Forty-Eighth Annual Report
of the
Weihsien Station
Shantung Mission
Presbyterian Church
U. S. A.
WEI HSIEN STATION REPORT.
1929—1930.

PERSONAL.

Mrs. R. M. Mateer, M. D. 1889 Teaching in local schools and hospital. Translation Work.
Mrs. J. A. Fitch 1889 Women’s Bible institute.
Miss Grace M. Rowley 1910 Teacher in Pei Gi Girls’ School. Member of Mission Executive Committee Station Secretary.
Miss Ruth A. Brack, R. N. 1914 Superintendent of Nurses’ Training School On Furlough.
Rev. C. C. Van Deusen 1814 Evangelistic Work. On Furlough.
Mrs. C. C. Van Deusen 1915 Kindergarten Work. On Furlough.
Rev. C. V. Reeder 1916 Evangelistic Work. Acting Station Treasurer.
Mrs. C. V. Reeder 1927 Language Study.
Miss Lucile F. Donaldson 1917 Women’s Bible Institute. On Furlough.
Dr. E. E. Murray, M. D. 1923 Superintendent of Shadyside Hospital.
Miss Martha E. Wylie, R. N. 1925 Superintendent of Nurses’ Training School, during Miss Brack’s Furlough.
Dr. H. F. Johnson, M. D. 1928 Language Study. Shadyside Hospital.

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

As we report the work of 1929—1930, the members of the Wei Hsien station are grateful to God that we have been spared the acute dangers that have been the experience of many a mission station in China during the past few years. We have had a peaceful year of work, though parts of Shantung have been in the midst of civil strife and warfare. Parts of the Wei Hsien field, however, have suffered from severe drought and the public mind is kept seething with uncertainty as the outcome is not in sight. The silver currency of the country is on the verge of collapse. This sinking value of silver has brought about a corresponding unlimited rise in prices and makes all financial estimates for the future unpredictable.
The anti-Christian attitude has not lessened, although the common people are eager for the gospel. In the Educational Departments of the Shantung government, the opposition to Christian schools makes it most difficult to carry on Christian education. But in spite of the many adverse conditions the church has been strengthened spiritually, and the work of Wei Hsien station has gone on to complete another year in its history of service to Christ, the Church, and China.

EVANGELISTIC WORK.

The work of the Wei Hsien Presbytery has gone on efficiently in spite of difficulties and untoward conditions. The economic depression of a nation that has been for several years at war with periodic stoppage of the routes of trade, the unsafety of trade from the constant bandit menace, and shortage of crops and real famine conditions in portions of our field, handicapped very greatly any advance toward self-support. In spite of difficulties, churches are eager to have pastors. The church of Hsin Djrai in the southwest hills, for many years very backslidden and with at most no contributions, after four series of special meetings held in their four chapels by Pastor Ma, increased their contributions seven fold and called a pastor. This condition was duplicated in another church, Kiao Gwan, special meetings under Pastor Ma having the same happy result. They had had only a few inquirers, but tent evangelism has brought them a large roll of inquirers. Three new graduates of the North China Theological School were examined in our presbytery last fall, ordained to the ministry and placed over churches. Although there are almost yearly additions to our pastorate, and the number of men entering the ministry from the Wei Hsien field has been unusually large, the number of active pastors remains about the same, twenty two this year. This is because of the large number who have gone out to labor in other fields. In our large rural field, there remain numbers of congregations scattered, for one reason or another weak, and so poorly shepherded. It is the stronger churches which get the Chinese pastors and the scattered work is given over largely to the care of the foreign missionary. Active evangelism is planned by most of our country pastors in which the membership of the Church take an active share.

ANKIU COUNTY AND CITY WORK.

The church of An Kiu City is notable in this regard and has done much voluntary evangelism in the surrounding rural villages. Vontuntary preaching is one of the customary activities of this church. Elder Djao Sou Lien, and Deacons Djao Huan Dou and Wang Dji Siang have been active leaders in this kind of effort. They were first out for a month or six weeks, with the Wei Hsien Presbytery voluntary preaching effort, in which they gave their time away from home, only receiving actual food expenses.
After returning home they were heads of bands of two or three workers, going from village to village, preaching on the streets, visiting homes of Christians, holding family prayers, instructing and confirming the Christians, and preaching to the unconverted neighbors who would gather in to hear. For such work they used Sundays or any leisure time they could spare from an active life. Results were very marked both on the Christians and on the unconverted. This work was indeed of the Lord, and to his glory.

