

UNION WATCHWORD
1916-1917

Stedfastly in Prayer and Ministry—Acts 6:4

Royal Service

SUCCESSOR TO OUR MISSION FIELDS



AND THE ANGEL SAID UNTO THEM, BE NOT AFRAID: FOR BEHOLD, I
BRING YOU GOOD TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY.—Luke 2;10



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Royal Service

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MAGAZINE AND BOOK REFERENCES—Program Helps

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PALMS OF VICTORY

WHEN the autumn was in all its glory Dr. J. M. Frost heard the Master say: "Herein is My Father glorified that ye bear much fruit. Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord," and we can hear the Heavenly choir singing "Palms of Victory, Palms of Victory". While the hemp fields of his native Kentucky were rich with their ripened grain how blessed that the Lord of the Harvest should have gathered him Home. Though there is ever the note of sadness in the autumn time still there is ever the song of triumph as seen in the garnered crops, the harvest moon, the "common bush aflame with God" and the flowers which, like the chrysanthemums after a spring and summer of growing and waiting, come into their golden glory at that time. And so there is the note of sadness in the passing from our midst of our friend and counsellor, Dr. Frost, for all will miss him, and yet there is undimmed glory as we think of his abundantly fruitful life.

Others will tell of his work as pastor, student, writer and secretary, but to the Woman's Missionary Union is given the privilege of bearing especial testimony to his unflinching interest in our woman's work for women and young people. He was a careful reader of Union publications, praising them when he could and frankly advising when he believed changes should be made. His interest in our work was signally shown by his faith in the need for and future of the W. M. U. Training School. Those who have read Miss Heck's history "In Royal Service" will recall that Dr. Frost went with her and the Louisville committee as they searched for the best house for the new school. Miss Heck thus describes the occasion: "None who went house-hunting that July will forget it—upstairs and down, over and under, in the burning heat. The last was the best—334 East Broadway. It was as if formed for the need. The contract was made to purchase it at \$20,500, most of which was to be borrowed". From that house-hunting Dr. Frost went back to Nashville and many have heard him tell how he simply could not forget the longing of the Louisville committee and of the entire Woman's Missionary Union to have the building and yet how the money for it must be borrowed. Then he would tell how he had a dream in which he pictured himself as asking the Sunday School Board from its net earnings to give the women a small sum toward the building; then how he dreamed he asked for more; and then finally how the dream said he must ask for the entire \$20,500. And so he did and the Board let his dream come true and only eternity will reveal how thorough that school the dreams of many for trained service are ever coming true.

No wonder the school grew with such initial encouragement until, after seven years, enlargement was imperative. Once again Dr. Frost met Miss Heck and the Louisville committee, going over the situation with them most carefully. Some had advised selling the property at 334 East Broadway and purchasing two apartments a few blocks to the south. Others thought that the school should be built out on the new ground owned by the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. To both of these opinions Dr. Frost was opposed. As for the first suggestion, he said that it was important to remain on a great thoroughfare and that he considered the present situation to be eminently strategic in the light of the city's growth. As for the second plan, he felt that it was much better to have the school remain near its Good Will Center and the people whom that center was to serve. His advice was followed: the corner lot next to 334 East Broadway was purchased and plans were immediately entered into to erect upon the two splendid, elevated lots one large building which would meet the needs of the rapidly growing school. Never did Dr. Frost regret his counsel in this matter but was ever willing to talk over the building plans and specifications and, as a very substantial encouragement, he persuaded his Board to give \$10,000 to the Enlargement Fund. For all these things and a host of others the Union does truly thank God for his life.

It was our great longing that he should be present at the dedication of the new building and in a very real sense he will be there, for the memories of his kindness to the school will gather like a halo to bless the students and their friends. They may well remember that day how the

Psalmist said: "The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree"; how the people laid down their palm branches for Jesus to ride over them in triumph to Jerusalem; and how the "great multitude which no man could number out of every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, arrayed in white robes and palms in their hands" are ascribing praises unto God. They may well remember how the palm tree is "the emblem of constancy, fruitfulness, patience and victory; how it will not be pressed or bound downward; how the higher it grows the stronger and broader is its top; and how from its roots springs up many another tree". Remembering, they will say as we do now that the life of Dr. Frost flourished because he was righteous; that in word and deed he cast his all before the onward march of his Lord; and that he is with that innumerable host which forever and ever bear "palms of victory".

We give this month on the editorial pages an article written by Dr. T. B. Ray of the Foreign Mission Board and direct the especial attention of our readers to it.

It is Dr. Ray's particular interest to keep in close touch with the missionaries and their needs in the field. For this reason we asked him to send you a message at this time. He sends it with the prayer that it may be of some genuine help in our preparations for a Christmas offering.—Mrs. W. C. James, President W. M. U.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING AND THE WEEK OF PRAYER

THE time for the Christmas Offering for China is upon us and the call for the Week of Prayer in January has gone forth. What can we say to provoke real prayer and sacrificial giving? If there is a field in all the world that should challenge prayer and offerings, that field is China.

A Large Field. The size of the field is really beyond our comprehension. If we could gather all southern Baptists into one place we should have a gathering of people that would about equal the population of the largest city in China, namely Canton.

We have four great mission fields in China. Three of these (the North, the Interior and the South China Missions) each have a population, roughly speaking, as large as the entire population of our southern states. Our other mission (the Central China Mission) has a population about one-half that found in our southern states. We, therefore, labor in a population three and one-half times the size of that in our southland. Even though we are in touch with so vast a number of the Chinese there are, outside of the bounds of the six provinces in which we have work, yet other twelve provinces with three-fourths of the people of China in them for whom we are doing nothing and for whom we can have no hope of doing anything for a long, long time, if we keep on at our present rate of progress.

Our Large Investment. Already we have put much into China and this should, of itself, quicken our interest. 106 of the 180 women missionaries under appointment of our Board are in China—considerably more than half. Surely the field in which are located such a large portion of our women missionaries should have extended consideration from their sisters at home. Then, too, we have in China 9 out of the 12 medical missionaries, 7 out of the 8 trained nurses under the appointment of our Board and all the hospitals which are being supported by our Young Women's Auxiliaries. By far the larger portion of the schools for boys and girls which the Sunbeams and Royal Ambassadors support are located in China.

Taking into consideration the whole field, we find that there are in China a total of 5,338 foreign missionaries, 20,460 native workers from all Christian denominations and that the membership in all the churches has reached the handsome total of 268,652. It is said that a visitor once inquired of a resident of Shanghai whether there were any missionaries in that city. The feeling reply was, "The suburbs are simply infested with them." And yet, even with this showing, there are still 1,557 walled cities in China in which no foreign missionary is located.

The Enlarging Hope. The light is breaking on the "Hills of T'ang". There are many gleams of hope easily discernible and greatly encouraging. We mention here only a few. Mr. Mott tells us that the student class is the Gibraltar of the non-Christian world. In the

recent meetings held by Mr. Eddy in China thousands were converted to Christ, showing that this class is now open to the Gospel to a remarkable degree. Last year some of the most successful evangelistic work done in our mission stations was that done in the schools.

Even the awful world-war has not been able to destroy the prospects of Christianity as many have feared. In reply to a question that has been on every one's lips we quote, with great satisfaction the following brief statement by Bishop Roots, of Shanghai: "Everybody anticipated that such a war as the present, lasting as long as this has already lasted, would have brought the missionary work almost everywhere well nigh to a standstill and would have discredited the whole cause of Christian missions. The fact that such fears have been, to a great extent, proven to be ungrounded affords thought for the most serious reflection."

The report is that Sun Yat Sen, the leader of the Chinese revolution which resulted in the establishment of the Republic, is now in Peking. This fact shows that the present president, Li Yuan Hung, is in thorough sympathy with the Chinese Republic and the menace of a return to the old monarchical conditions seems to be very remote. The president is also quite friendly to Christianity. Indeed, everything but our own tardy response to opportunity seems to favor the growth and progress of the cause of Christ in China. The ways are open to us. Shall we advance on our knees?

A Campaign of Prayer. The opportunities in China and the situation here at home which determines our relation to these opportunities are such as call for heroic methods. Idolatry in China is waning, but who can say that it is not increasing in America. "Covetousness which is idolatry" is a serious menace. We need strong means by which to grapple with the colossal forces in China as well as with those at home. Nothing will be mightier than real prayer. We need a regular campaign of prayer. We must have more laborers for gathering in the harvest. How are we to get them? Did not our Master command us to pray for them? We must have more money with which to send these laborers. Definite prayer for definite needs will come nearer breaking loose the purse strings than anything else.

The Size of the Christmas Offering. It is unnecessary to tell you that we will need this year the largest Christmas Offering to China ever made by the Woman's Missionary Union. The very growth of the work is a call for a larger support. One opportunity met opens the way to yet larger ones. This is for our growth as well as for our Father's glory.

If we would enter into the larger fellowship with Him we must take a sacrificial share in His work. The magnitude of our sacrifice and not the size of our gift will determine the blessing to us. In deciding upon the size of your gift you should find out how much you must give in order to make a genuine sacrifice. Unless you give unto sacrifice you cannot enter very far into His fellowship, because the deep fellowship with Christ is "the fellowship of His suffering". Let us suffer with Him this time when we make our Christmas Offering to China. "If so be that we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified with Him."—T. B. Ray

ANNUITIES

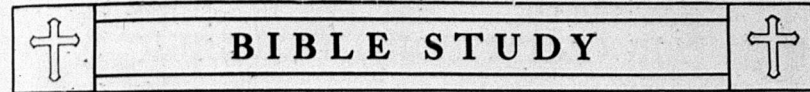
THE Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention, is prepared to receive money on the annuity plan. Write to the corresponding secretary (address on page 2) for particulars. The forms prescribed by the laws of the state where the donor resides should be carefully followed as to acknowledgment, witnessing etc. of the will. It is desirable that any person executing a will containing a bequest or devise to the Woman's Missionary Union should notify the corresponding secretary.

Form of Bequest to Woman's Missionary Union, S. B. C.

"I hereby give and bequeath to the Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention, a corporation organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Maryland, the sum of dollars."

Form of a Devise of Real Estate

"I hereby give and devise to the Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention, a corporation organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Maryland (here describe the real estate to be given) and to its successors and assigns and their heirs forever."



TOPIC—The Circle of God's Will

For I delivered unto you first of all that which also I received; that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures—I Cor. 15:3.

