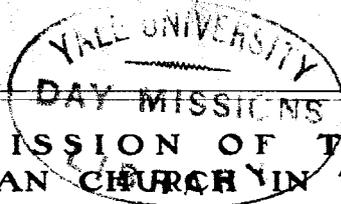




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KOREA MISSION OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

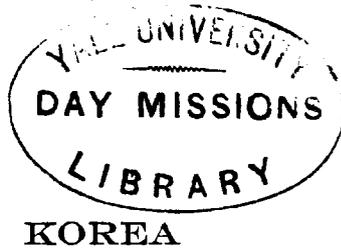


GENERAL REPORT
SYEN · CHYUN
STATION ✂ ✂ ✂



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PRESBYTERIAN MISSION.

REPORT, 1901-1902

OF THE

*Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.
Korea mission*

SYEN CHYUN STATION

PRESENTED TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

HELD AT

SEOUL, SEPTEMBER, 1902,

PRESS OF
METHODIST PUBLISHING HOUSE
SEOUL, KCREA

MISSIONARIES.

REV. N. C. WHITTEMORE - - - Oct., 1896
Rye, New York.

MISS M. LOUISE CHASE - - - Oct., 1896
Parker, South Dakota.

A M. SHARROCKS, M. D. - - - Sept., 1899
San Francisco, Calif.

MRS. A. M. SHARROCKS - - - Sept., 1899
San Francisco, Calif.

*REV. GEO. LECK - - - - - Oct., 1900
Owatonna, Minn

†MRS. FRANCIS B. LECK - - - Oct., 1900
Buffalo, Minn.

*Deceased.

†In America.

ANNUAL REPORT OF SYEN CHYUN STATION

1901-1902

Syen Chyun Station comes to the end of its first Missionary year with much gratitude to the Father for his loving guidance and care. Since last October when we settled here as a station we have had varied experiences of joy and sorrow, sickness and health. Through them we have learned how near the Lord comes to his children to sustain them in trial, to comfort in sorrow, to make his presence felt at all times. And the helpfulness and sympathy of the sister stations is fully appreciated as we realize how willingly they gave us aid when our need was great.

In December Miss Chase came—so gladly welcomed by the women. In Decembsr also a great sorrow came to us. Mr. Leck nearing the end of a six weeks' trip to the far north was taken ill with small-pox at the American mines. Careful nursing and the efforts of Dr. Palmer and his kind wife were unavailing and Christmas night he was called to his rest. Mr. Whittemore who had hastened to his bed-side returned New Year's day and there were grave fears that he too had contracted the disease, but his fever, probably from fatigue, soon abated and our fears were dispelled.

In February Pyeng Yang station sent Mr. Swallen and Mr. Hunt to assist in the Men's Training class, and when they left Mrs. Leck accompanied them. March 18th a son was born to comfort her. May he ever be a joy to her heart and live to see accomplished in Korea the hopes and aspirations that filled the hearts of his parents.

March 18th Dr. Sharrocks was taken ill with typhoid fever. Having no telegraphic communication many anxious days were spent before Dr. Wells could reach us from Pyeng Yang. Several weeks passed slowly by and with them the fever, and the doctor slowly regained his health.

In July a daughter was born to Dr. and Mrs. Sharrocks.

While writing this report cholera is epidemic in our province. When the disease broke out in Syen Chyun, it is estimated that two-thirds of the population fled to the mountains or other places of comparative safety. In the infected section, hitherto thronged with people, the houses are empty and streets deserted. The few remaining people speak in subdued

tones. A quiet misery reigns supreme. Many pitiable cases were found. Some in their attempt to avoid the disease had carried their sick out on the street there to live or die uncared for. In a family of seven four had died, two others were sick and the remaining one, apparently in desperation, fled from town.

With neither magistrate nor other official in town to enforce demands made upon an ignorant people little could be done to stamp out the disease, but according to our strength we labored and our work was not in vain. The Christians put themselves under our directions and followed instructions faithfully. Even the heathen are beginning to look upon our efforts kindly and precautions that could not be forced upon them they are slowly adopting.

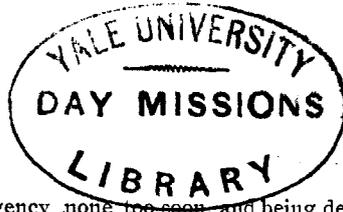
Probably due to these reasons but largely to the strict system of quarantine which they themselves willingly carry out, the disease has been confined to a comparatively small area and will, we think, soon subside.

It is not the object of this report to lay upon you our burdens. They are ours, and we have with them the promise of our Father that "as many as I love I reprove and chasten." Far out-numbering our trials have been our blessings. The year's work has been one of progress and real joy. In offering the facts and figures in the following pages we might well call them the Acts of the Holy Spirit is North Pyeng An Do. Man may plant, but it is God who giveth the increase.

EVANGELISTIC.

Local Church.

