

December 31, 1925.

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Introduction This is the land of military domination, the land of
 patient people, the land of ignorance and superstition, the land
 of evil practices and suffering, the land of many gods and no
 moral stamina. Everything is now in the flux and we feel the
 sweep of the great waves as the new ideas and ideals presented by
 Jesus of Nazareth and fostered by Christian schools and churches
 now beat upon the old shores of paganism, ignorance, and fatalism
 and injustice. Sometimes it would seem as if they would dash the
 very champions of these truths against the rocks of old prejudices;
 but we have the assurance that though we perish the truths of Christ
 are sinking into the hearts of men and God is impelling them to act.
 Yachow the most distant of China's stations has felt the sweep of
 opposition also but to a very small degree. Our church is stronger
 than ever and our schools and hospital have the same prestige.

Yachow Our work has been hindered by moving armies, threatening
 rotters, ravaging opium, and personal jealousies and intrigues,
 yet the friendship of officials, students, merchants, etc. al. has
 been encouraging as adverse reports have come from elsewhere.
Conditions The Border Troops, which retreated inside before the army of former
 governor Lui I Ju last year, came out in force in April and pushed
 the enemy before them to Kiating, snatching hundreds of rotters
 under their chiefs' hands to fill up their rear guard. Then in
 September the withdrawal to Yachow came, followed by two weeks of
 sniping back and forth across the river near, people on this
 side trying to keep under cover while the city was overrun with
 soldiers and the whole district divided by opposing armies.
Rotters Rotter tents operated on all roads and commerce has been almost
 paralyzed all year. The need of opium which Colonel Lan forced the people
 to plant last year has not only torn badly fruit but the Border
 troops brought out great quantities of the opium from inland
 with them. We have had to suspend church members to rid themselves
 from the habit but sixteen have had to be suspended as a
 first step toward exclusion after two more months if love and
 urging fails to win. Jealousies on the part of old church leaders
 of the younger men who seem to be tearing fruit has caused heart
 ache and has called for immediate and prayerful action on the part
 of the foreign pastor in more than one instance. Yet the kindly
 attitude of the people of the district has encouraged us to go on
 often opposing the powers that be in their evil practices.

Opium Jealousies

Friendship here

Indigenous Church

Executive Committee

Annual Meeting

Spiritual Emphasis

Contributions

New Leaders

A Chinese Pastor

Mottos and Objectives

Our church is growing ever stronger as a real indigenous church as distinguished from a body of believers dependant upon a foreign teacher. We have an executive committee consisting of four deacons, four deaconesses, one deacon from each of fourteen outstations and the chairmen of eight standing committees which meet regularly each month for discussions and direction of the work of our district. Their decisions are brought to the monthly church meeting when reports of all departments of the work are presented and are there acted upon by the church body. Then once a year following our big Christmas celebration we have an annual meeting with two delegates from each institution and seven outstation and six from the central church. This conference has just closed. It was marked with earnestness and devotion to the Spiritual Kingdom and with decisions for advance steps which are to be sent to all church members of the district in the six page report which church members at this very moment are mimeographing in my study. The committee of their own initiative, refused to consider question which had to do with foreign finances. During the year, the church has increased its giving capacity to double what they did last year and has a system of following up pledges through key persons. Church members take a real interest in supporting their own leader when the emphasis is changed from helping a foreign mission society run its institutions to that of foreign Christians helping the native church carry on its Kingdom enterprises, even if the bulk of funds must come from richer brothers across the sea at this stage of growth. Fu Gian Wen was an earnest, tireless, challenging young leader and led our students and young men to activity for Christ and the salvation of the world. He returned to college this fall. Wu Guang Chin with little ability as a public speaker is a ^{power} in personal work and has a weakness and strength of character which is telling in the lives of people whom he meets daily in the church guest room. We look forward to the coming of Mr. Lam, a Chinese pastor to the city church after his graduation from Nanking Theological Institution in June. Mr. Wong Ti Liem, Assistant principal of Yachow School for Boys, has given us some strong messages this fall and did a fine piece of work as moderator of our annual conference.

