Forty-Nine Annual Report
of the
Weihsien Station
Shantung Mission
Presbyterian Church
U. S. A.
WEIHSIEN STATION

Rev. J. Ashley Fitch, DD. 1889
Mrs. (Mary Richardson) Fitch 1889

Honorably Retired. — Living in U. S. A.

Mrs. R. M. (Madge Dickson) Mateer, M. D. 1889

Teacher in local schools and hospital Translation work.

Miss Grace M. Rowley, Educational work 1910
Miss Ruth A. Brack R. N. Supt., Nurses Training School 1914
Rev. Courtland Van Deusen, Evangelic Work (Health Furlough) 1914
Mrs. (Mary Lorenz) Van Deusen, Kindergartens 1915
Rev. Charles V. Reeder, Bible Teacher, Station Treas. 1916
Mrs. (Barbara Lorenz) Reeder, Language Study 1927
Miss Lucile F. Donaldson, Women's Bible School, Station Sec. 1917
E. E. Murray, M. D. Supt. Shadyside Hospital 1923
Mrs. (Lucy Booth) Murray, Teacher Kwang Wen Middle School 1923
Miss Martha E. Wylie R. N., Shadyside Hospital (On Furlough) 1925
Hosmer F. Johnson, M. D., Shadyside Hospital 1928
Rev. D. Kirkland West, Language Study in Peiping 1930
Mrs. (Helen Fraser) West, Language Study in Peiping 1930

Children

Courtland Van Deusen Sept. 1, 1917
Juslina Van Deusen April 19, 1919
Edmund Lorenz Van Deusen Dec. 13, 1923
Richard Van Deusen May 1, 1925
Mary Ruth Reeder Dec. 7, 1920
David Abernethy Reeder Sept. 17, 1922
Florence Reeder Jan. 19, 1930
Martha Katharine Murray Nov. 22, 1927
Elliott Chevalier Murray May 8, 1930
Prudence Hathaway West Aug. 11, 1931
WEIHSIEN SHANTUNG CHINA
1930—1931.

FACTS!

In the homeland there seems to be a feeling of uncertainty about the Missionary enterprise. They question the value of it, and wonder if it should be continued. In this little report of the Weihsien Station we will try to give you the facts and show you the work as it is this year, and we will let you decide if your gifts are being well invested in the service of the Master.

Missionary aim.

Our aim is to win people to Christ, to develop Christian character and to train leaders. And in the carrying out of this purpose, we are making lives richer by giving them some of the Christian by-products, so taken for granted in a Christian land like America, but so lacking or inadequate here, such as Christian schools, Hospital service, and better social conditions. For “mans spiritual life is indivisibly rooted in all his conditions—physical, mental, and social.” Of course we fall far short of what we would like to do, but the question you want to know is, does it pay? Are people being won to Christ, and having been won, are they growing in Christian experience and in a feeling of responsibility for their own people?

Hard times here too.

The Mission compound is established outside the walled city of Weihsien, and though there is a church in the city and another in the walled suburb, the bulk of the work included in the term “Weihsien Station” is in the rural villages. Our station territory covers 10,000 square miles containing 4 million people. There is no other Protestant Mission at work in our field. There are about 400 villages in which there are Christians, and many more hundreds of villages untouched by Christianity. The villages where there are Christian groups are organized into church circuits, of which there are 43.

This has been a hard year in America financially, but for the Chinese church every year is a hard one. At Presbytery this year all the churches reported great hardship and suffering caused by the fighting last summer. Congregations were scattered, many lost all their property, several churches were burned. But it was a happy Presbytery meeting, for they still had their spiritual riches which could not be taken away from them.

Chinese Pastors.

At Presbytery 23 pastors were called to serve churches in this Presbytery. More than half of the support has been provided by the native church, and the rest by Mission funds. The membership has not grown
in numbers due to the fact that many have been transferred to Manchuria where living conditions are more hopeful than in over-populated Shantung. The church rolls have also been purged of dead wood, so that the 6000 church members reported, represents an active church membership. There are still twenty church circuits without pastors. Some of these show steps toward self-support, but many have too small and scattered a membership to raise the necessary proportion of self-support, to call a pastor.

**Revival meeting.**

A quickened spiritual life has developed in the Weihsien Presbytery since last year. It began last summer. Six pastors were much in prayer over the lack of spiritual power in their churches. They heard of wonderful revival meetings being held in a distant city, and decided to ride overland on their bicycles the two hundred miles and attend the meetings. Fortunately they got thru just before the fighting began. At first they were disappointed in the meetings. Prayer was conducted in unison, everyone praying out loud at once. It seemed disorderly at first, but soon they were joining in, and forgetting the others. Another unusual feature was the public confession of sin. They were shocked at this, but saw that a spiritual blessing followed. They began to search their own hearts, and found things that were wrong. One pastor told of a promised subscription which he had not given though it was long overdue. New power came to the six pastors, and they rode their wheels back thru the summer heat, planning to begin meetings in their churches at once.

