

Far Eastern Division Outlook

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SETTING THE SAILS

I. H. EVANS

THE other day I was on a Dutch boat in the harbor of Hongkong. A strong northeast monsoon was blowing, and a heavy sea was on. Two boats passed each other, one going east, the other west. Looking closely, I saw that neither had other motive power than the wind. It is always interesting to see two boats going in opposite directions, propelled by the same wind.

It was evident that the directions taken by each boat depended on the setting of the sails. Soon one of them veered to the right, and I saw, before any change was discernible in the boat's course, that the crew first shifted the sails. This is a parable of human life. It is not so much the tides or the winds or the currents that make the differences seen as the way we set our sails.

About the same conditions happen to us all. Cold and heat, storm and sunshine, rain and drought, sickness and health, are the common lot; yet some men forge ahead and succeed, while others drop behind and suffer defeat. What makes the difference? Not circumstances alone, but the way circumstances are met.

To succeed, one must keep in mind the port he wishes to reach. Having determined this, the way he sets his sails is all-important. Every wind, however contrary, he uses to drive him toward his goal. How he meets disaster and overcomes obstacles and utilizes adverse circumstances to help him to his port is his affair. That is the measure of the man. Therein lies his strength, his wisdom, his superiority.

What is our goal? "Go ye into all the world, and make Christians." Now what shall hinder us from attaining our haven? One man will furl his sails and hide in some sheltering cove, during cold or heat, or while the storm lasts, while another hoists his sails and uses the very tempest to push him on toward his desired haven.

The difference between men is generally measured by the way they cope with circumstances,—the way they set their sails. Taken one by one, each goes in the direction in which his heart is set. If ease and physical comforts are uppermost, you behold your man pressing hard for rest, vacation, home. If pleasure and society are his goal, his sails are set for the breezes that will blow him to that port. If our whole desire is to win men to love our God, nothing can deter us. Nor cold nor heat, nor wind nor calm can change our course. Daily we set our sails for what is uppermost in our hearts, and we surely make headway to our desired haven.

"One ship drives east, another drives west,
While the selfsame breezes blow;
'Tis the set of the sails and not the gales
That bids them where to go.

"Like the winds of the air are the wars of the fates,
As we journey along through life;
'Tis the set of the soul that decides the goal
And not the storm or the strife."

What port are you aiming for in 1926? Is it to enlarge the kingdom of your God? Remember, we reach the port for which we spread our sails. Our business is to set the sails; God will temper the wind.

GENERAL ARTICLES

Attempt and Accomplish

FREDERICK GRIGGS

THE measure of our accomplishments is in no small part the measure of our attempts. We are to attempt great things for God and then with zeal and determination reach the goal which we have set for ourselves. He who is truly a servant of Christ is he of whom it might be said, as it was of Christ, "The zeal of Thine house hath eaten Me up."

In the establishment of the kingdom of Israel under David, there came to him "men of might and men of war fit for the battle, that could handle shield and buckler, whose faces were like the faces of lions and were as swift as roes upon the mountains;" they also "were men that had understanding of the times to know what Israel ought to do;" and, moreover, they were men "which could keep rank: they were not of a double heart."

Now in the setting up of the Everlasting Kingdom these same elements of courage, aggressiveness, and accuracy, of prudence and unity, are needed and should be sought for by every soldier of Christ. The man who has a consecration that is combined with tactful energy is he who not only attempts great things for God, but is finding ways and means of accomplishing his attempts. By such men is God's Everlasting Kingdom now being set up.

We Might Have Been In Heaven

L. V. FINSTER

RECENTLY, while reading pages 28 and 29 of "Testimonies for the Church," Volume IX, I was much impressed with the description given there of a vision of two maps of the world, as presented by "One of Authority." It will be remembered that one map represented the work of the church of God when His word is obeyed; jets of light were seen shining from many cities and villages; every one who had received light, was reflecting this light upon others; and from these multitudinous lights still other lights were to be kindled.

When this map was removed, another was put in its place, and light was seen shining from a few places only. The One in Authority, our Instructor, said: "This darkness is the result of men following their own course. They have made questioning and fault-finding and accusing the chief business of their lives." From this quotation it would appear that if the church would use the reflecting glasses more, and the magnifying glasses less, light would soon be shining in all parts of the earth.

In the next paragraph we learn that "if every soldier of Christ had done his duty, if every watchman on the walls of Zion had given the trumpet a certain sound, *the world might ere this have heard the message of warning.* But the work is years behind."