West of An Kiu City, in the village of The Sung Family Court, lives a man named Sung Lien Chuen. At one time he was suddenly seized with lung fever of a very acute type. The efforts of the doctors were without avail to give relief. The man and his friends felt there was no hope of recovery, nothing remained but to await death. Then the man's wife came to the church to request Pastor Wei to come to their house and pray for her sick husband. Pastor Wei, with a Christian, Mr. Liu, at once went to the home to see the man. When Pastor Wei asked the man if he believed that Jesus was able to heal his sickness, he replied that he fully believed. They then prayed for the man's recovery. The man slowly dropped off into an easy sleep, broke out into a perspiration, and began to recover. He is now well, going about his farm work, and is a regular attendant of the church. He and his wife definitely decided to become Christians.

There is a phenomenon that is very prevalent in China, that is popularly called "Devil Possession." Foreign physicians are apt to call it some form of insanity but the people universally call it "Devil Possession". There is mental and physical upset, and often the phenomenon of dual personality. Northeast of Ankiu City is the village of Stone Horse Grave. In this village lived a Mrs. Wang, about twenty years of age. In the early winter of last year, she became possessed of a devil, tore her clothing to bits, broke to pieces her window frames, maimed her own small infant, ending by killing it, threw herself into a pond of mud and water, screaming and yelling. No one was able to quiet or tame her. At this time, a Christian, Mr. Wang Sing Tien, brought word to the church, asking for aid in the case. Deacon Wang Dji Siang and Mr. Hwoa Djein Hwa went there. They found the room and courtyard full of a crowd of villagers, and two sorceresses burning incense and repeating exorcisms. They put a stop to the incantations and invited the crowd to be quiet, while they with any Christians who were there, sang a Christian hymn. A passage of scripture was read and the two Christians prayed in faith for the sufferer. When the prayer was ended, the sufferer was quieted, dropped off into a quiet sleep and was recovered for a time from her trouble. Later she had some return of the trouble but the Christians again went to the house and in faith prayed for the sufferer and she again recovered. From
that time on, she and her mother became inquirers, are regular attendants of church, and have been before the session once for enrollment as inquirers in the church. Since then she has been fully recovered, with no return of the complaint.

The churches of the Ankiu village regions, arranged for a series of meetings for instruction in the truth, and for deepening of the spiritual life. A sort of conference, was held in the Ankiu City Church. At the appointed time, eight speakers from the churches and delegates came together. On the first Sunday, there were about eight hundred present and the rest of the time, the daily average was about three hundred. The daily schedule consisted of prayer meetings at six in the morning and eight in the evening, of exposition of the Word and spiritual refreshment meetings at ten in the morning and two in the afternoon. The first three days, everyone felt much uplifted, and spiritually awakened and instructed in the truth. The other days the Holy Spirit was present in power. Some people were convicted of their sins, others were greatly anxious for the spiritual state of their families, while still others were anxious over the low state of spirituality in their home church. Truly, it was a meeting of great blessing to everyone who was privileged to attend as well as to churches which had no representation.

At the meeting of the church session of the Ankiu City Church, there were fifty eight men and youths applied for enrollment as inquirers and sixty two women. The Board of Elders carefully examined these and found ten men and eighteen women advanced enough in instruction and tested in the Christian life to be accepted for baptism and reception into full church membership. Two children were also baptized. We earnestly desire you to unite with us in prayer that Grace may be richly poured out upon these new believers, so that their names may not only be enrolled upon the church records but also written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

