MINUTES

of the

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

OF THE MISSIONARIES

of the

American Baptist
Missionary Union
in South China

Kityang, Nov. 18th to 24th

1908
MINUTES

of the

ANNUAL

Conference of the Missionaries

of the

American Baptist Missionary Union

in South China

held at

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1908
IN MEMORIAM

MRS. MARTHA ROBERTS ADKINS

ARRIVED IN SOUTH CHINA,
SEPTEMBER 25, 1907

CALLED HOME,
MAY 9, 1908
List of the Missionaries of the South China Field

Rev. & Mrs. Arthur S. Adams
Russell E. Adkins, M. D.
Rev. Dr. & Mrs. Wm. Ashmore Jr.
Rev. & Mrs. Ben. L. Baker
Rev. & Mrs. Geo. Campbell
Rev. & Mrs. Randall T. Capen.
Rev. Dr. & Mrs. John M. Foster *
Rev. & Mrs. John H. Giffin
Rev. & Mrs. Adam F. Groesbeck
Rev. & Mrs. Herbert A. Kemp
Rev. & Mrs. Geo. W. Lewis
Rev. & Mrs. Arthur H. Page
Miss Barbara A. Ross
Mrs. Anna K. Scott, M. D.
Miss Melvina Sollman
Rev. & Mrs. Jacob Speicher
Miss Edith G. Traver.
Rev. & Mrs. Geo. H. Waters
Miss Myra F. Weld
Rev. & Mrs. Geo. E. Whitman *
Rev. & Mrs. Lewis E. Worley
Mrs. Prudence C. Worley

* Mrs. Foster and Mr. & Mrs. Whitman in America.

Officers and Committees for the 1908-9

PRESIDENT: Mr. Speicher
VICE-PRESIDENT: Mr. Lewis
SECRETARY: Mr. Page
STATISTICIAN: Mr. Worley
AUDITOR: Mr. Capen

REFERENCE COMMITTEE: Mr. Giffin, Miss Weld, Mr. Kemp, Mr. Groesbeck, Mr. Waters.

BUILDING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE: Mr. Kemp, Mr. Page, Mr. Groesbeck.

COMMITTEE ON SIAM: Mr. Groesbeck, Mr. Waters, Dr. Foster.

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE: Miss Weld, Mr. Capen, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Giffin, Mrs. Speicher.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Mr. Page, Mr. Lewis, Mrs. Prudence Worley.

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Mrs. Kemp, Miss Ross, Miss Traver, Mr. Waters.

MEDICAL COMMITTEE: Miss Ross, Mrs. Prudence Worley, Mr. Groesbeck, and Dr. Ashmore while here, to confer with Dr. Adkins.

TRUSTEES OF SEMINARY AND ACADEMY: for two years, Mr. Speicher and Mr. Groesbeck; for one year, Mr. Kemp and Mr. Lewis.

COMMITTEE ON PRINTING OF THE MINUTES: Mr. Page, Mr. Groesbeck, Mr. Worley.
Minutes of the Annual Conference
Held at
Kityang, Nov. 18th to 24th, 1908

And inserted, the Outline of Topics proposed by
Dr. Barbour and discussed by the Conference

Wednesday, Nov. 18, 1908, 8 P. M. The Conference was called to order by President Kemp. Dr. Ferguson offered prayer. The following committees were appointed by the chair: Nominating Committee, Messrs. Groesbeck, Worley and Capen; Committee on Resolutions, Dr. Ashmore, Mr. Waters and Mr. Adams.

The service was then turned over to Dr. Barbour, who gave an address of encouragement and fellowship. Dr. Dearing also spoke in the line of fellowship and sympathy, and of the importance of the work in China.

Voted that the Program Committee consult with Dr. Barbour in reference to a modified program for the Conference. A discussion followed in regard to afternoon sessions. This by consent was left to the Program Committee.

Voted to adjourn. Mr. Waters led in closing prayer.

Thursday, Nov. 19, 9 A. M. The session opened with prayer by Dr. Barbour. The Nominating Committee reported the following names for Officers and Committees: for President, Mr. Speicher; Vice-president, Mr. Lewis; Secretary, Mr. Page; Statistician, Mr. Worley; Auditor, Mr. Capen; Reference Committee, Messrs. Giffin, Speicher, Kemp, Groesbeck and Waters; Building and Property Committee, Messrs. Kemp, Page and Groesbeck. On request
of Mr. Speicher, the name of Miss Weld was substituted for his on the Reference Committee. With this change the officers and committees were elected as nominated, by votes to authorize the casting of unanimous ballots.

By agreement of the Program Committee, the program proposed by Dr. Barbour was taken up, and introduced by his reading portions of the “Policies” of the Missionary Union, and by an address on the home Executive Committee, the Mission Conference, and the Reference Committee, in relation to individual opinions. He favored the recording of negative votes in Conference and Reference Committee, and in general, the recognition of all individual opinions.

I. The Mission Body in Relation to Administration.

Functions of the Conference.

Functions of the Reference Committee.

Relation to General Conditions in the Mission.

The relation of Executive Committee and Reference Committee was discussed. Suggested by Mr. Kemp that votes of the Executive Committee be on separate slips, or with spaces between votes, for convenience in filing cases. Other plans were also proposed without decision. Voted to adopt the vote of the Shanghai Joint Conference of A. B. M. U. Missionaries, “That in voting on all questions in which action of the Executive Committee is required, negative votes in the Conference and Reference Committee be recorded,” and to add, “that names of those not voting be also recorded.” Whether the business of the Reference Committee should be disposed of by conference or by correspondence, was discussed. The sentiment of the discussion was that cases decided by correspondence should be as few as possible; also that definite dates be appointed for Reference Committee meetings, and that notice of these dates be sent to each member of the Mission. Voted that in the light of this discussion the matter be left to the Reference Committee.
The Property Committee.

DEGREE OF POWER.

A motion was made and seconded that this Conference endorse the resolutions passed by the Shanghai Joint Conference in regard to the powers of the Property Committee. Voted that these resolutions be submitted to a committee to be appointed by the chair, to consider and report to the Conference. Mr. Groesbeck, Dr. Ashmore and Mr. Capen were appointed.

Voted that morning sessions of the Conference close at 12:20, the last twenty minutes being given to a devotional service.

Relation of Missionary to Building.

As to Plans. As to Construction.

Is appointment of Mission Builder desirable?

Discussed without action.

Is appointment of Business Agent desirable.

A special business agent for this mission was not thought necessary. Voted that this matter be referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

Relation of Special Committee and Trustees of Schools to the Mission Committees and to the Executive Committee.

Voted that we adopt the resolution of the Shanghai Joint Conference, as follows "We recommend that committees and trustees whose appointment is wholly or partially made by the Executive Committee, be regarded as joint committees of the Administration and the Conference; that while committees in case of emergency may report during the year to the Executive Committee, their annual report should be submitted to the Conference, and by the Conference transmitted to Boston unaltered, accompanied by the expressed judgment of the Conference."

The Mission Station.

The Mission Treasurer.

Voted, that we adopt the resolution of the Shanghai Joint Conference in regard to instructions for the Mission
Treasurer, as follows: "That it is the sense of this Conference that a set of instructions governing the duties of mission treasurers on the field be drawn up and furnished to all missionaries of the Union."

Mrs. Kemp led a devotional service, opened with a solo by Mr. Capen. The service was largely given to prayer.

7 P. M. The session was opened by President Speicher and prayer offered by Mr. Kemp. The Secretary's records were read and corrected.

The special committee appointed to consider the powers of the Property Committee reported the following resolutions: That inasmuch as the Building and Property Committee is held responsible by the Executive Committee, therefore we recommend, that in cases where any difference of judgment arises between any missionary engaged in building and the Property Committee, of sufficient importance to occasion departure from plans approved by the Committee, it shall be the duty of the Committee to order the cessation of construction, and to notify the Mission Treasurer that no further advance of money for work or materials should be made until advised that the matters at issue have been adjusted. Also, all repairs or charges in mission buildings, if involving an expenditure of above $100 Mexican, or if involving such alteration in construction of building or use to which it is put as would require the consent of the owner if the property were rented from an individual, shall be submitted for approval to the Property Committee. In case of doubt on this point, the matter should of course be submitted to the Property Committee. Voted to accept these resolutions.

Relations with the Woman's Boards.

Moved and seconded that the resolutions ratified by the Shanghai Joint Conference be adopted. Voted to refer this to the Committee on Resolutions.
II. The Work of the General Missionary, as related to
The Individual Missionary.
The Mission Body.
The Native Body.
The Executive Committee of the Union.

The Matter of General Missionaries was presented by Dr. Barbour. After slight discussion, it was voted that we accept the resolutions of the Shanghai Joint Conference in toto, that is including the seven suggestions. Dr. Dearing responded to the vote, giving his reasons for accepting the office and outlining his plans. Voted that a committee be appointed to consider the question further with reference to any further recommendations. The chair appointed Dr. Ashmore and Mr. Page, he himself also consenting to serve on request.

III. Financial Interests.
The Present Financial Situation.
Apprehension of Need of Curtailment of the Work of the Union.
Relation of the Missionary Union to the Northern Baptist Convention.
Desirability of Graded Recommendations by Conference and Reference Committee.
Desirability of Appropriations in Gross.

The financial situation was discussed at some length. Dr. Barbour urged the importance of graded estimates. Voted that we express our hearty sympathy with and approval of the present method of assigning appropriations, and our hearty disapproval of appropriations in gross. A suggestion was made that a different form of blank for requests for appropriations would facilitate the grading of requests.

Desirability of Provision of an Emergency Fund.

With reference to the provision of an emergency fund, voted that we adopt the resolution of the Shanghai Joint Conference, as follows "We recommend that Mission treasurers be authorized on demand of the Reference Committee
to pay out money in addition to appropriations in cases of special emergency, when in the judgment of the Reference Committee it seems probable that the Executive Committee will approve the expenditure in question. The total amount of money thus used must not exceed $500.00 Mexican in any one fiscal year.

Voted to close the evening business session at 9.30, and the devotional service about fifteen minutes later.

The devotional service was conducted by Mr. Lewis. Closing prayer, Dr. Ferguson.

_Friday, Nov. 20, 9 A. M._ The session opened with a hymn, and a prayer by Mr. Baker.

_Upkeep of Church Buildings._

Dr. Barbour explained that church buildings belonging to the Missionary Union must hereafter be kept in repair by the churches occupying them, that this rule should be followed even in extraordinary cases as far as possible. Suggested by Dr. Barbour that the Committee on resolutions or some special committee shall later take up the question of Missionary Union ownership of chapels to the cost of which they contribute.

_Unauthorized Expenditures._

_RULE FOLLOWED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE._

_RECOMMENDATIONS OF REFERENCE COMMITTEE NOT AN AUTHORIZATION OF EXPENDITURE._

Dr. Barbour explained the attitude of the Executive Committee, that they are not responsible for unauthorized expenditures, and cannot take the responsibility except for such grants as they would have made if the case had been presented to them beforehand. The use of personal funds was deprecated, though recognized as sometimes necessary.

_Exceeding Appropriations._

_IN BUILDING, IN GENERAL EXPENDITURE._

In regard to native contributions to buildings, Dr. Barbour suggested that the Reference Committee might decide in each case how much the natives ought to be
expected to contribute.

**Specifics.**

Dr. Barbour read a paper showing the objections and evils of the giving of specific gifts for purposes not definitely approved by the Conference and the Executive Committee. The fact was mentioned by several, that when specific gifts are given through the regular channels, that missionary is often not notified and has no opportunity of acknowledging the gift:

**Use of Balances. Auditing Accounts.**

Voted that a committee be appointed to consider the matter of the Auditor's duties. Messrs. Kemp, Capen and Lewis were appointed by the chair.

Voted that the session continue three minutes to consider further the matter of specifics. Voted to elect committee to consider what stand we should take on this question, and report to the Conference. Mr. Waters, Miss Weld, Mr. Giffin, Mr. Lewis and Mrs. Kemp were elected.

Dr. Ferguson led the devotional service.

7 P. M. The service was opened with a hymn, and a prayer by Mr. Lewis. The Secretary's records were read and corrected.

**VI. Relation of Mission to Native Christian Body.**

Local Church.

