

Far Eastern Division Outlook

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A Bad Beginning, but a Good Ending

I. H. EVANS



WE often hear the old adage, "As the twig is bent, the tree's inclined," applied in child training; and many indeed are the illustrations that can be cited to show the proverb true.

A strong illustration is the life of Moses, who spent only twelve years in the home that gave him birth, then twenty-eight years in the schools and courts of Egypt, yet was ever and always loyal to the faith of his fathers.

Yet even Moses made a bad beginning near the close of the first forty-year period of his life.

Long past were those early teachings in his Hebrew home, followed by the training in temple schools, and more recently by the years spent in acquiring the higher knowledge of the schools and courts of the land which had adopted him as its son and chosen heir. But in the heart of Moses was an interest in his own people. As he looked on their burdens one day, and saw an Egyptian smiting a Hebrew, "one of his brethren," he killed him. This crime excluded Moses forever from the courts of Egypt, and won him only jibes and sneers from his own people, who were not yet ready to leave the land of their servitude.

Obliged to flee for his life beyond the territory controlled by Pharaoh, Moses took up the calling and assumed the garb of a shepherd. Forty years, with staff and crook, he spent his days and his nights caring for the flocks of the priest of Midian, leading them hither and thither in the search for pasture and water, defending them from the beasts of prey, and tenderly caring for and protecting them. In this school he added to the knowledge acquired in the courts of Egypt. He learned patience, gentleness, and love for the flock.

When God called Moses from the desert to lead His people forth from the land of bondage, Moses pleaded his utter unfitness for such an undertaking. He had forgotten his mother tongue, and the language of Egypt was likewise all but forgotten. No longer self-reliant and over-confident, this trained man felt his utter inability to do the work which he had once believed himself abundantly qualified to perform.

But God could not use Moses to lead Israel out of Egypt when Moses desired the work and set himself the task. What could such a hasty, hot-headed leader do with that murmuring, fault-finding, rebellious crowd? When God called Moses to this task, Moses was not the man he was when he set himself up to be judge and leader of Israel. In the wilderness Moses had learned the great lesson of self-control, which he was to need to exercise so often in the tempestuous days before him. Suffering had taught him sympathy; communion with God had taught him humility; he had learned to trust God, to wait patiently for Him, and to obey His word.

In the last forty-year period of his life, Moses stands out in the fullness of a great manhood as no other in either sacred or profane history. Among the leaders of men, Moses is easily first. As a lawgiver he is without a peer. His code of laws is still the base upon which all Christian civilization builds. He emancipated woman, and lifted her back where God placed her in the beginning.

Only once did Moses fail. Even then, when he spoke in haste and wrath, God fulfilled the word of Moses before the people, and did not suffer his servant to be abased before them. Though Moses made a poor start in his great life work, he developed into a wonderful leader, and ended his career gloriously.

What the church of God needs in these Eastern lands to-day is men like Moses. Men who love the flock, and carry them on their hearts. Men who plead before God for them with such earnestness and strong desire that they would rather die than see them perish. Under other leadership than this there can be no strong church; but with such leadership there can not be a weak church.

NOTE AND COMMENT

Happy in the Lord.

"We are all well, and happy in the Lord," writes Pastor T. T. Babienco, director of the Sungari-Mongolian Mission, from Harbin, where he has been holding a mid-winter evangelistic effort, notwithstanding many hindering circumstances. "The people do not easily turn to God; they choose pleasure instead," he continues. "Sometimes the thought comes to me that the last days are very near, and that soon the judgments of God will be poured out upon this sinful world."

Pastor Babienco has had some very severe trials the past few months, and has continued under conditions that would have deterred any one who did not feel as if the work undertaken in the name of the Lord were all-important. The three-fold message being proclaimed in Harbin, and all through these fields, must be given in these times of hindrance and of persecution; and we may well settle it in our hearts that henceforth the work of God will be continued and completed in troublous times and by those who put their trust wholly in the Lord.

Perplexities in Japan

One of our esteemed workers in Japan writes of perplexities arising over proposed legislation unfavorable to "sects that teach a great earthquake and other disasters are coming."

If the framers of this and like enactments, could but understand the true nature of Heaven's teachings as made plain in Holy Scripture, their efforts would be directed toward a promulgation rather than a suppression of these truths. Let us pray that the efforts of our brethren in Japan to dissuade legislators from passing laws of this sort, may be crowned with success. Thus those of our number who have always been law-abiding citizens, may continue to exercise with freedom their conscientious convictions regarding the worship of the true God.

An Encouraging Beginning

Under this heading, Pastor J. O. Afenir, acting director of the Northern Luzon Mission, reports in *Echoes from the Ilocano Field* for January, 1927, sixty-five baptisms during the month of January in his territory, — twenty at Pozorrubio, twelve at Boni, in Nueva Vizcaya, and thirty-three at Binalonan. "We are glad to sound through the columns of the *Echoes* that this is an encouraging beginning," writes Pastor Afenir. "And yet it is not the end," he continues; and he cites as evidence several interests that have been created through the earnest labors of evangelists stationed in various places and holding special efforts. In one town Pastor Valera had launched "a third effort" for that place, with the prospect of reaping a third harvest there, and thus adding to the numbers of the believers, strengthening their faith, and increasing their knowledge of Bible truth through attendance at these repeated evangelistic efforts.

Two general meetings have been appointed for the believers of Northern Luzon, — one at Laoag, March 3-7; the second in Batac, March 11-14. It is anticipated that several hundreds will be in attendance.

A New Manuscript

Copy of a new manuscript has been received from Pastor E. J. Urquhart, acting superintendent of the Chosen Union Mission. The manuscript has been run through the Korean *Signs* in the form of a series of short articles, and is now to be run as a small booklet. "In this work" (to quote from Brother Urquhart's brief description of the manuscript) "I have tried to show that the universe reveals God—the Christian's God. The laws of the universe proclaim the nature of the Creator. Early in the book I have introduced two chapters on the prophecies, so as to lend force to Bible quotations that should be used thereafter in the book. The work is rather brief. It is not a complete survey of our message, but I have tried to touch on some of the important truths, and create a desire in the mind of the reader to wish for more."

Our Japanese Magazine

At a recent meeting of the Japan Union Mission Committee the question of the future of the *JICHO ZASHI* (The Signs of the Times, Japanese) was again considered, and a decision reached.

After due consideration, it was voted that we reduce the magazine to thirty-two pages, plus cover, every month. Further, that every quarter we have a coloured cover design, and that the price be ten cents per copy when sold singly.

Subscription rates will be as follows:—

One year	\$ 1.00
Half year60

The usual discounts will be allowed as before. Present subscriptions will be extended to cover the difference in price.

We bespeak your increased interest in the circulation of this magazine among the Japanese people in your fields.

JAPANESE PUBLISHING HOUSE.

Colporteurs with Determination

Pastor J. J. Strahle, writing of young men from Batakland, Sumatra, serving as evangelistic colporteurs in various lands of Malaysia, declares:

"Malaysia has a splendid corps of colporteur-evangelists. It does one's heart good to meet these and hear them relate how God called them from the paddy fields (rice fields) to carry the third angel's message to the people of Malaysia. Many of the colporteurs in Malaysia have come from Batakland, Sumatra. A generation ago these people were classed among the cannibals. Often when these Batak boys are canvassing, they are recognized as Bataks and accused of being man-eaters. Yet they do not let such statements discourage them, but work all the more earnestly in order to sell the prospect a book containing the gospel for this time. One of the Batak colporteurs made so deep an impression on a certain prospect, that the prospect offered to pay the young man's way through school for a year. The colporteur refused to accept such a gift, but instead sold the man twenty books. No wonder Brother V. L. Becham, the Union field missionary secretary, speaks so highly of his colporteur-evangelists—colporteurs whom he has trained to become missionaries of the highest order."

A Great Opportunity

The people of China are reading to-day as never before. A new movement has been advancing through the land, and its advance has been largely accomplished through the circulation of literature.

There are questions in men's minds which they are eager to have answered. They are eager to read to find out the meaning of the present situation in China.

Among the questions being asked to-day are these:—

"Is there to be another great world war, and if so will China be in it?"

There is only one way of knowing the future, and that is by knowing what God has revealed to us through the prophecies of the Bible.

As Seventh-day Adventists, we know that the great final world war, Armageddon, is soon to be fought. We know that China, as one of the powers of the East is to have a part in that war. We know just where the great decisive battle is to be fought, and we know also what the outcome of that battle will be.

The book "World Struggles" has just been revised. It tells of the latest discoveries and inventions of new and more deadly methods of warfare which the nations have been vying with each other to prepare. It is very interestingly written; it tells what the Bible prophecies reveal of the future, and it tells very clearly what is necessary for every man to do to prepare for the things that are coming.

