

Asiatic Division Mission News



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THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

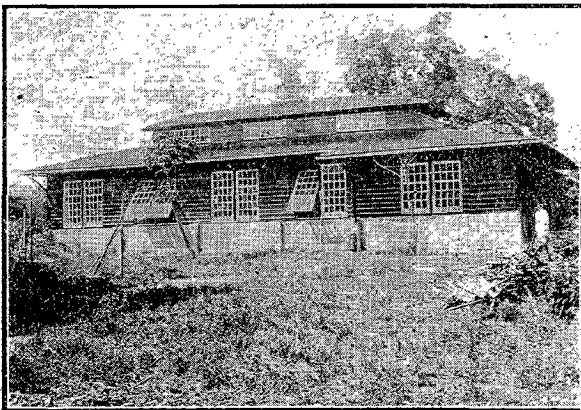
The Dedication of Our Printing House

October 30 will long be remembered by our brethren in Manila, by the happy day spent at our new Mission headquarters. The occasion was the dedication of our printing house to the Lord.

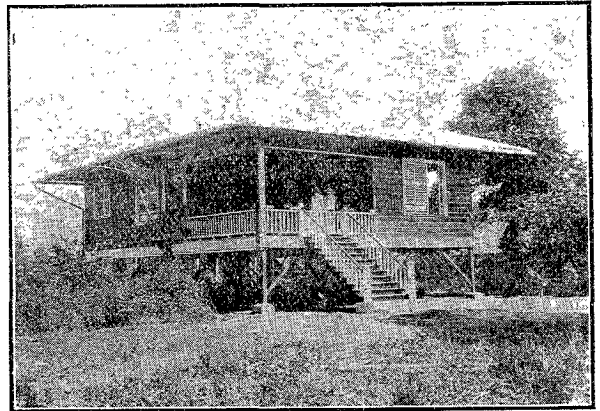
About two hundred of our brethren were present when the first song was sang. Prayer was offered by our oldest evangelist, Bibiano Panis. After some special music, the writer told briefly of the relation of our literature work to the advancement of the third angel's message, and of the beginning of our printing work as a denomination, tracing its rapid growth throughout the world and in the Philippine Islands. Some of the facts relating to the starting of our work here are as follows.

Less than two years ago our printing work was started by Brother Robert Stewart. But our native literature work forged ahead with such rapidity during the past two years that it was impossible to meet the demands with our meager facilities, which consisted of but one job press, a hand paper cutter and a stapler operated in a barn. Our bindery, with no equipment, was conducted under the mission house.

It was first planned to print only our native paper and tracts on our press, and hire our book work done in the city; but there were so many delays and disappointments in getting our books from the city that



New Printing House, Manila



Printer's Cottage, Manila

our canvassing work was nearly broken up. So it was decided that something must be done in our office to meet this need. We had no money to buy equipment with, so decided to do our best with what we had. With the blessing of the Lord we have been able not only to print thousands of tracts in the Tagalog, which have increased in circulation tenfold, but also the following books:

The Coming King . . . Tagalog . . 5000 ed. of 300 pages
The World's Crisis . . Tagalog . . 8000 ed. of 200 pages
The Gospel Primer . . Tagalog . . 8000 ed. of 728 pages
Thoughts on Daniel . Cebuan . . 3500 ed. of 200 pages
Thoughts on Daniel . Panayan . 3500 ed. of 260 pages
World's Crisis Ilocano . . 4000 ed. of 108 pages
About one-half of these books have been bound in the bindery under our house. Some of our native boys say the press must be getting very tired, as it has to work day and night.

When Pastor Daniells and the other General Conference men visited our field last spring and saw our great needs, they at once sent in an earnest request to the Mission Board for help, that we might have a suitable place in which to carry on our work. Our hearts were very glad to receive word by return mail that our request had been granted. It seemed almost too good to be true. The Pacific Press was asked to donate \$10,000 to buy land and equip us a printing plant. They responded willingly, and began at once to collect our equipment. We expect that this has already been shipped.

As we told our native brethren of the liberality of our brethren in America and their great interest in seeing the work advance here, their hearts were greatly touched. We closed our remarks by asking all to arise who were willing to rededicate themselves to the circulation of the literature that should be printed. Nearly the whole congregation responded. The dedicatory prayer was then offered by W. E. Lanier.