I. *Sovereign Will:* The Scriptures teach us that the death of Christ "was a result of God's eternal counsel and decree. It was a well laid design from all eternity, contrived by divine wisdom, resolved on by divine goodness". "According to the eternal purpose": Eph. 3:11. Our Saviour was a "Lamb slain from the foundation of the world", Rev. 13:8. We are redeemed by the precious blood of Christ, preordained before the foundation of the world: I Peter 1:18-20. It was by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God: Acts 2:23, that our Lord Jesus was delivered into wicked hands. It was also the divine will of God, I Peter 1:2, wholly of grace, apart from human merit, Rom. 9:11; 11:5, 6, whereby certain are chosen from among mankind for Himself: John 15:19. "The foreknown are elected, and the elect are predestinated, and this election is certain to every believer by the mere fact that he believes": I Thess. 1:4-6; Eph. 1:11; 2:13.

II. *Christ's Submission to God's Will:* Obedient to death, God exalted Him, Isa. 53:12; Phil. 2:9-11. Christ suffered for us to save us and is our example of submission to the will of God; I Peter 2:21-24.

III. *Jesus declares the Father's Will:* John 6:37-47. The will of God is our salvation, wrought for us through the death of Christ: Rom. 3:25, 26. The Father's will is *sovereign* in its character, John 6:39, 40, the will that called creation out of nothing, Ps. 33:9; Gen. 1:3, Ps. 148:5; *omnipotent*, which none may stand against, a fixed, irresistible will, with no variability, James 1:17-18. *Mercy* is the Father's will, *Love* is the Father's will, *Salvation* is the Father's will, my heart flies into His bosom with ecstasy and joy; God's will, omnipotent, unchangeable, so full of benevolence, so full of love: I John 3:1-3.

IV. *Reason of Christ's Coming:* John 6:38. It was needful for Jesus to say this that we might understand His life on earth and as an example for us. It is for me to lay down my will at God's feet; to have no will but His; John 4:34; 5:30; Matt. 26:39. The Son of Man came to give His life a ransom; Matt. 20:28. The yielding Himself to death, the paying His life a ransom were deeds of gift, perfectly free; Gal. 1:4. His death issued from the joint wills of God and His Son. Mankind was sad and forlorn, oppressed by Satan, enslaved to sin, fearful of divine wrath. God's infinite goodness regarded His poor creatures and provided a way of escape. "God commendeth His own love toward us": Rom. 5:8. God loved us, I John 4:10, "so loved", John 31:6. How blessed to follow the example of Jesus: John 6:38. All that Jesus does is the Father's will, and He shows the Father's love: John 16:26, 27.

V. *Divine Side of Salvation:* John 6:39, 40. Christ is *surety* for all who are given to Him. He will lose none, He is responsible for them. There shall not be left in the grave a bone, nor a piece of a bone, of one of the Lord's redeemed, neither their body, nor their soul, nor their spirit. This belief that God hath chosen us unto eternal life will put force, life, energy into us, for Jesus Himself dwells in us: John 17:23, 24. He will give us an unconquerable nature which must fight against sin and overcome: Rev. 3:5. Christ is engaged to bring us safely to the right hand of the Most High: Rev. 3:21. This is the will of God, I Tim. 2:4, and the Gospel, Mark 16:15, 16; John 6:40. We can rely upon the promise, John 6:37.

VI. *God's will the limit of human will:* "Not my will, but Thine be done": Luke 22:42. "This is a glorious liberty: not my will,—not a little will, but *Thine*—a great will; not my thought, but Thine; not my love, but Thine. Is that a limit? It is the lark rising from its field nest into the boundless liberty of the firmament. Truly we do not limit ourselves when we exchange the will of the creature for that of the Creator. The contrast as great as earth and heaven, and as the misty night and the blazing sun of noon-day."—Mrs. James Pollard



PROGRAM FOR DECEMBER



Prepared by Mrs. Geo. H. Whitfield

The programs given month by month present the present-day conditions in our home and foreign mission fields. Societies just beginning mission study or those wishing to review past history of any subject treated will find what they desire in the mission study books, a list of which will be furnished, on request, by Woman's Missionary Union Literature Department, 15 West Franklin St., Baltimore, Md. For a few cents leaflets suggested in this number can be obtained from the same address.



CAMELS, OUTSIDE CITY WALL, PEKING, CHINA

REDEEMING THE TIME IN CHINA

China to-day presents such an opportunity as I suppose the world has never seen before in a country that is not Christian. We were thrilled a few years ago as we heard reports from China after the Republic was established. But let me tell you that the opportunities in China for Christianity to-day are tenfold more than they were six years ago. The opportunity is increasing by leaps and bounds. Aggin let me beg of you, in the name of Christ and in the name of the Orient as a whole, not to close the door of opportunity, but to think in the terms of the Kingdom of God first, and dollars and cents afterward.—Bishop Brent

Whether we will or not, the East is upon us. For good or for evil, Asia is at the door. It is for us in part to determine whether this awakening of the East shall be material or spiritual.—Sherwood Eddy

Five years hence will be too late.—President Li Yuan Hung

God must have great blessings in store for the people He has spared so many centuries.—Dr. Hunter Corbett

Christ's religion is not an insurance association for His followers. It is a working partnership.—Martha A. MacLeish

HYMN—"Joy to the World"

PRAYER—Bible Study (page 7)

"What an American Saw in Asia"

"The Transition Period"

"What Hath God Wrought" (pars. 1, 2)

"The Schools and the Nation" (pars. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7)

"China's Women" (par. 8)

CHRISTMAS OFFERING (Talk by president and distribution of envelopes. par 9)

PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN

WHAT AN AMERICAN SAW IN ASIA*

By Willard Price

I saw glittering Oriental cities, the pride of the East, and under the shining lacquer and gold paint I saw suffering and filth and want such as no man can describe.

I saw rotting bodies, empty minds, naked souls.

I saw Disease, stalking up alleys, wading ankle-deep through garbage to enter the doors of the people.

I saw a mother selling her babies that their older brother might not die of starvation.

I saw pallid factory girls of twelve and even ten years of age, who worked thirteen hours a day, seven days a week, standing constantly while at work, and received a pittance of a third of a cent per hour. This, moreover, in a mill advertised as the "model factory of the Orient!"

I saw things which I have not the heart to set down and you would not have the heart to read.

I saw life in its lowest terms.

AND YET—

I saw love in its highest terms.

I saw Christ yearning over Asia.

I saw the dawning of a new China, not in the political kaleidoscope, but in the spiritual changes which have led to the abolishment of opium, have brought six thousand of China's strongest leaders to accept Christ, and induced idol-makers to turn to the making of busts for show windows because their old business has proved unprofitable.

I saw the mission schools from which the Chinese government has selected the first ten girls to be sent to American colleges under the Boxer Indemnity Fund. They were the best-equipped ten that could be found in China. All were graduates of mission schools; all were Christians.

I saw hundreds of closed shops on Sunday. Neighboring them I saw hundreds of open shops consuming all the Sunday business. Every closed store was owned by a Christian, not a "rice Christian" but a real Christian, whose pocket had no rule over his conscience.

I saw everywhere undermanned hospitals, undermanned schools, undermanned churches; a missionary force powerful in quality, petty in quantity.

I saw Asia, sore, ragged and dull, with her foot on the threshold of the house of Christ, hoping for an invitation to enter.

I saw, upon returning to America, a rich and happy nation, eager and generous to a fault, but unthinking, storming the movie theater, swallowing the lump in their throat for pity of the ragged child in the play—*while Asia waits.*

"The present time can best be understood if we realize that China is passing through a period of transition. Intellectually, she is passing from the age-long ignorance of the masses and the artificial classical education of the favored few to the beginning of an era of modern popular education. Economically, there is a transition from a simple agricultural stage to a new industrial and commercial era. Politically, she is passing from an autocratic to a republican government, from national isolation to a place in the great brotherhood of nations, from

*Abridged from World Outlook for June.

a conception of government that was paternal, patriarchal, and personal to one that is constitutional, statutory, and legal; and from an era of special privilege for officials and their retainers to one of justice and equity for all men before the law. Socially, China is passing from a civilization centered in and circumscribed by the family, to a new consciousness of national life; from the abject subjection of the individual under a crushing paternal system fixed by the worship of ancestors, into the rights of a new individualism; from the narrow limitations of class and clan to a new social consciousness and social service. Morally and religiously, China will pass from nominal conformity to a conventional ethical code to the growing realization of a dynamic of higher righteousness, realized in a new relation to a personal God; from blind obedience to almost the last of the dying national religions to growing participation in the universal world-religion, with liberty of religious belief and worship.

"We view the impressive sight of these four hundred millions, representing one-quarter of the human race, beginning to move in solid phalanx from the ancient or medieval into the modern world, turning from the darkness of superstition toward the light of Christian truth, from poverty to the development of their vast resources, from a political autocracy to the ideal of Republican democracy, from their changeless past to the unknown future.—*Sherwood Eddy*

In one generation China has undergone a titanic political, intellectual and spiritual upheaval. In no small measure has the missionary been a powerful factor in changing China. His excellency, Dr. V. K. Wellington Koo, Chinese Minister to America, revealing the friendly attitude of a high Chinese official, says that in the first place China owes a great deal to the foreign missionaries for the introduction of modern education. By their translations of books on modern science, by their personal efforts in teaching science and arts and in establishing modern schools they have awakened the Chinese to the importance and value of modern education. The present widespread educational movement is traceable to a large extent to the humble efforts of fifty years ago by pioneer missionaries of Christ.

In the second place, that the missionary as a doctor has rendered no less service to China than as an educator. The four hundred missionary hospitals and dispensaries are not only places of comfort for the sick and suffering, but are also centers from which the light of modern medical science radiates to the length and breadth of China. The missionary as a moral and religious teacher and as a social reformer has been a distinct force in China. Missionary teaching has brought happiness to the miserable and light to those in darkness, while many epoch-making reforms such as the suppression of opium and the abolition of foot-binding have received strongest support from the Christian forces in the land. He concludes with these words: "I hold missionary work in high regard as do many of my countrymen. The Christian missionary has not only rendered valuable service in propagating Christian doctrines, but has by various activities contributed to the modernization of China, and under the new régime of republicanism Christianity is bound to make even more rapid progress and accomplish much more in China than she has in the past."

President Li Yuan Hung holds a favorable attitude toward Christianity though he is not a professing Christian, and he has given generously to the support of the Y. M. C. A. and other Christian enterprises. The action of the late President, Yuan Shi Kai, in proclaiming himself emperor, brought about a series of revolutions in various provinces and threatened the disruption of China, but with his death on June 6th, last, and the succession to the presidency of the well-known and respected republican leader, Li Yuan Hung, the revolting provinces renewed their allegiance to the Peking government and there is reason to expect, under his guidance, a new era of peace and prosperity for China.