- How far are they truly self-governing.
- How may true self-support be promoted.

Christian Stewardship.

Voluntary Christian Work.

Development of Interest in Foreign Missionary Work

Practical Plans of Promoting True Ideals:

- Relation of Churches to Support of Pastor.
- Relation of Evangelistic Workers to Mission Body.

The New Movement of National Self-assertion:

- Its extent and significance.

Representation of Native Body on Committees, Boards of Trustees, etc.

Recognition of Independent Churches.
Dr. Barbour spoke of the world-wide movement toward equality and independence; then in some detail, of the relations of missionaries and native Christians. He spoke especially in favor of doing away with the individual relations between missionaries and native helpers as far as possible; also of the great need of inculcating the principles of Christian stewardship. The chief aim of his discourse was the self-reliance and self-support of the native Christians. The independence of churches was discussed at some length. Voted that a Committee be appointed by the chair to consider resolutions in regard to recognition of natives and relations to them. Messrs. Waters and Groesbeck were appointed.

Sunday School work.
Dr. Dearing told of street Sunday Schools in Japan. Dr. Ferguson spoke of the All-India Sunday School Union, and of the Baptist Sunday Schools in India. Voted that a committee be appointed to present some plan of permanent action for Sunday School work. Mrs. Waters, Mr. Groesbeck and Mr. Worley were appointed by the chair.

Observance of the Lord's Day.
Problems affecting Church Relationship.
Ancestral Worship.
Plural Marriage.

The devotional service was conducted by Dr. Adkins.
Saturday, Nov. 31, 9 a.m. The session opened with hymn and prayer.

V. Interdenominational Relations.
Federation of Missionary Societies.
Co-operation in Joint Work.
Organic Church Union.
Transfer of Church Membership.
Should Organization of Distinctively Baptist Churches be Continued or Discouraged?

The problem was presented by Dr. Barbour. He said denominational propagandism is criminal. We must, however, maintain a religion that demands a genuine
personal experience and fellowship with Christ, one that maintains his deity and power to save. We must not assume that the Church in China will take the form of a great national ecclesiastical system. Local freedom must be respected. He read the resolution of the Shanghai Joint Conference containing a request that the Executive Committee shall indicate their judgment as to the attitude wisely to be held by missionaries of the Union in relation to practical issues in interdenominational relations, and asked from the Conference a free expression of its views. The question was briefly discussed.

Voted that we extend to the pastors at Kityang the courtesy of a few minutes to greet us at this time.

Voted that we appoint a committee to consider the matter of interdenominational relations and report to the Conference.

At this juncture seven native pastors and teachers came in to present their greetings to the Conference. Mr. Lewis replied for the Conference.

Relation to Interdenominational Societies.

The question of auxiliary Christian organizations was presented by Dr. Barbour. Moved and seconded that we express our views thus: that we do not consider the time ripe for such movements of young people in this part of China, but that in places where there are schools and colleges we hold an open mind towards them. Voted that a committee be appointed to consider this and report. Mr. and Mrs. Page, Mr. Worley and Mr. Baker were appointed.

Mr. Waters, Mr. Giffin, Mr. Groesbeck, Mr. Kemp, Miss Sollman and Mr. Adams were appointed as the Committee on Interdenominational Relations.

Voted that we adopt the resolution of the Shanghai Joint Conference in reference to observance of the Lord's Day, as follows: "Resolved that we will enjoin, by precept and example, upon the members of our Baptist Churches a
stricter observance of the Lord's Day as a day holy unto the Lord, laying special emphasis upon the closing of workshops and other places of secular business by church members who have these places under their control; and that we further urge upon our members that it is their duty as Christians to refrain from the indulgence in any recreation and personal pleasures on the Lord’s Day which may bring criticism or reproach upon the cause of Christ."

Voted that as a Conference we record our conviction that the practice of ancestor worship is utterly inconsistent with Christian character and church membership.

With the consent of the Conference, Dr. Ashmore was asked to prepare a resolution in regard to plural marriage in the native church.

The following resolutions presented by the Committee on Resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved that it would be highly beneficial to our work if the Women’s Societies could arrange for such co-operation as would permit of the interchange of workers whether on the field or under appointment, and for co-operation in other matters as occasion may arise.

Resolved that we hear with great satisfaction of the proposed appointment of a business agent at Shanghai, and would bespeak for our South China Mission a share and interest in his services.

The devotional service was conducted by Mrs. L. E. Worley.

At the dinner hour it was voted that we hold a session today from 3 to 6 p.m. instead of the evening session.

3 p.m. The session was opened with hymn and prayer.

The Committee on Specifics reported resolutions; which, with slight alterations, were accepted in the following form:

Resolved that in view of the serious embarrassment to the Missionary Union resulting from the unauthorized use of specific funds, we disapprove of the personal soliciting of
moneys from the constituency of the Missionary Union for objects not yet approved by the Conference and Executive Committee. Further resolved that all specific gifts received from denominational organizations should be accounted for, and, so far as possible, applied on regular appropriations only the use of gifts from personal friends being left to the discretion of the missionary.

Further that gifts from whatever source, exceeding $100.00 Mexican in amount, should be used for objects outside of current appropriations only upon approval of these objects by the Reference Committee and the Executive Committee.

VI. Types of Work.

A. Evangelistic Work.
   PRIMACY OF THIS WORK.
   RELATION TO OTHER FORMS OF WORK.
   SUPPLY OF WORKERS.
   IMPORTANCE OF PERSONAL EVANGELISTIC.
   POSSIBILITY OF EARLY WORLD EVANGELIZATION.
   Our Denominational Relation to this.
   The Laymen's Movement.

   It was voted that we adopt the resolution of the Shanghai Joint Conference, as follows: “Resolved that we record our profound conviction that the evangelistic feature of our mission work must ever hold the first and foremost place. The new emphasis laid at the present time on our educational work, must not be allowed in any degree to diminish our direct effort in the preaching of the Gospel for the conversion of men. We urge the Executive Committee to make generous provision to keep the evangelistic force at its full strength.

B. Educational Work.
   1. THEOLOGICAL INSTRUCTION.
      The Seminary Plant.
      The Teaching Force: Missionary-Native.
      Participation in Evangelistic Work by Seminary Faculty.
      Curriculum.
      Use of English.
Selection of Students.
Support of Students.
Co-operation of Students in Religious Work.
Native Representation on Board of Trustees.

Dr. Ashmore spoke for the Seminary. He said that the teaching force should include, at the least, the equivalent of the time of two missionaries and such additional help as inland missionaries can give by occasionally offering additional courses. It was spoken of as very desirable that the wives of theological students should receive education. Voted that resolutions of the Shanghai Joint Conference in regard to the theological school be put into the hands of a committee to consider and report. Voted that the present Committee on Trustees act as that committee.

Ministerial Training of the Hakka Field.

Mr. Giffin spoke of the theological work in Kiaying, and Mr. Adams and Mrs. Giffin emphasized the need of preachers. Voted that the Conference recommend the continuance of Bible instruction at Kiaying for the present, but that the Secretary of the Conference write immediately to learn if a union may be effected with the theological work of the Southern Baptists among the Hakkas.

The work in Siam was discussed. Voted that a committee be appointed for consultation and investigation of this question.

The devotional meeting was conducted by Mrs. Giffin.

On Sunday the members of the Conference attended the services of the native Church morning and afternoon. In the evening a brief memorial service was held for Mrs. Adkins, consisting of remarks by Mrs. Kemp, a hymn, and prayer by Dr. Barbour. Afterwards Dr. Ferguson preached a most acceptable and helpful sermon.

Monday, Nov. 23, 9 a.m. The records were read to date and corrected. The Committee on Auxiliary Church Organizations reported the following resolutions, which were adopted.
Resolved that in the opinion of this Conference the time has not come for the forming and fostering of interdenominational and young peoples' societies in our churches; but we recommend that in stations where there are boarding and other schools of higher grade, the missionaries in charge keep an open mind regarding the necessity for such organizations, and that in case such seem advisable, in the interests of a common mission policy, consultation on the subject be had with the Conference or Reference Committee before any organization be effected.

The Committee on Sunday School Work reported resolutions, which were adopted as follows:

Recognizing the wide spread interest at home and in this land in Sunday School work, and at the same time realizing how little is being done in our South China Sunday Schools for the young in both Christian and heathen homes, we recommend that this Conference appoint a Committee on Sunday School Work, this committee to investigate conditions and formulate plans for meeting the need; and we further recommend that this Conference request the Conference of Native Churches to appoint a similar committee which shall confer jointly with the committee appointed by this Conference. Voted that the committee on Nominations nominate the Sunday School Committee.

The following resolution in regard to plural marriage was presented by Dr. Ashmore and adopted:

While we recognize honest difference of interpretation of Scripture teaching on this subject, we are of the opinion that Paul's words in 1st Timothy III: 2 & 12 and Titus I: 6 seem to imply that in the early church men with more than one wife were eligible to church membership, but not to church offices. This principle of toleration applies only to those cases in which the parties entered into their relation before coming to a knowledge of the truth; and any church member who takes an additional wife becomes at once a
subject for church discipline.

Voted that the question of the Rest House be referred to the Building and Property Committee.

2. ACADEMIC WORK.
   The Plant.
   The Teaching Force: Missionary, Native.
   Grade of Work Realized and Proposed.
   Use of English.
   Sources of Supply of Pupils.
   Proportion of Christian Pupils.
   Religious Instruction and Influence.
   Fees of Pupils.
   Chinese Representation on Board of Trustees.
   General Plans and Needs.

For the Academy Dr. Capen reported in detail. Dr. Dearing urged larger plans than those now proposed, which are only for about seventy-five pupils, Dr. Capen replied that the larger plans are now in mind in all our thoughts of the work.

3. STATION SCHOOL FOR BOYS.
   Number and Location.
   Grade of Work.
   Aims in View.
   Relation to Work of Academy.
   Religious Instruction and Influence.
   School Fees.
   General Plans and Needs.

Mr. Groesbeck earnestly urged the imperative need of more station schools. Mr. Speicher also emphasized the same need. Mrs. Kemp and Mr. Capen spoke of the Ungkung schools, Mr. Lewis being temporarily absent, and brought a very encouraging report. Mr. Adams presented the comparatively greater need at Hopo.

Voted that a committee be appointed with Mr. Worley as a member to present the statistics of the present time for the boys' schools. The chair appointed the Educational Committee and Mr. Worley. Voted that the resolutions of the Shanghai Joint Conference be referred to this same committee for report. Mr. Groesbeck also emphasized the need
of primary boarding schools at all central stations.

The chair appointed Mr. Groesbeck, Mr. Waters and Dr. Foster as a Committee on Siam.


- Number and Location.
- Buildings and Teaching Force.
- Aims in View.
- Class of Pupils Sought.
- Course of Instruction.
- Fees.
- Religious Influence.

General Plans and Needs.

Miss Weld reported the school work for girls. She said if the school is to grow, or any work to be done above the grammar grade, more room is imperative. That the course of study at present should not be identical with the course for boys. Mrs. Speicher reported the Girls' School at Kityang, and spoke of the desire all over the field for a boarding school, and of the need. Mrs. L. E. Worley reported for the Girls' Primary Schools at Kakchieh. Mrs. Ashmore spoke of a girls' primary school not on the mission compound which had to be given up because the building is no longer obtainable.

Voted that the matter of reporting this Conference in the denominational press be referred to a Press Committee. Voted that Mr. Groesbeck be that Committee.

Voted that we have an afternoon session from 3.00 to 5.00 o'clock. Mr. Worley conducted the devotional service.

3 P. M. The session was opened with hymn and prayer.

The following report of the Building and Property Committee was read and accepted: During the year the Committee has superintended the construction of the Rest House, with the assistance of Mr. Groesbeck, who was a member of the original Rest House Committee. The house is now finished, and plainly furnished with the larger articles of furniture necessary for its occupancy by two
small families. Final settlement has not yet been made with the contractor, but it is certain that there will be a small balance to return to the Missionary Union. The Double Island House has been rented to members of the Mission five weeks and a day at $3.00 a week. There have been a few minor repairs, and the contract is now let for $79.50 for the repair of the typhoon damage on the roof. White-washing and repair of blinds will also be necessary. $2.00 a month is paid for a so-called watchman. After the roof is repaired there will still be about $60.00 belonging to the house. The exact figures of all these items are in the Treasurer's books. In regard to Miss Weld's house the site midway between the Waters House and the Foster House has been approved by the Committee; also that an appropriation of $6,000.00 Mexican be asked for as a maximum. The Young Ladies' House at Kityang has been very satisfactorily repaired, except the painting which is yet in the future. Mr. Adams presented plans for a chapel at Lou Kang Pa, which where approved. The Committee has also been consulted impersonally on several minor matters.

