

THE FIELDS



VOL. 3, NO. 2

"... Look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest" (John 4:35).

FEBRUARY, 1940



A TYPICAL COUNTRY HOME IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

(sent by Miss Marjorie Bolton of Puerto Plata)

The roof is made of dried palm leaves and the wall of palm wood. Such-like homes are the meeting places in the country places.

NEXT MONTH—ARTICLES AND TIDINGS FROM INDIA

The Fields

A MONTHLY Magazine devoted to the spread of the gospel in the "regions beyond," particularly to the work of missionaries who have gone forth commended by Christian Assemblies in the United States and Canada. It is hoped that **The Fields** will be blessed as an instrumentality for increasing interest in and fellowship with these workers.

This magazine aims to supplement the splendid work which has been done for so many years by *Echoes of Service*, published monthly from 1, Widcombe Crescent, Bath, England. **The Fields** limits itself to tidings from United States and Canadian workers; *Echoes* publishes also information concerning British missionaries who greatly outnumber those commended by Assemblies in America.

Remittances to the Field

In most cases the safest and most satisfactory medium is a Bank Draft on a New York Bank with international facilities. Currency should never be sent. Money Orders are often uncertain, and at best they are troublesome, being difficult to negotiate; in many territories they are unsafe and sometimes uncollectible.

Gifts of money intrusted to our care will be forwarded promptly by the Treasurers without any deductions, to workers specifically designated by the donors; or, if not thus earmarked, to workers from the Assemblies according to their needs and opportunities as disclosed by the latest information obtainable. Make checks and money orders payable to **The Fields**.

All articles, letters, suggestions, and constructive criticisms of our Magazine should be sent to the Editors; all gifts for missionaries to the Treasurers at 75 Maiden Lane, New York, N. Y.; all subscriptions to the Magazine, notices of change of address, and similar communications to Lloyd Walterick, Publisher, Fort Dodge, Iowa.

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The Fields will make an ideal gift for a friend.

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THE FIELDS



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Run and Speak to that Young Man

(Zechariah 2)

By JAMES F. SPINK, F. R. G. S.

Substance of address given at Missionary Study Class, Chicago.

IN THIS chapter you have a man with a measuring line in his hand. God once said to Moses, "What is that in thine hand?" (Exodus 4:2); Moses had a rod. God could and did use that rod. It became the rod of God. Gideon had a pitcher and a lamp and a trumpet in his hand and through God he and his 300 men overcame the hosts of Midian. Samson had a jawbone in his hand and slew 1,000 Philistines. Dorcas had a needle in her hand and made garments for the poor. Mary had an alabaster box and worshipped the Lord Jesus.

What have you in your hand? Do you answer, "Nothing"? You will not be of any use to God until you have something in your hand. This man had a line in his hand. God would give you a line. Paul had his line. John had his line. Timothy had his line. Each one ought to have a line of his own. We often say to people we meet, "What line are you in?" We raise the question here tonight, "What line are you in?" God has given

A Gift of Some Kind to All

of us. He puts something in our hand. Paul did not want another man's line. He wanted to make his own impression. He did not want to be a carbon copy of somebody else. "Whither goest thou?" (verse 2). "To measure Jerusalem." It is a good thing to be able to measure, but to be like Paul, not to go beyond our measure. Not to get beyond our depth or preach truth

that is unfelt or beyond our experience and years. Nehemiah paid a night visit to Jerusalem. Measured the city, saw the need, and in deep soul exercise became a man of action. (Nehemiah 2). God sent Jonah to Ninevah to measure the City. He refused and ran away. But God brought him back and he went through the City and proclaimed God's message. Jonah held the greatest revival ever recorded in history. 120,000 turned to God. From the King on the throne to his most humble subject. The Lord Jesus measured the City of Jerusalem. He took its measure and He wept over it while it slept. "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem . . . how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen doth gather her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!" (Matthew 23:37).

The Lord Jesus after His death and resurrection met His disciples and put lines into their hands and told them to measure the cities, beginning at Jerusalem, Samaria, and then the regions beyond. At our doors we have over 130 million, made up of every nationality in the world. There are about 2,000 million people in the world. In Africa, there is one missionary to every 80,000 people; in Korea, one missionary to every 120,000 people; in India one missionary to every 320,000 people; in China, one missionary to every 470,000 people.

The command is to "run and speak"; but you must not run before you are sent.

Many a one has run before the Lord. "They have run and I have not sent them." No one should want to be a misfit, at home or abroad. The man who wanted to run with tidings (2 Samuel 18) was told to stand still because he had no message when he was questioned. "And how shall they preach except they be sent?" (Romans 10:15). The demand today is for young men.

The Young Are in Demand in the World.

God wants the young. God can use the young. The Lord Jesus was grieved when the rich young man turned away from Him. Christ loved him and wanted him. Christ loves you and wants you. Young women are going to the mission field. Young men are needed. We see many of them running after pleasure, running after business, running from morn to night, but seldom do we see them running to speak a word for Christ. You can have no greater ambition than to serve the Lord Jesus. When Andrew Jackson became President of the United States, he was overwhelmed with office seekers. Amongst the number was a minister of the Gospel. The President said to him "And what do you do now?" He replied "I am a minister of the Gospel." Said the President, "Then go home, my dear man, for I have no office as high as that." Young man! you have a sublime mission, a solemn responsibility, and a supreme opportunity. "Run and speak to that young man." To speak a word for Christ is the highest privilege given to us, and obedience to this command affords us the greatest pleasure. Then why hesitate? Run and speak. It is personal work. Someone is waiting for you to speak to him. Think of the need at home in our own country. Then think of

the great need in the far-flung foreign field. They will be lost if we do not speak to them. The need is urgent. Are we going to stand still? Can we remain indifferent to the great cry of lost souls? Is it any wonder that Robert Annan wrote the word "Eternity" on his doorstep in Dundee? He wanted to speak to every man. Robert Annan is in heaven, but the word "Eternity" still is outside his old home, preaching to the passerby.

Andrew found his brother Peter. What a big catch on his line! Philip caught the Ethiopian on his line. Who can tell what that meant to the country of Ethiopia? A local preacher caught Charles Haddon Spurgeon on his line. What a great power for God was Spurgeon! Young man, let out your line and stick to your line. Charles H. Hemlock went to Africa. After three months he laid down his life. On the fly leaf of His Bible were found these words, "Though every step be over the grave of a missionary, yet the command of the Lord to preach the Gospel to every creature must be carried out." The world has the need. We have the message. The world has the hunger. We have the bread. They stretch out their hands for help. Shall we deny them? "The King's business requireth haste!" Obedience must be prompt. Obedience delayed is robbed of its glory. Philip ran to the Eunuch. Paul obeyed directly he had seen the vision and went into Macedonia. We are to speak because it is the command of God, and the danger that awaits the unsaved. We are to speak of Christ, Sin, Heaven, Hell. We will be sorry if we do not carry out the command:

"Run and Speak to That Young Man."

