

WITH "YALE IN CHINA."

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THE answer to the question "Why did you come to China?" is an easy one to those of us who spent some of the first years of our lives out here. There is a distinct fascination in the country, the life, and the people, and many who do not come back as regular missionaries can be found in other lines of work. In Changsha this past winter, with not a large foreign population, there were four sons of missionaries; one with the Asia Banking Corporation; one with the Standard Oil Co., another with the American Consulate and myself with the Yale Mission. All of us were born in China and have returned to the land of our early years after a longer or shorter stay in America for academic and collegiate educations.

What the son of a Baptist missionary is doing for the "spread of the Gospel and uplift of the Chinese people" would be rather

difficult to put on paper, but I would like to tell something about the work of the group with whom I have been associated for the past three years as one of the medical staff. More should be known of the Yale Mission; this one of the newer units of the missionary army in China, working for the cause of Christian Education without the backing of any one denomination at home.

President Hadley at the commencement of 1902 announced the formation of a society of Yale men, for the purpose of establishing an educational institution in China. The first representation came out the same year and after some prospecting in North China, Yale in China was established in 1905 at

Changsha, the capital of Hunan Province. One year later, school was opened in the city with a faculty of three and a student body of thirty. The growth has been steady until now, sixteen years after the opening of school and twenty years after President Hadley's announcement, we have here at Changsha an institution containing a Preparatory Department, a College of Arts and Sciences, a Medical College and Hospital, and a School of Nursing, with a foreign trained faculty of forty and a student body of nearly four hundred. The growth in the physical plant from the humble beginning in the city to the substantial and attractive present "Yale," outside the north wall, has kept pace with the development of the personnel. "Yale in China" is already recognised as one of the important colleges of China; a real achievement after only twenty short years. It is encouraging to see the way the growth has followed the lines laid down by the founders and the way support has come forward from Yale alumni and friends to meet the cost of upkeep and expansion.

The purpose for which Yale in China was founded was to give a practical expression of the spirit of Christianity to this country in this transitory period of her history: to train the Chinese youths for leadership in education, medicine, sciences and business, and in allegiance to the Christian ideals of service and world brotherhood, the success of the work here can be measured only insofar as we approach the ideal. Being young, we have no notable list of alumni, but it is significant the large proportion of former students, graduates and non-graduates, who are continuing their education in other schools or who are engaged in teaching or government service. Ninety per cent of our graduates and fifty per cent of the non-graduates are studying in graduate schools in China or abroad, or are employed as teachers in Chinese schools.

The medical work of the mission is carried in co-operation with the local Chinese, the support and responsibility being shared through the medium of the Hunan-Yale Medical Education Association which is composed of ten of the local Chinese gentry and of an equal number of, or appointed by, the Yale Mission. Eight years of this co-operative work have passed. There have been difficulties, it is true, but they have been due to the inability at times to get funds from a province drained by corrupt military and political oppression. The spirit of interest and loyalty has remained excellent. This is of interest as being one of the first examples of this sort of union work in China.

The medical program is a broad one, including regular hospital work, medical education, nursing training and public health work. The ideal of the Medical College is not simply to train doctors for Central China, but to develop a school which will produce the medical educators and leaders in the coming medical profession of China. In the two classes already graduated we see promise of these hopes being fulfilled. All have continued

on after graduation with hospital internships. The hospital work includes the regular care of in-patients and attending to the dispensary cases, but this is a small part of the function filled by the hospital, which in itself is one of the finest in China. Here the teaching of the Third, Fourth and Fifth Year Medical Classes is carried on. Here the internes are given their training, and here too is the Nurses Training School. This latter is striving to help meet the call for trained helpers in the hospitals of China, so many of which have no trained nurses. There is an immense field for work in Preventive Medicine and Public Health. This past year Hunan-Yale has taken an active part in the formation of a Hunan branch of the Council on Health Education, which under the direction of Dr. Peter, has done such striking work throughout China the last few years.

The work of Medical Missions is most interesting; there are so many sides to the work, so many opportunities to work along the lines your own talents and inclinations draw you. Some prefer the curative side of medicine; the personal contact with the sick patients. It is a great satisfaction to be the means of bringing relief to sick and suffering by the application of the art of medicine or surgery. Some prefer the teaching side of medicine. It is a great satisfaction to feel that one's efforts are being multiplied many fold in the students, reaching many more sick and over a much longer period of time, and indirectly influencing the standards of the coming medical profession of this country. Some prefer the field of Preventive Medicine, Public Health work. It is much more a source of satisfaction to prevent an epidemic of typhoid or cholera than by skillful treatment to reduce the mortality a few per cent, prevent malaria by sanitary precautions than to cure a few hundred cases by quarts of quinine pills.

I feel that it is a great privilege to be back here in China at this time and especially in such a place with all the opportunities for making one's life count.