After this one of our evangelists arose and said he wished to say a few words before we closed the meeting. With much feeling he said that our Filipino brethren felt greatly touched by this generous offering to assist them in their work. He said he felt we should extend our heartfelt thanks to the Pacific Press Publishing Association and our brethren in America for these tokens of their interest and willingness to help in our work here; and that we ask our superintendent to convey these expressions to them. He then asked for a rising vote of thanks. The whole congregation arose as one man.

L. V. FINSTER.



Workers Employed in Manila Printing House

An Eastern Trip (Concluded).

In Washington there was a readiness on the part of both faculty and students in the Foreign Mission College, to go anywhere and do anything that will aid most in the finishing of the work. The same spirit prevailed in the sanitarium, where Doctor H. W. Miller, who spent several years in China, is still alive to the needs of these distant fields. I was very hospitably entertained at the sanitarium during my stay in Washington, and the treatments received aided much in restoring wasted energy, and helped me in my preparations to return to the Far East.

The officers of the Review & Herald and General Conference generously offered to furnish from their forces recruits for the front, all giving the utmost consideration to the needs of the foreign mission work.

At South Lancaster, Prof. B. F. Machlan and his faculty stand in the front ranks in their interest in foreign missions. Every opportunity was given to secure recruits from the academy. Both faculty and students placed themselves on the altar for service in

any field where they could serve the interests of the cause the best.

There was a like response from the Atlantic Union Conference, which was in session during my visit there. Pastors Daniells, Evans, and Thompson were laboring earnestly to bring the people up to the high calling of the message for this time. This union stands in the lead in its liberality to missions. It was indeed a pleasure to meet so many dear old fellow-workers of former days in this conference. Six years of my most active labor were spent in this field.

I met the family of sanitarium workers at Melrose one evening. They manifested their interest in foreign mission work by a willingness to part with their business manager as a contribution to the work in China. Other members of the family offered themselves to any field where they were needed most.

Returning, I spent one day each at Hinsdale, Ill., Burlington, and Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. Doctor Paulson said that it was a fixed policy of the Hinsdale Sanitarium that from least to greatest they stood ready to respond to any call where the work could be served better than where they were now engaged. The institution is thoroughly permeated by a missionary spirit. I met Doctor and Sister Magan at Hinsdale. They will soon connect with the faculty at Loma Linda.

At Burlington it was severely cold and stormy, so that the attendance at the service was small. I met Brother McComas and my niece, Florence Porter, who is a Bible worker in Burlington. They had taken great interest in circulating the appointment, and had the evening been pleasant there would doubtless have been a full house. The same conditions prevailed at Mt. Pleasant. It was so cold that the meeting was held at the home of Brother C. W. Smouse. This church also showed a good interest by attending when the weather was so bitterly cold. Here I met my deceased brother Ira Porter's family, and enjoyed a good visit with them.

This tour has convinced me that the Lord has made His people willing in the day of His power. The time has come for the finishing of the work, and God's power is available and His people are willing. We are well able to go up and possess the goodly land, which is now just across the border.

R. C. and MRS. PORTER.

Pastor B. A. Meeker sends the following word about his experience in the Harvest Ingathering work: "Yesterday and today with twenty-five papers I collected \$31.60. Truly the Lord was my helper in this undertaking. The end is not yet, for there are a number of places that I have not visited. Chinese as well as foreigners contribute to this fund. I go to school in the forenoons, as usual, and only take a few hours off for this work." Brother G. A. Thompson, in Kuala Lumpur, F. M. S., also reports \$70.00 gold as the first-fruits from his work, from the distribution of 65 papers.

General Meetings in Korea

During the year 1915 there were 189 baptisms in Korea, and there were perhaps twenty or more others who were ready to receive the ordinance. However cold weather came on before they could be visited, and many of them have not been visited yet because of the amount of work to be done and the few workers. The membership at the close of the year was 704, and tithe and offerings of all kinds for the year had been \$2.22 gold per capita.

To begin the new year a general meeting for the north district was commenced January 1st. The second Sabbath of the meeting there were 120 present. The Spirit of the Lord was present, and all expressed themselves as determined to prepare for the soon coming of Jesus Christ. The second Sabbath in February a like meeting was commenced at Keizan, in the south district. The attendance there was not as large as in the north, but as yet there were only eighty-one baptized members in that part of the field. Pastors W. R. Smith, H. A. Oberg, Ne Keun Ok, and the writer were present at this meeting, which lasted eight days. We believe that the work in the south is on a sound basis, and that many will accept of the truth in that thickly populated district.

