

NEWS-LETTER FOR THE ASIATIC

DIVISION

Volume 3

Shanghai, July 1, 1913

Letter IV

Word received from Washington on the evening of June 23, brought the sad word of the death of Brother G A Irwin, on May 24. Readers of the Bulletin will remember that Brother Irwin had a very serious illness on his way to the Conference. While visiting his sister in Mt Vernon, Ohio, he suffered an attack of heart failure, and for twenty minutes his pulse was so weak as to be undiscernible. However, he recovered sufficiently to attend the Conference, and was working on an important committee. The details concerning his death are very meager, but we understand that on the day before he died he was able to be up. We know that the many friends of Brother and Sister Irwin will remember his bereaved companion in this hour, and pray that she may have grace and comfort to endure this affliction.

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ASIATIC DIVISION NEWS

The East Indies

The following report from Brother R P Montgomery, of Singapore, reached us just too late for the last News-Letter:--

"The other day a good Chinese sister was telling us how she planned to save money for offerings. She said that she would have to pay a first-class ricksha seventy-five cents from her house to church, and forty-five cents for a second-class. She always takes the second, and thereby saves thirty cents every Sabbath. Her children, who can not understand her motive, try to persuade the old lady to take the first-class ricksha, telling her that it takes longer to go in the second-class, and is much harder riding. This sister has given a great deal to the work. Besides paying tithe and other offerings, she has to my knowledge given \$100 on two different occasions for special purposes.

"The work is progressing nicely in this part of the harvest-field. We are glad to have Pastor Detamore with us again after several weeks' absence in the islands, and to hear from him of the way the work is going forward in these places. It is expected that Brother and Sister Sharp, of Java, will reach us soon, and take up work in this field."

Brother F A Detamore sends the following concerning his visit to the interior of Sumatra:--

"Our trip was a very interesting one, and we trust it will prove a blessing to the work there. It took two days to make the journey, and Brother Judge was sick all the way. We thought his illness was due to malaria, but since receiving medical attention at home, he finds that it is typhoid. No doubt the goodness of God protected him, or it would have taken his life. We found our native Battak worker, Immanuel Siregar, sick with fever also, but after receiving some treatments, he was better. We spent two days with him.

"The whole country for miles around seems aroused over the message, and many inquiries were received concerning the truth. All soon learned that we had come to visit Immanuel, and we had no sooner come into the house than the room was filled with men. Crowds gathered on the outside, and tarried all day. On Sabbath quite a number came to ask questions about the truth. We were careful not to teach from the Bible, but asked them questions about what they believed, and found a good number keeping the Sabbath and in harmony with us on most points. Immanuel has no permission from the government to teach there, but went to sell literature. We advised him to apply for permission; but unless the Lord especially works for us, he will not get it; for the territory is divided among different denominations, and this portion is already occupied by an old man who has been there for years, and who bitterly protests against our work. We believe that those who are keeping the Sabbath are in earnest, and that they will still practice the truth, even if left alone, and that their light will shine to others. All of Immanuel's literature has been taken from him, and he has been forbidden even to answer the questions asked him. But God's message must go to all people, and man can not stop its progress; so we are looking to him for the needed wisdom to deal with this situation.

"Our meetings at Soerabaya and Batavia are prospering, and some are taking hold of the truth in each place. Fourteen have recently been baptized at Batavia, and others are keeping the Sabbath. At each of the above-named places a Chinese worker is needed who can speak both Chinese and Malay.

"On May 3 I arrived in Singapore, after an absence of two and one-half months, and found Brother Montgomery and his corps of workers of good courage. We have organized a Chinese class for the study of this language, and a nice company of young Chinese men and women are fitting themselves for the work. We shall be glad for their help at the earliest possible time, for the demand for this class of workers is increasing in all our field. We also hope for reinforcements from the home land at an early date, to take the oversight of fields that are calling earnestly for help.

"We are always glad to get the News-Letter, and to read of the progress of the work in other fields. Our prayers ascend daily for our fellow workers who are bearing the same blessed tidings that we are, and we know that our little band is not forgotten."

