

# Asiatic Division Outlook

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NO. 3

## REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

### A Testimony Meeting by the Leaders of the Work in India

At the first meeting of the India Union Council held at Lucknow, Nov. 8-18, a devotional meeting was held in which Pastor W. W. Fletcher, president of the union, led out, and all members of the committee took part. Such a decided note of courage and good cheer was struck by the president, and sounded by each member of the committee, that it seemed to me the readers of this journal would be glad to know something of what was said.

"It is clear," said one, "that a new impetus is tak-

slowly, but when we look back over the years we find that God has been working, and the cause has grown more rapidly than we had realized. The years have been years of preparation. It is only recently that we have taken up vernacular work to any extent in India. I look now for more rapid advancement."

Several of the brethren spoke of remarkable answers to prayer, during the year especially. One brother said that he had taken God at His word as never before, but that God had moved for him beyond his expectations. He thanked God for personal victories. Mention was made of how God has worked on behalf of our brethren, workers, and laymen, in giving freedom from military service on the part of the missionaries, and in other cases, giving Sabbath



Employees in the Publishing House at Lucknow

ing hold of God's people in this part of the Asiatic Division to finish this great work. Much has been done, and will continue to be done for India, by our brethren in other lands, but now has certainly come the time when the peoples of these lands must take on their responsibilities and bear their heavy part. I thank God that His people are beginning to realize their burden."

Pastor Burgess, speaking from a long experience in India, said, "We have now more work in any one of the five divisions of India than we had in all India sixteen years ago. The work seems to have moved

off in times where military training is required.

One brother said, "It is a marvel what God is able to do for us. When this war broke out we made all sorts of conjectures as to what would happen to us in India. We thought it possible that in India the missionaries would be cut down to half pay or less, or perhaps sent home altogether. We thought it impossible that the work could be carried on in the regular way. But our fears have not been realized. Thank God we can remain on at our posts of duty." Fears had been allayed and faith strengthened.

Brother G. G. Lowry, speaking of the work in South India, told of the good work that the native evangelists are doing. Five stations in South India were manned by native brethren. One brother in Pondicherry was doing good work, and had been instrumental in raising up a good working church. At Nazareth, South India, the brethren had caught the idea of self-support, and he was sure others would do the same. The work in Madras, under Brother Poley, was going forward well, an English church had been organized, and a Tamil evangelist was getting hold of the interested ones.

Pastor Mattison, speaking for North India, said that there was much to encourage. He was glad for the help given by the brethren in Simla and Mussoorie. He was glad for the spirit of co-operation given both by native and European workers. He said he felt the need of special help from God in this great field, and that was the desire of all his co-laborers. He reported the first baptism held in the Punjab. A start had been made, and he was sure God would give results.

Pastor Pettit spoke encouragingly of the work in the Bombay Presidency. This is a great field, and there is urgent need for more laborers. There was not a Sabbath-keeper in that great district when Brother Pettit was called to the field; but the work is growing so that the tithe is now equal to that paid by all India Sabbath-keepers, aside from workers, at that time. Special mention was made of the increasing demand for the vernacular literature in that district.

Pastor C. F. Lowry gave a cheering word for the work in Burma. He said all the workers were of good courage, and as some of them were getting the language, he looked for good results. He said the work in Rangoon City among the English-speaking people gave good promise, but he was also sure that when the canvassing work got well started big returns would be shown in Burma. It takes a little time to get up steam, and it takes a good deal of steam to start a load, but he was sure that when we get up steam and get the load started, rapid progress could be expected in Burma.

A number of the brethren spoke of their endeavors to co-operate in working toward self-support. All believe that we should work together to this end. God has a great work to do in Asia, and He expects the church in Asia to arise and shine. A number testified to the power of God to work through humble means. Gideon and this company did not do so much, other than to shout "the sword of the Lord and of Gideon," and to break the pitchers. So God will work through us if we trust His power and co-operate with Him. God was with us in this meeting.

J. E. FULTON.

## Japan Conference and Institute

It has been a number of weeks since I reported through the columns of the OUTLOOK, and in this I fear that I have been somewhat remiss with an important duty, and in this respect have not set a very good example to my fellow workers. But I shall endeavor to do better in the future, and I hope my efforts will be contagious with others.