In a Week of Prayer reading prepared for Dec. 20, 1913, we are told: "Had the church of God done her appointed work as the Lord ordained, the whole world would before this have been warned, and *the Lord Jesus would have come to the earth in power and great glory.*" From this quotation, it

is evident we might have been in heaven ere this, had we done all things essential.

With the long delays, it seems to me we should now be "redeeming the time, because the days are evil." If the three-fold message of Revelation fourteen is to be finished in our generation, we must multiply our efforts many fold. We must teach our members how they can do many times more than they are now doing in winning men to Christ.

Pentecostal work in our day, however, does not mean that we are to lower the standards of Christianity and bring into the church a large number of unconverted members. It does not mean we are to baptize men and women before they are converted. It does mean that we are to seek God for new power. We must believe that God is able to change men's hearts to-day as in other days, and that He is not limited in this power to any one class of people.

When we see the Spirit of God touching human hearts, we should watch as those who must give an account, and follow up these impressions with Bible instruction. While the heart is tender, men and women will be willing to leave off their evil ways, and do what is right, if properly instructed. I feel that herein many fail. Many have been touched by the Spirit of God, and have responded by a confession of Christ; then these are left, as some say, to be "proved, to learn whether they are in earnest or not," and no serious and immediate effort is made to give them further and continuous and loving instruction about the Christian life and against the evil ways that should be changed.

It is the Spirit of God that sends conviction of sin and gives a desire to men and women to be servants of God. But whether inquirers are eventually prepared for baptism and for full fellowship as members of the church, largely depends on the instruction they receive and on the interest shown in them by the members of the church. Thousands will be lost through the neglect that workers and church members sometimes show in failing of following up the work of the Holy Spirit.

Undaunted, and Grateful

ONE brave heart, whose name must be withheld, writes in from a distant station for certain supplies difficult to secure in that region, and incidentally mentions a most serious illness of her daughter (now happily recovered) and of her own siege with la grippe afterward, in the midst of which were received threats of a general massacre on Christmas Day. But the close of the year found them still in the land of the living, and the one who was writing reported: "We are all well now, and are glad, and rejoice in the many blessings of God to us during 1925. Our daughter, while still very pale, is not too thin; and she is happy, and as busy as a whole hive of bees."

What would we do without the brave hearts that are standing with us day by day, facing undaunted the sorrows and the perils as well as the joys and the compensations of service, and expressing gratitude to God for mercies unnumbered? The record of the past year would not have been as encouraging as it is, had it not been for the loyal, willing, constant devotion of our companions in labor. To them be all honor and praise.



Annual Meetings in South Sumatra

ON our way to the South Sumatra meeting, I had the privilege of spending a few hours in Batavia. I was very glad to hear that already (December 6, 1925) one hundred forty had been baptized in West Java, and it was expected that before the year closed the number would reach one hundred seventy. I was also very glad to find our new Dutch worker, Brother H. Eelsing, conducting a big meeting in Batavia. He was having from one hundred forty to one hundred seventy-five in attendance.

In Padang, our oldest mission station, I was glad to find the brethren of good courage, and during the five days there the attendance was good. At the evening meetings our congregation increased until the hall was full. There seem to be many people in Padang who desire to hear the truth for this time. Brother G. A. Wood in his report stated that sixteen had been baptized this year, which is a small increase over 1924. There are a large number of Chinese people that have been born in this country who do not speak their mother tongue, but use the Malay language. It is very hard for the Chinese workers to reach them, and almost impossible for our Malay workers to work for them. Plans were made to employ a Baba (a Straits-born Chinese) worker. This will open up work among a new class of people.

Batakland School

It is always very encouraging to visit our brethren in Batakland. They do not have many liberties, and so appreciate a visit from our workers. I was glad to find all of good courage. Our school has enjoyed a fairly prosperous year, and the dispensary work has made us many friends among the Muslims as well as other people. Brother and Sister Youngberg have worked hard to build up the school and to assist the people wherever possible. I was also glad to meet Brother Pandjaitan who has opened a private school near Toeroetoeng. His school is doing excellent work and making many friends.

North Sumatra

Our meeting at Medan this year was full of life and hope for the future. Brother Schmidt has been waiting a year and a half for his permit to labor publicly there. A short time before the meeting convened word was received that at last his permit had been granted, and the brethren were very enthusiastic in laying plans for the work for 1926. They are very eager that a small school shall be started. During the past year a sewing school has been in progress, and many have become interested in the word of God. The prospects are bright for an excellent work to be done during 1926.

