

|| *The West China* || || *Missionary News* ||

JUNE, 1933

EDITORIAL

War Again.

As we go to press the armies are again on the move in civil war in Szechwan, This time it is the 24th army (Liu Wen Huei) attacking the 28th (Fen Hsi Heo). Preparations for fighting are going on in many places and in fact hostilities have broken out near Chengtu on the western side. Some wounded have been brought into the city. Chengtu is experiencing all the inconveniences of lack of coolies and ickshas owing to the horrors of "la fu" and it is scarcely safe for servants to appear outside. Will it ever be possible for these armies to organize their own service corps so that these barbarous raids on peaceful labourers and farmers may cease? Last Autumn the 4th army was short of men and it was a common thing for students or coolies to be seized and pressed into the army. Now we are told the army is so large that more territory must be seized to raise the revenue to support them. So the vicious circle goes round and whichever way it goes the people suffer.

The University & Middle School Athletic Meet.

The Annual Athletic Meet was held on the University Campus on April 22nd. There was a large number of entries for all the events and the programme lasted from 8 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. A goodly gathering of visitors was present to encourage the competitors.

Special interest was shown in the women's events which were well-contested but did not reach so good a standard of athletic prowess as was hoped. There was evident a lack of training as though the ladies had not yet learned to take athletics seriously.

One specially pleasing feature is that the organization, judging and control are now almost entirely in Chinese hands, and there could be no better evidence of the progress that has been made in administrative powers in recent years than the efficiency shown in the working out of the programme. Some delays might perhaps have been avoided and the interest better sustained but we have no wish to be censorious where praise is merited. Some of the best athletes of last year did not compete, although they were on the campus. This is regrettable, for one gets to be interested in the veterans and a comparison with the new blood year by year is one of the means of judging progress. Without a statistical table of times and measurements we cannot say whether the standard of athletics is advancing or not. There is apparent a lack of sustained and consistent training. On the few days after the meet a number of the competitors were seen limping because of stiff muscles. This would not be if they had brought themselves up to a proper pitch of training for the races. If Szechwan is to take a worthy place in national athletics a good deal of hard work will have to be done first.

Health Education Sunday.

The West China Council on Health Education is to be congratulated on its campaign in the churches on May 14th. Addresses were given by experts setting forth the need for and the methods of healthier living and public hygiene. We congratulate the Council on what it has already accomplished. If it could lead to some practical solution of the drainage question it would be doing a further service of the highest value. The health of the people must always be in peril while processions of buckets pass through the streets daily bringing torture to the olfactory nerves and spilling their content to be evaporated and blown through the air in dust. Until some system of drainage is accom-

plished local authorities might be persuaded to provide special gates for the exit of these buckets and to limit the hours in the day (or why not the night?) during which they should be carried out of the city.

The Laymen's Report.

We publish this month an abridged edition of Dr. Cyril Canwright's criticism of this report. The full paper has been printed and circulated in America and will be read with special interest by Dr. Canwright's fellow workers in the field.

Next month we hope to publish another criticism from America dealing with the report from a somewhat different standpoint.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE.

We regret that last month, through a printer's inadvertence, the date on the outer cover of the "News" was printed as April. This should, of course, have been "May" as printed on the inner side of the News. We hope readers will correct the mistake on last month's cover.

PRESENT AND PAST DEPRESSIONS

Sir Josiah Stamp, recently produced some specimens of past pessimism. He had been talking of world economy as calling for the utmost courage and enterprise at the Economic Conference. In looking the facts seriously in the face, however, we needed also to have historical perspective. There had been pessimists in the past and they had ultimately been wrong. William Pitt had said: "There is scarcely anything around us but ruin and despair." Wilberforce at one period said: "I dare not marry, the future is so dark and unsettled." Lord Grey in 1819 "believed everything was tending to a convulsion." The Duke of Wellington on the eve of his death (1851) thanked God he would "be spared from seeing the consummation of ruin that is gathering around us." Disraeli in 1849 said: "In industry, commerce, and agriculture there is no hope." Lord Shaftesbury in 1848 said: "Nothing can save the British Empire from shipwreck." Similar comments were made exactly 100 years ago, when the outlook was very dark.

REV. A. A. PHILLIPS

We regret to record the death of another of that devoted band of missionaries who worked in Szechwan in the early pioneer days. Mr. Phillips came to Szechwan in 1891 with the first party of C.M.S. missionaries with Mr. Horsburgh. He remained in China until 1922. For many years he was the Secretary of the C.M.S., Western China Mission, and lived at Mienchow. He was a keen evangelist as well as an able administrator and was conscientious in every detail. In 1922 he was taken ill with some heart trouble and had to be carried on a stretcher to the boat that took him down river. In England he made a wonderful recovery and lived to fulfil a vigorous and happy ministry for ten years in and near Norwich. Some of his letters have appeared recently in the "News", showing how close the work of the Kingdom of God in West China was still to his heart. He died very suddenly after conducting the service and preaching on Good Friday in his church at Great Plumstead, Norfolk.

On behalf of all our readers we offer our deep sympathy to Mrs. Phillips and her three children.

SHEEP AND SHEPHERD.

The Shepherd's work was done,
The sheep were safe
Within the fold—
Ninety-and-nine, and one.

But, he had paid the cost
Of climbing steep,
Of daring flood and frost.

The sheep were safe
Within the fold;
The Shepherd? . . . He was lost.

EGBERT SANDFORD.

THE QUEER FEELINGS

OF THE "INVESTIGATED."

WE MISSIONARIES find ourselves in the position of being the most-criticized persons in the world. We are criticized by those about us, both within and without the mission group upon the foreign field. Criticisms are levelled at us by the foreign business man, by army and navy officials, and many others.

We are criticized at home by reluctant givers who would make us the scapegoats of their flagging zeal. And now, because of the rising tide of criticism, a commission has sojourned among us, and the world accepts their words as the final proof of our incapacity. The patchwork quilt of their findings does not always have an harmonious blending of colors, but, taken as a whole, the commission report is a great document, and will, if thoughtfully read, rekindle the fading fires of missionary interest.

WELCOMED ABROAD.

Before the fact-finding or appraisal commission had thought of coming to China, we, as a missionary body in West China, had been searching our hearts and minds, and asking some of the questions that are now being submitted to the Christian world. A group of first and second-term missionaries met together on the campus of the West China Union University six years ago with the express purpose of studying the meaning of our coming, of learning how we could best interpret the good, the true, and the beautiful to our Chinese friends and colleagues through Christian education and healing. And so, when the fact-finders were with us in China, and we learned that one of them was coming to Chengtu, we were frankly pleased. Others were interested in our problems, and had come to help to seek out the truth.

DR. WOODWARD'S FAINT PRAISE.

Dr. Frederic C. Woodward in his address before the various mission boards and a small group of missionaries in New York, in November, said: "The greater number of missionaries are lacking in imagination and vision. Many are backward." True the majority of us are of the common garden variety, yet all with the credentials of the colleges and universities of this and other countries. If some of us have lost the greater vision, are backward, or have had our imagination dulled by the drudgery of committees, book-keeping, and overstrain, is it to be wondered at? We work in a country where climate, disease, banditry, civil wars, constant abuse by the press and communistic and anti foreign elements are continually taking their toll of our nervous systems. On the other hand, for us to be associated with a group of such surpassing enthusiasm for the task, carries many of us beyond the plane of our ordinary outlook.

Dr. Oscar Buck has stressed the matter of the "renewal" of the jaded missionary by various means rather than by abrupt removal. This, in the face of the falling number of candidates, and the expense of recalling missionaries, seems to be the better course.