**Sins confessed.**

Morning and evening prayer meetings were organized, and the people began to pray earnestly. In the Ankiu church there was a daily attendance of 300. Soon people began to feel a conviction of sin, and made public confession. Quarrels were made up, mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law were reconciled, wrongs made right. The joy following such confessions was so great that they even jumped up and down in their excitement.

A group of enthusiastic Christians from a country church came to Weihsien city to help in meetings, but the city people were not so spontaneous and free as the country people and were shocked. The country people insisted that everyone must make public confession of sin, and they developed a "holier than thou" attitude which caused much discord, and a split in the church.

**Not of one mind.**

At Presbytery meeting in the fall, the whole church was much concerned over this movement, and inclined to divide into two factions. Some questioned if the so called "gifts of the Spirit" were genuine and scriptural, but the sixty or more delegates to Presbytery joined in the early
morning prayer service and learned the spiritual songs. Before the end of the week, almost every Pastor had confessed his sins, and they returned to their own churches to start revival meetings, and ended with great joy and spiritual power.

The revival has spread from church to church so that all the churches to the south and east of the field, have taken on new life. Arrangements are made for meetings in all the churches. Many new Christians are being examined for baptism, but as it is the custom to keep them under special training for about a year before receiving them, it does not show in this year's statistics.

**Pang Wang meetings are typical.**

Mr. Reeder, the only clerical Missionary in the station this year, visited one of the country churches recently and describes their meetings. "The Pang Wang church used to be one of the strongest churches in the country. At one time there were 300 members, and they have produced six men for the ministry. But in recent years the membership has dropped to about half and the church has been cold and lifeless. Two elders who were brother's had quarreled for years, and divided the church into two factions, neither of which would worship with the other.

One of these elders had been to Presbytery and on returning home had confessed his sin to his brother and to the church. The two brothers started out to bring the church together again. Daily meetings were held, and people confessed their sins. A dismissed pastor of a large city church confessed to the sin of gambling, and to other things. These daily meetings have continued all year.

This Spring they had special meetings lasting seven days. On Sunday there was an attendance of over 400 Church members. The day began with a prayermeeting at 5 A.M. At this meeting special requests were made and people prayed for by name.

At nine A.M. a preaching service was conducted by the pastor. After his sermon time was given for those who wanted to confess their sins and for those who wanted to confess Christ. This part of the meeting often lasted over an hour. Men and women, boys and girls came forward and confessed their sins and asked for prayer. One of the revival songs, reads, "Cast everything on the Lord Jesus, and receive peace and joy". After each confession, a verse of this song was sung. Others told of visions they had seen. One such report was of this kind: A father had asked for prayer for the recovery from illness of his only son. The child had died, leaving the father desolate. That day as he grieved, he
had a vision of heaven and saw his little son in the midst of thousands of children. All were so happy, far happier than while on earth and the son told the father that he must not grieve but must so live that he too could join them in that happy land. The father was comforted by this vision, and reported it in the meeting.

Speaking in Tongues.

"The phenomenon of speaking with tongues has also been a part of the meetings. As I knelt in communal prayer the one at my side grew more and more earnest in his praying. I stopped to listen, and suddenly in the midst of his praying he began to pray in an unknown tongue. This continued for a minute or more and at the ringing of the bell as a signal for the closing of the communal praying this person closed his prayer with the words "Praise Jesus, Amen." Two of the pastors also broke forth in unknown language as they prayed. We have a state of affairs in these meetings that is identical with that which Paul talks about in 1 Cor. 12, 13, 14. The pastors are anxious to be in accord with scripture so these chapters are often read in the hearing of all, especially those passages which deal with the work of the Holy Spirit. Perhaps the celebration of the 1900 years since Pentecost in the older churches, is finding its answer in a new spiritual awakening in the churches on the Mission field. And while man’s efforts to convert unto righteousness fall short, the Holy Spirit is doing His blessed work of taking the things of Christ and revealing them unto His people."

Opium smoker converted.

