

The China Division Reporter

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No. 1

AIMS FOR THE NEW YEAR

By W. H. BRANSON

THE year 1940 has opened very inauspiciously, and from a human point of view the prospects before our work are not at all encouraging. The conflict in China has entered its third year and now the fires of war have broken out in many places in other parts of the world. Many of our people, including workers, have been called into service in the various countries, and our leaders are finding it most difficult to foster properly the many interests of the work and to hold our churches together.

But the present situation, though difficult, is no reason for discouragement. After all, the prospects are actually as bright as the promises of God. He who is our leader is not restrained by outward conditions in the carrying forward of His work. He is Omnipotent in power. Compared with Him the nations are as "a drop of a bucket and the small dust of the balance."

Even in troublous times the work of God is not to diminish, but rather to strengthen and increase. We are told that "the bright light going among the living creatures with the swiftness of lightning represents the speed with which His work will go forward to completion. He who slumbers not, who is continually at work for the accomplishment of His designs, can carry forward His great work harmoniously. That which appears to finite minds entangled and complicated, the Lord's hand can keep in perfect order. He can devise ways and means to thwart the purposes of wicked men; and He will bring to confusion the counsels of them that plot mischief against His people.

"Brethren, it is no time now for mourning and despair, no time to yield to doubt and unbelief. Christ is not now a Saviour in Joseph's new tomb, closed with a great stone, and sealed with the Roman seal; we have a risen Saviour. He is the King, the Lord of hosts; He sitteth between the cherubim; and amid the strife and tumult of nations He guards His people still. He who ruleth in the heaven is our Saviour."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 5, p. 754.

With these considerations before us, we have every reason to take courage and go forward. The new year should be a year of unparalleled advancement in the work of God, and it can be if we all plan, pray, and work to that end.

Our aims for the new year should be—

1. A deeper consecration to God on the part of every worker and member.
2. The winning of a much larger number of souls through strong public evangelistic efforts.
3. The scattering of our message-filled literature like the leaves of autumn.
4. Setting every church member to work for the lost.
5. Reaching and encouraging all our scattered members.
6. Making soul-winning effort the outstanding feature of all our institutional work.
7. Bringing all our church members and adherents directly under the influence of the Sabbath school.
8. Bringing a much larger number of our children and youth under the influence of our Christian schools.

As we strive to reach these aims, let us remember that "we must have a true, abiding faith that this message will go forth with increasing importance till the close of time."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, p. 154.

UNENTERED TERRITORY IN OLD SIAM*

BY R. P. ABEL

IF we should draw a line on the map from Bangkok, Siam, passing it through Ubol and on to Tourane on the coast of French Indo-China, it would pass through the northernmost mission stations in this vast peninsula. North of this line, and extending to the borders of Siam and French Indo-China, lies a great unentered territory of about 500,000 square miles, with a population of about thirty million souls.

The three main nationalities to be found here are Siamese, Annamese, and Laos. Of the latter there are about twenty million who inhabit the basin of the great Mekong River and its tributaries. Although divided by the French Indo-China-Siam border, their language and religion remain about the same, and their customs differ very little from those of their cousins, the Siamese.

The Laos are outwardly Buddhists, and faithfully do they support an army of young men who annually enter the priesthood; yet they live in constant fear of evil spirits, and attribute most of their sickness and misfortune to them. However, generally speaking, they are a very kind and harmless people, and major crime is practically unknown among them. The authorities tell us that they are the best people in Siam. The Ubol mission work, therefore, is really a work for the Laos, for the inhabitants of this province are all of that group.

Our work was opened here in 1930, but it made slow progress at first. However, in 1932 permission

was granted to open a mission school in an effort to break through the wall of fear and superstition which exists, and from that time onward encouraging progress has been made.

The first few months in the history of our school work in Ubol, Siam, were rocky times for the little institution in that place. For some time the enrolment stood at just thirteen. Finally a change came, and the school began to grow until today we have about 300 students, and a staff of twelve conscientious teachers who are carrying on what is recognized to be the best school in East Siam. Last year our students received the three highest grades given in the government examinations.

We are holding our school in a rented building which is just about ready to collapse. Every room that is at all useable is full of boys and girls who have come from homes that only a few months ago were closed to us and to the message. We are putting forth earnest efforts to secure funds for adequate buildings for this growing school, that we may have dormitories for the boys who are now forced to live with the priests in Buddhist temples. If we could surround these boys with a wholesome Christian atmosphere, very soon might we have an army of workers who could quickly take the message of Christ's soon return to the thousands of villages in this great unentered field.

May the Lord greatly prosper His people, and make them willing in this, the day of His power.