A later letter from Brother Detamore, written from Sandakan, Borneo, June 11, says:--

"Some recent changes have been made in the Malaysian Mission during the past month. Brother Montgomery, who has been acting as secretary and treasurer, and at the same time looking after the work in Singapore, has been released from that position in order that he might go to North British Borneo to open up and take charge of the work there. The place made vacant by this change has been filled by

Brother H E Sharp, who for some time has been teaching English in Java. We feel glad for this addition to our force. Sister Sharp will act as Sabbath-school secretary, which office was formerly filled by Sister Montgomery. Brother Chan, our oldest and most experienced Chinese worker, has been transferred from Singapore to North British Borneo to labor with Brother Montgomery. We also have the promise of another man from Australia, Brother J Van de Groep, to take the oversight of our book work in the whole field, and he will doubtless arrive in Singapore early in July. Each new recruit is a cause for rejoicing among the small company of earnest laborers, who are striving to hold up the light of present truth in the midst of the error and superstition of the millions in this Mohammedan land.

"It was my privilege recently to pay a second visit to Kuala Lumpur, in the Federated Malay States, where Brother Duckworth has been laboring for some months. Several meetings were held, which were attended mostly by Tamil people, and baptism was administered to Brother Duckworth's eldest son, and a Tamil brother, who is the first-fruits among the Tamils there. Others believe, and attend the meetings, and it is hoped that several will soon take a full stand for the truth.

"On May 31 the workers assigned to the North British Borneo field took ship from Singapore to Sandakan, where they will make their headquarters. There were eight of us in all, five in Brother Chan's family, Brother and Sister Montgomery, and myself. Two of Brother Chan's daughters remained in Singapore to help carry forward the interests there, and to continue to study the Chinese character with the little class that is being taught by Brother Phang Sin Siew. We had a very pleasant voyage of nearly eight days, stopping on the way at Labuan, Jesselton, and Kudat. At Jesselton we met several Sabbath-keepers, who are waiting for further instruction and for baptism. We arrived at Sandakan Sunday morning, June 8, where we were met by Brother Chan En Fook, who took us to his house to stay till the workers could find quarters of their own. Some five or more are keeping the Sabbath at this place, and we hope to see them soon developed in all phases of the message, and a strong church organized here.

"Houses are very scarce in Sandakan, and for a time it looked as if we would be unable to find one; but the Lord worked upon the hearts of two girls who were living together to move into the country to their estate, and rent their house to Brother Montgomery. It is a pleasant, roomy house, located above the city, in a spot freely swept by cool breezes. A nice spring of water is near at hand also. Brother Chan has rented a place near by, and all hands are now busy getting located in the new quarters. A Sabbath-school will be started in Brother Montgomery's house, and the two Chinese girls who own it have promised to attend.

"We trust that the Lord will greatly bless this new mission, and that many precious souls will be gathered to the kingdom of God. I expect to return to Singapore the latter part of June."

Brother Montgomery also writes from Sandakan, B. N. Borneo, June 11, as follows:--

"A short time before leaving Singapore it was our privilege to baptize three more persons. Two of these were boys, brought up in our Sabbath-school, twelve and sixteen years of age. The other was a ricksha man, who has been keeping the Sabbath for several months, and

whose manner of life is an evidence that Christ dwells in his heart. He is a very faithful old man, and does his work so cheerfully.

"May 31 we left Singapore on the German ship 'Marudu,' on our way to Sandakan, Borneo. It was hard for us to leave so many good Christian friends behind, but we are confident that God is calling us to this new field. Our first stop on the voyage was at Labuan, a small island and town belonging to the Straits Settlements. We also called at Jesselton and Kudat. At Jesselton we met Brother Wong and family, who have been keeping the Sabbath for some time, and seem to be well established in all points of truth. We arrived at Sandakan Sunday morning, and Brother En Fook, the first Sabbath-keeper in Borneo, to our knowledge, met us at the boat. It was but a few minutes till his father and mother, two sturdy old fisherfolk, were there to meet us and assist in getting our things off the boat. We went to their house, and after breakfast and prayer began to look for a house to rent, finally securing a pleasant little cottage, and moving in. We are very well pleased with our new field, and the prospects for the work here. There are six Sabbath-keepers in Sandakan, and we counted about six more in other places. Of course all these are not fully grounded on other points yet. Pray for the success of the work here."

