreign Fields," published by Fleming H. Revell Company in 1921, has incorporated into a chapter on "The Physical Needs" the testimonies of several veterans who have lived long in Far Eastern lands. From these the following excerpts are made:

Dr. Arthur H. Smith—

"The climate in North China is on the whole equal to that of any other mission field and superior to most. In our own mission we have in the city of Peking one lady who has been there just fifty years, another fifty-one years, and a man fifty-four years. There are also living in the United States two former members, one of whom spent fifty years in China (with abatements for absence), and the other fifty-three years. In the Presbyterian Mission Dr. Wherry, Peking, recently died after a life of fifty-five years in China, and Mrs. Lowry died this month after fifty-two years. The distinguished Dr. Martin of Peking broke all records by living in China some weeks over two-thirds of a century. (Of course no one can tell to what age they *might* have lived elsewhere.)

"For my part I do not estimate highly individual rules of health. General principles are vital. They should be studied, mastered and (which is much more difficult) obeyed."

Rev. John R. Hykes, D.D., of Central China, gives these suggestions: "Avoid the sun, wear a sun-hat, and during the strong sun of the summer, carry an umbrella.

"Be particularly careful to provide against the sudden change of temperature during the month of September. This applies especially to the nights. Put extra cover on the bed if the temperature drops.

"Do not eat raw vegetables or uncooked fruits unless the latter are sterilized.

"Be vaccinated against small-pox at regular and frequent intervals. Be inoculated against typhoid and para-typhoid.

"Take regular exercise; work on a regular program.

"I have been in China since 1873—a period of more than forty-five years—and have never had a serious illness due to the climate. I see no reason why a foreigner should not live as long in China as in the homeland."

Dr. R. D. Graves of Canton, China, spent fifty-six years in the work, never strong, but was as untiring worker, faithful to his post of duty, rain or shine, winter or summer, amidst many trials in his early labors. He was very careful in his eating and used this method to keep fit for work. He was patient and temperate in all things, working steadily but quietly, making the following the rule of his life: "The place of duty is the place of safety."

Dr. R. T. Bryan, Shanghai, who has spent nearly forty years very actively, gives a number of helpful suggestions: "Live naturally. (Dr. Bryan emphasised this in many ways.) One ought to be careful and take the advice of those who have had more experience. The wise person will seek to adapt himself to his surroundings in all things. This should certainly be done in matters pertaining to health.

"At night hang up your troubles with your clothes and go to bed, and next morning, if possible, leave the troubles off. Be hopeful and optimistic under all circumstances; leave the difficult things, which you cannot do, to God. Talk about difficulties as little as possible. Drink plenty of water. I found that I was drinking too little water. All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.

"Be Temperate in all things."

Dr. Hunter Corbett of Shantung Province, China, gives us one of the most helpful messages. He has spent fifty-four years in the work and is still very active. His words ought to be in the hearts of every missionary and kingdom builder.

"1. Seek to understand and live as required in Romans 12 and 1 Corinthians 6:19,20. I think the apostle here gives one of the secrets of his own successful life—the acceptable sacrifice must be free from blemish. This requires nourishing food, sufficient sleep and rest, and strict obedience to the laws of health.

"2. Strive to live day by day as the apostle did in Philippians 4:4-13. To be able to rejoice in the Lord always, we must live and pray as verses 5 and 6 require. If we faithfully do our part, surely our Heavenly Father will fulfil to us verse 7. What more could we have in this life?

"If we can only exercise our minds as verse 8 requires, will not this help us to live at peace with others and grow in contentment as Paul did in verses 9-13?"

Dr. G. F. Fitch of Shanghai, who has spent fifty years in China, writes: "I think with care and due regard to the laws of health, a man ought to live as long in China as in America. Take my own case for example. I was not at all robust when I came out in 1870, but before coming out to China, made it my object to study up somewhat on the laws of health and right living, and especially as regards food, sleep, and exercise, and the right use of all my powers, striving to avoid all excesses of every kind, and not to worry or fret no matter how things were going. My first two years were spent almost entirely in study, though after a year and a half I was left by my senior in sole charge of the treasury, station and outstation work, etc. As a rule my wife and I, who studied the language together, stopped regularly at four o'clock and went for a walk, rain or shine. Finding that coffee and tea did not agree with me, even in moderation, I gave them up, and have taken neither, to any extent, for some forty years. For some seventeen years I was engaged almost exclusively in evangelistic work, such as street chapel preaching, distributing (generally selling) books and tracts, itinerating, preaching on the streets, etc.

"I was asked by our Board to go to Shanghai and take charge of our Mission Press, the treasury, etc. (the latter involving a responsibility of some eight hundred thousand dollars a year), and, in fact, to be their general agent for North and Central China. I mention this to show that my life has not been an inactive one. For many years I was also editor of the *Chinese Recorder*.

"Now at the end of almost forty-nine years (he wrote over a year ago) in China, including furloughs, I find myself still in excellent health, considering my seventy-four years, have five children, all born in China and laboring here as missionaries, having nineteen grandchildren living, one only having died in all these years besides my wife, who died last year, aged seventy.

"My children and grandchildren, for aught I can see, are just as well and strong as those born in America. Indeed, when I have been in the United States, I have been surprised to see how few families there were with such healthy, strong children and grandchildren as mine.

"I think in the early days, when there were fewer facilities for travel and inferior methods of recreation, and perhaps not so much attention given to hygiene, China got rather a bad reputation for health. There are many drawbacks, to be sure, in many places; but I feel with reasonable conformity to God's laws of health, proper control of one's appetites and passions, willingness to deny oneself for Christ's sake, and be happy in so doing, other things being equal, one may expect to live just as long and be just about as well here in China as in America. I believe that anyone coming as a missionary to China, giving himself whole-heartedly to the service and for the glory of God, may put in a plea for and expect to receive special blessing and help from Him, not only for soul, but also for body, both of which are His."

GENERAL ARTICLES

Prayer

More things are wrought by prayer
 Than this world dreams of,
 Wherefore let the voice
 Rise like a fountain for me night and day.
 For what are men better than sheep or goats,
 That nourish blind life within the brain,
 If, knowing God, they lift not hands of prayer
 Both for themselves and those who call them friend!
 For so the whole round world is in every way
 Bound by gold chains about the feet of God.

—Tennyson.

Advantages of Prayer

PRAYER can obtain everything; it can open the windows of heaven, and shut the gates of hell; it can put a holy constraint upon God, and detain an angel till he leave a blessing; it can open the treasures of rain, and soften the iron ribs of rocks till they melt into tears and a flowing river. Prayer can unclasp the girdles of the north, saying to the mountain of ice, Be thou removed hence and cast into the bottom of the sea; it can arrest the sun in the midst of its course, and send the swift-winged winds upon our errand, and all those strange things and secret decrees, and unrevealed transactions, which are above the clouds and far beyond the regions of the stars, shall combine in ministry and advantages for the praying man.—*Jeremy Taylor.*

Zeal and Spiritual Calm

THERE are many things to prevent the development of the spiritual life in the missionary. His very zeal for the work and feverish haste to do something worth while may be the chief occasion of failure where spiritual results are the greatest needs of these fields. Too much machinery, too many conflicting plans, too busy about the work, too anxious about our own efforts—these concomitants destroy the poise of heart and waiting upon the Lord that are necessary to obtain His fulness of power needed for spiritual leadership. Any effort wisely organized and zealously persecuted, any mode of procedure adjusted to conditions will prove a failure if they prevent our spiritual life being radiant with the Lord's presence and power. The very lack of adequate workers and the pressing needs of the hour may hinder the missionary in obtaining the spiritual equipment which is the basis of all successful labors.

I mean by spiritual life that which reveals Jesus, "puts on the Lord Jesus Christ and makes no provision for the flesh," manifesting that divine life hidden in Christ, yet daily seen living the realities of the kingdom as the Master did in meeting the needs of the human family. To do the highest service not only our wills, but our bodies and all, must be made "conformable to His will," and then our lives transformed in golden deeds suited to the practical needs of the people among whom we live, blending all our powers in that all-rounded soldier which our Lord's work demands; not fanatical or unnatural, but Christ-like in blessed service. Such spiritual lives are the need and hope of any field.