At the request of President Li, the Honorable Cheng Ting Wang, general secretary of the Y. M. C. A. of China, resigned that position to reorganize the National Senate, feeling it a duty he owed to his country. It augurs well for the cause of Christ in China to have him assume this responsible position. He will probably be one of the leading forces in China, not only politically but spiritually. In a recent article by Mr. Wang on the new conditions in China he speaks of the political problem before his country and then goes on to say: "While, therefore,

the central question before the nation to-day is that of politics, yet a large number of educated people turn their attention to a still greater dynamic force, namely that of education.

3. The Schools and The Nation

"The educated thinkers of China understand that the progress of a nation does not depend upon the form of government. No nation can be wisely and properly ruled until its people have become enlightened. As one of our own statesmen has said, the real hope of China lies in education. With that in view they have been making steady progress in bringing education to the masses.

Christian missions have made a real and lasting contribution to this educational work for the nation. They have been in many cases the cradle of the modern Chinese educationalists. To-day, however, they can accommodate but a fraction of those who wish an education. The mission schools have also produced students well known for their strength of character and high purpose in life. In all the political upheavals the people have a good opportunity of watching the students that come into power. They find that those students who through their touch with the mission schools have embraced the real spirit of love and sacrifice of Jesus Christ are the ones that can best be trusted. Since the revolution of 1911 a large number of Christians have been appointed to important positions in the government as well as in educational institutions.

"With regard to industrial education, there are very many among the missionaries who do not realize the value of this form of education in meeting the needs of the nation. Most of them have the genuine conviction that what China needs to-day is spiritual enlightenment and that they come to China to propagate the teachings of Jesus Christ and not to be entangled with other material and worldly objects. There is no question but that what China needs uppermost is Christ. To enable Christianity to spread in China, we must first of all set the hearts of the Christians on fire that they may go out and spend themselves for their Master; but at the same time they must be provided with means that will enable them to bring the Gospel to their fellowmen. To meet only the spiritual needs without providing for the physical needs is unpractical. That a man lives is due to the fact that the soul has a body for a house. The mission schools have therefore two functions to perform. One is to put before the student the life-giving, sin-purifying, soul- uplifting and energizing Jesus, and the other is to give him such training as to enable him to be a useful member in society.

4. "The Gibraltar of China"

"The most wonderful development in the last decade, I believe, is the breaking down of the so-called Gibraltar of China, namely the winning over of the educated Chinese by the Christian forces. Before 1900 the Christian churches of China could not claim among their members any prominent official or scholar. The missions, of course, have done good work in giving education to the poor, but they could not get the ears of the literati. Comparing that with the present we can hardly believe ourselves. Officials now holding prominent positions in the country, such as the Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Industry, the Commissioner of Foreign Affairs in Hangchow and the Salt Commissioner in Fukien, have become Christians within the last year or two. From this time on the church will find its footing among the literati.

"As China advances along these different lines the position of the missionary must be shifted somewhat. With the number of Chinese Christians growing and with their standing educationally, socially and spiritually being constantly raised, his place will be more and more that of adviser, counsellor and teacher. We need the help of the missionaries as much as ever to counsel and inspire the native Christians and in a quiet way mould the character of the Chinese workers."—*C. T. Wang*

5. *Evangelistic Movement Among the Students

"Out of the China Continuation Committee has been evolved the Foreign Evangelistic Movement in many provinces. The meetings led by Dr. Mott, Sherwood Eddy and others have demonstrated that the student class of China is now as accessible as any other class. So too is the merchant, the literary and the official class. This state of affairs finds the Christian churches little prepared to grapple with their opportunities and must lead to better methods of educating to a sense of their duty the leaders, in particular. The finding, using and training

*From the Missionary Review of the World for July

of strong Chinese evangelists is one of the great contributions which the new movement is making to the Christian cause. In 1914 over 20,000 students from non-Christian schools and colleges expressed their willingness to become 'investigators' of Christianity; 12,000 have been enrolled in Bible classes. These men are literally standing at the church doors. The first and later results of the meetings have clearly shown that the student field of China is ripe for harvest. The pressing problem now facing the movement is not so much how to reach the non-Christian student class, but how can the churches be got ready to hold and teach and train and use these new, large, potential forces for good and for leadership now within her reach. This actual and visible achievement of reaching the hitherto unreached classes, the traditional Gibraltar of the Far East, is nothing less than one of the greatest of modern miracles.

"At the present time there is a notable lack of opposition to Christianity. The old religions are inactive, but it is not unlikely that the government from national and patriotic motives will espouse one of these religions, possibly through the government educational system, which now offers an unhindered approach to Christianity. It is not improbable that a decade from now it will exclude the Christian religion from all influence over government school students.

"In the progress of this movement, Bible study has been found to be the most fruitful center of evangelistic effort and the most fruitful in leading men to ultimate Christian decision. Bible training schools have been held in various sections of the country. City-wide Bible study movements have been inaugurated. Prayer is revealing a new meaning to many. Through prayer combined with hard work miracles have been performed in China. China is ready. The churches in China are awakened, aroused to their opportunity, unprepared but willing to go forward. Missions are sympathetic but handicapped by the lack of suitable evangelistic workers. The situation in China should constitute a call to student volunteers and other candidates who are ready to respond to the great, open opportunity to reach the coming leaders of a mighty people."

That there are those among the Chinese who are convinced of the truth of Mr. Eddy's oft-repeated text, "Christ the Hope of China", is shown in the following answer given by a student in Chengtu University to the examination question "Do you think the American form of government is good for China?"

Why?

"Of course the American form of government is the best in the world. It is naturally good for our country, because it gives the people much power. It leads the people to be the master of the country. It makes people equal and free. It also gives a chance to the people that they may expand their personality which God gives them. Moreover, it cuts out all kinds of cruelty, injustice, and bad customs of our country. Really it is good for China. But, on the other hand, I am sorry to say that it is not good for our country at the present time, because our people have not been educated. They know not their own responsibility. They know not how to help their country. Their moral standards are becoming lower and lower. They have no religion. The minds of the people are not united at all. They know not how to obey the constitution. The officers are bad and corrupt." *In a word, I should say that what China needs at the present time is not any kind of form of government. What she needs now is Christianity. If the Spirit of Jesus Christ can be spread all over China, whether in schools, in government or any places, then China will be strong at any form of government.*

7. Peking Medical College Progress "The plans for the Union Medical College in Peking, which the Rockefeller China Medical Board hopes to make a Christian medical college of a grade second to none anywhere in the world, have so far progressed that the Board of Trustees has been organized and gotten to work. Dr. John R. Mott has been elected chairman of the Board. The entire medical plant of the London Missionary Society in Peking has been purchased, and efforts are now being made to secure adjacent properties. New buildings will be erected and preparation made for receiving the first regular class under the new administration in the fall of 1917. The plan includes the highest possible instruction in all departments of medicine under the best experts to be found in Europe and America. Close cooperative relations will be maintained between this great central plant and the mission hospitals in North China."

8. China's Women

"The greatest of China's discoveries within the past twenty years is undoubtedly the 'New Chinese Woman'. Of her much will be heard in the near future. It may safely be remarked that she appears in very little danger of fulfilling the Confucian ideal of becoming in the domestic establishment (or elsewhere) 'a shadow and an echo!' Women speak in public as well as men, and 'if they have anything to say' can address a mixed audience. While in these troublous times the education of women makes but little headway, the Chinese government has definitely adopted the principle. This adoption is unquestionably one of the greatest revolutions in the intellectual history of mankind. The Christian churches in China are producing many able men—and women also—who occupy positions of great intellectual and spiritual importance. Among these the Chinese evangelists, women as well as men, are in the front rank and their influence is steadily broadening and deepening."

During the past ten years a new factor has entered into the work for Chinese women so devotedly carried on by our mission boards. This is the student and city work of the Y. W. C. A. in such strategic centers as Tientsin and Peking, Shanghai, Canton and Foochow. The association makes it a point not to undertake its work in any city unless asked to do so by the various missions working there. It is not an independent but a contributing agency to the work of all the missions. The method of approach of the association is attractive to the leisure class. At present there is need of social work among both men and women. Women of leisure have no form of social recreation—save gambling. The association can minister even to non-Christians by offering them first a place in which they may find other forms of recreation, then later classes of various sorts appeal to them.

"There is a growing feeling that the students of China possess the power really to transform the country as does no other group of people and that everything possible should be done to keep before them the highest ideals and the largest conception of Christian service. The association feels that the most important work it can do is to train women in service and attempts therefore to give each woman who is taking any form of training an immediate opportunity to share with others." Six student conferences held during 1915 with an attendance of 652 from 77 mission schools and 13 non-mission schools enabled the association to touch vitally more of these students than could otherwise have been done. The evangelistic meetings for students both in mission and non-mission schools conducted by Miss Ruth Paxson, student evangelistic secretary, were richly blessed. More than 600 mission school girls gave the promise to make an honest and prayerful attempt to win at least one soul to Christ this year and many in the government schools were brought to a decision regarding the Christian life.

"If we begin and continue in prayer we shall succeed. If we fail the Lord in the great present crisis what can we expect but that He will take our opportunity from us and give it to another? We Baptists have a message for which the world awaits. It has come to us not only from God, but handed on by a noble line of men and women who suffered persecution and gave their lives to preserve the truth. We have no right to keep it for ourselves—*Christ's religion is not an insurance association for His followers. It is a working partnership.* Any Baptist church that is not making itself a factor in the saving of the world should read thoughtfully the story of the fig tree that was withered away by the scorn of Christ because it bore no fruit. For what reason do we Christians, branches of the living Vine, exist, but that we may bear fruit, and be lovingly pruned that we may bring forth more fruit?"

With these ringing words from Mrs. MacLeish, Vice-President of the Woman's American Baptist Foreign Missionary Society, as our key note can we not pray at this time for an especial blessing upon the gathering of our Christmas offering for the women of China, these women who will have so large a part in the moulding of this and the next generation, these women who are being trained in ways of service, as Bible women, as evangelists, teachers, wives of native preachers and mothers to be, powerful factors in the crucial development of the next decade? At this season of gift-making may we heed the words "We have no right to keep it for ourselves", and set aside as our tribute to the Babe of Bethlehem the gold and frankincense and myrrh of loving hearts, faithfully administering that which is committed to us that in very truth joy may be to the world because the Lord has come."



Y. W. A. PROGRAM



Prepared by a Maryland Y. W. A.

Note: Y. W. A., G. A. and R. A. programs are merely suggestive and are to be adapted by leaders to the requirements of their auxiliaries. The paragraphs referred to in program outlines will be found in general program which begins on page 8. For helpful leaflets see page 3.