We have had definite ^{even} objectives in our work this year which have been accepted by the Executive Committee each month and then have been hung over the pulpit as a motto for all activity during the month. Here are some of the mottos: "The Head of An Indigenous Church", "Know God", "Become a Four-Square Christian", "Work To-gether for the Salvation of the World", "Possess the Riches of God", "Behold the Manhood of Jesus", "Give Yourself to God for His Work".

In the Bible School we have had for an objective: "Use the lessons of God's Word to Answer the Problems of the Individuals". With this in mind we have used special graded lessons with hand work for the Primary Department this fall and have fitted up good quarters for them with a table for each class of ten children. In the Christian Endeavor, we have tried to get each member to take part in testimony each week and under the leadership of Mr. Dan a graduate nurse just back from Cheongtu that meetings have become alive with testimonies and the society has become one in which members take responsibility.

Our Yachow church is the center of all our Christian effort. Each department reports to that church at its monthly meeting. Students from all city schools attend the Sunday Church services. Mr. Chin of the Foy's School is Superintendent of the Bible School and Mr. Dan of the hospital is president of the Christian Endeavor. Although we have three societies of C.E. in the city, one at the Foy's School, one at the girls' school and one at the church, they unite for one big meeting at the church once per month. Requests for appropriation from American for all these departments are presented to the executive committee of the church for suggestions and approval before submission to the Foreign Conference. Church Committees on preaching, schools, hospital, social service, etc. serve in an advisory capacity to the various institutions connected with our mission here. The foreign pastor and Chinese evangelists try to keep in as close contact with the various institutions as possible so as to coordinate any evangelistic results for the strengthening of the church. The foreign pastor leads a chapel service once a week in the Foy's Middle School and in the Hospital and at different times for week periods in the Girl's School. A Chinese evangelist is supported in the hospital under the direction of the pastoral department. The City church evangelist leads a chapel once per week in the Foy's Lower Primary School and conducts service in the East Suture School. An Inquirers Class has been held weekly at the Foy's Middle School by the church workers. Teachers from the schools serve as teachers in our Sunday School. The foreign pastor and Chinese evangelist try to develop friendships with students by taking hikes with them arranging parties etc. When patients return home from the hospital or students return home and fail to ^{come back} return they are followed up by this department and an endeavor is made to link them with our chapels in various centers, which endeavor has been successful in several instances this year. New blood is strengthening our little scattered groups of Christians in ^{endeavoring} the district not only to have a part in every ^{work in} ~~work in~~ the district but to initiate good work

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Christian Work in Outside Agencies Y. N. A. Anti-Opium Society New Year's Rice Government and Private Schools

getting public minded citizens to join with us. Our social evangelist is secretary of the Young Men's Association which ministers to students and the upper classes and church members serve on the Board of directors and are a determining factor in the clean wholesome program of the institution. When government school people and citizens feared to say a word about opium, our church committee organized and ran a campaign among all school under production of posters and gradually interested other people until a big anti-opium campaign took place in the city and an anti opium society was formed with over six hundred members. The church from personal subscriptions New Year to seven or eight hundred poor people is contributed to by people outside the church. There are now at least thirty-one schools government and private in this district in which church members or former students in our Yachow Schools are teaching and we try to maintain interest in Christianity through these agencies, visiting them and giving evangelistic messages when in the locality of each and giving out tracts, hanging the ten commandments and Lord's prayer with other Bible texts in the school rooms and also sending other publication from time to time. The Superintendent of Schools for Yachow sent me his personal card with greetings on Christmas day.