Mr. D. E. Hoste has these words bearing on the subject: "A clear, personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God and personal Redeemer, a belief in the Divine authority of the Holy Scriptures, and the habit of their daily devotional study, a practical recognition of the need of prayer and intercession as essential both to personal living and to the real effectiveness of service, are, in my solemn conviction, fundamental to efficiency as a Christian missionary. If a man has not a personal experience of Christ in his life and a clear-cut message to give from God, then he had better stay at home."—*Rev. J. R. Saunders, in "Men and Methods," chapter 4.*

What Kind of Steward are You?

WHEN the Lord declares, "It is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful," He is speaking not alone to one class of believers in Christ, but to the whole Christian church militant in every age, everywhere. But His statement is a charge to the church only in the sense that it is an individual message, setting forth a personal obligation, the Christian duty of each member. The words, "It is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful," are God's words, spoken to you and me. We must take them to our hearts, for He gives them as His own personal message to every one.

A steward is one who is over another's household, a manager or an overseer. A steward, as such, does not manage his own affairs, but serves another, and generally one with resources. In our large sanitariums and schools, we have stewards who look after supplies for the institution's family. Men who have great estates and interests often employ stewards. Eliezer was a steward to Abraham, and "ruled over all that he had;" Joseph was a steward to Potiphar; Daniel was in a sense a steward over one-third of the kingdom of Darius, and he was distinguished above his associates, we are told, because "an excellent spirit was found in him." We are each stewards for the Lord, and we must ever remember that He requires faithfulness of His stewards.

The steward is not the owner, but the trusted agent. When the steward gives to the master, he does not give of his own, but returns to the owner what belongs to him, or that which has been for a time under the steward's trust.

"A steward identifies himself with his master. He accepts the responsibilities of a steward, and he must act in his master's stead, doing as his master would do were he presiding. His master's interests become his. The position of a steward is one of dignity, because his master trusts him. If in any wise he acts selfishly, and turns the advantages gained by trading with his lord's goods to his own advantage, he has perverted the trust reposed in him."—*Mrs. E. G. White.*

"Stewardship may then be understood to mean the tenure of an office of high trust and responsibility in the interest of the one from whom the commission has been received, and for whose exclusive benefit it is administered. There is in this, first, the suggestion of occupancy. The steward is in full possession and control. He stands in the place of the owner, and is clothed with his rights and duties in his absence. Second, responsibility is implied. The steward is to care for the estate, keeping it in good order and condition, guarding it against all depredation and waste, and improving every opportunity for advancement and profit. Third, freedom of action is implied in order that the steward may administer his trust with fidelity, wisdom, and enterprise, which are essential to the proper discharge of the duties of his office. Fourth, there is accountability. The occupancy of the steward, though it may be long continued and uninterrupted, is, nevertheless, temporary. It must be at some time terminated. He is the servant of his lord, holding his position as a tenant at will, ready at any time to surrender his trust, and give a full and just account of its administration to him from whom he received it. He must remember that he is not only the custodian of his lord's property, he is also in some measure the guardian of his honor. If there be unfaithfulness, the estate will suffer loss; and if there be maladministration, the good name of the owner will be impeached."—*Thresher.*

We must ever bear in mind Him for whom we are stewards. Were we the stewards of man, we should be held accountable to man for all we do or fail to do. Kings and rich men hold their stewards accountable for what they do. How much more shall we be held accountable who are stewards of the great God!

Stewardship and Power

The church is an associating together of believers for edification and unity of action. But the head of the church is Christ. Without Christ as recognized head, the church will not be more than some club to the clubman or some lodge to its members. The church is a divine institution, but it is not Christ. Christ is the supreme one, the one under whom we are stewards.

"This sense of stewardship is a great awakener of power. There was no power in Moses while he thought of his slow and stuttering tongue, and forgot the entrusted message. But when he thought of the entrusted message, and put his tongue, such as it was, at God's disposition, and tried to deliver the message of Israel's release, Moses emerged from weakness into power, and became a force that Pharaoh and the world could not push aside. . . . All life takes on a new significance as soon as we realize that whatever we have is ours as a trust."—*James G. K. McClure.*

The Lord has entrusted His work on earth to men. Once the Lord ruled and controlled His work under a theocracy, but even then He used man as His mouthpiece. Never since the gates of Eden closed has the Lord dispensed with the service of His children in promoting His work on earth. Would He build an ark? Noah is called to do the work. Would He have a peculiar people to whom He may speak, and among whom He may work? Abraham is called from Ur of the Chaldees. Would He deliver His people from Egyptian bondage? Moses is chosen, and prepared as a leader. Would He send His own Son to die for sinners? He sends Him as the Son of Man. All God's dealings with His people, all His work on the earth in behalf of man to lift him up and restore what was lost through sin, shows that He ever uses men as His agents to do His work.

All Things Belong to God

The earth is not man's, but God's. The gold and the silver are His; the birds of the air, the beasts of the forest, the cattle on a thousand hills—all are His.

"She did not know that I gave her corn, and wine, and oil, and multiplied her silver and gold, which they prepared for Baal. Therefore will I return, and take away My corn in the time thereof, and My wine in the season thereof, and will recover My wool and My flax given to cover her nakedness." "Every beast of the forest is Mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills. I know all the fowls of the mountains; and the wild beasts of the field are Mine. If I were hungry, I would not tell thee: for the world is Mine, and the fulness thereof." Hosea 2:8,9; Ps.50:10-12.

The Lord can supply all the needs of His work. He could rain gold as well as manna upon the earth. He could command, and all the hidden treasures of earth would be gathered together. The birds of the heaven are His, and the cattle upon a thousand hills. He is not in want, that He must call in supplies from men to carry forward His work. But to prove the church and test men's loyalty, He has ordained that His stewards should look after the household of God, and promote the interests of His kingdom on earth. Every follower is to be enlisted in this work, not all in the same capacity, but all in true service. The Lord accepts what His children do for His church and for His people as if done to Himself.

"Rearrange your life's activities in the light of the great commission." God is owner of all, but He makes Christians His stewards. As stewards we individually represent the interests of His kingdom. We become "fellow workers" with the Lord.

"Our mission is part of the work of Jesus Christ. Christ cannot save the world unless you and I help Him. We shall never see the world evangelized while we spend twenty times as much on ourselves as on missions. It is just as incumbent on us to labor to earn for giving six days, as to rest on the seventh day. You cannot eliminate the spirit of giving without eliminating Christianity itself. It is a crime for the head of the family to do all the giving. It is a part of each person's worship and life. Every two dollars wasted by a Christian means that somewhere in this world someone goes unreached. Self-sacrifice is the first law of grace. Before every purchase we need to ask, 'Is this the thing for a person to buy who is living for the evangelization of the world?'"—*J. Campbell White.*

"Our young people need some old-fashioned preaching on Christian stewardship. They are simply playing with the question of their relation to almighty God in the matter of property; and every one knows it who investigates the subject of giving."—*S. Earl Taylor.*

The position we hold among men is not the important question; it is of minor importance. The fidelity with which we serve is the great thing with the Lord. The one talent is as important as the ten; it is not how large the amount of which we are stewards that counts, but how much true, unselfish love we put into our work. Only love and faithfulness make our service and sacrifices of value to the Lord. Can we be trusted with larger responsibilities? That depends upon how we have served in what we have controlled. The question of position or of amount does not enter into it. How faithful we have proved as God's stewards while here on earth is the measure by which our future inheritance will be awarded.

The Tithe

In dealing with Israel, the Lord was explicit in telling His people what He reserved to Himself,—the tithe and the first fruits:

"Concerning the tithe of the herd, or of the flock, even of whatsoever passeth under the rod, the tenth shall be holy unto the Lord. He shall not search whether it be good or bad, neither shall he change it: and if he change it at all, then both it and the change thereof shall be holy; it shall not be redeemed." Lev. 27:32,33.

The tithe is holy unto the Lord. It cannot be put to a common use without transgression. It is claimed by God as belonging to Himself. There can be no substitution for tithe, or redemption of it, without a penalty. It is holy unto the Lord.