**Tent Work.**

In our Chinese tent evangelism, we have had two tents out this spring with a band of preachers with each. Weather conditions were certainly difficult but the results have been most encouraging. It does seem that the very sore trials, dangers and oppression through which the people have been passing have opened hearts that were hard and fast closed by the things of this world. Tent evangelism is superior to street preaching in that people sit down to listen long enough to really get an idea of what the message is about. If interested, they return again and again. In the Chang I County, the tent was filled to overflowing from start to finish. When Pastor Ma visited the field, he examined one hundred and twenty five inquirers and found twenty five advanced enough to receive baptism.
At one place; a large market town with but one Christian family in it; the people were very indifferent to the Gospel. Last year it suffered the disaster of being two thirds burned by irregular soldiers. Out of this suffering came a soul awakening. The woman in the one Christian family in the village was a former Bible woman and was scheduled to go out at China New Year to help in preaching in other fields. She sent word that there were so many inquirers in her own home town, that she must stay at home and take care of them. The other tent, going a circuit of the northwest had also a report of great openness to the Gospel and many inquirers are reported. Of one town where there had been an all but dead church for ten years Pastor Ma spoke of it as the "dead come to life again."

As the New Year drew near, we were in some uncertainty as to whether it would be possible to carry on our usual tent preaching campaign during the holidays. Disturbances had occurred in some other places rather recently. The weather was ideal and the big tent was put up on the Market Place as usual. Our faith was rewarded by large crowds, and by continuous interest in the publication of the gospel message, for the whole two weeks period. The preaching was all volunteered, by pastors, elders and great numbers of ordinary Christians. A man just happening into the tent, if he were a Christian, would seize the opportunity to get up and give his testimony as to why he was a Christian. One was pleased to note the general improvement of the average Christian's ability to present the gospel to men, and there is never a doubt but that the stumbling presentation of the Gospel by a Chinese Christian has an appeal all its own. The attendance of women and girls was large. Bible women gave special talks for their benefit. The seating capacity of the tent was about two hundred and fifty and when packed with people standing about the doors, might reach three hundred. Numbers were noted who came daily, listening intently for hours at a time. The preaching began at ten in the morning with constantly changing speakers, and with songs interspersed would continue till four in the afternoon. The crowd was constantly changing, with no attempt being made to compel any one to stay. There was not the least bit of opposition or unfriendliness shown. Some two thousand three hundred Scripture portions were sold and unnumbered tracts distributed. The audience came from city and country. This was of course seed sewing, but already some new inquirers in the South Gate church are enrolled who say their interest dated from hearing the gospel on the market at the New Year time.

Besides this large tent that is used at the China New Year time, there is a smaller shelter tent, without sides, that is used by the Christians every
market day during that part of the year when the weather is mild. This is carried on by the city pastors and Christians. The interest in this tent work is continuous. It is noted that some become habitual listeners from market to market, showing a growing interest, that becomes cumulative. We are very thankful for the opportunity quietly to carry out this work in this way, and we are assured the results will be continuously apparent.

A Remarkable Incident of Answered Prayer

In the village of “San Chia” lives a man named Swen Kai Foo who had no knowledge of Christianity. He was a very active and successful business farmer who had enabled his family to rise from poverty to competence. About four years ago, he was so angered over being defrauded by a friend, that he lost his reason, shut himself up in his house and would see no one, threatening the lives of his wife and children until they did not dare to see him. Relatives, friends and acquaintances who would come to see him, he would drive off with reviling or threatened violence. Some time last winter a Christian, traveling the markets to the southwest gave him a Christian tract, that along with other Christian truths urged the need and efficacy of persevering prayer; that if any one came to God in faith and continued steadfastly in prayer for a fortnight, he would unfailingly receive great blessing from God. With only this glimmer of light, he set himself to praying day and night for his own recovery. He continued in prayer for twenty or thirty days, until there were actually calouses on his knees. Suddenly, one day he felt his mind clear. From being arrogant and self-righteous, thinking everybody else at fault, he became greatly humbled and conscious of his own great sins against everyone. In deep repentance, he prayed to God for forgiveness. He went out to all whom he had injured, confessed his faults and asked pardon, including his own wife and family. They are delighted beyond words over his recovery. He hunted up the man who had given him the tract, and asked for more literature about Jesus Christ. He was given a New Testament and when the pastor examined him a few months later, he had read it through three times and passed the most spiritual examination for a new beginner that the missionary had ever witnessed.
The additions to church during the past year numbered three hundred and thirty four. The inquirers reported were eight hundred and thirty eight.

