American Presbyterian Mission.

WEI HSIEN STATION REPORT

Year 1928-1929.

Weihsien Shantung China
American Presbyterian Mission.

WEI HSIEN STATION REPORT.

Year 1928-29.

General Statement of Conditions.

During May and June of 1928, the whole of Shantung Province was upset politically due to the advance of the Nationalists and the complications which arose out of the Tsinan incident. This later led to the occupation of Tsinan by the Japanese Government and a strip of territory 20 li wide on either side of the railway line. Wei Hsien City is within this strip of protected territory so mission work was able to be continued in the summer and autumn after the evacuation of May and June in 1928. But for the past year Shantung has had no centralized government so the territory outside the railway zone has been left to be preyed upon by soldiers and bandits alike. The people have suffered untold misery. Often they could not live in their homes but had to spend the nights out in the open fields. Hundreds of villages have been deliberately burned to extort money and food supplies for these roving bands of disorganized soldiers and bandits. Such turmoil in the country districts around Wei Hsien has made the usual itineration all but impossible. However, through it all the Chinese pastors and churches have been able to carry on the work and the way the church has been spared in the midst of calamities on all sides has had the effect of strengthening faith in God, who watches over his own. The mission compound has been a city of refuge for hundreds of harassed people during the winter and spring months. As the bandits worked their depredations in first one section of the Wei Hsien country field and then another, the people who could do so, fled for safety to cities in the safety zone and the Wei Hsien Mission Compound had its full share of refugees. This gave a splendid opportunity to do Christian work among a class of people who by the very fact that they chose the mission as a place of safety declared their approachableness
to the gospel message. At Christmas time an attack was made upon Wei Hsien City but in the end it was repulsed. With the opening of the spring term of school, all was again quiet for a few weeks or months, then a new army of 700 bandits and ex-soldiers came through from South Shantung and began to spread terror from village to village along their line of march. However, in spite of such uncertainties and unstable political conditions, the work of the Lord has prospered and gone ahead, and shines even the more brightly against the dark background of murder, looting incendryism and general lawlessness.

In addition to these man-made miseries, the south section of the Wei Hsien field underwent a severe famine due to a cloud burst which drowned out the crops. One member of the station was kept busy during September and October making relief distribution to over 125 villages. The total number of families receiving aid was 2,947 and the total number of individuals supported was 14,592, sixty percent of whom were adults and forty percent children. These calamities of all kinds have brought the people to their knees in search of a Power that is higher than they are and who can help in time of need.

**Evangelistic Work**

Most of the evangelistic work in the country district about Wei Hsien is now organized and under the direct charge and supervision of the twenty Chinese pastors who together with the ordained foreign missionaries compose the Wei Hsien Presbytery. At the autumn meeting of Presbytery, the death of Pastor Li Hsing Ren was reported, and also four pastors left to work outside the bounds of the Presbytery. Their places were filled by five newly ordained pastors, who have completed their course of study in the North China Theological Seminary at Teng Hsien. Two new students were received under the care of Presbytery and will take up their studies in the seminary. An average of forty to fifty percent of the salary support of these pastors is raised from the Chinese church, in addition to providing church buildings and living quarters for the pastors. The balance of the pastors' salaries is provided from the mission evangelistic funds. All churches organized and having elders and deacons are now
put under the direct supervision of the Chinese church. In this way the country churches receive a much closer supervision than in the days when pastors were few, and the missionary had to go from village to village and organize and shepherd the scattered Christians. The pastors report that in spite of unsettled conditions, the churches are holding together and carrying on the work as usual. The Presbytery reports show that nearly 400 were received into church membership during the past year.

Presbytery directed that evangelistic rallies be held in three centers during the spring of 1927. In two of these places, Ankiu and Loa An, the meetings were held for a period of ten days to two weeks. The pastors of the nearby churches united to put on a program of worship, music, and instruction. The attendance average over 150 persons at each center and the spiritual messages, born out of the hardships of the present times, gave strength to those who attended.

A second line of work under the direction of Presbytery was the conducting of tent evangelism for a month during the spring season before the farmers were busy preparing the land for their crops. Two tents were provided and a group of five evangelists who were headed by theological students made up the preaching band for each tent. As a result of the two tent
meetings in different parts of the country field over 12,000 people heard the gospel message. Out of this number 400 signed cards expressing their desire to make a further study of the gospel. These prospects were put in touch with the nearest pastor and church work, so in time, it is hoped there will be an in gathering from these tent meetings. The greatest interest was shown in villages which had suffered at the hands of bandits.

