The Work of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society

in the

East South America Conference

Nineteen Twenty Three
Second Annual Report

of the

WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY
OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

in the

EAST SOUTH AMERICAN CONFERENCE

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General Office:
Room 710, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.
Read our report from cover to cover and you will read about these three little girls.
South American Comrades.

Margaret Wilson in writing of her missionary book, "which may appear sometime maybe", says she will call it "The Institution of the Dear Love of Comrades". I'm going to plagiarize her term before she can have a chance to use it herself (she should never have printed such quotable intentions if she didn't want them quoted!) and call our South American Woman's Foreign Missionary Schools "Institutions of the Dear Love of Comrades". In the pages that follow you will find from the pen of representatives of these schools, the sort of thing that can be reduced to print: data about buildings and curricula and enrollments and attendances, human experiences as well and spiritual triumphs. But I wonder if anyone will tell of the burdens made lighter by the sharing, of the steady pull made endurable because of the yoke.

Lima—Rosario—Buenos Aires—Montevideo—they are names to conjure with, New World cities with an Old World spell upon them. And in their midst our missionary groups—friendly loans our Bishop calls them—not solitary but working together with the Great Comrade who alone can complete incompleteness and harmonize the whole.

Helen Grace Murray.
Crandon Institute

Directors—Carrie M. Purdy.
Vicedirectora—Bertha Tuddenham.
Administradora—Jennie Reid.
Missionaries in charge of Departments—Gertrude Wheeler, May Murphy, Alice Irwin.
Contract Teachers—Effie Price, Fannie Farrand.

"Oh how some of our pioneer missionaries would have thanked God if they could have seen the day when the Gospel would be having the chance that it is now having, through such an institution as Crandon, of reaching the influential people of a nation". I have just finished reading that sentence from a Secretary’s letter and I wish, oh now I wish, that these same pioneer missionaries and those women of vision and sacrifice from the home churches could see the justification of their faith as we see it to-day!

Crandon the well beloved! Beloved it is by students, faculty and alumnae. Why? Not because of its beautiful edifice, although all love and are justly proud of that, not because of the exceptional opportunity for learning English; no, it is because of something less tangible. Crandon is beloved because of that for which she stands, her atmosphere, her influence, her spirit. It is the spiritual Crandon that is so dear to all.

There is no better evidence of this love than the many gifts from many friends. During the past year the Woman’s Club of the city furnished the Library. It is so pretty with its soft curtains and hard wood furniture. Many books from the United States and Montevideo have found their way to the book shelves. The students are furnishing the Carrie J. Carnahan Reception room. The Alumna Association has given the iron fence in front of the building. All have worked freely to furnish and beautify the school home. The mails have been bringing some lovely pictures from Italy. A dear friend is sending them and having them framed and they are giving a cultural touch to salas, library and class rooms. Yes, and we also have a Memorial window, a beautiful soft toned one over the chapel platform. It was given by 200 mothers of the Wilkensburg Church in memory of their sons fallen in the World War.

During the year 1923, three hundred and twenty pupils were enrolled in the different departments of the school. The daily average attendance was excellent, and twenty-one girls received medals for perfect attendance and punctuality. Something over a hundred stayed to luncheon, each school day, in the big dining-room, and a happier, lovelier family of girls you never saw.

Organization—
The course of study is admirably planned and executed. Most excellent work has been done in the kindergarten and primary grades. The first grade was so large that it had to be made into
His excellency President Serrato (in the center) the American Minister Mr. Hoffman Philip and Members of the Administrative and Advisory Boards.
two divisions occupying two rooms. The children of these depart-
ments are the most interested, enthusiastic kiddies imaginable. In
the Secondary School enough units have been made elective to en-
able the students to qualify for examination in the University Pre-
paratory of Montevideo, or for college entrance examinations in the
U. S. A. Beginning with the eighth grade we also offer electives,
leading to the Teachers Training, Domestic Science or Business
course. Four of the teachers elect for 1924 are girls who have taken
their training and have done their practice teaching in Crandon.
They have imbibed the ideals as well as the methods of their
instructors and their class room work is of the very highest order.
Two young women who came from the Waldensian Colony for
intensive work in Domestic Science are now teaching large classes
in Colonia Suiza. And one of last year’s graduates is teaching a
class in cooking in the Summer Bible Institute which is being held
over at the Cerro mission.