"World Struggles" is being printed in two forms, as a 25 cent book and as a \$1.00 book, with regular subscription book discount. It gives us an excellent opportunity to make the gospel known.

Order through your tract society.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES, Shanghai.

Last Year's Midsummer Offering

Among the places to benefit especially from the last midsummer offering, are the Romblons (north of Panay Island, in the West Visayan Mission), to the opening of which group \$1,000 gold has been appropriated; and the province of Taylac, an unentered section of Central Luzon, \$500 gold. It is anticipated that some churches will be brought into existence through the use of the funds appropriated, and that thus the cause of present truth in the Romblons and in Taylac may be given opportunity to develop and gather strength.

Home Nursing Classes

The Fireside Correspondence School, Takoma Park, D. C., U. S. A., offers a series of lessons in Home Nursing, arranged in collaboration with the Medical Department of the General Conference. Inquiries regarding this course should be addressed to Fireside Correspondence School, Takoma Park Station, Washington, D. C., U. S. A.

From Brother Geo. E. Clarke

Recent letters from Brother George E. Clarke, now located at Comstock, Michigan, U. S. A. report some improvement in health on the part of Sister Clarke and the children. Brother Clarke expresses deep interest in the brethren and sisters of the Chinese Church, and in his former associates and their labors.

GENERAL ARTICLES

I Will Not Fear

I will not fear,
 Though storm clouds gather fast,
 Though kingdoms fall and mountains crumble into dust.
 When every ship comes home with broken mast,
 And every doubt of earth and hell assails my trust,
 Then, whether heaven above be dark or clear,
 My anchor chain will hold—
 I will not fear.

I will not fear,
 When dearest friends turn back,
 And earthly ties are snapped by unexpected strain;
 When those once dear now follow in my track
 And rend me, then, though bleeding, I will not complain.
 I shall expect my Lord will then appear
 To shield His trusting child—
 I will not fear.

I will not fear.
 When everything goes wrong:
 When losses, crosses, pains, and sorrows overwhelm;
 When days are dreary, nights are dark and long,
 And storm blasts hide from view the Master at the helm.
 I see Him not, but while His voice I hear,
 Unflinching I'll wait—
 I will not fear.

—J. George Haller.

The Romblons

SURELY every one of us have felt a great longing in our hearts to see the message go to the Romblons. These three islands lie so near to us that on a clear day they can be easily seen from the northern shores of Panay. Yet to-day we are made sad that not a man or a woman in Romblon province cherishes the blessed hope of the soon coming Saviour in their hearts. Surely this must not be so any longer. Brethren, we must arise and sound the trumpet of salvation in these darkened islands.

Believing that the hour has struck when the Romblons must also hear, we desire at this time to make a call for one or more Visayan Filipino families.

It may be that there are some of our brethren who would be willing to move to Romblon and live the truth among these people. Especially may this be true in some of our larger churches where many brethren live. The Lord has told us that it is not His plan for brethren to colonize in large centers, but to scatter out in the darkened places where our message has never been heard. Of course, such a step should be taken carefully, but if there are any of our brethren upon whom the Lord has laid this burden, we should be very glad to see them move their home to these neglected islands and thus open the work.

Besides this, we are looking for one of our workers, preferably with a small family, who would volunteer for this work. The Mission has made a call to our dear brethren of America to help us finance such an undertaking. We are glad to announce that our brethren have now responded and that money has been given us to send the worker. Who will be the worker then who will say, "Here am I, Lord, send me"? I should be glad to hear from any of our workers in whose heart the Lord may be working to answer this call. —W. H. Bergherm, in *Ang Manugbalita*, January 15, 1927.

Sickness and Tithing

IN a recent issue of *Manugbalita*, the West Visayan Mission church paper published in Iloilo, Philippine Islands, are two stories of brethren who believe that faithful tithe-payers oftentimes are spared many calamitous experiences, such as blasted or diseased crops, and bodily sicknesses, which come upon those who are not careful about returning to God His own.

One of the brethren in the West Visayan Mission tells his story thus:

"I am now paying into the Lord's treasury some tithe that I borrowed at the time of our last general meeting. All along I have had in mind to return this money to the Lord without delay, but until now it has not been paid; and meanwhile God has been making known to me the wickedness of what I have done. My plants in the garden have been very slow of growth, as compared with plants of others round about me. Since I have come to a realization of the fact that these plants have not been thriving because I have been making use of the Lord's money, I have had no pleasure in looking upon them, and have decided by the help of the Lord not to withhold tithe again. I am thankful to God that He caused me to learn this lesson, through bringing a curse upon the plants, instead of inflicting serious sickness upon my body."

Another writes thus from the province of Occidental Negros, which territory is included within the West Visayan Mission.

"I have some tithe which my wife has used.

"I am now ready to pay into the Lord's treasury some tithe, that has been in use for a time by my wife who is an unbeliever. God's rebuke to us came in the sickness of our child. During the course of this disease, I explained to my wife the nature of our daughter's ailment. That night we confessed this sin before God, and petitioned Him to spare the life of our child. The next morning the child was well.

"Another experience came to me when I sold a *banca* (small boat). I told my wife to put aside two pesos of tithe for the Lord. I thought she did this, but when later I asked her where this tithe-money was, she said she had spent it all. Again the Lord did not fail of making known to us the sinfulness of such an act; for our five-year-old boy was taken with a severe illness. For three nights we could sleep but little, and during the anxious days we were caring for him, we could scarcely eat. One night my wife confessed her sin of withholding the tithe, and repented. We knelt by the side of the child and prayed. The child fell asleep, and soon we also were asleep. Later on the child waked up, and said, 'Papa, papa a man took me up in his arms, and told me I am well now; and then I saw him go down the stairs.' Our boy asked us for something to eat, and now he is well. I know an angel of God came to our house to heal him."

Surely God is teaching men in these lands in manifold ways, and leading them to understand more and more the binding claims of His requirements, and the abundant blessings that come through obedience.

"Substitutes"

TO SPEAK of nuts as "meat substitutes," reflects the prominence which has been given to meat, and the casual way in which nuts have been regarded for some generations. It might be more logical to speak of meat as "nut substitutes" instead.—H. C. Sherman, of Columbia University, in "*Food Products*."

REPORTS OF PROGRESS IN THE MALAYSIAN UNION MISSION

Report of the West-Java Mission of Seventh-day Adventists for the Biennial Period of 1925-1926

H. EELSING

WE ARE very thankful for all the blessings and all the good things the Lord had given us in the period of 1925-1926. We do greatly rejoice in the Lord for the many precious souls won for Him. The past year has been our banner year in winning souls. The Lord is leading us to people of all classes and professions. We have been working in several places, and have won 161 souls for the Lord. We baptized 181 during the year 1926, because in the Lampongs were twenty souls prepared for this rite. Of these 161 souls whom we have baptized in Java, thirty-one were Mohammedans, twenty-four heathen, ninety Protestants, fourteen Roman Catholics, and two Jews. We have a strong work in the Lampongs and Brother Dittmar baptized there several souls. Our native workers in all the places are doing a good work. There are now six hundred baptized believers.

We thank the Lord we can tell you that our believers who are soldiers are free on the Sabbath, the Dutch Government having given them their freedom for this day of worship. We are also thankful that we can now work in Baïdoeng. The Dutch Government we believe, will soon give freedom on the Sabbath to all our dear friends in the Government offices.

At the present time there are 15 Sabbath schools, with more than 609 members, and 3 church schools, with about 210 children. The following comparison will show our progress: (The florin has a value of about forty cents gold.)

	1925		1926	
	Florins		Florins	
Annual Offerings	76.61	Florins	183.55	
Harvest Ingathering	9,640.03		3,994.29	
S. S. Offerings	1,526.17		1,785.83	
S. S. Offerings, 13th	695.90		997.54	
Missions Extension Fund	204.70		349.08	
Self-Denial Offerings	534.59		776.04	
Public Efforts	748.55		2,200.00	
Church School Income			3,040.78	
Tithe of Churches	Florins 10,019.06	Florins	10,687.13	

Our need for 1927 is more of the presence and help of the Holy Spirit. That the Lord may richly bless us, is our hope and prayer, for the glory and honour of His name.

East Java Mission—1926.

H. ZIMMERMANN

(Synopsis of report rendered by Pastor H. Zimmermann, director of the East Java Mission, during the recent biennial session of the Malaysian Union held in Singapore, S. S. January, 1927)

WE are grateful for all the blessings and guidance of the Lord during 1926. By His grace we are enabled to submit a good report.

During the past conference year aggressive work has been continued, and success has attended the efforts put forth. Notwithstanding difficulties and troubles, we have

been enabled to win 100 precious souls. Of these 100 who have been baptized, 18 were Mohammedans, 23 heathen, 53 Protestants, and 6 Roman Catholics. Including these additions, our present membership in East Java totals 295 baptized believers.