NEVER BEFORE

"Ye have not passed this way heretofore." Joshua 3:4.

"A flower unblown; a book unread;
A tree with fruit unharvested;
A path untrod; a house whose rooms
Lack yet the heart's divine perfumes;—
This is the year that for you waits
Beyond tomorrow's mystic gates."

The New Year is an untraveled district of life. It opens out with uncertainty. The events of the year are known only to the all-wise God. The child of God realizes this. Hence we must cultivate: 1, the habit of trust; 2, the habit of faithfulness; 3, the habit of dependence. The result will be: 1, a disciplined life; 2, a sense of duty; 3, an earnest, prayerful making of good resolutions; 4, a holding to our resolutions at whatever cost. We shall soon find that the resolutions are kept only in the strength of God; that the blessings of the year come only through Him. Walk cautiously and prayerfully and lovingly this New Year's untried road.—*The Endeavorers' Daily Devotions.*

Incomparable Book

THE following figures reveal the circulation of the six best-selling books published in the English language in the past sixty years. "Tom Sawyer," appearing in 1875, has had a sale of 1,500,000 copies; "Black Beauty," published two years later, 1,000,000 copies; Dr. Sheldon's famous book, "In His Steps," published just forty years ago, 8,000,000 copies (incidentally, note that this book has to do with the Lord Jesus Christ); Gene Stratton Porter's beautiful story, "Freckles," appearing in 1904, has had a sale of 2,000,000 copies; Harold Bell Wright's "The Winning of Barbara Worth," 1,500,000 copies; H. G. Wells' interesting, though inaccurate, "Outline of History," first appearing in 1926, 1,200,000 copies; "Gone With the Wind," which was published in 1936, has thus far had a sale of 1,800,000 copies.

Let us contrast the circulation of the Bible with these books. The British and Foreign Bible Society, from 1808 to 1936, circulated 79,306,000 copies of the complete Bible, and reported, September 18, 1938, that in the previous twelve months alone they had circulated 1,151,000 copies of the complete Bible! During the same first century and a quarter, this society circulated more than 476,000,000 copies of the New Testament or portions of the word of God. The American Bible Society, from 1816 to 1938, circulated approximately 31,000,000 copies of complete Bibles and 276,000,000 copies of the New Testament and portions of the word of God.

In other words, two Bible societies alone, excluding the millions of copies of the Bible that have been sold by the Oxford and Cambridge Press and by the publishers of the Revised Version, these two societies alone, one in Great Britain and one in this country, have circulated since the beginning of the nineteenth century more than 110,000,000 copies of the complete Bible! If the circulation of a book, which is more or less an indication of the extent to which a book is read, is a factor in determining the greatness of a book, there is still no other book in all the world even to compare with the word of God.—*Wilbur M. Smith in Moody Monthly, June, 1939.*

*Part of the Thirteenth Sabbath Overflow for this quarter will go to help the Siam Mission.

ARE YOU HITTING AT NOTHING?

BY C. LESTER BOND

A STATEMENT made by the apostle Paul sets before us an ideal worthy of imitation by every worker in God's cause: "I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air." Let each of us ask himself the question, What is my aim in life? Do I have a definite, worthy life purpose, or am I hitting at nothing in my program from day to day? God's purpose for His church, and especially for every regularly employed worker in His cause, is revealed in the following extract:

"In a special sense Seventh-day Adventists have been set in the world as watchmen and light bearers. To them has been entrusted the last warning for a perishing world. . . . They have been given a work of the most solemn import, — the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels' messages. There is no other work of so great importance. They are to allow nothing else to absorb their attention."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, p. 19.

And to young workers especially comes this word of counsel: "In view of their high calling, the young among us should not seek for amusement or live for selfish gratification. The salvation of souls is to be the motive that inspires them to action."—*Gospel Workers*, p. 67. As workers, do we have a real burden for souls resting upon our hearts? If so, are we meeting with success in our efforts to win others for the Master? It is said that "nothing succeeds like success," and it seems that so far as human qualifications are concerned, there is no one element more important or more necessary to success in any pursuit than that of definiteness. This is true in every walk of life, and it is recognized as a prerequisite quality in every man in the army of the world's workers.

Some men have been miserable failures in the Lord's work because of their lack of definiteness. Some have been dropped from the ranks of our workers because they have been unprofitable. No doubt there are many more still in the work who are not meeting with the success they should because of their indefiniteness. They talk fluently; they have pleasing personalities; they preach good sermons. But they lack the ability to come to a definite point in their

sermons, to turn their pastoral visits into definite results, and to bring people to definite decisions. To use a common expression, they "do not get down to brass tacks." Therefore they do not have large results in their work.