Brother T J Roberts writes as follows, from Zee Straat, Padang:—

"As a result of the work done in this place, several of the people have given themselves to God, and for several weeks Brother Judge has held classes five times a week, giving instruction to those wishing to be baptized. On Thursday, March 20, Pastor Detamore arrived from Java. On the following Thursday, March 27, seven dear persons were baptized by Pastor Detamore; of these seven, five are young people, pupils in our school. On Sabbath morning, when Sabbath-school was over, a meeting was held. Pastor Detamore spoke on the unity of the church as a body with Christ as the head, and afterward a church was organized, with Brother Judge as elder. We all felt that the Spirit of God was present, uniting us in the fellowship of his dear Son. In the afternoon we celebrated the ordinances, and had a social meeting, in which all reconsecrated themselves to the Lord. Late in the same day Brethren Detamore and Judge left by boat for Battakland, to visit Brother Immanuel Siregar, and to consult concerning the work in that place. After a short stay, they returned to Padang, April 9. Early the next morning, Brother Detamore left for Java. Brother Judge, however, who was unwell before leaving, developed typhoid fever, and has since been ill.

"We are thankful to know that several in Battakland have already begun to keep the Sabbath. May God bless these people, and may many be gathered out from that land for the kingdom of our God."

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Korea

Dr Riley Russell writes, May 24: "One of our canvassers came into a little village on the banks of the Yalu about sunset, and soon the church-bell was rung, calling the believers to the meeting-house. The minister said, 'There is a very bad man in town; his name

is Song Young Soo. Do not buy anything of him or talk to him.' But a member spoke up and said, 'Pastor, you are mistaken. This man is a gentleman and a Christian; I know him. Why do you speak thus?' So at the close of the service about one hundred of the members hunted up our canvasser, and bought seventy papers and a copy of 'Daniel and Revelation.' One man paid one yen for his paper. Thus again was demonstrated how frail is the arm of man when he fights against God and his work."

Dr Russell writes again, June 3: "One of the hardest places that I have worked in Chosen is the town of Old Wiju, up on the Yalu River. We have never yet been able to rent or get a building that would seat more than seventy or eighty persons, and it is so windy that we are afraid to try our tent. Lately I rented a hall, a sort of theater, a new building, which would seat about five hundred, so we were jubilant, although we have learned not to be too certain about anything in the Orient. I paid the price (twenty-four yen for fifteen nights), and received the receipt; but when we arrived on the afternoon of the date specified, we found the house in use by others. We could not get it without a lawsuit, so we let it go. There is not another house in the place. However, we had studies five hours a day with the believers, and at the close of the effort baptized six precious souls in the Yalu River, where we could look over into the country of Manchuria's millions. We have baptized thirty-one this quarter in the north of Chosen. When we see the unsettled conditions, and hear the rumore around us, we wonder how long we shall be able to work peacefully, but we know God has set his hand to finish the work, and we desire to do our part, and triumph with it.

"The contractors (Chinese) are working on our school and dispensary buildings. We are making our brick on the ground, on mission land, and already have about fifty thousand brick made, and twenty-five thousand burned. The masons will begin work to-morrow."

From a personal letter from Brother Frank F Mills, of Seoul, Korea, we take the following:--

"I do not find much time for letter-writing. The work gets most of my attention, for of course I am anxious not to fail. I am longing for the time when I can read my own letters, and not have to depend on some one who does not know English very well. I am very happy in my work here, and feel that God is good to give me this place to labor for him. I would not think of giving up and going back home for anything. Korea is a fine country, yet of course it can not beat the land of the stars and stripes. I have gained quite a bit in weight, and find the climate agreeable. On the whole, I have nothing to complain of--except our printing-press. I do not wish harm to any one, but I do wish some one else had that old press to run instead of me. Try as hard as I can, I find it impossible to make it do good work. The half-tone work is very poorly done. We have just finished an edition of three thousand copies of 'Helps to Bible Study,' and are now starting in on an edition of 'Thoughts on Revelation.'

"All are well in Korea. Dr Russell is with us to-day, and will speak this evening on the subject, 'Fingers, Food, and Flies.' I should greatly enjoy understanding his talk, but will have to sit and listen, and imagine what he is saying. I expected to do so much

when I came, but I find that we have to go according to our strength and ability. I hope soon to be able to accomplish more than I can at present."

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China

Sister Eva Allum writes, April 28: "It is now some six weeks since we arrived in Australia, and so far I have had little chance of doing any letter-writing, as we have been from one place to another ever since we arrived. We have received the heartiest of welcomes from all our friends, and have had a lovely time. We are now living in Wahroonga, and will be here till my husband arrives, which will not be for another three months. . . . The different missionary societies are eager to hear news from China, and are very much interested in that field. We are all enjoying good health. We are just at the beginning of the winter, and the air is so bracing."