On October 18, 1917, I left Shanghai, in company with Prof. S. L. Frost, to attend meetings in the East Asian Union Conference. Landing at Nagasaki, the journey across Japan to Tokyo was one of unusual interest. Looking at the country and its people from the standpoint of modern improvements, education, thrift, and public spirit, one could truthfully say that Japan had stepped from the ranks of the old Oriental nations, into those of the new and progressive Occident.

In Tokyo I was pleased to meet some of the Japan workers who had already come for the meeting, and also to greet Prof. and Mrs. W. W. Prescott, recently arrived in Japan to engage for an extended period in ministerial institute work in the Asiatic Division.

Beginning with October 25, a week was devoted to ministerial institute work prior to the opening of the regular conference session. Professor Prescott and Pastor Cottrell carried the chief burden of the institute. The studies given were designed to inspire the workers with a greater zeal and earnestness in the study of the Bible principles which form the foundation and superstructure upon which our entire message is built, and to bring each one into a closer personal touch with Christ, and with one another. These studies were very much appreciated by all the workers, and a genuine response was had in the personal testimonies borne by those who took part in the social services from day to day. As the meetings progressed, a spirit of unity and brotherly love was seen more and more to take possession of the hearts of all. As the Lord's people truly sense the importance of the times in which they are living, and the need of revealing to the world the power of the truths which have been entrusted to them, they will show great earnestness and true devotion in pressing close together, and casting out every personal difference or hindering cause that would weaken spiritual growth or bring in division.

Following the institute came a nine days' session of the Japan Mission, during which time the mission was formally organized into a conference. The work of organization passed off in a very satisfactory manner. It was gratifying to observe the appreciative way in which the Japanese believers united in this work of organization. To a large extent they realized the nature of the responsibilities placed upon them by this new step, and very loyally put

their shoulders under the burdens, financial and otherwise, that naturally followed. This new conference has not yet reached full financial self-support, but such a status is possible within a year or two, and to this end the workers are addressing themselves with courage and zeal.

Pastor T. H. Okohira was given charge of the Sabbath School, Home Missionary, and Missionary Volunteer Departments, and Brother S. Miyaki was appointed editor of the Japanese paper, the *Signs of the Times*, assisted by Pastor Hoffman. Brother A. B. Cole continues his work as secretary-treasurer, while Brother H. Stacey leads the field forces of the Publishing Department. Pastor B. P. Hoffman was chosen as president, with a strong committee of experienced workers, consisting of three foreigners and five Japanese, to assist him. The organization of this conference was an important step in the history of the work in Japan, and will doubtless result in a more rapid advancement of the message in that great empire.

The prospects are good for a wide distribution of our message-filled literature in this prosperous field.

On three different occasions I spoke to the colporteur class, and was pleased to see such a large number of strong men and women making preparation to engage in this important branch of the work. At the close of the meeting all the workers returned to their fields with renewed vows to the Lord and fresh courage for the tasks before them. May God greatly bless this new Japan Conference in carrying the truth to the millions within her boundaries.

J. S. J.

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### Shandung, North China Union

THROUGH one of our native evangelists we learn of encouraging progress in several lines of the work in Shandung province, of the North China Union Conference.

"By the blessing of God, the last few months of work here have been very successful," this brother writes from Tsinanfu. "In the seventh month, eight men and women whom God had chosen were baptized here and joined the church. During the summer season seven men were out in the field engaged in evangelistic canvassing."

After a two weeks' effort in Deng A Hsien, spent in preaching and selling literature, this worker reports: "There are several tens of people there who believe the third angel's message. In two places in that neighborhood men are willing to give houses to the mission suitable for chapels. In two other places men are willing to donate land."

Of the work in Tsinanfu he says: "This fall we started a primary and intermediate school with more than twenty students. Seven or eight from Shandung are attending the Shanghai training school to prepare to be better witnesses for the last-day message.

"In November we conducted an institute for inquirers here in Tsinan. At that time also Brother Hall was asked by the North China Conference committee to connect with the Shandung work."

### The Literature Work in Manchuria—2

DURING the winter months of 1916-17 our literature work was dormant because of the extreme cold. In the spring I was called to one of our mission chapels to conduct an institute for two fine boys whom our best canvasser had brought to the Saviour. This compensated us in part for the loss of our best canvasser, who is now an evangelist. In July, 1917, an institute was held at the Changchun station, where six had been baptized as the result of Brother Grundset's labors; and this institute gave us two new recruits for our field work. One of these is a good colporteur, and gives promise of becoming one of our native leaders in the future, if he continues to advance in the footsteps of Him who desires to lead us all.