The first believers in Syen Chyun learned of the truth in the fall of '96 or the early spring of '97, but the first meetings were not held until May or June. They were quite small at first, and were held in a private house, but the number increased so rapidly during that year, that in the spring of '98 a large residence was bought for church purposes. This building has been altered four times to increase the seating capacity, and altho' it will, with the Sarang that adjoins it, accommodate on a pinch, a congregation of four hundred and fifty it is far too small for the gatherings on special occasions, and the ordinary congregation of about three hundred is little more than comfortably accommodated. At the present rate of increase, the church will be far too inadequate before a new one can be built.



New Church.

Foreseeing this contingency none too soon, and being desirous that the Koreans should have the privilege of contributing all they could, it was decided by the church officers this spring to ask for contributions on a five-year basis, the first contributions to be used to secure land, and some building materials, and the building to be put up in sections if necessary, as fast as the money would allow. The first year's subscriptions, which were made in the spring, amounted to something over 2,000 nyang* (yupchyun). Of this amount, about 400 nyang were from women from other groups, who were then in attendance upon the women's class. The largest single subscription, one of nyang 200, was from a wealthy widow, who altho' a strong believer, has been able to attend service but a few times, owing to violent persecution from her family. It is planned to ask the other country groups for a contribution, when the money is most needed, as this very large building is required for the classes that gather from all over the province.

Ordination of first elder.

At the time of the Winter Bible Study Class, when over four hundred men and boys were gathered from the various groups, Nyang Tyun Paik was ordained as the first elder, not only of this church, but the first elder in the province. Soon after the ordination, a Session was constituted of the foreign pastor and the Korean elder, Dr. Sharrocks, for the present sitting only as associate or corresponding member. The two leaders of the church, one of whom will probably soon be nominated for the eldership, also sit with the session.

In addition to these officers there are four very competent deacons, (unordained) who attend to the temporal affairs of the church. Two committees who have attended to the affairs of the schools. An evangelistic or Lookout Committee of twelve members, each of whom has a section of the congregation to look after. The committee also arranges for delegations to visit villages in the country for single services, or longer periods as opportunity offers. And a Dispensary Visiting Committee, which has done very effective work in visiting and preaching at the dispensary, in the afternoons, when the patients are waiting for treatment.

*Note—To reduce the nyang to American dollars, divide by 15, or to the Japanese yen by 7½.

Sabbath school work.

During the year the morning congregation for Bible study has been divided into classes according to age. While studying I Corinthians the whole school had the same lessons, but while the men and older boys took up II Corinthians it was deemed best for the women, girls and smaller boys to study Mark. We have now begun the study of Matthew together, and have nine graded classes. A Teacher's Meeting is held every Friday evening. The same system is being introduced into the country groups, wherever the size of the group, and the advancement of the leading men make it advisable. It is planned to have in connection with next winter's Bible Study Class, a Normal class of one session a day for the S. S. teachers.

The church now consists of 98 members, and 112 catechumens. These with the other believers not yet enrolled as catechumens, make a congregation of nearly 400. During the past year 17 adults were baptized, and 53 catechumens received.

In addition to paying the running expenses of the church, 18 nyang per month towards the helper's salary, a small salary to the keeper, more than half the expenses of the boys' school, and nearly half for the girl's, the congregation has also given very liberally to the Famine Fund, and to the work of the Missionary Committee. Making in all offerings to the amount of 1895 nyang.

COUNTRY WORK.

Central circuit.

This Circuit, to which the local church belongs, is small in extent embracing the two counties of Syen Chyun, and Kou Shyung, and was constituted a separate circuit only in July. The counties lying to the east of Syen Chyun, as far as the boundary line of the province, were constituted another circuit, and a new helper appointed for it. There are in all only five groups in this central circuit, all of them very small except the Syen Chyun church which is the largest church in the province. One of the groups is on the famous island of Siu Mi Do, and the believers are almost entirely from the boating and fishing population that inhabit the island. This group, altho' in existence for two years or more, and only about 70 li from Syen Chyun has never been visited by a missionary. A trip was planned for this summer, but owing to the cholera had to be given up.

Elder Nyang, whose ordination was noticed above, is the present helper on this circuit. He has been employed as helper for over six years, and is the senior helper in the province. The Pyeng An Committee of Council has decided to propose his name to the Council, to be taken under its care to study for the ministry, and if this is granted, he will devote half his time to study, and half to the circuit, aiding occasionally in the classes of other sections. His salary of nyang 55 per month, is raised entirely by the Koreans, 25 nyang coming from the groups, and nyang 30 from a wealthy man on the island of Sin Mi Do.

There are on this circuit, including the local church, 131 communicants, and 139 catechumens, total adherents 528.

Eastern circuit.

This was the territory assigned to Mr. Leck, but he was not permitted to visit it after the assignment. It was made a separate circuit this summer, and Kang Chei Kun, who had been a missionary under the Missionary Committee in the north for the past year and a half was appointed helper. The circuit embraces all the counties to the east of Syen Chyun, to the province boundary line. There are in all seven groups in the territory, one of them numbering over one hundred believers, while two are in the neighborhood of ninety each. The helper's salary of nyang 50 is paid, nyang 29 by the churches, and nyang 21 from Board funds.