Brother J J Westrup writes from Yencheng, June 11:--

"I never saw the Lord's blessing so plainly on our work as I have for the last few months. Everything is moving smoothly and pleasantly on the foreign buildings, without the least friction so far. One building is finished, with the exception of doors and windows. The other house is half way up. We sent the masons home some ten days ago, as we had to wait for the carpenters. We can not get carpenters enough during the busy barley and wheat harvest. Hope to start the mason work again next week, so as to get it done before the great heat.

"After the public debate in the north, there is a mighty stir in that neighborhood. Many are sending to us for literature, and others are coming down to the Bible school which we intend to conduct during the summer. For about a month and a half the heat is so intense that it is unwise to travel, hence our workers can use their time to the best advantage by remaining here and studying this blessed truth; many others also have a chance to attend these classes. The colporters have carried the truth six hundred li west of us, where quite a number keep the Sabbath, and we have invited some of them to come to our Bible school. The message is also going now to the extreme north and east, and when God's time comes, it will go south, and then this province will surely have had a chance to hear this grand message.

"The barley and wheat crop has been real good, hence conditions are better here, though for a time it looked rather blue. The robbers are a terrible pest in this province, and have done more damage than several revolutions. We are completely surrounded by them. Last week they were very near us, so that I had to transfer all the money over to the chapel, where it was perhaps a little safer. I am confident that the angels encamp round about them that fear Him, and that God will surely protect his children. These perilous times help us to really pray. This is about the most precious lesson we can learn in this world, because when we have learned really to pray, we are able to draw down the blessings of Heaven, and thus connected with our dear Lord there is no limit to what we shall be able to accomplish in his name."

Brother F E Stafford made a brief visit to Hankow about the middle of May, stopping in Nanking on his return.

May 21 Mrs B Miller and son, Percy, left for Hankow, to spend a few weeks with Brother and Sister Frederick Lee.

Brother O A Hall made a short visit to Mokanshan June 1, to look after the mission property on the mountain. He found everything in fair condition.

Brother and Sister S G White and children arrived in Shanghai from Nanking June 11, en route to Mokanshan, for which place they left on June 16.

Born to Mr and Mrs Frederick Lee, June 11, 1913, a daughter, Anna Lillian, weighing ten and one-half pounds.

Brother C N Woodward left Shanghai June 12, to spend a few days in council with the workers in Hankow, expecting to be gone about two weeks.

Miss Olive Osborne came to Shanghai from Nanking June 4. She plans for a busy summer in language study, preparatory to her work in the training-school this fall.

Shanghai Notes

On the fifth of May a new chapel was added to our Shanghai station. Big crowds of people came in on the opening day. Since then we have held meetings twice a week, and Bible studies also twice a week. Two men belonging to another mission attend the Bible studies regularly. One is a druggist (Chow), and the other a school-teacher (Lo). The latter has already been keeping the Sabbath with his wife and children. He is so zealous that whenever opportunity affords, he will go several miles to give the message to some one, no matter how early or late. As soon as the minister of his mission learned that this man had begun keeping the Sabbath, he told him that the mission would employ a new teacher in the school if he did not come back and keep Sunday. But the answer is, "Whether you can use me or not, you must decide, but I must obey the Lord." Finding him determined to keep the Sabbath, his former pastor notified him that he was discharged on the twentieth of June, but that his salary for July would be allowed. Also he was to vacate the school-house before the twentieth. On the seventeenth Mr Lo went to see the minister for the June salary and the allowance. The minister said to him: "Well, Mr Lo, you get money from us, and preach doctrines of other

faith, which we do not believe or practice." Mr Lo answered him: "I get my salary only for teaching the school, as you know; you did not employ me as a preacher. I keep Sabbath because we are commanded to do so." The minister interrupted him by saying that he could not expect to get any money from him. But Mr Lo said, "Surely, I do not want your own money, but what I get is from the fund entrusted to you. I realize all money comes from God." Without hesitation the minister said, "Well, you go and get your money from God now;" then he went away, leaving Mr Lo alone. As Mr Lo started for home, a rain-storm came, preventing his going, so he had to pass the night on a bench near a corner of the house, suffering from mosquito bites all the night. The next morning Mr Lo went up to see the minister again, and asked him if he felt good in thus treating his fellow worker, whom he discharged, not because of any bad conduct found in him, but because he desired to obey God. The minister said, "You can come and get your June salary on the twentieth, but the rest depends on how you prove yourself. If you do not teach our church-members to keep Sabbath, we will pay you; otherwise we will not."