But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come and take any person among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman's hand.

Ezekiel 33:6.

An Eastern Province of the Argentine Republic

by ERNEST G. GRAY of *Jesus Maria de Córdoba, Argentina*

A FEW months ago I visited the Eastern province of *Entre Rios*, where we had labored some 4 years. The one Assembly, in the capital of the province, has grown from a small cottage meeting I started in the port zone in 1923 to 60 or more. It is cared for by a Ukranian brother and his English



wife, sent there by our Assemblies in *Rosario*.

The province is varied indeed. The Argentine population has more than the usual mixture of Indian blood. Then there are the extensive properties of the Jewish Colonization Association, a Dutch Reformed Church colony at *Cuchilla*, and many Russians and Poles, each having its own peculiar form of religion. In *Mandisovo* in the north of the province is a Scotch Presbyterian colony. 70 families came out in 1868. Many of these families are now very wealthy. While there was a complete indifference to spiritual matters, the hospitality and freedom given to me was truly Christian; some of the older ones in fact went out of their way to be kind. There are also the extensive Waldensian colonies of 1872, but these spiritually are quite dead. Their neat brick chapels are used mostly for the social events of the younger generation and when I could get a Gospel meeting, few evinced interest in it. However, the daughter of the last pastor is a very valuable worker in our Assembly in *Rosario*.

Another interesting feature of *Entre Rios* is the two British packing plants and estates for breeding cattle, *Bovril* and *Liebig*, one on the River *Paraná* and the other on the *Uruguay*. To agents of the Bible Societies, colporteurs, and others the Brit-

ish officials are generally helpful, and the Gospel meetings are never hard to obtain, even if in English. As we have been singing the well-known English hymns I have many a time seen tears in the eyes of the women.

There are several towns of some 20,000 people with no testimony at all. Years ago I had meetings in the third town *Gualeguaychu* (35,000) and quite a good interest. This work was followed up by an Argentine brother sent by our meeting in *Calle Brazil*, Buenos Aires, as missionary, but he obtained a post in a packing plant and left the town.

Our meeting in *Paraná* was augmented considerably by an influx of Baptists who had a couple of incompetent pastors (a Brazillian and an Argentine). This is no reflection on the missionaries of the Southern States Baptist Union, who are usually energetic and spiritual men, but the system of vesting all activities in a paid pastor simply does not work in the Argentine.



Seat of the Inquisition in River Plate, 1748-1760.

Here and there among the 650,000 inhabitants of the province one meets with those who confess their faith and hope in Christ. The Adventists have large establishments but they lose much influence by their arrogance and affected superiority; they generally avoided me. I hope to go again next summer (December to January) if the Lord will.

Constant colportage work has raised a testimony in *North Córdoba* and fringes of adjacent provinces, the believers numbering about 200, and there is encouragement in the fact that there are among them those who have a sense of their responsi-

bility to give the Gospel to others. Sometimes changes in employment scatter them to places inaccessible to the missionaries. Some of them consider the missionary a kind of walking encyclopedia and he will get all kinds of enquiries from an explanation of Daniel 12, a request for a children's school book, a remedy for a sick cow, or the way to repair the mangle. Last month I sent a packet of literature and children's books to a very faithful believer many leagues inside the forests of *Rioja*. It got lost between the Post Office and the camp. Although all in it was easily replaceable, I was surprised when a traveling Syrian huxster handed in a note announcing the loss and asked me to give the bearer at least a *Contendor por la Fe* to read over the fire at night. Needless to say I replaced the packet. This publication of CHARLES W. KRAMER of Guatemala is very popular here.

Although missionaries from North America are few, the tracts are the best we get, especially *Mensajes del Amov*, *Buenas Nuevas*, and *Contendor*. Many a time have I heard them read over the *fogones* in the forests.

I have just returned from an interesting trip to the province of *Rioja* and as soon as I have time will send you a few notes. Gospel work in such parts can only consist of going from place to place selling and distributing the Scriptures. The Police *carnet* and letters from the Bible Society insure liberty. The country is very unsafe through prevailing poverty; but there are abundant opportunities for witnessing to the truth. Sometimes there is

persecution, but as a rule the foreigner is better off in this respect than native colporteurs. In other places there is a real liberal spirit of enquiry, and correspondence ensues.

In *La Rioja* city, the capital, are the graves of some of the Massachusetts ladies (expert school-mistresses) brought out by President Sarmiento in 1868. The headstones are rather the worse for age, but the graves are kept in good order; I met one of the last survivors in Buenos Aires some 35 years ago. This noble band of Christian women, besides founding several National and Normal Schools in different parts of the Argentine and Uruguay, gave clear testimony of God's saving grace. Their graves in other parts are also well kept and in the city of *Concepción* in *Entre Rios* province, the children are marched once a year to their graves and speeches made. Some years ago I pieced together the very interesting story of their lives and got it published in the British and American community newspaper *The Buenos Aires Herald*. It is good to see liberal elements cherishing the memory of these Chusan pioneers; the Catholic hierarchy tried—fortunately without success—to get their pensions stopped.

For a number of years the 8th Avenue Mission of New York had a mission in the city and the various ladies who came out have done valuable Gospel work both in the city and inland villages. This has now been taken over by the brethren in the Argentine Republic who henceforth will be responsible for the maintenance of the testimony in that province.

The Sob of a Thousand Million

of poor heathen sounds in my ear, and moves my heart; and I try to measure, as God helps me, something of their darkness, something of their blank misery, something of their despair. OH, THINK OF THESE NEEDS! I say again, they are ocean-depths; and, beloved, in my Master's Name, I want you to measure them, I want you to think earnestly about them, I want you to look at them, until they appal you, until you cannot sleep, until you cannot criticise.

CHARLES INWOOD.

LYNDON R. HESS. Born in Buffalo, N. Y., in 1909. His mother and grandmother had been associated with Assembly Hall since 1896. His grandmother had been led to the Lord through the efforts of the first missionary to be commended from Assembly Hall, MISS LOGAN, who sailed for China in 1894. Converted at age 12 through the teaching of a Sunday School teacher. Four years later was baptized and began to take an active interest in the Lord's work.



An early interest in missionary work was stimulated by the ministry of visiting brethren and the activities of this Assembly, well known for its activity in Gospel work at home and abroad. While in Wheaton College the needs of the children of missionaries were pointed out by GAMMON; MISS DAISY GIBSON told of the work at Sakeji School. After correspondence with Mr. NIGHTINGALE who spoke of the urgent need at Sakeji, and some months of waiting upon God, felt constrained to offer himself for the work there.