This does not apply to ministerial workers alone, but touches every phase of our denominational endeavor. The need of the hour in the ministry, in our conference offices, in our publishing work, in the mission fields, in the medical work, in our educational work, in our church work, in the Missionary Volunteer society, and in fact everywhere, is for definite men and women to do a definite work in a definite way at a definite time.

As workers we should by prayer, careful study, and planning, endeavor to build this all-important element of definiteness into our lives and into our work. Then by precept and example we should lead the members of the churches into this same experience. Were all to do this, how different would

be the results of our efforts throughout the year! How many there are who begin a good work, but lose out by the wayside because they lack the determination that would lead them to complete the undertaking. They have not been definite in their pursuits.

Every task that is worth undertaking is of sufficient importance to be completed. What satisfaction there is in any work well done! Would it not be well for us individually to study carefully every feature of our work, to check our methods of procedure, to gather up, any loose ends? And then through a reconsecration of life and a definiteness of purpose, we can enter upon our work with a new courage, and a determination to gather a much larger fruitage in souls for the Master.

Let us, as workers for God, make definiteness our motto. Let us labor to win a definite number of men and women to Christ, to spend a definite portion of each day in prayer and Bible study, to carry always a definite conviction of heart that ours is the work of God. Let us stop hitting at nothing, and rally as one man to accomplish the work God has planned for us.

SHANGHAI'S UNUSUAL WEEK OF PRAYER

BY D. E. REBOK

DECEMBER nine to sixteen was a week that will long be remembered as a week of blessing to every member of the six churches in the city of Shanghai. It was an unusual Week of Prayer in that the revival meetings were conducted by the Division president, the seven union superintendents, and several other leaders present at the time at Division headquarters. In the writer's twenty years of residence in and around Shanghai, this was the first time the churches have enjoyed the privilege of such leadership.

It was an unusual Week of Prayer in that a real spiritual revival was experienced by all. New life, new vigor, new spiritual vision, have come to the members of these churches. And did not our hearts rejoice within us as we saw sixty-five precious souls come forward in the decision to accept Christ as their Saviour, to follow Him in baptism and in the Christian way of life?

Baptismal classes have been formed for these converts. Even that is unusual, for these classes will

be conducted in four languages; namely, Chinese, German, Russian, and English. Our prayers should and will follow these precious souls as they prepare in heart and mind and daily conduct for church membership here and for a home in the earth made new.

This Week of Prayer awakened many a cold and lukewarm Christian. Backsliders were reclaimed; wayward ones were regained; known and cherished sins were confessed; personal victories that called for courage and humility were gained, and wrongs were made right. What rejoicing the week brought to human hearts! and what greater joy there must have been in the courts of heaven!

May similar experiences come to every church and company throughout the Division. Surely it is high time for such revival and reformation among the eighteen thousand members of these churches. Spiritual victories bring spiritual rejoicing, and happy Christians can work for the salvation of others with greater courage and with surer results.

MEDICAL UNITS IN CHINA

BY DR. A. W. TRUMAN

IF the right arm of this movement in China consisted merely of buildings, and material resources, we might have some reason for discouragement at the present time; but though some of our medical institutions cannot be operated at the moment, yet I think we can agree that there never was a greater need for our medical ministry in China than now. And I think that in a way there may be just as great a work being carried on now as in the past.

I have had opportunity to contact only a few of our medical units in the China Division, but what I have seen has given me courage. In company with Dr. Walton, Pastor Branson, and Pastor Ham, I went to Canton and saw the work being done in that ghost city. Although the sanitarium building was practically empty, a splendid work was nevertheless being done along medical missionary lines. In company with Dr. Wagner, who is in charge of the work there, we visited one refugee camp where 1,300 women were receiving medical care from our medical workers. In the afternoon of that same day we visited another camp in that city where 1,000 men were being cared for. In addition to that, a hospital had been improvised in an old school building on the sanitarium grounds, where there were 75 in-patients, some of whom were very ill.

Then Dr. Walton and Brother P. L. Williams and I went over to see the work being done at Nanning. I was very happy to meet Dr. Coffin there and to see the work he was doing. Here we found the hospital full to capacity of people needing the medical ministry. Much of this work along medical lines is seed sowing; we do not at once see the harvest; but who can measure the good being done and the friends being won to this truth through the efforts put forth at this time for the poor refugee unfortunates in China?

More recently I had the privilege of visiting our medical institutions in the North. In Mukden I found a very well adapted little clinic, and I believe it had only one or two empty beds. Dr. Miracle was very busy taking care of the sick. South from the Clinic a few miles is the beautiful little medical plant, the Shenyang Sanitarium. The Doctors James

are looking after the interests of that work. I found the sanitarium filled with patients. It has been possible to more than make the cost of operating the plant, and we found in process of construction a new home for the physician and also a very good laundry building.

