

Thirteenth Sabbath Offering

March 29, 1913

Korea: School, Dormitory, and Hospital, \$6,500 needed.

Philippines: Mission Headquarters and Meeting Hall in Manila, \$4,000 needed.

The surplus will go to the missionary work in these fields.



THE FIRST KOREAN SABBATH KEEPERS

This leaflet should be divided into five-minute exercises,
and read in every Sabbath-school.

WHY?

(To be placed on the blackboard)

Why should I give money to save heathen abroad when there are heathen in our own country to save?

Why should I give money to save those in other parts of the Union Conference when there are needy ones in my own conference?

Why should I give to those in other parts of the conference when there are needy in my own neighborhood?

Why should I give to the needy in the neighborhood when my own church needs money?

Why should I give to the church when my own family wants it?

Why should I give to my family what I want myself?

Why?

Because I am a Christian: not a heathen.

A Blaze of Light in Korea

KOREA, the "hermit nation," the land of mystery and of demon dancers, until quite recently one of the darkest and least known countries, is hearing the advent warning.

Korea tried to shut itself away from the world, like a hermit in his hut. Its coasts were patrolled to keep out the foreigner. Cities and villages were laid in ruins along the Manchurian border in order to make a wide waste, more easily guarded. But the day of opening doors came, and Korea's long-barred gates were swung ajar. Protestant missionaries entered the land in 1884.

The Leadings of Providence

A missionary in Manchuria sent a Chinese servant to the border towns to seek for a Korean who would teach him the language. It was a hard quest, for Korean laws forbade such intercourse with foreigners. One day a Korean merchant had his barge of goods sunk in the Yalu River, and landed on the Manchurian side a ruined man. Just then the missionary's servant arrived, still looking for a teacher. The merchant engaged himself secretly, and the result was the translation of the New Testament into Korean. Another providential "accident" then brought a Korean to set the type. In the process, the typesetter became a Christian. Before ever the full Testament was brought out, this man was set free to go back to his native valley in north-western Korea with a supply of the Gospel of Luke and a few tracts. He came back with the books all sold, and word that people wanted baptism. His story was not credited; and again he was sent out to other valleys with the printed Gospels. Ere long wandering Koreans brought word to Mukden that many people in Korea were praying to the "God of heaven." Then the missionaries scaled the mountain passes and entered these valleys. Scores were found anxious for baptism, and hundreds were reading the Scriptures and praying. Later came the

opening of the country, and fruitful mission work was begun in Seoul, the capital.

How We Were Called to Korea

In May, 1904, a Korean passing through Kobe, Japan, stopped to study a sign written in Japanese and Chinese characters: "Meeting Hall of the Seventh-day Adventist Church." A brother within saw the stranger, and beckoned him to enter. That friendly wave of the hand brought the first Korean Sabbath-keeper to the study of the advent message. It was a silent conversation, for they could talk only by writing in Chinese characters on a slate. Again the Korean came, bringing a younger man. Both were Christians, hungry for more light, and the truths of this message captivated their hearts. The last study, which was on baptism, lasted till midnight. The older man was to sail in the morning, and with tears our first two Korean Sabbath-keepers begged for immediate baptism. By the light of paper lanterns, after midnight, they were buried in baptism in a pool below the Nunobiski Falls,—the older to go on to Hawaii; the younger to return to Korea, and returning, he taught the message to all who would hear.

Then came this message to Kobe, our headquarters in Japan:—

"*Dear Brother:* When you read this hasten to take a boat and come to us. In your letter you wrote that you can not understand our language; but if God is with you, why need you fear?"

Then our Kobe preacher, Brother Kuniya, went over, and later Professor F. W. Field, then director of the Japanese mission, followed. Seventy-one persons were baptized in the brief fortnight's visit, four churches were organized, and the Sabbath truth was "spreading like a blaze."

Since that time additional workers have been sent, and the work has rapidly grown. Headquarters are established at Seoul, and a printing press is in operation. A school for boys and one for girls is being conducted at Soonan.

The Great Present Need

The urgent need in Korea is facilities for the training of native laborers. The equipment of our training school at Soonan is of paramount importance. Elder I. H. Evans, writing of the need says: "A new school building, with a chapel capacity for one hundred fifty students, and adequate recitation rooms for both boys and girls, is greatly needed. A suitable dormitory for the girls is also a crying necessity.

"Dr. Russell and his wife still continue the dispensary work in their cramped quarters, without any additional facilities in the way of room, which they so greatly need. On the very place where we had hoped to see a little hospital, the Japanese have built three small houses, in one of which a Japanese doctor lives. About twenty-five hundred patients a year receive treatment in our dispensary, and this number could easily be doubled if Dr. Russell could give more time to this work. We sorely need a small building for a hospital, where suitable treatments could be given."