At present another general meeting is being conducted on the east coast by Pastor Smith and Doctor Russell. We had planned to attend this meeting also, but went on a trip with Pastor Wangerin to the island of Chai Ju, or Quelpart, off the southwest of Korea, and the wind and waves held us captive until it was too late for me to go to the eastern meeting.

Work on the island of Chai Ju was begun about a year ago by a canvasser. Later, in September last, a native evangelist and one of the graduates of Soonan school went there to labor. They found some who had bought literature and were already keeping the Sabbath. Work is now being carried on at two places on the island. At one of these a company has been organized, and while there we had the privilege of baptizing eleven souls in the ocean.

There are about 500 houses in the town where this company is, and they are the only Christians in the place. At first the village people would not allow Christians to hold meetings there, but since an influential man accepted the truth, they have been able to rent a house where meetings have been held, and now they have a church building about completed. These new believers have strong opposition from their heathen friends. One man who was baptized is the second son of his father. But as his father's younger brother has no sons, this man is the one who, according to their custom, must offer sacrifices to the spirit of his uncle after his death. So when he became a Christian the uncle was very angry, and went to the believer's father, protesting against his allowing his son to become a Christian, because he would thus have no one to offer sacrifices to his spirit. The father has done all that he can to compel his son—now about thirty-five years of age—not to be a Christian, but to no avail.

At the time appointed for the arrival of a steamer we went to the port; but wind and waves were contrary, and we were kept waiting in a little Korean room, with rice and eggs for food, for five days. We

could not go back to the company, for the boat might come in our absence, and so we waited. Sabbath morning the sea was still very rough, but a boat came, and we were indeed glad to start home. It was a three days' journey from there to Seoul, so we arrived at home just fifteen days after we had left for what we expected to be a week's trip. Not having been able to communicate with the mainland while we were away, we were glad to get home, expecting to find word here saying that Pastor Porter would be here in a few days. But in this we were also disappointed, for the word said that he would not come until fall.

The winter has not been hard, and more than thirty have already been baptized. I think the ordinance of baptism has never before been administered here during the first three months of the year. So as we have an early start this year we believe that we will have many souls before the end of the year.

C. L. BUTTERFIELD.

Hunan Workers' Institute

The meeting for the Hunan workers we had expected to open on February 15 and continue for one month, but on account of so many sailboats being used transporting government troops, our workers had difficulty in reaching here on time; therefore we did not commence until the 17th at noon.

Pastor Selmon, who was present, took the first few meetings, giving talks to the workers on the work of the ministry, after which the time was used in giving outlines of sermons, and also practical talks and discussions on problems of vital interest to the work and workers here, as renting and furnishing of chapels, use of mission funds, our relation to the government, etc. The instruction to evangelists on the work of the ministry, the sermons, and also the round-table talks, were greatly appreciated, and the workers felt that they had received much which they could use in the cause of God in winning souls for Christ.

About the end of February our meeting was disturbed by some revolutionaries throwing bombs at the governor's yamen, which is situated about 200 yards from the chapel. This caused great uneasiness among our workers, as the city was full of rumors concerning the progress of the revolutionary party; and as the wives and children of the workers were at their respective stations, some of them wanted to return. The city was at once put under martial law, none were allowed on the streets after dark; and even during the two days following the attack on the yamen our workers were not allowed to leave and return to the chapel. The city is still patrolled by soldiers (March 15, 1916) and even row boats are not allowed to cross the river after 5 P. M.

We had prayer and counsel regarding the outlook, and knowing that all of our twenty chapels were without leaders, and realizing the danger not only to our workers' families but also to our name and work should anyone try to take advantage of the evangelists' absence, we decided to bring our meeting to a close, and later send by mail full outlines of some of the unfinished work.

Since the workers returned the city has been quiet save for the rumors which are adrift at such times. We trust that the readers of the NEWS will remember this Province at the Throne.

S. G. WHITE.

ASIATIC DIVISION MISSION NEWS

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"Who Can be Against Us?"

I have been reminded many times that we promised to write a few items for the NEWS, but we have been very busy, and nothing out of the ordinary has happened; so we have put off writing.