Evangelists Roadside Pulpit Street Chapel Sunday Evening Meetings Afternoon Meetings Personal Conferences

We are trying to extend the news of the Gospel by big public meetings, by personal work and by posters. Our roadside pulpit which consists of a bulletin board on which is hung a text of not more than twenty characters each week with quotations from Chinese proverbs or classic and the Bible is hung outside of each chapel in the district in sixteen centers now. In this way we are trying to show how Jesus fulfills the best in China's moral teaching and gives the people a wholesome thought in a way they can remember it as they read it day after day for a week. In the city of Yachow we have big street chapel meetings every Tuesday and Wednesday night with every night meetings during the Chinese festivals and during Inquirer's Classes. We have instituted a large Sunday evening preaching service at the church this year. A chorus of lower primary school boys helps with the singing and the stereopticon lantern or phonograph is used from time to time. The meeting attracts a better class of people than the street chapel and gets them into the practical of coming to the church to worship. All these evangelistic meetings are followed by afternoon meetings in which people are pointed the first step to the Christian life and are prayed with and are urged to come to talk over any personal questions at our daily consultation hour and are invited to come to our Inquirer's Class on Monday nights. Sometimes we have over fifty people into this aftermeeting and usually there are several who are very much in earnest. Our daily consultation hour at the church is also a new feature.

Guest Room ----- A Chinese guest room has been fitted up overlooking our flower gardens which is open to the church members continually.

Here we hang pictures of our work which visitors can see and have available books and pamphlets on Christianity which they can read.

Our church bell strikes twelve every day at noon helping to set what clocks are in the city right. At one ~~the~~ Chinese evangelist is there to meet guests and the foreign pastor meets people at one-thirty. Sometimes there are about twenty ~~come~~ during the hour and on other days only one or two. The central station evangelist this fall, Mr. Wu Guang Ching, is a marvelous personal worker and talks to people with a sincerity which reaches hard hearts.

Outstations

In every Outstation trip big evangelistic meetings are put on at night followed by aftermeetings, classes for church members and inquirers are held in early morning. Visits made into homes for home prayers, and special meetings are held for students and for women. The days of these trips are exceedingly busy.

Min San new life

Min San which has been laying dormant because of lack of real spiritual interest has taken on new life this year. Mr. Chiang who left us last year to enter the military as a secretary met with a change of heart during the visit of Pastor Dsong of the National Christian Council and has come back to do the Lord's work with a zeal and a humility and no thought of money which is wonderful. He has been into almost every home in the city and has made the

personal work

chapel an inviting place for people to come for rest, reading or prayer and so it has become. Twelve came up to Inquirers' Class of whom two were received for baptism and the others wait until we are certain they are the Lord's own. Din Gin has been unfortunate to have its deacon take a second wife because his first had gone crazy which nevertheless called for exclusion from the church. Yet the principal got to ranting and has had to be dismissed. Also the school teacher got to ranting and has had to be dismissed. Yet a new reading room at the chapel attracts people and two old Inquirers who came down to Inquirers' Class were accepted out of several were accepted for baptism. Tien Chuen has a reading room now also and Mr. Ngan is taking advantage of

Din Gin Discouraging Disloyalty

Reading Room

Tien Chuen

Son in Father's Stead.

his opportunity, bringing several to Inquirers' Class. One of these was a lad sent by his grandparents because his father who came two years ago and studied, but was advised to wait for baptism, had died. The family really has felt the impress of the gospel. Swan Ho Chiang a little village has showed real signs of life in the neighborhood where our deacon Lu lives. He runs a

School Homes

private school in his home which is taught by Mr. Wey, who joined the church last year and has had a salutary influence over the homes of the whole locality. Three lads from there followed the Lord in baptism this year. Lu San is dead because of excessive taxation and the refusal of the church to help in civil affairs. But