The Exhibit following the year’s training in physical culture
was a wonderful test of endurance, accuracy and grace. The pro-
gram, which occupied two and a half hours, was given on two suc-
cessive afternoons to crowded galleries. On the occasion of the
opening of Graff Hall, the military drill was repeated to the delight
of the President of the Republic, who was our guest of honor on
that day. The physical director was asked to give the program
for the fourth time so that the Physical Culture Committee of the
government schools might see it. These gentlemen were so much
pleased that they said to the Secretary of Public Education,—‘‘Get
us the appropriation and we will put over the same kind of thing
in our public schools’’. To meet such a possible demand for gym-
nastic teachers this department in Crandon Institute will offer a
teachers’ training course in Physical Culture. And the Keator
Gymnasium will thus be rendering an even greater service than that
of this year.

The Alumna Association is financing the laying out of a tennis
court in the rear of the building. Out door sports such as tennis,
volley ball will be added to the program of 1924.

**Graff Hall**

On the 29th day of November, Graff Hall, the beautiful auditor-
ium room, was formally opened by His Excellency, the President
of the Uruguayan Republic. With this act the building may now
be considered finished and dedicated to its special educational mis-
ton. The President spent over two hours in the building, visiting
the grade rooms, admiring the modern equipment and smiling most
happily as the children enthusiastically saluted him. After watching
the military drill in the Gymnasium and visiting the Crary Domestic
Science, Room, where ices and cakes were served—he left us ex-
pressing special satisfaction in the spirit of international friendship
evined in all that he saw.

On this same day, the bronze tablets were unveiled. Directly in
front of the principal entrance they are hung and we all pause in
gratitude and love before them,—for there are the names of scores,—
yes, hundreds, who have brought their gifts—some of them made
with great sacrifice—to make possible this big, influential institu-
tion—CRANDON.
Colegio Norteamericano

Director—Ruth V. Warner.
Vicedirectora—Ruby Hosford.
Missionary Teacher—Frances Strever.

Setting: Girls' boarding and day school in Rosario, the second city of Argentina, an important commercial center; excellent building, but new class-room had to be added this year; eight grades in Spanish with Argentine normal trained teachers; English taught grades as a language; Home Arts course; commercial course in English and Spanish; 35-40 boarders; 60-65 day pupils; 10-12 scholarship boarders, some of whom earn part of their expenses; all boarders attend Sunday School and services in Central Spanish Church.

This brief report will suggest but two of the problems which we have been trying to solve this year.

First is the lengthening of girlhood for our pupils. Latin American girls mature so early that it is difficult to keep them in school after they have fairly entered their teens. The accepted thing is for them to stay at home studying music or fancy-work, and lead the life of "grown-ups" till they marry at an early age; hence the value of encouraging secondary education and our hope of making the commercial and home-art courses minister to an ever larger group of girls.

A COMERCIAL CLASS
Within the school we try to keep the girls from growing up too fast and encourage them to romp and play. I remember the pitying condescension with which the older girls looked up from their fancy-work and down upon my "new-missionary" efforts to initiate a happy free-for-all play hour—but that was more than four years ago! Tennis and volley-ball and fun are more popular now with the "big girls" and impromptu programs, "stunts" and pranks are not unknown, as witnessed by the kodak's record of gleeful rides in the wheelbarrow, which the gardener had forgotten to put away.

Second is the problem of the development and the expression of the religious life. One example will suggest what we try to do. Two years ago an attractive girl, educated in schools of the established church, came to us and very soon, through Bible classes and church attendance, became "interested in our faith", as her mother told us with great satisfaction. When there offered an opportunity to help in the Sunday School at Gleason Institute she accepted it with joy, and in the little prayer services of instructors began to take her part also. Although in the simple evangelistic services held among the girls she had not definitely manifested her desire to follow Christ, there was no doubt of her genuine interest. In special study and group prayer meetings her insight into spiritual
matters was evident and it was because of her sense of loss when the prayer-meetings ceased at the close of school that the girls of the group agreed to remember each other in prayer during vacation, especially on Tuesday, the usual prayer meeting day. She is one for whom you give and pray. There are many others! Will you pray on?