Dr. I. Ashley Fitch, D. D. and Mrs. I. A. Fitch

Honourably Retired

After forty-one years of service at Weihsien

"Well done good and faithful servants."
**Women's Work at Weihsien Station.**

The women's Sunday School had a successful year with good attendance. Faithful work was done by the Chinese women who were the officers and teachers, most of whom were the busy mothers of small children.

The weekly noon meeting or Bible class in the large embroidery shop in the city which began last year continued regularly this year. The shop employs many women and girls who voluntarily attend this noon class and especially enjoy learning the hymns.

The women's Christian Endeavor prayer meeting had a successful year. The attendance has been good and the Chinese women have lead the meetings more and more helpfully. During the last half year while the missionary was on furlough, the women were very proud to continue the meetings as usual and to arrange for the leaders and meetings by themselves.

About twenty Bible women have been working among the women of the country field, in spite of unsettled conditions. Their experiences have been many and varied. Some of them have helped the new Christians to grow in knowledge and grace and restored others who through ignorance have slipped back to the old ways. Other Bible women have been able to report definite conversions and earnest seeking for Christ. Suitable women have been encouraged to enter the Women's Bible School and take religious training. We need more highly educated Bible women to work in the cities, to hold classes and superintend the work. This year when we wanted to send a Bible woman to Chefoo to attend a training class for Popular Education classes, we had only one who had the ability and education necessary to do a thing of this kind. We wanted her to open a training class here on her return. The woman could not go but we borrowed a young woman from the Independent Church, a Teng Hsien graduate. We need more of her type of educated Christian womanhood. The reports on the number of women studying are very encouraging. In many places where there have been bandit raids and soldier raids, there seems to be a great opening for the Gospel. Trouble has made them want to find help and Christianity's great message of a loving Father who watches over and cares for his children appeals to them.

We tried to get Mass Education started this year. When we ordered the books from Shanghai, the first series of the Farmers' thousand characters was sold out and we could get only the second. We had a gathering of helpers and Bible women to teach how to go to work on this new education, but the failure to get the first book has held it up for the present.
EDUCATIONAL WORK.

Point Breeze Academy.

Point Breeze Middle School for Boys experienced one of the best years in its history. The problem of registration which has been vexing those who are conducting Christian schools was settled, the local government authorities accepting the registration of the school. As it is a Junior-Senior Middle School classes in religious instruction are allowed in the senior department on a voluntary basis. During the past year, all the boys in the Senior middle school have elected to take Bible. The Senior boys completed the reading of Mathew, Mark, Luke, John and Acts in English, using Dr. Goodspeed's translation. There was no hostility to the Gospel shown.

It was a year of uncertainty due to warfare, banditry and anti-Christian propaganda but the school work came through with it all unmolested. While sister schools at Tsing Chow Fu, Chow Tsun and Tsinan were forced to close, the boys' high school completed the year's work according to schedule. When these sister schools closed, some of the students in the Senior department transferred to Wei Hsien, thus giving them the chance to complete their middle school work and get their diplomas. Fourteen students from Tsinan came during the spring term and graduated with the Senior class. They were an especially fine lot of boys and their presence in the school added much to the school life. When commencement day came, it was a splendid sight to see fifty two students get their diplomas, fourteen boys from Tsinan, the Point Breeze Seniors, those graduating from the Junior Middle School into the Senior, and the younger boys graduating from the Higher Primary into Junior Middle School.

The past year has seen additions to the equipment of the school. New laboratory equipment was secured. The library was made useful by the purchasing of "Wan Yu Wen Koo", a set of expensive Chinese Literature books. The roofs of most of the dormitories were changed so the school plant is in better repair than it has been for many years past.

There were one hundred and ninety four boys in attendance during the spring term. The older boys had an organization called the "Point Breeze Christian Fellowship Group" whose membership totaled eighty four. This "fellowship" took the place of the Y.M.C.A. which had lost its hold upon the life of the students. The "fellowship was an active society of Christian boys who worked to develop a pro-Christian spirit and atmosphere in the school dormitories. They also worked toward increasing the voluntary church attendance. This method seems to meet the needs of the present day better than having an organization in which there is only a luke-warm interest.
Wen Mei Junior Middle School.