Our work has been advancing during the year as well as could be expected, considering that at no time have we had more than six men in the field, and toward the close of the year this number had been reduced to three. The dear Lord has richly blessed the efforts put forth. Extensive as our field is, and with the larger part of it unentered by the railroad, we have not only gone over anew most of the territory worked last year, but have been successful in pushing into the regions beyond. The fertile valley north of Harbin has been entered, and the *Signs* is now preaching several hundred sermons monthly there. That stretch of our field which borders on Siberia on the east has been gone over. From Kirin on east clear to the border of Korea, the glad message has been told. Even two cities in Mongolia, beyond the Manchuria boundary line, are now being visited by our magazine. These papers are going to Chinese who are in business at these places; yet who can say that through these some Mongols may not hear the word of life, and accept it?

After having gained a working knowledge of the language, it was my privilege to spend a few weeks right out in the sun with the boys. These weeks were rich in experience, and brought many blessings to my soul. My first visit was to the capital of the Black-dragon province, which is our northernmost province. Here one of our boys was faithfully doing what he could to circulate the printed page. In our colporteur work we try to follow the method of visiting the higher class first, gradually working down to the common people; but because our colporteur in the Black-dragon province was a common man, and feared that he might not be granted an entrance to the place, and thus be forever barred from planting the message within, had postponed his visit to the yamen until the time of my arrival. The day after we reached the place we were ready to seek an entrance at those gates that had never before opened to truth. This was a new experience to us both; yet we

were there to bless that dark court, and this consciousness buoyed us up. God gave us favor with the officials, and a goodly number of subscriptions to the Chinese *Signs* were secured, together with orders for several books. How cheering it is to know that thus the third angel's message is monthly going within that palace, where otherwise the truth might never be known. After this experience our canvasser took three times as many subscriptions in that city, and instead of selling mostly paper-bound books, he sold most in cloth, which is the best we have.

At Kirin we spent all our time working among the yamens, of which this city has about forty. The work among this class is slow, but it yields good returns. Before beginning our work there the first

leader in the various school districts in that province. This is the largest order that to my knowledge has been taken anywhere from one man. Here it is: ten cloth; ten paper; seventeen board. Thus it is evident that even worldly men are helping us communicate a knowledge of the soon-coming King. A little over a day of labor had given us a harvest of sixty-nine orders, each averaging over \$1.00, and more yearly subscriptions to the *Signs* than had been taken the previous years in these respective yamens. Truly this is an economical method of preaching the gospel.

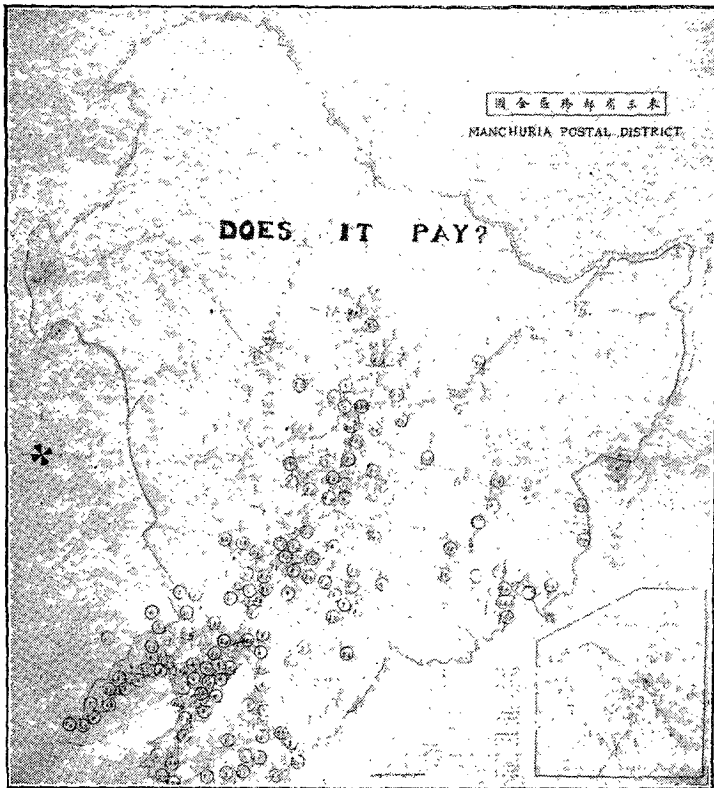
#### Does it Pay?