The Committee on the Publication of the Hymn Book reported that our offer to the Publication Society at Canton seems very acceptable. Voted that the report be adopted, and that Mr. Groesbeck be asked to negotiate with the Publication Society for an edition of not less than three thousand copies of the hymn book.

Mr. Groesbeck reported a list of papers and correspondents for the publication of reports of this Conference, which list was accepted.

5. **Village School.**
6. **Relation of Mission to Public School System.**
7. **Possibility and Desirability of Co-operation with Other Societies in Higher Educational Work.**
8. **Ultimate Plans in Relation to Collegiate Work.**
9. **General Problems and Plans in Education.**
The school question was again discussed. Mr. Capen spoke enthusiastically of our present progress in academic and other school work, and of the future need of a college.

C. Medical Work.

1. The Local Situation.
   Hospital Work at Kakchieh and Kityang.
   Designation of Dr. Adkins.

Mr. R. E. Worely spoke for the Kakchieh Hospital, saying that the men's work has greatly deteriorated without a man physician. Mrs. Waters read a report from Dr. Scott for the Women's Hospital.

For Kityang Mr. Speicher offered the following suggestion: that the Missionary Union buy half of the new hospital building and buy and enlarge the old building and connect it with the new, thus making accommodations for men patients as well as women, with a man and a woman physician. Dr. Dearing suggested that a man and his wife, both physicians, be sought by the Woman's Society of the West to take charge of the hospital at Kityang. Mr. Groesbeck suggested that the Woman's Society seek a man physician whether his wife be a physician or not. Miss Weld suggested a physician and a trained nurse. Miss Traver suggested that the man physician spend only part of his time at Kityang. After considerable discussion it was voted that a committee be appointed to consider the question of the medical work at Kityang. Dr. Ashmore, Mr. Groesbeck, Mrs. Worley, Miss Weld, Dr. Adkins and Mrs. Kemp were appointed.

Relative Need at Chaochowfu and at Chaoyang.

On the needs of these two cities Mr. Kemp and Mr. Groesbeck spoke with feeling. The session closed with a hymn, and a prayer by Mr. Lewis.

7 P.M. The session opened with a hymn, and a prayer by Dr. Adkins.

The records of the Secretary were read and corrected.
Voted to reconsider the vote whereby we adopted the resolutions and suggestions of the Shanghai Joint Conference in regard to the General Missionary. Voted that the new resolutions, as presented by the committee appointed to consider this matter, be taken up item by item. Voted that the whole question be recommitted to the same Committee.

The Committee on the Duties of the Auditor presented the following resolutions.

In order to make the office of Auditor in our South China Conference most effective, resolved that the members of the Conference submit to the Auditor for his approval that copy of their annual financial report which they intend to send home to the Treasurer: and that together with this they hand over to him for inspection their book of original entry, and also, so far as possible, show vouchers for the year's transactions. This resolution was adopted.

Dr. Barbour announced a gift of $5000.00 gold for a memorial hospital for Mrs. Adkins, presumably to be erected at Chaochowfu.

Appeal from Hopo.

Mr. Adams presented the offer of the natives at Hopo of $4000.00 Mexican towards a hospital, and set forth the needs there.

Ultimate Ideals.

It was spoken of as an ultimate ideal that we should have a medical training school, that this should probably be in union with the English Presbyterians and at Chaochowfu.

Mrs. Giffin spoke of the abandoned medical work at Kiaying, and of the great helpfulness of dispensary and hospital work there when it has been offered.

2. General Principles.
   Plan of Support.
   Religious Work.
Conserving Results.
Training of Nurses and Students.
Management of Work.
Desirability of Native Board Visitors.

Dr. Adkins asked for an expression in regard to some limited training of medical helpers, also if a medical committee might be appointed. He also suggested that we as a Conference offer a suggestion that some method be adopted by Secretaries at home by which good men may be selected for the medical work in China and the needs be presented to them. Dr. Dearing advocated caution in the multiplication of medical schools, because of the great schools that are being established. Voted that a committee be appointed to confer with Dr. Adkins during the year in regard to his work. Voted that the committee appointed to consider the medical work at Kityang, consider also all the medical work of the mission and resolutions in regard to it.

D. Publication Work.

Voted that we reaffirm our hearty support of the Publication Society at Canton.

Voted that Mr. Capen be appointed a committee of one to correspond with Mr. Treat in regard to his offer of money for evangelistic work.

The devotional service was conducted by Mrs. Page.

Tuesday, Nov. 24, 10 A. M. The session opened with hymn and prayer. The secretary of the Reference Committee reported the business transacted by the Committee during the year, and the appropriations approved by them for the coming year.

The Committee on Interdenominational Relations submitted resolutions. Moved and seconded that we adopt the resolutions. Moved and seconded an amendment that we omit the resolution in regard to the Communion. The vote was ten to ten. Voted that we take up the resolutions item by item. The first resolution was unanimously adopted, as follows:
Together with all our brethren in China we recognize the gravity of the problems now arising with respect to unity and federation among churches of different denominations in China. These problems are commanding our serious study and prayerful effort for solution. The question, however, of the full interchange of members as between different denominations is not with us a present issue. In view, however, of the urgency of the problem in some parts of China, and the possibility of being confronted with this problem or kindred problems ourselves, we join with others in asking for an expression of judgment upon the subject by the Executive Committee. Our own position is, that while eager to promote in all possible ways the growth of Christian fellowship and brotherhood, we do not hesitate to affirm that we cannot subscribe to the free interchange of church members. We stand for baptism, that is, immersion, on personal profession of faith as the indispensible condition of church membership.

Voted unanimously that we drop the resolution in regard to Communion.

Dr. Dearing conducted the devotional service.

Voted that we have an afternoon session from 3 to 5 o'clock.

J P. M. The session opened as usual.

Voted to adopt the report of the Reference Committee read this morning.

Voted that under the circumstances we endorse the request of Mr. Giffin for $150.00 Mexican to reimburse him for money paid on the construction of his house in excess of the appropriation.

Voted that the request of Kiaying missionaries for the return of Dr. Grant or the sending of some other lady physician to Kiaying, be endorsed; also their request for a lady evangelistic worker.

Voted to reaffirm our endorsement of the request for a missionary family for Chaoyang.
Voted that we again approve the requests for dwelling houses for Mr. Adams and Mr. Lewis.

The Committee on Nominations made a further report, and the following were elected: The Educational Committee: Miss Weld, Mr. Capen, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Giffin and Mrs. Speicher; The Executive Committee: Mr. Page, Mr. Lewis and Mrs. R. E. Worley; The Sunday School Committee: Mrs. Kemp, Miss Ross, Miss Traver and Mr. Waters; The Medical Committee: Miss Ross, Mrs. Worley and Mr. Groesbeck, with the help of Dr. Ashmore while here.

Dr. Ashmore reported the regulations drawn up by the committee appointed for that purpose at our last Conference, for the appointment and guidance of a Board of Trustees for the Seminary and the Academy. Several amendments were proposed and voted, after which the amended regulations were adopted.

The session closed with hymn and prayer.

7 p.m. After a hymn, and a prayer by Dr. Ferguson, the Secretary's minutes were read and corrected.

The Committee on the General Missionary reported modified resolutions, which were accepted as follows:

Resolved that we cordially accept the plan of the Executive Committee in the appointment of General Missionaries, and that we pledge our support to, and co-operation with, Dr. Dearing in the position to which he has been called.

That we recommend that missionaries keep the General Missionary in touch with the work, by correspondence, as occasion may arise.

That the General Missionary shall have access to all meetings of the Conference without vote, and as occasion may offer opportunity, shall be welcomed at meetings of committees of the Conference, except in cases where a private session may be desired.
That in the event of the General Missionary and the Conference being in disagreement in the presentation of mission matter to the Executive Committee, the Conference shall be entitled to a copy of the correspondence between the General Missionary and the Executive Committee relating to the question under consideration.

That the representatives of the Women’s Societies should have the same relation to the General Missionary as the other missionaries of the Union.

That no important action should be taken by the Executive Committee upon the recommendation of the General Missionary until such recommendation has been considered by the Conference or the Reference Committee.

That there be no official relation between the General Missionary and the native Christian body.

The Committee on the Medical Work at Kit yang reported recommendations. Various suggestions were discussed without agreement. Voted that we take up the recommendations item by item. The following were adopted.

We recommend that Dr. Adkins be temporarily designated to the medical work at Kit yang and to such oversight as he may find possible of the medical work for men at Kakchieh, with the understanding that as soon as possible some other physician shall be found for Kit yang, when he shall be free to take up work at Chaouchowfu, still continuing his relation to Kakchieh.

That a lady physician be requested for the Kit yang hospital, and such arrangements as practicable be made for men.

We recommend that a competent trained nurse be sent as soon as possible to the Kit yang work.

We recognize Chaoyang as a great centre of population, and as offering a most favorable opening for medical work,
and we recommend the appointment of a physician and the establishment of a hospital plant at that city as soon as the man and the money can be obtained.

We recommend that Dr. Adkins, in connection with the Medical Committee appointed by this Conference, be requested to set forth to the Executive Committee and the Woman’s Boards the whole medical situation in the South China field.

We recommend that a copy of this statement be sent to Dr. Eubank as Field Secretary with the request that he make special inquiry at the medical schools for suitable candidates.

Resolved to recommend the establishment of a Chinese Board of Visitors for each mission hospital with a view to promote fraternal relations, as well as to secure native interest in, and support for, our medical institutions.

Resolved that in the judgment of this Conference it is very desirable that in the conduct of hospital work provision for the current expenses shall be sought by regular subscriptions from native sources.

Resolved that the members of this Conference deem it their duty strongly to urge upon the Christian Chinese the importance of using individual communion cups.

The Educational Committee reported resolutions which were adopted, as follows: That we record our assent in general to the resolutions passed by the Shanghai Joint Conference relating to educational subjects, re-emphasizing the resolution on “Religious Instruction and Influence,” and that on “Girls’ Schools”, as having more special relation to our South China field. These follow:

“Inasmuch as our aim as Christian missionaries is, first to bring men to a personal acceptance of Jesus Christ as their Savior, and then to build them up in whatever pertains to Christian character and effectiveness of Christian service, Therefore,
Resolved that in all our educational work of whatever grade we emphasize the supreme importance of keeping this aim constantly before us.

That in seeking to realize this aim, we recognize and emphasize the unspeakable value of the personal influence of the teachers, whether missionary or native, whether in the classroom or in the other relations of school life. It follows, therefore, that teachers, whether missionaries or natives, should be selected not solely or mainly for their scholastic attainments, but even more for their zeal and ability in reaching the hearts of the pupils who are to come under their charge. Provision should be made in the curriculum of mission schools for a regular course of Bible instruction other than that given in the ordinary religious exercises of the schools. The aim of this course should be, not primarily to afford occasion for personal appeal to the students in the classroom, but rather to give them the main facts of the Christian revelation. By the time a boy has finished his High School course he should know the main truths of Christianity and the essential difference between Christianity and other religions, and should understand Christianity as a historical religion, both in respect to its antecedents, and to its relation with western civilization. Such a knowledge of Christianity in its essential nature and historical setting is indispensable to any man, Christian or non-Christian, who expects to be considered educated. The instruction would not ordinarily be accompanied by exhortations to the students to become Christians, but it would give some knowledge of the nature and power of Christianity which would prepare the way for the personal appeal in its proper time and place.

All pupils should be expected to conform to the rules and usages of the school in the matter of Christian studies and religious exercises, it being understood of course that attendance at prayer meetings is in each case optional. We
compel none to avail themselves of the advantages of our schools, but it should be distinctly understood the our schools are first and always Christian. Any who may choose to avail themselves of their advantages are reasonably expected to conform to their rules.