In any event, I cannot believe that God is through with just common folk yet in the foreign field or in America. Too many men's hearts have been kindled for great achievements by the simple life and fine spirit of the common missionary, touched by Christ.

Whatever else may be said of General Feng Yu Hsiang, it was the life and Christ-like actions of a missionary that touched his life for better things than he had yet known. The quiet, pervading strength and sweetness of some lives is like a benediction to Chinese and foreigner alike.

SPECIALISTS?

It has been said that there is a growing need for specialists among the Chinese, that there is a greater need of concentration because of too great diffusion. When Professor Woodward made this statement, he also added that there should be fewer and better missionaries. There is a growing need for specialists it is true, but let them be broad and able. As to the need of concentration, it would have been in most cases in the minds of the commission better strategy to stress the need of reinforcement.

Overwhelming need seems not to have sufficiently impressed it. In the whole of Western China, we have but one Christian university to serve a possible constituency of seventy-five million people. With a Chinese president (now doing post-graduate study in this country), as large a Chinese staff as is at present trained, and a foreign staff that has been reduced already to less than half its former numbers, it would seem perilous to suggest further reduction of the missionary force. And yet, there comes the cry, "fewer and better!"

How we could operate a university of the standard suggested by the commission with fewer missionaries, and where, with the exception of myself, would one go to find better? The professor's prescription is too homeopathic in the light of conditions in West China at least.

NOT SO EASY.

Another suggestion has been made that certain institutions be dissolved, and two or more be combined to form a stronger, better, and more effective organization. In certain coast cities and treaty ports where more than one institution doing the same or similar work exist, this would certainly be advisable, providing the governing boards, constituency, and denominations upon the field could bring it to pass.

Some members of the commission who would have this done on the field, would be the first to resist any such move in

this country. As an hypothetical case, suppose we offer the suggestion that Drew University with a denominational background and newly incorporated, lose its identity in Princeton or Columbia, where administration, equipment, and faculty, because of greater resources, are presumably better and more efficient. Personally, I would welcome any move at merging or consolidation, but in many places there is but one institution, and the matter of "consolidation" has already been carried to the bleeding point.

THOSE "AWFUL" WALLS.

There is one argument against missionary policy, started by Paul Hutchinson, and reiterated time without number since, that has again appeared in the body of the report, which relates to the missionary and his compound wall. If I but had the facility of pen of Paul Hutchinson, I would quash for all time the argument he advances. He proposed that missionaries should pull down their compound walls and thus break down their isolation from the people that surround them.

That would be the accepted thing here in America, where the few walls we see are around old Spanish Missions or other institutions with a historical background in the old world, where property rights are respected, and where we can be assured the privacy of our own firesides. But the idea is foreign to Chinese traditions and customs. When Robert Morrison first arrived in China, he found walls around temples, schools, private and public, and around homes. If anyone will travel with me from Shanghai to Tatsienlu, Szechwan, to-day, he will find walls, mud, brick, tile and bamboo, surrounding the cities, residences, temples and schools of that land.

At Peiping, the faculty of Yenching University decided to have no walls when they first built that institution and its faculty homes. This deviation from Chinese custom made unwalled areas public property in the eyes of the natives. When the whole neighboring village would attend the chapel rallies to the exclusion of some of the students themselves; when soldiers broke the toys of the faculty children on the porches of these people, or looked into the windows during meals or family prayers, etc., it was decided that walls were needed around the campus and faculty homes, both Chinese and foreign.

IN CHENGTU.

In Chengtu, we have no wall around our campus, and only low fenestrated brick fences around our homes; soldiers drill at will during class periods, hoodlums occupy our student athletic fields when the students wish to use them or tease and throw stones at our children; communists make our campus their rendezvous, and it was after one of their meetings that our beloved vice-president, Dr. Clifford Stubbs, was waylaid and assassinated.

The Government has sent protestations to us, admitting that the offenders were not our own students, asking us to curb the violations of public decency perpetrated by students wandering over our campus.

When we were in Tzechow, during one of the civil wars which are so common in China, and our hospital and home lay between the lines, it was the compound wall that stood between us and the enemy. Many of our Chinese friends asked us to build that wall higher.

NOT INTERESTED IN SMALL STUFF.

It has been claimed that missionaries have been too much concerned about theological questions, and have fallen behind the march of the times in more practical matters. Being a layman myself, and not having met that type of missionary, I am unable to pass judgment. In one respect the missionary has been ahead of his times. Greater strides have been made in the enlargement of life, civilly, socially, and religiously, in the emancipation of womanhood, and in the general advance toward democracy than anywhere else.

In church union, and educational cooperation, the church in the mission field has far outdistanced that in the homeland.

The missionaries have done a great deal in minimizing denominational differences in the minds of native Christians. The Chinese Church is an outgrowth of this spirit, and our own Methodist Churches have the former name in flaming characters over their doors. My own seven-year-old daughter asked me the other day, if we were Baptists or Methodists, emphasizing how little we stress denominational lines in the home.

The union universities are evidence of educational cooperation between the various denominations carrying on Christian

education in China. And in our own university, we have "The College of Medicine and Dentistry."

As was stated in the beginning, I welcomed the coming of a fact-finder to West China, and most heartily welcome the printing of this report by the Appraisal Commission. The criticisms and constructive suggestions offered therein have long been needed upon both sides of the ocean. There is a saying in Wall Street, that when the worst has been said, then better things will come. Here is a message that should stir our hearts, and burn out of us the carbon of indifference. Thank God for it, but let us fervently hope, and have faith that it has not come too late!

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THE TEST AND THE TASK.

ST. JOHN, 6. 1-14.

The disciples' task was obvious—a multitude to be fed: and so is our—crowds waiting for the Bread of Life. But what is the test? The test is a question of method. How shall it be done? "Whence shall we buy bread that these may eat?"

This problem was a test before it became a task. The Lord of set purpose ordered it so. "Whence shall we buy bread--?" "This He said to prove him." The whole issue of ministry, the very discovery of the possibility of its effective discharge, depend upon right method. What we do often does not matter so much as how we do it. We must face the test before we can fulfil the task. And the very character of a test involves the possibility of failure. One can adopt the wrong method.

"Whence?" So must they go elsewhere for the wherewithal? "Whence shall we buy bread?" Was it then a question of money? No. But the Lord put the question thus to test Philip. Immediately he began to calculate the expense,—the money he would need and had not got. Still we tend to think in similar terms. More reinforcements from home—and our problems would be solved. Given adequate financial resources, and what could we not do? Whence shall we secure an additional Chinese

worker? How much money shall we need to pay his salary? And there it ends, in profitless calculation and questions we cannot answer.

Often enough this is our way of doing it. But it is not the only way. There is an alternative—His way. “Jesus Himself knew what He would do.” And His solution involved no useless theorising; nor did it depend on supplies to be brought from elsewhere. His intention was to use the material available on the spot. “There is a lad here, who has five barley loaves and two small fishes.”

The test still preceded the task. The Master had His way of doing it, but would the disciples adopt His way? “Make the men sit down.” Had they the faith to make the venture? Have we? “Five barley loaves and two small fishes:” a poor and feeble Church: a small handful of believers,—uneducated, untrained. Surely the task can never be tackled with such material? At any rate, “What are they among so many?”

The Master did not find the money; “He took the loaves.” The problem was solved not by clever calculation and cash, but by simple consecration and Christ. In the face of the difficulty was a present answer. The Lord, the lad, and the loaves were all there. All three are still to be found in our Chinese Churches. There is a way to the evangelisation of the multitudes through the very limitations of Chinese Christians that missionary disciples so often think inadequate. Local voluntary helpers can be found, where the training and paid worker is unobtainable. But have we the faith to trust the Lord to use to the full this available material? Our task is obvious, and in our way we are all doing it. But which way?