PROGRAM

Subject—Redeeming the time in China
Hymn—"Joy to the world—the Lord is come"

Christmas Scripture Lesson—Luke 2:1-20
Hymn—"O little town of Bethlehem"
Prayer—By Leader

It is expedient for us as Christians to redeem the time in China now. Galatians 6:10

I. China's open doors our opportunity. (Let several girls report on this, giving stories or facts that show China is looking to us for ideals in government, in education, and in medicine, and that they are beginning to respect our religion also.)

II. How long will China's doors remain open? Japan of today shows we are failing to redeem the time there.

Hymn—"Hark! the herald angels sing"
Dismissal—Lord's Prayer in unison

Redeeming the Time in China

Now it is urgent that the Christian churches redeem the time in China. Never before has that great country held so many doors open to us. The missionaries are conscious of this fact, for today not only can they go where they like, but they can also preach what they like. These opportunities are due doubtless to the fact that many of the high officials realize what Christianity has done and is doing for their country. While they appreciate the value of an education and are striving to obtain it, they feel, nevertheless, that China can come into the fulness of her power only through Christianity. Think what opportunities such an idea among the better class of people brings to the missionaries!

We are glad to say that these opportunities are being seized. Plans for a woman's college are now being completed. This school, known as Union College, will be located at Nanking. The kindergartens are another means by which the missionaries are

winning the people. The Chinese love their children and are very willing to send them to the kindergartens. The great need today is for kindergartners who can train the natives to take charge of the classes.

Then too the women of China are needed as nurses, doctors and teachers. In the past these occupations were closed to women. Now the possibility of their entering these professions gives to the graduates of our mission schools the opportunity of telling more and more people of the love of Christ. Moreover, the number of our graduates is constantly increasing, the appeal from all of our schools being for larger buildings and more teachers. The standard of the government school today is such that if the mission school is to continue to exercise its influence in the community it will have to measure up to the best. Furthermore, the influence of Christian mothers and daughters in the homes will mean much for the cause of Christianity.

So it is that the number of opportunities for the spread of Christianity in China is great, but who can tell what may be the result if the Christian churches fail to enter these open doors? So let us do our part toward redeeming the time by making our Christmas offering worthy of our Master.

A Test

Rev. Henry C. Mabie, D. D. proposed some time ago this unique and interesting test:

Our interest in missions
is a mark of our
Christian character.

Our knowledge of missions
is the measure of our
Christian attainment.

Our participation in missions
is the measure of our
Christian efficiency.

Apply this test to your own heart and life, and see how you stand.



COLLEGE Y. W. A. PROGRAM



IN Europe today the best that a nation has goes into the service of her army; her greatest statesmen are made the ministers of war, of munitions, of the army and navy; her keenest minds are devoted to the task of recruiting and training an efficient army and to the great questions of the campaign.

The Christian church since the time of Christ has been engaged in a struggle as stupendous, as vital as the struggle now in Europe; it is the fight to overcome the forces of evil by the Gospel of Christ. This is a task that requires the best we have to give. Our missionaries are at the front carrying on an aggressive campaign. We are in the homeland making their work possible. We, the college girls of the south, are expected to do our part even now; in a few years some of us will be asked to take the lead. We cannot be ready unless we fit ourselves now for that service. This we can only do by learning of the work and of the methods. It will mean a sacrifice of our time, a commodity college girls feel they have too little of as it is. But it is not only very much worth while, it is our imperative duty. No sacrifice is too great that will lead to victory. And what better birthday gift can we give to Christ this December than enlisting ourselves, our time and our money in His cause. So let us bend our best efforts toward making our mission study classes and missionary meetings a force for Christ in our colleges. And let us make our Christmas offering a real expression of our willingness to do our part.

Our subject this month is China, that wonderful country that is even now awaking and is turning to us for its ideals in government and in education. You remember that when the new republic was formed in 1913 they asked for the prayers of the Christian world. In the meeting, have some girl tell of the changes that have taken place during the last few years—the overthrow of the old empire, the fight against the use of opium, the substitution of western educational methods for the old examination system. Then an enthusiastic account of the life of some great missionary to China, remembering that particular incidents are of greater interest than statistics. And finally a statement of where our board works and what it is accomplishing.

I have suggested a few references. As college girls you have access to libraries and magazines. Use them to make a wide awake, inspiring meeting. And you know that Christ has laid a responsibility on each one of us, if not to go, at least to send a substitute. If there is any help I can give you in making your work count for Christ in your college, remember I am your secretary and am here to serve you.

Many Faison Dufour

MONTHLY MISSIONARY PROGRAM

Hymn—"As with gladness men of old"
Scripture Lesson—Joshua 1:1-11
"Be strong and of good courage"
Prayer—Particularly for China
Hymn—"Hail to the brightness of Zion's glad morning"
Reports—Changes in China during the last few years (see current magazines and *THE NEW ERA IN ASIA)
Stories from the lives of some of Christ's messengers

1. Matthew T. Yates (*Servants of the King)

*Educational Department, Richmond, Va. Price 35c.

2. Dr. Eleanor Chestnut (*Servants of the King)

3. Our women workers (In Royal Service, pages 227-268; 305-314)

Hymn—"The Son of God goes forth to war"

Our present work (given by several girls)
a. Map study. Locate our mission fields: the central China mission, Kiang Su Province on the Yangtsi river, Shanghai leading city; the Interior China mission, Chengchow and Kaifeng in Honan Province; the North China

(Concluded on Page 31)

*Education Department, Richmond, Va. Price 35c.



G. A. PROGRAM



Prepared by Miss Willie Jean Stewart

Subject—Redeeming the Time in China

Silent Prayer

Hymn—"Silent Night"

Story—The Coming of the Christ Child (See Normal Instructor, Dec. 1914)

Hymn—"Under the Stars" (See Primary Teachers' Book, 3rd year, part 1)

Memory verse on God's will for all men from each girl (See Missionary Calendar of Prayer, Dec.)

Prayer

Reading—The King's Highway, pp. 129-131

Story—Tren Lein, The King's Highway, pp. 156-159

Reading—The King's Highway, pp. 143 (bottom) through 144

Hymn—Luther's Cradle Hymn (See Home Department)

Talk by Leader—What Southern Baptists Are Doing to Redeem the Time in China

Story—China, The Land Without a Christmas

Hymn—"Love Divine"

Social Hour

Note—Let the meeting be very informal. Choose a home with large open fireplace. Decorate with Christmas greens, hang empty stockings, light with candles. Have girls sit about fire on sofa pillows.

China, the Land Without a Christmas

It was Christmas Eve. The twilight had already fallen in the mud-walled compound of the North China Mission, though the day had scarce begun in the homeland far away. Wearily she sank into her chair, the Lady-with-the-gold-in-her-hair as they called her, though one there was who named her Lady-with-the-gold-in-her-heart. It had been a hard day; in the schoolroom first, then down the narrow winding street to see a little sick child and on to a read weekly message of light into the ears of an old blind woman who had first heard the Gospel story scarce three months before and did not fully comprehend it yet. Then back she had come through the

market streets seeking some little extras for tomorrow, their Christmas day.

Christmas Day! The name conjured up all kinds of dreams as she drew up closer to the blaze. Carols, blinking candles, merry greetings and gaily decked trees! How familiar it all was, and a little sob rose in her throat that did not grow smaller even when she remembered the many mysterious strong packages that had been coming in on every boat for a month, each one marked, "To be Opened On Christmas Morning". On Christmas morning! Yes even in this land without a Christmas. How strange it had seemed to walk through the market streets and see never a fir tree, nor wreath of Christmas green, nor any fairyland of toys. Strange too, to pass no groups of eager children, misty-eyed with joyous anticipation. Strange to find no bustling, jostling throng with glad good-will in their hearts and a "Merry Christmas" on their lips, making ready for the birthday of the King. She recalled the sullen faces in the shops where she had stopped. She remembered the malicious looks of the loungers on the narrow streets which had sent her hurrying homeward as night drew near. Christmas Eve? There was no such thing in China, and the lump in her throat tightened till it brought hot, stinging tears. No Christmas Eve in China. No Christmas. Why?

Ah yes. There was a story—a strange, wonderful story that stirred men's hearts at home, the story of a little Babe who lit the light of love and brought Christmas into the world. Why had it not been told in China? But she had come to tell it, and the lump in her throat melted into soft flowing tears as she thought of the forty-odd little kindergarten babies and their grown-up-children mothers whose almond eyes would widen rapturously on the morrow at the sight of their first Christmas tree, and whose happy voices would ring with glad sweet carols on their first Christmas day. Yes, for these and for her and for the Man-Strong-to-Comfort there would be Christmas, even in China.



R. A. PROGRAMS



Prepared by Mrs. J. Sydney Morris

FIRST MEETING

Topic—Redeeming the Time in China

Thought—

"Then Ho! Ambassadors of the Cross
Advance, nor let us suffer loss!
Yea, by the power of Jesus' Word
Win China for our Christ, the Lord."

Meeting called to order and ambassadors standing recite Commission and Declaration Prayer—That every Royal Ambassador may have a large share in winning China to Christ

Hymn—"Am I a soldier of the cross" (Ambassador-in-chief reading each verse separately before it is sung)

Roll call. Minutes. Business

Scripture—Psalm 24 read by youngest ambassador

Prayer

QUIZ:

What is our greatest mission field?

China, with her 433,533,000 people, 100,000,000 of whom have never heard even the name of Christ.

How many missionaries have they?

Only one to every 103,300 people and to 1,018 square miles

Are the people anxious to hear the Gospel?

They beg for preachers, Bibles and Christian schools

Are the Chinese progressive?

Because of their old fashioned system of education they used to be very backward. Now the government is asking us for teachers for their schools and American doctors for their hospitals and thousands of students are seeking an education like ours.

What then is China's greatest need?

The knowledge of Jesus Christ

Talks—"How Gods Are Made in China" (See Foreign Mission Journal, September and October 1916.)

What Southern Baptists Are Doing in China"

Stories by the boys of missionaries they have known or read of

Prayer—That every Royal Ambassador of

the south may give a generous Christmas offering for China

Hymn—"Fling out the banner"

Distribution of envelopes for Christmas offering. Adjournment

SECOND MEETING

Topic—A Saviour for the whole world

Memory verse—For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

Hymn—"While Shepherds watched their flocks by night"

Prayer—That Christ may come more fully into the heart of every boy present

Bible Reading—Christ's coming foretold. Micah 5:2; Isaiah 9:1-2; Isaiah 61:1-2; Isaiah 53:1-6. The prophecy fulfilled. Matt. 2:1; Matt. 4:12-16, 23; Phil. 2:9-11

Hymn—"Oh! Zion haste"

Roll call. Minutes. Business

Open discussion led by Chief Counsellor—How can each R. A. help to make Christ known to the world?