Last week we took a trip over to Jesselton to visit with our believers, and see how our Chinese worker was progressing. Pastor Montgomery visited Jesselton last August, and after a series of meetings baptized fourteen persons. About a month after he had returned to Sandakan, the government officials sent word to our Chinese evangelist that he should cease visiting this company of fourteen members; also forbade him to sell or give away any of our literature, and not to visit people in their homes. This was a hard blow, but Pastor Montgomery submitted to it, after writing a letter to the governor stating our methods and manner of work.

In November, when we came to this field to relieve Brother and Sister Montgomery, we were met at Jesselton by Pastor Montgomery. We went over the situation carefully, and decided that we would go and have a talk with the Resident. While Pastor Montgomery was waiting for our boat to arrive he had written a letter to the governor asking permission to go out to Mengattal where our company was located. While we were considering the situation, a letter arrived from the governor forbidding us to go. This made us decide to go at once to the Resident. We went and laid our position before him. We told him we were not law breakers, but law keepers. We asked why such a step was taken against us. He would not (or could not) give us any reason for it, except that the government desired to keep the missions separate as much as possible. We procured permission from him, however, for our Chinese worker to visit the people in their homes for a radius of two miles from Jesselton. We thought that this was the beginning of our victory, so came away.

Last week I went to the Resident and asked permission to go out and hold the week of prayer at Mengattal. He said "No." I then asked if I might go out and visit them and talk with the people about schools. At first he said "Yes," but "do not offer a prayer, or have anything else like a meeting." I told him that we offered prayer in all our work everywhere; that it was a part of us. He said, "All right, go ahead." After this he telephoned to the governor, and the governor said not to let me go, unless I would take one of the European government officials with me. I told them that it was all nonsense, but I was willing to do even this in order to see them. It seemed that the whole affair was a put-up job, as none of the Europeans could go. They did promise, however, that they would send out and bring all the families in. I consented to this, and the next day the people came. I had a good visit with them, and found them of good courage in the Lord.

I shall never forget what one old man said to me. He had tears in his eyes as he asked me why the mis-

sionaries never come back. The Basel Mission people told them that we would not come back any more,--and it has been nearly as they have said. I told him why it was, and as he grasped the reason there came a look over his face that indicated it will be hard to convince him when anyone tells him again that we are going to leave them. There are several friends and neighbors near these people who are desirous of having us come back and hold meetings. This man said, "Plenty of people want to know the truth."

I was glad that I could tell those dear people that we never retreated, but that our work always went forward. I told them we never leave people to themselves unless something over which we have no power interferes. I am glad to be connected with a people that is able to say these things.

As a result of our visit we organized the little company, with a leader, and set a time and place for meeting. They have been meeting nearly every Sabbath, but not in any regular way. We set before them the principles of tithing and healthful living. They promised to live up to all the light they had received.

One old man had twenty cents saved up for tithe. On inquiry, I learned that these people sometimes do not see so much as a dollar a month. I was as pleased to receive that twenty cents as I would have been to receive one hundred dollars from one who could give that much. It means a sacrifice to tithe their small amounts.

I asked for and received permission from the Resident to sell and give away our literature. We felt that this was a victory, and Brother Kong, our Chinese worker, is rejoicing, as it means he can do more work. I found three or four ready for baptism, one of whom has been an evangelist for the Basel Mission for ten years.

R. L. MERSHON.

NOTES

We have the pleasure of announcing the arrival, on April 4, of two other families for work in our Division. Brother H. M. Barrows and wife come to assume the responsibility of treasurer-auditor of the Asiatic Division, and Brother Joseph Hall and wife take up work in the East China Mission. Brother Howard M. Lee and family have also returned to Korea, coming to Japan by the boat which brought the above mentioned two families to Shanghai.

Most of the members of our Shanghai compound spent Sabbath, April 8, at Nanzhang, where they witnessed the organization of a church of twenty-two members, the first church, aside from the one in Shanghai, organized among the Shanghai speaking people. After the organization of the church, the rest of the day was spent in a Sabbath school convention, and a well-prepared Chinese meal was served at noon to the visitors in attendance from Shanghai. A similar convention was held on the previous Sabbath in the Shanghai church, and another will be conducted at the Mandarin Training School, at the Division headquarters, on Sabbath, April 15.

Notice

Study at Home.—The Fireside Correspondence School will show you how. Agents wanted. Send for our "Nutshell" Calendar. Address, C. C. Lewis, Principal, Takoma Park, D. C.