Do you ask, Does it pay? Listen! From far off Tsitsihar, where, save for the canvasser, no one would have heard the glad tidings, comes the word: "We wish to join the home department of your Sabbath-school. Send us a quarterly, that we may study as you do every Sabbath." At the end of the quarter came the word: "We are sending you today \$1.80 as well as the envelope with our record on it;" and with this was a testimony of praise to God for the light He has let shine upon their pathway.

Not far from the source of the Yalu, near the north-eastern border of Korea, where we have had a man canvassing this past summer, comes a call for someone to come over and help them to a better understanding of the Scriptures. We have no one to send, and no means with which to send a man if we had one; so our literature at present must take the place of a living preacher.

I believe that before we can secure men and women with which to fill the calls that are sure to result from this generous sowing of the good seed, these calls will have become so abundant that we shall consider a day incomplete when we do not receive one or more of them.

The accompanying map will help convey some idea of what has been accomplished. The circles represent cities visited by our faithful boys, and the



day, we prayed earnestly that the Lord would make us a blessing to that city and its many thousands; and our prayers were answered. We secured five yearly subscriptions and orders for six health books at the governor's palace; and in nearly every yamen visited that day we gained subscriptions and orders in twos and threes. The next morning I asked the Lord to give us an order of ten books to one man. As on the day before, we were blessed with two here and three there. And then in one of the important yamens we saw the head official, and enjoyed a fine talk with him, but could not at first arrive at any definite understanding as to how many books he desired. After a time, however, he called his treasurer and told him to send a copy of our book to each

number within each circle shows the number of subscriptions taken in each place from June, 1916, to October, 1917. The crosses, of which there are six, represent places where we have chapels. There are still many places that our boys have not visited. It will take the earnest support of our friends in Christian lands, if the gospel is preached throughout this great Asiatic Division field in this age. It will take more than your prayers and your financial support; it will mean—it must mean—the offering up for these races of more of your sons and daughters. Some must give themselves, as it were, in that boy or that girl, whom they consecrate to service for God in these great fields awaiting the reapers of the harvest.

J. G. GJORDING.

## Self-support in North China

SELF-SUPPORT, so far as our native salaries are concerned, is the goal that this union expects to reach during the year 1919. Below we give a few items to show that the Lord is even now preparing the way before us along this line.

On my return from Sianfu, I stayed over two days visiting our station at Yencheng, where we have the Honan Training School. This school, during the present year, is working toward a self-supporting basis. That is, we expect each student to supply, in advance, sufficient money to pay for his board and for all the books used. On this plan of operation we expected but a small school, probably not more than thirty or forty students; but it is most encouraging to know that no less than eighty-six had been enrolled at that time, and by this time the enrolment will probably be fairly over ninety. Brother and Sister Conger are very earnest in their efforts to make this school a real success; their discipline is excellent, and the spiritual condition of the school is good. God is going to give us a splendid school there this year. There are students in attendance from three provinces; naturally most of these come from Honan, but there are some fine students from Shensi, and also one or two from Hupeh. It is very encouraging to see this school being operated on a systematic plan, and the results, we feel sure, will be most gratifying.

During a recent visit to Shanghai, we were again encouraged to find over seventy students enrolled at the China Missions' Training School. Brother Swartout and his associates are undoubtedly laboring to make this school year the best yet. There is a good staff of foreign and Chinese teachers, and a hearty spirit of co-operation exists. It is true of this school, also, that its discipline is excellent, and the spiritual atmosphere is good. The school is working toward a self-supporting basis and on a new plan, by which it receives, in advance, the monthly expenses of the students.

God is blessing our schools in the North China Union, and they cannot fail of having a molding influence upon our workers, which will mean strength to our union in the future. We regret that it is not possible to report a similar school in the school building at Hankow, which, for lack of help, still remains closed. We hope it may soon be filled with those preparing to carry the message to the 312,000,000 people in the North China Union.

Excellent progress is being made in the colporteur work. The November report from Hupeh shows \$630, Mex., for the work of eight men, an average of nearly \$80.00 a man. The average per day for each day reported is about \$6.00 worth of business. Good

reports are coming in from other fields, especially Szechwan, which province has done splendidly during the early months of 1917. It is being demonstrated that what is needed to do successful work along this line is not a large number of poorly trained men, but fewer men wisely chosen and better trained for their work. When work is done along these lines, and in harmony with the policy of the publishing department of the union conference, the colporteur work will soon become the strong factor that it should be in building up self-support among our native workers.