"As between me and my fellow-men, what I hold belongs to me, and I have a right to defend my title to it; but as between me and God, it belongs to Him; and because of His ownership of all things, He has the right to determine to whom He will intrust His wealth, how long they shall retain it, the terms on which they shall hold it, the uses they shall make of it, and when and what kind of settlement they shall make to Him. If the landlord and the money lender, whose titles to their property are relative only, have this right, how much more God, whose title is absolute. The tenant does not dictate to the landlord what crops he shall raise, nor what rent he shall pay; neither does the borrower decide what interest he shall pay to the lender. A man has no more right to determine the terms and conditions of his stewardship than he has to determine the terms and conditions of his admission into the kingdom of heaven. This prerogative belongs to God, and in His Holy Word He has clearly set them forth."—*R. L. Davidson.*

Tithing A Christian Duty

Tithing is a Christian duty. God ordained it for the sustentation of the priesthood; it is His provision for the support of the Christian ministry. The Old Testament prophets spoke emphatically about tithing.

"Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed Me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed Thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed Me, even this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in Mine house, and prove Me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the field, saith the Lord of hosts." Mal. 3:8-11.

From its inception, the Christian church has been required to pay tithe. When Christ was on earth, and about to finish His work in the flesh, He said to the zealous Pharisees, "Ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone." Matt. 23:23.

"It is no stumblingblock to us if Christ does not reiterate the old Sabbath laws, and no more so if He does not repeat this law of the tenth. Why should He? He accepted them; the Jews accepted them; His disciples accepted them. Why should He waste His time in talking of institutions which were as old as creation and the validity of which no one then thought of disputing? . . . Christ did not come again to take up and teach the primer.

"So it happens naturally enough that, though the Sabbath is one of the strictest requirements of God upon us, there is not one word in the New Testament enjoining its observance. It is almost the same with the law of the tenth, the exception being that we do happen to have a single conclusive utterance of Christ upon that matter, when He said to the Pharisees that in paying the tenth they were doing their duty. . . . There can be no question, then, that the law of the tenth is binding on us who succeed Moses, as it was on the patriarchs who preceded him and on all godly men, and that all the many admonitions of the New Testament touching stewardship should remind us faithfully to render unto the Lord that tenth which He claims as peculiarly His own."—*B. B. Bosworth*.

The spirit of prophecy has much to say about the Christian's duty to pay tithe.

"The man who will rob God is cultivating traits of character that will cut him off from admittance into the family of God above."—"Testimonies," *Vol. VI, p. 391*.

"God gives man nine-tenths while He claims one-tenth for sacred purposes, as He has given man six days for his own work, and has reserved and set apart the seventh day to Himself. For, like the Sabbath, a tenth of the increase is sacred; God has reserved it for Himself."—*Id., Vol. III, p. 395*.

"That which has been set apart according to the Scriptures as belonging to the Lord, constitutes the revenue of the gospel, and is no longer ours. It is no better than sacrilege for a man to take from God's treasury to serve himself or to serve others in their secular business. Some have been at fault in diverting from the altar of God that which has been especially dedicated to Him. All should regard this matter in the right light. Let no one, when brought into a strait place, take money consecrated to religious purposes, and use it for his advantage, soothing his conscience by saying that he will repay it at some future time. Far better cut down the expenses to correspond with the income, to restrict the wants, and live within the means, than to use the Lord's money for secular purposes. This subject is not regarded as it should be. Under no pretext is the money paid into the treasury of God to be used for the benefit of any one in temporal affairs.

"God has given special direction as to the use of the tithe. He does not design that His work shall be crippled for want of means. That there may be no haphazard work and no error, He has made our duty on these points very plain. The portion that God has reserved for Himself is not to be diverted to any other purpose than that which He has specified. Let none feel at liberty to retain their tithe, to use according to their own judgment. They are not to use it for themselves in an emergency, nor to apply it as they see fit, even in what they may regard as the Lord's work. God has shown honor to men in taking them into partnership with Himself in the great work of redemption."—"The Support of God's Kingdom in the Earth," p. 23.

"The hearts of men become hardened through selfishness, and like Ananias and Sapphira, they are tempted to withhold part of the price, while pretending to come up to the rules of tithing. Will a man rob God? Should means flow into the treasury exactly according to God's plan,—a tenth of all the increase,—there would be abundance to carry forward His work."—"Testimonies," *Vol. V, p. 150*.

(To be Continued)

I. H. EVANS.

"The Sword of the Spirit"

IN the Bible we have the unerring counsel of God. Its teachings, practically carried out will fit men for any position of duty. It is the voice of God speaking every day to the soul. How carefully should the young study the word of God, and treasure up its sentiments in the heart, that its precepts may be made to govern the whole conduct! . . .

The work of the Holy Spirit is to enlighten the darkened understanding, to melt the selfish, stony heart, to subdue the rebellious transgressor, and save him from the corrupting influences of the world. The prayer of Christ for His disciples was, "Sanctify them through Thy truth; Thy word is truth." The sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, pierces the heart of the sinner, and cuts it in pieces. When the theory of the truth is repeated without its sacred influence being felt upon the soul of the speaker, it has no force upon the hearers, but is rejected as error, the speaker making himself responsible for the loss of souls.—"Testimonies for the Church," *Vol. IV, page 441*.

What Breaks Us Down

THERE is a tendency to consider hard work as unnecessary in the spiritual life. All power is from above, and we need to stand still and let the spiritual power flow through us to others. My idea of spiritual life is far from this.

Our Lord spent much time in prayer; the average missionary spends entirely too little; but prayer, devotional reading of the Bible, waiting before the Lord, will be of no avail unless we have done these things in order that we may work more faithfully and continuously as a "good soldier of Christ." Jesus worked from early morning till late at night, surprising His disciples and His own family with His determination, regardless of the condition, "to work while it is day," seeing ever the shadows approaching when He could not labor. He had His habits, doing this according to His custom, counting the fast-flying minutes precious in their relation to the eternal verities of the kingdom.

Missionaries do not work too much. This machine of ours is capable of much labor if properly adjusted to the source of all power and the environments in which we live. We may neglect the laws of health, eat things that do not suit the requirements of the body, manifest a wrong spirit as we labor, keep our minds on the unwholesome, fail to appropriate the power and radiancy of the Master's life, and thus fail. We may upset the order and poise of nature, and this will be a cause of failure or breakdown; but, as a rule, it is not the work that brings the breakdown, but the spirit or attitude of the worker. System, right relation to the source of all power, proper attention to the laws of health, constancy in the pursuit of duty will fill the days with endless forces. Labor does not injure, but brings the greatest blessing to the laborer as well as others when rightly done.—*Rev. J. R. Saunders, in "Men and Methods," chap. 4*.

Repairing the Altar

"ELIJAH . . . repaired the altar of the Lord that was broken down." A revival in God's cause commonly begins by repairing the damages of the declension which make the revival a necessity. If there is coldness in a church, its best cure is not through looking up new converts, but through stirring up old members. A dead-and-alive prayer-meeting calls rather for more praying by the "saints," than for more "sinners" asking to be prayed for. If a Sunday-school lacks life, it is more likely to get it through fresh attention to the teachers' meeting, than through an influx of new scholars. As a rule, there would be a larger gain to any local church by the revival of ten of its members to do their full duty in zeal and faith, than by the addition of one hundred members of the average standard of practical efficiency. If any one of us would do the work of Elijah in our Israel, let him take hold, to begin with, and repair the altar of the Lord that is crumbling from neglect before the eyes of God's people.—*Selected*.

Prayer

When hearts with sin o'erburdened
Yearn to be clean and whole,
Prayer is the almoner who brings
The life-draught of the soul!

It is a water nurtured
Within no earthly sod,—
This symbol of celestial life
Out of the throne of God!

—*Selected*.



The Manchurian Union

THE Lord is blessing His work in this northern field, for which we are very thankful. During the first half of the year our foreign workers were very few, with only Brother Larsen to the north in the Kirin Mission, and the writer to the south in the Fengtien Mission. It thus took very little to increase the foreign working force a hundred fold, which was realized when Brethren Cossentine and Esteb arrived in the field to take up work.