We have started work at Malang, where Brother Kailola has had a good experience, for he has won several souls, whom we have already baptized. Brother Simorangkir at Djocja, and Brethren Pietersz and Tamboenan at Semarang, are also making good progress at these places and have won several souls to the truth. These have had instruction from Pastor Drinhaus, who is in charge of the work centering at Semarang.

At present we have eight Sabbath schools with 365 members, and four church schools with about 400 pupils. The following comparison will show our progress: (Money values are given in Florins or guilders, representing about forty cents gold per florin.)

	1925		1926	
	Florins		Florins	
Book Sales	42,236.00		39,396.65	
Tithes (Foreign)	1,552.05		945.99	
(Church)	8,820.00		9,755.18	
Sabbath-school Offerings	10,372.82		10,701.65	
Tent Offerings	2,579.09		2,287.78	
Extension Funds, Self-Denial Week,	12.18		214.00	
Annual Offerings,	1,037.06		1,102.81	
Baptisms	32		100	

Our need for 1927 is a double portion of the Holy Spirit, which we trust the Lord will grant us. That the Lord may richly bless us during the coming year, is our hope and prayer, for the glory and honour of His name!

Synopsis of Report of the North Sumatra Mission of Seventh-day Adventists, for the Biennial Period of 1925-1926

I. C. SCHMIDT

I CONSIDER it a special privilege to join with others in telling of what the Lord has wrought in the hearts of men and women struggling for the light and freedom this present truth gives. While in North Sumatra we are limited to the city of Medan, still we are permitted to behold, clearly how the power of God is unlimited and unrestricted by any earthly power. Closed doors are being gradually but most assuredly opened. Batakland, which has been closed for decades to this message, is swinging open its doors, and before long this field may be among the most productive of Malaysia.

In looking over past records, we find that the Lord has added His blessing to all lines of endeavor. Among our additions during the past year, is a Dutch colporteur who has since the middle of last year sold thousands of guilders worth of literature among his people. The year 1926 has been our banner year in literature sales—about \$6,000 gold. The gain in literature sales in North Sumatra has been 61 per cent above sales of the preceding period. Our field has ranked third most of the time during 1926 in sales, until

BIENNIAL SESSION—SINGAPORE, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, JANUARY 20-30, 1927

in December East Java slightly passed us. We are glad to see East Java marching towards her former position. We shall never be able to estimate in dollars and cents just how much good this literature will do. The contents of our books and magazines are becoming the common subjects of many discussions.

Tithes and Offerings

Our tithes and offerings show a healthy gain, as will be seen from the following:

Tithe in 1926	\$ 941.40 (gold)
Tithe in 1925	744.00
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	1685.40
Tithe for biennial period 1923-1924	1119.44
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Gain in tithe over 1923-1924 period	\$ 565.96 or 34 per cent

Sabbath School Offerings

	<u>12 Sabbaths</u>	<u>13 Sabbaths</u>
1926	\$ 215.93	\$ 83.82
1925	159.02	55.99
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Past year gain	\$ 56.91 or 26 per cent	27.83 or 33 per cent
1925-1926	\$ 374.95	\$139.81
1923-1924	242.35	74.61
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Biennial gain	\$ 132.60 or 35 per cent	\$ 65.20 or 40 per cent

Evangelical Work

Only since March of last year have we been able to hold public meetings with a good attendance. Since the first part of last November we have also started to work in the Dutch language. We are glad to say that the Dutch have been good visitors at our tent, and several are deeply interested in the truth. The Lord is leading us to all classes and professions. Recently the son of a heathen Batak king came to me and asked that we teach him the Bible. His people over which he is soon to rule, are heathen, and the Mohammedans are trying to teach them the Mohammedan religion but before they may do that he is desirous of learning the Christian religion, in order that he may know what to choose for them. He has already read our standard series of Dutch and Batak tracts.

We have also been able to create an interest in the Lord's work by presenting subjects on health reform, teaching the people how they should live in order that they may enjoy life. We firmly believe that the health message has the same relationship to our evangelistic work as the right arm has to the human body. A health talk usually brings to us an especially large congregation.

Since we have begun work among the Europeans, there is one pressing need to which we should give serious attention at this conference, and that is some provision for a suitable place of worship.

"Every Nation, Kindred, Tongue"

While rendering his report on literature work last January in Singapore, Brother V. L. Beecham observed:

"Our colporteurs oftentimes must work [places that are indeed foreign to them, hunting here and there among the Mohammedans, Hindus, Buddhists, and heathen of every caste less than three per cent of whom can read,—and this among many languages and dialects."

Literature Work in the Malaysian Union

V. L. BEECHAM

(Synopsis of report rendered by Brother V. L. Beecham, field missionary secretary, during the biennial session of the Malaysian Union, Singapore, January, 1927)

IT affords the secretary of this department pleasure to bring to the delegates assembled at this Conference the largest report ever rendered for literature work in our field. The total amount of literature placed in the homes of the people of our Union during the past two years is about as much as was sold by the entire denomination from the beginning of our publishing work in 1850 to 1885, a period of thirty-five years. Surely the blessing of the Lord is upon the circulation of literature in these mission fields.

The following figures show the progress in literature sales by biennial periods beginning with 1921-1922. It will be noticed that we have a gain over the previous biennial period of \$29,970.81.

1921-1922	total gold sales	\$ 50,598.14
1923-1924	" " "	79,900.97
1925-1926	" " "	109,671.78

A large number of converts have been reported as the direct and indirect result of work done by colporteurs and lay members in circulating literature.

Words of commendation must be paid those of our foreign workers upon whom falls the responsibility of leading out in each mission. However, it is our colporteurs that are really responsible for the great work that has been done. We are indeed proud of our boys, and we believe they compare favorably with colporteurs in any other part of the work.

Our dear Brother Moeda Silitonga, a most lovable young man, left his home in Batakland, Sumatra, took a three-years' training-course at our school in Singapore, and then went direct to the field with our publications. After working a long time in East Java, he was sent to Borneo. That was the last he was ever seen by our people. Word has come to us that he contracted typhus fever in the far-distant village of Tarakan, East Borneo, one of the farthest outposts of our field. Doubtless in that distant heathen village strange hands ministered to his last wants, and laid him away somewhere over there, we know not just where. He has been laid away to rest from his labors. This dear lad is truly a martyr to the cause of the gospel.

During the past biennial period new books have been gotten out in the Siamese and Arabic-Malay Languages. There is great need for books in the Javanese, which would reach a people numbering 25,000,000. We also need books in the Batak language. Experience leads us to believe that great results await us in Batakland. And we might mention other needs equally important, such as our need of small literature, undated magazines, booklets, tracts, and undated magazines directly upon the message. We need more native leadership to strengthen our literature ministry. We need tract society secretaries. We need to have books and pamphlets in more of the languages of our field.

In closing, I would suggest that our Union sales goal for the year 1927 be set at \$70,000 gold.

REPORTS OF PROGRESS IN THE MALAYSIAN UNION

The South Sumatra Mission

(Synopsis of report rendered by Pastor B. Judge, of Padang, Sumatra, director of the South Sumatra Mission, during the biennial session of the Malaysian Union held in Singapore, S. S., January, 1927)

WE are grateful for the fostering hand of God over the South Sumatra Mission the past biennial term. South Sumatra has a population of about 3,000,000, scattered over a large area. Ninety per cent of the inhabitants are Moslems—not the indifferent, semi-educated class, but devoted followers of Mohammed, all the more fanatical because of their greater knowledge of the Koran than that possessed by less educated groups.

Evangelistic Endeavors

In comparing the work of the present term with that of the past biennial period, twenty-three have been baptized as against twenty-two. However, we might state that during the year 1926, twenty-one persons were won to Christ, and only ten of these have been baptized as yet. The others we have promised to baptize soon after our return from this gathering. At Mosara Aman, the centre of the gold fields of the Benkoelen Residency, an effort was held with the assistance of Luther Pandjaitan, resulting in six persons stepping out to keep the commandments of God. We had very good audiences during these meetings, on one occasion fully 300 being present, eighty per cent of whom were Muslims. We left the place with quite a number interested, and for these Brother Pandjaitan is caring for in a more personal way. At Benkoelen, where Brother Law Yoo Djin is laboring, at Bintochan, Mosara Aman Rain, Padang, and Palembang, additions have been made to those who are already keeping the Sabbath.

Finances

During the past biennial term the tithes and offerings, exclusive of foreign tithes and local church offerings, amounted to \$3,485.14 gold, which represents an increase of seventy-six per cent. The per capita of tithes and offerings for the biennial term was \$38.46 gold per member.