It was a great pleasure for me personally to meet with the dear workers in Sumatra. The obstacles to progress there are many, but the courage of God's children is good, and their hope is as bright as the promises of God.

L. V. FINSTER.

A Good Year in Japan

THROUGH a communication from Pastor V. T. Armstrong, superintendent of the Japan Union Mission, we learn of gains in every department during the year 1925. The new year is begun with a church membership of 460. The total amount paid into the treasury during 1925, including tithes, offerings, and gifts for the school in its new country location, was Yen 41,879.00,—double the amount received in 1923, and Yen 8,000 in excess of the year 1624. Plans have recently been perfected for establishing the training school on a permanent basis at the new site, and a family that have come to assist in educational work, Brother and Sister Powers, are already beginning their study of the language. The Union Committee are arranging for the strengthening of three important district missions—Hokkaido, Tohoku, Kyushu. Bright prospects are before the workers in the Japan Union as they plan for an advance in fields hitherto unmanned because of lack of laborers.

Trails That Beckon Us On

RECENTLY, while nearing Tagudin, a city in the province of Ilocos Sur, I passed the road running to Cervantes, connecting there with a trail going on to Bontoc and to Kalinga and Ifugao beyond. I never pass that trail, without wishing that soon we might send some workers to the peoples of Northern Luzon who are still pagan—without a knowledge of the true God and of His Son, Jesus. In the year 1917 it was my privilege to traverse several of the trails running from the seacoast into the high cordillera of Northern Luzon; and since that time progress has been made in reaching a few of the pagan tribes there with a knowledge of the message we are proclaiming. Comparatively few have been brought to the point of baptism; but the fruits already seen lead us to know that an organized effort to evangelize would bring substantial returns in souls won for the heavenly kingdom.

Another familiar trail passed recently, was that running from Vigan to Bangued in the province of Abra; still another was the trail from Narvacan into Southern Abra; yet another was the trail from Baguio northward into Lepanto, and northeastward into Ifugao. How these trails pull on one's heartstrings! They beckon us on. Every road and trail that can be followed is a challenge to us to press on into the regions hitherto unoccupied.

A few of the converts from the mountain tribes, are beginning to spread abroad among their fellow kinsmen and acquaintances, a knowledge of saving truth. Others are at our school in Manila, preparing for service. Meanwhile, some of the most promising young men and young women of the Mountain province are in attendance at public schools, and thus are being brought into contact with Christians of various faiths, including our own people; and some are being won. God is opening the way for a quick work among the pagan tribes of the Philippines, who form but a small fraction of the entire population of those fair isles. We thank God for those who have already shown quick responsiveness to a presentation of truth. By faith we claim a goodly harvest from every kindred, tribe, and people for whose salvation a small beginning has been made among those dwelling along the mountain trails of the Philippine archipelago.

Shantung Provincial Mission

(Synopsis of report rendered by the director, Geo. J. Appel, at the annual meeting of the Shantung Provincial Mission, Tsinanfu, Shantung, January, 1926)

SINCE the annual conference held in the Shantung Province two years ago, God has been very near to His work and workers. Though there have been many hindrances because of the civil war, yet we are able to show some progress in every line; and He who gave the promise, "A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand, but it shall not come nigh thee," has protected our people from hurt. We have not heard of a single instance where harm has befallen one of our number. Conditions have made travel very difficult, yet each station has been visited at least twice during the year. Baptisms were held in each place, and the Lord richly blessed as we met together and sought Him for power to overcome sin. More than half of our membership is made up of country people, many of whom cannot read or write, but their faith is strong in the Lord; and they are proving themselves willing to assist, as far as possible, in all the activities of the church.

At the beginning of this year, 1926, we had a baptized membership of 143, with twenty actively engaged in our working force. During 1925 fifty-three new members were baptized, one was received by letter, and one by profession of faith. The net gain is fifty, or an increase of 3 per cent on our membership.

A good growth is noticed in tithe, literature sales, and missionary activities. The native tithe for 1924 was \$519.68, while last year it was \$786.83, or an increase of 51 per cent. Literature sales rose from \$3,018.42 in 1924 to \$6,823.85 in 1925, or an increase of 126 per cent. Home missionary societies have been organized wherever we have a company of believers, and the missionary spirit is taking hold of the hearts of the people. We have not been able to secure Bible portions fast enough to supply the demand, and more of our small literature was used during the year than in any previous year in the history of the mission.