From there we went to Peking, where we were joined by Pastor Harris, and with him went on to Kalgan. Dr. Randolph had just returned from a short absence, and so the patient list was not so large as usual. The work at Kalgan has made a deep impression on the hearts of our people in America, and I know from what I could observe that a splendid work is being carried on at the present time in Kalgan. Although great sacrifices have had to be made by our medical workers as well as others in China, the seed sowing goes on and is bringing results.

I believe that a new chapter is still to be written of our medical work in China, and that a brighter day is dawning. There is a part in this work we can all do by loving and living the principles that are the foundation of our health reform movement and by passing these principles on to others.

Harvest Ingathering Results in New Branch Sabbath School

A recent letter from Pastor C. B. Green, Sabbath school secretary for the North China Union, contains the following paragraph:

"The Tsinan Sabbath school has recently opened another branch Sabbath school as a direct result of Harvest Ingathering effort. A store was solicited, and it was learned that religious meetings have been held in this store for several months. The management has now requested our people to supply an evangelist to conduct these meetings—and a branch Sabbath school is the result. This store is a branch of a business concern in Tientsin whose head manager is becoming more and more interested in the truth. These people had previously had no contact with us in Tsinan."

BESSIE MOUNT.

First Baptism in Chaoho, Kirin Province, Manchuria

BY RAYMOND F. COTTRELL

A new group of believers has been raised up at Chaoho in the mountain section of the Kirin Province as the result of the faithfulness of a lay member, Mr. Li, who moved there two years ago. In the early part of 1939, Brother Li closed out his printing business in another city, but before moving, he made a special trip to mission headquarters to talk over plans for starting Sabbath school work at his new location. The Lord prospered both his business and his soul-winning efforts. Before very long, he had a branch Sabbath school started with three persons keeping the Sabbath.

Two of our colporteurs later worked this district, and as the result of their faithful labor, several others were added to the group. This is an illustration of how the various departments of our work can be a help one to another.

It was not long until tithes and offerings began to come in at such a rate that we could easily believe the work in Chaoho would be self-supporting from the beginning. Friendly contacts with the officials enabled us to secure permission to open a chapel. The group of believers, accordingly, provided a chapel building without expense to the mission, besides furnishing it with seats and other necessary equipment.

A young man was chosen from the ranks of our colporteurs to be the evangelist at Chaoho who with his wife, our Bible worker at Hsinking, moved there to care for this new interest. Brother Wang Ging Yang the evangelist in the Provincial capital, and leader of this district, has greatly assisted in laying a firm foundation for the work in Chaoho.

The first baptism here was held in the fall of 1939, and a church of sixteen members organized. Nearly thirty others are now studying the Bible and preparing for baptism. The story of the Chaoho church is being duplicated in many other places in Manchuria, where the Lord is using humble, Spirit-filled men and women to do a mighty work for Him in winning souls to the Gospel.

Hsinking, Manchukuo.

A CHINA TRAVELOGUE

By E. L. LONGWAY

THREE hundred and fourteen! That was the number of boxes, crates, bales, and bundles, containing Bibles, books, medicines and provisions shipped from Shanghai and Hongkong to Haiphong by the good steamer "Taisang," of the Jardine-Matheson line. At Hongkong six Dodge trucks were loaded onto the decks of the steamer. These trucks were to carry all this cargo, plus the baggage of the James and Johnson families, and the families themselves, to their various destinations. The journey was undertaken in faith, as there was no guarantee from the shipping company that cargo could be landed at Haiphong. Four of the trucks were for the service of our own missionaries and institutions, while the remaining two carried a precious cargo of Scriptures for distribution through the provinces of Kwangsi, Kweichow, Szechuan, Hunan and Kansu.

Our boat docked in Haiphong on Friday, the 1st of September. The preliminary arrangements for unloading of cargo and passing of customs were proceeding with more than ordinary speed and smoothness until Sunday, September 3, marked a halt to the loading or unloading of any but government cargo. But finally permission was obtained to have our trucks put ashore and our cargo unloaded into lighters until such time as the new regulations covering the movement of cargo in war time should be issued. Brethren James and Johnson took over the responsibility of unloading and storing the trucks and the transshipping of the goods from steamer to lighters, while the writer proceeded to Hanoi, seat of the Governor-general of Annam, to apply for a special dispensation to move our trucks and supplies through Annam to China.