Our hearts are burdened to undertake work among the Re-djang-ese, a people living in the Benkoelen and Palembang Residencies, many of whom are Muslims, but still large numbers of whom are non-believers in the "Prophet." The question for us in connection with this people is, Will they be led to serve Mohammed or Christ?

With our present force of workers, one foreigner and three Asiatic evangelists and one school teacher, it seems impossible to finish the task allotted to us in South Sumatra, unless, brethren, there comes into my heart, into the heart of our evangelists at present at work, into the hearts of those who will link with us in this work after this conference, into the hearts of our believers, a greater love for God's truth, and a greater and all-absorbing love for those who have not heard His truth. I feel that our vision must be lifted and enlarged. Our aim must be nobler, and the self-denying enthusiasm of the great Model Missionary must permeate our entire being. May God grant much of His Spirit, and of His own love and power as we try to advance His word during the period we have just entered, and may it be our glad privilege to shout soon the glad Harvest Home.

The Siam Mission—1925-1926

F. A. PRATT

(Synopsis of report rendered by Pastor F. A. Pratt, director of the Siam Mission, during the biennial session of the Malaysian Union, Singapore, January, 1927)

THE years under review have been filled with blessings. God has had a kind watchcare over the work and workers. Several evangelistic efforts have been held; thousands of pages of literature have been scattered; many have heard for the first time the third angel's message. The work has shown progress along all lines. The following comparisons will reveal in part what has been done (the money values are given in Siamese *Ticals*. Each *Tical* represents about thirty seven cents gold).

	1923-24	1925-26	Increase
Tithe (Native) <i>Ticals</i>	1,586.63	2,500.55	1013.92
S. S. Offerings	995.02	1,073.63	78.63
Church-members	55	95	40

Work was opened during the latter part of 1926 in Korat, the gateway to Eastern Siam. We now have a chapel there, and several are interested in the truth. A few weeks ago it was the privilege of the writer, in company with Brethren Strahle and Beecham, to take a trip through this section of Siam. We called on the Governor-General of that section, and explained to him our methods of work.

In Eastern Siam, with its 2,000,000, there is no Protestant missionary aside from our work stationed at Korat. The inhabitants are chiefly of the Laos tribes. From thirty to forty per cent can read the Siamese languages, we are informed by authorities in Eastern Siam.

Siam is the only independent Buddhist country in the world. In Siam we find Buddhism in its pure state. The older Siamese seem to be satisfied with their religious philosophy, but younger Siamese are reaching out after Western ideas, and are willing to listen and ready to learn.

There are more than 500,000 Chinese in Siam, and it has been largely among them that our work has been carried on. However, at the present time a good start for the Siamese has been made by Brother Abel. He has a large class of fine Siamese young men studying regularly with him. We feel that this is the beginning of great things for the Siamese. Brother Abel has also been wonderfully blessed in placing the Siamese book "Our Day" in the hands of the leading officials of the country.

We long to see the time come when all Siam will be stirred to its very depths, through a salvation brought to them by a knowledge of the true God and of a saving gospel truth.

We face the future with courage and hope, knowing that God has set His hand to the work, and that He will do great things for us if we attempt great things for Him. We need His power in our lives that we may win men. We need an enlarged vision, and a realization of the greatness of the task that lies before us. We need God's Holy Spirit to cleanse us and make us fit channels for His use. We need and invite the prayers of all our brothers and sisters, that God may work mightily through us who are privileged to be His messengers.

BIENNIAL SESSION—SINGAPORE, S. S., JANUARY 20-30, 1927

The Singapore Mission

W. R. LAKE

(Synopsis of report rendered by Pastor W. R. Lake, director of the Singapore Mission, during the biennial session of the Malaysian Union, January, 1927)

Dear Brethren and Sisters:

Greetings!

Soon after the last General Conference we found ourselves aboard the S. S. "Leviathan" headed for Singapore. In this city we are facing a stupendous task both in its complexities and its difficulties. The work calls for a superman with a sublimity of faith and Divine wisdom charged with the power of the Holy Ghost.

We are grateful to the Lord for His matchless love and oversight of the work in this field. The work is onward. We see evidences of life bursting forth on every hand.

Out of a population of 420,000 for the whole island of Singapore, 350,000 live within Singapore Town. The majority of these are Chinese for whom we have at present just one evangelistic worker. There are 32,000 Indians, and no worker to tell them of our Lord's return. There are 54,000 Malays espousing Mohammedanism, and no worker. There is a large English and Indo-European population, and relatively nothing is being done for them. But we believe we have entered upon a new era of fresh experience in the things of God, and a power from above is taking hold on hearts as never before.

As the old year of 1926 was beating its last pulsations of possibilities, opportunities and activities; and as the shadows of the sinking sun of the old year were hanging for the last time over the throb of humanity, there went seven souls into the watery grave with their Lord in baptism. At the close of this Conference we are looking forward with confidence to another baptism. There are now eight souls ready for this rite.

In the Town of Singapore we have recently organized a church for the Malay-speaking peoples, with a membership of ten. There are others waiting to swell this membership after their baptism. This chapel is in rented quarters situated at Race Course Road, a location relatively ideal. To this house of worship inquiring souls gather for Bible study and instruction.

At the close of the general meetings, we expect to launch an effort for the English-speaking peoples at the English church.

In Pontianak, our school has been closed so that it may be possible to augment a depleted staff of teachers at the Woodleigh Girls' School of the Union Missionary Seminary. An encouraging feature is that almost 4,500 guilders have been collected by the few members there to build a school and chapel building. Plans are under way to have this building erected soon. This will be a great asset to the cause there.

In Kuching, Sawarak, a request came to us to place two teachers in the school, so as to strengthen the Chinese and English departments. This has been done. We are planning

to launch an effort on evangelistic lines in Sarawak to augment the faithful work Elder Chan has done all these years.

We are now in communication with a young Batak man who will proceed to Sawarak to open work for the Dyaks.

The work in Sibul, Sawarak, is taking root.

Johore has not been touched by a living witness, aside from colporteurs.

All the islands contiguous to Singapore have been canvassed with our literature, and now await the living witness.

A great burden for unwarned thousands rest upon our hearts, and our committee is constantly belaboured with these unsolved problems because of lack of means and men.

In all there are five Sabbath schools with a membership of 378. The total offerings for the biennial period ending 1926 were \$5,944.32 Straits currency.

The tithe has also shown an increase over the previous biennial period. The total tithe for the past two years was \$18,004.23. Straits currency.

A word of appreciation may not be out of place. I wish to express to Pastor J. W. Rowland my appreciation for the courtesies shown me in his valuable help when I took over the mantle of his office, which has contributed to the smooth working of the machinery of progress.

From Pastor I. C. Schmidt, of Sumatra

A cheering word has been received from Pastor I. C. Schmidt, director of the North Sumatra Mission, with headquarters in Medan, Sumatra, Netherlands East Indies. A few paragraphs are of general interest, and we are taking the liberty of passing these on. Pastor Schmidt writes:

"Since we started our Dutch effort early last November, we have hardly had time to breathe. Brother Finster was with us the latter part of November, during which time we had our conference as well as our regular evening meetings in both Malay and Dutch. We have always had a good attendance at both meetings. Brother Mandias was with us for about two months and gave us some splendid help, especially among his own people, the Menadonese. Since that time I have been holding two evening meetings a week at the barracks among the soldiers. They are all very much interested in the message. We are also getting in touch with some Dutch families who are showing a deep interest in the truth. Besides, we have a Dutch canvasser who is doing well in placing our big books among the people. We hope and pray that some very definite results will be seen from all this work.

The set of Batak tracts is now ready for distribution, and we hope to cover Batakland after conference. We believe that these little messengers will stir up the people as they have not been stirred heretofore. We believe the Lord will yet do great things for His truth here in Sumatra, and therefore we are of good courage."