In places where there are government schools, we should seek to cultivate the most friendly possible relations, first, with the teachers and then with the pupils of such schools, ever with the aim of bringing them into such a contact with Christianity as shall prepare the way for their acceptance of Christ as Savior and Lord.

Resolved that as many day schools for girls as shall be necessary be opened in each of the stations; that there shall be a boarding school in each main station; and academies where found necessary in each of the larger Missions, one of which shall offer a normal course.

Resolved that in all these schools the aim shall be evangelization, development of Christian character, and fitting for practical service.

Resolved that we shall seek to educate primarily the girls from Christian homes, and as many others as possible, laying special emphasis on reaching girls of the middle class.

Resolved that the course of study shall be of the same grade as in boys' schools, but shall include training for domestic duties.

Resolved that co-operation with other societies is not advisable below the middle school. Resolved that we approve of union in middle schools and above, wherever feasible.

Mr. Worley reported the number of boys and girls in various grades of school work. His later report, as perfect as can be had at present, is as follows: Boys: in boarding schools: one academy, 18; five grammar schools, about 114; four primary schools, 84, in chapel schools, about 632. Girls: in two boarding schools, 89; station schools, 35.
E. Language Study.

Mr. Capen reported the examination of various missionaries: The following presented themselves for examination: Mr. Page, Miss Traver and Miss Ross for first year examinations, Mr. and Mrs. Worley and Dr. Adkins for six months examinations, and Mr. Adams and Mrs. Giffin for the Hakka work examinations, and all were certified passed by the examiners.

Voted that we instruct our Educational Committee to confer with the Presbyterian missionaries to learn if an arrangement can be made for co-operation in the examination of missionaries.

Voted that we accept the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis to hold the next Conference at Ungkung.

Voted that we meet for the next conference next November, the exact date to be left to the Executive Committee of the Conference.

VII. Special Needs.

The Need of Men.
The Need of Buildings.
Other Needs.

VIII. Personal Interests.

Salaries.
Length of Furlough.
Vacations.

IX. Miscellaneous Problems.

The undesirableness of any interference in lawsuits for the help of Chinese Christians was emphasized by Dr. Barbour. There was thought to be little danger of that at this time.

Dr. Barbour also mentioned the opportunity for Chinese students to go to America.

The plan of the Mission Book Store was spoken of briefly. Voted that we consider the delegates appointed by the Native Conference as our representatives on the Book Store Committee.
The Trustees for the Seminary and the Academy were voted for by ballot, with the following result: Mr. Speicher and Mr. Groesbeck were elected for two years and Mr. Kemp and Mr. Lewis for one year.

**Report of Committees.**

The Committee on Resolutions reported the following, which were adopted: Resolved that we express our hearty thanks to all the Kityang missionaries, especially to the ladies, for their generous and abounding hospitality, and for the complete arrangements made for our personal comfort and the conduct of Conference business.

Resolved that we express to the Executive Committee our sincere thanks for the visit of the Corresponding Secretary, Dr. Barbour, and the two General Missionaries, Dr. Dearing and Dr. Ferguson; and to these brethren for the help and inspiration their words have been to us.

Voted that a committee, of which the Secretary shall be chairman, take in hand the printing of the minutes of this Conference, including reports from the various fields. Voted that the cost of this printing shall not be over $5.00 per member.

Voted that we make the resolution of the Shanghai Joint Conference in regard to retrenchment our own, as follows:

"Resolved that this Conference views with grave concern the possibility of retrenchment on account of lack of funds, and would call renewed attention to the unparallelled opportunity now presented to the Church of Christ in China. The closed door of the last century now stands wide open, every form of Christian service can be entered upon, and the reawakened nation be influenced by the spirit of a Christian civilization, were the forces in any way adequate to the undertaking. We therefore urge our Executive Committee, together with the Northern Baptist Convention, to give this matter their earnest attention, and, keeping in mind the dire significance of any retrenchment, make renewed effort to secure men and means for the work in hand."
It was unanimously voted by rising that Dr. Ashmore Jr. be nominated the first president of the Ashmore Theological Seminary. Mr. Groesbeck's speech of nomination and appreciation of Dr. Ashmore was enthusiastically received by the Conference.

Voted that the Secretary select two other members of the Conference to aid in the printing of the minutes. Those selected were Mr. Groesbeck and Mr. Worley.

Voted to adjourn until called together by the Executive Committee of the Conference.

Dr. Barbour led the closing devotional service, which took the form of thanksgiving.

Those present at the Conference were: Visitors: Drs. Barbour, Dearing and Ferguson, and Mr. Case; Members of the Conference: Mr. and Mrs. Adams, Dr. Adkins, Dr. and Mrs. Ashmore, Mr. and Mrs. Baker, Mr. Capen, Mr. and Mrs. Giffin, Mr. and Mrs. Groesbeck, Mr. and Mrs. Kemp, Mr. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Page, Miss Ross, Miss Sollman, Mr. and Mrs. Speicher, Miss Traver, Mr. and Mrs. Waters, Miss Weld, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Worley, Mrs. Prudence Worley.

Signed, A. H. Page,

Secretary of the Conference.
REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

Chaoyang

Population:—The two counties comprising the Chaoyang Field, Chaoyang and Hweilai, have about 2,000 villages and towns ranging in population from a few tens of souls up to 50,000. These with the city of Chaoyang, whose population is from 200,000 to 300,000, give a total of some 1,000,000 to 1,500,000 inhabitants. Census taking is quite unknown in this part of China, hence the above figures are only estimates.

Religious Forces of the Field.

The religious forces comprise about 400 Baptists, meeting in twenty-two places for regular worship on Sunday. The number of native helpers is seventeen, consisting of preachers, teachers, colporters, biblewomen, and chapelkeepers. The English Presbyterian Mission has perhaps seventy-five members with five or six native helpers. The Roman Catholics are by far the strongest body. There is, however, some question as to the justice of calling their whole mass of adherents a "religious force." They have one resident French priest and a few paid helpers.

Conditions.

It helps to understand conditions on the field to remember the dates when out-stations were opened. Roughly speaking, there have been three periods of enlargement. The first was the period of slow growth, 1870-90. The war with Japan humiliated China and drove many of her subjects to seek the protection of the foreigner. Finally came the Boxer Uprising resulting in the capture of Peking and the flight of the Emperor and Empress Dowager. This turn of events caused a regular avalanche of Chinese toward the churches while the blood of thousands of their fellows still ran warm from the edge of the persecutor's sword.
result of this unnatural, periodic and spasmodic enlarge-
ment, has been two-fold: the newer places opened have sapped
the strength of the older stations, and the newer places
themselves, because of the improper motives of adherents
and the great lack of capable men to teach them, have
failed to become strong enough to live and perpetuate
themselves without remaining a constant and heavy drain
on missionary strength and mission money. The larger
part of our out-stations to-day are too strong to die, and to
weak to live and perform the functions of a church.

The Problem of the Field and its Solution.

The problem of the Chaoyang field is two-fold; namely,
to strengthen and develop the stations already planted
and to occupy the wide reaches of territory still untouched.
The best solution, I believe, lies in the strengthening of
forces and enlargement of equipment at the central station.
This means a boys’ boarding school and a hospital at
Chaoyang and another missionary family.

A school with from twenty to thirty boys could be opened
immediately. Such a school would not only train boys for
Christian service, but the reflex influence on the churches
would be of even greater service immediate. At this time
when China is making the opening of schools of the first
importance, for us to have no school at Chaoyang means to
the Christians that we fail to understand the opportunities
of the hour, and to the heathen it means that we are not
worthy of their thoughtful consideration. A school would
give us standing with heathen and Christian alike, a stand-
ing that is now out of the question.

As regards a hospital at Chaoyang opening new fields, it
may be noted that some of the largest villages and towns
unoccupied are located on the same little bay of Haimun as
the city of Chaoyang where our central station is situated.
The following places within three hours from our home
have no religious work: Haimun, population 50,000; Sua-
leng, 20,000; Kang-thau, 20,000; Hua-pheng, 30,000; Buehue, and Chim-pho 10,000. This enumeration does not include the scores of smaller villages and groups of villages about the bay, nor the hundreds of hamlets farther away but easily accessible. The few Christians found in these large villages and towns, have been led in largely through the hospitals at Swatow, proving that this is the best method of opening work. If hospitals at a distance can do so much, what might we not expect of such an institution at hand? The Chaoyang man prefers to take his Christianity in the milk of human kindness. The best Chinese are not won by appeals to doctrine, or to the joys and torments of the world to come. It is the life of Christ translated again into the terms of human love and sympathy that wins people here as once it did in Judea, when, “He went about doing good,” “Healing the sick and casting out demons.” Yet, I would not base a appeal for a hospital on the ground alone that it opens new fields, but on the higher ground that healing is of the very essence of the Evangel. The Gospel Christ sent men to preach means healing and help for the sick and unfortunate, and the Gospel that falls short of this is not His but “another Gospel.”

Work of the Year and Present Outlook.

The most that one can do, is so little “amongst so many” things that he sees might be done. This year we have been seriously handicapped by widespread epidemics of plague and of smallpox. Touring and visitation have been out of the question for the first half of the year. We have remained at Chaoyang during the heat and looked after the building of the new chapel. The building is now completed and affords ample room for all sorts of general meetings as well as the regular services of the church. The Union made an appropriation of $2,400 Mex. $1,000 have been raised on the field, and $200 are still owing on the place. Failure of the rice crop prevented us getting the full amount
necessary to complete the building without debt. Three of the out-stations are talking of building as soon as funds can be secured and sites purchased.

The baptisms for the past year in all the stations number twenty, and there are other candidates waiting for the coming of the missionary for receiving the ordinance.

The village or out-stations schools are finding it hard to survive. The efforts of the government to open schools everywhere with all that this means of increased taxation, make the chapel schools in many places impossible and in others impracticable. On the Chaoyang field, making one or two exceptions, we would better content ourselves with what are practically parochial boarding schools at the central station. The expense, after initial outlay, would not be much heavier and the results in every way would be more satisfactory.

There are everywhere signs of larger opportunities for work, in many cases the Christians are coming to feel their responsibility to give the Gospel to their fellows, and on every hand there is a readiness to listen to our message that we have never found before. For all these blessings we are devoutly thankful, and they but accentuate our plea for reinforcements, reinforcements that we ought to have now. Our furlough will be due in two years and we ought to have next autumn at the latest the missionary family and school, the doctor and hospital, in order to push our work into new fields and get ready for the larger harvest on fields now cultivated.
Chaochowfu

Chaochowfu is a large and important walled city in the Kwangtung Province, about thirty miles in a northerly direction from the Port of Swatow. It is the prefectural city of the nine districts of Chaochow; the residential city of the Taothai, the official who presides over the circuit of the Hwei, Chao and Kia districts; of a military, with rank of Brigadier-General; of the Haiyang district magistrate, and many other lesser officials.

The population is variously estimated at from 400,000 to 1,000,000. A large number of those who are in a position to know place the population between 650,000 and 800,000. I should say, therefore, that we may safely conclude that from 700,000 to 750,000 is probably not far from correct. In addition to this great multitude there are 450,000 more dwelling in 180 outlying towns and villages.

A great deal might be said of Chaochowfu as an important commercial emporium. It is the distributing center of two important products of Chinese manufacture, paper from the Fokien Province and crockery from North-Western Kwangtung and Kiangsi. Charcoal and lumber also come from the Hakka regions. It is the center of a great fruit country. The finest specimens of the famous "Swatow Oranges" are raised within six or seven miles of here and are brought here for shipment.

As seat of learning.—The Chaochowfuians have enjoyed enviable privileges. Here the Biennial examinations of the Imperial Commissioner have been held from time immemorial. At the military and civil examinations held the first year of the series there have been as many as 40,000 students from the nine districts of Chaochow in the city; and in the second, when only the civil examinations were on, there were rarely less than 20,000. The students wandered about the city; traded with the shops; came into
contact with the people in various ways. Many of them lived in the homes of the people, and hence it is not to be wondered at, that the effect of this constant mingling of these scholars with the common people would give a decided literary tone to their common every day speech. And this is what we find to be a fact.

Expressions that would be relegated to books in towns outside the city, become common colloquial in the city.