Talk by R. A.: The Story of Our Christmas Offering

Prayer—That as Royal Ambassadors we may help to make the Christmas offering large

Offering. Adjournment

THE STORY OF OUR CHRISTMAS OFFERING

If I were to ask you where you want to be at Christmas time, I am sure you would all shout "Home!" Our missionaries way off in China would say "Home" too, but they cannot get home even for Christmas. It is too far away and too expensive a trip. But after six Christmases in that distant country they can have one Christmas in America, for that is the year of their furlough. I know they look forward to seeing the home folks as eagerly as any school boy.

A number of years ago one of our missionaries in China, Miss Lottie Moon, was

(Concluded on Page 29)



SUNBEAM PROGRAMS



Prepared by Mrs. George Stevens



SUNBEAMS DRESSED IN CHINESE BOY AND GIRL COSTUMES WITH THEIR MISSIONARY AUNTIE

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS

December, how our hearts jump with joy when hills month arrives. The one thought in the mind of each boy and girl is that Christmas is coming.

And that is what we are going to talk about today—Christmas. I want to tell you of a wonderful night in the long ago. Above the quiet hills of Judea the stars were twinkling in their brightest, most sparkling way, but they did not disturb the sheep and little lambs that were peacefully sleeping on the grass. Everything was not asleep though, for on a little hill was a group of shepherds, their big

FIRST MEETING

MOTTO—Peace on earth, good will to men

HYMN—"The angels sang one starry night"

PRAYER—That Sunbeams may grow like the Christ-child

STORY—"The First Christmas" (show picture on front cover)

QUIZ

MEMORY VERSE—John 10:11

HYMN—"Away in a Manger" (See Home Department)

EXERCISE—"What Child Is This?"

RECITATION

ROLL CALL. OFFERING. PRAYER

*See ROYAL SERVICE, Dec. 1915

To The Leader: Have a birthday party for Sunbeams at one of the December meetings and have each child bring a gift for the King, teaching them that the gift will be used to tell the story of the Saviour's birth to the nations who have no Christmas.

To teach children that the joy of giving is greater than the joy of getting will be rather difficult, but this will be a good time to impress this lesson upon them. Use the text: It is more blessed to give than to receive. Acts 20:35

coats drawn tightly around them to keep them warm, and their eyes ever on the watch for wolves or bears that prowled around to kill their sheep. It was late at night, but they were not a bit sleepy, for they had such exciting things to talk about. In the town of Bethlehem, just a short way off, there were gathered throngs of people; so many in fact, that the homes and inns could not hold them all and some had to sleep in the stables. The shepherds were proud of living near Bethlehem because it was there that they had been told a child should be born who would grow up into a great leader of His people; they kept

hoping that it might happen while they were alive.

It was very quiet, not a bird twittered, and even the restless little leaves were still. But the stars kept on twinkling merrily. Suddenly the heavens were ablaze with light, a light so brilliant that the brightest star looked only like a tiny spark. The shepherds were very much frightened, nothing like that had ever happened to them before. And then they saw an angel standing by them with such a look of peace and joy on his face that they could no longer be afraid. And he said to them: "Be not afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all the people: for there is born to you this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord". And suddenly the whole sky was filled with a host of angels singing the first Christmas carol, "On earth peace: goodwill among men".

Then the shepherds could not wait for the daylight to come, but leaving the sheep, they hurried to Bethlehem and there found the Christ-child, a wee babe lying in the manger with Mary watching over Him.

That was the first Christmas night, hundreds of years ago, but we are as happy as the shepherds were, for the angels' song is for us also, and we want to do as the angels did and tell the people of Christ's birthday.

Quiz

1. Where was Jesus born? Luke 2:15
2. What was the first Christmas carol? Luke 2:14
3. Who went quickly to see the Christ child? Luke 2:15-16
4. Why did Christ come to earth? John 3:16
5. What birthday gift can we give to Christ? Romans 12:1

What Child is This?

First Child:

What child is this, Who laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?

MOTTO—We bring you good tidings
HYMN—"God is in heaven, can He hear?"
PRAYER—For the children of China
HYMN—"When He Cometh"

All:

This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the new-born Son of God.

Second Child:

Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
The silent word is pleading.

All:

This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the new-born Son of God.

Third Child:

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh,
Come peasant, king to own Him;
The King of kings, salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthroned Him.

All:

This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the new-born Son of God.

—W. C. Dix

Recitation:

"I love to hear the story
Which angel voices tell,
How once the King of glory
Came down on earth to dwell.
I am both weak and sinful,
But this I surely know,
The Lord came down to save me,
Because He loved me so.

HYMN—tune "I think when I read that sweet story of old"

"We come the glad message to tell,
The Saviour who lived among men;
Of His childhood so meek let the little one speak,
And tell the sweet story again.

For us He came down from His home in the skies,

A child, full of goodness and love,
That the children might know how to follow
below,
The Lord who is now gone above".

SECOND MEETING

LESSON—The Christmas Story in China

MEMORY VERSE—Luke 11:28

RECITATIONS

ROLL CALL. OFFERING. PRAYER

Lesson: Su-Foy was a dirty little Chinese girl begging in the streets. One day she met a number of children and asked them where they had been. They told her they had been to a school where a foreign lady told them beautiful stories and taught them verses out of a book, and that today they had played games and had such a happy time because it was the birthday of the foreign teacher's God. Su Foy looked at the picture cards on which was the picture of Jesus in the manger, the children told her that that was a picture of the foreign teacher's God when he was a baby. Su Foy said, "Do you have to give cash to go to school?" When they told her that their fathers paid money for them to go she became sad, for she wanted to go too. It happened that just as the children were talking together the foreign teacher came down the street and stopped to see what was so interesting. They all began to talk at once so that she couldn't understand a word. Finally she said, "Now, children, please be quiet while Su Foy tells me what this is all about." So Su Foy explained what had happened and how she wished she could go to school. The foreign teacher was sad because the school was already too full, but she promised Su Foy to see what she could do about it and later made arrangements for her to come.

In a few months there was such a change in Su Foy you would hardly have known her. She now had a bright, happy face and was grateful for everything that had been done for her. She had learned about the foreign teacher's God and believed He loved her. She no longer worshipped idols, but she longed for the day when she could become a Bible woman and read or tell the Gospel story to the Chinese women and children.

In China there are thousands of children just as eager to learn all that the foreign teachers have to say as was Su Foy, and the money that Sunbeams give for their Christmas offering goes to help support kindergartens and schools for boys and girls in that great country.

The Wonderful Tree

There is a tree so wonderful
It springs up in a day,
When all the earth is chill with frost
And summer's far away.
For brighter than the rainbow shines
This rare and wondrous tree,

With silver wreaths and golden vines
That glisten far and free.
And secrets hang upon its boughs
In wrappings gay and smart.
You gaze at them with wistful eyes,
And longing, beating heart.
As in the light of tapers bright
The tree is all aflame—
Ah, now, you smile, and I suspect
You have found out its name.
But can you tell who planted it,
To blossom once a year
And bring to children everywhere
Its precious gifts and cheer?
'Twas the Christ-child so meek and mild
Who, in a manger born,
Thus speaks His love to little folk
On every Christmas morn!

—Zitella Cocke, in *Youth's Companion*

A Children's Christmas Song of the Little Child Jesus

(Written in 1535)

"Good news from heaven the angels bring,
Glad tidings to the earth they sing:
To us this day a Child is given,
To crown us with the joy of heaven.

"This is the Christ, our God and Lord,
Who in all need shall aid afford;
He will Himself our Saviour be,
From all our sins to set us free.

"To us that blessedness He brings,
Which from the Father's bounty springs:
That in the heavenly realm we may
With Him enjoy eternal day.

"All hail, Thou noble Guest, this morn,
Whose love did not the sinner scorn:
In my distress Thou comest to me;
What thanks shall I return to Thee?

"Were earth a thousand times as fair,
Beset with gold and jewels rare,
She yet were far too poor to be
A narrow cradle, Lord, for Thee.

"Ah! dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Make Thee a bed, soft, undefiled,
Within each trembling sinner's heart,
Win them to choose the better part."



FROM OUR MISSIONARIES



THE OLD, OLD STORY

We are commanded all through God's word to be joyful, to rejoice and be glad, but do you know this is a hard thing to do out here in this sin-darkened land where we see so little of the beautiful in life, but realize every day of our lives that misery and suffering abound on all sides. We can see the peace of God written in the faces of the Christians, but oh, the sad, hopeless, expressionless faces of the heathen!

Last week nine women from a village some six miles away came in to worship at a temple near us and in passing stopped in to see the foreigner's home. I was strangely impressed to tell these women of a Saviour and began praying for an opportunity the moment they came in the door. For a while the task seemed hopeless as they were so curious to see everything in the house. One dear old woman with snow-white hair led all the rest and kept up such a chatter that I could find no chance for words. Finally I let her wander off into the dining room to marvel over all the dishes it takes for the foreigners to eat, and then seated the others and began talking to them.

You never can know how almost impossible it is to give these poor, stupid, heathen women any clear idea of the message that so burns in your heart, especially if it is the first time they hear it, and these women, though living so close to us, had never heard. Fear of the foreigners in the first years had kept them away and then they had never found it convenient to go and listen when a Bible woman or missionary had gone to their village. I kept them quiet for about twenty minutes while I told them of the Saviour who loves them, but just how much they were able to take in I know not. They are still on my heart and often I awake in the night and carry them to the loving Father who can save them. This is only one instance of the many opportunities we busy mothers have out here of telling the Gospel story.

I have a little day school in the yard where some twenty or more little children are taught not only to read and write, but also the Bible and how to sing and pray and love Jesus. It is impossible for one in America to realize the

condition of these heathen homes. Uncleanliness of every kind abounds and consequently disease is unchecked. Knowing this I try hard to keep my little ones away from the school children, but this is not an easy matter, for little children are the same the world over and love to play with other children. As a consequence I have been kept in quarantine from the only other American mother and little child in the station on account of whooping cough and measles. The children had mild but quite decided cases and are quite well again. Yesterday, however, I discovered that two children in the little school had chicken pox, so ours may have that too.