RUTH E. DEVELDE. Born in Chicago; parents afterwards moved to Wheaton; saved while attending Wheaton Academy. In the providence of God her two closest friends were daughters of a missionary to Africa; many other classmates were children of African missionaries. Her interest in those dark peoples matured as the Lord's servants presented Africa and its great need. During her college days the Lord pointed to a life of foreign work by laying upon her heart John 15:16 and Mark 16:15. Clearly led to this definite preparatory study Miss DEVELDE, following her graduation from Wheaton College, took a year's special work at Moody Institute. They were mar-



ried in July, 1932.

Commended for this work by the Buffalo Assembly, Mr. and Mrs. HESS sailed for Northern Rhodesia in September, 1932.

EDWIN P. CHRISTENSEN (On his way to Pucallpa, Peru), was led to Christ in the Westfield, N. J. Gospel Hall in May, 1931. At once he was exercised about the lost in the far off corners of the earth. In time the Lord burdened his heart with the great need of the Indians of South America, especially those of the Upper Amazon Region. The Indians of South America live in the interior of practically all of the South American countries. There are over 200 tribes each speaking a different dialect or language, making it very difficult to spread the Gospel among them. In Peru alone there are about 3,000,000. They live in huts made of sticks and thatched with leaves. In the mountains they build more permanent houses of baked clay with thatched roofs.



Waiting His time, he made the waiting period count in one way or another in preparation for that field. He was active in the Gospel, starting in the open air, and in a sanitarium near home, later brought the Gospel to the C. C. C. Camp in Rahway, N. J. From there the Lord led over the mountains to a place where there was a great need for one to take charge of a colored Sunday School. There were 4 classes. Now after 2 years there are 7 classes and over 100 children on the register. Souls have been saved and this may be only the beginning of a great work among the colored people in Summit, N. J. In the early spring of 1939, the Lord again made clear, in a letter from JOSEPH HOCKING of Pucallpa, Peru, that he should arise and go.

In traveling to the jungle of Peru, he has taken, not the usual route by way of Para, Brazil, and the Amazon River, but goes through the Panama Canal, down the west coast to Callao, taking a train from

Callao to Lima. Thence an airplane over the mountains reaches Pucallpa in a few hours instead of the weeks required by the difficult and devious surface trails.

An air-mail letter (February 5, 1940) tells of Brother Christensen's safe arrival after a pleasant trip during which there were many opportunities for witnessing.

Notes

JAMES D. H. ANNAN writes (January 16, 1940) of busy times and large meetings at *St. Vincent* especially at the New Year's Day Conference. The loud speaker enabled those outside the crowded Hall to hear the ministry and join in the singing. After living several weeks in the one room in the Mission House they have been able to secure the five-room house, three blocks from the Hall, which they occupied during their previous stay.

A. WILLIAM COOK of *Mendoza, Argentina*, writes (January 9, 1940) of his purpose to attend the conference in *Bolivia* at Caraval time. This conference was begun in 1937 when the Cooks were working in *Bolivia* and has grown larger each year.

WILLIAM GIBSON of *Jamaica* writes: Please pray for MR. AND MRS. STANFORD KELLY who were commended from the Assemblies in *Jamaica* to the work of God in *Haiti*. There are many difficulties in this new sphere. January 31, 1940

LYNDON R. HESS of *Northern Rhodesia* in recent months has visited various Assemblies including Baltimore, Md., Washington, D. C., Buffalo, N. Y., and Detroit, Mich. The ship's sailing has been postponed until March 16. They expect to reach the New York district about March 8.

ROBERT S. HOY arrived in New York, February 3, 1940, from *France*. Is seeking guidance as to whether it is the Lord's will for him to go to the French-speaking island of *Martinique, West Indies*.

ELEANOR S. (MRS. DAVID B.) LONG of *Angola* writes (January 16, 1940) from Belfast, Northern Ireland, of Mr. LONG's several weeks' illness following two serious operations. He is now improving and

they are hoping to visit Canada in the spring.

ROBERT S. McLAREN on furlough from *Angola* writes from Sioux Lookout, Ont., (200 miles east of Winnipeg) of daily house-to-house visits and nightly Gospel meetings. "Here is a field with a need as urgent as Africa's—many communities with no religious effort whatever. There is always one door ready and that is the door of my neighbor; then the door of his next-door neighbor—until we find that the field is the world around us."

FRED E. S. OLFORD on furlough from *Angola* writes (January 6, 1940) of active work, with his son Stephen, among the Soldiers, Airmen, and Sailors in Newport, England.

HAROLD RICHARDS of *Chitna, Alaska*, writes (January 10, 1940) of being encouraged by increase in Sunday School attendance. He issues bi-monthly *The Northern Light*, a Gospel paper for the natives.

MARY RIDLEY on furlough from *China* writes (January 13, 1940) from California of taking meeting for sisters on the Pacific Coast before proceeding East.

JAMES RUSSELL of *Buenos Aires, Argentina*, reports (December 26, 1939) that Mrs. Russell is making a good recovery from her fractured foot and that he is "at it" as formerly, beginning that night a series of meetings in *Villa Crespo* where he was taken ill last August. December 24, 3 were baptised there.

GERTRUDE SMITH of *Vila Luso, Angola*, writes (December 7, 1939) of work going on as usual with morning and afternoon school in addition to the regular meetings for children, young women, young men, and women throughout the week. The leper camp has its own meetings in a small meeting-room built for them and a school work is carried on amongst them. In November 1939, 11 were baptised, 3 of whom were lepers from DR. BIER'S Hospital.

ANDREW STENHOUSE plans to return to *Chile* sailing March 16 from New York on M. S. *Imperial* of Guardiaz Line.

At the Conference in the Germantown Gospel Hall, Philadelphia, Pa., on February 22, 1940, a group of brethren from various Assemblies met and discussed the possibility of providing for the education and care of the children of our missionaries, who in some cases are neglected. Without attempting any definite solution at this time, various problems involved in such an undertaking were considered, such as suitable home-care or Christian schools for the care and training of these children, the securing of the co-operation and help of those in our Assemblies at home, and the possible establishment of a fund for that purpose. The need for such a branch of Missionary work is apparent. Suggestions are invited from workers on the field and from those who are in sympathy with an undertaking like this, and prayer is desired that the Lord Himself will guide definitely those who have the matter at heart. All communications should be addressed either to Roman R. Chapman, 500 Elmwood Avenue, Glenolden, Pa., or to *The Fields*, 75 Maiden Lane, New York, N. Y.

Tracts

It pays to be always ready to make known the gospel as Paul was. A Christian man was giving away gospel tracts on board a steamer. A gentleman, who accepted one in a gracious way, said, "I have not much faith in that kind of work." Said the Christian: "It was through a Gospel tract given me in Glasgow twenty years ago, that I was converted." The gentleman showed considerable interest, and asked for particulars. On hearing the young man's story about the tract the gentleman said: "I am the one who gave you the tract. For years I ceaselessly distributed tracts, but I saw so little result from my efforts, that years ago, I ceased scattering them. But by the grace of God I shall start again." —*W. H. Pike.*

CORRECTION OF LIST

Omit *Wagner, Miss Rose M.* (India), listed under Minneapolis, Minn. Miss Wagner was commended by the Assembly in 1930 but afterward accepted a salaried position from the Y. M. C. A. in Madras.