We are interested in this city, however, not because of its commercial greatness or its scholarly attainments, but rather because it is a city of human beings in need of the Gospel. We are doing something to meet this need, but not as much as ought to be done for such a large and important place. We hope that in the near future such additions may be made be made to the working force and equipment as will render it possible for us to do a more aggressive work.

Our present force consists of one missionary family and six native workers. We have for equipment one mission dwelling, and preaching Hall in the city and one rented building for primary school. We need, for effectual prosecution of our work, the following addition to the working force and equipment:

Another missionary family, a lady worker, and a physician. For equipment, a dwelling house for the missionary family and medical missionary, a boys' boarding school and a hospital. We need these, at least, and need them right away. The missionary family we have. Rev. B. L. Baker and wife came last fall and are now busy studying the language. They will be ready for active work in the fall of 1910.

The hospital would be an exceedingly effective addition to the evangelistic work in the city. It is true that the
English Presbyterians have a large hospital outside of the south gate, but, so far as I know, their influence in the city is not large. Besides, hospital work is a practical demonstration of Christianity, and in order to be most effective it should be closely allied with the particular work which it is intended to assist. We have an ideal place for our preaching hall, and it is possible for us to secure land on which to erect a hospital right alongside of it. I regard the opportunity as providential and trust that the Home Board will no longer delay taking up this work.

Evangelistic preaching has been persistently carried on for many years and much seed has been sown; we trust that the future may show that our efforts have not been in vain.

The boys' boarding school is very much needed and we hope that provision for this may be seriously considered very soon.

H. A. Kemp.
Ho Po

Ho Po is an important market town forty-eight miles west of Kityang, and the seat of an assistant magistrate. The people are Hakkas, though many of the business men understand Hoklo. Ho Po is also a distributing centre, close to the boundaries of four counties where main roads converge. It has river connection with Kityang. Our field is roughly forty miles by fifteen.

I took charge of this field January, 1st 1908. Through the kindness of a Christian brother who offered us the use of his school building, Mrs. Adams and the two children have been on the field with me since March. Our village is two and a half miles from the Market.

As ours is the first mission family to reside on the field, much friendly interest and curiosity has been shown. Mrs. Adams has tried to do something for the Women. But though they will go to theatres, they fear to come to chapel. We have had meetings for the village women too.

Having no Biblewomen or woman workers makes progress difficult. Preachers' wives all have family cares and cannot help much.

A few items about our field. At outstations we have seven organized Churches, with seven buildings, 180 members, sixty pupils in schools. Seven students for the Ministry studying at Kayin. Contributions to work by natives $1245 Mex. or 69 cents per member (See statistical blank for details). Value of properties, rough estimate $3,820 Mex. of this about $1,200 expended by the Union.

Notes from some stations.

Shong Luing.—The Brethren with only $5 assistance, have built themselves a school room, also used for prayer meetings, have called a teacher at a salary of $60 (and at their own expense).
FOI-TSAL.—These brethren expect to entertain the next Annual Association Meetings in October, 1909. They are thinking of building a more suitable place of worship. The present place is half owned and half rented and small. Several hundreds of dollars have been promised, but they want the Union to help.

PUN SHUI.—This Church has twenty members, seven of whom are abroad.

TSIA TONG.—Five members of Pun Shui Church live here. At a cost of about $250 including purchase of land and value of labor, and with $25 help from me, these brethren and their friends have put up a nice building with (solid concrete) walls, to be used for weeknight prayer meetings and Christian Day School.

VONG CHUK HANG.—After four years' delay a chapel site has been purchased at the Lo Kang Pa market, owing to clan feuds it is essential to the best interests of the work that a chapel should be at a market, which is neutral ground. But ground is harder to get. This clan feeling has hindered our work. At present the materials for the new chapel have been collected, but building has not commenced. This station is beyond the mountain pass, over which the road to Changlok passes. Robberies are frequent. At present there are soldiers there making arrests, and building is stopped.

Ho Po.—At this chapel there have been thirteen baptisms. Mr. Tsai, a prominent gentleman, was among the number. He attributes his conversion largely to reading “True Light.” His son and nephew are studying in Japan. In June the brethren gave Mr. Whitman a warmhearted send off on his going for furlough. Contributions this year have been good: towards preachers' salary $80, towards school teacher $50, for a church aid fund $550 to be put out at interest, the income to be used for benevolent church objects, other benevolences $50;
Total $750. Glad to recognize its place in the Sisterhood of Churches, Ho Po sent delegates to the Annual Conference of South China Churches meeting at Kityang in September 1908. Some who went understood Hoklo, others did not; but they all got great inspiration from it. The Ho Po Church entertained the Annual Association of the Ho Po field Churches in October for two days and half. This was the first really representative gathering of our churches that has been held. A start was made last year, but only the managers and preachers of the Churches turned out. This year special effort was made when visiting the churches and we had a good attendance of 300 delegates, including thirty women, twenty of whom carried babies strapped to their backs! For the first time a committee of native brethren was appointed to prepare a program etc. for the next Annual Gathering. Also after casting of lots it was decided to have the next meetings at Foi-tsai.

At our Conference in November we were glad to meet Dr. Barbour and the other brethren. I was the bearer of a petition from the gentry and Christians of Ho Po. This document set forth the local conditions and needs and requested the designation of a physician.

Subject to his coming they pledge the sum of $4000 Mex. to erect a hospital. The money to be placed at the physicians' disposal, so that he can build from his own plans.

The petition is signed by twelve Christians and twelve gentry. The matter is guaranteed by one of the leading men making himself responsible for the handing over of the money subject to the above condition. The suggested time limit is two years. This matter is further evidence of the spirit of self-help which characterizes the Ho Po Church. In conclusion we look back with thankfulness for many mercies granted in the year. We have been in good health. We have been delivered from
robbers. We are thankful for the many channels of influence opening up before us in this new field. We face the New Year with hopefulness, thanking God that the "prospect is as bright as the promise." We ask your prayers on behalf of the work and ourselves.

ARTHUR AND MABEL ADAMS.

Kaying and Vicinity

Location.

Kaying, the farthest inland station of the South China field, is one hundred and fifty miles from Swatow, the nearest port. But we reckon distances here in time, rather than miles; and it takes over three days to reach Swatow, and from four days by land, to from ten days to two weeks by river to return.

Climate and Surrounding.

The climate is temperate, and far less objectionable than many parts of China. A number of the missionaries have lived here the year round, and felt no ill effects other than what must come from want of change of scene, compatible companionship, and different food from what is obtainable here. The scenery is all that could be desired.

History.

While work among the Hakkas was begun in 1882, Kaying was not opened as a station until some time after 1887, when Mr. and Mrs. George Campbell removed to this place. The history has been chiefly a tale of arrivals, beginnings, and departures. Of the twenty-two missionaries, three of whom were young ladies, who have been engaged in Hakka work, four remain on the field, only two at Kaying.
Present Condition.

If you should visit this station, you would find in the city, near the east gate, a piece of low ground belonging to the mission, upon which are still the ruins of the chapel which fell in the flood of 1904. Ever since that time vain attempts have been made to secure a better site, or add to the present one and fill in a place large enough for chapel and other buildings needed there in future; but so far we have been unable to find anything satisfactory, or within reach of the money at our disposal.

The rented building now used for a chapel is a short distance away, and is poor and unattractive. The building formerly given by the city, at a nominal rent, for hospital purposes, is this year used for the Boys’ School. This school is the largest in its history, having had an enrollment of thirty-two the first half, and twenty-eight the last half of the year. The boys board themselves, and pay for their books, the only things furnished them being the building and teachers. Mr. Giffin spends his forenoons teaching in this school, and has gymnastics besides. Mrs. Giffin teaches music. There are two native teachers.

This year a new feature has been added to the work by the organization of a training class for young men, who hope to become preachers and teachers. Trained men are the greatest need of the hour, and according to existing conditions, our Hakka men must receive their training on Hakka territory. The class at present consists of seven young men, of good families, and good education. Throughout the year they have followed a regular theological course. On Sundays and during vacation they have taken turns in supplying the nearest out-station. The class was started by Mr. Whitman, and for the few months previous to his return to America he devoted most of his time to it. Since he left the field, the native preacher has taught the class mornings, and Mr. Giffin afternoons.
Leaving the city, and going by foot or by chair about three miles you would find the mission compound, where stand the two mission houses, the only buildings at Kaying owned by the Missionary Union. We regret that the houses, while in an ideal place for living, are so far from the city. There have been many plans for making the Compound the center for work among the women and children of the surrounding villages. The plans have recently had a partial fulfillment. Last April a class was started for these on Sunday afternoons. Mrs. Giffin has as a faithful helper in this work, a young woman, a teacher of high family and rare tact. One afternoon a week is spent in visiting the Chinese homes.

In addition to this, dispensary work has been done at the Compound. This does not mean merely the giving out of medicines; but also the personal treatment of all diseases within the knowledge of the missionary. Of course great care is taken not to attempt anything beyond that.

In three months ninety-eight distinct cases, from eighteen different surnames were treated. Of course many of these cases involved the coming many times for dressings, etc. At each visit they are reminded of the meeting on Sunday, and tracts are sometimes given them to take home. We have noticed, since beginning this work, a marked increase in the attendance on Sundays, and more interest in the doctrine.

Out-stations.

There are now four out-stations in connection with the Kaying field. Opportunities for opening more are many, but we have neither the money nor the men ready to properly carry on what we already have. In our Theological Class lies our hope of better work at these stations.

Needs.

Our greatest need has been for more workers. We are happy at the thought that Mr. and Mrs. Campbell are on
their way to China, and have been designated to Kaying. With their knowledge of the people and the language, they can relieve the situation at once.

We still need, and need badly, a woman physician, and a young lady for evangelistic work.

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**Report of Wm. Ashmore, Jr.**

The work of the year has been mainly of two kinds, teaching in the Seminary and the care of country stations. We believe that a certain amount of the latter kind of work is very desirable, even for those whose main business is class-room instruction, for it keeps the missionary in touch with the churches. Still too much outstation work may be a disadvantage, especially if the stations are distant enough to require considerable time for visits. The missionary often finds himself in a strait betwixt two. The work of teaching ought, as far as possible, to be carried on regularly and without interruption, and yet the stations ought not to be left too long without a visit from the missionary.

Until the return of Mr. Waters in November the responsibility of eleven of his stations has fallen to my share, besides fourteen more in my own field. Mr. Waters will report for his stations as he finds them, on his return. For my own stations I speak of a few matters of interest.

In the large town of Nam-ie which has been mentioned in previous reports we have had a place much better suited to our needs than the one room we have heretofore had. The result has been that a number of women have felt freer to come to the services. And in the month of November on a Wednesday, I had the privilege of examining and baptizing six, of whom four were women, the youngest of them fifty years of age. One of the two men was eighty
three years old. The baptism, in a stream just outside of the village, was witnessed by about a thousand persons. Two other baptisms during the autumn months, at stations where we had not previously administered the ordinance, were witnessed by about a thousand persons in each case. It was an occasion for gratitude that these large crowds of outsiders were so well behaved. Of course they knew nothing about the ordinance, and the few words of explanation spoken on such occasions, reach the ears of only a fraction of those who come, and are really understood by few if any of these.

Report of G. H. Waters

Although it falls to me to report for the fourteen stations of my field once more, it is due to Dr. Wm. Ashmore Jr. to state that in as much as we did not return from furlough until November 7 the care of these churches was in his hands for more than ten months of the year. As soon as possible after our return I began visiting the stations and found very great interest in noting the change and the growth that had taken place during an absence of two years. There were many causes for gratification and some sad disappointments. The first visit to the little church at Pon-kia was made glad by the baptism of two young men the first accessions to the church in ten years.

At Bhau-thai a fine new chapel costing $1250 Mex. stands in full view by the river bank. Of its cost the church has raised $1000; the rest of the amount being foreign help.

The old chapel which was long since out grown has been sold and the proceeds put into the new school building that stands beside the new chapel. The dedication will take place with the usual festivities after the national period of mourning for the late Emperor is past.
The signal event of the year however was the recognition of the independence of the Khek-khoi church by a representative council held at the invitation of the church December 16-17 and the ordination of Rev. Gon Cong-ung to be their pastor, after a history of thirty four years this church has now for the first time its own ordained pastor and with the cordial cooperation of the missionaries interested, has been recognized as a fully independent Chinese Baptist Church. They will not only support and govern themselves in direct dependence upon God but have also renounced all dependence upon the missionary for foreign political protection.