We were glad to welcome Brother Cossentine back to the field, after having spent a year in America on furlough. Sister Cossentine arrives in the field for the first time, and is happy to have a share in the Lord's work in this part of the vineyard. These workers are now located in Changchun, where Brother Cossentine will have charge of the school work which is to be started there this year. Brother Cossentine will also have charge of a special evangelistic effort during the winter months. This leaves Brother Larsen free to spend his time with the other stations in the Kirin Mission. With these two workers having charge in that field we believe that much good work will be accomplished during the coming winter. While the work in this mission lacked proper foreign supervision last year as sickness entered the ranks, and Brother Larsen was almost without any native assistance when he arrived in the field, new native evangelists have entered the field, and we believe now, with the assistance of the foreign laborers, that there is a bright future ahead of the Kirin Mission.

Brother and Sister Esteb arrived in Manchuria during the latter part of August. These workers are now located in Mukden, and Brother Esteb has entered whole-heartedly into his work. The Lord has greatly blessed Brother Esteb in acquiring a working knowledge of the language, and we are glad that he is ready to step in and take part in the colporteur work. The colporteurs have not received the help they should have had as our field has been so undermanned, still they have done nobly. The war clouds are now hovering over the country and money matters are very unstable, making it very difficult to sell literature; still we hope to reach our goal for this year, and trust that many souls may in this way be brought to a knowledge of the truth for this time.

The Lord is blessing in the ingathering of souls. Twenty-two have thus far been baptized in the Fengtien Province. We hope to hear that a good harvest has been gathered in from the Kirin Mission, where Brethren Cossentine and Larsen are now itinerating among the churches and have had several baptisms.

Remember the work in this field in your prayers.

BERNHARD PETERSEN.

The Sabbath School Report for the Second Quarter of 1924

A FEW years ago when connected with one of the Departments in Washington, I used often to hear the expression, "the summer slump" during the warm weather. It did not mean so much to me then as it means now. About the time the mid-year Sabbath-school reports get in every season, I experience a certain sinking sensation as to how we shall come out at the end of the year if we make such a poor showing in the middle of the year. Here are a few totals, which will help you to make the comparison for yourself:

No. Schools	Membership	Attendance	Quarters Ending March 31 and June 30		
			12 Sab. Off.	13th Sab.	Total
548	19418	15348	\$4349.06	\$959.04	\$5308.10
529	18529	18587	4184.88	1071.29	5256.17

Well, there it is—a little gain in attendance and in the Thirteenth Sabbath offering; but a loss in the number of schools, total attendance and total offering.

At the end of the first quarter only ten schools were not represented in the complete report, and from some of these, owing to local conditions, as in the Eastern Siberian Union, it is impossible to get returns. But at the end of the second quarter *thirty-nine* schools are reported as not heard from; and *twelve* of this number are from a large union mission which has heretofore held a shining record for completeness and all the other excellent Sabbath-school qualities. Well, we will not make further comparisons—this time, except to say that the largest gift, per capita, counted for this purpose on the reported *Sabbath-school membership*, was made by Japan,—a little over 10 cents gold per member each Sabbath. The next largest was given by Malaysia, whose 1399 members gave a total of \$1030.51, or a per capita offering each Sabbath of 5.6 cents gold. The largest total offering came, of course, from the Philippines; but with its Sabbath-school membership of 4891, this brings the per capita offering down to 1.7 gold each Sabbath.

We cannot refrain from noting a few more items from this second quarter's report—and they are more than mere figures to those who realize what they represent:

461 members are enrolled throughout the Division in the Home Department.

1380 persons received a Perfect Record Card of Honor with both the Red and the Blue Seal, showing that they had been present and on time every Sabbath during the quarter, and had studied the Sabbath-school lesson *every day*.

3157 persons received the Blue Seal only—for perfect attendance.

360 received the Red Seal for daily study, who missed on perfect attendance.

92 copies of the *Sabbath School Worker* and 161 copies of the Chinese Sabbath School Helper were used in the Division. 211 schools have Memory Verse cards, and 144 have Picture Rolls. 333 use the Missions Quarterly.

545 members of the Sabbath-schools were baptized during the quarter.

86 schools in the Division reached their membership goal, and 74 reached the weekly financial goal.

MRS. I. H. EVANS.

Literature in the Arabic Character

PASTOR M. Munson, editor of the Malaysian *Pertandaan Zaman*, Singapore, under date of August 18, writes of literature available in Arabic Malay. To quote:

"We have been preparing literature in the Arabic character for the Malays of the Straits and the Federated Malay States. After some friendly interviews with local Ma'ay editors, I was told that Captain Haji Mohamed Said, Private Secretary to H. H. the Sultan of Johore, would be able to give me valuable assistance, as he had formerly helped Dr. Shellabear in translation of the Bible into the character, and also in preparing his dictionary. As the Causeway had just been opened by the Governor, we were able to take an auto and drive direct to the office of the Government of Johore. I was very kindly received by Mr. Said, and he agreed to help in revising the copy. I have just received the first seven broadsides, and we hope to go to press soon. By this new series in the local vernacular we hope to reach the Malays of what is commonly known as British Malaya. They are very difficult to reach, fanatical to the extreme, and it is said that there has never been a genuine convert from among them. In the providence of God we hope to prove that the Lord can save some of even this nation. The English copy is "The Way of Life."

"Mrs. Munson and I had the rare opportunity of going through the palace of the Sultan of Johore."

"Only A Chinaman"

IT was about four o'clock in the afternoon. I was on a large river boat conversing with a gentleman who had been a fellow passenger for seven days. We were nearing our destination and had gone up to the upper deck to get a better view of the city of Harbin which could now be seen in the distance. The smoke from the many factories hanging over the city during that autumn evening made it look like a distant mirage.

While speaking of the beauty of the scene, and of how fortunate we had been in not being molested by bandits, which were very numerous in that section just then, I noticed an object floating down the river, and called the attention of my fellow-traveler to it. We watched it for some time, and as it came closer to our boat my companion said, "Only a Chinaman." In surprise I looked at him and then at the object floating by. True enough it was a corpse. Our boat was going up river and the corpse, continuing to float down tide, was soon out of sight, but those words, "Only a Chinaman" clung in my mind. This man, I had little doubt, had been robbed and killed by bandits and then thrown into the river. He was only one of the thirty-three thousand who daily pass from our reach; for every hour in this Gibraltar of heathen darkness fourteen hundred souls pass into Christless graves.

"Only a Chinaman," dear friends, but Christ died for him just as surely as He died for you and for me. He is lost, gone beyond our reach forever. Had we been a little more zealous we might have reached even him. Had we sacrificed a little more perhaps even he might have heard the "Well done" spoken. But now, too late!

We cannot recall the past, and the future depends largely upon how we use the present. Shall we not, therefore, give more liberally, work more earnestly, pray more zealously, that we may gather more jewels for Christ's kingdom?

JOHN OSS.

From Brother Wiedemann, of Manila

IN a letter from Brother M. F. Wiedemann, field missionary secretary and home missionary secretary of the Philippine Union Mission, we are told of several items of interest revealing constant progress in the publishing work. We quote three paragraphs as follows:

"I have just returned from a trip to Iloilo. I visited the churches in Negros and some in the island of Panay. God came very near to us and blessed us. The brethren also seemed to receive many blessings from our visit with them. We left about 4,000 tracts with the churches as we passed along, and they are now using them in home missionary work. We are looking for some results from all these tracts.

"The Chinese colporteurs arrived some time ago, and have been working here. Brother David Hwang, while in Iloilo, took 106 orders for the Medical Book combined with the Signs. We expect him to place about 250 books in the West Visayan Mission. This will give him a little more than \$1,000 gold of sales during the vacation period. He is very happy that God is using him in this manner. Brother Viscarra has been working up in the Ilocano country.