Our Opportunity

Now is *our* opportunity. What will each Sabbath-school do towards helping the work in this heathen land? It is the highest privilege to have a part in it.

LIKE flaming beacons, the providences of God in the darkest and uttermost parts of the earth, flash the signal to arise now to the finishing of the work. Not long years of waiting for entrance or for fruitage have we now before us. The Holy Spirit is being poured out upon thirsty souls. Swiftly the final message of "the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus" is speeding to every tongue and tribe. "A short work will the Lord make upon the earth."

Our Boys' School in Korea

H. M. LEE

WE are indeed thankful that it has become our turn to benefit in the liberality of our Sabbath-schools throughout the world in a special donation. Although our school work here at Soonan, Korea, has been greatly blessed by the means from the home land, so much remains undone and half done, that we welcome the prospect of more help. Not only are we missionaries glad, but the Koreans, and especially the students, are thankful. Since the Sabbath-school donations on the thirteenth Sabbath of the first quarter of 1913 will be spent here in Korea, we who are here naturally feel anxious that it be a large one.

At our general meeting of believers held last June, we planned that this special donation be used to erect much-needed buildings for our school at Soonan. In that case a brief description of our circumstances will not be out of place. One who knows the condition and needs of a work is stirred to be more liberal.

Our school year, 1912-13, opened August 21 with forty boys and twenty girls present. Most of these come from homes which know not God and the truth for this time, only as their sons and daughters have learned it here and taught them. The great thing that draws them to us is that our school offers them an opportunity to work for board and tuition. Being poor and having no ready resources, they are glad to embrace the opportunity of obtaining an education.

This present term we are having many more applications to enter than we are able to accommodate with room. At least twenty boys have come urging their desire to work and study in our school. But our boys' dormitory is limited to thirty-five students, and if you could see how crowded they live you would think that number altogether too many for the space. At night they roll up in their blankets and sleep on the

floor, occupying the space from end to end of the room. The floor, being warmed by the fire which cooks their food, is quite comfortable, and in winter it is their only means of keeping warm.

We are in great need of more dormitory room for those who are already in attendance, and to make it possible to accommodate some of the many who wish to enter.

Our farm of forty acres supplies work for at least twice as many students as we have. But having no place to house them, we are extremely limited. We are sorry for this, because these Korean young men need the training we can give them and the cause of truth needs them to help in the preaching of it to all Korea.

We are anxious, too, for a new schoolhouse. Our present one was built some six years ago in Korean style, and is now too small for us. We have had to divide the rooms and re-divide in order to make room for increasing classes. Not only do the classes increase in size but also in number. At present we have classes of seven and twelve students reciting in rooms only eight by twelve feet in size. The walls are thin, and doors of paper. So the talking in one room is distinctly heard in another, much to the hindrance of good work. So we need a new schoolhouse for our boys' school.

These remarks in regard to dormitory and schoolroom apply to our girls' school also. Only they have to live and go to school in the same rooms, which makes good work difficult to perform.

Our Korean brethren are doing their best to help realize our plan of erecting these needed buildings in 1913. Therefore, we pray and hope that this offering will be sufficient for our needs. We pray that the Sabbath-school offering may prove a blessing to the ones who give and to those who receive.

Soonan, Korea.

The Need of Buildings for Our School for Girls

HELEN MAY SCOTT

FIVE years ago school work opened up here in Korea. From the first we have had the humblest accommodations. The girls attending our school have lived continually in Korean houses, and have shifted from one to another of these. One time the strange sounds of cracking were heard which occur before a building collapses. The students could not sleep for fright, and during recitations at the sound of a cracking noise every student would spring from the house into the court outside. The students were then moved to other buildings.

The conditions now, though a little better, are by no means suitable for conducting a school. For the girls we have four small buildings, somewhat separated, so it is difficult to keep track of them. These houses are made of mud with a mat of straw thrown over the top for roof. The mud walls and floor become very damp and mold unless a fire is kept under the floor, and even then they are often moldy in places.

These houses that the girls live in are also used for our school, the time of day only determining whether for dining room, bed-room or schoolroom. The floor, too, serves for beds, tables, chairs and desks. There is not room for furniture. The students are limited to the number that lying side by side can find sleeping space on the floor.

Under the conditions the students have kept remarkably cheerful and have shown an excellent spirit. All over the country the government is putting up good, well-equipped buildings, but the loyal ones here as elsewhere are willing to endure privations in order to get a Christian education.

But it is not profitable for us to be always thus handicapped and cramped. We need a

dormitory, a dry, light place with rooms where the students can live and be looked after. We need a schoolhouse where cooking, washing and all things pertaining to domestic life are not done. We need a place big enough so we can have an



TWO OF THE GIRL'S IN ATTENDANCE AT THE
SCHOOL AT SOONAN

industrial department that these girls may learn a trade whereby they can help support themselves while in school.