Addresses of American and Canadian Missionaries on Furlough and New Workers, Outgoing

- Adams, Mr. and Mrs. S. B.** (Venezuela), Box 44, Forest, Ont.
Baehr, Mr. and Mrs. Conrad R. (China), 311 Lyman Place, Plainfield, N. J.
Coffman, Miss Evelyn Eloise (outgoing to Belgian Congo), 36 South Michigan Avenue, Pasadena, Calif.
Craig, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene B., 479 42nd Street, Oakland, California.
Day, Mr. and Mrs. Christopher (Angola), The Elms, Swavesey, Cambs., England.
Ferguson, Mr. and Mrs. Adam N. (Natal), 6457 South Justice Street, Chicago, Ill.
Foggin, Mr. and Mrs. George E. (China), 39, Outram Road, Southsea-Portsmouth, Hants., England.
Gillespie, Mr. and Mrs. William (St. Vincent), c/o Mr. H. Reilly, 34 Mount Stephen, Toronto, Ont.
Gammon, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. (Angola), 143 Wemborough Road, Stanmore, Middlesex, England.
Hess, Mr. and Mrs. Lyndon R. (Northern Rhodesia), 212 East Union Street, Wheaton, Ill.
Hoy, Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. (France), c/o Mr. Richard J. MacLachlan, 80 William Street, New York, N. Y.
Hynd, Mr. and Mrs. William (Jamaica), 8840 Bray Road, Flint, Michigan.
Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Hubert L. (Dominican Republic), Carey Road, R. M. D., Victoria, B. C.
Kion, Mr. and Mrs. Norman L. (Trinidad), 134 Borland Street, Orillia, Ont.
Knight, Miss Cornelia (outgoing to Belgian Congo), Preston Retreat Hospital, 20th and Hamilton Streets, Philadelphia, Pa.
Logan, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace (Northern Rhodesia), Box 486, Athens, N. Y.
Long, Mr. and Mrs. David B. (Angola), 9, Hillsborough Drive, Belfast, Northern Ireland.
MacLachlan, Miss Mildred (French Equatorial Africa), 389 Orange Road, Montclair, N. J.
McClelland, Miss Margretta Priscilla (to India), 1322 Funston Avenue, San Francisco, Calif.
McLaren, Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. (Angola), 153 Maple Street, Simcoe, Ont.
Maitland, Mr. William (Angola), c/o Mrs. David W. Stubbs, Abbotsford, Mich.
Martinez, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph G., and Miss Angelita (Paraguay), 264 Hillside Avenue, Palisades Park, N. J.
Miller, Henry (Lithuania), 219 Wisconsin Street, Chicago, Ill.
Melville, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas (China), 1155 10th Avenue West, Vancouver, B. C.
Motter, Miss Erma G. (Northern Rhodesia), 12624 Pacific Avenue, Venice, Calif.
Oglesby, William J. (Jamaica), 113 Wohlens Avenue, Buffalo, N. Y.
Olford, Mr. and Mrs. F. E. S. (Angola), 9, Clifton Road, Newport, Mon., England.
Rathie, Mr. and Mrs. Ian M. (Dominican Republic), 2076 Kingsway, Vancouver, B. C., Canada.
Ridley, Miss Mary (China), 3323 Hogarth Avenue, Detroit, Mich.
Rigler, Miss Marjorie (to Angola), Rua S. Mamede 32, 1° (ao Caldas), Lisbon, Portugal.
Ruddock, Mr. and Mrs. John (Honduras), 3926 West Adams Street, Los Angeles, Calif.
Sparks, Miss Rose M., 3047 North Sawyer Avenue, Chicago, Ill.
Stenhouse, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew (Chile), c/o S. B. Batstone, 17 Stoneland Road, Worcester, Mass.
Sumpter, Miss Eva (Venezuela), Box 115, Agassiz, B. C., Canada.
Tharp, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin J. (Manchukuo), 1002 Longwood Avenue, Los Angeles, Calif.
Wills, Mr. W. H. (Venezuela), 68 Fernwood Street, Ormean Road, Belfast, Northern Ireland.
Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. John (Argentina), 120 O'Hara Avenue, Toronto, Ont.

Revised Addresses of Workers on Their Fields

- Hunter, Mr. and Mrs. Donald M.**, 16 Wa Ch'a Huntung, Peking, China.
Hess, Mr. and Mrs. Lyndon R., Sakeji School, Mwinlunga P. O., Northern Rhodesia.
McGehee, Mr. and Mrs. John J., c/o Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Jones, Public Works Department, 23a Cameron Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong, China.
Scollon, Mr. and Mrs. James, Sala Evangelica, Trujillo, Honduras.

Letters

GUATEMALA

Mazateco — GRACE GREAVES — The *San Felipe* Conference last month was better attended than usual and the Lord gave us a time of blessing and encouragement. About 40 went from here, mostly on foot. The Indians were happy to be there; they understand little Spanish still they enjoy the Christian fellowship and those that understand explain to the others so that all are edified.

After the San Felipe Conference last month, Don Antonio joined Mr. and Mrs. Kramer and Don Leonidas on a motor trip from Quezaltenango to the new Assemblies. At San Andres, Itzapa, for the three feast days we had crowded meetings nightly in a private house in the center of the town. During the day the meetings were held in a brother's house who has already separated himself from the sects through studying the articles in the *Contendor for the Faith*, our monthly paper. It was good to see their keen interest between meetings as they compared notes and with open Bible talked over the deep truths of Scripture, newly found treasure to them. The day following the meetings the lady of the house and another brother there were baptised.

From there we went to *Comalapa*, a large Indian town, so clean and white-washed. Each tribe of Indians is known by the different dress they wear; in this place the men wear white trousers and black coats and the women wear beautifully embroidered blouses. 35 or more Indian brethren remembered the Lord with us that Sunday and they certainly showed us Christian hospitality and fellowship. It was just the same in the two farms that we visited, *Panajabal* and *Chirijuyu*. A sister from the former farm was baptised; they want a conference there in January.