"The book work is progressing nicely, and God is blessing the men in a marked manner. We have just started colporteurs out in Ilocos Sur and Ilocos Norte with the book 'Story of Redemption,' and in a month or so we hope to hold an institute for 'Great Controversy' with the Tagalog colporteurs. Then a little later an institute will be held with the Ilocano colporteurs for the book 'Our Day,' abridged edition. These books should do a lot of good, and be the means of winning many souls."

"Full of Zeal and Courage"

FROM Harbin, under date of September 4, Pastor T. T. Babienco, superintendent of the Russian work in East Siberia, writes: "We are all very glad in the Lord and happy in His work. We are sorry that we could not get into Siberia. We have received word from Mr. Karakhan, the Soviet ambassador to China, that he can not give us the permission, and has had to send the request on to Moscow. It may take one year to receive an answer.

"We plan to open our Bible School on the fifth day of October. We are full of zeal and courage. Our winter series of meetings we plan to open on the nineteenth day of October. The meetings will be down on the Pristan,—that is, if we can find a place large enough for our meetings. We ask of our Heavenly Father wisdom and strength, courage and spirit, to enable us to bring many souls to Christ this winter. We have baptized one man here in Harbin who was working in the laboratory and is a chemist, a very fine young man. He will be in our Bible School this winter."

Canton Summer School

SHORTLY after the close of the school year in June, a Summer School was conducted in Canton for teachers of the higher primary schools for the Cantonese, Hakka and Kwang sai missions.

As the time approached for the opening, war conditions in the province seemed to forbid the attendance of teachers from the Hakka mission; but through the energetic efforts of Pastor S. A. Nagal, and the kindness of Chinese army officials, he was enabled to bring his family and a company of Chinese teachers through two lines of contending armies, and made a safe arrival in Canton before the school opened.

Sickness and adverse conditions prevented the attendance of some who had planned to come. This was a cause of disappointment to all.

By action of the School Board, Professor L. C. Wilcox was asked to be principal, and associated with him were Pastors F. H. DeVinney, S. A. Nagel, H. B. Parker, Mrs. R. M. Milne and Brethren Lai Tat Ming, Tso Chiu Nam, Hoh Ching and Cheung Yan Kuen.

All the teachers entered willingly and energetically into the work of the Summer School. The subjects taught were in harmony with the work being done in the Shanghai summer school for higher primary school teachers; and in most cases the examination questions used were those prepared by the Shanghai Summer School and sent down by Professor Frost for our use. Most of the teachers passed well in their studies. Two of the teachers are mothers with small children, making it very hard to give their time wholly to the school; but one of these mothers was among the best in grades of work done. She passed with high marks in nearly every subject.

The faculty of the school made the best of this opportunity to give these teachers help in the matter of conducting interesting Sabbath-schools and Young People's meetings. Every teacher was given opportunity to serve one or more times as an officer of the Sabbath-school and Young People's meeting, in each case was helped by a committee appointed for that purpose. This cannot help but result in much good to the work in the out-stations where these teachers are located.

As I visited the classes, and noted the work of the school, I could see interest manifested in every line of work.

Pastor DeVinney's classes in Bible were greatly enjoyed by all, and he covered a much broader scope than the regular course provided for; yet all but two passed examinations with good credits. This was a large class, too.

The faculty worked unitedly and energetically for the interests of each teacher in attendance, and we greatly rejoice for the degree of success attained. Under the blessing of God this work will surely result in the salvation of many children and youth and in their training for the Master's service.

Canton.

A. L. HAM.

Report of the Anhwei Mission, 1921-1923

(*Note.*—The following excellent summary of the work in Anhwei Mission the past three years, by Pastor H. J. Doolittle, the director, is filled with encouragement. The report, rendered by him some time ago, is to-day of as living interest as when given during the biennial session of the East China Union, and we know the workers in the Far East will rejoice in the facts herein set forth. c.)

How wonderful it would be if, in writing up a report of this triennial period, we could write it just as we wish it were and then find it true to actual facts! What a rejoicing there would be here to-day if I could read such a report! And while I cannot even read as good a report as I had hoped that I might, and while there are some things that do not give evidence of as much progress as I should like to have seen, yet I believe the general condition pictured by this report should encourage us. I am of good courage, for "I know that my Redeemer liveth." This is His cause, and it will triumph in China as well as everywhere else in the world.

Since the last Union biennial meeting in April, 1921, we have had three annual meetings in the Anhwei Mission. From the station reports read at these meetings, we have reason to believe that the message is making an impression on the 40,000,000 people living within our territory.

If we are to judge the work accomplished solely by the number that have been added to the church during the past three years, then this report would not show as much accomplished for the Master as I believe has been; but by taking this numerical fruitage together with the combined labors of seed-sowing by the various departments of our mission, we have every reason to believe that, with God's continued blessing, eventually there will be a great harvest of souls, faithful unto death.

I believe that we should work untiringly in the work of actually increasing our church membership, for we are here to thus save men. Yet I believe that to measure what has been done by this one present feature is to throw open a great opportunity for Satan to discourage us. I believe that we should persevere in "bearing precious seed." If we do this, then I am sure that we "shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bring His (our) sheaves."

During the past three years, we have had an average of two ordained ministers, three licensed ministers, ten licensed missionaries, and three Bible women,—eighteen in all directly employed in general and ministerial work. There are three organized churches and eleven outstations.

At the time of the last East China biennial session, three years ago, our church membership was less than 160. At the present reading, it is 261. This is a gain of 101, and taking apostasies, deaths, transfers, and baptisms into consideration, is equivalent to a gain of 62½%.

In the last two years and a half, eight tent efforts, averaging a month and more in length each, have been conducted, and nearly as many special chapel efforts, and numerous shorter meetings. The placing of the total expense of chapel sundries upon the local stations has seemingly greatly limited the number of night meetings for outsiders. It is hoped that this condition may be remedied soon by a growth in the local offerings. On the other hand, I believe that this lack of funds for night preaching in the street chapels has been a stimulus, constraining the workers to do more personal, house-to-house work. The Master's example was that He went to the homes of the people; His command was that we go to the people. Why, then, should we as workers limit ourselves so largely to merely waiting for the Chinese to come to us to hear us preach to them?

Our tithe for the last three years amounted to a total of \$2,547.34 Mex., or an increase of over 27% over the triennial period, 1918-1920. The total offerings for 1918-1920 amounted to \$2,245.22, while the total offerings for 1921-1923 amounted to \$4,811.60, a gain of 124%.

Much has been accomplished during the last three years towards securing permanent property for chapel and church sites. After the city of Ying-djou-fu was sacked and burned by the bandits two years ago, we were forced to buy a piece of land there; and in this place we were very fortunate in securing a central location. Most of all, we rejoice in our Nanking church property and our completed building here. We can scarcely believe the facts that show that this beautiful place of worship only cost slightly more than \$6,500. Mex. The Lord was certainly with us when we let the contract. If we were to duplicate the same to-day, we would have to pay practically one-half more. The building was dedicated last December, free of debt, and fully furnished, as it is here to-day. The seats, desks, lights, etc. were provided through the donations of the local church and friends.

It would be interesting, undoubtedly, to trace the growth and condition of the work at all the outstations, but it is hardly practical to take the space and time for such a detailed report. Instead of so doing, I will pass on to the departments.

Sabbath School Department

The average yearly donations of the Sabbath-school for the two years 1919 and 1920 was \$422.00, while the yearly average for the last three years, 1921 to 1923, was \$570.00, or an increase of almost 35%. This, however, is not all the results that we can see from the work of the Sabbath-schools. Personally, I feel that much of the credit of our 62½% gain in church membership can be credited to Sabbath-schools.

Publishing and Home Missionary Department

The yearly average in literature sales for the previous biennial period amounted to \$1,935.49, while the yearly average for this present period, as far as statistics are available, amounted to approximately \$2,683.33; this is a gain of over 33%. While these figures do not show a large gain—at least nothing to be especially proud of—yet we are thankful that they show progress and not retrenchment. We have had a very fluctuating personnel in our publishing department ranks for this province during the past three years.

The greatest need of the publishing work in our field is for colporteurs. During the last three years, the number of colporteurs at work in the field would not average more than three, and, in fact, for a good part of the time would only average two. In spite of this fact, the Anhwei Mission has

for a large part of the time stood forth and fifth in the *Signs of the Times* circulation report for the *Signs* magazine. This record, it seems to me, would indicate that we might be able to lead the China field if we could but have some more able men. I believe that this is good territory.