Gleason Institute, Rosario, Argentina

EVANGELISTIC CENTER.

Directora—Bernice Cornelison.
Public Health Nurse—Josephine Packer.

Departments of work during 1923:

I.—Evangelistic:
1. Church: Friday and Sunday nights; usual attendance 50-70; pulpit supplied by local pastors, local preachers and other friends. 2. Special meetings: one week in June, one week in October; highest single attendance 170. 3. Boys' Sunday School, 9 a.m.; usual attendance 60-70. 4. Girls' Sunday School, 10 a.m.; usual attendance 60-70. 5. Junior League; Sunday, 4.30 p.m., initial organization; usual attendance 20-30. 6. Gospel singing groups. 7. Bible class, Tuesday, 4.30 p.m., girls of 10-14 years.

II.—Educational:
1. Free day school for girls; kindergarten, 1st., 2nd., 3rd. and 4th. years; accredited by government schools; enrollment 152; only protestant teachers having normal diplomas are employed. 2. Daily Vacation Bible School (attempted for the first time to our knowledge
in the history of the city): 3 meeks during December; daily inspection for personal hygiene; handwork with cardboard, colored crayons, magazine pictures and other inexpensive materials; special emphasis on temperance by use of songs and object lessons; unremunerated teaching force recruited from among missionaries, pastor's daughters, Colegio Norte-Americano scholarship girls, and other friends; enrollment 102.

III.—Hygiene:
1. Physical inspection of all school girls. 2. Dental clinic opened in October; local dentist graciously donated, during the last quarter of the year, 35 hours of time, giving 170 treatments for 63 persons.

IV.—Industrial:
1. Little girl's Scrap Book Club. 2. Reward group; girls with good day school attendance. 3. Saturday Club: 2-4 pm., girls under
A Young Gleason Leader.

A Door-yard in the Gleason District. Flattened-out Tin Standard Oil Cans Serve as House Walls.

C.N.A. Girls Who Teach in Gleason S.S.
social life, sewing, tatting, limited amount of handwork, gospel singing; attendance grew to 50; kindergarten section for the little brothers and sisters. 4. “Club Amistad” (Friendship), Tuesday, 6-8 p.m., girls over 13; sewing, tatting, crochet, wax work, bead work; social period with tea and cakes; devotional hour; gospel singing, object lessons, evangelistic messages. 5. Mothers’ Meeting: Wednesday, 4-5.30 p.m.; sewing, crochet, knitting; social period with “mate” and cake; devotional hour; gospel message and songs; milk and cake given to children in free play group.

Fiestas: Various day school programs and closing exposition of handwork; lantern slide lectures; special Easter observance, Junior League party; closing social afternoon of D. V. B. S.; Christmas party with toys for boys of the Sunday School; Christmas gifts of wash cloths and dolls to the girls; industrial exposition.

A sale of used clothing at very low prices made possible its distribution to the needy without inculcating an attitude of dependence which free distribution of materials is likely to do.

It has been and we pray always shall be the aim in this work to make every department contribute toward the winning of souls for the Master. We petitioned Him for local helpers. Listen to the record! There were connected with the work during the year thirty-five different persons, representing four denominations, giving voluntary service. Praise His Name!
And you who are reading... what is your part? A ministry of prayer? An open purse? Or is our Leader wooing you to LIVE for Him in fields afar? Heed, oh heed His gentle calling!

Colegio Americano para Niñas

Directora—Grace Barstow.
Vicedirectora—Caroline B. Rubright.
Missionary Teacher—Miriam F. Whiteley.

If you should come to visit our school on a bright sunny day and see the attractive little house, which forms the main school building, nestling in the midst of a large old-fashioned garden, and, best of all, should you see the prettily-dressed smiling-faced children darting about like butter-flies amid the flowers, you might say that Buenos Aires school has all that a mission school should ask for. But should you happen in during a rain storm and see the difficulties the children have, often without overshoes or umbrellas, in getting
across two streets to the rented houses used for class-rooms and overflow dormitory, and see the small dark rooms that serve for some of the classrooms, you would surely think that mission schools have their problems as well as their joys. The year 1923 has been marked by abundant blessings which have advanced the school and caused us to be very grateful to Him who has bestowed them all, and by difficulties that have been mastered by that victory which overcomes the world, even our faith.