The Girls' Junior Middle School completed a successful year and graduated its first class after the closing of the school in 1927. The faculty was composed of the same teachers as the previous year and the year's work was completed without interruption. During the fall term, the enrollment was eighty nine and the spring term enrollment was ninety two. There were fourteen graduates, five of whom plan to study nursing, two will continue their education in advanced schools and the rest expect to teach school. With the graduation exercises in June, the school losses two of its faculty members. Miss Hsu, who has been the efficient principal for the past three years, resigning to go to Peking where she will have an opportunity for further study and do some teaching, and Miss Wang who was married to Mr. Hu Yuan Guin, a teacher in the Point Breze Acadamy. The wedding on June 21, 1930, was a major socilal event of the year. Everyone on the compound was invited and the usual preparations were made. On the appointed day and hour, the boys' drum and bugle corps struck up their loudest tune and lead the procession to the door of the church. The bride, dressed in pink, with a pink vail, walked by the side of the bridegroom who was dressed in Western clothes. They were accompanied by two bride's maids and two friends of the groom. The master of ceremonies instructed each party how to take their appointed positions, then the stage was fully set for the wedding ceremony. Two missionary pastors and two Chinese pastors assisted in the tying of the knot. The ceremony lasted for a full hour as both husband and wife had to be thoroughly instructed by the Chinese pastors as to the meaning of the marriage bond and the duties of each. As the bride and groom left the church, they were showered with confetti which the little flower girls had hidden in their little flower baskets. As they slowly marched up the street to their school where a picture was taken, ropes which were tied across the street bearing sage advise and other items of interest, were unitied and thus Mr. and Mis. Hu, began their walk through life. The usual wedding feast was provided by the groom and lasted until late in the afternoon. The new house was inspected by all the guests. It was hung with many red silk banners and the clothing to be used the next day was laid out in a neat pile on the bed or kang. There were four wedding cakes, donated so they would have plenty of cake to serve to their guests during the next day. At night, the lights were covered with red paper so there was a rosy glow over the room and the guests stayed late, celebrating the end of the happy event. But the loss of both the principal and Miss Wang creates problems for the Board of Directors of the school. It is not easy to find competent teachers who can take up and carry on the work they have laid down,
Women's Bible Institute.

The Women's Bible Institute had an enrollment of thirty during both terms. The autumn term was uneventful as there were no war or bandit raids to interrupt the orderly work of the school. Miss Donaldson went on furlough in January and Mrs. Fitch was asked to again take charge of the supervision of the school during the spring term. Mrs. Fitch reports, "It was a joy to have this last term with the women before our retirement." This term's work brought to a close many years of useful service,
for Mrs. Fitch has been superintendent of this school for over twenty years. With the exception of three women, all were young and very earnest about getting the most good out of their school work. Quite a number of the young women should have been in the Girls' Middle School but owing to financial difficulties, they could not attend there so entered the less expensive Bible Institute. There was but one graduate this year but she sang her song and went through each item of the regular commencement program as a dozen graduates would have done. She is to be admired for her pluck.

**Pei Gi Higher and Lower Primary School.**

Last fall, the school which had been known for seven or eight years as the Mu Fan or Model School changed its name to Pei Gi which means "Laying the Foundations." The principal, Miss Djiang, says she is glad for the change in name and felt it a great incentive to put forth every effort to lay good foundations mentally, morally and spiritually for the children in the school. The church is just beginning to realize how very important this primary school age is and we as teachers must build well while we have the opportunity for no one knows how soon it will be taken from us. The government educational authorities alarmed at the growth of Christianity, has forbidden religious teaching and exercises in primary schools so that children won't be led astray by "superstition." They realize that what is learned as a child sticks by one.

We have striven in every way this last year to have the children use what they have learned. To this end, there have been various organizations in the school which supply opportunities for them to practice what they have learned in the class room. One of these is a Literary Society which meets every Saturday evening. The girls have complete charge of the program which consists of songs, stories and plays with sometimes a reading or telling of jokes.