In addition to the tent preachers, a force of eleven evangelists, and five theological students have been busily engaged in preaching the Word in churches which are without pastors. Though the field is so extensive and so densely populated that only a few thousand out of the millions of people are reached, there are villages upon villages that have yet to hear the gospel message in any effective way. To meet this crying need, a group of twelve warm-hearted country Christians was sent out to go two by two into the villages around about, preaching in the market places. These methods are as old as the Gospel itself, yet through the "foolishness of such preaching" the Lord touches many a human heart with His healing touch. After six weeks of such village preaching, the men returned with joy in their hearts, for they had been received with warmth and were accorded a real welcome wherever they went. The Gospel of "Peace on Earth, Good will to men" is a joyful sound to those who have just experienced the fear of bandit hordes. "As it is written how beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tiding of good things."

Narrow Escapes.

Three of the pastors have had very narrow escapes during the time when their homes were being looted by the lawless soldiers and brigands of Liu He Chi. Pastor Li Djen Bang was in bed for the night when a group of bandit soldiers entered his house and demanded money. Pastor Li said all he had was five dollars which was on a nearby shelf. The bandits told him to get it but as he was slow in moving, a bandit fired his pistol and the bullet just grazed his head.
Pastor Hwang Loa Deh, who is in charge of the Loa An City Evangelistic Center, found himself and the church property in the midst of the firing zone. Fortunately on the approach of the bandits, Pastor Hwang collected all the boys and girls of the schools into one room for safety, then prepared to do his best toward protecting the church property. But when the bandits attacked the city of Lao An, they made use of the City Evangelistic Center, which is just outside the city gates, as a place of cover for their attack on the city. The defenders of the city fired their cannon at the Evangelistic Center and finally dislogged the bandits who in departing took everything moveable, stripping the place bare. The defenders of the city did even more damage to the property for their cannon shots demolished the roof of the Girls' School and broke every windowpane on the place. No lives of Christians were lost so there is a prayer of thankfulness for preservation in the midst of such danger.

When Shou Gwang City was attacked by this same lawless army, the shops and homes were thoroughly looted. Women and children were carried off and suffered worse things than death. One room was later found with the bodies of sixteen women, the women either having been murdered by the brigand soldiers or having chosen suicide rather than fall into the hands of their captors. Pastor Djou Dzwen I elected to stay in the church building, hoping to be of service to his congregation during the attack. When he found it was hopeless, he had his wife hastily put on some school boy's clothes and by pretending to be one of the boys in the school she barely escaped ill treatment. The pastor himself, however, was taken before the ring leaders of the brigands and a ransom price of four thousand dollars Mexican was put upon his life. He protested that he had just graduated from Theological Seminary and instead of having money was deep in debt. For four hours they threatened him by making him kneel while his captors shot over his head trying to frighten him into producing hidden supplies of money, but in the end, they released him without his having to pay a cent of money. They, of course, lost everything they had. He now tells how every moment of the time he was in the hands of his captors, he continued to offer up silent prayer for the safety of his wife and himself, and he
attributes their escape soley as God's answer to his prayer. Experiences of this sort have deepened the faith of all our pastors and they know out of their own experience that He who is "the Help of the helpless" abides with His people still.

A Class for Refugees.

Soon after the Chinese New Year, some of the village people began to take refuge in the compound. Some had come from burned villages and had lost all they possessed. They came in groups, family groups, or neighbor groups of women and children. Very often only one in a group was a Christian who had undertaken to find a place of refuge for the rest. A class was opened for them twice a week but it was so much appreciated that soon it was running every afternoon except Saturday and Sunday. The refugees were glad for an opportunity to learn about the Christian religion, and to have something to devert their minds from the distressing experiences they had just been through. The attendance and the constituency changed from time to time as the refugees returned to their homes and others came in but the class continued for three months with an average attendance of thirty. They all studied the life of Christ from pictures and stories and all had hymn singing. For other courses they were divided into smaller groups, some studying tractsheets for beginners, catechism, "Easy Steps to great Truths", and John, and Phonetic Script. A most popular feature was the hygiene lectures given by Mrs. Mateer. No one could have been more regular, faithful, and earnest than were the six or eight Chinese women who voluntarily gave their afternoons to this work.