Statistical Report of the Far Eastern Division

1 Number of Mission	2 NAME OF MISSION	3 Number of Mission Stations	4 Number of Mission Outstations	5 Number of Organized Churches	6 Baptized Membership of Organized Churches	7 Baptized During Quarter	8		9		10		11 BIBLE WOMEN (not including column 10)		12 Other Foreign Women (Unlicensed)	13 BOOK AND PERIODICAL CANVASSERS		
							Foreign	Native	Foreign	Native	Foreign	Native	Foreign	Native		Foreign	Native	
1	Philippine Union	6	190	126	7898	519	13	10	4	28	16	59		19		1	117	
2	Chosen Union	3	39	19	1752	98	4	9	5	20	17	77		4		1	30	
3	Japan Union	3	15	11	502	13	5	4	2	9	4	6		3	11	1	11	
4	Manchurian Union	2	10	9	303	4	4		2	2	6	11		2		1	12	
5	Central China Union	5	71	35	1719	33	7	7	8	20	16	52		14		1	22	
6	North China Union	2	11	5	350	45	4	3	3	6	9	15	1	1	1	1	11	
7	South China Union	7	93	41	2471	134	10	6	4	53	20	79		14		1	22	
8	West China Union	3	12	4	185	41	3	2	2	5	12			1		1	9	
9	East China Union	4	66	38	1765	54	6	8		13	9	51	1	22		1	24	
10	Division Hdqrs.	1					9	1	4		48	8				1		
11	Malaysian Union	12	41	26	2163	143	19	3	5	26	26	37	1	6	2	1	42	
12	Sungari-Mongolian Mission	1	9	2	364	19	1		1	6	2	22	1	1			1	
13	TOTALS, 4th Quarter 1926	49	557	316	19472	1103	85	53	40	185	178	430	4	87	14	11	301	
14	<i>The totals given below for preceding years reveal the growth year by year.</i>																	
15	Totals, 4th Quarter 1925	49	495	277	17007	1037	81	53	45	202	184	330	5	84	11	14	282	
16	Totals, 4th Quarter 1924	45	436	251	14844	875	72	39	41	166	160	239	6	70	10	20	234	
17	Totals, 4th Quarter 1923	44	343	235	12845	785	73	43	41	153	165	228	2	79	8	10	190	
18	Totals, 4th Quarter 1922	46	337	230	10954	504	61	38	55	155	159	203	5	79	10	13	192	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	39					
Number of Mission	Average Attendance S. S.	S. S. Offerings to Foreign Missions for First Twelve Sabbaths	Thirteenth Sabbath Offering	Total S. S. Offerings for Quarter, including Thirteenth Sabbath Offering	Retail Value of Periodical Sales (including Subscriptions)	Value of Book Sales (on Basis of Retail Price)	Total Retail Value of Book, Tract and Periodical Sales (All Literature)	No. of Church Buildings Owned by Mission	Estimated Value	Approximate Seating Capacity	Number of Church Schools Conducted	Enrollment Church Schools	Number of Intermediate Schools					
1	6876	\$ 1531.05	\$658.18	\$ 2189.23	\$ 1273.25	\$23913.74	\$25188.99	108	\$ 35972.00	13830	24	899						
2	3383	707.83	86.71	794.54	962.50	1689.55	2652.05	69	27291.00	7675	32	995						
3	444	617.69	189.15	806.84			4280.72	7	16000.00	900								
4	254	121.32	25.12	147.44	1919.75	216.37	2136.12	3	7250.00	375	5	110						
5	1641	432.90	90.70	523.60	1672.85	3506.84	5179.69	16	9912.00	1800	19	330	2					
6	432	133.60	21.27	154.87	2326.31	184.05	2615.10	2	11500.00	800	5	181	1					
7	2881	579.82	110.24	690.06	2695.16	838.93	3534.09	18	13775.00	4100	38	1378	3					
8	447	150.42	34.30	184.72	249.62	228.26	538.07	1	3000.00	250	2	24						
9	2533	635.30	229.56	864.86	3236.90	151.20	3388.10	8	25100.00	2300	22	705	3					
10											1	15						
11	2314	1170.99	573.17	1744.16	4690.74	15172.40	20465.87	7	37281.58	1650	24	1237						
12	394	311.18	86.83	398.01	123.35	436.22	559.57				1	70						
13	21599	\$ 6392.10	\$2106.23	\$ 8498.33	\$19150.43	\$46337.56	\$70538.37	239	\$187081.58	33680	173	5944	8					
14	<i>Totals Year 1925, 1924, 1923, 1922 given below</i>																	
15	19404	5595.22	1475.85	7071.07	30027.28	45701.95	82404.39	220	172222.00	29505	185	6746	11					
16	17714	5066.60	1394.84	6461.44	10243.02	28873.08	43790.04	182	123531.00	21810	153	5023	10					
17	14871	5729.42	1095.36	6824.78	9911.17	23878.40	41862.19	140	89212.00	20725	131	3884	12					
18	12897	4596.12	919.49	5515.61	8918.77	29363.54	40492.18	76	36675.00	10163	139	3927	7					

THE SOUTH CHINA UNION BIENNIAL SESSION

Fifth Biennial Session of the South China Mission

C. C. MORRIS

Synopsis of report rendered by Pastor C. C. Morris, superintendent of the South China Mission, during the recent biennial session held in Tung Shan, Canton, March, 1927.

WE have come up to the occasion of another South China Union meeting. Many things have taken place since we were last together in this capacity, two years ago, but our gracious Lord and Master has led us on and through all, and brought us unharmed together again. The promise, "He careth for you," has certainly been fulfilled to us. We extend a cordial welcome to our visiting brethren from the Far Eastern Division, and to our Chinese and foreign brethren and sisters of South China.

This biennial meeting is a time when we come together to transact business, review what has been done, and lay plans for the future. The business to be transacted here is important and necessary, but this phase of our work must give way to one of greater importance,—a new relation, a new experience, a new fitting up for a quick completion of our great task. Within the territory of this Union are 90 million people. The burden of heralding the last message of mercy to these many millions should weigh heavily upon us, and be the chief concern and the guiding object in all that is done at this conference.

Personnel

During the past year several changes have taken place in the working force of the Union. We have sustained a serious loss in the return of Pastor F. H. DeVinney to the homeland. His ripened experience and many years of faithful service in South China have been a great blessing to this field. Only a few months after Elder DeVinney's return, Brother Clarke, our Union secretary-treasurer, found it necessary to return to America because of the poor condition of Sister Clarke's health. Thus the Union sustained another serious loss. These changes have necessarily interrupted the continuity of administrative effort. The patient co-operation all have manifested has been appreciated.

Brother Williams having connected with the Union office upon his return from furlough, Doctor Coffin has been left without trained help for the past half year, but new recruits have already arrived to supply this lack. Upon my leaving the North Fukien field, Pastor V. J. Maloney was invited to that work. Pastor E. E. Carman was called to the educational work at Amoy, and Pastor S. A. Nagel to be director of the Swatow field.

Aside from the return to the homeland of the two families named, all the foreign workers who were present two years ago are with us to-day. The Lord has been gracious in granting to each a reasonable degree of health. Some have passed through serious illness, but lives have been spared. Five new families have come into our Union during the past two years. These are, Mr. and Mrs. H. N. Quade, Mr. and Mrs. I. B. Newcomb and child, Drs. H. C. and Ethel James and child, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Thurston, and Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Schutt. We welcome these good people to a share in all that enters into missionary life.

Conditions in the Field

Two years ago South China had already entered upon a new regime; a state of affairs which at that time was little known and less appreciated in other parts of China. During the time covered by this report rapid changes have taken place, and conditions which were then looked upon as being somewhat local have swept this country and been brought in a general way to the attention of the whole world. In the reports of our last general meeting mention was repeatedly made of conditions that then existed, and we thought we were having a pretty hard and serious time of it. Had we been thinking in terms of improved conditions then, we would have good reason for being discouraged now. But what was then the very extreme, is now commonplace.

Our workers had just returned to their stations following our last Union meeting, when serious difficulties arose among the military forces of Canton. Always during the past our brethren have been able to remain at their stations through every emergency. This situation, however, was more serious and during the summer of 1925 it became necessary for our foreign brethren at Canton and Nanning to leave for several months. The incidents of May 30 and June 23, and the subsequent racial feelings which have grown worse ever since, need but be mentioned. The final establishment of the Nationalist Government with the role it has taken in China's affairs, and the longest and most serious strike and boycott ever carried out in these parts need but brief mention, inasmuch as they have all taken place during the time covered by this report.

Evangelism

All this war and trouble, this anti-foreign and anti-Christian feeling has accomplished, in a measure at least, the desires of the one who has brought it all about. Large numbers of missionaries have withdrawn from these fields, and their work has suffered serious reverses. But the faithful efforts of sixteen workers present here this morning, and of many others who are not privileged to be here, have made it possible for us to hold our work together, and to report an encouraging gain in almost every department.

The one great object in all our missionary operations is to win people to the truth. We preach, teach, canvass, and operate hospitals always with this in view. Whatever success is made in any other line of our work is, after all, secondary. The number won from darkness to the light of the truth is the index of our success. For the period under review 364 have united with the church by baptism. This is an increase of 88 over the last two-year period. None of us are satisfied with this small increase; yet one thing gives us no small amount of courage, and that is that our people have been loyal, and in spite of opposition and intimidation we have lost very few, if any, for these reasons. We confidently believe those who have united with us this year, and have taken their stand in times of opposition represent quality, if not quantity. Real success will be revealed in the number who at last enter the kingdom. In the day when every man's work shall be tried of what sort it is, we believe and pray that the number then sifted out may be small.