Evangelistic efforts have been held in each chapel during the year. At Dien Pu a chapel was rented by the Laiyang society, much literature was distributed, and as a result a call came from a village nearby, where one of our believers lives, for meetings to be held. We sent two workers there to hold a week's series, and as a result more than ten signed their names for further instruction. During the fall a series of illustrated lectures was held in the Tsinan church, but while the meetings were in progress war broke out near the city and we were compelled to close. Later a similar series was held in Tsingtao, with a good attendance, and as a result a good Bible class has been organized.

The work for the women has been carried on in Tsinan by Mrs. Goh, Mrs. Graham also assisting until she went on furlough. Four have been baptized as the result of this work. We greatly need more women Bible workers and trust that the burden will fall on some to take up this line of work.

Four church schools have been conducted, with an attendance of one hundred twenty at the beginning of the year. The latter part of the year the attendance dropped to ninety because of war conditions.

At the time of the Union meeting, our training school at Tsinan was changed to a training school to serve the whole Union. An excellent spirit prevails in this school. The Lord has richly blessed in the selection of a strong faculty who are unitedly working to place the school on a footing

equal to any found in China. And our workers throughout the Union are whole-heartedly supporting the school. At the close of the Week of Prayer, fifteen of the older students were baptized.

As we consider this large province with its thirty odd millions of people, its many large cities where no one has ever been sent to preach the third angel's message, we cry out to God that He will send Spirit-filled men capable of doing evangelistic and colporteur work, that we may lengthen our cords and strengthen our stakes. Calls have been coming in for some time to open up work in Weihsien and Watingfu, but we have lacked the men to send and the means with which to send them. We do not believe that we should delay longer in answering these calls. Then we must not fail of considering the southern part of the province where we have not opened up work, some sections of which have never been entered by even the colporteur. May the Lord put the burden on the hearts of some of our young men to enter these needy places.

GEO. J. APPEL.

The Chihli Provincial Meeting

(Synopsis of report rendered by the director, Pastor W. J. Harris, at the annual meeting of the Chihli Provincial Mission, Peking, February, 1926)

THE Chihli provincial meeting closed the 11th of February after 12 days of extraordinarily good meetings. It has been the best meeting that it has been my privilege to attend for several years. Every worker was present and all but one of our canvassers. The Lord came near and richly blessed throughout the entire service. As we studied our various problems and considered the will of the Lord for our future work, the spirit of true consecration was manifest in every heart. Our workers are now returning to their work with a broader vision and with renewed determination to faithful endeavor.

The meeting opened with repeated messages on the duty of confession. Confession always precedes the reception of the Holy Spirit. Nehemiah, Ezra, Daniel and other prophets of God sought for special power only after the duty of confession had been faithfully met. The example they have left us will, if followed, bring the results they enjoyed.

Another inspiring feature of the meeting was the reports of the workers. Special time was allowed so that each worker was given about 15 minutes for a personal report. Each one considered first the actual work done, then some of the problems of his field, and closed his report with a short outline of his plan of work for 1926. Expecting great things from God will help us to attempt great things for God.

The reports of the workers showed that God had richly blessed the efforts of 1925. A few figures may not be out of place in showing some features of our work.

	1924	1925
Baptisms	24	35
Tithe	\$536.68	\$772.90 Mex.
Sab. Sch. Off.	460.62	562.39
Annual Offering	236.00	384.00
Literature Sales	2,080.87	14,013.92

We feel very thankful for these gains; and while all of them should be larger, still we praise the Lord for the progress He has given us. Our membership for 1925 was 133. Our tithe receipts for the year are therefore considerably below what they should be, even though there was a gain of some \$236.00. An honest tithe is our slogan for 1926.

A note of praise and courage was the closing feature of the meeting. On the last day each department considered the work to be done and set forth goals as a means to help us in accomplishing our task. Doubling our tithe receipts was one objective set before us. The preparation of fifty souls for baptism was another. Special emphasis was given to the importance of proper preparation for baptism. Other goals likewise emphasized the importance of giving ourselves unreservedly to the finishing of the work. Will you not pray with us and for us that God may richly bless His work in this needy field.

WM. J. HARRIS.

The Central Luzon Conference

(Synopsis of annual report rendered by Pastor E. M. Adams at the first meeting of the Conference session, Manila, December, 1925)

TO THE BROTHERS AND DELEGATES OF THE NINTH SESSION OF THE CENTRAL LUZON CONFERENCE:

Greetings,—

"Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." 1 Corinthians 15:57,58.