LOUIS PASTEUR.

The development of modern medicine began with the invention of the microscope. Three hundred years ago this year, in a small town in Holland, a draper's apprentice, fond of playing with spectacles, made the startling discovery that, if he placed two spectacle lenses in the ends of a paper tube, he could see the cathedral spire as distinctly as if he were standing very close to it. But to his amazement he saw it upside down. By per-

sistently working at this odd discovery he found a way to make the image of the spire, right side up, so that he and his discovery soon became patronized by the folk of his town. Being an odd man, he was loath to permit people to know of his discovery except to allow them to look through his "tube". Then his curiosity, sharpened by the strange sights which he was able to see through his "tube" urged him to look for other things. And his success in seeing other things urged him to improve his "tube". He persistently ground other lenses until he had some which would magnify objects several hundred times, and with these magnifying lenses he discovered many things not then known to man.

But you say to me, what has that to do with Pasteur? My reply is that without the work of this draper's apprentice, named Leeuwenhoek, the great Pasteur would never have been able to make his miraculous discoveries and perfect the experiments which have turned modern medicine upside down.

Louis Pasteur was the son of a tanner, born in 1822. He was not a bright scholar when he went to school, preferring to paint pictures. He was forever pestering his parents, and his brothers and sisters, to sit for him while he painted their pictures. Some of these efforts were very much worth while, but others were a waste of materials. But he was kindly, modest, warm hearted, and liked boys and girls, and he always reminded people that they would find in their own homes and in their schools, the great scientists and statesmen and heroes of the future. Even after he became a famous scientist himself, he never forgot that he once was a humble peasant lad, and one of the delights of his after life was to visit his old home and renew acquaintances in his old haunts.

Pasteur's parents were poor and lowly in position, but in the highest qualities of mind they were rich and noble. His father served with bravery in the Napoleonic wars and was awarded a ribbon of the Legion of Honor. After the wars he became a tanner, married and settled down in the wee town of Dole.

When Louis was five years old his father heard of a tannery to let on the outskirts of the town of Arbeis. The house was small but it had a good yard which was well prepared for the tannery business. Here Louis was wont to play with his school-mates and his two sisters, or went fishing in the nearby river.

Louis went to the local school. He was not brilliant, but an average student, willing to work, and steady. His master was a man with a vision, and he used to talk to the lad about

the big schools of France and of Paris in particular, thus early creating a desire in the mind of the lad for higher learning. His father was also anxious that the lad should progress and was willing to sacrifice to help his lad gain an education. Thus it was that, at the age of sixteen, Louis was sent off to Paris to the Ecole Normale, to study.

Never was a lad more homesick than Louis. He used to lie awake for hours thinking of his home. Although he had a passionate love for study and a determined will, his homesickness overcame him. "If I could only get a whiff of the tannery yard", he would say to his friend, "I would be cured". Finally it was necessary to send the homesick boy back to his home and his beloved tannery yard.

But Louis knew too well that, if he were to fulfil his dream of service to his country, he must overcome homesickness. He decided to study at a school nearer home, and so hard did he study and so modest was he in his successes that he won the love and respect of all his masters and his fellows. Here, also he made friendships which remained with him the rest of his life. One man, Charles Chappius was a life long friend, one who was always willing to listen to Pasteur, no matter what the topic of conversation might be. So it was that this future genius discovered and fostered the great things of life, love of home, love of friends, love of work. Then he was able to go back to Paris, and without becoming homesick carry his work and pass his examinations for the Ecole Normale fourth on the list.

At the Ecole Normale, Pasteur soon developed a desire to study Chemistry. He attended the lectures of the famous J. B. Dumas, a scientist who filled him with enthusiasm and a burning desire to devote himself to chemical research. He spent long hours in the laboratory practising the technique of making experiments, and was only dragged away under the protests of his friend Chappius who had been instructed by Pasteur's father to keep the lad from working too hard. Pasteur was especially fond of the study of crystals. He would talk of them by the hour to Chappius, and his explanations were so clear and enthusiastic that there was no doubt as to the future before him.

After three years at the Ecole Normale, Pasteur passed the examinations which made him eligible for teaching. But the young student was so anxious in his work that he would never let a fact alone until he knew why it was a fact. So it was at this time that the celebrated chemist, Balard, took Pasteur into his laboratory. Here he made important discoveries into the nature of crystals.

Just at this time Pasteur's mother died. He could work no longer, and remained home for weeks. In the meantime some of the great French scientists had had time to learn of the excellent work of Pasteur. One of them, an old man Biot by name, and 74 years of age, could hardly believe that a young man so fresh from college could possibly do such research work. These two men became fast friend.

In January 1849, when Pasteur was 26 years old, we find him a professor of chemistry in the University of Strasbourg. Here he fell in love with Marie, the daughter of the rector of the university, and there they were married in May. Pasteur wrote to his old friend Chappuis "I believe that I shall be very, happy. Every quality I could wish for in a wife, I find in her." Time proved that Pasteur did not exaggerate. Mme. Pasteur shared with her husband all his joys and sorrows and his hopes his whole life long. In September he was made professor and dean of the faculty at Lille. It was here that he was to begin work which would carry his name to the four corners of the earth.

FERMENTATION.

Lille was a great industrial center, and it was this fact that started Pasteur on his studies of fermentation. To appreciate the ideas of fermentation, which were soon to flow out of his little laboratory to "inundate the world" it is necessary to know something of what people thought of the process.

Fermentation is as old as the world. People had made use of it from the time they had learned to make bread or beer or wine. But in the eighteenth century all they knew about it was that sugar in a fermentable substance, like crushed grapes or crushed barley sprouts, was changed into alcohol and carbonic acid by some mysterious substance.

At this time two German scientists began to study and examine under the microscope the yeast used in making beer. Both men saw that yeast is made up of little globules which can reproduce themselves. They do this by sending out buds which finally break off from the parent globules to form new ones. These new yeast plants then go through the same process and so on through many generations. Only living things, that is, plants and animals can reproduce themselves. Therefore yeast is really a tiny plant.

They found out that fermentation takes place in sugar and water only when yeast is present, and stated that fermenta-

tion is the action of yeast on sugar. This was the true explanation but it was not acceptable to many scientists of that day.

Then it was that Pasteur took up the study and he championed the ideas of the German scientists. He had started his studies to help the manufacturers at Lille who had been having trouble in making rootbeer alcohol. He worked for months and months thinking himself upon the brink of a great discovery, yet knowing that all of his ideas might be mistaken. He widened his field of study by experimenting upon the souring of milk. One reason for this was the questions asked by other scientists who had observed fermentation in other substances, as for example, milk.

Pasteur found that when milk sours, little grey patches are found on the sides and bottom of the vessel. Under the microscope he found that this grey material was smaller than tiny globules of yeast. He transferred a bit of the tiny material into another liquid in which it could live and found that fermentation was set up there also. Thus this grey material might be called the ferment of milk.

We know that yeast is a plant. Its nearest relatives are the mould plants like those you have seen on food. This ferment of milk is also a plant and belongs to the group of plants known as bacteria. One studies about such bacteria in health classes.

Now the big question was, "what part does the yeast play in the drama of fermentation"?

"The part of a living thing, just as you are," said Pasteur. "The yeast eats the sugar just as you eat your food and throws out the waste, the alcohol and the carbonic acid just as your body throws off the waste from the food which it cannot use" The problem was solved: Fermentation is caused by a specific ferment.

In 1857 Pasteur left Lille to become professor in his alma mater, Ecole Normale. He had a great many duties but he fitted up a laboratory in an old garret and went on with his studies on fermentation. In 1860 the Academy of Sciences gave him the prize for the experimental physiology because these studies proved so valuable to mankind.