There was a man at these meetings who had been an opium smoker for years. He spent between five and ten dollars a day for opium. His two little girls came to the Mission school, and to the meetings, and he came for them each night, and asked them about the meeting. He became so interested, that he decided to attend the meetings too. He was convicted of sin, and cried out to Jesus to save him from the power of opium. He has now been attending the daily prayer meetings for three months and has not once smoked opium. His struggle to conquer the habit, has drawn him to his knees each time the old cravings came. He bears witness that Jesus has given him the victory, and his family and neighbors also testify to that fact.

Pastors and elders report that where revivals have been held, the giving to the cause of Christ both in time and in money has greatly increased.
In one church after the revival was held, the pastor examined 70 for church membership, and received 40 at the last communion. The church is growing because the members themselves are doing the preaching, and not hired helpers. Meetings are now in progress in churches in other districts. The work of saving grace goes on against the black background of a land torn with banditry and war, and threatened with communism. It is the hope of China.

**Tent meetings.**

The tent meetings were held in the market place for two weeks at the new year season as usual. Crowds came to the meetings, many gospel portions were sold, and this year many business men brought Bibles and asked to have Bible classes held in their shops.

**Old lady converted.**

The two smaller tents with a band of three Chinese evangelists each went from church to church during March and April. This is an excellent way of reaching the non-Christian. In one village the mother of a Christian went to the tent meetings. She had been bitterly opposed to Christianity, and constantly persecuted by her son. But one evening she was converted. She brought a armful of her holy Buddhist papers to be burned, and at once began to win others to Christ.

She offered to take care of the babies, so that the younger women could attend the meetings, saying that she could learn more later when the Bible woman came. Nine people in her alley became Christians.

**Picture wins woman.**

Another woman went to the meetings and became interested in the poster showing the parable of the wedding feast, how the guests were so occupied with their own affairs that they could not accept the king's invitation. She thought, "that is just the way I have always talked about being a Christian, too busy and too many trials at home", Then she saw in the picture how the poor and ragged came just as they were, and were reclothed in the wedding garment, and she said to herself, "If Christ can so change a man, I'll try it". Sure enough she found that Christ could save her, and became a new woman. At home she had the same nagging trials as before, but her heart was kept in perfect peace and quiet, a very new experience for her.

**Bible women.**

There have been 27 Bible women at work this year, most of them in rural districts so large that they usually could stay but one week in a place, calling in the homes, teaching the illiterate Christian women, and
preaching to the non Christians, and preparing enquirers for examination for baptism. Theirs is a tedious work with long hours, and no convenient place to stay, moving from village to village, using their voices all day and evening, but theirs is direct Christian work, and they have many wonderful stories to tell about those who have been led from darkness to light.

One Bible woman was assigned to a town church which had no regular pastor. On her first Sunday, there were only two at church beside herself. One was an enquirer, and one a Christian. They had a prayer service together, and then the Christian and the Bible woman went to work. The next Sunday there were five at church, the third week there were twenty, then thirty and the fifth Sunday there were sixty. When the pastor made his bi-yearly visit to hold communion service, thirty women were received into the church. Most of them had belonged to a Buddhist vegetarian sect, and in becoming Christian had broken their fasting vows, and given up their holy papers.

**Women’s classes in the country.**

Two Bible women were not assigned to any district, but accepted invitations from churches to hold a women’s class for two or three weeks in a place. They had many invitations, and went to the most needy churches where there were many women enquirers and no Bible woman to teach them.

Five classes were held during the Spring. They were well attended. The local people provided a room, black board, tables and benches, and the women in the district gathered to study from day-light till dark the few weeks the Bible women could be there. The demand was often so urgent they had to hold evening meetings also when the women brought their husbands and children and daughter-in-laws for an informal meeting.

**No Water to drink.**

One of the classes was held in a village to the north near the sea, where no Bible woman had been for years. The people were ignorant and had little opportunity to learn anything, especially about Christ. Many years ago a Bible woman had gone to this section but she found the brackish water so unsavory that she confined her activities to a few villages that had good water to drink. One old Christian has been praying for years that a Bible woman would come to them too for she said, “Surely the Lord meant His salvation for the people who have to drink the brakish water, as well as for those who have sweet water to drink”. Her prayer is soon to be answered, for one of this year’s graduates from the Bible school is to go there this fall, and takes them the water of life.
The last of January a conference was held in Weihsien, in which Dr. Kagawa of Japan was the chief speaker. Representatives from all over Shantung, and some from Peking, from different Missions, came to the conference. It was with some misgivings and anxiety that some of us awaited the appearance of Dr. Kagawa, the great preacher and philanthropist of Japan. We did not quite know how our Shantung friends would receive him, and his message. The occupation of Shantung by Japanese troops several years ago caused much bitter feeling, which does not seem to be lessening. But Dr. Kagawa in his opening remarks, took the opportunity to apologize and to express his deep regret for this occupation, assuring the Chinese audience that it was not with the approval of the Japanese Christians nor of the majority of the Japanese people.