We have passed another year, with its sorrows and joys, its victories and defeats, its perplexities and triumphs, its pleasures and accomplishments. It is a year of substantial progress, although much of the growth may not be counted in numbers or in pesos and centavos. We have enjoyed many gifts both temporal and spiritual. God has had a tender care over us, and most of our members have been spared. We are sad to report the death by cholera of one of our colporteurs, Brother Adriano Miranda, together with his wife, mother, and child. We trust we may see these in the glad morning of the resurrection of the just.

During the past year sixteen evangelistic tent efforts were held. Our baptisms were 318, and at the close of the Conference year our membership stands at 2,427. Three new churches have been organized, and now we have altogether thirty organized churches in this conference.

One most encouraging feature of the past year's work is the part the churches have had in bringing people into the truth. A number that have been baptized were the fruit of work by the churches themselves. When church members go to work for others, God fulfils His promises, and helps them win men and women to Christ. Our slogan should be, "Every member a working member."

For the first eleven months of 1925 the tithes from the Filipino people totaled \$10,908.27 gold,—a gain of \$1,233.71 gold over the previous year. The Sabbath school offerings, including birthday and thirteenth Sabbath offerings, were \$2,866.63 gold,—a gain of \$756.61 gold. Furthermore, we are happy to report the reduction of our tract society debt from nearly \$3,000 gold at the beginning of the year to about \$500 gold, which comparatively small amount our tract society treasurer hopes to wipe out entirely by the end of 1925.

Eight chapels have been erected during the year. Substantial material has been used, including corrugated iron roofing; the cost has been kept down to \$1,606 gold for these chapels.

Our Needs

We need a deeper consecration and a more fervent zeal. Nothing but the Holy Spirit can bring this essential experience to us.

We need more workers who can spend their whole time in preaching the gospel. The calls are coming in for tent meetings. Some places have been waiting for years. On the island of Alabat, we hear there are eighteen keeping the Sabbath. At Tinigiban, on another island, a part of the barrio of Kalauag, it is reported there are sixty keeping the Sabbath; at San Teodoro, Mindoro, fifteen; at Puerto Galera, Mindoro, eight.

In November it was my privilege to baptize six Pampanga believers at Lawi, Capaz. These are the first fruits in the province of Tarlac. In that place a worker is needed to extend the interest. Five of the recent accessions there came into the truth largely through the efforts of the sixth one, who himself learned of present truth at Pasay, where our training school and publishing house are located. In the province of Pampanga, at Porac, there are about thirty definitely interested. At Arayat, about the same number are already keeping the Sabbath, and these are paying their tithe. "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He would send forth laborers into His harvest." Luke 10:2.

In order that the work be properly supported, we need to seek God for greater liberality in offerings and faithfulness in tithes. This matter needs to be constantly kept before us.

We need to keep the Sabbath better. The Sabbath is holy. It is the seal of the living and true God. The seal cannot be given to those who are careless of the Sabbath.

The brethren of this conference have been loyal. I greatly appreciate the spirit of co-operation you have shown. The workers of this local field and of the Union have given hearty support to every good enterprise and have endeavored to make the work of this conference a success.

E. M. ADAMS.

On the Mongolian Border

"WHEN Brother Savitsky came to Hailar last July," writes Brother Max Popow for the January number of *"The Far Eastern Promoter,"* "he looked for a place to rent in which to hold meetings and also to live. He found a friend, from whom he rented a house. After their first meeting (and it chanced that Brother Babienco led that meeting), Brother Savitsky's friend told him he must move out of the house, because of personal objection to the singing and the preaching. The priests had influenced the friend to take their position.

"Later, when I reached Hailar, Brother Savitsky and I visited this same old friend, and asked him for a donation for our great work. He opened his pocketbook, and gave us five dollars Mex. I believe this was in fulfilment of the verse, 'Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies.' That day we gathered fifty-three dollars Mex. It was not much, but we were thankful for it.

"While in Hailar, I took opportunity to go with one of our brethren who is studying the Mongolian language, to solicit the Mongolian prince. The prince gave ten dollars Mex. At the Mongolian Bank we received another ten dollars Mex. The Lord also helped us to see the governor, and that good old man gave twenty dollars Mex. Thus God blesses us in our efforts for Him."

Strong Bookman Spirit at the China Missionary Junior College

It was the privilege of Brother John Oss and the writer recently to visit the China Missionary Junior College to organize a colporteur band and give a series of studies in gospel salesmanship. We were greatly encouraged to see the deep interest manifested by both teachers and students. Professor Rebok and his faculty gave us a cordial welcome, saying, "We are glad to have you here to give such training to our students. We as teachers will attend, too. We shall arrange to give you three periods a day. The teachers will arrange their work so that all the students may attend the studies." Truly it was inspiring to see all the students come into the large chapel to attend our lectures and take part in real class work.