At this time there was a great question stirring the minds of scientists. It was the controversy on spontaneous generation. The problem was "Do all living things come from seeds or eggs in which the germ of life already exists, or can life be born of nothing, that is spontaneously"?

Science up to this time had believed in spontaneous generation. The maggots, for example, found in spoiled meat, were supposed to be born spontaneously, but an Italian, Redi by name, disproved this. He put a piece of gauze over the meat, flies, drawn by the odor, laid their eggs on the gauze over the meat, and from the eggs, worms were hatched. Therefore the maggots came from eggs. They were not born of nothing.

Pasteur knew from his long study on fermentation that each fermentation is caused by its own particular ferment. Now he set out to prove that every form of life, no matter how small, springs from a germ, or seed peculiar to itself. He began to study the air. First he drew it through a long tube, containing cottonwool. The wool often became black with dust and in this dust Pasteur found tiny plants or bacteria, which would multiply in solution of organic matter. Then he proved that if a liquid capable of sustaining life was boiled to kill all of the germs present in it, and was kept in a flask that allowed no dust from the air to enter, it remained pure, indefinitely. But, when a speck of dust was added life began in the flask. In this way Pasteur proved that many of the tiny forms of life which puzzled people when they saw them under the microscope came from the air. Later he found that living ferments abound also on many objects, and in water.

Pasteur now turned back to his studies on wine. Wines, in France had, for many years been subject to disease. Wines became sick just as plants and animals became sick. They became ropy, or sour, or bitter, and had an unwholesome taste. Of course people wouldn't drink them, and the manufacturers lost a great deal of money. When Pasteur examined these sick wines under the microscope, he found not only little yeast plants but also tiny microscopic bodies, bacteria. "These little rod-shaped bodies are the cause of disease in your wines" said Pasteur to the manufacturers. "They enter it from the air and when conditions are favourable for their growth they start an unhealthy fermentation just as the yeast starts a healthy fermentation. He then showed them that heating their wines to a certain temperature would kill disease ferments without hurting the flavor of wine. Thus the name Pasteurization was given to the heating of liquids to a temperature sufficient to kill harmful germs which might be in them.

From this it was not a long step to formulate the theory that living organisms were the cause of diseases in animals and humans. Thus it was that Pasteur first advanced the germ or

ferment theory of disease which has revolutionized the practices of medicine and surgery.

SILK.

In 1865, Pasteur's old friend, Dumas, begged him to investigate the disease of silkworms which was killing the industry which had been the main-stay of the south of France. Pasteur knew nothing about the silk worm industry, but allowed himself to be persuaded by his old friend, so he proceeded to the South of France and for six long hard years he struggled with the disease which was ruining this lucrative business of France. He found it to be a contagious disease as well as a hereditary one and organized a system of egg selection which would insure pure seed, as silkworm eggs were called. Only healthy eggs from healthy moths were selected. Thus it was after years of painstaking study did Pasteur save the silk industry for France.

For this great piece of work, and for his increasing studies in science, he left his Ecole Normale and with the aid of the French government, was given a laboratory where he could carry out his further researches.

But just at this time, the strain under which Pasteur had worked began to tell upon his body and in 1869 he suffered a stroke of paralysis of the left side. His recovery was despaired of but later he recovered sufficiently to carry on his great work, but always had a limp on his left leg.

Another dark shadow crossed his path in the shape of the Franco-Prussian war. For the duration of the war his work was abandoned, and Pasteur was compelled to remain idle as he was unable to join the army on account of his stroke of a year before. But when the war was over he at once jumped into the work of research once more and in 1873 we see him elected an Associate of the Academy of Medicine. So successful was he in his studies that in 1874 he was granted an annuity of 12,000 francs for the rest of his life.

ANIMAL DISEASES.

Pasteur had wanted to carry on his researches in the realm of animal diseases, and now he had his opportunity. Just at this time the sheep, and cows of France had been decimated by an epidemic of anthrax. The farmers were unable to find the

cause of the disease. There were "cursed fields" and "dangerous mountains" where farm animals could not be pastured without catching anthrax. Animals stricken with the disease usually died within a few hours. Horses, cows, sheep, even men caught the fatal disease. Pasteur was asked by the Ministry of Agriculture to study the disease. Koch, a German scientist had done some work on the disease and found that the organism was a spore-forming one, and these spores were the villains in the tragedy.

When Pasteur began his studies there were many people who still refused to believe in the germ theory of disease. But he was able with a series of experiments to prove that bacteria were the real cause.

INOCULATION.

It this time there was another dread disease epidemic in France. It was chicken-cholera. Often this disease would kill as many as ninety per cent of a flock of hens. Its cause was found to be a tiny speck which was alive but could not move about. It multiplied very rapidly in culture medium of chicken gristle broth. Pasteur found that the smallest drop of the new culture on a few crumbs of bread was sufficient to kill a chicken.

He now made a discovery by accident. One day he inoculated some hens with a culture which had been left standing for some time. Much to his surprise he found that these hens became ill but soon recovered. It then occurred to him to inoculate the same hens with a deadly virus of fresh culture liquor. These hens remained perfectly well, although the hens inoculated with the fresh virus died. Eagerly Pasteur followed up this discovery. The principle of vaccination against a contagious disease had been discovered. Then he remembered that vaccination had long been practised in the case of smallpox. Pasteur thought that germs could be weakened, injected into the body, and that the body, in overcoming these weakened germs, gains protection against the strong or virulent germs of the same disease. The process of weakening is simply a process of cultivating the germs under conditions which are unfavourable to their growth. Surely this is the way smallpox is weakened, by living in the body of the cow, where it is unfavourable to its growth.

ANTHRAX.

Pasteur now set to work to weaken the germs of anthrax hoping to develop a vaccine against that disease. When he had succeeded he announced his discovery to the Academy of Science. He was met with doubt and distrust by many scientists. One of these, Rossignol, challenged Pasteur to a trial of his new vaccine against anthrax. Pasteur accepted the challenge. The Society of Agriculture of Melun was to furnish fifty sheep. Twenty-five of these sheep were to be vaccinated and afterward inoculated with the virus. The remaining twenty-five were to be inoculated with the fresh virus only.

The first vaccination took place on May 17th. On May 31st all the animals were inoculated with the deadly anthrax virus, and on June 2 a great crowd gathered to see the result. Every vaccinated sheep was alive and well: every unvaccinated sheep was dead. A few cows included in the test gave the same results as the sheep. This was a great triumph. After it millions of sheep were vaccinated and saved from the dread disease of anthrax.

This gave Pasteur great honor. He was presented with the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honor, but refused the honor unless his assistants should also be honored with the Red Ribbon of the Legion. His wish was granted. Pasteur's pension was now raised from 12,000 francs to 25,000 francs by a grateful government for whom he had done so much.

HYDROPHOBIA.

During his studies on anthrax, Pasteur had also made extensive studies upon Hydrophobia. This dread disease is caused in human beings by the bite of mad dogs. Its incubation period is a long one sometimes as long as a hundred days, usually forty days. This strange fact made Pasteur think that it attacked the nervous system, and he began to search for ways to experiment upon the nervous system with the disease. He tried experiments with the saliva of mad dogs. See him compelling his assistants to hold a mad dog, while he with a swab tried to secure the saliva from its mouth, or to secure some of the debris around the fangs of the mad creature. One shudders when one thinks of all that scientist went through, the dangers he faced, to find the cure for this fatal disease.

One day his assistant, Dr. Roux, suggested that if he could place the nerve matter of a rabid animal directly into the brain of a dog, it might make the animal mad.