It was quite noticeable that this attitude smoothed the way for a better understanding and for a sympathetic hearing. Dr. Kagawa himself had such a humble and Christlike spirit, he made a deep impression on the Chinese. The depth of his own spiritual experience, his remarkable achievements, and his sweet humility were a revelation to them. Dr Kagawa's talks were both spiritual and practical, emphasizing the Cross and its relation to our daily life. He urged all who had the "light in their hearts
to pass it on to others”. He urged all to use more time in intelligent and
prayerful Bible study as a source of power, especially a study of the epistles
of Paul, to understand the source of his faith, power and zeal for souls.

Dr. Kagawa made a deep impression on our Chinese leaders, and
gave them a deeper vision of all that the Christian life can mean to
themselves and to others. His visit also produced a better spirit toward the
Japanese on the part of all who came in contact with him.

The Women’s Bible School.
The Bible school is for women who have not had educational op­
opportunities before, and who want to study and learn more about the
Christian life. There were forty three enrolled for the fall term and fifty
two for the Spring term. The majority were married women, some were
widows, and some were old ladies, who in their late years have leisure
to enjoy the luxury of a little school life. Some were new Christians just
emerging from heathen superstitions, and at least one young woman was
sent by her mother-in-law because she was unmanagable at home. Two
others came with the hope of becoming more intelligent about Christianity
and more attractive, so they could hold their wayward husbands.

So, young and old each came with a definite need and most of them
intensely interested in their studies. One old lady was so thrilled with her
first year in school and so anxious to improve her opportunity, that she
used to get up at three A.M. on winter mornings to study her lessons in
a cold room by the light of her little candle. She was so worried because
in spite of the extra time on her lessons she was so dumb she couldn’t
learn a thing!

Most of the women are very ignorant when they enter. They are
able to read haltingly only a few words. But during the course they learn
to read and write Chinese, learn to be clean, to keep the school rules, to
be thoughtful and kind to others, to love their Bibles, and to carry a tune,
and even to read music.

Twelve graduated this year, nine from the five year course, and
three from the three year course. These three plan to return for the ad­
vanced work. Three are to begin their service as Bible women and the
others are returning to their mothers-in-laws and home duties.

Those who graduate from the advanced course have studied practi­
cally all of the Bible, had courses in Hygiene, Chinese geography and
history, comparative religions, Church history, methods of religious educa­
tion, are able to teach Sunday school classes, lead meetings, and sing
many hymns by sight. One afternoon a week is devoted to practical
work, when the older students go out to the four villages near here, to
conduct classes and do personal work.
Educational work.

In the past, schools have been an indispensable part of Mission work. The Boys High School for instance has produced sixty men for the ministry, many doctors, and many teachers who are at work in all parts of China. But the new Government regulations make it impossible to conduct schools in the same way as the past.

Country schools.

Economic conditions in the rural districts have already reduced the enrollment in the village schools from 1200 to 600 within the last five years. These will gradually have to be dropped, or at least concentrated in a few good schools.

Compound schools unite.

The compound schools have made repeated attempts to register with the Govt. as ordered. The last word from the Govt. was that all the compound schools must unite in one. The Girls Primary, Girls High School and Boys High School have dropped their individual names, and are now called the Kwang Wen Middle School with Primary, higher Primary and High School departments. This new organization has a Board of Directors which has 9 Chinese members and 3 Missionary members. Mr. Djang Da Chen of the Y. M. C. A. in Tsinan has been appointed Principal. He is a graduate of Che Loo and has had experience in educational work and in religious work, has a wide influence and is on intimate terms with Government officials. We hope that he will be able to give the school a high educational standard as well as a distinctly Christian atmosphere and influence.

Point Breeze Academy.

This year including the preparatory dept. there were 120 boys enrolled in Point Breeze Academy. Until the uniting of all the schools, the school year has not been a very encouraging one. Although a large majority of the boys are from Christian homes, Church and chapel attendance has been very poor, and attendance at Bible classes irregular. The boys were so anxious for Govt registration that in the winter they went on strike as a demonstration of their desires. The Weihsien Presbytery has been much distressed over the conduct of the boys and the lack of discipline in the school and lack of Christian interest. The Presbytery Executive Committee took advantage of the uniting of the schools to appoint the new principal, Mr. Djang, and he at once made his influence felt, so that there is already a marked improvement in the school spirit.

Voluntary Christian activities.