The Station Women's Sunday School.

This department of the Sunday school has had a most enthusiastic year. The attendance has been between sixty and seventy. Golden texts were memorized by old and young and were recited at the close of each quarter. The best feature of this year's work was that all the Sunday School teachers were from among the local Chinese, whereas in past years the teaching has been done by high school girls. The Sunday school teachers have taken great pride in their work and thoroughly enjoyed their responsibility and opportunity for service.
The Women's Christian Endeavor Society.

This group of women in the compound, which has met on Wednesday afternoons for many years past, is now showing definite results from the Christian Endeavor training. They continue to lead their own meetings, the foreign missionary only taking her turn which comes but once or twice a year. All the Chinese women who can read take a turn in leading the meeting and can do it excellently. The meetings are also real prayermeetings where requests are brought in and problems share. The voluntary helpers in the refugee class and the teachers in the Sunday School are women from the Christian Endeavor Society.

Factory Meetings in East Suburb.

In the fall, an opportunity was given to hold a meeting once a week in a large embroidery shop in the East Suburb. It was held during the rest-period at the noon hour. There were about two hundred and fifty girls and women working in this shop and all were much interested in these meetings. They began with the gospel of Mark, using old Sunday School material, wall pictures and individual cards. The course has lasted a year and the interest has been sustained throughout. Several of the girls
have become Christians and one can see their new joy reflected in their faces. Others are deeply interested, only bitter opposition in their homes, preventing them from openly confessing Christ. These meetings have brought invitations to the Bible women to visit in the homes of those who have become interested. In one home, very successful neighborhood meetings were held regularly once a week for some months.

Wei Hsien Bible Women.

This year there were twenty Bible women spread out over a wide area. They worked under great difficulty in bandit and soldier infested villages, but they worked with great urgency and earnestness feeling that their message must be given while they had the opportunity. In some cases the Bible woman was only "one jump" ahead of looting bandits, and many villages where she gave her message were burned to the ground within a few weeks or months after her visit. The country class work was carried on this year, for the invitations were too urgent to be refused. In one place the leaders had just finished a two weeks' class where the interest was very keen, new Christians were led to Christ, and expressed their determination to accept Christ then and there no matter what persecution or trouble would come to them, old Christians were strengthened; when a few days later an army of bandits swept through their district, burned villages, looted every home, carried off young women, so that those who had been in the class were scattered, hiding in the fields, fleeing for their lives. During the year, more than half of the Bible women have had to flee at one time or another. Some have lost their books and bedding, but all have been given special courage and have quickly adjusted themselves and continued their work. They have valued their work for the salvation of their people more than their personal safety or the safety of their property. Most of these women receive but twenty five or thirty dollars a year for such work. Can you doubt their sincerity?

Women's Bible School.

The school finished the year with two terms of uninterrupted work. The enrollment was unusually small, being only twenty students. This was partly due to the difficult economic condition
of the people and to the difficulties in travel. It was most interesting to watch the mental and spiritual development of the students. One young woman who only learned to read last summer, made remarkable progress in all her studies, taking some of the advanced work. Two elderly women who came more for heart comfort than for study, learned to read phonetic Chinese in spite of a firm conviction on their part that it was impossible. Having once learned the phonetic reading and writing, they made splendid progress in their other studies. Beside the regular class work, the students attended Sunday School, and on Sunday evenings conducted their own Christian Endeavor Society. On Wednesday afternoons throughout the school year, the older students went to the nearby villages to hold meetings for the village women. In May of this year, there was a graduating class of seven, five of whom had finished the advanced Bible courses covering five years. Two of the graduates will be used as Bible women, one will probably be a school teacher, and the others will return to their homes to live Christian lives.

Educational Work.

Point Breeze Middle School for Boys.