The Hygiene Society endeavors to get the student to practice hygiene in her every day life. This year, cards were given to each student with the health commandments which they were supposed to carry out each day. Each one was to make her own card with the score she obtained, one point being given for each rule kept. There was also a place to show which ones were not kept. The whole school was divided into ten groups and the different groups were to be rivals to see which got the highest score. Instead of the teachers putting drops in their eyes as heretofore, each girl bought an eye cup and boric acid and washed out her own eyes daily. During the term, one week was chosen as Health Week. Different topics were discussed every day and the teachers led in carrying the topic
out into practice. Through the week, the health lessons were on individual or school hygiene and on Saturday the pupils decided to share what they had learned with the people of Li Giah Dwang, our nearest village. They drew posters showing people brushing their teeth, or swatting flies and these attracted a good deal of attention when hung on the wall. The program was held out of doors in a big threshing floor which was enclosed on all sides by walls or houses. A temporary platform was erected and though a few seats were brought, most of the people stood for the two hour program. All the students marched over in a body with banners floating in the air. The program consisted of songs, short talks on various subjects such as care of children, flies, unbinding feet, and several plays on health subjects. Everyone seemed very much interested and a big crowd of six hundred including the eighty students were present.

The Parent Teachers Association tried to bring the home and the school into closer co-operation in training the child. At least one meeting a term is held to which the mothers are invited. The school has a program and always a mother is called upon to represent the parents and give a talk from their standpoint. It is not always possible to judge how well one is succeeding in accomplishing one’s purpose, but the principal was much pleased one day to be approached by the mother of a fourth grade girl and to be told how much her child had improved in her home conduct. “She never used to bother to help around the house unless I forced her but one day she came home and began to sweep and help in all sorts of ways. When I showed my surprise, she said that in school their teacher had told them they must try to help their mothers in every way they could. Of course I was pleased to find her so helpful and willing and she has kept it up. Now I want to ask you to help me in another way. My child is not very well and the doctor wants her to take a certain medicine but she doesn’t want to. I thought that if you would talk to her you could persuade her she ought to do it.”

We tried to help the students to have contact with our country schools. Letters were sent to all the teachers, asking them to send in specimens of their pupils’ handwork, writing, essays, drawing or anything they wished. We offered prizes for the best schools and for the best individuals. We wanted to compare with our own and create a spirit of friendly competition. Unfortunately, the country was upset and the time set was too short in which to prepare so there were not many who responded. We gave several prizes of books to the best in each school which did respond and sent a copy of our school paper to each school. Next term, we hope more will respond and we expect to include the best work from all the schools in the paper.
The Christian Endeavor Society is where the students get their training in spiritual things and along the lines of human conduct and relationship. Here we try to get the "big sister" idea across so that the older girls will feel responsible for helping the younger ones. The older ones have helped the younger ones with their lessons, and have helped the gate man and the coolie to read. The motto of the Christian Endeavor Society is "Be ye doers of the word and not hearers only" and it is here that they try to carry out their religion into practice. The girls have improved greatly in their ability to lead a meeting. Upon their own initiative, they began taking an offering every Sunday evening so they would have money to help people when they wanted to. They made clothes for the poor, printed Bible verses in red ink on cards for the sick in the hospital, made numbers for announcing the hymns on the church bulletin board, raised three dollars to help send the Chinese Christian Endeavor secretary to Berlin for the International Convention this year, decorate the church and their chapel with flowers in the spring, and at Christmas time, took up money, bought cloth and made ten little waded garments for poor children. There are four committees of the girls which meet every Wednesday evening after prayer meeting for a half an hour to discuss ways and means of improving the school or helping others. It was gratifying to see how many of them developed in their ability to see opportunities for doing helpful things and in discovering faults in the life of the school. On Good Friday, there was a special service taking up the events of Passion Week, and later moving pictures of the last week of Christ's life were shown. The Women's Bible Institute Christian Endeavor Society was invited to this service. On Easter a service was held at six in the morning. At Christmas time there was a joint meeting with the hospital Christian Endeavor Society. A candle light service was very impressive. The missionary topic for the year has been Africa. There are several interesting books, such as the lives of Livingston and Mary Slessor which have been translated. At the last meeting before school closed, many promised to try to conduct Daily Vacation Bible Schools during the Summer and almost all were going to do some kind of work in their own homes. Like children, they have their fusses and times of not speaking to one another, so at that last meeting there was a reconciliation meeting when those, not on good terms got up and apologized and made up.