But how was anyone to inject the virus directly into the brain of a dog. Pasteur was a very mild man and disliked to see animals hurt. He would not agree to the experiment of trephining a dog's skull to allow the virus to be injected. One day in his absence Dr. Roux actually performed the operation, and upon the return of his master informed him of what he had done. Pasteur was moved to pity for the dog, but when Roux called the dog he romped into the laboratory seemingly happy. But in fourteen days he was ill, and soon very mad. This proved to Pasteur that the virus does attack the nervous system. Now he proceeded with series of experiments from brain to brain, in rabbits, to reduce the period of incubation from fourteen to seven days. The virus had then become a fixed virus and had gained its greatest power. The next step was to weaken the virus in order to obtain a protective vaccine.

The spinal column of a rabid rabbit was removed and dried. After fourteen days a solution of this cord was injected into a dog and was found to have lost its power to cause hydrophobia. Then followed an injection of the cord from the thirteen day rabbit, and so on until the injection was made from a rabbit which had died on the same day. It was thus found that all animals which had received injections from this series were immune to hydrophobia. Also, dogs which were bitten by mad dogs failed to develop rabies if given a course of these injections.

Pasteur felt that this should also be effective in humans, but he also noted that some people failed to develop rabies even after being bitten by a mad dog. He did not then know that only sixteen percent of those actually bitten develop the disease. This made him hesitate to try his vaccine on the human body.

SUCCESS.

But he had not long to wait until he was forced to try his vaccine. A small nine year old laddie was brought in with nine wounds from a mad dog. The mother of the child implored him to try his vaccine "for the child will but die" cried the mother. Pasteur called in two medical friends who also begged him to try the experiment. Dare he? What would be the results upon this small laddie? But he was so badly bitten that he was almost sure to die of rabies. Pasteur decided to take the

chance. He gave little Joseph Meister his first injection. All night long he walked the floor fearful of what might happen to the boy. Then came the twelfth and last injection. This was the most virulent of all. All night long Pasteur walked the floor in agony, while little Joseph slept peacefully. Then next morning he came merrily into the laboratory greeting Pasteur with a kiss. What a relief to the great scientist. The boy had received the injections just as had the animals upon whom Pasteur had experimented. He was saved from hydrophobia.

Along comes another lad, a shepherd boy, who, in rescuing his companions from a mad dog had received many bites. And his bites were six days ago. Would the treatment work after such a delay? It did and the brave shepherd boy was saved. Follows in streams many dog-bitten unfortunates all of who were to receive Pasteur treatment for the prevention of the dreaded rabies, and all of whom recovered. Twenty Russians from Siberia came all the way to Paris for the treatment. But they had been long bitten. Would the miracle-medicine work? All but three of the Russians recovered. So it went and over thirty thousand cases were treated with a death rate of less than one percent. A great triumph for a great scientist.

Pasteur did not live long to enjoy his triumphs. He was honoured by every country. His was a household name. Pasteur Institutes sprang up all over the land. But the worn-out body demanded its toll and he died in 1895, at the age of 73, still trying to carry on research work.

In one of his last speeches, one which he could not give but which was read by his son, he said "Young men . . . say to yourselves first of all what have I done for my instructors? and as you go further what have I done for my country? until the time comes when you may have the happiness of thinking that you have contributed in some way to the progress of humanity."

NOTICE.

I have been asked to get out the List of Missionaries, published annually in the News by the Advisory Board.

Will Mission Secretaries please see that corrected lists are sent me promptly. Individuals who may have detected errors in former lists will please advise me of same.

Thanks for cooperation.

H. J. OPENSHAW.

LECTURES AT THE FAIR.

After a lapse of eight years the Szechuan Christian Council sponsored Evangelistic meetings at the Annual Fair held outside the West Gate at the Chin Yang Kong Temple. Formerly a large mat shed was erected near the Flower Gardens but this proved too noisy when the nearby tea-houses competed quite strongly with Chinese orchestra and singing plays. This year a front portion of the Er Hsien Ngan Temple was secured and proved the right spot. The lecture hall was large and spacious, and situated right where the visitors debouched from the main temple creating an easy advance by the reception committee who had representatives always at the large entrance giving out literature and inviting attendance to the meetings. The lecture hall filled up rapidly and the audiences changed constantly, but the order was of the best throughout the month's special evangelistic campaign.

At the front two reception rooms were situated, men's and women's, on either side of the main entrance. These were attractively decorated with evangelical texts and health charts, and tea was served here to visitors. Off both these reception room were private rooms for conversation, prayer and refreshment. These were constantly in use with workers in conversation with visitors and much excellent personal work was accomplished here. The lecture hall at the rear of these rooms was about forty feet square and seated almost two hundred with a low partition separating the women from the men. More charts and Gospel texts adorned the walls, and the platform at the rear commanded a good view of the audience and those always standing when seats were at a premium. The hall was easily darkened by adjustable mat shades permitting the use of the lantern at any hour desired.

The month's work was opened by a free week of vaccination largely for children. This proved very attractive and the noon hour was given over to this the first week when 160 were vaccinated by our medical students from the University and helpers from the Y. M. C. A. Each day at noon, after this first week, the regular preachers and speakers were rested for the noon hour while the Y. M. C. A. filled in with educational lectures on various subjects. In this work they were ably supported by the Council on Health Education. The Director, Dr. Crawford,

came twice a week with electric lantern and gave excellent illustrated Health lectures. Mr. Li Min Liang gave fine lectures on Agricultural new methods, illustrated by lantern which were very popular with the many farmers present and of real value. Mr. Sine, of the Council on Health Education, also came three times weekly and rendered very valuable service. Mothers particularly spoke of his helpful lectures on Child Welfare and took away much special literature. These noon lectures attracted great crowds and Dr. Crawford disposed of large quantities of well illustrated literature. By all odds the most effective was the new one on opium drawn so well by Mrs. Kitchen. There was constant demand for opium and agriculture literature. A museum of dental heads showed head throat, skin and teeth affections, while a hygienic mosquito net-covered bed for children always held the attention of the mothers.

We were elated at the genuinely warm welcome given to the preaching of the Gospel. To our present knowledge not a single unpleasant incident was reported. Rather expressions of appreciation and of real interest in the Gospel message were the order of the day. The speakers and ushers, both men and women were a most enthusiastic group, and seemed to thoroughly enjoy the arduous day's work every day, and such work is arduous. One only needs to try it to find that is quite exhausting but very rewarding. One of the fine by-products of the month's special evangelistic campaign is the new vision and encouragement given the many church workers involved.

Mondays, the Canadian Church held the fort and weekly turned out a fine corps of men and women workers. Mr. Neave and Pastor Kan were always present while the W.M.S. and the Bible women were willing workers, as were those also from Evangelist's Wives School.

Tuesdays, the C.M.S. rolled up a surprising number of workers by engaging the interest of students of their dormitory. Archdeacon Boreham was a regular Temple preacher. Bishop Song came when possible, while Miss Mannett and Miss Wright did good work with the women.

Wednesdays, Pastor Wu of the M.E.M. was a stalwart helper with the aid of the veteran Dr. Spenser Lewis and groups of students and local preachers as well as efficient Bible women.

Thursdays, the Friends got in real evangelistic work. Mr. Simkin was well to the front and always commanded attention by his height, massive build and stentorian tones. Miss Hutchinson with an able company of students and helpers were a fine help. Rev. Thomas Torrance helped considerably on these days.

Fridays, the Baptists came in strong with Sha "Da Yeh" in his usual popular role. With Mr. Openshaw, Pastor Hsu and other preachers were always on the job. Miss Bassett gave real assistance with her school girls and Bible were.