By the tenth of September the final bit of red tape had been cut, and we were in possession of a precious document that instructed all, both civil and military authorities, to pass the trucks and cargo of the Seventh-day Adventist Mission with all speed and consideration. But "all speed" in Indo-China, and especially during war time, does not mean that one gets very much done in one day, after all. Hence it was not until the afternoon of the 15th that we were able to unload the cargo from the lighters into the six waiting trucks.

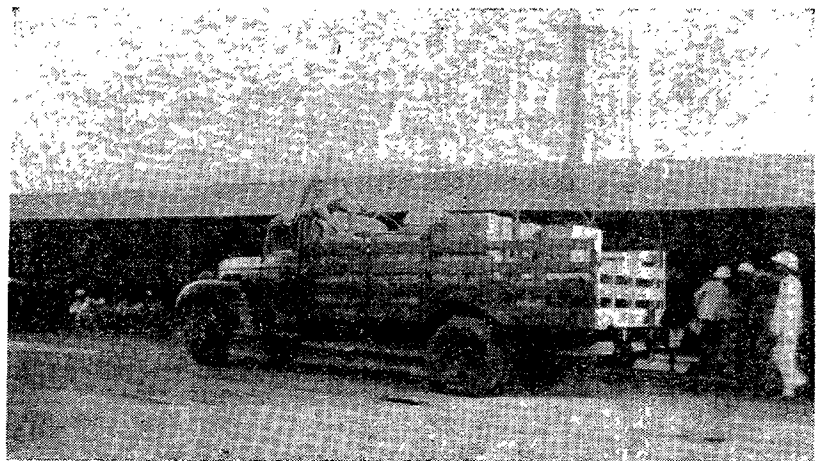
With Brother James to organize, and Brethren Johnson, Wen, and Luk to help with the supervision, our cargo was sorted into six stacks, and then the loading of the trucks began. What fun we had! The weather was hot! The boxes were heavy, especially the thirteen bales of paper for the Dabao Training Institute. The workmen didn't understand English or Chinese. But eventually the last package was loaded and the tarpaulins drawn over the tops of the trucks. It was a tired but happy crew that rested over the Sabbath and waited with what patience we could muster for the final release from the customs, which we expected to get on Monday morning. It was not until Tuesday evening, however, the 19th of September, that we received the "all clear" from the customs officials. At the last moment we were told that a new order had been issued and that no more trucks would be released for another ten days, as there was great congestion at the border town of Tungtung. But our "special dispensation" proved its worth; for in spite of this new order the military officials at the drawbridge just outside of Haiphong permitted us to pass, and we were away on our journey at last.

It was daylight of the 20th when our caravan, without untoward event, reached the Chinese border. Miss Robinson, an American missionary, with her international station wagon, had joined the party. She had come out from America expecting to drive through from Haiphong to Chengtu alone, but the experiences in Haiphong had dam-

pened her ardor to the extent that she was glad to share our lot. Brother Harry Wen, treasurer of the Little Eden Hospital, had been loaned to us by the South China Union to drive one of the trucks through to Chungking. Brother Bert Luk, X-ray technician from the Canton Sanitarium, was driving another. Brother James was at the wheel of the Hunan Mission truck, while Brother Johnson took charge of the West China machine. Mr. Norins, an American newspaper correspondent bent on reaching Chungking, was driving the fifth truck, and a Mr. Roberts of the Los Angeles Bible Institute had volunteered to drive the station wagon from the border to Nanning. The 20th was a dismal, rainy day, but no one seemed to mind in the least; for on such days we were in no danger of visits from inquisitive airplanes. By ten o'clock of the evening of the 20th the last customs formality was over and we crossed the border into China.

What an inspiring sight! Two loyal missionary families on their way back to their posts of service! Six trucks loaded down with Bibles, medicines, Signs, and religious literature, supplies for the Dabao Institute, and the personal belongings of our drivers and helpers! As the lights of these trucks winked and flashed over the mountains and round the curves and turns of the road, pointing out a wrecked car here, a pitfall there, and danger on every hand, it was comforting to know that the prayers of our brethren over all China were rising to heaven in our behalf.

(To be continued)



Loading at the customs sheds at Haiphong

PROVIDENCES IN THE EAST CHINA UNION

By N. F. BREWER

WE have reason for gratitude to God for His providences in the East China union during the past year. A large part of the field we are still unable to hear from or to reach. In the North Kiangsu Mission there are only three stations having post offices. Thus it has been very difficult to send our Sabbath school quarterlies and other supplies to these stations. Several of our workers have not been paid since the first of the year. Yet even in those stations that we have no means of reaching we have reason to believe the work is going on.