Some of the boys have a daily prayer meeting of their own, chapel attendance is improving. Twenty boys have pledged themselves to conduct vacation Bible schools this summer in their home districts.
Athletics.

For many years this school has held a yearly athletic meet, and this year they have had the advantage of a special teacher for physical training. After the local track meet, twelve boys qualified for the Provincial track meet, and three for the North China meet. Their past experience in the annual track meet has developed the boys in good sportsmanship, so that this year when the Gov't schools participated, there was a marked contrast in the spirit of the boys.

Agriculture.

The department of agriculture in the high school has continued the experimental culture of wheat on the school farm, under the supervision of Nanking University. Extension courses have also been given to farmers in bee culture, which will enable them to add to their income. In fact bee culture is so popular that the whole country side talks bees, and the air swarms with them.

Wen Mei Girl's High School.

The Girls High School had an enrollment of 123. There were plenty of girls, but a scarcity of women teachers to be in charge of them. Mr. Li, the principal, has had his difficulties, but it has been a satisfactory year on the whole considering the wide spread student unrest and changing conditions.

A course in the culture of silk worms was given this Spring, as well as lectures on agriculture.

Attendance at church and chapel has fallen off considerably, but the students organized a Student Fellowship Group, of about fifty active Christians. They have taught classes in the children's S. S. during the year, and fifty have committed themselves to open Daily vacation Bible schools this summer.

They have learned how to run.

For the first time the girls took part in the track meet and did very well. One old lady was heard to remark, "Oh yes, these school girls certainly can run fast with their big feet, but you mark my word, their mothers in-law will find them hard to manage, after being used to so much freedom, and if the girls don't like the husbands provided for them, they'll run away from home!" Quite so—a new day is dawning in China.

Primary School.

As in the other schools repeated attempts were made to register, changing the school name each time, but hereafter the school is a department of the Kwang Wen Middle school with Mr. Djang as principal.
We wish that all our schools could be as successful as this one. It has been fortunate in having Miss Djang-Su-Mei as principal. She has a fine Christian character and has a way with children. Miss Djang and Miss Rowley working together have had a strong Christian influence which has made the school what it is.

**You can see them grow.**

The school spirit has been fine, and the children have developed in Christian character during the year, especially the girls in the Senior class who in a few months have developed from irresponsible children to young women. The enrollment this Spring was 110, from the first grade to Junior High school. A class for the first grade had to be opened both Fall and Spring terms, as there were so many applications.

**School paper.**

Besides the regular grade work, there has been an effort to grow educationally by getting out a school paper every two weeks by the children, which has been mimeographed and copies sent to the country schools.

**They like Bible Class-Work.**

The religious interest in the school, shows the effect of having a strong Christian personality among the teachers. Voluntary attendance at daily chapel, church and S.S. has been excellent. Elective courses, in Bible have had 100% attendance. At the last communion service, four out of six received into the church were children from this school, while one other was in the school last year, and the sixth was the mother of one of these children.

**Junior C. E.**

The Junior C. E. has been most flourishing. The girls have led most of the meetings, with the teachers taking their turns. They used the Chinese C. E. topic book which has been much more suitable this year, and the girls have been able to present the topics better, and been more interested, in them. More students have responded when called upon to lead in prayer, and a special effort has been made to really keep the pledge, which calls for daily prayer and Bible reading, loyalty to the church, and a promise to attend its services.

**Refugee opportunities.**

The children have also been working for others. There have been new opportunities in Tsao Miao a village near here. Last summer many women from the neighboring village refuged in the compound, and have since been more friendly, and more interested. This year a popular education class was held in Tsao Miao every afternoon, carried on mostly by the teachers of the Primary school.
In the Fall, the Primary school had a health week much as they had last year. But this time the Saturday program was held in the village of Tsao Miao and a few of the members of the popular education class there, took part which added greatly to the enthusiasm.

Christmas programs.

On Christmas the children had a most interesting program in their own school, and also took prominent part in the church program. The following day they repeated the program at Tsao Miao, where about 200 women and children came to the exercises. The school children themselves gave money for peanuts and candy to serve to their village guests.

New clothes for the poor.

The children also bought the cloth and themselves made ten wadded coats, and a pair of wadded trousers and a quilt, which they gave to the poor at Christmas time.

Teachers work in vacation.

During the winter vacation Miss Djang and Miss Rowley spent a week in Tsao Miao, living there, and getting acquainted with the people. They gave simple talks on Christianity and the people were much interested. Evenings crowds came to see the moving pictures on religious and educational subjects. During the day, children learned to play games, learned songs, and Bible stories. The children became so interested, that when the spring term opened, eleven from that village came to school whereas before there had been only four in school.