I thank God because he has given this man wisdom and strength in time of trial. He is happy in the Lord, and of good courage in the truth. Dr Selmon and I give him Bible studies several times a week, and Mrs Gillis and Mrs Lee study occasionally with Mrs Lo. They are now staying in a village near our headquarters. I earnestly pray and hope the Lord will bless this family, that they may be firm in the truth and become faithful witnesses for the soon-coming Saviour.

C M Lee.

Brother F E Stafford hands us the following, June 23, for the News-Letter:--

"On Tuesday afternoon, June 10, a joint meeting of the East Shanghai and Shanghai church constituency was held at the North Honan Road chapel, Shanghai, to organize the Kiangsu Province Mission. An operating policy was adopted, in accordance with the outline laid out by the Asiatic Division Committee last November, and it was decided to hold a general meeting of all the workers in the Kiangsu province in September, at which time plans will be laid for broadening the work, and bringing the knowledge of the third angel's message to all within this province. At the conclusion of the afternoon meeting, supper was served to Chinese visiting brethren by the members of the Shanghai church, and in the evening a most excellent talk was given by Pastor Selmon on the principles of church organization. This was followed by a testimony meeting, many of the brethren giving good testimonies, stating their desire to consecrate their lives to the proclamation of this message.

"As a result of our winter's campaign we have some eight or ten who are now preparing for baptism, and we expect to hold baptism on next Sabbath, June 28, at the baptistery in the grounds of the publishing-house, after which the ordinances will be celebrated."

Medical Missionary Work in China

The last of March Mrs Selmon and I left Shanghai for a trip to our mission station in Ying Shang, a city in the province of Anhui, seven days' journey to the northwest of Shanghai. Our mission work there is in charge of a Chinese evangelist, Brother C D Han, and his wife. We reached this place April 2. Before the baggage coolies had brought all of our baggage from the boat, a couple of sick ~~people~~ came for help. They had heard we were coming, and some days before our arrival they had come in from their homes in the country, a distance of more than ten miles.

Upon arriving, a room ten feet long by eight feet wide was fitted up for a temporary dispensary, and here we cared for the sick every afternoon from two till five. During the remaining hours of the day we conducted for eight days a general meeting of all the Sabbath-keepers in that section. Before this general meeting, a trip was made to the two out-stations, and at its close we had a three weeks' Bible institute. After closing the Bible institute the forenoons were spent teaching in our church-school and in drilling the Chinese teacher in modern methods.

It was some days before the report of our arrival became noised abroad to any extent. There was also a downpour of rain for eight days that made the roads impassable, so that our little dispensary was open only three hours a day for five weeks.

Every case was examined and treated by either Mrs Selmon or myself. It was our purpose to do the best that could be done under the circumstances for every case that came for help, rather than to run through a large number of cases with a snapshot diagnosis and a dose of epsom salts for treatment,--a method that is not so very uncommon in medical work where such large numbers are treated. In this experience we found that much of the treating of cases could have been done by trained assistants working under our direction, so that with a dispensary properly fitted up and a corps of trained assistants, we could easily have cared for four or five times as many cases every afternoon as we were enabled to care for under the circumstances.

As the cases came they paid an examination fee of fifty cash (about two cents United States money), and were given a numbered slip. We are obliged to hold quite rigidly to the payment of this fee. Of course exception is made in the case of those who are really sick and can not pay even this small sum. Where no examination fee is charged, crowds of idlers come and simply consume time. Out of a hundred Chinese it will barely be possible to find more than four or five who do not have some sort of a "bing" (disease). The chronic grumblers are very keen on coming to the foreign doctor for an examination and advice, but they are seldom willing to part with a cash for any treatment that may be required, and in case medicine is given to them, they may throw it away or sell it to some one else supposed to be suffering with a similar malady. After paying the examination fee the patients wait in the chapel where an evangelist and a Bible woman are either preaching or conversing with them.

During the five weeks two hundred fifty-nine different persons were treated. This number is exclusive of the several hundred who came with itch and ordinary malaria. There were many of these cases, and they came at all hours of the day, and were usually looked after by the Chinese assistant, so no record was kept of them.