Recently I received a letter from Pastor David Hwang who is making a trip into Anhwei. He reports that our church members were never more earnest than they are now. They realize that we are living near the end of time and are working for their friends and neighbors as they never have before.

The tithe of our national members has increased greatly in the past year. Reporting for the South Chekiang Mission, A. E. Fossey says that the tithes for that field are almost double what they were last year. In the Kiangsu Mission also there is a large increase.

The 1939 Harvest Ingathering funds were the largest ever collected in the East China Union. I think this is due to two things: first the Lord blessed; and second, everybody worked. When we think of the condition of business in Shanghai the past year—almost at a standstill — our raising of \$21,000 is surely a miracle.

In the province of Chekiang one of our members fled from his home because of approaching hostilities. After the armies had passed, he and many other refugees decided to return. They hired ten boats and started back, having thirteen or fourteen persons to each boat. As they neared their destination, a motor boat armored with machine guns drew up along the first boat and opened fire. The boat sank with all its passengers. Our member happened to be in the last of the ten boats; and when he realized what was happening, he stood up and announced to those in his boat that the living God in whom he believed was able to deliver them. He bade them kneel down and pray, and this they did.

They were all unbelievers except this man. As our brother prayed, boat after boat was machine-gunned and sank with all the passengers. But when the armed boat came to the tenth boat it simply sailed away, leaving it and its occupants unharmed. Truly, the God whom we serve today is the same God as of old. He honors the faith of His believing children.

At Nanking a few days ago I saw our old and faithful Brother Swen. He told me of an experience he had had. Brother Swen has faith in prayer. In the trouble that came to the city of Nanking many buildings were burned by the invaders. They came to Brother Swen's home and poured gasoline on the house and tried to set it a fire. But the house would not catch fire. Three times they tried to burn the house down, but three times they failed. All this time

Brother Swen was praying to the God whom he had never known to fail him. When the invaders left, Brother Swen held a praise service to thank God for his deliverance. For many years Brother Swen has used a portion of his home for a chapel; and now in a time of seemingly inescapable calamity God answered his prayer of simple faith.

In the East China Union this year we are promoting three campaigns: 1. Evangelism by public efforts. At present we are about to open up an effort for the German refugees at Wayside and are planning for workers' institutes throughout the field. 2. The increase of tithe. 3. A chapel-building program. There are 197 chapels in our union, 125 of which are without rent. We hope to report a larger number next year.

We are of good courage, but we need your prayers that God may give us of His wisdom and strength for our work.

A BIBLE WOMAN'S WITNESS

AT Yimpo, a station not far from Canton, a Bible woman, Chan Yee-koo, is in charge of the work. Yimpo shared the fate of Canton after the occupation. Ninety per cent of the houses were looted. Our chapel suffered thefts no less than six times, though fortunately no serious loss was sustained. Sabbath services are still being conducted there from week to week.

An interesting feature of this Bible woman's work is the development of a good interest in a village some ten miles distant. Through the aid of a reclaimed church member, meetings were conducted in the home of the man's father-in-law. This marked the beginning of continued evangelistic efforts, and in a short time a large number of people became interested. At first these people would travel each week the ten miles to Yimpo to attend the Sabbath services; but this was found rather difficult for the little children and the aged. Now they are enjoying the privileges of their own Sabbath school. The humble building in which this Sabbath school is being conducted is only large enough to give room for a platform on which the Sabbath school officers can be

seated. About sixty or seventy members and visitors assemble outside this construction. They are happy thus to be able to come together for study; but they certainly desire to have soon a sheltered room for their Sabbath school and church services. They cherish the hope that the mission will provide them with some better accommodations as soon as can be arranged.

In September twelve candidates were baptized at Yimpo. Chan Yee-koo, the Bible woman, has worked under real difficulties at times. On several occasions on her journeys she has met with robbers, but each time has escaped without injury or loss. At one time when she was traveling from Canton to Fatshan on a motorboat, a number of pirates held up the boat and so completely looted it that none were left unrobbed. None except Chan Yee-koo. When the boat finally reached its destination, Chan Yee-koo stepped off smiling and having with her all the belongings she had brought along. When her fellow-passengers marveled, she told them why she had been protected. While the pirates were looting the boat, she was praying in a corner of the deck.—*South China Union News Sheet, Advance.*

CENTRAL CHINA UNION

BY GEO. J. APPEL

"BEHOLD, I have graven thee upon the palms of My hands," is a very precious promise indeed. We are thankful that the Lord has fulfilled that promise in behalf of the workers and members in Central China. This has been a trying year. In our four local missions one director has been completely cut off from the field for the entire year. In another, the director and the treasurer have had to move almost constantly in order to carry on in safety. Another director has been out of his field for over seven months. The fourth field has been without a leader for the past eight months. Yet through it all we have seen the leading hand of the Lord and by His blessing we are able to report some progress.