GENERAL REPORTS—CANTON, CHINA, MARCH 10-19, 1927

Departmental Work

Our publishing work has shown a steady, substantial increase year by year. The total sales for this period amounts to \$55,327.14, as against \$45,038.57 for the previous period, or a gain of well over \$10,000.00.

The medical work has received new impetus in the arrival of the Doctors James last autumn, to head up this department in the Hakka field. No other section of South China was so greatly in need of this line of help as was Wai Chow, and the Hakka field in general. A warm reception was given to Doctors H. C. and Ethel James at Wai Chow, as reports of their work from the very beginning show.

Doctor Coffin at Nanning, though very short-handed in operating the hospital, has met with splendid success. Developments have been made along right lines, and a very encouraging financial growth has been made. The Doctor has had many calls to the homes of the educated and well-to-do class of Chinese.

Pastor Wong and his brother, Dr. Wong, have been doing an excellent work at Fat Shan. Their efforts at present are being somewhat interrupted because of building operations now going on, but they are still able to care for a growing work.

We are facing a most serious situation in our educational work. The government requirements in this department are becoming such as make it almost impossible for us to operate schools after our denominational pattern and standard. This issue is right upon us. We shall need to give very careful consideration to demands which are being made, and which seriously conflict with our ideals.

Our tithes and offerings have increased during the past four years as the following table will show:

Year	Tithes	S. S. Offering	Annual Offering	Week of Sacrifice
1923	6122.62	4181.22		
1924	6616.36	3645.88	901.71	467.71
1925	7203.20	4082.32	1065.31	1122.05
1926	8514.10	4759.41	1301.10	952.88

It would be proper, and in keeping with the intent of this report, to say something in regard to policies for the future. We can perhaps do no better in this connection than to restate, and reaffirm our loyalty to those which have guided us all during the past. Christ laid down a working policy for His church which has never needed, nor will it need revision or amendment. He said: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations. . . . even unto the end of the world." "This Gospel of the kingdom shall be preached." Our policy must continue to be, Go and Preach.

Our work thus far in South China has been confined to the three Southern Provinces,—Fukien, Kwangtung, and Kwangsi, though our territory comprises considerably more. Colporteur work has been carried on very successfully in French Indo China and Formosa; and something has been done along this line in the island of Hainan. Surely the time has come when this work of seed sowing should be followed up by strong evangelistic efforts, and a good harvest of souls be gathered out in these large unentered portions of our territory. The population of the unentered portion of our

Union is more than 26 million. Serious consideration should be given at this time, and steps taken toward fulfilling our obligations to these waiting millions.

Our needs

Our needs can be classed under two general headings,—major and minor. Our minor needs are many; we think of them in terms of increased budgets, more evangelists, teachers and doctors, more chapels, schools and hospitals, more colporteurs and more publications. These are vital needs.

More faith, more unity, more power; these are our major needs. A faith which will lay hold of God's promises to supply our lack; a unity such as was enjoyed in the early church; and a power such as filled those early workers who were "of one accord;"—these are the things we most greatly need.

We have no reason to be discouraged. Our increasing perplexities and troubles but prove our past teachings regarding the times in which we are living to be true. Let us take courage, and carry on, in a strong united effort, till final victory is won. "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." We look to Him in confidence for the future, and pledge ourselves to faithful service till Jesus comes.

Publishing Work—South China Union

R. M. MILNE

(Synopsis of report of the Publishing Department of the South China Union Mission, at the biennial session for 1925-26, Tung Shan, Canton, March 10-19, 1927)

It is with thankfulness and joy that we render again a report of two years of blessing. The past two years have undoubtedly been most trying for all Christian workers, not only because of the political conditions, but because of the widespread anti-Christian feeling.

Several times newspapers have printed articles warning the public against our books and papers. In various other ways, also the enemy has tried to hinder. Yet all these difficulties have caused only a few of the Bookmen to enter other lines of work. Our colporteur force is stronger than ever, and with assistant leaders in nearly every field the outlook is very encouraging.

The Lord has blessed our efforts with increased sales as the following figures show:

1921-1922	\$21,900.00 (Mex.)
1923-1924	45,038.00
1925-1926	53,274.00

The subscription list of the *Signs* (Chinese) is almost twice what it was at the end of 1924. The 167,000 Opium and Narcotics Special *Signs* have been scattered everywhere throughout South China, Annam, and Yunnan, and we have almost all the officials and many prominent business men on our list.

The Big Week campaign with its Big Day Offering has contributed toward the Extension Fund. \$761.33 Mex. has been reported for the year 1926.

What has been done is but a beginning. And while we are glad and thankful for the Lord's blessing, we should look with courage and faith to larger fields ahead—to 100 colporteurs, 50,000 subscriptions, \$100,000 annual sales.

As leaders, our great need is a deeper consecration and a realization of the importance of the literature ministry and a confidence in its success.

The Big Week

I. H. EVANS



WHAT is meant by the term "Big Week"? Of course one week has the same number of days and hours and minutes as another. In length of time all weeks are the same.

A Big Week, then, is not big because it differs from other weeks in time, but in what takes place during that week.

In our work we designate May 21 to 28 this year as the "Big Week." Now it will be a "Big Week" in proportion to what we as a people do at this time. The work we do or fail to do will constitute the bigness of the week.

We desire to raise in the Far East at least \$10,000 gold as our part in making the week big. We have set that amount as our goal. This sum is to be raised in the following ways:

1. Each salaried worker is to donate the equivalent of one day's salary to this fund.
2. All salaried workers who can be spared from their regular work are to devote the week to selling literature, giving all the net profits to the "Big Week" fund in addition to the day's salary.
3. Each lay member is asked to donate one day's income to this fund and to join in selling literature, donating the profits to this fund.

This year the General Conference is trying to raise during the "Big Week" the sum of \$250,000 gold, and has appropriated out of the Big Week Fund during 1927-1928, the sum of \$31,500 to be used in the Far Eastern Division for the upbuilding of our educational, medical, and publishing work. They have asked that the Far Eastern Division raise \$10,000 on this \$31,500 fund. All these figures are in gold.

This means that we must put our shoulder to this effort, and join with our brethren throughout the world in gathering in a large fund for these various lines of work. All should plan definitely to do their full share in this "Big Week" drive. This must be our banner year, for we need to do more and more as we near the end. If we all join in promoting this fund, we shall reach a figure far beyond the \$10,000 that has been assumed as our goal.

We certainly need all the funds that we can secure for the promotion of our work. Our publishing work needs strengthening. Our educational work must have more funds invested in it, in order that the children and youth of our native believers may be educated and trained in our denominational schools. Our medical work has had scarcely any showing up to the present time. We shall be compelled to put more and more funds into the medical and educational lines, in order to build up and conduct training-schools and medical centers that will give this work the help it needs.

We hope that all our people everywhere will do their best in promoting this "Big Week" effort, and encourage our church members to join heartily in raising a large sum at this time.

The Big Week Missions Extension Fund—Far Eastern Division—May 21-28, 1927

Big Week

J. J. STRAHLE

OUR thoughts and prayers are with you in the Rally Day service, May 21. Make an effort to secure co-operation of all the brethren to take part in this great plan. Have the literature at hand, which they can use during the following week, and arrange for some experienced worker to accompany those who are willing to go, but who lack confidence.

You will be receiving letters from your field leaders telling you more in detail how to carry forward the Big Week plan. You will also receive word from your Tract Society, in regard to literature which can be used to good advantage during the Big Week.

It is suggested that a special meeting be held with the church members, the evening after the Sabbath, or Sunday morning, giving brethren the needed instruction, enabling them to approach the people in the right way, and also that they may know how to introduce the literature they are selling. If we show our brethren how to do the work, they will go forth with great courage to take an active part in the Missions Extension Fund campaign.

Let Every One Take Part Heartily

The Big Week Defined

J. J. STRAHLE

TO MANY of our brethren the term Big Week requires no explanation. To those new in the faith, the name Big Week would naturally be difficult to understand. There are many peculiar things connected with this movement, which mean much to the people. One of these is the peculiar phraseology which is so expressive to us, as the Big Week, yet this term means but little or nothing to the world, only as they learn the truth from the literature we distribute during the Big Week.

A general term now used by our denomination is the "Missions Extension Fund." The purpose of this fund is to provide necessary equipment of extending the knowledge and blessings of the gospel as represented in this message of God for to-day. In order to provide this fund, a plan has been devised in harmony with the counsel given the church, as recorded in "Testimonies for the Church," Volume 6, page 29, which reads as follows: "The Lord desires to see the entire church devising ways and means whereby high and low, rich and poor, may hear the message of truth." This plan calls into active service the entire church membership in an effort covering one week of time. Hence it is called the "Big Week." The results from this plan have been marvellous, and most gratifying.