The church members number 86, the catechumens 188, and total adherents 471.

Nyong-tyul circuit.

The Nyong-Tyul circuit, as the Koreans call it, embraces the counties of Nyong Chyun and Tyul San, lying just to the west of Syen Chyun. It was constituted a separate circuit in Feb. 1901, when the first helper was assigned to this territory. The present helper is Tyung Kui Tyung, a very reliable and satisfactory man, but unfortunately his health is poor.

For five or six months during the fall and winter, the group at Nyong Chyun-Tyuk Chyun supported a local preacher who did much good work in the neighboring villages. Three of the groups in Tyul San also combined about the same time for the support of another man for a similar work in their county. Both of these cases were in addition to generous support of the larger Missionary Committee and paying their share of the helper's salary, which is entirely provided by the churches.

Only one of these groups was visited during the year, and of the others several had not been visited for fourteen months. The men on this circuit have had the benefit of the annual classes at both Eui Ju and Syen Chyun, but it has been impossible to give them a class of their own. The people of Tyul San Kol especially, were extremely anxious to have a class this summer, but it was deemed impossible.

This circuit includes seven recognized groups, and two as yet unorganized meeting places, with a total of 145 communicants, 269 catechumens and in all 620 adherents.

Western circuit.

Last year the county of Eui Ju was set apart as a separate circuit, with one helper, but the work being too arduous, and the people being willing to give the salary for another man, it was decided last December to make two divisions of it, the one including the six groups to the west and south of the main road, and the church at the eupnai, and the other the eight groups to the north and east of the same line. These six groups in the western section, with the exception of a small group on the island in the Yalu, directly opposite the Chinese trading town of Sa Ha Chi, are all large groups of a hundred or more believers each, and are all situated in the rich farm lands of the Yalu, and tributary valleys, where the population is very dense, and the growth of the work very rapid.

The group at Sin Chang is now paying a local preacher to look after the Christians and to work amongst the numerous villages that crowd the adjoining rice country. The other five groups have combined for the support of another preacher for five or six months, who will aid the weak group on the island, but devote most of his time to the heathen of that section.

The helper on this circuit, Kim Chang Kun, is new to the position, but did good work as local missionary in Nyong Chyun last fall. He has been a Christian for six years or more and is a very strong and promising man. His salary of nyang 50 per month is paid entirely by the churches.

Altho' much of the work on this circuit is new, and the people ignorant, thanks to the constant and faithful shepherding by the helpers, it is on the whole in pretty good condition.

Mr. Bernheisel gave us much appreciated help this spring, in visiting this circuit, and receiving catechumens. We will speak elsewhere of the class held at the eupnai in December.

Eastern circuit.

This section as said above, was organized as a separate circuit at the same time as the western section, but altho' the groups are more numerous, they are, with the exception of three groups in the south-western part, pretty weak spiritually, numerically, and financially. Most of this country is mountainous, the northern part running considerably over a hundred li up the Yalu, and many of the people are relatively very poor. Of the three larger groups in the south-western part, that at Pi Hyun numbers still fully 250 believers, the second largest group in the province, and until last fall when one section of the congregation was constituted a separate group, it had been the largest. The groups at So Kot, and Kwalli, are both strong and doing a good work.

The helper Kim Kwan Koon, has been a Christian about ten years, and had been employed previously as helper and colporteur. His salary of nyang 45 is entirely provided by the Koreans.

The people of Eui Ju are by far the most progressive of any in the province, if not in all the north. Their average intelligence is high, and their wealth is much above that of other sections. They are a people that need constant and careful oversight, and one missionary could profitably devote his whole time to them. They number 286 communicants, 624 catechumens, and 1156 adherents in all.

Nothern Circuit.

This circuit embraces the three counties of Sak Ju, Chyang Shyung and Pyuk Dong, which lie along the Yalu to the north of Eui Ju. There are only six organized groups, but the Christians gather for worship in at least eight or nine places. The groups are small, and the people more ignorant than in the sea coast counties. The Sak Ju Kol group is one of the oldest in the province, but has never had a very vigorous growth, and with all the others, causes the missionary and helper considerable anxiety at times. This summer this group is reported to have increased considerably in size. For three or four years the section has only been visited by a missionary once a year at the time of the fall study class.

The helper Han Tyuk Nyong, is one of the most promising men we have. Of his salary of nyang 50 he receives nyang 13.50 from the Koreans, and nyang 36.50 from Board funds. There are in the circuit 29 communicants and 60 catechumens, or a total of 230 adherents.

Far Northern Circuit.