The primary Sunday School met during the Sunday morning church service hour. It consists of children of teachers, doctors, pastors, and workers on the compound, with a few from the nearest villages. During the fall school term, the Chinese kindergarten teacher was in charge, using some of the older girls in the Junior High School as her helpers. There
were from twenty to forty children, depending on the weather. Because of the irregular attendance, the division into classes varied from week to week, so the teachers could not know their pupils very well. The teachers were changed every four weeks which further prevented the teacher-pupil friendship which is essential to good teaching. The rooms used were crowded for the worship period but there was a fine yard for the play time and four small rooms were available for separation into classes. The teachers found it hard to connect the lessons with the daily life of the children or to get much response or expression from them. The older girls in the Pei Gi School had Sunday School from three to four on Sunday afternoons. They were divided into four classes, each with a name on a banner. After teaching the lesson for half an hour, there were closing exercises, where all meet together for a review by the superintendent or one of the teachers. Frequently there was a little dialogue, or story told by a student.

Last fall there were ninety students and this spring there were eighty eight in the Pei Gi School. Eleven united with the church during the year.

For the last year and a half, a children's class has been held in the neighboring village of Li Giah Dwang. The attendance has varied from ten to thirty in vacations. They are mostly children who had never been to school. Songs were taught to them, Bible stories read, with hand work to illustrate. A few of the children have learned quite a lot. The older ones learned characters but most of them have left, one to go to a Bible school and two to learn to make straw hats. At least seven children have come to our primary school as a result of these classes.

The Boys and Girls Country Schools.

The boys and girls country schools still exist but they occupy a precarious position. The Government has recently issued orders in Shantung to the effect that the church will not be permitted to conduct primary schools or kindergartens any longer. Meanwhile, the schools continue to do their work and plan to keep running until they are actually closed for many rules issued prove to be only on paper or it takes years for them to go into actual effect. With banditry and warfare so prevalent, opposition on the part of the government, the schools are doing the best they can under existing conditions. During the year, 1928-1929, there were one thousand one hundred and seventy seven boys and girls instructed in the schools aided by the mission. The aid received from the mission wastwo thousand four hundred and fifty Mexican dollars or about two dollars per pupil. The amount contributed from Chinese sources was three thousand two hundred and eighty seven dollars or about three dollars per pupil. This past year, the report is not as good. This is due mostly to the disturbed con-
ditions in the country villages which made it impossible to conduct schools in certain sections of the field. The total enrollment was one thousand eighty-nine boys and girls. The aid from mission funds amounted to two thousand two hundred dollars or again a pro rata of two dollars per pupil. The local contributions to the country schools amounted to two thousand eight hundred and seventy six dollars or about two dollars and sixty cents per pupil. We are thankful the work survives inspite of growing difficulties and we pray for the dawn of a new day when the children of Shantung can enjoy happy school days in the midst of peaceful surroundings.

**Kindergarten Work.**

In September, two kindergartens were opened, one for the children of Chinese teachers, doctors and other on or near the compound was opened for the first time in several years with a graduate of our Chefoo training school as teacher. There were eighteen children. The teacher had several meetings for the mothers at which the work of the kindergarten was set forth, certain habits with regard to lunches were discussed, the use of tooth brushes and the washing of hands which she wished to encourage. She urged the mothers to teach and guide their little ones in the way of prayer, since she in school hours alone could not accomplish much without the cooperation at home. A doctor and an experienced kindergartener spoke on the dangers of teaching children to read too early. The last meeting was a Christmas entertainment at which the children dramatized stories connected with the baby Jesus. That teacher left in January as we could not pay the salary she could get some other place nor could we secure a new teacher.

The kindergarten in the East Suburb continued for the year with Mrs. Feng as teacher, a young woman who graduated several years ago from the Chefoo training school, and has been with us ever since. Her own home is near the kindergarten and she is well liked by the church members in her district. She is an energetic young woman. She has monthly mother's meetings in the church often attended by fathers as well, and addressed by church elders, fathers, and pastors. At the Christmas meeting, the children recited Bible passages about the Christ child and gave little plays showing the spirit of Christmas. A young woman from another city was sent to observe and study with Mrs. Feng in order to teach a kindergarten connected with our mission school. Unfortunately, she could stay only ten days but she plans to return this summer. Soldiers, seeking quarters attempted to enter the kindergarten premises but a sign posted up notifying them that this was a Christian kindergarten prevented further trouble.
Mrs. Mateer's Seventieth Birthday.