At the close of our school in gospel salesmanship we gave the students a regular examination. They did remarkably well, considering the little experience they have had in selling things and meeting people.

The college faculty appointed teachers to instruct the students in the books they will sell during the coming summer. These students will also be given examinations on

both the books and the printed canvasses. Shortly before the school closes a number of the field missionary secretaries of China will visit the school to refresh the minds of the students with new experiences from the field. I believe the students of the China Missionary Junior College will set up a fine record this coming summer. The field missionary secretaries and mission directors will plan to give these students supervision in the field.

It truly was a real privilege to be afforded such fine co-operation as we received at our training school at Chiao Tou Djen. Practically everyone, from the president down, attended the studies, and expressed a desire to unite during the coming summer in the distribution of our truth-filled literature. Seventy-four students have arranged to enter the colporteur work. With the teachers who will join the student colporteurs, and others who have become interested, we believe the China Missionary Junior College will register one hundred strong for the colporteur work.

J. J. STRAHLE.



*Main Building, China Missionary Junior College
Chiao Tou Djen, Kiangsu, China*

Publishing and Home Missionary Depts.

The Layman's Movement the Hope of the Church

I BELIEVE with all my heart that the spirit of the Layman's Movement must sweep through our churches like a fire through a prairie, leaving not burnt stubble, but human torches burning out for God in their all-consuming passion to let their light shine. It is upon the accomplishment of this task that the hope of the church rests. As bookmen and home missionary leaders, our responsibility in the sight of God is tremendous. With the hope of the church resting upon us, what manner of men ought we to be in all holy conversation and godliness? It is within our power to hasten the coming of the Lord by years, or to retard it correspondingly. But to do this we must make a Gideon's army of our colporteurs, and a pentecostal church of the laymen.

A. A. ESTEB.

Progress in Korea

WE have had a very good year in Korea. Our total press sales for the period were Yen 34,115.33 a gain over 1924 of Yen 11,657.22. This total does not include job work and miscellaneous sales, which bring the total up to well over Yen 40,000. Our strictly subscription book sales for 1925 were Yen 18,398.62, about four and one-half times the sales for 1924. The sales of our two special magazines, *The Age*, and *The Woman's Magazine*, also show a good gain, being Yen 2,864.40, as compared with Yen 911.60 for 1924. Our magazine, although bringing in less revenue than last year, has made a gain of over 2,000 in its subscription list, and instead of printing 5,500 copies as we did in 1924, our printing orders are now 9,000. The single copy sales of the *Signs* also show a gain, for in 1924 they were 2,342, while in 1925 they were 16,576 copies.

EARL L. WOODS.

He Has Made the Wrath of Men to Praise Him

TRULY it is a modern miracle that the colporteur work in China was so successful in 1925. Of all years the most unpromising, with anti-Christian as well as anti-foreign feeling, to say nothing of bandits, and war, and famine, and flood, and trouble of all kinds. Surely God has made the wrath of men to praise Him. For the Manchurian Union 1925 has been the banner year in nearly every respect,—more souls baptized, more tracts distributed, more colporteur sales. Not only was 1925 the biggest year; it brought the biggest month, the biggest week, the biggest day, and the biggest hour in sales. We praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Now we turn to the tasks of 1926, and humbly dedicate our lives to God for another year of service, pleading for His power and blessing to carry on successfully."

A. A. ESTEB.

A Good Beginning

THE first month of the year 1926 shows a good gain in sales. In the periodical department the gain is largely because of sales of the Anti-opium Special, but there are also 800 subscriptions over last month. The net gain in the periodical department for January was \$6,578.45; and in the book department, \$119.00, totaling a net gain in sales of \$6,697.45.

We are pleased to hear of new goals set for subscriptions for the *Signs*. Central China has a goal of bringing her subscriptions up to 15,000 by the middle of the year. If North China can keep gaining as she has done for the last year, she will also soon reach the 15,000 mark.

We look for big things in South China this year. At the recent Union committee meeting it was voted to put a Chinese field man into each local mission. This will be a great help in working that field with its numerous dialects, and will make it possible to add a large number of colporteurs.

The European Division increased the number of colporteurs in that field from 900 to nearly 2,000 in a year and a half. This increase was in the face of much persecution. Elder Christian reports that at a colporteur institute where twenty-five colporteurs were present, twenty-four of them had been imprisoned and twenty-three beaten for carrying on their work. We are beginning to face opposition to our work in China. Hardships should bring in a deeper consecration and help to increase our ranks. Let us pray the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers into His harvest.