The extortionate taxes, banditry, and unsettled conditions in the country side around Wei Hsien had had the effect of greatly decreasing the attendance of students at the Point Breeze Boys' Middle School. As more than two thirds of the running expenses of the school come from the students' tuition fees, the sudden slump in attendance had a direct effect upon the finances of the school. It became so serious by the summer of 1928 that it was a question whether the High School work could continue. After several meetings with the teachers and authorities in charge, the teachers voluntarily decided to forego their salaries during the two summer months. In this way, it was possible to tide over the financial crisis. With the opening of the fall term, the number of students had increased and in the spring of 1929 the number of students was again up to normal and the financial burden was lifted from the shoulders of the faculty. During the most unsettled period, the teachers took turns on guard duty at night, protecting the compound and school from possible night attack.
by lawless elements. When during the spring of 1929, the refugees began to come to the mission station as a place of safety, they were provided sleeping quarters in the school dormitories. This inconvenience was gladly borne by the two hundred and thirty students who had to double up in rooms and get along temporarily with cramped living quarters.

The sudden increase in the student body from 130 to 230 students, while solving the financial problems, has caused other problems for the school. The government schools were not able to open due to lack of funds and unsettled conditions so most of the increase in the number of students has been from non-Christian homes. Thes boys are mostly in the lower classes so it is hoped that in time, they will come under the influence of the Gospel and be converted. But just at present they have not formed any habits of regular church attendance on Sunday. The teachers and Christian boys attend services and by the power of example are exercising a good influence on the younger and newer students. In addition to this, the Middle School is trying out the policy of voluntary church attendance on Sunday. At chapel and Wednesday night prayer meetings, attendance of students is still required. The influence of Russian communism has been eradicated from the school, or at least is not nearly as strong as during the previous year. When the 1929 spring communion service was held, the number of students applying for church membership showed a large increase over the previous year. The student Y.M.C.A. work was carried on as usual, and the Sunday School classes met each Sunday afternoon.

The most important school question of the year has been to register or not to register. After prolonged discussion, it was finally decided by the directors of the Point Breeze Academy and the Wen Mei Girls' High School that the schools should be registered with the government as private schools. The Government demanded registration before June 30, 1929 or the schools would be closed. The teachers and students and a large part of the constituency of the school were in favor of registration. It remains to be seen what effect registration will have upon the schools. The first effect thus far noticeable has been a more friendly sprit among teachers and students. The faculty also has
been kept busy making inventories of the school property and equipment so they could meet the new requirements set by the Government Department of Education. It has been a good thing for the school, as the exhaustive investigations have brought certain deficiencies in our schools to light and these are now being corrected.

Wen Mei Girls' Middle School.

Wen Mei was opened again in the fall of 1928. After the disturbance in the school caused by communist propaganda, the students and faculty were disbanded and the school temporarily closed. This had the desired effect, as in the reorganization that has followed, care has been taken to exclude all possible communist influence. All the students who were in the upper classes of the school were dismissed and after they learned that the school would not open classes for them, they scattered to other schools and some remained at home. The students of the lower classes were more than glad to return to school in the fall and the experience of being deprived of a chance to go to school has had a salutary effect on their conduct. It is noticeable that they are more ready to use their time and do faithful work when they once again had the opportunity of attending classes. At first only the two lower classes were admitted so the attendance was only forty five students. With the opening of the spring term, there were three classes out of the six years' course, and an enrollment of 90 or more students. Except for one or two students, all these pupils come from Christian homes, so the problem of religious education in the girls' school is not so pressing. The school spirit has been excellent. There has been no ill feeling among the various classes as sometimes exists. The students and faculty on both sides have been open and free in discussing their problems together. This last resulted in a smooth running of the school throughout the year. The spirit of faculty and students has been one of cooperation and joy in carrying on the school work. In the reorganization which took place when Wen Mei was reopened, Miss Hsü, a former graduate of the school was secured as temporary principal and Miss Rowley became an Advisor to the school. This step was taken in view of the new regulations promulgated by the Government, requiring schools to have a
Chinese principal in addition to the majority of the Board of Directors being Chinese. Miss Hsü is also a graduated of Yen College for Women at Peking and after a year of service as temporary principal she has been elected principal in full charge of the school. During the past year the teaching force has been small, and as the funds from the student body were insufficient to call teachers, a number of people were called in to help gratuitously with the teaching. This at present constitutes the main difficulty in the conduct of the school. There has been help given by the missionaries in the way of teaching, but it is hoped that arrangements can be made whereby others may join the faculty thereby lightening the teaching responsibilities. Western teachers are especially needed in the departments of English and Bible.

As most of the girls are already members of the church, there were only four to be examined for church membership. Of this number two have already been baptized and received into church membership. Some visiting students from government schools have been attracted to Christianity after seeing the splendid spirit of Wen Mei and now they do not oppose Christianity as they did in former years.