Mrs. Madge Dixon Mateer of Weihsien has served in China for over forty years. She was seventy years old on April 4th and is still giving full time service by teaching hygiene in the various schools by translating books of many kinds, some on child care, some on Bible stories, and also textbooks on nursing. Her Chinese friends from far and near gathered on her birthday to do her honor. At eleven o'clock a procession formed and marched to the room where the ceremony took place. Mrs. Mateer was ushered in to the seat of honor. She wore a gorgeous scarlet coat embroidered in gold, with a mageata skirt and a crown-like cap to complete the outfit. This costume was the gift of her Chinese friends. During the
service that followed, her Chinese friends, men and women alike united in reminiscing delightfully, telling what she had done for them, from explaining the doctrine of free will to nursing them when sick, and caring for them during school days with a mother's loving care. At a little after noon the forty-eight guests sat down to a royal Chinese feast, which consisted of over forty different dishes of tasty Chinese food. After three hours of feasting and social conversation the birthday party ended. Several gifts of wrought silver design and banners of red silk were also given Mrs. Mateer as tokens of love and esteem. Thus ended a day of happiness long to be remembered by Mrs. Mateer and all the members of the Weihsien Station.

**MEDICAL WORK.**

**Shadyside Hospital.**

The hospital was kept busy all summer and autumn. At one time during the summer there were one hundred and one patients. During the autumn eighty one at one time. From the standpoint of patients we fared very well, but we suffered because of loss of personnel. Miss Brack was forced to take a health furlough, has been home a year undergoing a major operation and it is not certain when she can return. We feel very grateful for the loan of Miss Martha Wylie to Wei Hsien after Miss Brack left. We hope the Mission will feel that it is wise to assign her here permanently. We have been fortunate in securing Miss Tan Shui En, a graduate of our Nurses' School last year and a student of Peiping Union Medical College the past eight months, to come as Superintendent of Nurses until Miss Brack returns. We are very happy to have Dr. Hosmer Johnson assigned to Wei Hsien. There is certainly a place for him here. We are thankful to Mrs. J. H. Lockhart of the Shadyside Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh for the generous gift of two thousand dollars gold for our hospital. The Executive Committee is studying how best to use the money.

Dr. Chang Tung Hsin who had been with us for eleven years and who was our hospital superintendent for five years, resigned. This left a gap which could not be filled. It remains to be seen how many years it will take to adequately fill his place. Finally, trouble developed in the hospital which made it necessary to close down the institution and dismiss all the employees on January 21st, 1930. It was not until May 8th, that we were able to re-open the medical work, then we felt it wise only to open the dispensary and old hospital rooms. Thus far, we have had as many as twenty patients at one time in these rooms. It is unsatisfactory to care for sick people in these rooms and it will be a happy day when we can get in the new building again.
The Nurses' Training School.

As one thinks back over the year in the hospital at Wei Hsien, there are some bright spots which especially stand out. One thing which shall be long remembered was the first Sunday evening. The nurses had Christian Endeavor in the hospital and when Miss Wylie went over to attend, she found that a small group were meeting for special prayer before the meeting. The fact which was so impressive was that Miss Brack had been gone three months, but this little prayer group had been meeting regularly all through that time. Needless to say, it was a joy to have that little group continuing its meetings. The spirit in the Christian Endeavor was splendid all through the year. Another bright spot was Christmas. There had already been many evidences of discord but when it came time to begin to make plans for Christmas, everybody forgot their differences and entered into the spirit of the day. A committee from the Christian Endeavor was appointed which really had charge of the plans. A portion of the money from home which kind friends had donated for the hospital Christmas was placed in their hands and they bought gifts. In spite of the storm that was brewing, it was especially fine to see how the spirit of Christmas could dispel those clouds.

For years it was difficult to get nurses who were willing to stay in training until their course was finished. They would leave in mid course to start medicine shops. Since we have moved into the new hospital, we have seen less of this runaway spirit. The nurses are more and more seeing the advantages of going on until they can graduate and get their diplomas. Last year was a record year, for eight nurses got their diplomas.