Now that an effort is to be put forth by our Sabbath-schools to raise money so these needed buildings can be erected, we pray that God will help all to see our great need and lead them to give, that soon in Korea there may be a suitable place to prepare laborers to go forth and help finish the work.

Soonan, Korea.

Korea

1. KOREA comprises the peninsula lying between Japan and Chinese Asia. It is sometimes called the "Hermit Kingdom."

2. The name now given to the country as a province of Japan is "Chosen," meaning "Morning Calm."

3. It is about 700 miles in length. The area is about 84,000 square miles, or about the size of the State of Minnesota.

4. The population is about 12,000,000. Buddhism and Confucianism are the prevailing religions.

5. The climate is not unlike that of the Eastern States. Seoul, the capital, is about the same latitude as Richmond, Va.

6. The clothing worn is almost always white. The trousers are large and baggy. A long cotton ulster is always worn, except by those at work. Sometimes bright colors are worn also.

7. The Korean is yellow in complexion, black-haired, well-built, about five and one-half feet in stature on an average, high forehead, high cheek bones, and easy going disposition.

8. Mentally, the Koreans compare favorably with the Japanese and Chinese. They have an eagerness to learn, and are earnest and faithful after they become Christians.

9. The homes are rude huts of earth and straw, except the homes of the wealthy, which are constructed of stone, with tile roofing. The houses have no floors or windows, and are cheerless and comfortless. There are no sanitary provisions, and disease takes off many thousands.

10. The principal article of food is rice. Fish is sometimes eaten raw.

11. Each year a child has a birthday cake, and they count their years by the number of cakes they have eaten. A child seven years old would say, "I have eaten seven cakes."

Our Work in the Philippine Islands

The Beginning

It was in 1905 that Robert Caldwell, of Australia, began canvassing in Manila, Philippine Islands. In December of that same year Elder E. H. Gates visited the Islands; and in March, 1906, Elder J. L. McElhany and wife, then laboring in Australia, were invited to open evangelistic work in the group, beginning their work also in Manila. After laboring some time, they were compelled to leave, and Elder L. V. Finster and wife, of Australia, in 1908 came to continue the work, remaining until the summer of 1912, when they too were compelled to leave for a more favorable climate on account of Sister Finster's health.

In 1908 Robert Caldwell, having spent some time in China and elsewhere, with his wife returned to the Philippines, where he has since labored in the book work, having canvassed during these four years in eleven provinces. At the time of the last General Conference, 1909, the Philippine Islands were transferred from the direction of the Australasian Union Conference to the Asiatic Division.

In November, of 1911, Elder Elbridge M. Adams and family, and Brother Floyd Ashbaugh, a book worker of some experience, all of California, sailed for the Philippines, where they are having most excellent success in giving the message by preaching and the sale of truth-filled books.

The Firstfruits

As the result of the combined labors of the workers up to May, 1911, when Elder I. H. Evans visited the field, a church of twenty-two members was organized in Manila, twelve dear believers at this time going down into the ocean to be buried with their Lord in baptism.

The Common People Hear the Word Gladly

Splendid results have attended the preaching of the third angel's message in the Islands. At the time of Elder Evans' visit, Brother Finster was conducting regularly a meeting each evening in different parts of the city, at which deep interest was manifested by the common people to hear the word of God explained. One of these meetings was held in the kitchen of a native house. There was no floor. The dim light of the small lamp was barely bright enough to read by. Seats were brought from the neighboring houses, and men and women and children came to hear the word of God. Men with pipes in their mouths and women with cigarettes, even a few of the children, were smoking. "And yet from that group," Elder Evans says, "of men and women most of whom were ignorant of the kingdom of God, who knows but there may be souls saved in the kingdom? When the meeting began, they reverently took off their hats, and one by one the cigarettes and pipes were taken from their mouths, and they listened to the explanations of the word of God with an interest that was in marked contrast to what we often see in the homeland. Never has a series of meetings been held here but some one has given his heart to the Lord."

Only a Small Portion of the Islands Touched

In August, 1911, a letter was received from Brother Finster, stating that our Sabbath-keepers in the Philippines are all in Manila and its vicinity. He said:—

"Our books have reached but a small part of the Islands. All the southern islands have not been touched. Paya, Cebu, Negros, Rohol, and some of the others are very densely populated, and are the most wealthy. Many different languages are spoken on these islands. In Luzon we have some six or eight different languages."

Some Interesting Incidents

At that time the little church in Manila had grown to thirty-seven members. In speaking of itinerating work, Brother Finster gives this little interesting experience:—

“Some months ago I was holding an open-air meeting in a Catholic town. During the service a rain came on, and as the people did not wish the meeting to be broken up, they invited me to the billiard hall and offered me the billiard table for a pulpit. At the close of the services, two men told me that they were going to obey the Lord and keep his commandments. They have stood firm to their convictions, and from this small beginning I had the privilege of a week ago baptizing seven dear souls. There are many others interested.”