I wish to mention only two phases of our work; the Harvest Ingathering and the evangelistic work. In regard to the Harvest Ingathering, we have no report whatever from one of the local fields, though we have word that the members in that place intended to do their bit, and we look for a good report. The second field sent one report of \$318, which was received last August. When the time came for the campaign to open in Hankow, it seemed that nothing could be done; but our workers went forward in faith, and as a result a larger sum was raised in the Hupeh Mission this year than in any year since 1922. Every shop in the principal part of the city was visited, and the Lord blessed in giving \$3,236.

The Honan Mission committee set its goal for \$1,600. Even though Dr. Nethery had 100 in-patients in the hospital and 100 out-patients daily in the clinic, he took an active part in the campaign. When I arrived there, seven churches had already passed their goal, and the mission was able to report over \$5,000. We are happy to announce that the Central China Union has more than doubled its goal for the year.

In regard to the evangelistic work, five large efforts have been held. Active evangelistic work for the refugees has been carried on at the Wuhan Sanitarium. One class has been baptized, and another class is awaiting baptism. When I arrived at Yencheng recently I found the sanitarium workers very active in conducting an evangelistic effort

and meeting all expenses from the hospital income. And near the mission compound they were conducting the largest refugee-evangelistic effort that I have ever seen in the China Division. Five thousand people were attend-

ing it on alternate days, making a total attendance of 10,000. This effort was being conducted for those being fed by the refugee kitchen. While these refugees were eating their gruel, teachers would attempt to preach to them the truths of the third angel's message; and although it was very difficult to make 5,000 people hear while 10,000 chopsticks were working, yet the workers were doing their best.

YOUTH'S EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN IN SOUTH CHINA

SUMMER EFFORT IN MACAO

Macao, the Monte Carlo of the Orient, is regarded as one of the hardest places in the South China Union in which to do evangelistic work. However, the influx of refugees to this place offers a larger opportunity than formerly. With the help of a handful of students from the China Training Institute during the summer vacation, it was found possible to conduct an effort here.

We were somewhat handicapped in having our chapel in a secluded corner of the town; and but as we could not improve this situation inasmuch as all the prominent places for rent were already occupied, we changed our plan for work. Instead of calling our meetings an evangelistic effort, we named it a summer Bible institute. Emphasis was laid on the importance of house-to-house visiting and invitation. In time considerable interest was built up. The institute lasted three months, and at the close six precious souls were baptized. Two of these, having completed their high school work, have enrolled in the China Training Institute for college work. In addition to these six, more than twenty others are studying the truth further.

C. N. Tso.

In an engine room it is impossible to look into the great boiler and see how much water it contains. But running up beside it is a tiny glass tube which serves as a gauge. As the water stands in the little tube, so it stands in the great boiler. When the tube is half full, the boiler is half full; when the tube is empty, the boiler is empty. Do you ask: How do I know I love God? I believe I love Him, but I want to know. Look at the gauge. Your love for your brother is the measure of your love for God.—*Sunday School Chronicle*.

PRIMARY SCHOOL FOR CASTLE PEAK

It will be remembered that the students of the Far Eastern Academy while located at Castle Peak, Hongkong, were instrumental in creating an interest in several of the villages in the vicinity of the school compound. Since then meetings have been held for those who had taken an interest in the gospel. A great awakening came this summer when students, under the direction of Pastor C. I. Meng, conducted an effort there. The leaders of Chung-uk village were particularly interested in the Sabbath question; and as light came to them regarding this matter, they sincerely accepted the Sabbath truth in face of severe opposition and even persecution.

By request a primary school is now being conducted in one of the village homes. The owner of this home, himself an educator, takes a deep interest in our program of Christian education. Twenty-two students are enrolled, and there is prospect of doubling or trebling this number in the course of a year or so. The question concerns a school-house large enough to house so large an enrolment. The villagers express the hope that a mission station may be opened there, so that provision may be made for a church school and a place for the holding of Sabbath meetings.

One of three evangelistic bands organized for missionary work in the villages near Foochow report a fine interest developing in Ngshan Village, where seeds of truth were sown several years ago by a member of the school staff. Two meetings held each day were well attended, and these were followed by special evangelistic help by Pastor C. H. Davis. A number of young men and women made their decision for Christ.

China Division Reporter

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1940 English Missionary Volunteer Reading Courses

Books Let In Light

Books are like the windows of a great tower. They let in light. Every life is a growing tower. It is put up stone by stone. The higher it grows, the darker it gets if we do not put in a window here and there to give light. That is what a book does to a life. It lets light into the life.