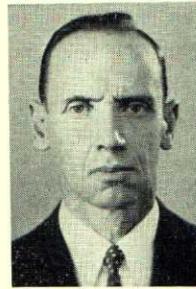
The local interest goes on happily and there is so much to praise the Lord for as we look back over the year that is closing. Several wanderers for whom much prayer was made, have returned with humble, contrite hearts and renewed interest in

the Lord's work. The elders have been stirred up and generally there has been a revival among the Lord's dear people. Surely we are encouraged to keep on praying as we see what God can do. It all looked so hopeless a year ago but with God nothing shall be impossible, blessed be His Name! I trust you will pray for our conference that takes place in February, God willing. Some want to arrange their matrimony before or at that time so that they may be baptised and continue to honor the Lord. December 18, 1939

CUBA

Havana

THOMAS SMITH — Policemen have said that the street where our Hall is situated is the worst one in the district and our experience confirms this. But, thank God, there is a decided change in the behavior of the children. Most of them have gained the four Gospels for attendance and about 8 of them



have now gained a New Testament.

Two other souls have professed faith in Christ: a fine young man of 23 years who comes from a Roman Catholic family, and a woman who has attended the meetings in our home for some time. It was a great joy to hear this soul confess Christ as her Savior, for she had been one of the "good people" who never did anybody any harm, etc. We just want to see more souls saved. Another woman professed faith in Christ on Friday night after the meeting. We have reason to believe that the Spirit of God is working in other hearts. One of the Sunday School girls was very anxious on Friday night, but since she is only 12 years of age, we did not press things, but will wait to see definite evidence of the work of the Spirit in her life.

We are glad to get a few children into a class in our home commenced 3 weeks ago. We hope by this means to reach their families. *Vedado* is a better class district and the people are more reserved than in *Cerre* where our Hall is situated.

Several saints in denominations seem to get help through the ministry, both in the meetings and over the radio, one or two seem quite exercised as to their present position. Paul said he wanted to "present every man perfect in Christ Jesus," and we are glad to see these dear souls attend our meetings.

One of the dear women who professed recently has been able to get all her family to the meetings several times, and we would ask your prayers for her husband, who is much given to drink and gambling. Another woman is very much tried also with a rather wild husband, who threatened to take her Bible from her. Satan is ever ready to oppose the work in one way or another.

We greatly enjoyed the week-end visit of our esteemed brother, Mr. Marshall, and we won't easily forget the meeting on Sunday night in our home. Mr. Marshall spoke also over the radio. What a joy it was to hear another voice after going on here for a year without any help!

February 1, 1940

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Puerto Plata MARJORIE E. BOLTON — The work here in Puerto Plata continues to give us much encouragement. Next Sunday we hope to baptize 5 or 6. We had a very happy time at Christmas, although a very busy one too. For the Sunday School program on Christmas Eve the Hall was packed.

The meetings for the women are held in different parts of the town and near-by.

We are hoping now to commence a Gospel meeting for the women of a new district quite near the town.

Now that the rainy season is almost over, we go out into the country places. The night before last we put the two loudspeakers on the car, quite near to the open-air meeting. The people simply came pouring out of their houses until we had between 300 and 400 gathered around. In addition many listened from their own door-ways and porches.

Our girls' Sewing Class (*Sienpre Listas*, meaning Always Ready) did very well during the past year and at Christ-

mas gave to the Sunday School 88 garments. These were used as prizes in our district Sunday Schools, where the people are poor and the need very great.

January 25, 1940

La Vega RALPH J. CARTER — During the last two months we have been very much encouraged by the baptism of 4 young people; and as many more will be taking the same step very soon. This recent increase of interest on the part of the young people and the children is perhaps one of the most encouraging developments in connection with the work here in La Vega. It is only a matter of 2 or 3 years ago that we had practically no young people in the meeting at all. Now

There Is a Splendid Group

which is growing rapidly; and, what is perhaps best of all, they are all on fire for the Lord, anxious to grow in grace and to be used for the salvation of others of their own people.

The open-air work has been interrupted somewhat of late owing to the rainy weather we have been having; but whenever we have a dry day and are able to go, we always find the interest of the people excellent. We are looking forward to the time when the weather will be more settled so as to be able to carry on these meetings more regularly.

When Mr. and Mrs. JONES left for furrough recently, it looked as if we might have to drop the little effort that had been started in *Santiago* a little over a year ago, and carried on during that time by means of weekly visits alternately from Puerto Plata and from here. The Lord, however, has brought forward several of the native Christians here who are showing some gift in the Gospel, and with their willing help we have been able to carry on in Santiago as hitherto.

One of the women who has been attending the meetings in Santiago, has recently been very brightly saved, and is now asking for baptism. We hope to be able to arrange for her to come over here soon for this. It will be the first baptism as the result of the work in Santiago.

January 29, 1940

JAMAICA

Cedar Valley LEONARD H. BEWICK — The Sunday Schools have kept up very well indeed throughout 1939, with an average attendance of 847 for 49 Sundays, the others being completely "washed out" by the very heavy weather in November and early December, which did so much damage to the whole Island. Our roads in St. Thomas were impassable for weeks. *New Monklands* was largest with an average of 226 for the year; *Easington* the smallest with 61. For the past two years a brother from the Assembly at *Huntley* has carried on a Sunday School at *Pear Tree River* with an average attendance of 78, included in the total above. A seventh school is to be opened at *Uplands* adjoining Cedar Valley on Sunday coming, D. V.

Watch-night services were held in our 6 centers with large gatherings in all but *Huntley*. Several back-sliders restored to the Lord and three or four professing faith in Christ. We had the help of some of the brethren from *Maranatha Hall* and *Assembly Hall in Kingston* for these services. These brethren have been faithful in helping us throughout the year and we do thank God for them. As the days go by our own country brethren are becoming of more help, specially the young brethren at *Somerset*. We were able to send groups from *Somerset* to three of the other centers to assist in the watch-night services. 6 young believers in *Somerset* were baptised December 24; we expect to baptise 4 or 5 more in *Mt. Vernon* in February.

Beginning with January 21, I plan to be at *Pear Tree River* for a week with brother *Shaw* from *Huntley*, a shoemaker by trade. We pray that God will add His blessing in the salvation of souls and perhaps in establishing a testimony there. We have not forgot the need of *Font Hill* and are hoping that some of our *Somerset* young men will soon undertake a Sunday School there. Application is being made to the St. Thomas School Board for permission to hold, fortnightly, 30-minute classes for evangelism in some of the public schools. January 2, 1940

Kingston WILLIAM GIBSON — 1939 has also been a year of great activity in the Gospel work in Jamaica. A large number have professed faith in Christ and many have been led into Assembly fellowship. The recently opened *Bethany Gospel Hall* at *Half Way Tree* can accommodate 500 or more. 75 believers are in fellowship there. On December 5 and 21, 42, last night 10, were baptised.

17 Assemblies have come into being during the past 14 years of Gospel work; 4 of these with over 900 in fellowship are in the city of Kingston. A happy spirit of fellowship exists between these meetings. Every month, in turn, a special united fellowship meeting is held at each of the 4 Halls.

We are cheered with progress in the city meetings. There is a splendid spirit of fellowship between all the Assemblies, and our united fellowship meetings are a great boon and are sure to create a warmer spirit of fellowship and cooperation in the Lord's work in the city and elsewhere.