What We May Expect from the Big Week

J. J. STRAHLE

WORDS are inadequate to explain the wonderful impetus grants of money will give to the various branches of our work. But we do know that needed facilities provided our fields, under God's blessing, will contribute very materially to the speedy finishing of the work of God in the earth. I believe every church member in the advent movement will want to take part in this campaign to swell the Missions Extension Fund.

We hope our people will understand the plan fully. It is not intended that this fund be raised through contributions from our people, but rather, by their devoting some time to the sale of literature and applying the profits to the Extension Fund. The recommendations covering the Missions Extension Fund Campaign, as adopted by the General Conference, read as follows:

"Whereas, The proceeds of the Missions Extension campaign, through the Big Week plan, are now shared equally by the Publishing, Educational, and Medical Departments, and are to strengthen our work; therefore,—

We recommend, (1) That each lay member be encouraged to sell at least one dollar's worth of our literature during the Big Week, the profits to be turned over to the church treasurer, to be applied on the Missions Extension Fund.

(2) That colporteurs share in the Missions Fund Big Week by giving the profits of their biggest day's sales.

(3) That mission and institutional workers join in the plan by selling literature during the Big Week, applying their entire profits to the fund, in addition to their personal income for one day.

(4) That one or more field days be held by our publishing houses, and schools, during the Big Week."

Should any find it impossible to devote any time and effort to the sale of literature during Big Week, it is suggested that an offering be given equal to a day's salary.

In the Far Eastern Division we are inviting the laity to accept a personal goal of at least \$2.00 for the Missions Extension Fund. This is a small sum for each church member to raise, yet if accepted by every one of our members, the total amount raised would supply a large fund with which to advance the work of the third angel's message in its various branches. The principal objective, however, is to place our truth-filled literature into the hands and into the hearts of the people, and, incidentally, to receive some money to build up the cause of God.

The Distribution of the Fund

THE plan is worldwide; the distribution likewise extends to every continent; and if the amount proposed be raised the sum of \$31,250 is to come to the Far East in behalf of institutions in Japan, Chosen, Philippines, China, Malaysi

Our Far Eastern Division Big Week Goal; \$ 10,000 Gold

The Big Week Mission Extension Fund—Far Eastern Division—May 21-28 1927

The Missions Extension Fund Plan

J. J. STRAHLE

The Missions Extension Fund plan was in the order of God's plan for the hastening of the last message to all the world. A testimony has come to the church which says, "Our publishing houses are God's appointed centers, and through them is to be accomplished a work the magnitude of which is yet unrealized."—*Vol. VII, p. 144.*

In the same volume we read: "The closing message of the gospel is to be carried to 'every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people.' Rev. 14:6. In foreign countries many enterprises for the advancement of this message must yet be begun and carried forward. . . . In many lands medical missions are to be established to act as God's helping hand in ministering to the afflicted."—*Page 51.*

Again, in the same volume it is written: "God has qualified His people to enlighten the world. He has entrusted them with facilities by which they are to extend His work until it shall encircle the globe. In all parts of the earth, they are to establish sanitariums, schools, publishing houses and kindred facilities for the accomplishment of His work."

The Lord has greatly blessed the Missions Extension Fund plan from its beginning. At first the publishing houses were helped, making it possible to issue literature in the many different languages of the world. At present we are printing literature in 128 languages. But the Missions Extension Fund plan is extending its field of influence to include the medical and educational work. From now on, the interests of the publishing, medical and educational work will be benefited by the Missions Extension Fund plan. Such a plan will greatly broaden our field of opportunity. In addition to distributing literature, we are also adding the ministry of healing, and teaching in a stronger way than we have thus far been able to do.

To us is given the task of enlightening the people of the world. As we go forward to bring the light of truth to the people through the literature ministry, they will have the opportunity of learning of God's wonderful plan of salvation. While doing this good work we receive funds from the literature sold which will be used to help build hospitals, schools, and publishing houses. Our brethren in all parts of the world are taking part in this plan of distributing literature to build up the medical, educational and publishing work.

Truly we have come to the time when every believer is to let his light shine so that others may see. "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." Isa.60:1. Let us consecrate ourselves to the Lord for the greatest work we have ever done during the Big Week.

An Open Letter

Manila, Philippine Islands
February 28, 1927

Elder J. J. Strahle

Manila, Philippine Islands

Dear Brother Strahle:

Since coming to the Far Eastern Division I find my interest in the Missions Extension Fund or Big Week plan growing. I am confident you and your associates are familiar with the plan and appreciate its high value and possibilities, but I esteem it a privilege to write you a brief word of encouragement and also to express my hopes that there will be united action in making this well-trying plan still more effective during the present year.

As I study the situation I am deeply impressed not only with the needs of this field, but the great possibilities; and I sincerely hope that all the laborers and believers will take hold of the work sympathetically, earnestly, and faithfully; for this always assures success in any line of service.

Surely the brethren here are highly appreciative of the spirit of liberal dealing shown by the General Conference in making available to this field from this Fund during 1927, the sum of \$31,250.00 gold. This is a splendid sum for Extension work. I am pleased to learn, however, that the Far Eastern Division desires to show their appreciation for this liberal offering, and that, in order to realize the full amount, they have set for themselves to raise a goal of \$10,000.

Now if, as recorded in Bible times, when a great work was to be done; the people of God will come up to the help of the Lord and "with a perfect heart" "keep rank" or step together, there will be no question as to the final results. To help to defeat any well arranged plan for service, we do not need to deliberately stand against it. We have only to neglect to ally ourselves definitely with it; so, my brother, I am praying that you may have the fullest co-operation of all the constituency.

If each one will joyfully and faithfully do his part, how quickly and easily the amount may be raised, and what a rich and spiritual blessing will come to all who have a part in the work. And it is a great privilege to help provide new and added facilities for this populous and needy field.

Assuring you of my interest, and of my sincere wish for your success, I am,

Yours for greater extension,

(signed) G. W. WELLS.

Our Far Eastern Division Big Week Goal: \$10,000 Gold

The Big Week Missions Extension Fund—Far Eastern Division—May 21-28, 1927

Filipino Literature Leaders Meet in Convention.

J. J. STRAHLE

It was a real pleasure to meet with the secretaries of the Publishing, Home Missionary and Tract Society departments of the Philippine Union Mission. Brother Wiedemann, the Union Field Secretary, has a fine corps of mission associates. They together have built up a strong literature work in the Philippine Islands. When one looks back over the few short years to the time when the work first began, we cannot help but exclaim, "The Lord hath done great things in the Philippines."

The past year, 1926, Pesos 149,676.09 or \$74,838.04 U. S. currency worth of gospel-filled literature was sold. Many precious souls have been won to the third angel's message as a result of the work done by our colporteur evangelists. Nearly one hundred colporteurs have been trained to sell the gospel through the printed page. This year the leaders are hoping to increase their colporteur force to at least one hundred and fifty.

The coming together of the literature leaders from the four corners of the Philippines in convention was inspiring and most helpful. These contacts broaden and improve the individual. Each leader gave something valuable to the other leaders, and again each in turn unconsciously gave something to the other. By mingling with each other they absorbed new ideas, exchanged methods and caught the united spirit of effort.

The work of the colporteur-evangelist was highly exalted. The following thoughts were mentioned:

Selling gospel-filled literature is one of the finest schools we know of, teaching man first of all knowledge of values, human and otherwise. It teaches tolerance, sympathy, the value of earnest effort, persistence, and an abiding faith in God.

The colporteur work is an education of the highest type. The colporteur who has met people, faced problems, solved difficulties, encountered trials and tribulations, matures and develops into a strong worker for the Lord.

Just before leaving for their fields, the secretaries with their directors resolved by the Lord's help to distribute Pesos 175,000.00 or \$87,500.00 U. S. Currency, worth of gospel filled literature during the year 1927. These Filipino leaders are carrying the burden of the work. They are heart and soul in the message. May God help our literature leaders in the Philippines to carry forward a strong spiritual literature ministry to the winning of many souls to the third angel's message.

Home Missionary Dept.—South China

R. M. MILNE

(Synopsis of report rendered by R. M. Milne, secretary of the Home Missionary Department of the South China Union, for the years 1925 and 1926, during the biennial session of the South China Union Mission, Canton, March 10-19, 1927)

"SO THE wall was finished in fifty and two days . . . for the people had a mind to work." "And they that were scattered abroad went everywhere, preaching the word." Thus was the message of truth "proclaimed throughout the world."

These two passages of scripture should give us courage as we view our home missionary prospects for the coming biennial term.

Hitherto hath the Lord wonderfully blessed, notwithstanding our feeble efforts. Many more churches are following the home missionary programs to-day than were following these in former years. Our reports, also, are increasing in number. In the Harvest Ingathering efforts the Lord has given us bountiful rewards. The plan of raising funds for special named projects, seems to bring good results. Besides, there is a stimulus attending the raising of funds for helping enterprises close by one's own immediate environment.