God is good to us and protects us from the horrible diseases that are all around us. One poor old leper drags himself to our gate once a month to receive alms. He used to come much oftener, but Mr. Leonard told him he would give him all the amount at one time if he would come at a certain day each month and sit on the roadside across the street from our home. This he does, and we do not fear him. Pray for us and our work.—*Evelyn C. Leonard, Lauchowfu, China*

THE GOSPEL IN A FASHION BOOK

The one passion of the young women in the Brazilian cities is dress; they would rather dress than learn how to read and they care even less about hearing the Gospel. If the body is clothed, or rather displayed in the latest style, the soul can take its chances before God. However, there is one town in Brazil where all who borrow a fashion book must read the message of salvation.

In the city of Cantagallo, in the state of Rio, there lives a family consecrated to the Lord and the spreading of His Gospel. The people of the place are really not Roman Catholics as they have left that church and are at times even hostile to the approaches of religion under any caption. Religious tracts and invitations to preaching services are not only refused but looked upon with ridicule. The young women, however, are not in the least diffident about borrowing the fashion book of the family from which they refuse to

accept tracts and invitations. Moving under the inspiration of the Lord the mother of the family has so arranged the fashion book that the Gospel has the pre-eminence over "the La Moda". She has pasted on each page appropriate Scripture verses and cuttings from "O Guia do Viajante", a popular religious book in Portuguese. On opening the book the fashion-seeker is obliged to read the truth in order to find what she wants. This inoffensive yet irresistible way of presenting the Gospel is meeting with great success. The fashion book is never at home and the owner has received many requests for the Bible and copies of "O Guia do Viajante", and not a few of the young fashion-seekers are now seeking the One who alone can clothe their soul in the beauty of His righteousness.

Will you not pray that these young people may be led to accept Christ through this unique fashion book and that they may be able to say "I will greatly rejoice in Jehovah, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, He hath covered me with the robe of righteousness?"—*Elizabeth Mein, Campos, Brazil*

KINDERGARTEN GRADUATES

From the home papers and from the missionaries who have heard him in America we have learned a great deal about Billy Sunday. He is indeed an example of the power of a consecrated life. How the Lord does take over our personalities and develop them into the highest usefulness, if we let Him! This thought brings inspiration to our hearts wherever we may be working, and the little lives in our care seem full of possibilities.

At our closing exercises in June nine of the oldest kindergarten children graduated. They looked and felt very important as they stepped up to receive their small diplomas and made their precise little bows. Their little play, "The Three Bears" and the motion song, "Sleep, Baby Sleep" captivated the audience. I believe what the children do is appreciated more in China than in America. These diminutive graduates will enter our regular school next month. One very bright little girl of seven may have to go to work. She is a near neighbor's child and I will do all that I can to have her kept in school until she can read well. It rained so constantly during our closing days that I could not get a picture of

the little graduates, and I may not be able to get them together in September.

I feel that the success of the kindergarten is assured. Eleven children paid their tuition for the fall term before school closed in June. Our schools will reopen in a few days. My teacher is a faithful Christian and deeply interested in each child. She is so beautifully fitted for her work, but as she has recently been married to a young Methodist it may be only a question of time when I shall have to give her up.

We have had rather a cool, rainy summer, we needed this respite to recuperate and to plan for another year's work. Sometimes I am so overcome by the great untouched amount of work that I find it hard to be content with filling my little corner, but it cheers us to realize that our women at home are doing all they can for us that the work of our Master may go forward and we do indeed appreciate it. We are all "workers together" for His glory.—*Nannie B. McDaniel, Soochow, China*

FOLLOWING ON TO KNOW

Some time ago, while visiting in an Italian home, I gave the man an Italian Testament which he read with great interest until the priest found it out and made him burn it telling him there were things in that book he must not see, he must burn it or he would lose his soul. Early in the spring this man asked me for an Italian Bible. I asked him if he would burn it. On his promising he would not I gave him one. Two or three months afterwards I was told that he told some one he was not going to give the priest any more money, he had given him too much now. The priest was told what he said and later excommunicated him and his whole family. He is very superstitious and thought they were all eternally lost and that there was no help for them. He was in such distress of mind over it that he neither ate nor slept for several days, more on his wife's and daughter's account than his own. He said he would be willing to be lost if that would save them. As soon as I heard about it, I went to see them. It was good to see the look that came over his face as I explained to him that Jesus alone could save and He was the only one to look to for help. The last time I was there—a few days ago—he told me he had read his Bible through twice, saying, "the first time

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CURRENT EVENTS



THE WORLD FIELD

IN Rangoon, Burma, "a city of bells", a new clock and bell tower has been erected by a Christian physician of New York as a thank-offering and in honor of the centenary of American Missions. It is modelled after the old colonial meeting house, doorway and tower, in Salem, Mass., the original of which was designed by Sir Christopher Wren. From the doorway of this old Salem church passed those first American missionaries to their work in a country ignorant and hostile. In that same country now from this bell tower the message of love, joy and peace sounds forth to find a response in many hearts.

A student from India who spent three years in study in London says no one in all that time spoke to him of Christianity. There are 6,000 students in America from fifty different countries. How many of them can duplicate the experience of the student from India?

There are over three hundred blind pupils in various mission schools in south China. As far as possible these children are taught some trade which can make them self-supporting, so that they can become economic factors in the community instead of dependents.

The demand for copies of the New Testament still continues among all the troops in the trenches. As soon as a new consignment reaches a camp it is seized upon and bitter disappointment is felt by those who do not get one. Dr. Mott says, "We never had the unlimited opportunity before the war for the distribution of the New Testament and the preaching of the Gospel. The place where the Gospel is needed most is the place where the men pause before going into battle, or where they come back to recuperate. If ever a man needs help, it is under those conditions."

During eight months recently over five thousand were added to the Methodist

missions in the Philippines with less than ten missionaries on the field.

Comparatively little is heard about mission work in Ceylon so it may surprise many to know that the centennial of the beginning of mission work there has just been celebrated. There are twenty-one Christian churches in the island, practically all self-supporting. Their home mission organization has work in four islands off the coast. Chancellor Jaffna College and the splendid school for girls have always been centers of great influence.

By the latest Italian census there are 123,253 Protestants in Italy. According to the preceding census there were only 65,596.

Baron Morimura, who last year furnished the money for a definite campaign for Christianity through the newspapers in Japan, has just given \$100,000 for the establishment of a chair of Christianity in the Imperial University in Tokyo.

The cottage in Leicester, England, in which Wm. Carey lived before he went to India has recently been purchased and will be used as a missionary museum.

News has just been received in this country of the death of Miss Cornelia Bonnell, the gifted missionary in whose heart grew the impulse which resulted in the opening of the Door of Hope in Shanghai—a rescue home for Chinese girls and children. It would be impossible to estimate the results of the work done through this home. Many children have been saved from an unspeakable life; many girls have first learned there the meaning of love and right living; many have been prepared through the Industrial Home to become self-supporting. Its influence has been so far reaching that it has received largely of Chinese support.

HAPPY INCONVENIENCES

ERE this all readers of Royal Service know that our Training School address is no longer No. 334 East Broadway but No. 321. The change was made in order that the old buildings could be wrecked, in preparation for the new building.

Moving into new quarters brought with it many disadvantages, for immediately our Board and faculty were confronted with new and difficult tasks, added to their previous problems. First the buildings had to be secured, but it seems these were vacated for our express purpose, as they were conveniently located just across the street from No. 334. After the houses were rented came the repairing and the making of such interior adjustments as were necessary, including the wiring of the rooms and painting of the floors.

Then came the trying work of moving and placing the furniture in such a way as to utilize space and in order that the inconveniences in each room might be counterbalanced by equal advantages. Many and varied were the details that had to be worked out later. The art of combination was in evidence, for the uniting of pantry and kitchen, dining room and front hall, office and studio, parlor and chapel is only a beginning of our many joint tenancies.

Perhaps the greatest problem for our Board and faculty just now, in view of the added expense, is to know when and where and how to purchase provisions. Every possible expense must be curtailed, for the current expense fund is the same as when the enrollment was far less than fifty-six and the cost of living not so high. Besides rent must now be paid. Before this session the seniors could relieve the faculty in many ways, but now, as we are all new together and in a new place, every day brings questions that must be answered by the student committee, or Miss Mitchell, or some other member of the faculty. The answer to these numerous questions usually involves the invention of a place, or a way, or a time.

The greatest inconvenience that moving has brought to the girls is an even more crowded condition in the rooms than already existed. Can you imagine with four and five girls in a room that students can give their best to their books? Then too, there is a room in each of the three buildings that must necessarily be used as a passage way to the laundry or bath-room. It has been said that the only true way to know folks is to live with them, if that be true we will most assuredly know a few folks by next June.

Of all people we Training School folks want to be systematic, and because of having only three bath-rooms our system has grown to such proportions that we have baths on schedule time.

Our tables fill the dining-room and extend almost to the front hall door, but they are connected in such a way that Mrs. McLure's announcements need only be made once, though I do suspect that sometimes our chatter during the meal hour may necessitate the ringing of the little bell with "A little quieter, please. I think some one must have been called on at a seminary class".

Fortunately, Mrs. McLure's and Miss Leachman's rooms are still large enough for a number of us to gather in them. This year when girls are ill they will have the privilege of rooming with Miss Coombs, our house nurse, for in the infirmary does she dwell both day and night. We are very much afraid that this year desserts will not find their way to our table three times a week, for Miss Mitchell hasn't room to beat the cake nor freeze the cream.

This change in buildings has brought much work, worry and anxiety on the part of our dear Board and faculty, but it will be for us a means of greater strength in that we will better learn how to be considerate of others and to feel and to share their responsibility. In many ways this year will be a test of our true worth. On the part of every girl there is a singleness of desire and a glad willingness to subordinate immediate convenience to a better future.

With so many changes it might occur to one who has been in the Training School that it is not the school that she knew and loved, but it really is; these changes are only material. One has no more than crossed the threshold when they discover that it is still the House Beautiful with the same sister-spirit permeating the whole house.—Victoria Neal

HOW ROYAL AMBASSADORS HELP

(Concluded from November "ROYAL SERVICE")



TRAVELER'S AID IN TEXAS

SOME of the aims held before the boys will give an idea of the character of work attempted:

1. The manliness of Christ is the highest type of manliness
2. The boy who doesn't know is my job
3. The right kind of a good time is the best kind of a good time

This last was the aim of a chapter in a very small town. They succeeded in revolutionizing the social life of the town. Another chapter that had a room of its own made that room so attractive that it drew the boys from the pool halls and streets. They intend having night school this winter for the working boys. The leader of this chapter is a young man who believes in holding the boys by giving them real work to do as well as amusement. In a city church the R. A.'s are the messenger boys for the officers of the church and Sunday school. They also invite new pupils to the Sunday school, often bringing in boys from the street and poorer parts of the city. In a large town the R. A.'s are caring for a boy of their own age who is a

cripple. They visit him, see that he does not miss the ball games and in every way they can include him in their good times. Another chapter is in a town where the young people have gone dance-mad. One young man, through the Royal Ambassadors, has held his boys out of the demoralizing influences of such social life and is keeping and training them for active Christian service.