Lu San We are sending our old scriptures saturated Gao Gien Fang up now
 Salvaging to see what can be salvaged from the large number of members and
 inquirers while the worldly minded leaders are in hiding from
 taxes. I shall not report on Sir Yang where the treasurer and
 Other Places church member have been killed by treacherous brigands, nor on
 Tai Pin San under the command of a brigand chief where some young
 robbers men formerly in our school show a real loyalty to the gospel, nor
 Fuda on Da Chuan where the chapel with the village was burned during a
 fight between two clans and where church members are meeting
 Murders regularly in a house now, nor on Wu Pin where the tribes people
 have shut the officials out by destroying wooden bridges up through
 Opposition the gorge and where we have lost another young church member through
 to Official brigand activity, nor on the large centers in Han Yuan which we
 Lack of have not been privileged to work because of lack of evangelists
 Workers but where the Christians are showing some loyalty in their meeting
 because of the presence of old Lo Yin Loong now inspector of
 government schools there and young Mr. Yang Da Yin who is the
 Active laymen pastor at Han Yuan Heism. Every Christian has been visited b
 by a foreign pastor this year, some several times. In four
 centers this fall, preinquirers classes of eight days were held
 by a foreign pastor with the assistance of native evangelists
 as teachers.

WORKERS It was great relief to have Mr. Jensen return from
 Jensen returning Yuan to our pastoral work this fall as he has taken responsibility
 for part of the field and for the preaching services of the
 church to gether with many other phases of our pastoral depart-
 ment. We were sorry to lose Mr. Fu Gien Wen as central station
 preacher this fall; but glad he has returned to college. He was a challenging
 at our advice to continue his education - He was a challenging
 whom we hope to have return to Yachow district after three more
 years of college. Mr. Wu Guang Chin a sincere and hardworking
 personal worker who plans on rural evangelism in this district
 of many gardens, is now serving as central station evangelist.
 Others- Chiang Pong Sen is in Sin Gin, Ngan Sheng Yin at Tien Chuan,
 Chiang Pong Sen at Lu San, Chiang Guay Dong at Lin Cao, and
 Gao Gien Fang at Lu San, Chiang Guay Dong at Lin Cao, and
 Shu Lian Shuen is traveling. We also keep a book seller
 busy traveling to market towns selling scripture portions.
 Dao Ho Yin continues in the hospital as evangelist. Since the
 departure of Miss Roscoe, Mrs. Salquist has had responsibility
 for the Girl's School and has only been able to give a little
 time to women's evangelism; but has held regular women's
 meetings and has been organist of the church, giving time also
 to teaching women at inquirers class and lower Primary School
 music in preparation for Sundays. We are very sorry to
 lose Mrs. Smith on account of sickness for she did so much
 for our church music through the excellent students choir.

among
 Women and
 In Music

Mrs. Smith
 with Choir

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Conclusion- During the year 1925, , thirty-six have united with Baptists our church by baptism and three have come by letter. Many have attended our Inquirer's Classes and have learned more or less Evangelists about the gospel, and hordes have attended our big public meetings hearing the gospel message and appeal. We have tried to follow up the many who have enrolled in the church as inquirers in the past and retain those who were in earnest. We have endeavored to get every church member into some active part of the Kingdom enterprise. Those who have denied their Lord and are persistent in their denial have been excluded from membership-four in all and seventeen have been suspended as a first step toward exclusion.

Follow-up

Active Members

Exclusion

The church members are showing more and more interest in their church and are giving much more liberally to its support. Cap-

Leadership

able native leaders are needed for the Chinese indigenous church; and if we can get them and retain them the future of the Yachow Christian Church and associated churches in the surrounding cities and villages is guaranteed. The foreigner is still needed here as a dependable promoter of the Kingdom and steadier through the

Future

Need of Foreigners

storm and trials of civil war, and of internal disputes. The young men back from college with new ideas cause a problem as they meet the older church members with primitive ideas. Yet through the love of God the church goes on growing ever strong in heart and body although ^{only a} little stronger in size. Someday the church will grow to larger size rapidly because of the genuineness of her

Growth

Basis for

Enlargement

membership and because of the telling influence she has on the communities where she lives. So God is building up a church or churches here which shall transform this dark corner of the world through the saving power of our Master Jesus Christ.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles F. Wood