Saturdays were always Women's Days. The W.M.S. of Fang Chen Kai and the W.F.M.S. of Shansi Kai alternated Saturdays and brought fine bands of women and senior girl workers. Miss Harrison, Miss Ward, Miss Gormley, Miss Harger, Miss Lybarger, Miss Manly and others gave largely of their time and talent. The Y.W.C.A., through Mrs. Kao, and others helped much and also gave much time daily at the Membership tent near the Flower Gardens.

Sundays, the Y.M.C.A. took responsibility while the churches had their regular city church work. They were assisted by Dr. Crawford and Li Ming Liang, and very notably by the Student Christian Movement of the Union University who sent very able preachers in the persons of Mr. Cheo, the Secretary, Stephen Tang and others. Sundays, and every day, the one man eternally working was the fine old Friends preacher Lü Yao Chen. The big effort would hardly have been possible without his constant and unremitting attention in the reception rooms, on the platform, in the after meetings giving wise counsel to enquirers, and much responsibility all the time. Special mention must be given his wife who was present practically every day doing quiet effective work among the women and distributing literature with a kindly smile and pleasant word. Mr. Lü at present is giving half-time as Social Secretary of the Y.M.C.A. and half time as Secretary of the Szechuan Christian Council.

The work closed on Easter Sunday with the eloquent veteran Lu Yao Chen, and others, delivering telling messages of the good Easter news of Resurrection and New Life in Christ.

The following figures tell part of the story of the happy month's work;—preachers and speakers reported weekly, 118. Workers in Reception rooms, ushers and literature, 108.

Total attendance-weekly figures by Mr. Lü:—

1st, week	6100
2nd week -	7100
3rd week	5400
4th week	4100

22700

Literature distribution:—
W.C. Council on Health Educa-
tion - - -

The cost of the venture
will amount to about
22000. \$30 each to the par-

S.C.C. purchased Evangelistic	15000.	icipating organiza-
Estimated supplied by churches	5000.	tions.

Total	-	42000.
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Beside these, many portions of Scriptures and Testaments in Chinese and English were given to students, while the Bible Societies and others had colporteurs present. All the literature listed above was given free. On the last Sunday a group of twenty-five remained for a special meeting in the reception room for private conversation and received special Scripture portions. It has proved a fine opportunity for seed-sowing and demonstrates to some of us that the corner has been turned, and that there is now a definite need for this kind of work that will be welcomed by the people and honored of God. We hope to plan next year for methods of following up people who are definitely interested and introduce them direct to churches in their vicinity.

A.J.B.

LISTENING TO THE WIND.

God is at the Organ!
 I can hear
 A mighty music
 Echoing, far and near.

God is at the Organ!
 And its keys
 Are rolling waters, storm-strewn moorlands,
 Trees.

God is at the Organ!
 I can hear
 A mighty music
 Echoing, far and near.

EGBERT SANDFORD

THE COST OF MEDICAL CARE.

Owing to the fact that many people in America, as well as in European countries, were unable to "buy" medical care, a committee on "the cost of Medical care" was appointed in New York. This committee was charged with a five-year programme of investigation into the actual costs of medical attention in all of its phases, and it was only in December of last year that its report was obtainable. Full reports have not yet come to hand but we have the advanced press reports which give startling revelations with regard to this very vital question, the cost of medical care to the individual.

Many persons do not receive service which is adequate either in quality or quantity, and the cost of service is unequally distributed. The result is a tremendous amount of preventible physical pain and mental anguish, needless deaths, economic indifference, inefficiency and social waste.

The aggregate figures of personnel and financial cost in America alone, is staggering, some one million persons, in one capacity or another are engaged in medical service with a total expenditure in money of three billion six hundred and forty-seven million dollars per annum. This is about four percent of the annual national income, and a capital investment in hospitals of three billion is found.

The report also reveals the rapidly changing nature of medical practice. Instead of the one time family doctor, one now sees the specialist, the clinic, the industrialist service, collegiate practice, and community medical service. Then one finds an increasing complexity of service and apparatus, and a number of experiments looking to health insurance.

Unfortunately society has failed to make use of our wealth of medical knowledge. As a profession, the committee finds, "medicine has gone forward with leaps and bounds, during the last century and especially during the last quarter of a century." But as an economic activity, it has lagged.

As to the extent of illness, it is revealed that, on an average, every man has one disabling illness a year, which keeps him in bed from seven to nine days, while every woman, on the average, has two such illnesses, together keeping her in bed from eight to twelve days. About seven hundred thousand persons are

affected, at any one time, with tuberculosis, over one million with venereal diseases, while cancer exacts a toll of one hundred and twenty thousand deaths per annum, and diseases of infancy carry off one hundred and thirty-six thousand of our infants each year

Mental defectives number half a million or more, and one in five of our men have some physical defect.

The committee had demonstrated very clearly that there is a very direct relation between income and health, and these differences are also the cause of the discrepancy between quantity and quality of medical service.

A roll call of the army of the member of the medical services would reveal the following strength,—

Physicians in private practice, one hundred and twenty-one thousand.

Dentists, fifty-six thousand eight hundred.

Graduate nurses, one hundred and eighteen thousand.

Practical nurses, one hundred and fifty thousand.

Midwives, forty-seven thousand.

Chiropodists, twenty thousand two hundred.

Optometrists, four thousand nine hundred.

Osteopaths, seven thousand seven hundred.

Chiropractors, sixteen thousand.

Neuropaths, two thousand five hundred.

In addition to the above, and connected with different organizations there are,—

Physicians, twenty-one thousand.

Dentists, five thousand six hundred.

Nurses, seventy-seven thousand.

Students nurses, eighty thousand.

Public Health and Industrial, eighteen thousand.

Pharmacists, one hundred and thirty-two thousand,

In hospitals, clinics, etc.: one hundred and ninety-six thousand.

Hospital beds, nine hundred and twenty-two thousand.

Of the three billion six hundred and forty-seven thousand dollars spent, but the public, to pay for the services of this army of health workers, seventy-eight, and one half percent went to pay for care of illness, seventeen and a quarter percent for dental care, nearly three percent for care of eye, while only one and a quarter percent was spent for preventing disease.

And the committee reveals that our lack is not in numbers and efficiency of staff, but in uneven distribution of the physicians dentists and nurses, some places, like crowded cities, having a

much greater proportion than their share of these professions. And of the annual amounts which the American public spends, medical care stands sixth on the list, being superceded by, food, rent, savings, clothing, automobiles, house furnishings, and followed by recreation, education, tobacco, confections and soft drinks, personal adornment, fuel, gas, ice, electricity, etc.

In the matter of the relation between income and health, it was found that among those earning about twelve hundred dollars per year, only some fifty-eight percent received medical attention during the year, while those with an income of ten thousand dollars show a percentage of over eighty six percent receiving medical care. This would clearly show that those poorer individuals and families are unable to pay for the medical attention they need, while many of them are also unwilling to procure it from charity.

If the cost of medical care were evenly distributed each family would be required to pay thirty dollars, but even this sum is impossible to the family which receives under fourteen hundred dollars per annum, and which group constitutes at least one fourth of the nation's families. But the committee reveals that families with an income under two thousand dollars have to pay as much as seventy-one dollars per annum, while those with an annual income of five thousand dollars, pay three hundred and eleven dollars per annum. These and other facts gathered by the committee has led them to believe that the burden of medical costs must be distributed by means of a system of insurance if it is not to become disastrous to low income families, at the hour of their greatest need.