A large number of these sick people came back the second time, and some had to return several times. There were in all two hundred sixteen returns, making a total of four hundred seventy-five dispensary cases. The total receipts were \$55.46 Mexican (\$27.73 U. S.). The original cost of drugs and dispensary supplies used was \$15.50 Mexican. The average intake for the four hundred seventy-five cases (i. e., new cases plus returns), was eleven and seven-tenths cents Mexican for each call at the dispensary.

The microscope is a sine qua non in diagnosing many of the diseases prevalent in the tropics, and during these five weeks sixty microscopic examinations were made. Twelve of these were examinations of blood, fourteen of pus, thirty-two of feces, and two of skin parasites. Of the two hundred fifty-nine persons treated, one hundred fifty-nine were males and one hundred females. It should not be taken from this that there are fewer Chinese women who need medical attention than there are men, for the reverse is actually the case. The fact that there were not as many or more women than men, was due to the difficulty the women have in traveling far on their bound feet, and the callousness and indifference displayed in regard to their suffering on the part of the husbands and fathers, so that very little trouble is expended in helping them get to the dispensary.

In the treating of diseases peculiar to women there is, in China, certainly a unique opportunity presented to the woman medical missionary. China has a superabundance of quack doctors, but, fortunately for the women, they are all men; and Chinese custom does not allow them to do more than feel the pulse of a sick woman and make out a prescription. The result is that there is no one who even professes to be able to cure the women and so they do not even dream that there is any help for them, but suffer patiently year after year with conditions that can easily and quickly be relieved by modern methods of treatment. The condition of many of the Chinese women who came to the dispensary, shows that they are sufferers probably beyond that of the women of any other land, with the possible exception of India.

The widespread prevalence of disease in China should not lead to the conclusion that the climate is especially unfavorable to health, for, taking the country as a whole, climatic conditions are as good as will be found in any other nation of this size. But the people, old and young, high and low, are ignorant, and densely so, of the simplest principles of hygiene and the nature and treatment of disease. No thought has been taken in the past by the government for the physical welfare of this countless number of human beings. Very recently there has arisen some agitation along this line among the leaders of the new China, but the task can only be accomplished by the education of some four hundred millions of people.

The principal diseases met with in this list of cases, in the order of their frequency are,—affections of the eye, parasitic skin diseases, malaria, infections and abscesses, female pelvic diseases, tuberculosis, ear cases, leg ulcers, intestinal parasites, digestive disturbances, syphilis, bronchitis. The order of frequency of some of these classes of cases would of course vary greatly depending both upon the locality and the season of the year. There are numerous cases of tumors, stone in the bladder, heart lesions, and in fact most of the ordinary cases met with in a general dispensary were included in the list, together with several of the

diseases peculiar to the tropics, such as beri-beri, kala-azar, elephantiasis, and certain parasitic skin diseases.

Thirty of the two hundred fifty-nine persons examined were afflicted with conditions that required a major surgical operation. Many of these pleaded with us to operate; but as we had no place nor proper equipment, we advised them to go to a Presbyterian hospital, eighty miles to the east of Ying Shang. It is safe to say that at most not more than two of the thirty will be able to go.

In the estimation of results accruing from such a work as is mentioned above, it should be stated at the outset that the most fruitful medical work, judged from the number who are led in a short time to accept the gospel, is that carried on in a hospital. In a hospital the cases are resident for some time, and can not but see and hear the gospel daily. Many of them having been helped physically after they had given up all hope are quite ready to listen and learn more of the doctrine that leads people to do for others what the doctors and nurses have done for them. Nevertheless, any line of efficient medical missionary work results in a kindly feeling on the part of the general populace toward the missionary and his work. They come to look upon the medical missionary as one who helps people. The influence on some individuals of the help they have received from a visit to the dispensary is sometimes very marked. Many, seeking for relief from physical suffering, will come into a gospel hall to see the doctor, who have publicly vowed they would die rather than enter a "Yesu tang" (Jesus hall). In some cases those of other missions who have heard nothing but evil reports of us and our work are, through coming to our dispensary, brought into contact with us and get a glimpse of the spirit of our work. And as we can personally testify from experiences met with in the past, their call at the dispensary marks the beginning of an acquaintance with us and our work which finally leads them to study and accept the present truth.