At a place called *Buff Bay* there are quite a few who have been saved through the activities of brethren from the city. At this place there is a brother and sister who were once in fellowship in Kingston and are now a great help to the young converts. We believe that ere long there will be an assembly gathered to our Lord's Name at this place. January 6, 1940

PUERTO RICO

Santurce HENRY FLETCHER—Lately our hearts have been cheered by some professing conversion here. Among them is an old man who first heard the Gospel at a funeral I was asked to take. At the time I was disappointed that so few of the neighbors attended, but I did notice how attentively this old man listened. From then on he came to the Hall. One Lord's Day evening he saw by faith his name in *Isaiah 53:5*. Shortly afterwards he was baptized in the sea, along with a man and his wife from *Quintana*. A young fellow, who is in his last year at High School, has also professed. He told our son that he was so troubled that he could not eat or sleep. January 9, 1940

TRINIDAD

Port-of-Spain

JOHN McCALLUM—The year just closed has been the most backward of our experience

here so far as real conversions are concerned. We have no fault to find with the numbers attending our Gospel meetings, but the spirit of indifference seems to be settling down upon the people, and the cry "What must I do to be saved?" is seldom heard today. Only 7 have been baptized; they are going on well. 3 others are asking for baptism. We have been encouraged by the restoration of 7 who had wandered away, or were put away for sin committed. Since 1922 when the work began in this corner of the City 388 have been baptised. So we thank God and take courage.

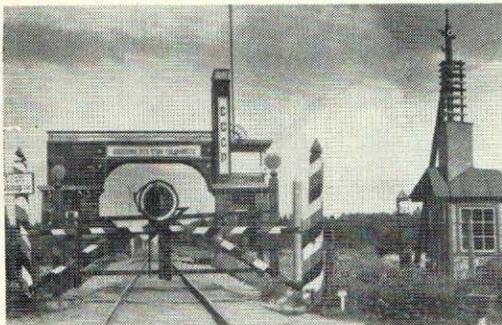
January 8, 1940

ESTONIA

Narva

OTTO ERTIS—My parents and brothers and sisters have

moved to Germany with many others, but we have remained here, for the door for service is still open, and who knows how



The Estonia-Russia Boundary Line at Narva
On the Russian side.
"Workers of the World Unite—U. S. S. R."
On the Estonian side.
"The Boundary of the Republic of Estonia"

long? Also the Assembly begged us not to leave. So we decided to remain, come what will.

In November we had a series of blessed meetings and the Lord saved several souls. Particularly stirring was the conversion of a widow. She had brought up 3 sons and hoped that in her old age they would help her. They all left her, however, and the youngest robbed her of all her savings, besides clothes, a suit, and wasted everything on careless women.

The poor woman fell in great need and debt. In her despair she came to the meetings. There she soon realized the cause of all her trials and in the last meeting broke down in tears. She openly acknowledged her sins and soon became a happy child of God. Then the Lord freed a young man who was at the brink of death. He had lost everything through drinking: work, family, happiness, his house. Now God has freed him. He is again accepted by his wife, who in the meantime had accepted Christ, and it is a joy to see their restored happiness. Another, whom in like manner the Lord released from the fetters of drinking, wishes to join the Assembly. He cannot await the day of his baptism. Nearly every time he prays his place is wet with tears. He had



Russian Fishermen in Estonia

been in the tavern almost every day for 45 years. His co-workers are beside themselves over this miracle. Yes, the Lord is still working among our people. Pray, dear brethren, for us in Narva! We cannot do anything unless He fills us.

The Lord leads us into the fire of purification and heart searching. We are sure that He will not leave us alone, but we thirst all the more for fellowship with praying and fighting brethren of His Church. Our joy is the service that we are still allowed to do, and we do not want to leave it. Help us, dear unknown soldiers of the Lord; do not become slack in your prayers for the Russian work in Narva, for the time is earnest and difficult. *The times are hard, the war is coming nearer to us, we need your intercession very much.* May He preserve your country from war and need, and mightily bless the preaching of the Gospel. God bless you!

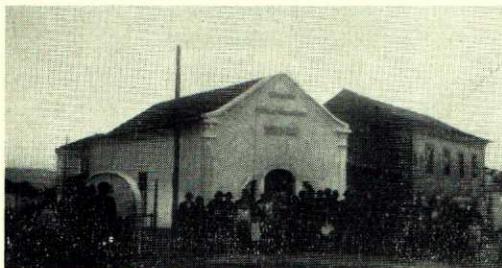
December 12, 1939

PORTUGAL

Estarreja VIRIATO A. SOBRAL—The gift from the Lord of a little second-hand Ford, 10-HP, enabled us to open the work at *Sao Marcos* on November 25. The meetings have been well attended in spite of the persecution the priests have moved against us, and there are people really concerned about their souls' salvation. Owing to the propaganda of the priest, a few of the people there have tried to stone and beat us with sticks. But the Lord marvellously delivered us out of their hands through unconverted men who stopped the rascals from doing us any harm. A week ago last Saturday, a young fellow who was coming home with us was hit, but we were kept uninjured.

The persecution we experienced, even the pistol shots, have redounded to the blessing of the work in that village. Although no one has yet confessed Christ openly, the attendance is growing and people have wept under the Word. Please pray that there may be a breaking through.

December 25 the saints at *Silviero* had



On the front wall are the words:
Silviero 12-11-1939. Evangelical Chapel
Come and hear the Word of God.

the opening of their new Gospel Hall. That Hall is a monument of answered prayer. Truly the gates of hell never prevail against anything the Lord is doing for His Church, locally or universally. What a comfort this thought brings to His own when they are permitted to go through divers temptations! As expected, the Hall was crowded with people, believers and unbelievers, who listened attentively to the words of life. We are looking to the Lord for much blessing upon the children

in the reorganized Sunday School there.

We have been encouraged lately with the Gospel meetings at *Quintan do Loureiro*.
January 29, 1940

ANGOLA

Vila Luso LESLIE B. BIER — During these days of war, which has not come to this country as we are under the Portuguese flag, we are thankful that we are allowed to continue in much the same way as heretofore. True it is that our mail is very irregular and even though we are half way through November our last mail from the United States and Canada was written during the first week in September! However we know that our heavenly Father can care for us whatever the conditions and we look to Him.

The hospital work goes on steadily. Numbers were less during October owing to it being the cultivating season for the natives and they did not come unless they really had to. It is always so at this time of the year and we plan for it. I took the opportunity of making a small trip on foot to some villages about 25 miles away where I had never been and was glad of the chance of seeing new faces and telling them the old, old story.