1940 Senior M. V. Course

"Finding the Light," by Madge Haines Morrill	\$1.25
"In The Land of the Aztecs," by C. E. Wood	1.00
"The Shepherd and His Sheep," by J. W. Rich	1.50
"Animal Neighbors of the Countryside," by Joseph Wharton Lippincott	2.50

Club Price— 4.95

1940 Junior M. V. Course

"A Friend in the Dark," by Ruth Adams Knight	1.00
"His Messenger," by Ruth Wheeler	1.50
"Choppy Waters and Other Stories," by Ella Iden Edwards	1.25

Club Price— 3.35

1940 Primary M. V. Course

"Sunshine Stories," by Daphne Lacey	1.15
"Lasius The Lucky Any," by Nina A. Frey	1.50
Nina A. Frey	1.50

This announcement is a little late. Order at once through the Signs of the Times Publishing House, 515 Ningkuo Road, Shanghai, China.— Prices in U.S. currency.

D. E. REBOK.

Division Notes

THROUGH the liberal financial provision made by the General Conference to the work in China for the year 1940, and through budget adjustments in the field, it has been found possible to place calls with the General Conference for eight new missionary families as part replacement of the ten missionary families who for lack of funds had to be dropped from the budget the previous year. This item brings courage and hope to union administrators and other workers, and we believe to all interested in the advancement of God's work in the China field.

The operation of the Shanghai Sanitarium the past year in the rented quarters on Bubbling Well Road, Shanghai, has, in some respects, not proved satisfactory; hence it has been arranged to close the institution in the rented location at the close of the 1939 calendar year, and by a readjustment of staff and helpers to operate the Shanghai Sanitarium-Clinic at Range Road to its full capacity. It is planned to secure a new location in the International Settlement where office space may be had, and where dispensary work, as an adjunct to the Shanghai Sanitarium-Clinic may be carried on. We look forward to the opening of the Rubicon Road property as soon as political conditions clear up and satisfactory operation seems assured.

The closing of the Shanghai Sanitarium and Dispensary work at the Bubbling Well rented quarters at the close of 1939 allows for some readjustments in personnel, and the following changes are noted: Dr. and Mrs. R. W. Paul transferred temporarily to the Shenyang Sanitarium at Peiling, Mukden, to look after the sanitarium work there while Drs. H. C. and Ethel James go on furlough. Miss Ethel Porter is taking early furlough, and upon her return will connect with the Northwest China Sanitarium and Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Fossey, of the South Chekiang Mission, are in Shanghai en route to Chungking, Szechuan, where Brother Fossey will take over office duties and thus relieve Brother and Sister W. I. Hilliard for furlough.

Pastor J. H. Effenberg, who for some weeks has been endeavoring to get through to Yencheng, Honan, is now reported to have arrived at that station. Pastor Effenberg will visit the churches in that mission and supervise missionary interests

Sabbath School Teachers' Training and Reading Courses

"Better Methods for Sabbath School Teachers" is the study volume for the second year of the new three-year Sabbath School Teachers' Training Course provided by the Sabbath School Department. The supplementary volume is entitled "Practical Pedagogy in the Sabbath School." The material covered in these books is being adapted for translation into Chinese, and will eventually be available to our Chinese Sabbath school teachers. Our foreign workers throughout the field who are endeavoring to lift the standard of teaching in our Sabbath schools will appreciate having these volumes in English. The prices have not yet been announced, but the books can be ordered in the usual way.

The English Sabbath School Workers' Reading Course for 1940 consists of *The Sabbath School Worker* and the new volume entitled "Counsels on Sabbath School Work" (price, cloth, \$1.00 U.S.), both of which should be in the home of every worker. "Counsels on Sabbath School Work" is a compilation of testimonies dealing with the work of our Sabbath schools and replaces "Testimonies on Sabbath School Work." If you have not already secured your copy, order it now.

BESSIE MOUNT

generally in the absence of the director, G. L. Wilkinson.

Mr. E. C. Wood was in attendance at the officers' winter council. Brother and Sister Wood will be located for the next few weeks in Shanghai, where Brother Wood will prepare church and home building plans that will be available for use in building operations throughout the China Division. Brother Wood will also assist in some construction and remodeling work at the East China Compound.

Mrs. M. E. Loewen and daughter Marvelyn arrived in Shanghai from the States per s.s. "Taiyo Maru," December 21. They were met by Pastor Loewen, who was in Shanghai to attend the officers' winter council. Pastor Loewen, with his family, will return shortly to Chungking, taking with him two truckloads of supplies for the mission stations in the West China Union.

S. L. FROST.