Perhaps the most encouraging item we have to record along the line of progress in self-support is the splendid results that have come to us through the Harvest Ingathering effort. North China published the first edition of a Chinese Ingathering paper. Twenty thousand copies were printed, and the Lord has given splendid success to our workers who have gone out in faith with these papers. Over \$4,600 have already been received through this means. We set as our goal for this year \$5,000, Mexican. We are going to go well over this goal, and hope to reach at least \$7,000 this year. Word has just been received from Brethren Davis and Conger, who have made a journey to Peking, that in a short time in that city they received over \$550 for this fund. Brethren Lillie and Hall, in Shantung, are earnestly at work; and the last word received from them was that they had received over \$300, Mex. It is needless to speak of what has been done by others and which has already been reported in the columns of the OUTLOOK. God is blessing His servants as they go out with these papers; for this effort is not only bringing means to a treasury that is sorely in need of funds, but is bringing new life and power into the experience of our workers, as they see how wonderfully God can work when we give Him opportunity. To Him be all the praise. F. A. ALLUM.

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## First Impressions

It is said that first impressions are lasting; and I sincerely trust that this will prove especially true as regards my first impressions concerning the great needs of the immense heathen population in these eastern lands, as well as of the great need for a daily personal experience in the saving grace and converting power of God on the part of all who have been called to give the light of life to these benighted people.

As I traveled through the territory of the East Asian Union Conference, I have also been deeply impressed with the marvelous work God has accomplished through those who have done the pioneering

work, and who, with the blessing of God, have had the privilege of establishing the message in those fields.

Shortly after our arrival in Tokyo, we attended the annual session of the mission, when the Japanese Conference was organized. This is an advance step which should prove a great blessing to the cause in this land. It was interesting as well as encouraging to note the practical way in which our Japanese brethren related themselves to the new order of things. This meeting was preceded by one week's ministerial institute, during which time Professor Prescott gave most valuable help, and the influence of that work proved a great blessing to the meetings immediately following.

After the meeting in Japan we attended district meetings in Chosen, held at Keisan, Soonan, and Seoul. These were all well attended, and we were much encouraged as we saw our Korean brethren gaining a new experience in the saving grace of God, and claiming victory over sin by faith in Jesus. In Chosen I also had the privilege of spending a week with the brethren in committee work, which gave me the opportunity of obtaining a better knowledge of the work in that conference, as regards both its progress and its needs.

Special consideration was given to the work at the Soonan school. The outlook for the educational work in Chosen appears to me to give promise of continued good success, not only in the scholastic work, but also as regards self-support.

In Manchuria, although the work has been started only a short time, as compared with other parts of China, good progress is being made; and we sincerely trust that as a result of the earnest labors of our brethren in this province, it will not be long before the East Asian Union will consist of three fully organized conferences. I greatly appreciated the opportunity afforded me by my short visit to Manchuria, of becoming better acquainted with the workers and work in that field. It was most encouraging to me to note that although the force of workers is necessarily small, successful efforts are being made so as to extend the work. This field gives promise of rapid development, and we sincerely trust that as calls are made for men and means to meet the immediate needs of the work, there will be such a response as will enable our brethren in Manchuria to take the fullest advantage of present opportunities for successful work.

J. M. JOHANSON.

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"Being perplexed, I say, Lord, make it right;  
 Night is as day to Thee: darkness as light.  
 I am afraid to touch  
 Things which involve so much;  
 My nerveless hands may shake;  
 My faltering hands may break;  
 Thou canst make no mistake.  
 Lord, make it right."

—Selected.

## Northern Luzon, P. I.

THE first general meeting of the believers in Northern Luzon was held October 5-12, 1917. We were glad to have Pastor Finster with us during the meetings. Six meetings were held each day besides a children's meeting. The Spirit of the Lord came near, and as meeting after meeting was held and day after day went by, it was felt by all that the forces of evil were being overcome. This culminated in a blessed experience of victory and the presence of God's Spirit on the last Sabbath.