W. P. HENDERSON.

Doing the Impossible

THE report of a most remarkable experience has come to us from the South China Union Mission. When considered in the light of the events that have been occurring there, this experience is glorious. After the May 30 trouble, our foreign workers left the interior to seek safety in the port cities, and it was several months before they were able to return to their posts of duty. The Field Missionary Secretary, anxious to distribute the printed page, was chafed by this restraint. Hearing of the good success his brethren were having in other parts of China, he and his assistant spent much time in prayer, that they might learn how to approach the leading officials of Canton, the city which has been the hot-bed for Bolshevism in China. Our brethren attacked their task with vim. At the close of their first day the results were zero. The second day, the third day, the fourth and the fifth days passed—and yet there were no orders. I fear that most of us would hold up this discouraging experience as proof that it is impossible to do anything where Bolshevism controls. But our brethren were undaunted. Their faith led them to believe they could do the "impossible." By their determination and energy they overcame obstacles, and within a very short time they sold more than fifty thousand copies of the Anti-opium Special of the Chinese *Signs of the Times* in the city of Canton. This is the best record yet made in the Far East—perhaps in all the world—and it was done under the most trying circumstances. They did the "impossible." We take off our hats to Brethren Milne and Chan Po Lo.

J. J. STRAHLE.

Far Eastern Division Outlook

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中華郵政特准掛號認爲新聞紙類

The brethren of the Division offices are coming in from various parts of the field, to make final preparations for the Spring Council opening March 19 in Shanghai. During the winter, Pastor I. H. Evans has attended annual meetings in nearly all mission stations of the South China Union. While on this trip he visited Taiwan and Yunnan. Pastor Frederick Griggs and the Division secretary have come in from five months of labor in the Philippine Union. Professor S. L. Frost has returned from three months in the Malaysian Union, and Pastor J. J. Strable from three months in the Japan, Chosen, and East China Unions. The Spring Council is to be followed early in April by a Bookmen's Convention, at which will be in attendance Union superintendents, Union field and home missionary secretaries, and the managers of our five major publishing houses. Brother H. H. Hall, of the General Conference Publishing Department, already in our field visiting the printing plants, will be with us in our spring meetings.

Arrivals

We welcome to the Far Eastern Division Brother and Sister Ira Newcomb and child, of (regon, U. S. A., for service in the South China Union; Miss Lola Lindsay, who will connect with the Central China Union as church school teacher; and will be stationed at the mission headquarters, Hankow, Hupeh; and Brother and Sister Ralph S. Watts, for service as nurses in the Soonan (Chosen) Hospital-Dispensary.

Notice—Legal Meeting of the Shanghai Sanitarium Association

The regular annual session of the constitution of the Shanghai Sanitarium Association will be held at 25 Ningkuo Road, Shanghai, China, on March 24, 1926, at 10 A. M.

(Signed) I. H. Evans, *President*,
C. C. Crisler, *Secretary*,

Into a Panayan District Hitherto Untouched

In harmony with plans matured at the time of the Iloilo Workers' Institute late last summer, Brother Juan Gomez has recently entered a district of Panay hitherto untouched; namely, the municipality of Sara, in an unfrequented section of the eastern part of the island, difficult of access excepting by sailing vessels known locally as "bancas." With Brother Gomez and wife is a Bible worker, Miss De la Paz. The avowed purpose of these workers is to persevere in their efforts in this municipality, with its many *barrios* or country villages round about, until at least a hundred have received baptism and have been organized in church capacity. We shall follow this special effort in Sara with deepest interest, and with our prayers for its ultimate success.

The Memorial Church in Iloilo

Pastor Wm. H. Bergherm, director of the West Visayan Mission, reports unceasing activity on the site of the memorial church now under construction at Iloilo, the capital of the province of Iloilo, in the Visayan islands of the Philippines. The building is to be completed in April, in time for the annual conference meeting of the brethren and sisters of that field. All are taking part in one way or another. Every church in the mission is contributing something toward the building fund, and some of the mission laborers are doing large things, as, for example, the director himself, who is raising funds from the business men of the city to add five hundred pesos to the fund; and Brother Pedro Habana, who is raising fifteen hundred pesos by selling English and Spanish books to the head men of the sugar centrals of Occidental Negros and Panay. Brother Habana is devoting his profits to the fund. Still others are soliciting in our churches. Pastor Fausto Jornada has done much along this line, as have others. The Lord is adding His blessing, and we shall soon be hearing of the completion and dedication of this memorial for God.