The total enrollment during the past year was 125 with an average attendance of about 95%o, a splendid record in view of the fact that the drainage system is such that a fairly hard shower makes the streets like small rivers.

Buenos Aires school has a kindergarten, grade work in English and in Spanish, and a commercial course. The girls all study Bible in classes meeting two or three times a week and, as a rule, enjoy it. At the end of the year two mothers told how their little daughters had grown to love so much the gospel of Matthew, which they had been studying in school, that they brought about its being read in the home.

The little girls in the picture on page fifteen are Maria and Irene two little Italian sisters. Irene, the younger, is a quiet, shy little mite. You would scarcely think that she is seven years old and, unless you knew her well, you would have even more difficulty in believing the first grade teacher when she says that Irene is just as full of mischief as she is big. The mother of these little girls tells us that she is much pleased with our school because the girls go out from it more simple, more genuine and more sincere. In the left hand corner of page fourteen are Daisy and Edelweiss, the little daughters of a native pastor, whom it was our pleasure to have in the school as boarders last year. The picture on page two of the
report is a suitable one to put facing Miss Murray’s “South American Comrades”, for these three little girls of the third grade are inseparable companions. Audrey, on the left and very nearly crowded out of the picture, is a little English girl; Glares, in the center is Argentine, and Evelyn, with the curly hair, is North American.

All of these snapshots were taken in the school garden. Our garden is a never-ending delight with its hoary old trees, homes of many song birds, and its constant variety of flowers. But the loveliest flowers of all are those that you, who labor and spend in behalf of mission work, are helping to unfold into richer and fuller possibilities, to “grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.”
Instituto Modelo de Obreras Cristianas

Directora—Zona Smith (missionary of the Disciples Church).
Vicedirectora—Edna Brown.
Missionary Teacher—Ruth E. Fish (missionary of the Disciples Church).

The Bible Training School, better known among her Spanish friends as the Instituto Modelo de Obreras Cristianas, is run under the joint operation of the Disciples of Christ and the W.F.M.S. of the Methodist Episcopal Church, backed also by the enthusiastic moral support of the National League of Evangelical Women. Although the school has enjoyed only two years of existence she gives promise of becoming a sturdy useful number of Christian society.

The house at present occupied is small and modest but affords dormitories for teachers and boarders, classrooms, library, office, etc. Expenses have been reduced to a minimum in order to make it possible for families of limited means to put their girls in the school. But even so, as the larger number of our girls come from poor families it has been necessary to provide scholarships for part or all of their expenses. If any reader has an interest in erecting a monument to his God, what better thing could he do than to make it possible for some consecrated girl to realize her ambition and become a trained Christian worker.

The Institute seeks to give the best possible instruction, laying emphasis upon Bible Study and related subjects. At the end of her three year course each student should have such a knowledge of and veneration for the Bible that she will recognize it always as the book which more than any other simplifies, explains, governs and gives joy to life; that she will be able to read it for her own spiritual welfare and to teach to others its high and pure ideals.

The student studies sociology in order to know something of the varying conditions under which she will have to work and of the social movements of the day. She studies religious education, psychology, history of the world in general, of church and of missions. In domestic science she learns to sew and cook, first aid and household administration. She studies music, type-writing, book-keeping and English if she wishes.

Each boarder has her share of the housework to attend to, while all do some practical work in the church or Sunday School. Every now and then in addition to studies the pupils lead the chapel exercises or play the hymns or prepare little talks for church affairs and the like. One thing which is worth special mention is the lovely little farewell party which they prepared for Miss Smith when she left for the United States. Without the help of any teacher they arranged the house, prepared elaborate refreshments and presented a most attractive program. Miss Smith said that this farewell was the one which most deeply touched and pleased her.

During the year a number of things have been done with a view to increasing knowledge of the Training School and its influence among the churches. We have invited men of strength and purpose to give series of lectures on pertinent subjects and to talk to the
TEACHING STAFF AND STUDENTS, 1923
Italina,

one of the Institute
girls, with two chil­
dren of the Vacation Bi­
bble School where she
taught during the
summer.

girls in the morning chapel exercises. Compelling programs were prepared for the exercises at the opening and closing of the school year. And definite effort to break down opposition to women work­ers in the church on the part of pastors and influential church members, has won some measure of success.