This circuit is so called for lack of a better name altho it might be called the Kang-Kei circuit as that is the principal county within its

limits. But in addition there are groups in the counties of Eui Wun, Chosan, and over the border in Manchuria. Many of these Christians are of only two years' standing, and more of only one. There is as yet no helper serving these groups, but Cha Hak In, an energetic and earnest man is working amongst them in the capacity of "teacher." If he continues as satisfactory for the rest of the year he will probably be raised to the grade of helper. He receives his board and a small salary of Nyang 20 per month entirely from the people. He has in all six recognized groups to look after, besides numerous other meeting places. These groups have been visited only once by a missionary, when Mr. Leck made his long trip over these mountain passes late last fall. The people like those in the circuit to the south of them are more ignorant than those further south, but some of them, at least those in Kang Kei Kol are fairly well to do. Beyond Kang Kei there are still two more counties, Cha Shyung, and Hu Chyang, both as yet practically untouched by Christianity, but one of the "Home Missionaries" has already started for this field. The work is growing rapidly, and it is hoped that these two northern circuits may be visited this fall, as it is of course important that the work be well started. There are no communicants as yet but 60 catechumens or 240 adherents in all. Regarding the work amongst Koreans in Manchuria, the result partly of Christian settlers from Eui Ju, it may be said that we have already, by advice of the Pyeung An Committee of Council, opened informal correspondance with the Scotch Presbyterian Missionaries in Manchuria regarding the possible transfer to our care of all the work amongst the Koreans in that territory. *

Home Missionary Work.

Kang Chei Koon who was mentioned above as the helper on the Eastern Circuit, had previously for a year and a half, been supported by the Christians of the northern province, as missionary to the unevangelized, especially those in the far north. His service was very satisfactory, and has resulted in a great spread and development of the work in the northern field. At the June meeting of the Missionary Committee his resignation was accepted. In his place Choi Pong Syuk was selected to preach in the counties of Kang Kei, Eui Wun, Cho San and Ku Shyung. Another, Dyou Syang To was appointed to preach in the counties of Cha Shyung and Hu Chyang to the north of Kang Kei, in Tai Chyun county nearer at hand, and as soon as the way may be open, across the Yalu in

* NOTE— Since writing the above the Manchurian Mission has offered us the oversight of this work.

Manchuria. The support of these two missionaries, as well as that of Choi Shyung Hyung in Eastern Whang Hai Do comes from the Christians of this province.

Colporteur Work.

As in past years the sale of Christian books of all kinds has been a prominent part of our work, and the two colporteurs have been kept busy the most of the year selling books almost entirely to the Christians. The colporteur longest in the service, Kim Tyuk Syen, does excellent work, and constantly surprises us with the number of books that he sells. His territory is to the west of Syen Chyun.

The other colporteur is not so experienced, and not having as favorable territory, does not make as large sales. He has the field east of Syen Chyun, and all the sparsely Christianized territory to the north. These men receive half their salary and the expenses of their donkeys, from the British and Foreign Bible Society, the other half from the Board, and their entertainment while travelling from the churches.

Besides these two men who devote all their time to book-selling, one of the school-boys receives a small salary for selling books at the Syen Chyun church. The sales for the year have amounted to 9223 portions not including those sold direct from the book room of which no record is kept. During the Syen Chyun winter class books were sold to the extent of 670 nyang.

Bible Study Classes.

The three principal classes of the year were at Sak Ju, Eui Ju and Syen Chyun. In addition to these the helpers conducted smaller ones at various churches in their respective sections. Many of our Christians also attended the Winter and Summer Classes in Pyeng Yang and a fair delegation was present at the Pyeng Yang Normal class.

SAK JU CLASS:—The first of the three classes was that at Sak Ju which met for a week in November. Messrs. Whittemore and Leck were both present. It was the 3rd annual class held in that section and was quite satisfactory altho not largely attended. The daily attendance was forty, but the evening meetings were larger. The interest was good and as a result of the class the people give more toward the support of their helper than formerly.

EUI JU CLASS:—The Eui Ju class was the second annual one held at that county seat, and was intended for the Christians of that county only, but the groups in Tyul San and Nyong Chun were largely represented, and a few were present even from Syen Chyun. The church

building had been much enlarged and improved during the summer and provided an excellent place for a large gathering.

The class was in session for nine days with an average attendance of over 200, nearly 300 every evening and 400 present on Sabbath. The general interest manifested especially in the speeches made in favor of various reforms and lines of advancement in Christian work were most encouraging.

SYEN CHYUN CLASS.—In February we had our main Winter Class for two weeks at Syen Chyun, during which time we were given most valuable assistance by Messrs. Swallen and Hunt of Pyeng Yang. Without their help, what was a very profitable and helpful gathering, would have been an unteachable crowd. The average attendance was 250, with an enrollment of 461, but this did not fully represent all who attended the class. Altho' the class was divided into three grades, the third was very large and should have been divided again. The interest throughout was very good, and the spiritual and educational results produced were far reaching in their effect upon the church.

All of these classes held within the province were entirely self supporting. The local churches with the aid of the extra offerings taken up on the Class Sundays, stood the entire expenses for lights and heating.