The work to be done in this field is a proposition that we can grapple with in but one way, and that is by the training of an army of Chinese young men and women who will give the message. Viewed from this standpoint, all medical missionary work should be training work,--the training of Chinese young men and women in the fundamentals of hygiene and in the recognition and treatment of common maladies. The need of this training work is surely not less than the need of such training for our young people in the home lands. To the one who has been in the mission fields the need for such training seems many, many times more imperative than is the need in the home lands. We find that the majority of our present staff of Chinese evangelists and Bible women are earnestly desirous of securing some training along these lines. Any missionary, who has ever been in the interior of China, can testify to the fact that the Chinese people look upon the missionary as one who can help the sick; and being besieged day after day by the sick, has led more than one missionary without a medical training, to leave his work for the time being, and enter school for a preparation that would enable him to treat the sick. Our evangelists in the interior meet the same thing; the sick come to them for help. As we study this matter, it seems only natural for the sick to come for help to the man or woman who holds up Jesus as the perfect example, and who professes to do his work.

Apart from the influence that medical missionary work has upon the general populace, it can not fail to influence the medical missionary himself in either one of two ways. To some the work of examining and treating so many sick people, the majority of whom are

disgusting to the eyes and offensive to the nostrils because of filth, neglect, and the aggravated condition of the disease that is reached before the sick one seeks help, engenders a callousness on the part of the doctor, which leads him to look upon the crowds of sick and suffering who seek his help very much as he would look upon a herd of some of the lower animals. Sooner or later he comes to the point where he carries on his work in a perfunctory manner, leaving more and more of it to his assistants. So true is this that in more than one hospital and dispensary the only cases that reach the foreign doctor are the ones that present some rare and exceptional condition.

A factor that leads many medical missionaries to fall into this slipshod method of work, is the failure on their part to keep alive a hearty interest in the quality of their medical work and an interest in the welfare of their patients. The medical worker in a mission field can at best with great difficulty keep up with the trend of medical progress, and the tendency with some is to make no effort to keep up-to-date and to do thorough scientific work, and, needless to say, the quality of their work progressively retrogrades. They continually meet with diseases that are new to them, since they are peculiar to the tropics, and are seldom seen in any of the clinics in the home lands. And unless there is in the worker a determination to keep abreast of the times and to do scientific work, he will not take the trouble to study these cases and make use of the microscope, if necessary, in order to arrive at a correct diagnosis and a correct line of treatment.

There is on the other hand to the medical worker who has a desire to make his work a real factor in soul-saving, every incentive not only to do careful, thorough work, but to keep alive a keen interest in his work. If he is located in the interior, he is probably the only person within a radius of a hundred miles or more to whom the sick may look for help, and there is the opportunity, if he will improve it, of becoming a veritable saviour in the eyes of all the people in that section. This may be illustrated by mentioning one of several cases met with. A man of fifty odd years, with an aggravated condition that required a surgical operation and a ten weeks' stay in hospital, upon being told that under the circumstances we could do nothing for him, sat down upon the floor of the dispensary and refused to go. He said we must do something for him, for he had no other hope of being helped, and he had heard of so many others that had been cured he knew we could cure him if we only would do so. Upon our insisting that we could not do anything for him, he told those who had brought him to take him back home, and he would get his coffin ready.

Where there is such dire need, what an opportunity is found

to help!

A.C. Selmon, M.D.

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From a letter from Brother Elbridge M Adams, of Manila, we learn that there are about sixty new Sabbath-keepers as a result of the three efforts that are at present being made in his field.

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On June 4 a cablegram was received at the mission headquarters in Shanghai, from Washington, which read: "Danielle, Evans, America; Porter, China." From this message, which is all the news we have had at the time of sending out the News-Letter, it is understood that I H Evans will remain in the United States, and that Brother R C Porter, lately of South Africa, will have the oversight of the work in the Asiatic Division. A later cablegram states that Brother Porter will leave San Francisco on the "Shinyo," which is expected to arrive in Shanghai about the second week in September.



We earnestly ask every reader of the News-Letter to send a contribution early for the August number. Last year it was necessary to omit the August and September numbers, but it is hoped that under more favorable conditions it will be possible to issue the News-Letter for these months this year. Remember that the usefulness and interest of the News-Letter rests with its readers. Send your contributions early, addressing them to the Asiatic Division News-Letter, Corner of Ward and Lahore Roads, Eastern District, Shanghai.