Last year a class was conducted in the village of Li Gia Djuang, and this year as a result there has been a large increase of children from that village in our school, in spite of an increase in school fees.

Child destroys opium pipe.

During the winter vacation when the children were scattered to their homes, each one tried to do something for others, helping in the home, teaching someone to sing a hymn and to learn to read. One little girl talked to her uncle about the harm of smoking opium. He became interested in the revival meetings too which were being held and he wanted to break his opium habit, but it seemed just too difficult. The little girl one day took his pipe and lamp and other paraphernalia, broke and burned them, and since then her uncle has had no opium. It has been three months.

New sights and experience.

In April a number of the sixth grade students went on a trip to Tsingtao. It was the first time some of them had been on a train, and the first time any of them had been to a port city, or seen the sea. They
were thrilled over everything they saw. The cherry blossoms were at their height and were beautiful beyond description. The girls were interested in everything, but the two things that delighted them most, was a trip to the zoo, where they saw a mother monkey holding her baby monkey, and a boat trip to Tsingtao island.

**Kindergarten.**

There was no kindergarten in the compound this year, as it was impossible to obtain a teacher. But the kindergarten in the East Suburb was fortunate in keeping for the autumn the same young woman who had been there for five years. She worked well with the Christians of the East Suburb church, and had a fine Christian spirit. She paid back during her five years of service, all that she had borrowed to pay for the kindergarten training course, although she was married, and had a small son to care for on her really meager salary. We were sorry to lose her at the end of the term, but glad she could take a much needed rest. She had 20 pupils, 18 of whom were boys, in a room far too dark and narrow for so large a number. Bible stories and hymns were a part of the course.

In the Spring we were unexpectedly fortunate to get another teacher, also a mother who bought her three children with her. She had been one of the first girls in Weihsien, to unbind her feet and attend the Mission school, though not without violent opposition from some of the family. She later took kindergarten training and has taught in Mission schools for about fifteen years.

The kindergarten was appreciated. The parents gladly doubled the amount for tuition, and the church elders agreed to give a sum to make up the deficit in Mission allowance, in order to raise the teacher's salary.

Mother's meetings have been held regularly, and the talks on hygiene were especially appreciated by the mothers. One of our Chinese graduate nurses gave one talk, and a Missionary doctor the other.

**Medical work.**

After a season of several months return to the old fashioned "consecrated Inn" style of hospital, where patients furnish their own clothes, food, bedding and nursing care, it was a great relief to all concerned to return to our splendid Shadyside building in September 1930.

During the summer and autumn we were gradually adding new members to the staff, colies, prospective nurses and more graduate nurses. It was with thankful hearts that we welcomed Miss Brack back from America after a year and a half of uncertainty as to her chances of returning to the field. In addition to looking after much of the regular running of the
hospital she made plans for opening the Nurses Training School, which was accomplished March 1, 1931. Three former girl nurses returned and we have a new class of fourteen who have recently completed their probation course and have been received with special exercises at chapel.

Because of our inability to get suitable doctors during the year, we used only the main floor of the building and at the same time took advantage of the empty rooms to have them all freshly painted, new plumbing installed, and several other repairs and changes made which will make the plant even more workable than in the past. Among the most useful and most needed of these was the opening of a large and cheery chapel and classroom on the fourth floor, and of more suitable dining rooms for the staff.

A generous gift.

Again we are deeply grateful to Mrs. Lockhart of the Shadyside church of Pittsburgh for the gift of $2000 gold, which we are planning to use to help solve our electric light and power difficulty. Such interested support on the part of friends at home makes a difference in the quality and quantity of work which mission hospitals can do.

New doctors and more nurses.

On May first we secured the services of Dr. Swen-Yuan-I who has come to us for a few months with the possibility of staying for a longer period. We are looking forward to additional personnel in July when two Chinese doctors and several who are in training for special positions will join us, and also another group of nurses. We will then be able to open up all the wards again. We shall be glad when Dr. Helen West reaches the point in her language study when she will be allowed to work with us in the hospital.

White cross supplies.

The friends of the White Cross Societies in Minnesota continue to lighten our burden by their fine gifts of surgical dressings, clothing etc., and we are indeed grateful to them.

There is a fine spirit among the staff, and our monthly social evenings which are in charge of the C. E. social committee under Mrs. Murray's direction, keep everyone happy and contented.

Meeting both spiritual and physical needs.

Two men and one woman evangelist minister to the spiritual needs of the patients, but this interest is shared by nurses and doctors as well. The hospital day begins with chapel service, which is well attended by doctors, nurses, coolies and chance guests. And in the days duties, even
the coolies feel that they have an important part in the splendid Christ-like service which the hospital is rendering to many hundreds of people in this rural district.