Report of Randall T. Capen

During Mr. Water’s absence on furlough this past year I have had charge of our work on the island of Namoa. It would seem a well defined, easy task to win its thirty odd thousands of men, women, and children out of darkness into the kingdom of light. Three working centers for Christian evangelism amongst a people living in a bunch of hills only fifteen miles long and set off by themselves with water on all sides ought to provide representatives of the kingdom an opportunity for concentrated, quickly successful work. But it’s slow!

We have had a pastor at Chhimo, the magistrate’s town. He finds those connected with the official circles, as is the case everywhere, very dull toward the gospel. These apart, the business men of the place pay no heed to his preaching. The only four churchmembers, too, are false, with one marked exception. She is a bible woman who lets the church meet in part of her house, and who has won several women to listen attentively to the gospel.

At Hunkaiji the church has progressed under a pastor’s care. For, while none have been added to their member-
ship, yet two unfaithful ones have been put off the roll, and the remaining members understand better that the church is in the world to win men to God through Christ and not to be a mere tool for men's personal, selfish ends. Now adherents who see no prospect of personal advantage through attendance at church meetings are not willing to assist in meeting expenses, but on the other hand the faithful members have given more liberally than before.

Our independent church at Autheh continues with as bright prospects as ever. They have added several members through baptism and have not refused to discipline unfaithful ones. Their fellow townsmen respect them. They have raised the salary for a school teacher besides their pastor's salary, and have had about twenty-five boys studying busily at the chapel all the year. They feel their position of influence among the churches in the rest of our fields in the right way. The consciousness of it keeps them humble in spirit and more fully resolved than ever to stand manly for their Lord. They seem to want to shoulder whatever responsibilities they, as his loyal servants, should bear.

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**Kityang**

Mission work of this Central Station now extends far beyond the borders of the Kityang county. We have only sixteen churches and out-stations in the Kityang county, while the other twenty-six churches and out-stations of this field have been established in the following counties, viz: Pholang twelve, Haifung nine, Hongsun two, Huilai two, Lokfung one, making a total of forty-two churches and out-stations in six counties. In addition we also have about an equal number of "Places of Prayer," which in time we trust will develop into regular out-stations and churches.

God has not sent us to Kityang to baptize men and women into the church. Our one aim has been to preach
the gospel and to establish congregations of believers in Christ. However God has not left our efforts of preaching during the past thirteen years without results. Since the opening of Kityang as a central station (Jan. 1896) many co-workers, two Chinese pastors, and I have examined over 1600 persons who had applied for Baptism. Out of this number we have baptized between 900 and 1,000 persons into the fellowship of Christ. In addition several hundreds of church-members have united with the Kityang Mission by our taking over out-stations formerly in charge of other missionaries. Thus in January 1896 we found a nucleus of a church at Kityang with twenty-two members. In 1901 a number of out-stations under the supervision of Dr. W. Ashmore, Sr. were added to this field. The number of church members connected with those stations were 252; and last year five out-stations in the Pholeng county, having a membership of 101 were also added to this Mission. Our present membership is 1076, of which 300 are women and over 700 are men.

Self-support.

It may be of interest to know that the Christians of the Kityang field have raised since the Boxer revolt (1900) the sum of $30,000.00 silver for their church work. The American Baptist Missionary Union has given during the same period about $7,000.00 silver in sundry appropriations towards the support of the Kityang churches and out-stations for Evangelistic Campaign. In other words, the Christians on the Kityang field have been paying about 80% of the expenses for the evangelization of their field and the Missionary Union has aided them to the extent of about 20% of the total expenses.

Missionary Spirit.

Seven years ago the Kityang churches organized a Home Missionary Society. They have expended several thousands of dollars in the Weichow field since that time. In a recent
missionary meeting the moderator called attention to the fact that the property and real estate now held in the Weichow field, in the name of their Home Mission Society, was about equal to the total sum the Kityang churches had raised and expended in prosecuting mission work in that district. It showed that the adherents and Christians in the Weichow were also learning to give for the cause of Christ. Last year a chapel was erected in the town of Chang-ki under the auspices of this Mission Society, which is one of the three most substantial buildings in that town of 8,000 inhabitants. The effect of this missionary effort upon the Kityang churches has been helpful in calling out latent talents and gifts of our Chinese co-workers.

**Church Training.**

In order to have churches established firmly in the Truth we must have trained Chinese co-workers. To this end I have organized Preachers' Institutes during the past years. Last year Institutes both for preachers and school-teachers were held.

It is essential for the welfare of the churches that every Christian do some kind of personal work. As an aid to this we have urged Christians to organize committees of various activities in all the churches. They have now organized committees, 1, To do systematic preaching of the gospel in their surrounding towns and villages. 2, To look after delinquent fellow Christians. 3, To offer a helping hand to those who have fallen into sin. 4, To visit the sick. 5, To relieve the poor and distressed. 6, To act as arbiters in time of trouble between Christians and heathen. 7, To teach others to read their Bibles. 8, To keep order among the crowds during divine services. 9, To conduct and teach singing. 10, To report good news concerning the Kingdom of God. 11, To encourage church members to contribute liberally for Church work. 12, To conduct prayer and other religious meetings, and so forth. It will
take us some time to make a success of such a plan of personal work among the churches on the Kityang field, but good results are already manifest. We will not let up with this campaign for personal work. We believe that every Christian has spiritual gifts and that by the exercise of these gifts he or she renders a distinct service towards the coming of the Kingdom of God among mankind.

JACOB SPEICHER.

School Work.

The educational work of this field has made decided progress during the past two years. We had felt for years the need of a boys' boarding school at Kityang and were made happy when the women of Ohio contributed $1,000 to meet this need. The Boarding School was opened last year in October with 24 scholars. With the beginning of the new school year the number of boys increased to 54 and in order to keep that number we were obliged to change the class room upstairs into a dormitory. But because of this change the lower classes of the school are now obliged to use a part of the chapel for a class room. It may be of interest to state that none of these boys come from purely heathen homes.

The girls' schools have also made progress in numbers as well as in class work. Our limit of accommodation for girls has also been reached and several girls have had to be refused entrance for the time at least. This lack of room and facilities for our boys and girls give us great concern. We must have larger quarters for our school work. We have at present 104 boys and girls under instruction in the day and boarding schools at the Central Station and over 300 boy and girls in the fifteen primary day schools connected with local churches in various parts of the Kityang mission. We are convinced that the future welfare of these churches demands that the utmost care and attention be given to this department of mission work.
Apart from the general oversight of the schools at the central station I have taught in both the boys' and girls' schools. Mr. Wong has taken charge of the Boys' Boarding School with a good deal of enthusiasm.

Anna K. Speicher.

Womens' Work.

During the past months, several out-stations have been visited. We have thus become acquainted with the women already members of the Church, and with the much larger number who have come in contact with the Church, only as some member of the family has come out making a confession of Christ. With these there is a large field of opportunity.

We need, and must have a trained body of women for the work. Two women under the care of Mrs. Speicher have been doing good work, but these two can go to only a few of the many needy places. For only in proportion as the number of competent Bible women increase, can we hope to extend our influence, and through us the knowledge of him to whom every knee must bow.

Barbara A. Ross.
The work of the one missionary family at Ungkung is carried on in two general lines, evangelistic and educational.

I. Evangelistic.

There are twenty meeting places where regular Sunday services are held. Some are worthy of the name “church,” others would be more properly called “missions.” During the past year two so-called churches have been practically united into one; a new “mission” was opened and there seem to be good prospects for hoping that it in time will develop into a strong church.

At the beginning of the year when the present missionary family took full charge of the work, it seemed to them that the greatest need of all was for a spiritual awakening among those already professing to be Christians. In all the churches were many who were careless and some who were entirely unworthy of the name Christian. A spirit of self seeking in worldly things seemed to possess the church and the proper life of the church seemed in many cases to be almost lacking. Naturally, then, the first and most important duty was towards the church itself.

Now at the close of the year we are confident that we see signs of improvement. That there is a new longing for better things within the churches, has again and again been manifested in their willingness to discipline the unruly. It has not always been an easy thing; in one case threats were made by a man who had been excluded; but the church went bravely through their duty. The great cause for gratitude has been that the churches were willing to take the lead in such matters.

With the spirit of the churches what it was at the beginning of the year not many additions could be expected. We have baptized only four persons, though there were
quite a number of applicants for baptism whom the churches advised to wait till a later time in order that they might have further proof of their conversion. In the past year's work the churches have been encouraged to esteem sincerity more and to depend less upon more numbers and outward appearances.

It came as a crowning joy when at the Associational meetings in June there was given to us a little foretaste of the outpouring of the Spirit, since in that meeting many were led to earnest prayers and tearful confession of sins. Our prayer is that what we then received in foretaste may again be given us in still larger measure for the glory of our Lord Jesus.

As contributing toward bringing about this better state among the churches we have here to acknowledge with gratitude the great help resulting from the firm stand taken by Mr. Kemp during the year previous, during which time he gave general oversight to the work in addition to the work of his own field. We have also to be grateful for the sympathy and many helpful suggestions received from all our fellow missionaries. Great credit must also be given to the effect produced upon the Ungkung delegates by the high ideals placed before them in the meeting of the native Conference of the South China Mission.

It has been the aim of the missionary to make a pastoral call upon each of the nearly six-hundred members of the churches. In doing this a portion of the Scripture has been read and explained, and this was followed by prayers led by the visitors and the Christian members of the family.

In the case of "hearers" of the gospel the method sometimes needed variation, lest it arouse opposition from the other members of the family and so break down the beginnings of belief. In each case the missionary aimed to rise
above the mere "friendly call" and to remember that he was Christ's ambassador, and must speak the words of his Master. Thus one of the great joys of the work was the large number of opportunities for direct personal work for those not yet accepting of Christ though somewhat influenced by Christian relatives and friends.

II. Educational.

Most of our school-work is in Ungkung itself. The girls' school has only thirteen members. We wish that it were larger and expect it to be so some day, but as yet not many Christian parents even have learned that it is worth while to have their daughters able to read. It would not be difficult to get large numbers probably, if what they were taught were primarily to enable them to earn money with perhaps a little study for appearance sake. We believe, however, that it is of greater importance for the girls on going from the school to be able to read intelligently. If they can do this, their influence in their own home upon the next generation, and their usefulness in the church among their sisters will count very much in the future of the work. We hope too that some may teach for a few years at least, and so are very glad that five girls are continuing their studies in the higher grades of Miss Weld's school at Kak-chieh.

Our boys' school has over thirty pupils following the regular course of study. The school is manned by two teachers. The most advanced pupils lack about two years of finishing their course in our schools. Our hearts rejoice at the hope that those boys will then be prepared to continue their studies in the Academy and Theological Seminary at Kak-chieh.

When the boys have finished such courses of study we may hope for great improvement in our out-station schools which at present are few, the scholars not many and the
work lacking in system. At such time too we expect to see progress in the church-life because of better leaders as pastors. It is with these great ends view that the missionary and his wife covet every hour that can be spared from other duties to teach in the schools.

We need larger and better quarters for the accommodation of our schools for we cannot receive and properly care for many more with the present equipment. We have faith to believe that in due time we shall have better buildings. What we most need just now is the prayers of God's people that the boys and the girls going through our schools may know Jesus Christ as their personal Savior, and may yield themselves to lives of faithful service for Him.
LOCATION AND PLANT.—Well up on the side of a hill, overlooking the mission compound, and commanding a wide view of the harbor of Swatow, with plain and mountains beyond, stands the main seminary building. It is three stories high and one hundred and fourteen feet long, with a depth of about forty feet at one end and sixty-five at the other. Under the one roof there are thirty dormitory rooms planned for two students each, a large chapel or assembly hall, and nine other rooms of differing sizes to meet the various requirements of a school, namely: recitation rooms, reading room and library, faculty, reception and store rooms. The assembly and recitation rooms were planned large enough it is believed to meet any probable demand for many years to come. And whenever the dormitory accommodations shall be outgrown an additional building can be erected on the ample spaces left on the hillside.

Dining room and kitchen are in a separate one story building, and in these provision is made for at least eighty students.