We are endeavoring to teach the boys of our great state the true meaning of stewardship—stewardship of time, of talent, and of money. In teaching the boys we must realize that we are forming the policies of the future church. In the training we give them we are increasing the limits of their ability to meet their future responsibilities and opportunities.—Una M. Roberts, Ark.

"Be thine, in life's fair morning,
When the daring sense of youth
Thrills and stirs, to be a champion
For the cause of love and truth.
Rouse thee, then, and do thy part,
Tasks for hand and brain and heart!"

ROUND TABLE

RED indicates happiness in China and so it is peculiarly appropriate that the programs of the fall meeting of the women's societies of the South China Mission should be bound in red. A copy has been sent to the Baltimore office by Mrs. G. W. Leavell of Wuchow. It is written in Chinese and is attractively illustrated. The growth of the societies on the mission fields is indeed gratifying.—Those who attended the 1910 W. M. U. Annual Meeting will recall how Miss Heck in her address emphasized the value of Roberts' Rules of Order. From Louisville word comes that about thirty Baptist women in that city met regularly at the Broadway Baptist Church in October for lessons in parliamentary usage, the class being taught by Mrs. Leslie Brown.—From Louisville also comes the good news that the contract for the W. M. U. Training School's new building has been signed with the understanding that everything will be finished on or before July 9, 1917. Eighty-five per cent of the payments will be made as the work progresses, the remaining fifteen per cent being due by July 19. This means that much of the money will have to be borrowed by the Union unless we are exceedingly generous to the school before July 19. Remember the slogan: A Dollar Club in Every Church: \$98,000 from 98,000 Persons.—Mrs. T. R. Falvy, vice-president for Louisiana, was in Baltimore in October and at that time she went over with Union officers many plans for the May meeting. The program committee for that meeting is already at work and there is every reason that the meeting will be exceedingly helpful. It is confidently believed that the work among the French and Italian people of Louisiana will be featured there just as the mountain school work was in Asheville. The state representatives on the committee are: Ala., Mrs. W. F. Yarborough; Ark., Mrs. J. G. Jackson; D. C., Mrs. Elizabeth Mooney; Fla., Mrs. W. C. Powell; Ga., Mrs. W. B. Frost; Ill., Mrs. M. McDermott; Ky., Mrs. M. R. McLure; La., Miss Georgia Barnette; Md., Miss C. M. Woolford; Miss.,

Mrs. A. J. Aven; Mo., Mrs. S. E. Ewing; N. M., Mrs. E. Pack; N. C., Mrs. H. C. Moore; Okla., Miss Sue O. Howell; S. C., Mrs. M. N. Tillman; Tenn., Miss Margaret Buchanan; Tex., Mrs. A. F. Beddoe; Va., Mrs. Julian P. Thomas.—During the summer it was the privilege of Miss Susan B. Tyler, who writes the book reviews for this magazine, to meet Dr. Charles L. White, the author of "The Children of the Lighthouse". Dr. White very graciously wrote his signature in the Union's copy of his book, thus making it seem all the more real to our young people. Leaders will do well to use the book which was reviewed on page 26 of the October ROYAL SERVICE.—Another exceptionally choice book, "The Legend of Lai-chow", is reviewed this month. It is so very attractive and appealing that our workers will find in it the best of Christmas gift books. Then, too, by purchasing the book one is "twice blessed" because of its beauty and because of its returns for medical missions.—And then there is another little gift book "Keep My Money" which was written by Mrs. P. H. Eager of Mississippi for the benefit of a much needed school in the work being done by Miss Mary Anderson at Canton, China. Miss Anderson's work was publicly commended by Mrs. Helen Barrett Montgomery on her return from the Orient. Mrs. R. H. Graves had the need of this building constantly on her heart during her recent furlough. The book has already netted \$900.00 for the school but there are still 1,000 copies on hand. Price \$1.00 plus postage from Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va.—Early in October it was the privilege of the W. M. U. corresponding secretary to attend two missionary rallies in Washington, one held at the West Washington Baptist Church being the quarterly meeting of all the Baptist societies in the district and the other being for the women and young people of the Fifth Baptist Church. Both meetings were well attended with manifest interest. The second meeting was in a week's series of meetings at the Fifth Church and was designed to gain many new members for the

various societies. The pastor, Dr. John E. Briggs, graciously gave one of the choicest evenings of the week to this meeting.—During the first week in this month the annual meeting for Oklahoma will be in session. Union workers will not forget their co-laborers there.—It is interesting to know that nine of our eighteen states last year gave on a larger ratio than that of their number of organizations. These states were: District of Columbia, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, New Mexico, North Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia. Two states, Missouri and South Carolina, maintained the same ratio for gifts and organizations. Of course due regard must be had to the variation in membership, resources and the like of the organizations but on the whole it is believed that the calculation will be stimulating.—On page 19 of the Union Year Book certain Union aims are itemized. Taking as a basis the May report of the number of organizations in each state it is hoped that at least 1,450 Women's Missionary Societies will be organized by the states about as follows: Ala., 110; Ark., 40; D. C., 2; Fla., 40; Ga., 180; Ill., 20; Ky., 100; La., 30; Md., 10; Miss., 75; Mo., 45; N. M., 3; N. C., 130; Okla., 55; S. C., 180; Tenn., 70; Tex., 200; Va., 160.—In all the year's ideal for new organizations among the young people is 2,030, which might be apportioned among the states in this wise: Ala., 150; Ark., 60; D. C., 2; Fla., 60; Ga., 245; Ill., 25; Ky., 145; La., 40; Md., 15; Miss., 105; Mo., 65; N. M., 5; N. C., 175; Okla., 80; S. C., 245; Tenn., 100; Tex., 290; Va., 223.—It is confidently hoped that at least 3,500 mission study classes will be held in our Union before May. The organization ratio would distribute these about as follows: Ala., 265; Ark., 100; D. C., 5; Fla., 95; Ga., 425; Ill., 45; Ky., 245; La., 70; Md., 25; Miss., 175; Mo., 110; N. M., 10; N. C., 310; Okla., 140; S. C., 430; Tenn., 175; Tex., 495; Va., 380.—One of the year's aims is also 1,000 Homemakers' Clubs. These may be held if the states observe some such ratio as: Ala., 75; Ark., 30; D. C., 2; Fla., 25; Ga., 125; Ill., 12; Ky., 70; La., 15; Md., 9; Miss., 50; Mo., 30; N. M., 2; N. C., 90; Okla., 40; S. C., 125; Tenn., 50; Tex., 140; Va., 110.—The Standard of Excellence is a constant encouragement. This year we expect about 4,150 organizations to reach at least four points of the uniform standard. The following distribution of this

total is suggested: Ala., 315; Ark., 120; D. C., 5; Fla., 120; Ga., 510; Ill., 55; Ky., 285; La., 80; Md., 30; Miss., 210; Mo., 135; N. M., 10; N. C., 370; Okla., 160; S. C., 510; Tenn., 200; Tex., 585; Va., 450.—The literature and envelopes for the January Week of Prayer have been sent to the various state headquarters. Societies not receiving theirs should write for it to their state W. M. U. headquarters.—The Maryland women and young people held their annual session in Baltimore the latter part of October. An evening service was given to the auxiliaries, a delightful talk being made by Miss Dixon. It was a manifest joy to the Maryland women to have as their honored guest the Union president, Mrs. W. C. James. One of the forward steps taken was to unite the State Mission Society with the Maryland W. M. U. Miss Clara Woolford was elected president of the combined Union and Mrs. George Stevens, secretary.—Miss Dixon hurried from the Maryland auxiliary meeting to the annual gathering of the Illinois workers in Harrisburg. Concerning this occasion she writes: Enthusiasm and advance were the keynotes at the gathering of almost three hundred of the women of Illinois. Their reports showed a fine year's work under the splendid leadership of Miss Mary Northington but not content with that they are planning even greater things for the coming year. After hearing Dr. L. B. Warren's account of the Church Building Loan Fund they established memorials in it to Dr. and Mrs. W. P. Throgmorton. Much interest was shown in Mrs. E. A. Jackson's stories of the work in Brazil and a hearty welcome was also extended to me as young people's secretary.—Miss Aretta Beswick writes in great enthusiasm of the October meeting of Missouri Baptists at Liberty. One evening a banquet for women was held in the dining room of William Jewell College, two hundred women being present, the purpose of the banquet being to emphasize the work among young women. At this banquet it was decided to name one of the halls of the Shanghai Baptist College the Eleanor Mare Hall in honor of Miss Mare who was the former corresponding secretary for Missouri. Among the speakers at the banquet were Mrs. J. W. Lowe of China and Mrs. Percy Stuart and Mrs. Everette Gill of Italy.—The Executive

(Concluded on Page 31)



HOME DEPARTMENT



THE LITTLE CHILD JESUS

The little child Jesus
 Came down from the light,
 And He nestled so warm
 In the heart of the night.
 The world was a-cold
 And full of its strife,
 But He nestled so warm
 That He woke love to life.

The little child Jesus
 Found no room in the inn;
 There was room there for folly,
 And anger and sin;
 O deep in my heart,
 I will give Him a place,
 And ask for His blessing
 And pray for His grace.

The little child Jesus
 Had a star in the sky,
 That followed Him gladly
 And stood waiting by.
 The wise men, they saw it,
 And it was their guide—
 O beautiful Christ-star,
 Lead me to His side.

The little child Jesus
 He smiled in his sleep,
 And the angels they saw it,
 And sang soft and sweet.
 O little child Jesus,
 Smile Thou upon me,
 And make me a happy,
 Dear, sweet child like Thee.

—Rev. Oliver Huckel

CHRISTMAS CANDLES

Martin Luther was a brave Christian hero who was born more than four hundred years ago. His father was a miner but wanted Martin to become a lawyer, so he lived very poorly and saved every penny he could that he might educate him for this profession. Indeed Martin himself sometimes sang in the street for alms to help out his scanty means. After he became a learned man he decided to become a priest rather than a lawyer. Led of God he withdrew from the Roman Catholic

church. When threatened with death and pressed to recant he refused in words never to be forgotten: "Here I stand; I cannot do otherwise; God help me; Amen".

His whole life after this was given to writing and speaking for the truths of God's Word. He was leader of the great Reformation, that means the reforming of the false teachings of the priesthood into the real and true meaning of the Bible.