The general health of the pupils has been good. This is due largely to the efficient manner in which Miss Wang Ging Ming has conducted the school athletics. Two special contests were held during the year and a final exhibition given at the close of the school year. The girls are most enthusiastic over the work, and enter into the early morning and evening exercise periods with real zest. This is in marked contrast to earlier years when it was very difficult to get the girls to enter into sports of any kind.

Mu Fan Higher and Lower Primary School.

The Mu Fan or Model School has been just the opposite of what a model school should be. However, during this past year, great strides have been made toward becoming that model that its name implies. For the first time in its history, it has had a principal who could give full time to study the needs of the School, and not just odds and ends of time left over from some
other job. The new Nanking Government is stressing the importance of primary school education and it is of greatest importance for it is this period when the foundation is laid and the student’s future, morally and spiritually is determined.

It was with many misgivings that Miss Djang, the new principal took charge in September, 1928. But because of her keen insight to see the weaknesses, and her fearless determination to right the wrongs, and because of her rare ability to gain the cooperation of both teachers and students, she was able to revolutionize the school during the fall term, and that too, inspite of a severe illness on her part. Many important changes were accomplished in the way of improvement along scholastic lines, but the most important thing was the change in the moral and spiritual atmosphere of the school.

In the fall a weekly literary society was started in which the students were made to feel that the responsibility was theirs, and it was up to them to make it what they wanted it to be, a source of real help and enjoyment, or a mere way of filling in time. The girls were divided into groups and each had an evening’s program to be responsible for. The first meeting was a flat failure but gradually with the passing weeks, as the result of criticism and advise, the girls developed until they can put on a very enjoyable and profitable program, and it is all their own. The lower primary school has also started their own literary society which they have every two weeks and even the first year students take part. We are trying to teach them that their ability to read should not be for the sake of benefiting themselves only but should be a means of helping other people. This society is one way to give out some interesting and useful knowledge they have acquired. At first it was rather parrot like repetition of what the book said, but they have grown less self-conscious and have developed ability to speak.

Another way that has been tried to broaden the school has been by holding parent-teachers meetings to get a closer cooperation between the home and the school. There has not been a great deal accomplished yet, but we have at least made a start in the right direction. This year we have been fortunate
in being able to have more women attend because of the large number of refugees on the compound. Some had children in school and some did not, but many of them attended our meetings. We had a "Get Together Day" and invited the school conducted by the Independent church in the city to be our guests for the day. They were asked to bring hand work and writing done by the various pupils in order to have an informal exhibition of the work done by the two schools for our mutual benefit. A good program was put on in the afternoon and tea and cakes were served as a fitting close to the performance. Our students incidentally got a little training in the rites of hospitality.

The school has a very flourishing Sunday School which meets every Sunday afternoon. There are four classes, each with a name and a banner. The girls meet separately to study the lesson for half an hour and then have closing exercises with a review given by the teacher. Each class takes a Sunday to present some idea or teaching which has impressed them. The little tots have Sunday School during the hour of the regular church service, taught by students from the Girls' High School under the able direction of Mrs. Wu, the wife of one of our doctors.

One of the most important organizations in the school has been the Junior Christian Endeavor Society. It was started last fall as a means of trying to get the girls to be "doers of the Word and not hearers only". It was to be a purely voluntary affair and they could join or not as they wished, but it was to be understood that to join meant work. There was a hundred per cent enrollment and enthusiasm ran high as officers were elected and committees chosen. They were very anxious to do something and the difficulty has not been in getting them to want to work as much as finding work for them to do. Some swept the yard regularly, enabling the gateman to give attention to other necessary tasks, some went to the hospital to tell stories or sing to the sick people, and others told the story of Jesus to refugees. They responded generously to the contributions for the poor and gave their time to make seven winter coats for poor children. These coats and the money were used about Christmas time to help the needy in the East Suburb. Most of
The Sunday night meetings have been led by the girls and on the whole they have been very helpful. The joy of the girls was complete when they were recognized by the hospital Christian Endeavor Society as their little sisters and invited to celebrate Christmas with them in a candle light fellowship service. Object lessons like this are very impressive to children, and they were very solemn as they each went forward at the close of the service to light their candles at the large candle which represented Jesus as the Light of the world. The twelve girls who graduated in January were very loth to leave the school even though it meant going on to High School preparatory. The thing they would miss most, they said, would be the Junior C. E. and they begged to be allowed to come back every Sunday evening. During the year eleven girls have been baptized.