To complete our plant we should provide accommodations in another small building or buildings for at least one or two Chinese teachers and their families. We hope also to have in the faculty room a library of standard books of reference for the use of the staff of instruction.

CURRICULUM.—A committee composed partly of Chinese brethren and partly of missionaries, appointed by the Annual Convention of 1907 to work on curricula for our various schools, included that of the Seminary in its report which was submitted to and accepted by the convention of the present year. As now tentatively adopted the cur-
riculum aims to carefully cover the whole of the New Testament and the larger part of the Old Testament, the purpose being to give the students a general knowledge of the Bible and to prepare the way for further intelligent study. Besides the direct study of the books of the Bible the curriculum includes the Life of Christ, church history, church government, geography of Palestine, theology, Christian evidences, homiletics, singing, Chinese composition, the Mandarin dialect, and some elementary science, geography, mathematics etc.

The curriculum has been planned for three years, but it is believed that full graduates of the academy can complete it, with some modifications, in two years. On the other hand some of those who come with limited preparation may require a preliminary and preparatory year before they can profitably undertake the regular course.

During the past year we have not been able with the teaching force available to carry out the regular curriculum as it stands, but have done the best we could.

THE TEACHING STAFF.—The South China Conference has expressed its judgment that the Seminary should have the entire time of two missionaries, or an equivalent thereof. We think this an underestimate rather than otherwise, especially when we consider that the course must develop with the advancing needs and demands of the churches, and when we further note what other schools, doing like work, already have, or are asking for, in the way of teaching force. During the year 1908 we have not had the entire time of any member of the missionary body, though instruction has been given, for longer or shorter periods, by six different missionaries. Dr. Partridge gave his whole time, for the first quarter only, when he had to leave for the United States. His work was in the New Testament. When he left Mr. Groesbeck kindly consented to arrange his station work so as to help out the teaching force of the
Seminary for the rest of the spring term, and he began a course on Bible Introduction, which we hope he may be able to continue in the near future. At about the same time, Mr. Page also, although less than two years on the field, and still engaged in the study of the language, began to give instruction in mathematics, and has continued this through the year. At the beginning of the fall term Mr. Capen took a class in homiletics, giving them two hours a week. And now in the closing month of the year, Mr. Lewis is giving courses for a fortnight in the epistles to the Thessalonians, setting Mr. Ashmore free for a much needed visit to some of his more distant outstations. Mr. Ashmore, with some interruptions arising from other forms of service, has taught through the year, his courses being in the historical books of the Old Testament, Isaiah and some of the minor prophets, the Gospel of John, and the Geography of Palestine.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the work of teaching has been much broken. Under the circumstances it could not be otherwise, but it need hardly be said that this is not an ideal way of doing our work. To secure the best results, we ought, without delay, to plan for more continuous and unbroken service on the part of those who are to do the bulk of the teaching. Then in addition to the work of the regular staff there will always be abundant room and opportunity for special courses by the other missionaries of the South China field. Such participation in the work of the Seminary will bring the different missionaries into a direct and close relation with the students which we believe cannot fail to be mutually agreeable and profitable.

The return of Mr. Waters in November and the expected return of Dr. Foster in December supplies the vacancies made by the homegoing of Dr. Partridge last spring and of Mr. Ashmore early in the coming year.
STUDENTS.—At the present time as in the past History of our theological school work the men who come to us come with very different degrees of preparation. In the great majority of cases the preparation is meager, not a few having first learned to read after having become Christians. Occasionally a man comes to us who has previously been teacher of a native school, but such cases are rare. In the near future we are hoping for some students who shall have taken the full course in the Academy.

With material of such widely varying capacity and with a small teaching force it is no easy problem to provide the kinds of instruction suited to the needs of all. The problem is not likely to grow simpler, but rather the reverse as time goes on. We shall always have to provide for two classes of students in our work.

RELATION OF THE CHINESE CHURCHES TO THE SEMINARY. The churches form the constituency of the Seminary. They furnish all the students, they also furnish part of the teaching force, and as time goes on we may reasonably expect that their contribution in this direction will be proportionately larger than it can be just at the present. It is therefore of the utmost importance that the churches be brought into a close and vital relation to the work of the Seminary, that they shall take a keen interest in it, remembering it in their gifts and their prayers, and regarding it as in a real sense a part of their regular work as churches. The earnestness with which they took up the subject of curricula for the schools promises well for their interest in this also. And the plan of administration proposed at the recent Conference of the South China Mission, by which plan the churches have it in their power to secure representation on the Board of Trustees, will, we hope, appeal to them, and lead them to become earnest supporters of both Seminary and Academy, both in their praying and in their giving.
During the year 1908 twenty-seven students have been connected with the Seminary, sixteen of them from the beginning to the close, the others remaining for a longer or shorter time. Some of them had already previously studied in the Seminary classes, and gone out into the work, as station preachers, for one or more years, but they felt the need of a better preparation, and were anxious for the opportunity for further study. Quite a number, including those just spoken of, have served as stated supplies for churches, thus supplementing our all too inadequate force of regular preachers.

The students as a body have shown a serious, earnest spirit, an appreciation of their work, and a purpose to make the most of the opportunities open to them. The work done has been that of the first and second years of the curriculum, with variations however, unavoidable under the circumstances in which we have been placed. A small class is ready to go on with the third year studies. The outlook for the future is most hopeful.

January 22nd, 1909.

Wm. Ashmore Jr.
The Academy

A school is a school; so is our Academy. Anyone can read small volumes between the words of any such a line as that. Blackboards and chalk dust, arithmetics and spelling books, the clock strike and new recitations, schools are schools the world over!

But the boys of our Academy proper are not in their arithmetics and spellers any more. That work they finish in the grammar grades before they enter. They study algebra, geometry, logarithms, and trigonometry these days. They write essays and delve into physics and chemistry. We are teaching according to a new curriculum adopted two years ago. We have added courses in English and our school has a big name amongst our churches.

This last year the school has had a brighter outlook because of the teaching staff. Mrs. Ashmore has rendered invaluable service in the English department, to which service the boys are anxiously awaiting her return after her coming furlough. Mr. Page has been permanently assigned to the Academy work and has conducted courses in mathematics, science, and English grammar. Mr. Tang has continued the faithful work he has been doing for years in the Chinese studies and a degree man has taught the higher Chinese literary subjects. Mr. Worley has directed the school athletics and drill, and for the coming year he has promised some help in teaching English. So our prospects still are specially good.

Moreover, how can I find words to express our joy at the expectation of having a new building adequate to meet our needs this very coming year. Mr. Beaver's magnificent gift of $6,000 gold has started us planning for great things. The site has been secured; and secured not through
the expenditure of any portion of this money but by the generous gift of one who for a life time has spared neither most faithful devotion of personal service nor his money to forward the Kingdom in South China, Dr. William Ashmore Jr. We are soon to break the ground for the foundations. But for long years the more real foundations of stuff other than stone and mortar have been laying for this institution which is to develop leaders for our churches in larger numbers and with greater efficiency, we assuredly hope, than ever before.

But the spiritual side of the school life is that which we desire to care for most of all. Of course we have chapel exercises every morning and a brief hymn and prayer at the close of the day. We teach the Bible in the curriculum, and at present find much help for the school from the excellent preaching of the pastor of the Kakchioh, church which has called a regular pastor for first time this year. Still the most encouraging sign of the real spiritual growth of the school is that which comes from within. The students have taken continued interest in a class for the study of the Life of Christ which they invited me last year to conduct one evening a week wholly independent of the school curriculum. Further, this class, in fact, was the outgrowth of the formation of a Y. M. C. A., which has thrived this year with increasing virility. The boys are thus allied with the student Y. M. C. A. movement throughout China. They take that organization's magazine and feel themselves in touch with young Christians all over the Empire. They use this society as the expression of the whole school's religious endeavors. They conduct a midweek prayer meeting of their own. They have continued going out regularly on Sundays to the villages within a few miles radius to preach. They have given money into the hands of their evangelistic committee with which to buy tracts for distribution and sale on such preaching occasions. Also
this year they have started a night school for the laborers and house servants of the neighborhood, which meets three evenings a week. They have arranged a prayer meeting for this school on Sunday evenings. Their enthusiasm is good to see. One cannot wonder that from the environment of such a loyal atmosphere four joined the church through baptism during the year.

Now as to the other under academy schools here, we report three Chinese teachers and about fifty boys under their training. These primary and grammar grade boys together with the Academy boys have given us a total varying during the year between sixty five and seventy pupils. These all are pursuing the regular course of study planned by our missionaries in consultation with the committee of the Chinese Church Convention on education. Their course of study will equip them better than their fellow countrymen are equipped for life and, we confidently expect, will place them in a position of respect such as will enable them to exert a powerful influence for God all the years to come.

For the Academy

RANDALL CAPEN.

Kakchikoh,  March, 1909.
The "College!"

The Academy is the centre of our hopes for a better educated and more effective ministry. There are graduates from our Seminary, who with little previous training, are doing good work; but it is not the best work they might do. They are not the strong leaders that the church severely needs. They are comparable to those men at home who go from the farm or the shop into schools of quick ministerial preparation. Many of them do good work, but for the most part they are not the leaders of strong and spiritual churches. No more can they be in China. What we need, and must have if the native church is to stand without the missionary prop and advance to the conquest of China, is men of regular college and advanced seminary training.

The need is especially great at this time. The people are looking for knowledge; and just now, while their awakening minds will allow them to see and respect the difference between the real scholarship of the West and the sham of the Chinese literati, if we can put forth an educated ministry, its influence will be boundless. They are looking, too, for independence and national equality; and they need wise leaders to guide and strong leaders for the critical time. If the need can be filled, it will make an immense difference in the future of China.

Now to meet this need we have no school at hand. Too great distance is a fatal barrier. We must have a college here, and we must build it up at once by giving advanced training to the promising classes soon to graduate from the Academy. The college building can wait a few years if necessary, but the work cannot wait. Our hope is to add advanced courses as fast as the pupils are ready for them. Five young men have done excellent work this year in trigonometry. A start in New Testament Greek is our next hope.

A. H. Page.
Swatow Girls' School

In writing a report so late in the year it is hard to keep to one's subject, and not let this year's work creep into last year's report, especially since each new year is a little more satisfactory than the one left behind.

Seventy pupils were on our roll last year and the building was over crowded. Only sixty girls can be housed in that building with any degree of comfort or health. Some one may say, "It is better than they have in their own house." Of course it is. It ought to be, enough better so that they will never be satisfied to return to such ways of living, ways which might be changed with little or no expense. Cleanliness, light, and fresh air, while sometimes inconvenient, are not expensive. So we do our best to make the girls dissatisfied with darkness and dirt in every form.

The age of the pupils varies from twelve to twenty-two, the majority being from fourteen to seventeen years old.

They come from all parts of this district, and I owe many thanks to the other missionaries who have done such good recruiting work during their trips among the villages. For although our people are beginning to appreciate the value of an education for girls, many parents require a little persuasion from without, before their daughters are actually enrolled. Once in school they usually remain for several years.

We have two courses of study: one for primary schools, covering four years' work; the other for boarding schools where girls enter not younger than twelve. This covers eight years' work in six years' time, really including primary and grammar-school work. It is hard not to reach over into high-school work, because the older girls are so eager for it. One or two subjects offered, properly
belong to high-school work; but as far as strength is given, I intend to resist that temptation, until we have a really first-class primary and grammar school. Foundations first, will be the better plan.

But the things to come are ever in my thoughts and hopes and prayers. A good high school, with one year of normal work, must certainly come soon, else we miss our opportunity. For this, a new building will be necessary, and at least one more missionary. High school work can be done only by foreign teachers, for at least five years we can not hope for male teachers—there are not half enough for the boys’ schools—but must train our own girls to be our helpers, and finally to do our work.

At present, we have five Chinese teachers, four women, and one man for Chinese classics and the writing of character. The missionary in charge superintends and supplements, teaching five classes each day. Many thanks are due to Mrs. Page, who has given efficient help in several branches.

The fees are of two grades, twelve dollars and fifteen dollars for the school year of nine months. The actual cost for pupil, including all expenses except the missionary’s salary is thirty dollars a year. So a few of the girls pay one half the cost, but the majority not quite one half. The cost of board alone is about twenty dollars per year, and before long the girls will pay fees covering that.