One interesting feature of the leper work is the work amongst the children. There are nearly 50 children who have to live here because they have no other homes and many of the parent-lepers have to have someone to gather firewood and draw water. However, next year we want to build some separate houses for these children and segregate them. Several of them have contracted leprosy since they came here and we want to prevent this spread of the disease. At the present time we have school for these children every day; they learn to read and write and it is a worth while effort to teach them.

I am glad to say that we keep fairly well although our little daughter Pauline has had several attacks of malaria recently and I still have some returns of it chronically.

November 14, 1939

(Received January 11, 1940)

BELGIAN CONGO

Nyang-kundi WILLIAM A. DEANS—At first it seemed that we would have to forego a year-end conference due to current conditions. The native brethren, however, would consider no cancellation, and offered to provide and transport food for themselves and guests. Encouraged by their exercise, we devoted December to preparing for the conference. The Hall was remodeled, enlarged. Native homes were made ready for guests, brick sheds cleared of bricks to serve as dormitories, other buildings prepared to accommodate the crowds expected.

The attendance exceeded our expectations. On Saturday, the largest day of the conference, over 2,000 attended the meetings. On that day potatoes, bananas, beans, corn, or rice were fed to 1,800 people. BOB DEANS came from *Lolwa* and shot 3 antelope so there was meat for chiefs and headmen. 4 supreme chiefs attended and numerous headmen (sub-chiefs). One of the paramount chiefs trusted the Lord. He is a powerful *Walesi* chief with a harem of about 30 women. He said, "I trusted the Lord last night. I want to leave my sins and be a person of God."

Christ was exalted in the ministry of the Word. 9 native and 4 white brethren ministered. A strong Gospel appeal characterized the preaching. One native brother, preaching on "The Blood of Christ" was interrupted by a youth rising and saying, "I repent, I believe." The speaker happily spoke of the joy in heaven over a sinner that repents.

What a joy it was to hear hymns of praise rising from so many hundreds of hearts! How blessed to see many gathered at the feast of remembrance, meeting in His Name! And the testimony of many bands of believers wending their way through the villages to and from the conference will certainly have an effect in the district. The gathering was a great blessing and encouragement to all.

European disturbances affect us here in Africa mainly economically. Delayed mails, and less frequent, make America

seem much farther away. Mails seem to be coming through, however, and we hope none will be hesitant about writing because of postal uncertainty. We need the prayer link with you at home as never before.

December 28, 1939

NIGERIA

Akwacha RAYMOND T. DIBBLE — The government here is trying to keep things running in regular peace time order and they are succeeding remarkably well. Prices are fixed at prewar level, but we have just heard that flour doubles in price next shipment! Any sign of profiteering is pounced upon at once. The produce companies are more than cooperating. Every one insists that there is plenty of provision, flour, milk, and sugar, but they will only let it out in daily dribbles. A case of milk does not last the eight of us a month and we are having a job getting enough to carry us along. We are falling back upon goats.

Last Lord's Day 3 women and 1 youth were baptized in our stream here. God seems to have broken through the hardness of Akwacha at last. This is a great encouragement especially to ADAJI.

November 4, 1939

NORTHERN RHODESIA

Chavuma GEORGE BUTCHER — We are visiting in *Belgian Congo* at the present time, and expect, Lord willing, to return to Chavuma about January 15, 1940. The missionaries here, at *Kahwata*, have been able to build up a splendid work in 7 years. The Government is very favorable, although the Roman Catholics are trying to hinder.

The trip up the river, as far as *Cazambo*, was very restful. Then from there on to *Cavungu* and here by carriers and cycle. Meetings were held wherever we were able to get an audience together, but no one, as far as we know, accepted Christ. Nevertheless the seed was sown.

November 28, 1939

Opportunity

We will never, *in the glory*, have the same opportunity for service that we have now — witnessing for Christ in a world that rejects Him.

PHILIPPINES

Manila CYRIL H. BROOKS — Just today we heard of a missionary up in the mountains of *New Guinea* who listens in to the message over the radio. It is his only Christian contact with the outside world. It must indeed be a cheer in his lonely outpost. Two of those who have been working with us on this broadcast are hoping to move on to *New Guinea* very soon and carry the Gospel to tribes which have just recently been discovered and who previously had had no

Contact With Other Peoples

or with civilization. We heard also from *Australia* and from *Rangoon, Lower Burma*, a brother in *Shanghai, China*, sent a gift for this work. A young woman who has recently been attending our young people's meetings in *San Juan* is an American married to a Filipino just recently come from *Rangoon*. She said that she and her father had listened in regularly to the Gospel hour from *Manila*; she never expected to meet the radio preacher. A letter from *Tarlac*, 100 miles north of *Manila*, says

"I am very much impressed by the songs and Gospel messages. We make it a point in our family to gather as a small congregation during the rendition of the program of the Gospel Messengers to listen to the messages and songs for our family worship. After the broadcast is over, I find spiritual contentment and wish that another Sunday would come again when we shall be listening to the voices of the Gospel singers and to messages where we feel as if we are brought nearer and nearer to God."

Please pray with us that these bows shot at a venture may find their mark in the hearts and consciences of many listeners so that many may be born again.

This afternoon we visited the T. B. hospital again. Between Christmas and New Year we missed two weeks at the hospital; some of the patients reminded us that we had not come and thought it had been a month since we were last there. No doubt it seemed like a month to them as they spend the weary days in bed. I wrote some while back about having quite a talk with a priest there. He is still there and is still quite affable but I have not been able to engage him in conversation again. Possibly I could do so if

it were feasible to get him alone but I have not had that opportunity. Each week there are some who have questions to ask and without any forcing there are opportunities for personal work. In one ward several patients, trying to be extra polite, have lately addressed me as "Father." One even called me "Reverend Father." I told them I was just a sinner saved by grace and had no right to such titles and did not desire them. A young Christian fellow told me that he would like to help in this visiting work. He is a very earnest young Christian and has connections with wealthy Chinese families in the city. I shall be glad of some help as it is impossible to give sufficient time to those who are interested when over 300 have to be visited in the afternoon. This young man is studying dentistry but is willing to give up his course if the Lord so leads.

We are praying that the Lord will grant a deepening of the work and a forward movement all along the line. There is so much to be done so we would ask you to pray that we may be strengthened spiritually and physically for the work and that we may not do either more or less than the Lord wants us to do.

January 9, 1940

He that endeavors to please God whatever he suffers is beloved of God. It is not a question whether we shall or shall not suffer, but whether we shall suffer for God or for the world.—JEREMY TAYLOR.

SHANTUNG

Shang CATHERINE MCKENZIE — The year that I have been in this **Pu Teo** dear land has been mostly spent in language study. This is a wonderful, although difficult, language, and I am enjoying my study of it very much.

The women of the little Assembly here meet every Saturday afternoon for prayer. As most of the elder women can read only a very little, a Scripture portion is printed on the blackboard. The sister in charge for that afternoon repeats the verse several times till she thinks we have memorized it. Then each in turn gets up

and repeats the verse without looking at the board. Needless to say, this has been a big help to me and I am enjoying it very much.