The high water mark in enrollment seemed to be reached last fall when on account of the refugees, the number increased to 71, one more than the last spring, including the High School preparatory which was temporarily in the Mu Fan. During the winter vacation the city gates were closed and bandit attacks were expected. It was thought the number of students would fall off in the spring, but the country around was even more unsettled and our compound has been filled to overflowing with refugees, thus bringing more students to our schools. There have been 87 students enrolled this term. The beginning of the school year was changed from spring to the fall term. No first year primary class was planned but this spring there were so many applications sent in that it seemed best to open a primary class because otherwise it might mean refusing children who might never again have the opportunity of going to school. There were so many students that another teacher was secured who devoted most of her time to these beginners.

Last fall the girls took turns in cooking a little extra food in the evening. This group ate in the teachers' dining room and the teachers would instruct them in the preparation of the food, in serving and table manners. On Saturday evenings they would sometimes invite other teachers of the school or outside guests to come and sample their cooking.
This spring a new venture in the way of a school paper was attempted. A locked box was put up in the fall and the girls were encouraged to write articles either original or giving a resume of some thing they had read. The box was opened at the end of the week and the best articles were selected by the teacher of Chinese. The girls copied them on a big sheet of paper like a newspaper which was put up in the hall for everyone to read.

The school's aim is to develop all round girls. To this end a social evening was put in after the study hour Friday evenings. Here they learned to play various educational games and we endeavor to develop the spirit of cooperation and good sportsmanship, not an easy matter but a very important one. The last few weeks, a new Baby Pathé moving picture machine has been enjoyed. The films are educational, showing how paper is made, various scenes around the world, some comics and a complete set of the Life of Christ.

The school is far from being a model school but good progress toward the ideals has been made this year along educational as well as spiritual lines. One is touched by the story of the girl who offered a prayer in the evening devotional period, when she thanked God because she was here and prayed that He would make all the schools in the country districts as good as this one. Girls of this age are so noisy and irresponsible at times that one's patience is tried to the extreme, yet it is the important time for training character.

The newly elected Board of Trustees has suggested that we change the name of the school, as Mu Fan is not a regular name. We have been thinking of calling it "Pei Gi" which means to "Lay a Foundation" or literally to put earth on the roots. What could be more appropriate as a name for a school? The second character is one of those used in the word for Christ and we are reminded of Paul's words in Corinthians, "For other foundations can no man lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ." No one knows what the future may bring to the school, or how government regulations will affect it, but the prayer is that its foundations may be Jesus Christ, and that He will teach
and guide those who are responsible so that these girls may get the very best training during this critical foundation period, so that they may become efficient and consecrated workers for the advancement of His Kingdom here in their native land.

Country Primary Schools.

The Boys' and Girls' Primary Schools in the country have managed to carry on even though the conditions were chaotic. The standard of work has not been up to par, but it is remarkable that any school work at all was able to survive during this period of bandit rule. Many sections of the mission have not been as fortunate as Wei Hsien in this respect. The reports show that there were 28 boys' schools with 30 Christian teachers. Of the total number of 635 students, 253 were from Christian homes. The total budget was $2668 Mex. of which only $551 Mex. was furnished from mission funds. In the case of the girls' country schools, total budget was $3078 Mex. of which amount the mission supplied $1826 Mex. There were more than 542 girls enrolled in 25 primary schools. It is difficult to prophecy what the effect of registration with the government will have upon the schools.
Kindergarten.

There was one kindergarten opened during the past year in the East Suburb. These little beginners enjoyed their work and through the contacts formed with the homes, openings were made for Christian preaching. During the middle of the spring term 1929 the teacher took sick and had to have hospital treatment, so the school has had to close temporarily.

Medical Work.

Shadyside Hospital.