Training of Helpers.

In addition to these regular classes, we have endeavored to get most of the regularly employed workers together every two months for a two days' conference. It was planned to have a conference of all church officers for four days in August but the cholera epidemic interfered. The conference held for two days last summer was so successful, that it was requested that it be repeated and enlarged. The helpers and "other approved workers" have also begun work on the course of study adopted by the Council last year, and they will all be examined twice a year at Pyeng Yang, at the time of the Classes there.

WOMAN'S WORK.

This is practically a new departure in this northern field. With the exception of a ten days' class held in Syen Chyun last year by Miss Best and Mrs. Sharrocks no work had been done by women for their sisters of North Pyeng An Do. It is not strange that we read in Miss Chase's report :

"I shall not soon forget the warm expressions of welcome that greeted me on my arrival to the new field of work. The greetings began twenty li from here by one of the Christians who said he had heard that I would pass by on that day. His kindly words impressed me much and made me feel fully assured that it would not be long before all of those to whom I had come would be as dear to me as those whom I recently left in Fusan."

Local Work.

Soon after Miss Chase arrived in Syen Chun she found that the women longed to know how to present the gospel in an intelligent way to their heathen sisters so two classes of a week each were held for the baptized and catechumen women. With the Bible for constant reference they studied the tract, "The Guide to Heaven." Texts that would help them in this special work were committed daily.

In January all of the baptized women were visited and as time permitted later in the year several calls were made among the catechumen women. During June and July all the Christian women in the city were visited.

A Thursday afternoon prayer meeting has been held regularly during the year.

Sunday School Class.

The women and girls make an attendance of about one hundred at Sunday School. They are divided into three classes. One of our young women has the girls; Kangsie, Miss Chase's helper, has the middle aged women, and Miss Chase's class is made up of elderly women.

A class has been held once a week for the Sunday School teachers.

Study Class in Syen Chyun.

The second annual class was held in April. The enrolled attendance was 181. A number attended for a day or two whose names were not recorded.

Mr. Whittemore had a class part of the time and conducted the evening meetings. Elder Nyang, leader An, and Mr. Chai had two classes each day. Miss Chase had one class daily in each of the three divisions. All in the first and second divisions could read. The third division consisted mostly of elderly women and little girls who had had very little instruction.

A great many young women attended the class. Christianity has liberated them from their shut-in bondage.

In early winter as soon as plans were made for the class to be held we requested that assistance be given from Pyeng Yang. Their station kindly granted Miss Best and Miss Snook permission to come up and help us. It was a great disappointment that circumstances prevented their being with us during the class.

We used the graded course of study that has been prepared by an appointed committee in Pyeng Yang. The book of James and topical studies were also taught.

Country classes.

Since the last of January classes for Bible study have been held for women in six different places. The classes have been from six to eight days in duration and the attendance has varied from forty-three to fifteen. This is the first year that classes have ever been held in any of these places for women.

CLASS AT TYUNG JU.—During the last days of January and first days of February a class was held in Tyung Ju, 70 li southeast of Syen Chyun. The class met for study in the boy's school room, the weather being so cold that it was quite impossible to make the church comfortable. In the meantime the boys studied in the teacher's home. Sixteen women attended the class. The gospel of Mark was studied and a few Bible readings given. They all studied with interest and wonderfully appreciated the instruction given.

They realize fully that there are depths of riches in God's word and they long to understand its teachings more perfectly.

CLASS AT NYMBANG.—At Nymbang 65 li southeast from Syen Chyun, twenty seven women attended the class. A few of these came from villages ten or twenty li distant several times but the severity of the weather kept a number from attending regularly. Being at the New Year's season a great many sightseers came in. A few times the planned study was put aside and a number of the women helped in teaching their heathen neighbors. There were two long sessions for study each day and evangelistic services in the evening.

Each evening there were about 60 women in attendance. They heard the gospel from men who preached with convincing power.

The first sounds of the very early morning were oblations of prayer and songs of praise. A number came to the church for devotions before sunrise. This is a common custom in the north. It is no wonder that

God hears and answers their prayers. They have implicit faith and child-like confidence in every word from their Heavenly Father.

CLASS AT EUI JU.—In March a class was held in Eui Ju, one hundred and sixty li northwest of Syen Chyun. The enrolled attendance was forty-three, average attendance thirty-four. A number of groups were represented. Several of the families are of the very highest type of Koreans and their Christian faith gives them a refinement that is charming.

"In my first informal meeting with the women I asked them what books of the New Testament they had studied most. One replied, "We have studied every thing except II Timothy!" I feared I had for the first time found a group where they felt no need of a teacher but this fear soon took broad wings and flew far away. As soon as we were settled in the study of John's gospel they took it up with as much zest as one could wish, and the old old story was enjoyed as much as though it were a glorious new inheritance for them."