As this is a mission school, the course includes much study of the Bible. The catechism is memorized, and explained. There are classes in Old Testament Stories, in the Life of Paul and the Life of Christ. Moreover, the hymn-book and the Bible are used as readers, and the girls are carefully questioned upon the general meaning. So every pupil who has been in the school more than one year, has a good general knowledge of the Christian belief.
To bring this belief home to her own individual need, is the constant endeavor of all the teachers. All the upper-class girls are church members and our greatest encouragement is in seeing their growth in grace. If the prayer meeting is the index of spiritual life in church or school, then earnest endeavor and fervent feeling are not lacking.

MYRA F. WELD
THE MEDICAL SITUATION

The most striking thing in the medical situation in the South China Mission, is not the appalling need; this exists, to be sure; but rather the failure to meet this need when other demands are being met by large reinforcements. Our educational work at Swatow has four men already assigned to it and another man in preparation, while the medical work in six central stations has only a single lady physician unable to do full service and one male physician studying the language in preparation. In three of these central stations there are already hospitals, one owned by the natives, some of them having been established for years. In one other dispensary work has been done. In five, medical work has been recommended by the Conference.

It has been the glory of our South China Mission that it had a native Christian constituency back of its educational institutions, but to reenforce our educational work and not our evangelistic, with which medical work is properly classed, is to change our policy, and instead of continued and increased progress, we shall have stunted growth and arrested development.

The failure to secure the symmetrical development in our work cannot be traced to a single cause. Early in 1906 we had three well qualified physicians in charge of the hospitals; before the year was half gone, two were forced to leave on account of failing health, and one was drowned in Swatow harbor. Thus the mission was left without a doctor on its whole force. These vacancies could not be filled immediately, for physicians as well as other missionaries must learn the language, and this requires time. Yet it seems, that carried away by the zeal of the new China for education, we as a mission failed to press the
case with the home board as we ought. There is also evident in many quarters the feeling that some apology for undertaking medical work is necessary, as though it were not exactly missionary work, or, to say the least, was not evangelistic work. Medical work does open the door for the gospel, but it does more; it is itself of the very essence of the gospel. It is well to remember that Christ himself healed men, not to make men listen to his message, but to reveal the Divine compassion for human suffering and woe as words could never do. The first evangelists were sent to “preach the gospel, heal the sick.” Christ taught plainly that He was best served by those who had love and help for the unfortunate.

Is it possible that no qualified medical men and women are presenting themselves to the Board for appointment? If this be the case, there must be somewhere the failure to have the claim of medical missions properly presented at the sources of supply. It seems utterly inconceivable that Christian doctors could be unmoved by the needs of our mission fields, were those needs made clearly known.

**Kiaying**

This is the literary center of the Hakka dialect speaking Chinese. Years ago the heathen built a hospital for us to use, but up to the present time we have been able to make little use of it. Dr. Grant spent about a year at Kiaying and had built up a large dispensary practice, when compelled to return to America. No women have united in all the years with the church there, but the dispensary was the means of immediately leading women to attend the services. Here is a rare opportunity for some young lady physician to do for our work at Kiaying what no one else can do. The lot of the Hakka women is hard. They are not only “hewers of wood and drawers of water,” but beasts of burden as well. Only through human sympathy and love can they learn that God loves.
Kityang

A dispensary was here opened by Dr. Scott years ago, and this dispensary finally developed into a hospital. Dr. Bixby gave several years of efficient service here and built a fine new hospital. She barely saw the building formally opened, when, overworked and suffering from tuberculosis, she was forced to return to the homeland, dying in about a month after her arrival there. For three years this new hospital, the best in this part of the empire, has stood empty. The only reply to repeated requests to the Woman’s Board is; “No suitable candidate found.” The location is admirable, the work well established, the building new and convenient; the results will be immediate and large. Why can no one be found for this almost ideal position?

Swatow

At Swatow we also have a new hospital building for men and women, with older buildings for free patients. Since Dr. Worley’s death, the hospital has been in charge of a native assistant, Mrs. Worley giving supervision and looking after accounts. Dr. Scott, since her return to the field, has confined her efforts to the women’s department and to a class of nurses in training. She has spent a long and useful life on the mission field and yet although already past seventy years of age she is filling a far as possible the great need that lies on the hearts of us all. Here are located the boarding schools, the theological seminary, the homes of a number of missionaries. In addition there is large field from which to draw heathen patients. This location is especially adapted to work for opium patients. Nothing more need be said of the attractiveness or importance of this work.

Ho Po

There is one missionary family located here with no physician within a day’s call. The people are prosperous
and liberal, having themselves built a large chapel, and they have now subscribed $4,000 Mex. toward a hospital. Must this liberal offer be declined and the people be assured that they need not hope for a hospital? All our last Conference could do was to assure them that their offer was appreciated.

**Chaochowfu**

This city itself has a population of over a half million to say nothing of surrounding villages and towns. It is the center of government, and so, naturally, of influence, for this whole region. It is an example of stupendous audacity to send a single missionary family to such a place and expect them to accomplish anything. Mr. and Mrs. Baker, recent arrivals on the field, have gone to Chaochowfu, and Dr. Adkins, who came out a year ago has received funds for a hospital there, a memorial to his wife whose untimely death brought such sorrow and disappointment to our whole mission. In conference, however, it was not deemed wise to build another hospital while the plant at Kit yang lay idle. Hence Dr. Adkins was assigned to Kit yang temporarily, hoping that some one may soon be found to take that place and release him for Chaochowfu. A doctor then for Kit yang means reenforcements at Chaochowfu where needs are so pressing, where Dr. Adkins and his gift seem to be the answer to long years of prayer for medical work.

**Chaoyang**

The last on the list stands Chaoyang, a city of over 200,000, with adjacent towns and villages to bring up the population to a half million strong. Our station, in the providence of God, is located where the highways for a million and a half of people converge. An English Presbyterian doctor has said that of all locations for strictly hospital work in all this region ours is the best; there is no place where the need is greater or results surer,
and he added, "I envy you". (The Presbyterians have now opened a dispensary in another part of the city) Still Chaoyang gets not even a promise from the Union that her need will some time be met.

Calmly and carefully considering the present medical situation on the field, it is the firm conviction of the committee that the first need is for medical men. Better by far is it to man and equip our hospitals efficiently than to send more men for educational work or for what is usually known as evangelistic work. Whether the warrant for medical work lies in the work itself or in its effectiveness in preparing the way for preaching, whether one or both, it is suicidal of the highest life and best interests of the mission to permit the present situation to continue. The hope and promise of success in this conflict lies in bringing up reinforcements at this point where our lines are so weakened and broken.

Medical Committee, South China Mission.
Proposed Plan for the Administration and Control of Ashmore Theological Seminary and the South China Baptist Academy

I. Trustees

Article 1. A Board of Trustees shall have the administration and control of the Ashmore Theological Seminary and the South China Baptist Academy, under the Executive Committee of the American Baptist Missionary Union.

Article 2. The Board of Trustees shall consist of:

(1) Six members of the missionary body, of whom four shall be nominated by ballot, by the South China Conference for election by the Executive Committee. The other two shall be the President of the Seminary and the Principal of the Academy, ex-officio.

(2) Chinese members of the churches connected with the South China Mission, to be nominated by the annual convention of the churches, for election by the Executive Committee as follows: One trustee, up to four as the limit, for every $200 annually contributed by the churches to the work of ministerial education in the Seminary and the Academy as its feeder.

Article 3. The four missionary trustees shall be chosen for two year terms, except that at the first election two shall be chosen for one year only.

The Chinese trustees shall be chosen annually for one year terms, their number being determined by the aggregate gifts for ministerial education of the fiscal year last preceding the Convention that chooses them.

The terms of service for both classes of trustees shall begin with the first day of August succeeding election, and shall continue till their successors enter upon office. (Only in the first instance the term of service shall begin
Article 4. The Board of Trustees shall elect its own officers.

Article 5. The Trustees shall elect all Chinese members of the Faculty and shall determine the amounts of their salaries: but all missionary members of the Faculty shall be elected by the Executive Committee upon nomination by the Trustees, who, before choosing persons from the force of missionaries on the field, shall consult with the Mission Conference or the Reference Committee. In cases where positions cannot be filled from persons on the field, the Trustees shall make such representation to the Executive Committee as the case may require.

Article 6. The Trustees, on recommendation of the Faculties, shall adopt curricula for these Institutions. They shall receive and disburse all appropriations made for the two institutions by the Executive Committee the ex-officio members acting each for the institution he represents.

Article 7. The Trustees shall prepare annually a written report of the work and condition of both Institutions, an account of all expenditures of the preceding year, and shall submit plans for their improvement or enlargement, together with estimates of appropriations needed to meet current and other expenses. This report, after reference to the Mission Conference for an expression of its judgment, shall be forwarded to the Executive Committee together with such suggestions as may be made by the Conference.

Article 8. All changes of importance affecting the policy of these Institutions proposed by the Board of Trustees, together with an expression of the judgment of the Conference thereon, shall be submitted to the Executive Committee for final decision.
Article 9. The Board of Trustees shall hold an annual meeting in the spring in connection with which both Institutions shall be visited. Extraordinary meetings may be held at the call of the Chairman. In the case of both Institutions a representative of the Board of Trustees shall be present at the Commencement.

Article 10. In case of emergency where immediate action is necessary, the Board of Trustees, by a majority vote, shall have the power of immediate action, which action shall be controlling until such time as action shall be taken by the Executive Committee.

Article 11. It shall be the duty of the Board of Trustees thoroughly to familiarize itself with the work of these Institutions, and to labor constantly for their development and enlargement, and to bring them into vital relation with the churches of the South China Mission.

II. Faculties of the Two Institutions

Article 1. The Faculties shall consist of the regular foreign missionary instructors, and those of the Chinese instructors whom the Board of Trustees may designate.

Article 2. In the case of each Institution the head of the Institution shall act for the Board of Trustees except when the latter is in session, but such action shall be subject to the review and control of the Trustees.

Article 3. The Faculty of each Institution shall deal with questions of internal administration such as the details of the curriculum, the adjustment of the work of the teachers, and attention to the personal welfare of the students.

Article 4. The Faculty of each Institution through its head, shall submit annually a written report to the Board of Trustees. This report may contain suggestions and recommendations concerning any matter pertaining to the needs of the Institution.

Article 5. The Faculties of each Institution shall meet together at regular times for consultation.
III. Students

Of Seminary

Article 1. The students shall be encouraged to pay, either in money or labor, for as much of their support as possible.

Article 2. An applicant for admission shall bring a letter of recommendation from his church and from the missionary of the field from which he comes.

Of Academy

Article 1. All students shall pay for board, and for tuition if possible.

Article 2. Applicants for admission shall be required to have passed satisfactorily the examinations of the intermediate schools or an equivalent. No others may be received except by a special vote of the Faculty.

Article 3. The number of non-Christian students shall never exceed the ratio of one half of those who are either themselves Christians or connected with Christian families added to the number of those who have spent three years in a Christian preparatory school.

Relation of Missionaries and Churches to Seminary and Academy.

The Missionaries of the South China Baptist Mission will consider it their duty to arouse enthusiasm and loyalty towards these Institutions among the Chinese churches and individual Christians, and to secure an annual contribution towards their support.

Inasmuch as the hearty interest and co-operation of the Chinese, both churches and individuals are indispensable to the success of our educational institutions, and in order that in the conduct of our institutions the best views and judgments of the Chinese Christians shall be secured, the South China Convention of Chinese Churches shall be
invited to elect a Consultation Committee of four members, until such time as, having conformed to the conditions of Article 2 under "Trustees," they shall have one or more representatives on the Board of Trustees. Then the number of the Consultation Committee shall be diminished as the number of Trustees increases, in such a way as to keep the total always at the full number of four.

The duties of the Consultation Committee shall be:

(1) To act as a Visiting Committee.

(2) To have a representative at the Commencement Anniversary.

(3) To meet the Board of Trustees at the time of the annual meeting and of any extraordinary meeting to give advice upon all important matters prior to action by the Board of Trustees.

V. Amendments

Amendments to the above outlined plan may be made by a two-thirds vote of the Annual Conference subject to ratification by the Executive Committee.