**Christian Literature.**

There has been a book store in our compound for some years, but it did not aim to sell much more than Bibles and hymn books. Our Weihsien people are not book lovers. They hate to spend money for books merely to read, even though the price is rarely over thirty cents a book. But the book store has gradually added other books to its stock and is endeavoring to bring suitable books to the notice of the public. The various literature societies are producing many excellent books, and it is our job to help to get these out to the people. Sales have increased and the store is becoming more popular. This year, hymn books lead in sales as usual, and in spite of the fact that since the music course was dropped in the high school, almost no books are sold to the students. About 700 copies of hymn books were sold, and 300 copies of Bibles, 400 copies of the catechism, and 22500 Scripture portions. The other sales were scattering, but mostly were religious books, with some religious fiction. Several hundred religious posters and cartoons were sold, and thousands of tracts were distributed thru the book store.

**Itinerating library.**

In the fall, about 30 books were selected as a traveling library a pastor or evangelist to loan to the people of his church circuit. There was such a demand for this that five sets were prepared, using a special fund which is now exhausted. There were requests for about fifteen more sets. We hope these assorted books will be helpful to the country people who have so few advantages, and that the people will gradually acquire a taste for reading, so that the printed page can be used in deepening their Christian experience and knowledge.

**Womens S. S.**

The Women's Sunday School has met after the church service, and has had a good attendance, with women coming from four or five villages as well as those living in the compound. Almost all of them learned the golden texts, reciting them at the end of the season, and receiving a picture card for reward.

**Childrens' S. S.**

There have been two departments for children, one for the smaller which met during the church hour, for the mutual advantage of church and child. About thirty children attend this service, and the classes are taught by high school girls.
Another S. S. is held during Sunday afternoon for the older girls in the primary school. Unfortunately the older boys and girls as well as the little boys just now feel above such a simple thing as S. S., so that this year no attempt was made to have one for them. We hope that this is but a passing phase.

The Women’s C. E.

This society is made up of women who live in the compound, teachers wives, coolies wives, and servants. The membership remains at about thirty members, though the attendance runs from twenty-five to forty. The women take their turn in leading, and have done very well indeed. A group of them have taken turns in teaching a daily class for illiterate women in a near by village.

Compound daily prayer meeting.

Ever since Presbytery meeting last fall daily prayer meetings have been held in the compound. Many Chinese leaders have felt dissatisfied with conditions in the compound, there is a coldness about the church and many of the teachers though Christians and most respectable, show no power in their lives, and are not good examples to the students. The meetings were well attended at first, but coming daily, many find their time too limited. The meetings have been helpful, though as yet have not accomplished their purpose of bringing a revival to the school leaders.

World day of prayer.

On February 20, the Chinese women met for the World day of prayer, with morning and afternoon sessions. There were about one hundred present. A Chinese lady lead the meeting, following the universal program with few adjustments. She had a large globe on the platform and showed the women how this prayer meeting beginning in Japan with the rising sun, continuing in China, and following the path of the sun around the earth, would be held during the twenty four hours of this day. It was an inspiration to the Chinese women to feel they were meeting with women the world over to pray for each other.

Summer activities.

During the summer, mission work does not stop. There are Bible conferences in the summer resorts to which we may send Chinese delegates. Throughout the country villages Daily Vacation Bible classes will be held by the school students who are at home for the summer vacation. One hundred and three have volunteered to hold classes, giving their time freely, and using whatever room or court yard is available in the village.
Chinese responsibility.

With so many activities and such a variety of work over such a large territory, naturally most of the work is being done by Chinese, and they are carrying the responsibility. Presbytery has but one foreign member at present, and the cooperative Committee appointed by Presbytery and by the Missionary group to be responsible for the general mission work, institutions, evangelistic educational and medical work, has a membership of twelve Chinese and five Missionaries. The Missionaries by no means dominate this Committee nor try to.

Are Missionaries really needed?

Then are foreign Missionaries still needed in Weihsien? They certainly are. The Chinese church is still young. The Missionary represents the more experienced church of the west, and can keep things steady, correct wrong tendencies suggest various methods from his wider knowledge and resources for information.

To be sure the official position of the Missionary is less and less conspicuous. His duties more commonplace, and his sphere of influence less clearly defined. But for the Missionary who can adapt himself to the less conspicuous position, and who values his personal contacts with the Chinese, and has a vital message to give, his place is one of great value on the Mission field.

Meet the Missionaries.

Perhaps you would like to meet the Weihsien Missionaries, and know just what each one is doing.