And, despite the high cost to many of the patients, the physicians, dentists and nurses were not found to be overpaid. For the year 1929, the average net income of physicians was found by the committee to be five thousand three hundred dollars. Over half of the country's physicians were earning thirty-eight hundred dollars per annum, while dentists' incomes were on a similar footing. Only nine percent of the hospital beds were found to be controlled by profit seeking organizations, while the rest of the ninety-one percent showed a deficit. This then reveals a situation something like the following: Many millions of Americans either go without medical care or pay more than they can afford, while those who offer medical services, receive on the average, at least not more than an adequate return.

One of the endeavors of the Committee on the Cost of Medical Care, was to try to arrive at some means whereby

medical care could be adequately placed within the reach of all citizens of the country, regardless of his or her annual income. They surveyed many schemes now in operation and observed many plans especially those of the European systems. Industries, communities, colleges, societies, etc. have organized themselves into clubs for the securing of medical services at a rate within the reach of all. European systems are compulsory upon all those below a specified income level. The benefits vary from the treatment of tuberculosis alone, to a complete medical service as seen in Germany, and Austria and the services of the general practitioner in Great Britain. In Denmark and Sweden, supervised voluntary systems have brought in nearly the whole population. In Great Britain, where the scheme was at first opposed by the British Medical Association, it is now recognized by that body which advocates an extension of the scope of the service and the inclusion of departments.

Investigators for the committee, discussing the *pros* and *cons* of the systems in Europe, reported that "there is practically no important opposition to the principle of health insurance in any country where it now exists" that "national associations of physicians and dentists have over and over again, formally approved that provision of health care to the lower income groups, through health insurance" "that there is practically unanimous agreement that the insured received better medical care than they did before they were insured, that medical incomes have not diminished under the insurance plans, that every attempt to apply the principles of voluntary insurance on a large scale has proved to be only a longer or shorter bridge to a compulsory system and that in every case there has been a fairly steady increase in the number of persons sick and in the number of days of sickness per capita annually.

Growing out of the findings of the Committee on the cost of Medical care, a majority report brought in the following resolutions:

- First, That medical and allied services should be unified and grouped around hospitals.
- Second, That public and private health services should be made available to the entire population according to its needs.
- Third, That the cost of medical care should be placed on a group basis through the use of insurance, through the use of taxation, or through the use of both of these methods.
- Fourth, That the study, evaluation, and co-ordination of medical service be considered important functions for every state and local community, that agencies be formed to

exercise these functions and that the co-ordination of rural with urban services receive special attention.

Fifth, That standards of professional education be broadened by emphasizing preventive medicine and social elements in medical practice, by restricting specialization to those actually qualified, by widening the scope of dental education, by improved training of pharmacists and nurses, by providing training for practical nurses and midwives and by offering opportunities for the systematic training of hospital and clinic administrators.

The problem before the profession of medicine and the society which it serves, is focused upon the principle of "group medicine" and the principle of insurance. Group medicine does not mean the elimination of general practitioners, but it may mean the passing of the the old time independant self-sufficient physician of the old family type. The community medical organization would mean "all the needed therapeutic and preventive medical service except care for tuberculosis, mental diseases or other conditions which have been accepted as governmental responsibilities".

"Group payment" is a logical deduction from group medicine. The committee majority agree upon "voluntary cooperative health insurance" carried out through "industrial, fraternal educational or other reasonably cohesive groups" as an immediate step. This would require all persons in certain income groups, certain occupations or certain areas to subscribe to health insurance. The employment of salaried or subsidized physicians in rural areas with assistance from State governments or even from Federal governments, in cases where local funds were inadequate is recommended.

Of course there is still a strong remnant of the profession who, as the Journal of the American Medical Association says, "is an issue between incitement to revolution and desire for gradual evolution based upon analysis and study". There are those who charge a bias in favor of health insurance and State medicine. This group point out that there is a real danger of "imperialism" applied to the practice of medicine, and the erection in "group practice" of "a medical hierarchy in every community to dictate who might practice medicine and that continuous personal relationship of physician and patient would be difficult, if not impossible under such conditions". This group also points out that more than eighty-five percent of all illness can more advantageously be treated "by the individual doctor in his own office than in the clinic, and at less cost".

Another factor which must be considered in the discussion of the whole problem, is the lay element. Just what this influential body will have to say remains to be seen.

That there will be much water run under the bridge before this momentous question is settled, and that there will be much heat as well as light generated is not doubted by those who have the matter in their thinking. But we cannot escape the issue nor ignore the fact that there is a great and pressing problem before the profession as well as before society, and the best way to settle the matter is to have a joint discussion between the two great bodies so vitally interested. The committee on the cost of medical care has gone a long way to show the great need of a radical change in our present policy.

CROSS STITCH WORK.

Cross-stitch work consisting of table-cloths, luncheon sets, towels, etc. will be on sale at Miss Harris' bungalow this summer. This work is done by women who are in this way financing themselves through school. Your help will be appreciated.

ETHEL M. VIRGO.

'GOOD BYE'

"Mr. and Mrs. Bookless and Ruby, on the eve of their departure from Szechuan, extend their heartiest thanks to all friends in the various Missions, for the kindness and friendliness shown to them during their stay in the province, and take this opportunity of wishing them all 'Goodbye'."

FIGHTING FAMINE IN KWEICHOW.

DIET OF FERN ROOTS.

KOPU, Kweichow.

Owing to unusually heavy rains and the lack of sunshine we are facing near-famine conditions in this district. Corn (maize), the staple food of the people here, has soared from \$1.50 to \$7 and \$8 per ton already and continues to rise rapidly in price. As over two months must yet elapse before the first crop can be gathered the situation is serious.

At present most of the people, especially the Miao, are out digging fern roots and preparing them for use to eke out the food supply. Some account of the process might interest you.

The roots are dug, and brought down to a dammed up place in the creek for washing. There a rude trough and some wooden mallets are prepared and the roots are pounded to pulp. The pulp is then transferred to loosely woven bamboo baskets supported on lengths of bamboo over the mouth of a large wooden tub. Large quantities of cold water are poured over the pulp accompanied by vigorous stirring, and the resultant fluid drains into the tub below. This is allowed to stand over night. In the morning the water is poured off and more water mixed with the residue in the bottom. This mixture is vigorously stirred and poured off into another tub leaving any refuse in the bottom. This is set aside until evening when the water is again poured off and the glutinous mass that remains is ready to be mixed with a little corn or oats and eaten. When prepared in this way it is not too bad but when there is neither corn nor oats to be had, which is the case in many homes, it must be eaten alone. Then it is very much like eating a piece of tasteless partially dried glue.

In one day a man can dig enough roots to make three meals of the finished product. Figuring one day to dig the roots and another day to prepare them one man must put in two days of hard work to procure three meals. Furthermore when the ferns begin to grow the roots become soft and unusable. Consequently this source of food supply will not be available after another month.

OMEI TRANSPORTATION NOTICE.

The undersigned, having been appointed to help getting folks up to Omei this summer, wishes to call the attention of those planning to go there to the following customs, rates, etc.

<i>Rates per carrier to and from Omei</i>	<i>Up</i>	<i>Down</i>
Between Kiating and Hsin K'ai Si	\$1.05	\$1.10
“ T'ang Fang	.85	
“ Su Ch'ee	“	.75
“ Cheo Tu	.80	
“ Kiakiang	.85	.90
“ Yachow	3.20	3.20
“ Omei Hsien	.30	
“ Fong Tu Miao	“	.75

From Hsin K'ai Si to Kiating and return—\$1.80

Night's delay on road caused by traveller—\$.25

Charge for men ordered and not used —one-half of regular rate.

Please be careful not to run over weights.

Poles for two men loads are not furnished by this 'agency' but can be obtained if ordered in advance.