God has blessed our school in many ways. In spite of limited financial means the Institute has been able to get the house furnished and provide a piano and type-writer. This year it is intended to purchase an encyclopedia and a supply of books for the library. Most welcome was a gift of two hundred dollars gold from Mrs. H.C. Adams with which to furnish a dormitory for three students in honor of her sister. The translated inscription placed in the frame with the photograph of her sister is self-explanatory: “This room has been furnished by Mrs. Helen B. Adams, of Wolbach, Nebraska, in honor of her sister Mary Burgess Paddock (Mrs. H.B.), born in Buenos Aires in 1879, died in Evanston, Illinois, in 1919. Mrs. Adams says of her sister ‘She had a beautiful character, admirable intelligence and was always a lovely sister to me’”.

In the matter of teachers the Institute has been doubly blest for both those who have given their services without charge and those who have received salaries have shown the same interest and fidelity in their work. And in every case they have been teachers of ex­ceptional ability. We pray God’s blessing upon the many friends of the Institute, at home and on the field, who both financially and through the sacred and powerful ministry of prayer, have had a share in making possible the first Bible Training School in South America.
Foreword. We have just received some letters from the missionaries of Lima High School, Peru, from which we are publishing several extracts. The Lima School, of course, is not in the East South American conference, but is a part of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society Work in South America and we are glad to be able to include a message from it in our report.

Lima High School students - kindergarten kiddies are absent. In the picture you can see the balconies which Miss Hanks writes about.

From a very interesting letter by Miss Gertrude Hanks about a vacation trip we give you the following selection:

You know, a missionary’s duties are so varied that they never become monotonous. The only thing that verges on it is the eternal decisions that have to be made: Shall we fire the cook who doesn’t feel duty bound to bring back all the change from the market, and who at the same time has a crippled husband and a young son? Shall we sell our appropriation money at 4.09 or will exchange drop in a few days? Shall the boarding girls be prohibited from going to the balconies to enjoy the fresh air or shall they have the chance to drop thrilling love notes to the ‘joven’ who strolls below, where balcony love-making is so popular? (this sometimes happens regard-
less of decisions). Can we afford to paint the kitchen? But we have left all these problems and have fled to Arequipa .........

Oh it was great to stand on the Corry's porch and look over the beautiful green valley so in contrast to the surroundings of Lima, and then in the distance see all those wonderful mountains. ....

It was so restful and the climate was wonderful. From my bedroom window I got a lovely view each morning of those two great mountains but by noon it usually became cloudy and we would have a brisk shower in the afternoon. When you have been two years without a rain it sounds mighty good to hear it coming down on a roof above you? Personally I like an occasional surprise in the way of weather, perhaps due to the fact that I was reared in Pennsylvania.

You would surely like to read, also, about one of the Lima girls, of whom Miss Frances Blackburn writes:

Every Wednesday afternoon some of the boys from the Boys' School next door and several of our girls go with me to the Junior League which is held in the Central Methodist Church. This is such interesting work. For a time I had two native girls helping me. Eudosia, with the little tots, was just fine. She is one of five girls among our boarders who gave their hearts and lives to the Lord Jesus Christ this year. She is a deep thinker and a leader and we have many hopes for her. Her father is one of the broad thinkers in this country of Peru and has undergone some persecution because of his liberal views. The children all love Eudosia and she loves them. We have started the foundation, I believe, for an organization of the children which is going to grow. I wish that I might give to you the picture of Carlos Tordulla, a tiny mite of humanity, one of the six children of our church janitor. Eudosia had taught him the Lord's prayer and sent him in to say it to me. He folded his arms across his little chest, put his head to one side, shut his eyes, and said it perfectly. He was so tiny and so dirty and so cunning. The responsibility is a fine thing for Eudosia, too, and she is developing more and more into a real Christian character.

May we thank you again for your interest, for your help in money, and prayers. And will you not continue to pray for the youth of Peru, that they may be instilled with high and noble ideals of Christianity, so that they may become real leaders and workers for the kingdom of God in Peru?
This Pretty Picture is of the Kindergarten in the New Crandon Institute Building, Montevideo.