CLASS AT SO GOT.—A class was held in So Got, 40 li from Eui Ju, a beautiful fertile valley where all around speaks of peace and plenty. The enrolled attendance was thirty-one. Women from a number of churches were present. If one church can yearn more than another for teaching, it seems to be this one. In March the women of this little group pledged sixty-nine nyang toward the preaching of the gospel among women.

CLASS AT E AN.—In May a class was held in E An, another mountain village 70 li west of Syen Chyun. The enrolled attendance was twenty-two. This being one of the busiest seasons of the year the women would go out at daybreak to weed in the fields, thereby getting a fairly good day's work done before nine o'clock. One morning session and two in the afternoon would be their day's portion and they were as diligent in studying as they were in their weeding.

The Sunday spent here was a very rainy one, but every professing Christian woman was present, some from a long distance, taking with them partial change of clothing that they might at least have the comfort of dry garments during the hour of worship. All who came on that day and had not been able to attend class on account of work in the fields expressed regret.

CLASS AT HAGAM. In the class at Hagam, seventy li west of Syen Chyun, twenty-three were enrolled but the average attendance was only ten, rainy weather and long distances preventing regular attendance. Here three classes were held each day.

A blind woman attended the class and was one of the brightest members. She was always the first to learn the scripture texts that were committed daily.

Character of Instruction.

The teaching in the country work has been mostly from the Gospels. A few times topical studies have been used. In every place visited at least one scripture text has been committed each day.

During every class held Mrs. Noble's book *Amo Qun Mun* (written for Korean mothers) has been studied with care. At first thought the women said it was impossible to give their children the attention the book teaches, but it was not given up until they were convinced that it was their duty to heed its directions. One of the women who has done a good deal of preaching attended one of the classes and told the women about the care that American children have. She spoke of a long visit made in Pyeng Yang and of once going to a missionary's home to call in the evening. Upon entering the home she enquired for the missionary's wife. He replied that she was in the quiet room praying with the children before they went to sleep. She told the women that this ought to be the rule of every Christian Korean mother. She was over 500 li from Pyeng Yang when she told this little incident to a large company of earnest women. It was only a little thing but who can tell what it may do for, and make of many a child for Christ and Korea; surely "more things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of."

In every place visited, some time has been given to the study of tracts with a view to teaching the women how to present the Gospel systematically. On each trip that Miss Chase has taken, she made it her plan to visit in the homes of her women, especially to call on all those who for sickness or other reasons were unable to attend the class.

Needs of Woman's Work.

In recommending Miss Chase's request to the Mission for another lady worker we quote her own words. "I know of no kind of words or thoughts that can express the needs of the work in the north. Speaking from five years' experience as a member of the mission in the south, I know that it is absolutely impossible for any one to comprehend the needs of the Pyeng An Provinces until placed in its very midst.

"There are 199 baptized and 558 catechumen women and as a conservative estimate 1200 Christian women in north Pyeng An Province. I have been able to go to only the merest fraction of this number. Those whom I have met are much that we desire to have them be and much not to be desired, but as I think of them individually and collectively, every other thought is eclipsed by the deep impressions they have made upon me by their yearning to be taught. The need for another for this field speaks for itself. We request the mission to consider the urgent need. In some places there has been manifest murmuring among the people. They say they have waited long for a visit from their pastor, they have waited long to receive the examination for the catechumenate, they have waited long for a woman to teach them. Every time that women come in from distant places they beseech me to promise to visit their groups the next time I leave Syen Chyun.

"Many a woman who has attended my classes has said with tear-stained face, 'As for believing I believe. I am clinging to Christ for salvation. I have no desire for any trust but in Him, but I am so ignorant. I know so little about my Bible, I know not how to read its thoughts with my dark mind. I know so little about the great Jesus Doctrine. How can God be pleased to call me His child when I know not how to glorify Him?' They say the men stand out far on the other side of the curtain and teach great and wonderful things which they cannot comprehend, but a woman can sit in their midst and listen to all of their unlearned questions and they are not ashamed to let a patient woman see how little they do know!! It is not easy to hear these heart-felt burdens and be helpless to meet their need in any adequate manner.'

This part of our report would be incomplete without mentioning the services of some of our leading women who have showed themselves so ready to spend and be spent in their Master's work.

The woman who has accompanied Miss Chase on the above trips is Kang Si. Through sunshine and rain, winds and snow storms, putting up in all sorts of inns and houses she has been a cheerful companion. She is instant in season and out of season in witnessing in a quiet but effective way for Christ.

Another woman of equal worth is Kim Que Bansie, who gives most of her time to traveling and preaching. She has means of her own and spends it freely in the work. Some years ago she gave to the Syen Chyun church the building known as the "Woman's Study." It has three rooms, one of which is now used as the girl's school. She feels a special call to preach, mostly to those who have never heard the Gospel. A

woman by the name of Kim Si always accompanies her. A wealthy widow pays twenty nyang per month toward their expenses.

The work of these three women is practically under station direction, though none of them receive pay from foreign funds.