The missionary investment service held on the last day of the meeting, was of special interest. Some five months before, five pesos had been distributed among the members of the church at Amarao, as a loan, to be invested, the profit to go to the mission work. At this service the believers brought their gifts and increase in money and in produce. There were bundles of rice, chickens, eggs, vegetables, pineapples, and other fruit. A number of the children of those not of our faith, brought their gifts of a few handfuls of rice tied in their handkerchiefs. In most of the gifts the spirit of sacrifice was marked. And though the gifts were small, yet I could not help but feel that His eyes were upon them, and that He who took notice of the widow casting her two mites into the temple treasury, would mark the offerings brought, and leave a blessing for the giver.

After the cash had been counted and the produce valued, the total amounted to P.14.57 (not including the original investment). To close the service all drew near and bowed in prayer, giving themselves anew to God and His work; this was the greatest gift of all.

During the first eleven months of the year, fifty-three have been baptized, making our total membership sixty-four. Seven of those baptized this year are the first-fruits from among the Tingian people, one of the mountain tribes of Northern Luzon. One church has been organized, and a neat church building, valued at eighty pesos, was erected by our brethren, and dedicated free of debt.

The Sabbath-school offerings for the first three quarters was P.60.60. This, with the missionary investment P.14.57, makes a total of P.75.17 offerings. The tithe for the first eleven months was P.418.80. Our colporteurs have sold four thousand, three hundred and sixteen books valued at P.4,678.15.

At present our mission force consists of one ordained minister, L. Z. Roda, two evangelists, one Bible worker, ten colporteurs, and the superintendent and family.

The prospects are bright for a harvest of souls. May we be led daily to know more of the power and fellowship of the Master, is our prayer.

ROY E. HAY.



## A Teachers' Institute in Hankow, China

THE meeting recently held at Hankow for the workers of the North China Union was a profitable meeting, bringing into the lives of the assembled workers a new experience which can not fail of giving a new impetus to the work in this field.

It was a source of great anxiety to the laborers to see the work in the provinces apparently about to suffer for lack of leaders. In every province there is need of more foreign help to marshal the native forces for aggressive, soul-saving work. The brethren already in the field are carrying burdens far too heavy because the field is too short manned.

While the workers in the field feel that they must call earnestly for increased help from the home lands, they recognize that they must also turn their attention more fully to the training of the native workers; for these men must carry the great burdens in the onward progress of the message. That this need was recognized by those in charge of the work in this union was evidenced in the program of the Hankow meeting, which was made up to accomplish as much as possible along this line. Open meetings were held for all workers, where

spiritual, devotional, and educational subjects were presented, and where practical problems were brought up and studied. Besides these general meetings, the different departments gathered their forces together for special consideration of matters pertaining to the progress of their various lines of work.

The meetings for the teachers were attended by the seventeen church school teachers from the central part of the union. (A picture of the group accompanies this article.) At these meetings for the teachers practical subjects were presented, and an effort was made to have the teachers recognize the sacredness of their calling, and the need of careful study and preparation in order to become really efficient. As some teachers are ill-equipped because of lack of training, the fundamental principles of a Christian education were emphasized.

A demonstration in teaching methods was given by Sister O. B. Kuhn, which was well received. There is a real desire on the part of the teachers to improve and to secure the help that the foreigner can give. They ask that the foreign teacher come right into the school room and show them how to put these ideas into operation. We believe this is what is needed. Theory and demonstration must go together in order for permanent good to be accomplished. We trust that plans may soon be laid to give this individual help.

Brother M. G. Conger, Educational and Y. P. M. V. secretary for the union, is entering upon his work with real interest; but, being principal of the Yen-cheng school, will find it difficult to give the personal help that he should like. We shall hope and pray that more help may soon be at hand, making possible a more personal supervision, not only to the thirty-



A Group of Church School Teachers in the North China Union

five church schools in this union, but to the other great interests that must advance but slowly, because of lack of workers.

The prospects for the school work in China are very encouraging. We are left free to put in operation the principles of Christian education, and with God's help we can make our schools here in deed and in truth Christian schools, places where angels will desire to linger and to minister. But in order to accomplish this we must get the right conception of God's plan for our school work; we must receive the Spirit of God in our hearts; we must live and walk with him day by day. May He help us to make the advances now that need to be made, that the work may not suffer loss, but that these blood-bought children and youth may "be all taught of God."