Educational Department

Of all the departments, the Educational Department has made the most marked progress. During the three years preceeding 1921, the tuitions amounted to a total of \$18.49. Statistics for the three years ending Dec. 31, 1923, show a total of \$485.80 in tuition receipts. The average number of students per year during the last three years was 210. Of this number, 96 (or 46%) were church members, or children of church members.

Aim

We are indeed thankful to God for His blessing, which has made it possible for us to show advancement along every line. I believe, however, that I am voicing the determination of every Anhwei Mission worker when I say that we are setting ourselves to the joyous task of making a still more marked progress during the coming biennial period.

The Siam Mission

PROGRESS has been made in the Siam Mission during the year as will be seen by comparing the statistics of the present with those of the past year.

	September 1922-23	1923-24
Baptisms	2.....	20
Sabbath Schools	2.....	5
Membership of S. S.	34.....	93
Attendance " " "	27.....	105
Church Members	18.....	44
Offerings from Sabbath Schools		
Regular offerings;	Ticals 320.34	Ticals 467.96
13th Sabbath	56.88	92.42
Total	377.22	560.38
Tithes	1456.90	1632.68
Special Offerings		218.53
Total offerings	377.22	778.91

We thank the Lord for many blessings received and we trust Him, who never fails us, for His help in the future.

Two classes of candidates are getting ready for baptism, and many others are interested.

Since July 10 a good church school of 24 pupils has been successfully operated in Bon Pong, by Brother Yit Phen. From the first this school has given strength to the work there, and we hope to see it grow in size and strength as the years go by. Since its opening the attendance of the Sabbath School has almost doubled.

Many days of searching has at last borne fruit in the location of a new chapel in which an aggressive effort will be held in the near future and continued until the souls won are thoroughly established in Present Truth.

The Lord has put it into the hearts of two of our young men to engage in the colporteur work. Brethren Tsui Seng and Chui Yoon Fatt have had success from the beginning and are placing truth-filled literature in the homes of hundreds of people.

During the year we have had the hearty support of all the members, and we trust that through the coming year we may as one man put our hands to the task of giving the last warning message to the people of Siam. To our efforts we pray that the Lord may add His blessing. R. P. ABEL.

From Shensi

THE building of our compound has been a long time maturing, but at this date we can report progress. The wall will be completed in two days more, weather permitting, and foundation work for the two dwellings is well under way. We had almost despaired. Up to the very last day before signing the contract, the builders were holding pat for over three thousand dollars more than we are actually paying, and that, too, on the same plans and specifications. Our contractor is Djang Bing Hwa who constructed the large Chinese Postal building. With fairly close supervision he is a good builder for these parts.

There is a curious sight to be observed here very evening just at sunset, and that is somewhere near a hundred thousand crows coming from the four corners of heaven to pass the night in the small groves near the east gate of the city. The special invitation to attend the last great feast on this old earth given to the birds, certainly looks as if the crows will be well represented from these parts. Starlings and jackdaws will come a close second. It is only by guarding the grains from daybreak until sunset that anything is left to be harvested.

We have been notified to vacate our chapel to new owners, so will be looking up new quarters.

W. E. GILLIS.

District Meetings in Northern Honan

THE first of the two district meetings appointed for Northern Honan, was held in the ancient city of Changtefu, on the Peking-Hankow Railway. Our believers who live in the Changte district, north of the Yellow River, were well represented by delegates from the five companies outside the *fu* city of Changte. Some had come in from the borders of Chihli. Others who live in Changte were in regular attendance.

Our evangelist in this district is a true-hearted brother, and a soul-winner. Last spring he had eight ready for baptism when Pastor W. E. Strickland, director of the Honan Mission, paid them a visit. This fall eight more were ready for baptism, and the earnestness of these candidates added much to the interest and helpfulness of our meeting.

One of those baptized while we were with this group of believers was a sister sixty-two years of age. Her hair is silvery white, and her countenance beams with devotion and intelligence. At our meeting were two others she has led to Christ, and these also were baptized. This sister was for some time demon-possessed; but when she turned from idols to the true God and began to keep His commandments, she was fully restored to her normal self. For four years she has continued faithful. She has learned to read a few characters, and is zealous in all church relationships. "Of such is the kingdom of heaven."

Those from abroad in attendance were Pastor O. A. Hall, superintendent of the Central China Union, Pastor W. E. Strickland, the Honan director, and the writer. God added His blessing and we all were refreshed.

We are now on our way to Tsiyuan, near the Shansi border, where the second of these district meetings is scheduled for October 17-25.

"CHINA has no sorrow that Christ's message cannot heal; India has no problem it cannot solve; Japan no question it cannot answer; Africa no darkness it cannot dispel."—*Judson*.

With Our Workers in Peking

IT was a privilege to meet once more with our workers in Peking, all of whom are of good health and courage. Pastor W. J. Harris is director of the Chihli Mission, and Sister Harris is carrying the Sabbath-school work of the North China Union. Pastor and Mrs. N. F. Brewer are just getting settled, having been transferred from the East China Union. Plans for renovating native living quarters are being perfected in order that the housing space for our Peking workers may be sufficient to shelter them properly until such time as further accommodations can be afforded. In the dry season the native quarters are fairly good. It is in the damp season that the mud walls, and the floors below the level of the ground outside, give trouble.

Brother and Sister J. Henry White and children are enjoying their work in Peking. It was a pleasure to greet them again and learn of their welfare.

Professor and Mrs. Paul E. Quimby have already entered upon a year's work of language study in the North China Union Language School (Mandarin), in preparation for service in the Central China Union. Dr. W. B. Pettus, the director of the Language School, is showing our students many courtesies. It is anticipated that two more families of recruits can be sent to Peking this year for language study, preparatory for service in Shantung and Manchuria. The evangelistic work in Peking is being carried forward steadily. Pastor Su Dien Tsing, Evangelist Wang Hsi Yuen, and other Chinese workers are laboring earnestly. Their goal of twenty-five new converts baptized this present year will probably be reached.

Three city chapels are in continuous use. The brethren need a permanent church to stand as a memorial for God in the influential capital city of the Chinese Republic. c.

Report of Hunan Mission for Year Ending Dec. 31, 1923

[A synopsis of the report rendered by the director, at the Changsha annual meeting, September 28, 1924.]

WE wish to thank our heavenly Father for His care and protection that has been over us during the past year. During the time of stress and civil war that came to Hunan during the fall, when all activities of civil life stopped to make way for war, our work has been cared for and kept intact. Many people were killed, the whole province being tormented and pillaged by soldiers and robbers, but none of our workers were harmed, and none of the mission property was damaged. We thank God for caring for His own, and for giving us some gains even during the serious time through which we have passed.

Evangelistic Work

When the war began, practically all special evangelistic efforts had to stop. However, four tent efforts were held in as many of the leading cities. Since the meetings we have been able to visit three of these places, where a total of twenty-one persons were baptized. There are also a large number of interested ones, some of whom will be baptized later when they are fully established in the faith. Evangelistic efforts have been held in most of the chapels, and a few were baptized in each of the outstations we were able to visit. During the year a total of sixty-six were added to the church, fifty-six by baptism, five on profession of faith, and five by letter. A number of names of those on our church books, of whose whereabouts and spiritual condition we have no knowledge because of changes of address, have been taken off the books.

Colportage

The year 1923 was a bad year for our colporteurs. The war stopped all communications for the last half of the year, and practically all business ceased. It became nigh unto impossible to secure interviews with officials and leading men, and thus the way of the colporteurs was so hedged up that they were unable to do much of anything. The total sales for the year amounted to \$2,775.58, Mexican.

Harvest Ingathering

The Harvest Ingathering campaign conducted during the year was the most successful in the history of the Hunan Mission, and if it had not been for the war interfering with collections, the receipts would have been much higher. The total receipts were \$2290.12 Mex.