MISSES LETOURNEAU and BARCLAY have gone into the country this week visiting the nearby villages. This leaves me all alone on the compound with the Chinese; a big help as far as the language is concerned. The natives are afraid I will get lonesome so they have all been coming in to see me and have a little visit. It is funny when I get to the limit of my conversational



Misses Barclay, McKenzie, and LeTourneau

abilities. But they do not mind and talk on just the same whether or not I understand it all. But I do thank the Lord for this opportunity to get to know them all better. Although I cannot converse with them very much I do pray that they may be conscious of His love for them through me, these days.

Shang Pu Teo

FLORA E. BARCLAY — Although in the large port cities the Chinese Christians can and are carrying on Gospel work, the country districts are not covered by them. This seems to be the missionaries' work today in China. Our privileges and opportunities are still good and our fall itinerating trips have been encouraging. In one section a number professed faith in Christ. We quickly sold all the Bibles and Gospels we brought with us.

Three years ago there was a tent on a peninsula where there are 36 villages—since the war the tent work has had to cease as it would be a target for bombs. There were large crowds at our open-air meetings—real interest in some villages, and very little in others. Although the Chinese are a religious people—spending money and time in the worship of idols and hoping for a better place after death—how hardly will they believe the truth or accept the Lord Jesus as their Savior.

But a circular letter from the Peking Bible House has this interesting notice:—

“One effect of the war in China has been an unprecedented demand for the Scriptures. For the last few years we have each year to record an increasing request for the Bible but this year has broken all records, never before has there been such a demand for the Word of God. Presses in Shanghai have been supplying the Bible Society with Bibles and Testaments at the rate



Group of Believers at Shang Pu Teo. Miss Barclay at the right

of one copy every two minutes, night and day, for the last eight months, not reckoning millions of copies of Gospels, and yet the demand is far from being filled. At one time in the Peking office here, we had orders for over 4,000 copies of the complete Bible and not 100 copies in the Bible House to draw on."



The final mud plaster being put on a newly thatched roof

Such is the demand for the Word of God and His promise is sure—"My Word . . . it shall not return unto Me void." The good seed has been sown and we know and believe the promise. Dec. 27, 1939

Wei Hai Wei MARGARET D. BUCKLEY—The scholars of our school pave a way into many homes and win the confidence of the parents. I was in 4 homes yesterday and all witness that they have heard something of the Gospel message from their children. One mother told me of her little girl who said, "Mother, you don't know how to pray, let me teach you." Another said, she saw her little girl praying ere retiring and did not know what she was about, but she said, "Why, I'm praying to Jesus." We have a dear girl who confessed the Lord whilst in school. She has finished, but comes to Sunday School at times and it is a joy to see her great anxiety for her parents' salvation. How eagerly she notes any change

in their attitude, a breaking down of indifference, and any concern they may have for their own soul! Mrs. GILLAN visited them one day with Mrs. CHAO and spoke of the Lord's coming, which really caused her concern and a desire to know all was well with her own soul. We would seek prayer that this girl may have the joy of seeing her parents belong to Christ ere long. She reported that, as neighbors come into their home at times, the mother says, "Why don't you exhort them to believe in Jesus?"

It was my privilege this forenoon to give a Gospel message to the women gathered together in our Hall on this Compound, a full hall, at least 70 women with some new faces amongst them, which we are always glad to see. This year we left the beaten track and instead of giving toys, etc., as rewards in our day School, Bibles, Testaments, and Gospels were given to over 250 children. Last Sunday it was a very great joy to see the majority of them come to Sunday School carrying their precious Bibles and even the little ones their Gospels. This afternoon I had a visit from the biggest scholar who got first prize. She brought her Bible with her, requesting me to give her some Scriptures which would help her mother to a decision to trust the Lord Jesus. She said that yesterday they had destroyed their Ancestral Tablet and their family idol, which they worshiped yearly. All this was brought about through the witness of this girl of 12. We had prayer together and, though somewhat timid, the mother rejoiced in God her Savior. Truly a little child shall lead them. Dec. 28, 1939

YOUTH PROBLEMS IN CHINA

Two of our Sunday School girls asked for baptism. We feel that they are truly the Lord's, but one couldn't be baptized because her mother would not give her consent, and the brethren thought the other one was too young—she is only about thirteen years old. We will hope that they, with others, will have the joy of taking this step later on. It is always a problem to know what to do when young girls ask for baptism, because so often they are sold and married into heathen families. If they are then not able to take a firm stand for the Lord, they are cut off from all Christian fellowship for some years. We knew of one case where the mother-in-law took the Bible away from a young bride, burnt it, and would not allow her to attend meetings or visit any Christians. Of course, when they are older, they have more freedom, and then there is the hope of them coming back.

HARRIET F. MINNS, *China.*

Some of God's people have not yet learned the lesson that the conditions of vitality in a church are not only self-government and self-support, but self-propagation.

Where this principle of missions is not firmly rooted and practically fruitful, not only does it hinder missions, but the Church runs risk of breathing its own atmosphere. The church that is no longer evangelistic will soon cease to be evangelical. The weapons of aggressive warfare are the best protection for defensive warfare. Missions are the best apologetics, for they are the dynamics of the Church, the vindication and justification of our faith, the sure means of strength and growth; and to enshrine and enthrone missions in the very heart of the Church is the surest hope of a revival of pure and primitive piety at home.

ARTHUR T. PIERSON.

The Other Side of the Wall

"Even a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches run over the wall."

Is China my neighbor's garden?
And the ocean the wall between?
Or Africa, Europe, or south-lands
Where life's message has not been?
If I send out my prayers and my substance
To water these barren sands
The Gospel which here is rejected
May bloom in darker lands.

So now though your heart may be saddened,
And with tears your eyes be dim,
As you look at the meagre returnings
Of your labors and love to Him,
Have you stretched out your heart unto others?
Then think not your reaping small.
There's a wealth of unfading honors,
On the other side of the wall.

LEONARD SHELDRAKE in *Look on the Fields* (February, 1928)

From a letter (December 20, 1939)
from Henry Fletcher of Puerto Rico.

Looking forward to the New Year, Genesis 49:22 comes before us. "Joseph is a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches run over the wall." It is a beautiful scene—an Eastern vineyard with its stone wall. Within is fruitfulness, and yonder is a vine whose branches run over the wall and rich clusters of grapes hang on the other side.

The import is clear. Joseph's life was not only fruitful to Israel (those within) but also to all Egypt and the world. The secret of this over-the-wall-fruitfulness is found in those two little words, well and wall. The well speaks of daily communion with God, and the wall, of separation from the world—all that would hinder fruitfulness. May this be our mutual experience during 1940, if our Lord be not come!

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