

After the Federation Conference

Those were three high days. It would spoil any presiding officer to have such a fine spirit of cooperation, such splendid behavior.

Maggie Lee and I stayed at the Austen House, as did a good many of the Delegates. As I went on the train toward Tokyo, I guess it was Tuesday night, Dr. Christopher Noss was in the car with me. He was translator and publisher in English of Langes' Japanese text book which we used when we first studied Japanese.

Dr. Noss told me about his family. He had been married twice and had reared five children by each wife. He said their college education had not cost him anything. A friend of his, a teacher, had said to him, "send them to me, you need not worry further about their education." Wonderful! I believe that was in the good old state of Pennsylvania.

Maybe the reader will suffer one more word. Dr. Noss said to me "Bouldin San, it has been a long time since I have seen a woman with more poise than Mrs. Bouldin has." And I said "Thank you."

That part of the presiding job was over. But it is a month or so until the Federation of Missions in Chosen has its annual meeting in Seoul. And by custom the Chairman in Japan who has ended his service in Japan goes too. He is sent to the annual meeting, which is in Korea, as a fraternal delegate or messenger and is given a chance to speak. This was to me a delightful duty. It was early fall and boats from the mainland of Asia had brought cholera to Moji and Shimonoseki, spoiling the fishing and swimming in the sea. It

was no great sacrifice for me to give up those two exercises, but as I had to cross the strait to Fusan by ferry, an eight-hour trip by boat, and as the Japanese Government had to take care of the health of the people in both countries, I had to take a medical test before landing in Chosen. This, and the delicate situation caused by Japanese control in Korea, naturally took up a part of my time when it was my turn to speak. In the audience was Bishop Welch who at that time was, I believe American Methodist Bishop over missionaries in both Japan and Korea. It was an assembly of fine people to speak to, and I tried to do my unpertentious best. When I was through speaking and resumed my seat by the side of ^{the} Bishop, he said "capital, capital." And, of course, I was pleased.

Whatever may have been the connection with my term as Chairman, of the Federation, about this time I was appointed by the Federation as Examiner in the Japanese Language for Kyushu and the neighboring regions of Japan. This helped me to get acquainted with several younger missionaries who came to my house for language examination.

Toyohika Kagawa Fellowship

For almost half a century, Toyohika Kagawa was, himself, practically an institution in Japan and in some sense in America. The Fellowship that bore his name was organized to help raise money to help Dr. Kagawa to finance his social and religious work, and especially to set him free to be used in mass evangelism.

But the retreats that were held annually for some years were for the benefit mainly of his missionary friends who wanted to hear Dr. Kagawa talk and help them to keep abreast of his thinking. They

were delightful gatherings usually in the autumn and usually held for about two days at some hotel in the mountains.

Something like fifty missionaries and a few Japanese would be together and the larger part of the time when all were awake and between meals all were listening to Dr. Kagawa talk, or asking him questions. He was at home in English as well as Japanese and his stock of information about religion, history, economics, and any number of subjects was truly amazing, and one wonders how the world gets along without him now that he is gone from us.

I was appointed once by the Federation of Missions to be chairman of a committee to study Social and Economic questions which I mention only to show how missionaries in Japan in those days were interested in such matters.

Five Years as Mission Treasurer.

From springtime 1922 to springtime 1927, I was treasurer of the Japan Mission S.B.C.

There is one old story about financing foreign mission work that may have been buried, whiskers and all, for sometime, but this is a posey on its resting place just for old times sake.

It ran like this: Yes, I gave a dime Sunday for Foreign Missions, and put in 90 cents to carry it over seas.

Well, to leave a good word here for modern banking, this story is true. In the early spring of 1915 we were returning to Japan after our first furlough. Some well-meaning friend suggested that any extra money might well be carried in gold, since a good deal of the world was at war already. I got the bank to let me have \$300 in 20-dollar gold pieces and put them in a belt and wore it next to the skin.

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I landed in Japan and took this gold to a bank. I got for it about 3 yen less than a check would have brought. When gold is shipped, one has to pay for insurance on the gold, while a check goes for the price of a postage stamp.

The modern mission would have an office and a bounded treasurer. In our day a full-time missionary did the work of the treasurer on top of his regular work, and got no extra pay as treasurer.

Modern business has helped banking to become a great science and as best a great art. A Japanese merchant wants to buy some goods in America. He goes to a bank to get a check to pay for the goods. The bank has on hand a check signed by an ordinary missionary who has drawn on his Board for \$10,000 to pay the bills on his mission for the next month. The merchant pays for his goods in a way as simple as that.

And the Board doesn't have to send money every month. Once a quarter, the Board sends a letter of credit to each mission Treasurer for one-fourth of the year's appropriation, for that mission. Each month the mission treasurer takes the letter of credit to his bank and draws a check on the letter of credit and the bank enters the amount on the letter of credit and hands the same back to the missionary. At the end of the quarter the mission treasurer sends the old letter of credit back to his Board, leaving to the Board any funds that were not needed and not drawn.

In my day the Japanese banks with which we dealt allowed us interest on daily balances, even in cases where we had a checking account. Every day in which 100 yen or more was left in the bank, we were credited with one sen for each 100 yen in the account, making interest at 3.65% for the year. We paid a good deal on traveling expenses with this interest.