In South Fukien a new road was surveyed, which cut off part of our church building, making necessary the tearing down and rebuilding of our chapel structure. As no mission money was available, the members and workers set about the task of obtaining the needed amount. They called on the magistrate, who gave \$1,000 Mex. The general of that district likewise added his name for \$1,000 Mex. Insofar as we know, these are the largest single offerings ever made in our Union for strictly church purposes.

Of the \$7,300 Mex. being expended on the long-needed Swatow church and school, \$2,500 Mex. was raised by members in their own city,—much of this having been subscribed by themselves. In Cantonese Mission the brethren have fixed \$2,000 Mex. as the amount for which they are now working to raise; and prior to the close of the year 1926, \$1,483.12 of the amount named, had already been received.

During the past two years increasingly large numbers of tracts have been used; but we could do far more in this line. Were we to distribute "a tract a day" for every member, we would be using 865,000 a year.

An encouraging advance is being made by the Y. P. M. V. societies. The Women's Department of our Union Mission has contributed largely to our total figures for the past term.

Let us resolve to follow the injunctions of Holy Scripture and of the Spirit of prophecy, and do more than ever before to bring many souls to Christ while probation lingers.

Our Far Eastern Division Big Week Goal: \$10,000 Gold

Far Eastern Division Outlook

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中華郵政特准掛號認爲新聞紙類

The annual meeting of the Far Eastern Division Committee is to be held in Shanghai, China, according to appointment, D. V.

The temporary closing down of China Missionary Junior College and of the (Chinese) Signs of the Times Publishing House, is an emergency measure to tide these institutions over a crisis, and to conserve facilities and resources for continuing the work of God in China in a strong way when conditions warrant the resumption of the usual processes or the adoption of special measures to meet special needs. The suspension of certain lines of endeavor that cannot be followed now because of war conditions in the interior, is not in any wise a cessation of efforts to advance the cause of God in every possible way still open for us to pursue with success.

The Chinese church paper is to be continued uninterruptedly. Other periodicals, the issuance of which has been suspended for the moment, will be dealt with at the time of the Spring Council. Meanwhile, ample stocks of books, pamphlets, and tracts are available for the immediate filling of all orders that may be received.

Statistics for Fourth Quarter 1926

Notwithstanding war conditions, statistical returns have been received from every portion of the Far Eastern Division for the fourth quarter of 1926. This closes the record of the year that has passed.

The figures for the fourth quarter include several items that are not often seen in quarterly reports. One of these is the baptismal total of 1,091 for the three-month period. The net gain in church-members during the quarter, was 944, which brings the church membership for the Division to 19,472. The Sabbath-school membership stood at 26,173 at the close of the year. The day-school enrollment has been lessened by nearly 1,300, and is now listed as 7,065.

For gains made during the closing months of last year, we thank the Lord of the Harvest. Many of the laborers are undertaking larger and still larger things for God during 1927.

The annual statistical summaries, with comparative tables showing progress through the years, will be published in a forthcoming issue of the Outlook, as soon as conditions in Shanghai may permit of seeing such work through the press. c.

Arrivals

Recent arrivals include Brother and Sister G. S. Luther, returning April 7 for another term of service. Brother Luther has been asked to serve as manager of the Shanghai Sanitarium. Brother and Sister Luther were accompanied by Miss Edith I. McLachlin, transferred from the General Conference offices in Washington, D. C., to the Far Eastern Division as office assistant in the publishing department.

Departures

On furlough, Pastor and Mrs. L. D. Warren, of the Philippine Union, passing through Shanghai April 2; Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Skull and children, Mrs. S. H. Lindt and children, Mrs. J. A. Guild and child, of the China Missionary Junior College, sailing from Shanghai April 4; Pastor and Mrs. H. J. Doolittle and son Lloyd, of the East China Union, April 4; Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Knowles and child, of the Shanghai Sanitarium, returning to the home land on April 9; Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Gregory and children, of South Chekiang, from Shanghai April 7.

Strange Days in China

For months our workers from abroad who are laboring in various provinces of China, have had large hope of remaining at their stations despite anti-Christian and other adverse movements sweeping over the land. So strong was the determination of many to continue their work in the interior uninterrupted, that recent events culminating in the enforced evacuation of entire provinces by all foreigners, have come as a series of sad surprises.

The far-reaching nature of certain forces now in active operation, had not been fully realized by some; while others who had been able to comprehend more of the gravity of the situation, still hoped they might be allowed to continue at their posts. Some who remained to the very last, including most of those in Nanking, barely escaped with their lives, and have suffered the loss of all their personal effects. For God's care over His own, we praise Him with gladness of heart. His providences have never been more unmistakably miraculous, than during the past few weeks while our workers have been meeting crisis after crisis in their fields and enroute to seaports.

Not all the provinces have been affected alike, but present indications are that during the next few months many perplexities will be arising even in Chihli, Fukien, Manchuria, and Shantung, where our men have all been remaining.

It is in order to avoid international complications, and prevent if possible the bringing of unnecessary trouble between China and the countries from which our mission workers have come, that our laborers from abroad who have been stationed in the interior, have left for a time. They plan to return at the earliest possible moment. The larger number have come into Shanghai, all our workers from West China, Central China, and East China being in our mission compounds in this city; a few have come into Hongkong; some of the women and children from Fukien went to Manila. Among those who have come, are some whose furloughs are due shortly; these have been encouraged to take their furloughs as soon as proper bookings can be arranged, in order to be ready to return for field service as soon as conditions in the interior are sufficiently improved to allow of this. Language classes have been formed for the study of the vernaculars. Spiritual meetings are being held daily, led by Brethren Griggs and Lee. On the fourth of April the workers met several times, the entire day having been made a season of fasting and praying, that God might overrule in the councils of the nations, and bring to China peace and prosperity, with freedom to preach the Gospel. c.

A Visit from President W. E. Nelson

Various of our missions in the Far East have had the privilege of greeting Professor and Mrs. W. E. Nelson, of the Pacific Union College, Angwin (near St. Helena), California, U. S. A. The Unions already visited are Japan, Chosen, Manchuria, North China. Following the Spring Council in Shanghai, Brother and Sister Nelson will proceed to Malaysia and the Philippines, their sailing date for the return to the States (July 2 from Shanghai) having been arranged to permit of the visit to the Singapore School.

BORN, March 25, 1927, in Shanghai, to Professor and Mrs. C. A. Carter, of China Missionary Junior College, a daughter, Lenora Mae Carter.

Notice—Annual Meeting of the Far Eastern Division Committee

The annual meeting of the Far Eastern Division of the General Conference Committee, usually spoken of as "The Spring Council," is appointed for April 15-25, 1927, at the Press Chapel, 17 Ningkuo Road, Shanghai, China. The first meeting is called for 8:30 a. m., Friday, April 15. All members of the Far Eastern Division of the General Conference Committee are expected to be present in time for the opening meeting.

(Signed) I. H. Evans, Chairman
C. C. Crisler, Secretary

Notice—Annual Meeting of the Signs of the Times Publishing House

The annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the Signs of the Times Publishing House is called for April 13, 1927, at 9:00 a. m., in the Press Chapel. At this meeting the financial report of the institution, together with report of the manager and superintendent, will be presented.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES
PUBLISHING HOUSE
W. P. Henderson, Manager

Notice—Annual Constituency and Board Meeting of the Shanghai Sanitarium and Hospital

Notice is hereby given of the annual constituency and board meeting of the Shanghai Sanitarium and Hospital, called to convene at the Press Chapel, 17 Ningkuo Road, Shanghai, China, at 2 p. m., April 13, 1927, at which time annual reports will be rendered and the usual business transacted.

The Constituency of the Shanghai Sanitarium and Hospital includes (1) The members of the Far Eastern Division Executive Committee; (2) all accredited Seventh-day Adventist physicians in the Far East; (3) seven others, as follows: Mrs. R. W. Paul, K. H. Wood, O. G. Erich, the assistant manager (ex officio), Miss Tillie E. Barr, D. E. Rebok, Miss L. Ruth Stickney.

(Signed) I. H. Evans, Chairman
C. C. Crisler, Secretary

Notice—Annual Constituency Meeting of the China Missionary Junior College

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of the China Missionary Junior College calls a meeting of the Directors for April 12, 1927, in the Press chapel in Shanghai at 9 a. m. All members are urged to be present for the transaction of such business as should properly come before the Board at its annual meeting.

I. H. Evans, Chairman
D. E. Rebok, Secretary

Postponement of East China Union Biennial Session

The biennial session of the East China Union, appointed for April 1-10, has been postponed indefinitely, as present conditions make the holding of such a meeting in this part of China impracticable.