Those planning to make the journey from Kiating in one day should have all loads off by 6:00 a. m. Chairs should follow soon.

Fifty cents per carrier should accompany order.

Before leaving Kiating, ask for a slip telling you what to pay the men upon arrival.

There is also a charge of thirty cents per adult for 'transportation service'.

Weights carried. One man load 76 catties
Two men load 120 catties
Three men load 170 catties

One futeo for 15 to 29 men; two for 30 to 44 men

Please be careful not to overrun your weight.

Charge for use of chairs supplied by Association

Chinese chairs two men 70 cts

Hwa Gans 70 cts

Covered chairs 3 or 4 men \$1.50

Children chairs seating 2 children carried by 2 men \$1.00.

In sending in your order be careful to say where the carriers are to meet you.

Ricksha from wharf to Peh Ta kai—800 cash.

F. J. REED,

KIATING, SZE.

NEW NOTES.

Luchow

A great deal of robbing took place, particularly round about the city and nearby country. Recently such has lessened considerably. Soldiers now are required to be in their lodging quarters about dusk, and the doors are barred for the night.

The Annual Buddhist Fair, held some forty li up the big river, has been the big event of recent weeks. A good many people look forward to the same, some because they want to go and do their bit, in burning incense and others because they hope to turn over a few coppers and still others because it affords a holiday.

It is evident that the crowds in attendance are gradually diminishing year by year. The one thing that does not seem to lack for numbers are the beggars. What a motley crowd and what terrible samples, almost every one of them were? The sight is bound to stand out before one's vision for weeks following!

We found nothing but friendliness on the part of all. Sold over one thousand gospels, in addition to booklets and Christian posters. Amidst all the incense smoke, as well as the boiling sun, it is a worth while work.

Different batches of soldiers were sent up to scare off the robbers and some of them were very sociable and likeable and gave opportunity for some good seed sowing.

Then there were several schools who attended as a group. They too were particularly friendly and anxious to discuss matters that concerned their country and interests. In addition there were also, quite a sprinkling of people whom we knew somewhat.

I have never found so many people that seemed to be concerned about the general welfare of China. It afforded splendid opportunity to discuss worth-while topics and to try to show them, that a nation, just as much as the individual, must make quite sure to stress true religion.

As we repeatedly discussed these topics with them, I was led to wonder what should be the particular christian message for these people at this time, when they are rightly concerned about the future of this old land. Many of them doubtless would say that it is a very young land and a Republic, with not even the polish worn off.

I couldn't help wondering and questioning too, why they wouldn't get a smokeless incense! It certainly would avoid a lot of general crying and tears.—A.C.H.

KOPU, KUEICHOW.

Conditions are very unsettled here at present. There are plunderings, robberies and murders almost every day.

Up-to-date the prospects are good for a good barley harvest which will provide a little for the people to eat.

Mr. and Mrs. Yorkston and their son Neil left Kopu on April 4th for Shanghai and Cheefoo via Chaotung and Yunnanfu.

G. P. LA RUE.

CHUNGKING NOTES.

Miss McIntosh from Fowchow was an April visitor in town.

Mr. G. W. Gibb, China Director of the China Inland Mission, who has been in Chungking for a few days has gone on to Suifu where a Western Szechuan Conference will be held. After the Conference Mr. Gibb plans to visit Chengtu and Paoning; then, after returning to Chungking, he will visit Kueichow, escorted by Mr. G. K. Smith.

Chungking workers who have gone to the Suifu conference are Dr. Parry, Miss Yarwood and Mr. Clements. Mr. & Mrs. T. Cook who are just up from the coast, and three newly arrived workers are also in the party. These are Miss Greenfield for Kiangtsing, Miss Messin for Yungning and Miss Meyer for Kuanhsien.

Late in April a new party of workers arrived here for Kueichow. These are Mr. Wallace, Mr. Pike, Miss Robinson and Miss Ellingham.

Mr. & Mrs. Butler spent a happy honeymoon on the Chungking hills. They leave early in May for Kueichow.

Miss Jack of Kueichow, has been in Chungking for dental treatment, will escort the new party to Kueichow.

Mr. George Franck, Dr. Retta Kilborn and Miss Annie

Ward, all of Chengtu, are in town on their way to Canada. Miss Swann joined the party at Kiating. Mrs. G. R. Jones entertained at tea in their honour.

Dr. Helen Yoh with Mr. Ch'en and little son accompanying three other ladies of whom two are nurses, passed through Chungking en route for Peking, where Mrs. Ch'en will be with her husband, Dr. Ch'en the dental surgeon.

Mrs. Veals, with two little daughters, spent Easter at Fowchow along with Mr. Veals.

Dr. & Mrs. Sheridan, Mr. G. R. Jones and Stephen spent a week-end in Fowchow late in April.

Mrs. F. F. Allan accompanied Miss McIntosh to Fowchow and spent a few days there.

Mrs. Liljestrand was in Chungking early in May en route for Peking.

Dr. & Mrs. Parry plan to leave on furlough about the middle of May.

At the Friends' School a very successful field day was held on April 29th. All the foreign community was included in the invitation list. Chinese dinner and tea were served. The boys did justice to themselves in all the entries of a prolonged programme.

Sister Hannah of the C.I.M. passed through Chungking en route for Germany for furlough.

On Thursday, May 4th, the members of the Chungking Missionary Association held their annual business meeting. Following delightful luncheons at the homes of Mrs. W. Sheridan and Mrs. J. Anderson, the whole party gathered at the Andersons' for the meeting. There were several visitors to the association, all of whom received a welcome. Mr. G. M. Franck and Dr. Retta Kilborn were formerly members of Chungking Missionary Association and were accepted as such on their return visit here. Miss Barbara Nicholls, Miss Koether and Miss Munsell were elected as members. A delightful feature of the meeting was the music provided by the incoming party of the China Inland Mission workers bound for Kueichow. A solo, a duet and a mixed quartette were received with enjoyment. The officers for the following year are: President: Mr G. R. Jones, Vice-President: Miss Dorothy Jones, Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. G. R. Jones.

The Religious Services Committee will be responsible for the meetings in the Hills church and the city weekly prayer meeting. Tea, cake and ice-cream were served at the conclusion of the business and there was a social hour which was enjoyed by all.

M.J.C.

UNIVERSITY BOOK CLUB

The accession list for April is as follows:—

Walpole, H.	The Fortress
Alington, A.	Slowbags and Arethusa
Streatfield, N.	Parson's Niece
White, S. E.	The Long Rifle
Deseo, L. G.	Looking at Life through Drama
Yates, D.	Blood Royal
Buchan, J.	The Half-hearted
Wren, P. C.	The Mammon of Righteousness
Cronin, A. J.	Three Loves

Alice W. Lindsay,
Librarian

CHINA INLAND MISSION

May 1st, 1933.

Dear Editor,
West China News.

Kindly add to the value of your esteemed Magazine by inserting the fact, for the enlightenment of your readers, that old age and high temperature do not agree kindly together. Owing to this the C.I.M. Home at Ichang will D.V. be closed during the months of July & August while the Missionaries in charge seek higher heights & cooler shades.

Respectfully,

THE LAIRD O' ICHANG.

BIRTHS.

The "News" offers congratulations to Revd. & Mrs. A. F. Lutley of Sintu on the arrival of a daughter, to Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Spooner on the arrival of a son, and to Dr. and Mrs. Cecil Hoffman on the arrival of a daughter.

SYMPATHY.

We extend deepest sympathy to Dr. & Mrs. Stewart Allen, of Kiating, on the death of their little daughter, aged 9 months. A beautiful service was held in the chapel of Hart College followed by the funeral in the foreign cemetery, Chengtu, on Friday, May 12th.