Mrs. Mateer came to China forty one years ago. And yet she is one of our youngest Missionaries! We haven't the space to tell of her many activities and achievements of the past, but only of her duties this year. She is teaching anatomy, obstetrics, and gynecology in the Nurses Training school, and Physiology and Hygiene in the Boys High School, Girls High School, Girls Primary School, and Women's Institute. She has translated three books during the winter and is on the Board of Directors for the High Schools. She has constant streams of Chinese callers, from all the country districts, with whom she maintains helpful personal contact.

Grace Rowley came to China in 1910. She is in Educational work, and though not now in charge of any school, she is teaching and and has a valuable influence in her personal contacts with the Chinese students, and with the Chinese educational group. She is on the Board of Directors of the Kwang Wen school, and has been the leader in the Christian social service carried on in the villages near here.
Mr. Reeder, 1916, is our one Missionary preacher in the station this year. He has not been able to do his regular work of country itinerating this year, because of the many other things needing his attention. He has been acting treasurer and in charge of station building and repairs while Mr. Van Deusen is on furlough, and has taught Bible in the high schools, taken his turn at preaching in the compound church, and served on the Mission Executive Com.

Mrs. Reeder 1927, is faithfully studying the language, is a busy wife and mother, and a gracious hostess to many passing guests.

Mary-Ruth and David Reeder aren't very big, ten and eight years old. They have to be in boarding school in Tsingtao, but when they can be here vacation times, it is very nice for all of us to have young people in our community. Florence Reeder has recently passed her first birthday, and acquired the art of walking.

Lucile Donaldson, 1917, is teaching in the Women's Bible school, and has numerous smaller duties, such as women's S. S., women's C. E., Book store, Bible women, and goes to the country churches whenever she can find a free week end.

In the Medical work, there are Ruth A. Brack 1914, who is superintendent of the Nurses Training School, and has supervision of the general hospital work, teaches classes etc.

Dr. Everett Murray, Supt. of the hospital, and Mrs. Murray, (both of 1923) who besides being a mother of two, is a teacher in the high schools, has charge of the Kindergarten and childrens S. S. Martha Murray is three, and a popular playmate for her little Chinese neighbors. Elliott has passed his first birthday. Both baby Florence and Elliott are of great interest to Chinese women, to whom they are very gracious and friendly.

Dr. Hosmer Johnson, 1928, is also at work in the Hospital, but he has half time for Language study, a long tedious job.

**Some are on furlough**

Some of our number are on furlough, Mr. and Mrs. Van Deusen and their four children. We are looking forward to their return this summer. Martha Wylie, R. N. has also been on furlough, and we are eagerly expecting her return this summer.

**Recently retired.**

In October, 1930, Dr. and Mrs. Fitch who came to China in 1889 retired from active service, and returned to U.S.A., where Dr. Fitch has recently had operations on his eyes. Both of these good people have given 40 years of service in China, and would give 40 more if they
could. They have been pioneers in the work, been thru the Boxer trouble and the present Revolution, and they still believe Mission work pays. They have won many to Christ. Dr. Fitch has been the back-bone of the Weihsien Presbytery and a tireless itinerator among the rural districts, preaching and teaching. Mrs. Fitch was Principal of the Women's Bible School for 15 years and helped in the training of many bible women who have gone to many other stations to serve, as well in our own country field. We miss Dr. and Mrs. Fitch very much indeed, and can hardly realize they are not coming back to us.

New Missionaries.

We are delighted to have two new missionaries, Mr. and Mrs. West, who are in Language School this year and come to us in the fall. Mr. West is a minister and as such there is so much for him to do he has a wide scope of activities ahead of him. There is the need of building up some of the weaker country churches who have no pastor, the crying need of hundreds of unevangelized villages and of religious work with students.

Mrs. West is a doctor and will be most welcome in the woman's dept of the Hospital. But these urgent needs must wait another year, while the Wests have a second year free from responsibility for language study. The Chinese language cannot be tamed in one year, nor in two, in fact it keeps all of us working at it all our lives in China.

More New Missionaries needed.

We still need more missionaries in this station, and are asking for a lady to teach in the Girls High School and be with the girls, as it is a boarding school. And we are asking for a man educator to work with the boys, teach English and use his influence and be an inspiration in the religious activities with students.

Now what do you think about Missions?

If you have read this far in this long but to us, all too abbreviated report, you are probably convinced that it pays to give to Missions. Will you not give us your hearty support and cooperation, and help to enlist the same from your fellow church members. Let us all be workers together in carrying out Christ's commission to preach the gospel in all the world.