Sabbath School Work

The native secretary, Wang Deh Dzi worked faithfully, and did much toward getting the Sabbath-school properly organized. The membership remained about the same as in 1922.

Educational Work

Early in the year, Brother Beach, our educational secretary, and principal of the Changsha Higher Primary School had to leave the field on account of sickness. Since that time we have had no one to devote much time to the educational work in our Higher Primary School and in local schools in the province. We have closed five of the schools that we were operating, but we closed down only those that were not supported by the respective churches as they should have been, and which also served chiefly the heathen community rather than the children of parents of our own faith. In all lines we have tried to save, so as not to use any of the Lord's money unnecessarily or extravagantly. Despite adverse conditions, we have been able to secure our own buildings for congregations in a number of places where we have been paying rent. Having our own church buildings in places where we have work, is a substantial help toward securing self-support in those places; and for this as well as for other obvious reasons, we expect to continue building churches as fast as circumstances will permit.

Our Need

Our greatest need is the gift of the Holy Spirit in our lives, that we may have power to accomplish more for Christ. We must have this gift in order to bring the church to a higher standard, and also that we may bring into the truth those who have not yet heard God's call to repentance.

We need more workers. Especially do we need two more families of foreign workers, one family to take charge of the publishing interests, and another to take charge of our school. We need the school man most urgently. In our mission there is no lack of young people in the faith. We long and pray that a man may be forthcoming soon, to help in the training of these youth, that they may become workers for God among Hunan's millions. The work here has reached the stage where it should have a well-cared-for school; and with the largest baptized membership in the Central China Union, and prospects of rapid growth in the future, not a moment should be lost in supplying us with a man to take charge of the educational department of our mission.

We are sorry that we do not have a better report of things accomplished in 1923, but trust that with added blessings from God, the year 1924, now passing, may be the best yet in things accomplished, and that we shall reach the goal set by the committee for increase in offerings, Sabbath-school membership, and church membership.

C. H. DAVIS.

Hokkaido and Tohoku, Japan

In September, Brother Miyake and I visited the fields of Hokkaido and Tohoku. Our first meetings were held in Sapporo, where we have one Japanese worker. The mission has a foreign house in this city, which is being used for meetings and as a home for the Japanese worker.

Last fall one young man was baptized in Sapporo. We found him of good courage and faithful in his Christian life. Several have been studying the truth in this city, and six have been keeping the Sabbath for some months. After examination we found these ready for baptism, and we took our way to the river where they were baptized. One of these is a tailor, and has been a Christian for some time. His wife also was baptized. Another is an experienced cook, and is teaching in the college at Sapporo; his wife also joined us by baptism. The other two were young men, one has been canvassing for some of our literature, and the other is a cabinet maker. These dear people are rejoicing in this new-found truth, and we believe more will be ready to join them as the work is carried forward in Hokkaido.

We visited three isolated families in Hokkaido—believers who have moved from other places to this field. We were glad to see the courage of these people. There are many indications that the work in Hokkaido will prosper. In Tohoku we visited some of the isolated members and the company at Yuzawa and the church at Wakamatsu. Brother Obara has begun canvassing work in Yuzawa, and is acting as leader for the company there. With good leadership and careful instruction we believe a church can be gathered in Yuzawa. We held several meetings with the Wakamatsu members, and gave them some help in the Harvest Ingathering campaign. One was baptized and joined the Wakamatsu church. There is a great territory in the northern part of Japan that is unworked, and we must push into this territory as rapidly as possible.

V. T. ARMSTRONG.

Selling Our Literature in Siam and Borneo

APRIL 12th I left Singapore for Bangkok, arriving there the 19th. A canvassers' institute was held, Pastors Pratt and Abel assisting. At the close of the institute Brother Abel and I left with some of the boys for the interior. We went to Cheng Mei, about four hundred miles to the north. It was during this trip that I became convinced of the wonderful possibilities that are before us with the printed page in Siam. The Siamese people are on the verge of a great awakening, educationally. Schools are being placed everywhere, and they eagerly take any literature they can get hold of. On this trip we had nothing with us in the Siamese language but some Scripture portions, but so eager were the people to get this that our stock was exhausted when we had but little more than commenced our trip. Siam has greater possibilities in this line than any mission in the Union.

I went from Siam to Borneo, and before reaching Samarinda, the last place I was to stop in Borneo, I was relieved of all my money with the exception of about eight guilders in small change. When I went ashore I felt any thing but happy. The boat that was to take me on my next lap of the journey was due the next day, and I had to have about a hundred guilders to take me to Menado. I could not sell Malay books for there was no one to sell them to. I had nothing but a few old Chinese magazine covers and with them I went forth. By the time the boat was in I had my money. A man can sell magazines under those conditions.

V. L. BEECHAM.

A Great Awakening in Ambon

"WORD has just reached here that there are four hundred keeping the Sabbath in Ambon. This report was confirmed by a sister who passed through here the other day. A brother from Batavia is leading the movement, meeting with great opposition from the Government and from the Protestant church. I see a great awakening and a mighty proclamation of the Third Angel's Message in Ambonia."

Thus writes Bro. L. O. Pattison. Two years ago, it will be remembered, I took a company of Battak boys to Ambon and canvassed the place with Malay "Our Day." During the same year we also canvassed Minahassa, in the northern end of Celebes. A great awakening is taking place there.

I have just spent a month in Minahassa, and it is wonderful to see how the message is going. In Menado, where Pastor Munson has permission to work, there are about one hundred fifty keeping the Sabbath, in Ratahan about eighty, and in Passo twenty-five have stepped out for the truth in the last two months. An expression taken from these companies show that more than half of the people heard the message first through our literature. Reports show a half dozen other places where one or two have commenced to keep the Sabbath as the result of reading our literature. Certainly it is as Sister White has said, that "in a large degree through our publishing houses is to be accomplished the work of that other angel who comes down from heaven with great power, and who lightens the earth with his glory."

V. L. BEECHAM.

Tithe Receipts in the Philippines

A GAIN of nearly 37% in the tithe receipts of the various missions comprising the Philippine Union, is reported for the first six months of 1924 by Brother Eugene Woensner, secretary-treasurer. In gold dollars, the total for the six-month period during 1923 was \$7,191.88, whereas for the corresponding term this year it was \$9,832.30, an increase of \$2,640.42. During the same time the Sabbath-school offerings were \$383.48 in excess of last year. There was also a gain in book and periodical sales of \$5,341.99.

The largest percentage of gain in tithe, was in the East Visayan (Cebuan) Mission, 77%. The next largest, 40%, was realized in the Central-Southern Luzon Conference.

These figures reveal rapid development on the part of our Filipino brethren and sisters, in the grace of liberality. May the Lord's blessing continue to rest upon them and upon the funds so freely returned to Him in tithes and offerings.

Japan Notes

PASTOR OKOHIRA and his fellow-workers are holding special meetings in Kobe and Osaka this month. Several have been baptized in that district this year, and others will be ready before the close of the year.

Pastor Kobayashi and his helpers have held two efforts with good results this summer. One in Imaharu and the other in Matsuyama. These places are on Shikoku Island. The members in these places are of good courage, and some will be added by baptism this quarter.

Brother Kraft has been visiting the districts at Kansai, Chugoku and Kyushu in the interest of the book work and Harvest Ingathering. He reports a successful trip.

Word was received from Hiroshima that fourteen are ready for baptism in that place.

The Sabbath-school at Ogikubo have set their goal for Yen 1000 for 1924. They have Yen 312 to raise this fourth quarter. This is our largest church, and we believe they will reach the mark they have set.

Several of the students are making their school expenses this winter by canvassing in the afternoon and on Sunday.

V. T. ARMSTRONG.

Far Eastern Division Outlook

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中華郵政特准掛號認爲新聞紙類

Pastor I. H. Evans, in attendance at the Fall Council in Des Moines, plans on reaching Shanghai by November 24, at which time he will have a few days at Division Headquarters prior to the first of the biennial union sessions appointed for the winter of 1924-25.