In the spring of 1928 Dr. Ewers left to take up work in a hospital in Korea. Miss Swen, our graduate nurse resigned to be married. In the fall Dr. Murray went home on regular furlough. The accountant, Mr. Hu. left to enter school in Peking. Dr. A. S. Chalfant was temporarily assigned to Wei Hsien for the year. Dr. Han Hwa Yang and Dr. Chang Ying Chi, both recent graduates of the medical department of Shantung University in Tsinan, have been added to the medical staff. Three graduates of the nursing school of the hospital, all holders of the diploma of the Nurses Association, of China, have been added to the nursing staff. The place of the accountant has been filled, and twelve new students have begun the nursing course during the year. In spite of the fact that the ordinary patients were afraid to risk the dangers of travel during the unsettled times, the hospital beds were kept full to capacity by a constant procession of gunshot cases. Therefore the work of the hospital has been much heavier this year than ever before. Officers, nurses, and workers are tired but happy. "Though destruction talk around us" we as an organization are able to look back upon a year of uninterrupted worthwhile work. We feel we have special reasons to praise God for His mercy.

In July, 1928, a disastrous explosion occurred in an ancient powder magazine over the gate of the East Suburb which inflicted casualties running into hundreds. An emergency relief committee was formed at once, in cooperation with which the hospital received the worst of the wounded, and gave them all the relief possible under the circumstances. On the first day,
twenty or thirty patients were admitted, necessitating giving many places on the floor. Those cases ranged anywhere from superficial burns of the skin to avulsions and gangrenous sloughs of extremities. In one week more than a hundred cases were admitted mostly lying on the floor in wards and corridors. The expenses of their care was borne chiefly by the emergency relief committee out of charitable contributions on the part of the city merchants and wealthier individuals. Only one third of the cost was borne by the hospital.

In September, there began a constant series of engagements of greater or less importance between rival independent bodies of soldiery. We received our usual quota of those who could by some means contrive to reach the hospital. Fortunately, from the standpoint of hospital administration, the number of those favored ones was generally few, not more than two or three a day, but there were days when there were as many as twenty. Softening the welcome of the concrete with a pallet of straw, again became the order of the day and indeed this unorthodox and very unsatisfactory sort of hospital practice has become routine since that time. Only in the time of New Year and the wheat harvest has short respite been given. A most curious case was that of a man who was shot through the head, yet lived and was discharged from the hospital cured. The bullet entered the forehead at the center and evidently passed through the man's head between the two halves of his brain. Except for a severe headache the man claimed to have suffered in no other way. Some have claimed that it was a clear case of an "empty head".

Enlargement of Plant.

During the past two years, we have received generous contributions from the Shadyside Church, amounting to $4,000 Gold. This has enabled us to complete the hospital plant and make room for further expansion. This year the need for space has become acute with the increasingly large number of in-patients, for whom the present ward space and bed capacity was entirely inadequate. Therefore the fourth story was floored and finished with rooms for the storage of linen, the making of hospital supplies, and the preparation of surgical dressings. This will
also make possible the opening of a fifteen bed medical ward and one or two small wards for contagious cases, at present very inconveniently handled in small rooms off the general wards. An addition comprising five rooms has been built onto the west end of the present two story women nurses's dormitory, which will make room for a kitchen, dining room, reception room and bath, thereby releasing space in the overcrowded dormitory. To the same end, the men nurses' quarters have been enlarged. A double row of low rooms in front of the hospital have been expanded by the addition of five rooms, leaving more room in the present nurses' quarters and allowing for the same improvements as provided for the women.

**Equipment of Plant.**

With the large number of injuries and gunshot wounds in the hospital this year, the need for an X-ray has become very urgent. On application to the Mission Executive Committee, the plant which could not be set up in Yihsien was transferred to Wei Hsien. During the five years that it had lain in its original wrappings, two wars had passed over it so there were a number of broken or missing parts, the replacement of which, together with the freight and like indentals to moving the apparatus, and the number unforeseen expenses incident to setting it up in Wei Hsien have run into considerable money.

The steam sterilizer, the plumbing arrangements, and the steam heating were all inadequate as installed and the repairs, rearrangements and substitutions thereby made necessary are a constant problem, particularly the steam heating. All attempt to heat the hospital with the present plant has been given up. Big coal stoves in the main wards and operating room, where flues could be arranged, leaving side rooms and corridors dangerously frigid are used.

**School of Nursing.**

The work of the School of Nursing has gone on undisturbed, with marked progress in many lines. At the beginning of the year, two new graduate nurses were added to the staff to take charge of the men's wards. They were each sent away for two months graduate work, one to Chefoo and one to Tenchow, which proved