S. L. Frost.

# THE ASIATIC DIVISION OUTLOOK

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EDITOR: MRS. C. C. CRISLER      ASSOCIATE EDITOR: J. S. JAMES

OFFICE EDITOR: MRS. W. P. HENDERSON

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## DIVISION NOTES

THE amount of book sales in the Hunan Province for the month of December amounted to over \$700, Mexican.

NEARLY all the members of the Asiatic Division Conference Executive Committee are now in attendance at a council meeting which opened January 31, and which will continue until about the middle of February. The needs of the entire field are being surveyed, and plans laid for the prosecution of our work with renewed zeal along the lines that experience has proved to be the most successful.

WE are favored with the presence in our Division Committee councils of Professor W. W. Prescott, of Washington, D. C., and of Brother J. J. Ireland of the same place. Brother Ireland is presenting some of the principles underlying mission finance. Two Bible studies are given each week-day by Brother Prescott. The evening Bible studies are based on the Epistle to the Hebrews, with particular reference to the continual mediation of the Son of God both in nature and in grace. In lands of heathen darkness there is special need of a clear revelation of the Lord of life and light and glory, even Jesus the Son of God, as our Creator and Redeemer.

PASTOR W. W. FLETCHER, president of the India Union Mission, brings word of the unity of spirit and aim that characterized the recent committee councils at Lucknow, the headquarters of our work in that part of the Division field. During 1917 a goodly number have been added to the faith, and workers have been diligent in service. Our constituency in India, although comparatively small, contributed about Rs. 64,000 (upwards of \$20,000, gold) during 1917 for the support of certain lines of the work in that field, for which no funds have been asked from the Mission Board. Calls are being made for the sending out, during 1919, of twenty new families, all but two of whom are to engage in vernacular work among India's millions. It is proposed that these recruits unite with the present laboring forces in the Bengal, Bombay, Burma, North India, and South India mission fields.

BROTHER R. T. SISLEY, for many years a self-supporting lay worker in the Australasian Union and in Java, is spending a month with friends in

Shanghai. Brother Sisley is en route to the United States for a few months of rest and change. He hopes to be in attendance at the General Conference session. During his sojourn in the East, his health has been uniformly good, and although he is rounding out his seventieth year of life, his zeal is unabated, and he plans to return soon to his chosen field of labor, where so many precious souls are awaiting the words of life and salvation.

FRIENDS at Division headquarters are glad to greet once more Pastor and Mrs. F. H. DeVinney, who have been spending many months in the India Union and in Malaysia. Despite their sojourn in trying climates and the hardships incident to travel, their health has been preserved. The good hand of God has been upon the general laborers all through the fields during the past year. Pastors F. A. Detamore and J. W. Rowland, president and vice-president of the Malaysian Union, testify of the good health of the workers in the East Indies. Surely the mercies of our God are especially manifest in behalf of those who are dedicating their lives to the proclamation of the gospel message. To Him be all the praise.

As the time for holding the next General Conference session draws near, representatives from the Far Eastern field are beginning to leave for the States—some on regular furlough, and some for the special purpose of attending the conference. Pastor B. P. Hoffman, president of the Japan Conference, is already on the way. He plans to return within a very few months, in time to be present at the early fall meetings in the East Asian Union. It is hoped that Sister Hoffman, who is at present under the care of physicians in the States, will by that time be able to return with him, with health and strength renewed for continued service.

Furloughs have recently been granted to Pastor B. L. Anderson and wife, of the South China Union, Pastor J. M. Comer and family and Pastor W. R. French and family, of the India Union, Brother O. J. Gibson and family, of Honan, Sister Helen May Scott, of Chosen, and Pastor C. P. Lillie and family of Shantung. It is probable that these workers will be present at the coming General Conference session. Brother and Sister B. A. Meeker, who are returning because of ill health, will also be present.

Because of the pressing demands for continuous field service on the part of those bearing heavy administrative burdens throughout the Asiatic Division field, the Executive Committee has thought best to advise a very small delegation to represent the interests of the Division at the coming General Conference. Under ordinary circumstances provision would be made for adequate representation from every union field. The present scarcity of workers, however, makes this impossible; and so only a few have been spared for the few weeks necessary to make a quick trip to the Conference and return. Among these are: Pastors J. E. Fulton, J. S. James, C. H. Watson, W. W. Fletcher, and C. E. Weeks. It is difficult to spare even this number. These brethren will be returning within a very few weeks following the close of the Conference, for service at the summer and fall meetings.

C. C. CRISLER.