By arrangement of the Division Committee with the Home Board, Brethren C. E. Weeks, Frederick Lee, C. C. Landis, W. P. Henderson, and D. E. Rebok have been in attendance at the Fall Council of the General Conference Committee, Des Moines, Iowa, October 14-23. Pastor Evans was asked by the Home Board to join the vice-presidents of the world sections in this biennial session of the committee, and found it possible to arrange his work so as to make a quick trip across in time to join the other General Conference officers in council first at Washington, D. C., and later in Des Moines.

Pastor J. J. Strahl has been visiting churches in Japan, and has passed on to Chosen and Manchuria in the interests of publishing and home missionary work.

Schools in various parts of the Far East report gains in attendance over the corresponding period last year. In some of the troubled areas the attendance is less than ordinarily, but in general our schools are filled to capacity.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Oliver F. Sevrens, of the Pasay Academy, Manila, P.I., on September 30, a son, Oliver Jr.

A Worker for Pangasinan

From Pastor W. B. Ammundsen, director of the Northern Luzon Mission, we learn that a worker who knows the Pangasinan dialect, as well as Ilocano and English, is receiving a training preparatory to public labor among Pangasinan-speaking people. Books in this dialect are already in circulation. Pangasinan is a dialect of the Malay language, and is spoken chiefly in the province known by the same name. It is among Ilocano-speaking settlers in this rich province of Pangasinan, that many of the two hundred converts reported for the first six months of 1924 by the Northern Luzon Mission, have been found. Among these are a few who are familiar with the Pangasinan dialect. Thus the work spreads from one language area into another.

Opening Days of the Hunan Meeting

At this writing we are in the midst of the Hunan annual meeting, held in our Changsha mission chapel. All the provincial evangelists and other workers are present. Brother C. H. Davis, the mission director, has many faithful associate workers among the Chinese, and their earnest efforts are helping to make this meeting a time of profitable instruction and of spiritual blessing. Pastor O. A. Hall, the superintendent of the Central China Union, Pastor O. B. Kuhn, Union evangelist, with Prof. D. S. Williams, Union educational secretary, Bro. T. A. Shaw, book leader for Kiangsi and Hunan, Bro. H. R. Dixon, and the writer, rejoice in the privilege of meeting once more with the beloved brethren and sisters of this province and gathering courage and inspiration from their faith and zeal.

Reports from the Hunan Mission director and others will appear in latter issues. c.

Another Week of Prayer

December 6-13 has been set apart by the General Conference Committee as our Week of Prayer season for 1924. Readings have been prepared as usual, and these are being issued in translated form in several of our Oriental vernaculars. Let us one and all plan to make the most of this occasion. We need the revivifying power that comes through the agency of united prayer. We are to *strive together* in our prayers to God, *as if a battle is to be fought*. We must *press through to victory*. We are to pray (1) for the raising up and the upholding of mission laborers at home and abroad; (2) for our native Christian constituencies; (3) for "kings and all that are in authority"; (4) for the opponents of our missionary advance; (5) for the souls of judgment-bound men and women including our youth in home and school. And it is our privilege also to pray that unto all our missionary workers may be opened "a door of utterance," that the word of God may have free course and be glorified in the lands and hearts of the heathen. c.

"Great Controversy" in the Tagalog

From Brother Eugene Woesner, of the Philippine Union, we have received a copy of "Great Controversy" in the Tagalog dialect—the first edition of this volume to be issued in the Far East. An attractive cloth binding is offered, at approximately \$2.50 gold. An institute has been held with those who are desirous of going out into the field with this new volume, and it is anticipated that the edition of 8,000 will be disposed of within a year or so.

"Great Controversy" has sold readily in former years in the Philippines, among those familiar with the Spanish and English languages, but has not hitherto been made available in any of the vernaculars. Surely good results must follow the distribution of this book in Tagalog territory.

Civil Strife in China

Two months have passed since we announced in these columns an impending civil war in China, which began before the papers bearing this announcement could be mailed. Developments have been rapid. For a month the boom of cannon of contending armies was plainly heard from our East China Mission compound. None can forecast the future. Military leaders are striving for supremacy, and all China suffers in consequence. Some who have rebelled against the Central Government are well equipped with men, means, and munitions. Tens of thousands of troops are passing through the provinces to the battle fronts, and business suffers correspondingly.

In the various sections of China civil strife has been well-nigh continuous for some years, and our brethren stationed in those parts have become more or less inured to the inconvenience and hindrances now attending our work and workers in the Peking, Manchurian, Nanking, Chekiang and Shanghai districts. Many places are now involved.

Our contract for the erection of buildings on the new Shanghai Missionary College site, near Nanking, cannot be carried out at present. This is only one of a thousand hindrances suffered or about to be met by our Chinese workers. We need not despair; for the work of God will go forward, notwithstanding adverse conditions. But we have our part to act. We must be men of faith and prayer as well as men of action. Shall we not all unite in praying that God may overrule and bring good out of the seemingly impending chaos and ruin. Again and again He has overruled in answer to the prayer of faith; and surely He will not disappoint us now in this hour of extremity and need. c.

Industrial Building for Singapore School

A well-planned and well-built industrial building is being run up at the rear of the present school buildings of the Malaysian Union Seminary at 399 Upper Serangoon Road, Singapore. The ever-increasing number of students in training has made necessary this improvement. Funds covering the cost of the structure have been raised in large part through Harvest Ingathering effort. Among the calls for workers which the Home Board plans on filling during 1924, is an industrial teacher to head up this department of the Malaysian Union Seminary. During the past year Brother and Sister G. B. Youngberg have labored untiringly to help the youth earn their own way through school by working part time at various industries already established. Brother and Sister Youngberg now pass on to Sumatra to take over the Battakland school during the absence of Brother and Sister D. S. Kime on furlough. Prof. V. E. Hendershot, the headmaster of the Malaysian Union Seminary, has been fortunate in getting a loyal group of associate teachers, both foreign and native, to carry the school work during the past three or four years, and the seminary has a good name in all parts of the Malaysian Union. c.

The Thirteenth Sabbath Overflow

Since the historic occasion a few years ago when a rather large-sized overflow from a Thirteenth Sabbath offering came to the Philippines, no "overflow" offerings from this fund have been available for the field for which the Thirteenth Sabbath offering was taken up. In fact, for two years there has been no overflow. Now, however, with a return to more normal conditions, it has been decided that the overflow (if there is any) shall again go to the field for which it is given. On the last Sabbath of 1923, when the Thirteenth Sabbath offering was for the work in South America, there was an overflow of about \$4,000 gold. The secretary of the General Conference Sabbath School Department says, in effect:

"I am rejoiced to assure you that South America will get that much money in addition to the appropriation voted to them. It gives me a sort of warm, rosy glow to be able to do this much more for South America. We have been without an overflow for over two years, and we are so inexpressibly thankful for this one, and I am sure this plan will be a factor in increasing these special offerings."

There is a special joy in doing something extra for a particular field; and certainly hope that every Thirteenth Sabbath this year will have a large overflow. For 1924, to refresh your memories, the Thirteenth Offerings were allotted as follows:

First Quarter	India
Second Quarter	Japan and Korea
Third Quarter	Malaysia
Fourth Quarter	Africa

We are just starting on the closing quarter of 1924. Shall we not begin now to plan to do our part to make Africa happy with a generous overflow offering on December 27?

MRS. I. H. EVANS.

Stars and Crowns

Falling into line with the plan followed at home, the Secretary of the Far Eastern Division marks the reports from the eleven Union Missions of the Far Eastern Division with stars.

A Gold Star is affixed for a complete report—every province represented. Four consecutive Gold Stars are rewarded with a Gold Crown on the record. Since this plan was started, four Union Missions have received a Gold Crown,—Japan, Manchuria, West China, and North China. While these stars have no real value, all will readily agree that they represent something very valuable indeed.

Colored stars are affixed to the reports according to the time at which they are mailed. A Blue star is given for reports mailed before the end of the first month following the close of the quarter; a Red star shows that the report was mailed before the end of the second month after the close of the quarter. Black stars are given for reports received in the third month and later. So far we have but one Black star on our records, and that had to be given to a most faithful and prompt Union Mission Secretary, who had a provincial secretary who was "too busy" (!) to sent in the provincial report. MRS. I. H. EVANS.