Appeals for Help

In a letter written the first of November, 1912, Elder E. M. Adams, in speaking of the progress of the work in the Philippines and the earnestness manifested by the believers, says:—

“I am glad to be able to report an encouraging outlook in the work here. The workers seem to be moved with the sense of the responsibility of the work and the importance of the message. It does my heart good to hear them offering up earnest prayers in behalf of the work. I wish that you could visit us and see our little company of earnest workers. I think that it is not possible for any one to realize the opportunity that is awaiting us now in this field unless he has been here. It makes me sad when I see the full-ripe grain falling to the ground unharvested. There is an opportunity now, just now, that we will not long have. I do not speak in general of the work, but specifically of this field. Coming out of dense darkness and gross ignorance suddenly, as the Filipino has, he is ready to grasp the first thing that comes along promising advancement. There are several of our young men

in the city of Washington, D. C., eagerly seeking for knowledge. The reason that they are so thirsty is because they have been without a drink for so long a time. The Spanish either banished, imprisoned or killed a man whom they suspected of intelligence. We ought to have at least five families immediately to plant the seeds of truth in this sowing time for this people. I fear that much will be lost if we do not enter this field with an increased force soon."

As a message to the week of prayer, the last of 1911, Elder Finster sent greetings from the first church of Seventh-day Adventists in the "Pearl of the Orient," in these words, which still constitute an earnest appeal:—

"The Manila church desire at this season of prayer to express our thanks to God and their appreciation to you for sending to them the third angel's message, calling them out of darkness into its marvelous light. A new hope has sprung up in our hearts, and we with you are striving to prepare for the coming King. But, brethren, how can we expect to enter into that kingdom ourselves, numbering only sixty-two, and leave behind, unwarned, nine millions of our brothers for whom Christ died? So we earnestly solicit a share in your prayers and offerings, that the good news may be carried quickly to our fellow-countrymen."

WILL the eyes of the church ever be opened before the harvest is past? Angels are engaged in this work, and are so interested in the salvation of man that they would gladly do the work given to us to do. As for those made a little lower than the angels, many are concerned more about the price of cotton, the rise and fall of stock markets, the cut of their clothes, or the next social function than the souls of the lost, while a sobbing nation stretches out pleading hands and a loving Lord holds out a crown of honor.

The Philippine Islands

1. THESE islands are the most northern group of the Malay Archipelago.

2. The group consists of 3,141 islands, most of which are small.

3. The total land area is 115,026 square miles, a little larger than the State of Arizona. The principal islands are Luzon, Mindanao, Samar, Negros, Panay, Palawan, Mindoro, Leyte, and Cebu.

4. The population is about 8,000,000.

5. The islands were discovered by Ferdinand Magellan in 1521; were conquered by the Spanish from Mexico under Legospi; Dec. 10, 1898, they were ceded to the United States.

6. The Roman Catholic religion predominates, with 270,000 Mohammedans, and 75,000 Buddhists.

“ONE of the earliest Christians in Korea, who joined in sending a message to an American missionary society for more help, prayed with his forehead in the dust that the eyes of the foreigners might be opened ‘to see the sore need of people in a land where no one knows anything, and where all believe in devils, and are dying in the dark.’”

“As news goes in Korea: ‘Rumor and hearsay are all the natives have to depend on, and the rapidity with which these fly is truly surprising. A postal express could scarcely outdo them.’ So will the ‘glad news’ fly in Eastern lands.”

“THE ordinary Korean Christian preaches to every one he meets along the road. If he falls in with a fellow traveller, he will immediately begin to tell him the news of salvation.”

The Call

An urgent call comes from Korea for funds to erect a school building and a hospital. The present school building cost only about four hundred dollars, and is wholly inadequate as a place to train workers. Surely a hospital is needed among the millions of this field. The modest sum of \$6,500 is asked for the school and hospital.

In the Philippine Islands a good beginning has been made, and the work is developing under the leadership of the faithful band of workers there. But the work demands a center—a headquarters. The estimated cost of this is \$4,000. A liberal donation on the thirteenth Sabbath will provide for both of these calls. The surplus will be used in missionary work in these fields.

Missionaries in Korea

ELDER C. L. BUTTERFIELD and wife, Elder W. R. Smith and wife, Dr. and Mrs. Riley Russell, H. M. Lee and wife, R. C. Wangerin and wife, Miss Mimi Scharffenberg, Miss May Scott, H. A. Oberg and wife, F. F. Mills.

Missionaries in the Philippines

ELDER L. V. FINSTER and wife, Elder E. L. Adams and wife, R. A. Caldwell and wife, F. Ashbaugh.

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