SCHOOLS.

There are in all seventeen primary schools for boys and one for girls in operation at the present time, and at least two or three others in suspended animation merely for the lack of a teacher. The enrollment varies from five or six, to over seventy in each, and the efficiency of the schools is probably more varied still, as some of the teachers have had no training, and are rather conservative in their ideas. However we have made a little progress during the year, and every school to the best of our knowledge is following more or less fully the course of study for Christian Primary schools prepared by Mr. Baird. We have entirely eradicated the last vestige of the old heathen books, and the difficulty now is to get the Christian books to the schools as fast as they are needed. These schools are planned primarily for the instruction of children from Christian families, but into some a good number of heathen boys have come, and in a few cases they have been the means of interesting their families in Christianity.

All the country schools are entirely self-supporting, and the Syen Chyun schools receive aid only to the extent of nyang 40 per month, less than half of their total expense.

Syen Chyun Schools.

Naturally these are the best of the number and a great many families have been attracted to Syen Chyun by the fact that there are good schools here for both boys and girls. Miss Chase has given lessons in both schools in geography whenever she has been at home. Dr. Sharrocks taught arithmetic and singing for part of the year in the boys' school and Mrs. Sharrocks gave the girls singing lessons.

The boys' school became so large last fall that it was absolutely necessary to secure an assistant. The first one secured proved rather unsatisfactory, so one of the older scholars was promoted to the position of "chupchang" and teaches half the time. This boy, and five or six of the other older boys, are making up their Chinese preparatory to entering the Pyeng Yang Academy. All of these but one, as well as several of the smaller boys are supporting themselves by working after-

noons. Some of them have had occasional work on the new missionary houses, others make a good living for at least part of the year, gathering fire-wood on the mountain behind the town and others still are boarded by different Christian families in return for work in the fields and around the house. Four of the older boys are also helped by allowing them to use, at a low rent, some of the small fields bought for the station site, and another gets a small salary for selling books at the church.

The boys have been examined quarterly and their promotion at the end of the year was dependent upon the result of their examination. The school had to be disbanded for several days during the spring, owing to an outbreak of smallpox among the boys, but fortunately it was not very serious. Two weeks before the summer vacation most of the boys from the country were dismissed because of the cholera outbreak.

Since the organization of the girls' school last January with twelve pupils it has met with encouragements and patronage almost beyond our hopes. The pupils rapidly increased to twenty-five. The average attendance from May 1st to July 29th was twenty. The course of study adopted by the girls' school in Pyeng Yang is used.

Parents' meetings have been held several times during the year at which various pertinent questions have been discussed and at two of them the pupils participated in a small exhibition.

A few evening meetings for the benefit of the teachers and others have been held, at which time such subjects as discipline, the proper teaching of the native character, etc., have been discussed.

The boys' school has had a managing committee of three members, chosen by the church officers, who with the missionary and the teacher have had the general supervision of the school. At the end of the school year, one general educational committee was elected by the congregation, consisting of four men and one woman, who with the missionaries, have the general supervision of both boys' and girls' schools.

Academy students.

During the year ten students from this province have been in attendance at the Pyeng Yang Academy, but three of them dropped out early in the year. All but one of the remaining seven supported themselves at least in part by work in the afternoon.

Several of the churches have contributed to the expenses of the Academy, but not as generally as we had wished.

MEDICAL WORK.

The beginning of Medical work in our new station has met with results quite gratifying. The year has been a very short one. It was late in November before a building for a temporary dispensary could be purchased, and in the early spring just as the work was being well established and patients were coming to us in increasing numbers, a sudden halt was made necessary by Dr. Sharrocks' long siege of typhoid. By his illness the spring order for drugs and supplies was delayed some three months, so that with the depleted stock and the doctor's greatly reduced strength work in the dispensary could not quickly be resumed.

During the four months of active dispensary work 760 new cases and 404 returns, or a total of 1,146 cases were seen. During these same months 33 professional visits were made, but if those made before and since this brief period were added, the visits into the homes of patients would number a few more than one hundred.

No department for inpatients was recognized for we had no room to be used as a ward, but patients will come and some times cannot be turned out, so our waiting room was called upon for double service, being waiting room by day and ward by night. Sixty odd patients were accommodated in this way.

Financially we have every reason to feel that our Medical work will soon be on a good basis. Of the entire outlay for drugs and running expenses for the year, 66 per cent, practically two-thirds of the expenditures were raised on the field. Fortunately our beginning has been on a small enough scale to permit of very personal supervision over even the smallest details. Plans were of course laid to make the medical agency an efficient aid to the evangelistic work and the success with which the plans met proved them to have been worthy of the trial. Before the appointed time to see the patients and while they are waiting their turn, a member of the committee appointed by the local church for that duty, could always be heard in the waiting-room preaching to the patients. On one occasion hearing raised voices from the other room which sounded much like a Korean quarrel the doctor inquired as to its meaning. "There's a deaf patient out there and the preacher is not going to let him off on any such excuse as that," said the assistant. So faithfully and persistently did the committee do its work that the patients who did not have the Gospel offered them in plain but forcible words were few indeed.