One star-lit night as he was going through a dense forest, thinking of the blessed Christ-child, he saw through the dark branches of the fir trees thousands of stars shining down upon him. This he said to himself was like the love of Christ coming down to earth, and he determined to make it an object lesson to his children.

So when he went home he carried a fir tree with him. On Christmas eve he brought it into the house, placed wax candles upon its branches to represent the stars and, calling his family about him, he read to them the beautiful story of the birth of the Saviour: Luke 2: 8-16.

One of his enemies said of him that his "hymns slew more souls than his books or sermons", and one of the most beautiful of these is the following:

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
 The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head,
 The stars in the bright sky looked down where
 He lay—
 The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
 But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
 I love Thee, Lord Jesus! look down from the sky,
 And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

THE EGG SHOWER

It was just before Christmas, and because Mary had a bad cold she was not at the Sunbeam meeting when they decided to give old Mr. Grey an egg shower on Christmas morning. When she heard of it she said, "What is an egg shower? If it rains eggs I think I would like to stay at home."

Now the time for the "shower" had come and she was as delighted as any of the rest. They were all in Miss Moore's parlor waiting to start and making, as Mary's papa would say, "as much fuss as a bushel of monkeys". Every child was holding an egg very carefully in each hand. At last they were all ready. All who saw them turned to look at them as they went down the street behind Miss Moore. Some said, "What are you Sunbeams doing?" They called back, "Having an egg shower."

Finally they got to Mr. Grey's little house on the edge of town. He was old and poor and sick and the doctor had said he must eat a great many eggs to keep up his strength. He did not have the money to buy them. He was so sick they could not go into the house but his old wife came out with a big, shiny pan and they gently showered their eggs into it until it was nearly full. After that they sang a number of Sunbeam hymns and Christmas carols. The sweet sounds went through the windows and doors and Mr. Grey's wife came out again and told them that she did not know when her poor old husband had been so happy. He said that they had brought him not only a shower of eggs but a shower of blessings.—F. E. S. H.

THE STAR LED QUEST

Written for ROYAL SERVICE

Lead me, O wondrous star, as thou didst lead
 Wise men of old, by star-lit pathway wild,
 To lowly place where, 'mong the drowsing
 kine,
 A virgin mother brooded o'er her child.

Lead me to poor abode, to humble cot,
 That I may, with the frankincense and gold
 Of love and joy some little one make glad;
 With myrrh of sympathy some heart unfold.

May I have wisdom to discern thy ray,
 Effulgent star, to follow light of thine,
 Till, kneeling to bestow my gift, I see
 The eyes of Bethlehem's Babe look into mine!

—Felicia C. Honeycut

"We lose what on ourselves we spend,
 We have as treasure without end
 Whatever, Lord, to Thee we lend,
 Who givest all."

R. A. PROGRAMS

(Concluded from Page 17)

planning to be home in time for Christmas. As she lived a long distance from the coast she thought it would be a good plan to pass through some of the villages on the way to the city where she took the boat. So instead of rushing along as fast as she could, she stopped to tell the people the Christmas story. A long time ago she had told this story to the women and children in the villages. For weeks and months they had waited for her to come back, for in China our missionaries are so few that we cannot have one even in every big city. When Miss Moon reached one village, the women she had known crowded around her bringing their friends to hear the wonderful news. "Won't you stay and teach us more?" they begged. But Miss Moon thought of the boat that was to sail so soon and said, "No, I must hurry home." In the next village the women again besieged her. "Tell us more," they said. "Why don't Christians in America send us teachers? We want to know about Jesus." Miss Moon was very sad. She thought and thought. The people at home had sent no one to take her place. It would be a whole year before she could be back. But then she had so wanted to go home. At last her mind was made up. She wrote to Dr. Willingham, who was our Foreign Mission Board secretary at that time, that she could not come home for there were so many people in China who wanted to hear the Christmas story.

When her letter came, the people in our beautiful homeland felt sorry that they had not given more to send the Gospel story to China. If Miss Moon could give up her Christmas at home, surely they too could give up something for Christ, and so they did without many things they wanted so that they could give a real birthday present to our King by helping in His work. Every year since then we have given our Christmas Offering to China, praying that all the boys and girls there as well as the men and women may know of the angels' song "On earth peace; good will to men".



BOOK REVIEWS



THE LEGEND OF LAI-CHOW

FROM one of our missionaries in North China, Mrs. Annie B. Gay Gaston, comes this beautiful old legend. Often, she has heard it "told by Chinese preachers and Bible women, in their native tongue, as an illustration of Christ's giving His life a ransom for His people". And now she has written it for us in the form of a narrative poem, wonderfully musical in its blank verse. Into the stanzas are woven much of the mystic charm of the East. We hear the tones of the bronze bells "Softly quivering down the mountains", and catch the fragrance of the lotus blossoms, and feel the stillness in "Day-light dawns; the moon, down slipping, Slumbers in the western sea."

The story tells of how years ago into the "far Shantung-land" came "rude Red Beards" out of the North. Their anger is aroused at a small village and they demand redress at the distant "court town", Lai-chow. The warriors surround the old walled city, and after many days the chief sends word to the magistrate, "Either your blood, or the people's". Dru-law-yieh makes the sacrifice, his people are saved. Many years pass, and once again strangers come to the old walled town. The expected disaster does not follow the coming of the "fajr-faced". He moves about them as a friend, he brings healing for the sick, he speaks their language. He carries a Book instead of a sword and promises to tell

"a new story
Of The Man who came to save".
"New?"—"Yes, new; yet old it must be,
For 'tis like our city's legend.
Well we understand the meaning
Of the One who came to save
Giving His life blood a ransom
For all those who trust His power.

"Thus it comes that Yieh-hyen people,
All about the city Lai-chow,
One by one are turning many,
To the One who came to save.

In their Christian churches, often,
Still is told the old, old story
Of the man who saved their city—
Fitting type of Him they trust in
For the saving of their soul."

Apart from its own high merit this book should find an especially hearty response as it is being sold for the benefit of medical missions. Bound in a delicate green, with a panel of lotus blossoms, this old legend will make a charming Christmas gift. The printing is clear, on ivory paper; the softly colored oriental illustrations are the work of Mr. Liu, the artist of Lai-chow. Price 60 cents, postage extra.

STORIES AND STORY TELLING

THIS book may almost be said to be a companion of the little volume, "Picture Work" that was reviewed last month. For those who appreciate the value of story telling in the forming of character, and who would master the fundamentals of this art, this book offers simple and practical plans that are well worth careful and detailed study. The author, Dr. E. P. St. John, a professor of pedagogy, says, "the plans suggested are offered with less of diffidence because they have been tested in the class-room for a number of years with satisfactory results. More than a few, some of whom had never attempted to tell a story, have under their guidance developed unusual skill as story tellers, both as entertainers and as teachers." The chapter headings give an idea of the treatment of the subject. Some of them are: The Educational Value of a Story, What a Story Really Is, Realistic Stories and How to Use Them, etc. Three chapters are given to the "story interests" of different ages, ranging from young children to youths of over twenty years. There are thirteen short chapters in all.

The book will be helpful for those who truly wish to make their stories more vivid and their story telling more effective. Prepaid 50 cents.

Order the above mentioned books at the quoted prices from Educational Department,
Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Virginia.

COLLEGE Y. W. A. PROGRAM

(Concluded from Page 15)

mission, Shantung Province; the South China mission, Kwong Tung and Kwong Sai Provinces, Canton leading city.

b. Our work and workers. (See general program. Also stories of educational work, pages 99-102 and 106-107 in Southern Bap-

tists in Regions Beyond, and of evangelistic work on pages 95-96-138 and 142.)

c. Evangelistic movements among students in China. (Article by W. E. Taylor in Missionary Review, July 1916.)

Prayer—A dedication of ourselves to Christ's service. Plans for Christmas offering with distribution of Christmas envelopes. Offering—Business. Mizpah Benediction

TWILIGHT WATCH STUDIES

Gifts

FIRST TWILIGHT

God's gifts to us:—Christ, John 3: 16; Gal. 1: 4; 1 Tim. 2: 6. The Holy Ghost, John 14: 16-17; Acts 10: 44-45. Eternal Life, Rom. 6: 23. Faith, Eph. 2: 8. Wisdom, Eph. 1: 17; Dan. 1: 17-21. Rest, Matt. 11: 28. Our talents, 1 Cor. 7: 7.

SECOND TWILIGHT

Givers of the Bible: 1 Sam. 1 and 2; 1 Kings 17: 8-16; Matt. 2: 1-12; John 6: 1-11; Mark 12: 41-44; Matt. 27: 57-60; Acts 3: 1-8; Acts 5: 1-6.

THIRD TWILIGHT

Our gifts to God;—Ourselves, Is. 6: 8; 11 Cor. 8: 5; Rom. 12: 1. Our lives, Matt. 9: 9; Matt. 4: 18-22. Our possessions, Deut. 16: 17; Malachi 3: 10; Mark 12: 41-44.

FOURTH TWILIGHT

Growth through service:—Parable of the talents, Matt. 25: 14-30; of the pounds, Luke 19: 11-26. Study the growth in character and in ability in the lives of Moses, of Peter, and of Paul.

FROM OUR MISSIONARIES

(Concluded from Page 22)

I read it, I understood it a little, the next time better, when I read it four or five times think I will understand it good. Some men all the time read newspapers about the war and I would rather read the Book." He takes it to his bed every night to read.—*Mary E. Kelly, Herrin, Ill.*

seemed to justify this decision by the Executive Committee but it is hoped that as far as possible the young people will hold extra meetings during the winter to make up in the truest sense for those they missed.

THINKING CAP

1. Find a great factor in China's progress.
2. Find a leading force in present-day China.
3. From what class will future leaders come?
4. What is the "Gibraltar of China"?
5. How has it been captured?
6. Will China ever cease to need missionaries?
7. What is "The Hope of China"?
8. What is the greatest of China's recent discoveries?
9. What interdenominational agency is at work for China's women?
10. Who carries Christmas to China?

UNION NOTES

(Concluded from Page 27)

Committee, which acts for the Union in the interim of Annual Meetings, has decided that it shall not count against any of the young people's societies in their efforts to attain to clause one of the uniform Standard of Excellence if they have been or shall be prevented from holding their regular meetings because of health quarantines against such gatherings. The stringent quarantines in many places during the infantile paralysis epidemic

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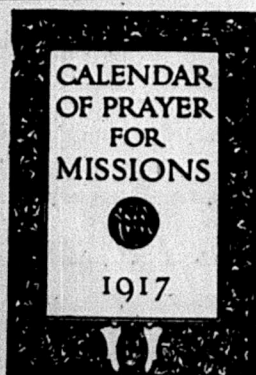
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