OBITUARIES

Pastor Leon Z. Roda

On November 23, 1925, Pastor Leon Z. Roda died at Manila, P. I., aged 33 years, 9 months, and 4 days. Brother Roda was one of our pioneer ministers in the Philippines, having been ordained in December, 1916. He was one of the company of eight who were baptized by Pastor L. V. Finster in March, 1911—the firstfruits of our work in the Philippine Islands.

Shortly after his baptism, Brother Roda began his work for the Lord, assisting Pastor L. V. Finster as an interpreter, and selling some literature. Later he took up public evangelistic work, and labored in Tagalog territory until November, 1915, when he was called to the Ilocano language area in Northern Luzon, in which field he remained until June 1924, the date of his retirement because of ill health. His last series of meetings was held in Cuyapo, Nueva Ecija, where a company of sixty-three was established in the faith and a chapel was erected.

In June, 1915 Brother Leon Roda was married to Miss Maria Panis; and this union were born five children, all whom are living.

Brother Roda suffered much during his protracted illness, and at times his faith and patience were severely tried; but throughout his experience the grace of Christ was sufficient. His last days were spent without a murmur. He felt grateful to God for blessings received, and expressed willingness to live or to die, as might be for the best.

One evening, as the writer sat by his side, Brother Roda turned to one of the Ilocano students also in the room, and said, "Vicente, I want to see you in Heaven." A few moments later he turned to me and said, "Brother Adams, I hope to see you there." Our brother had strong faith that he was accepted of God, and he fully expected to meet Jesus the morn of the resurrection. Up to the day prior to his death, his mind seemed clear, and on the morning of that day he requested his brother, Antonino Roda, to sing the song, "Is My Name Written There?" Soon afterward he became unconscious, and thus he passed away, as a weary laborer going to sleep after a hard day's work.

We truly believe it can be said of our Brother Roda, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from hence forth; yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them." Rev. 14:13.

To his wife, Sister Maria, and to the children, and to his own brothers who have been associated with him in gospel ministry, and to all his family, we extend our deepest sympathy. We live in the blessed hope of meeting this loved one in the kingdom of God—G. M. Adams, in "Echoes from the Ilocano Field" for December, 1925 (abridged).

Arlene and Winton Thiele

It is with deep sorrow that we record the bereavement of Brother and Sister E. R. Thiele, of Shanghai, in the loss of their two children, Arlene Marguerite, aged four years, one month and eighteen days, and Winton Adair, aged one year and four days.

On February, 22, 1926, Arlene, the first-born child of Brother and Sister Thiele, passed to rest, after a few days' illness, a victim to scarlet fever. Never a robust child, Arlene was still always active and helpful. Of a deeply affectionate nature, she loved father and mother with an adoration known only to innocent childhood. She loved her Saviour, and Jesus was to her a very important member of the household. She was regular in her attendance at Sabbath school. Arlene never learned about this world of sin. To her everything and everybody was good.

Her last words were, "Daddy, sing to me;" and after her father had sung a few familiar hymns, she looked up and said, "Daddy, sing 'Jesus Loves Me.'" After this a letter just received from her mother, who at the time was a patient at the Shanghai Sanitarium, was read to her, to which she nodded with expressions of gladness for the words of her mother to her. Then she passed quickly into unconsciousness.

Twenty hours later, little Winton, Arlene's baby brother, aged one year and four days, fell asleep after a struggle with death that had lasted for several days. Winton was a beautiful child, of an unusually sweet disposition, which revealed itself in patience and uncomplaining endurance during his trying illness.

Many sorrowing friends gathered at the graveside in the Bubbling Well Cemetery, where the little ones were laid to rest to await the coming of the Life-giver. The funeral services were conducted by Pastor I. H. Evans and the writer. During the hour, the following lines, composed by Brother Evans for the occasion, were sung:

Submissive to Thy will,
We bow to Death's decree;
What we would fain have with us still,
We now give back to Thee.

Our jewels for Thy crown,
So precious and so rare,
We yield alone for Thy renown;
We trust them to Thy care.

And when Christ comes to bring
New life to those who sleep,
The triumphs of the cross we'll sing,
And nevermore shall weep.

Our beloved Brother and Sister Thiele, thus called to part with these dearly loved children, will find the hearts of our entire mission body sharing with them this their deepest sorrow. May this sad dispensation be one more tie to bind our hearts to one another and to the work yet to be accomplished in this needy land, and make the hope of the near coming of Christ more precious to us all.

H. W. Miller, M. D.