Probably the one feature of our methods that gave the physician the greatest pleasure was the frequency with which we heard from our

patients. To know what becomes of a dispensary patient after he crosses the threshold on his homeward way is not common. But thanks to our very painstaking assistant we have been able to keep in touch with a large number. Various means were employed for this. Patients are usually asked to let us know in some way how they progress. Notes and letters in surprising numbers have been received in response. Moreover the assistant has cultivated the habit of looking over the record book and keeping in mind many of the cases and their addresses. Thus he is able frequently to ask a patient who comes in from the country concerning his neighbors or town's folk, and such a one is sure to return and tell his friends we inquired after them. The thought seems then to be engendered in their minds, "Among so many who have gone there do they remember me?" The plan of sending names of patients living near a church to the leader of that group asking him to look them up was just begun when the dispensary closed. This will be continued when the work is reopened and thus we hope to give the seed that is sown here a chance for cultivation and fruitage throughout the many places from which our patients come.

By these various means we learn of the future of many of our people, and great is the joy that comes to the heart of the physician with the knowledge that hundreds of those who stood before him in suffering had again come into the possession of health.

We need a hospital building. Two years ago the Board granted 750 yen for temporary quarters, for it was impossible then to build. Of this appropriation less than 200 yen were used and can easily be realized when the place is sold. We wish to ask for 5,000 yen to add to this, with which we may erect suitable quarters for our medical plant.

BUILDING.

During our first months there was only one house that could be occupied. Being a remodelled Korean structure it was not of palatial dimensions but all six of us, including Ella Janet, found shelter under its roof. The new house became ready for its occupants in December and our colony was divided. At the present writing the second new house is nearing completion and will be ready for use soon after our return from Annual Meeting.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

We now have organized groups in fifteen of the twenty-one counties of the province and believers in at least four more of the other six.

The *groups* that have been recognized by a Missionary's visit, and organized with a separate roll and church officers, number 41, but there are at least 8 other places, where Christians gather for worship every Sabbath, and where the helpers visit regularly.

The number of persons *baptized* during the year, July to July, was 267, which is the largest ingathering we have yet been permitted to see in one year. All of these 267, with the possible exception of three or four old persons, had been catechumens on probation for at least a year. The harvest would have been much larger, had it been possible to visit the Western Eui Ju Circuit this spring, where a very large number of candidates are waiting for baptism.

The number of *infants baptized* was 15. The number of *catechumens* received amounted to 696. All of these had been believers in every case for at least two months, and in most cases for a much longer time, and were received only after a careful examination, under which at the very lowest estimate, 150 candidates were deferred.

During the same time 5 church members were *suspended*, and 5 excommunicated, and 16 catechumens dropped.

July first therefore there were on the church rolls 677 church members, 25 baptized infants, and 1340 catechumens, or a total of 2042 enrolled Christians, who with the unenrolled believers make a total of 3429 adherents in all. But of the above church members, 11 are under suspension, and 8 more, unless they show signs of repentance, will be disciplined when the missionary next visits their groups. These nineteen amount to 2.8 per cent of the church membership. Amongst the 1340 catechumens there are 109, or 8.1 per cent whose names are retained on the books, although they have at present lost their interest in Christianity. Experience has taught us that it is well to retain such for at least three years, unless they have been guilty of some grave sin, whereby the church is brought into disrepute, as many of them, coming under some new influences, are often won back to a Christian life.

Requests for Help.

In view of the showing presented in the above report, we most urgently request the Mission to send us this fall, one clerical worker with considerable knowledge of the language to take the place of Mr. Leck. Also one of the new workers, who may eventually take up the work in the far north, and one single woman. Also that the Mission request the Board to send us next year two clerical workers.

To substantiate these large requests, especially for the help this year, we would summarize the needs as follows:

1. Our loss in the death of Mr. Leck.
2. The great size of the work to-day.
3. The rapid rate at which the believers are increasing, and the whole field opening up.
4. The fact that Miss Chase hopes to leave for her furlough before another Annual Meeting.
5. The development of School Work.
6. The call to come over into Manchuria and help them.
7. Lastly but perhaps more important than the others, the numbers of helpers, and other workers, 14 in all, or counting the school teachers, 31, who now have to be looked after practically by one worker. Most of them are on Korean pay, and therefore more liable to need teaching and guiding.

Requests for Buildings and Land.

1. We would repeat the request made to, and passed by the Mission last year, for the expenses involved in the alteration of Mr. Whittemore's house. The item was, we have reason to think, omitted by the Board by mistake.
2. We also repeat the request for Yen 650. for the purchase of the balance of the station site.
3. Yen 5000, for a Hospital building.
4. A house for the second family we expect to have assigned to us at this meeting.
5. Yen 1000, on account for a house for Miss Chase, and another single lady.