THE WEST CHINA MISSIONARY NEWS.

Vol. X. APRIL, 1908. No. 4.

(Registered in the I.P.O. as a newspaper).

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PUBLISHED BY
THE WEST CHINA MISSIONS ADVISORY BOARD.

PRINTED AT
CANADIAN METHODIST MISSION PRESS, CHENTU.
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ADVISORY BOARD.

The Ninth Annual Meeting of the Advisory Board met at Chentu, in the M.E. Hospital, Feb. 3, 1908, at 9.30 a.m.

The following members were present:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Mission</th>
<th>P.O.Address, China</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. H. Parry</td>
<td>C.I.M.(West)</td>
<td>Chungking 1884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bishop W. W. Cassels</td>
<td>C.I.M.(East)</td>
<td>Paoning 1885</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. R. J. Davidson</td>
<td>F.F.M.A.</td>
<td>Chentu 1886</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rev. John Parker</td>
<td>L.M.S.</td>
<td>Chungking 1890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. O. L. Kilborn, M.D.</td>
<td>C.M.M.</td>
<td>Chentu 1891</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. O. M. Jackson</td>
<td>C.M.S.</td>
<td>Mienchow 1891</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rev. J. F. Peat</td>
<td>M.E.M.</td>
<td>Chentu 1892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. H. J. Openshaw</td>
<td>A.B.M.U.</td>
<td>Yachow 1893</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. W. N. Fergusson</td>
<td>B.&amp;F.B.S.</td>
<td>Chentu 1894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. R. R. Service</td>
<td>Y.M.C.A.</td>
<td>Chentu 1905</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. J. C. Ogden</td>
<td>F.C.M.</td>
<td>Tachienlu 1906</td>
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</tbody>
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Devotional exercises were led by O. L. Kilborn.
1. The following officers were elected:—H. J. Openshaw, Chairman; J. F. Peat, Secretary; and R. J. Davidson, Treasurer.

2. The time of sessions was fixed from 9.30 to 12.30, and from 2.00 to 4.00.

3. A financial statement was read from the Publishing Committee as follows:

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<tr>
<td>Jan. to Dec. '07 Printing monthly issues—West China Missionary News</td>
<td>Tls. 294.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>45.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundries</td>
<td>1.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance on hand</td>
<td>248.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tls. 590.86</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Jan. 1 Balance received from 1906 Tls. 197.69
Dec. 31 Receipts to date (including 77.27 for advertisements) - - - 393.17
Tls. 590.86

The balance on hand is Tls. 248.47. The circulation of the West China Missionary News was reported to be about 300 copies per month. The report was adopted.

4. A vote of thanks was moved by Bishop Cassels, and seconded by R. J. Davidson, to the Publishing Committee and the Canadian Mission Press for their efficient work in editing and publishing the News.

5. The Anti-Opium committee made a verbal report.

6. Committee on Statistics made a report on uniform statistical blanks. The blanks, with suggested changes, were adopted.

7. It was resolved that each member of the Advisory Board shall act as a representative of his mission, and send in a complete list of the members of his mission annually to the statistician.

8. On behalf of the Educational Committee Mr. Davidson submitted a printed report which was adopted.

9. Mr. Ogden, as the first representative of the Foreign Christian Mission on the Advisory Board, was given a cordial welcome.

10. Verbal reports were received from the Northern and Southern Sub-committees.
II. The treasurer, R. J. Davidson, rendered a financial statement as follows, which was adopted:—

Aug. 13 Programs - - - 2.48
     Cash to H.T.H., on account Conference - - 56.80
Feb. 3 Balance on hand - - - 109.54
     - - - Tls 168.82
Jan. 14, 1906 A.B.M.U. - - - 10.00
July 6 Bishop Cassels - - - 9.55
" 27 C.I.M. - - - 12.69
Jan. 1907 C.M.S. - - - 9.56
" 27 F.F.M.A. - - - 10.00
Sept. 1 Mr. Pclhill - - - 33.60
Oct. 12 - - - .35
Feb. 1, 1908 Conference collection ($117) - - - 83.07
     Tls. - - - 168.82

12. Moved that the secretary be instructed to request the Secretary of the Conference to write to the Trustees of the Keswick Convention and the Secretary of the A.B.C.F.M. on behalf the Advisory Board, expressing our very great appreciation of, and very hearty thanks for, the great help rendered us by Mr. W. B. Sloan and Dr. Arthur H. Smith at our late Conference.

13. The following letter from the C.M.S., in regard to their entering Chentu, was read, "The Church Missionary Society notifies the Advisory Board of its intention of opening a mission station in the city of Chentu at some future date.

(Signed) O. M. Jackson,
Acting Secretary, C.M.S."

14. The following resolution was adopted: Moved by Mr. Davidson, that this Board, having been informed that the C.M.S. contemplates commencing work in Chentu, would heartily welcome that Mission to this great center.

15. The following letter from the C.M.S. was read, "At the recent Annual Meeting of the Church Missionary Society, the secretary was requested to notify the Advisory Board of its intention of working the adjoining district of Li Fan."

(Signed) O. M. Jackson,
Acting Secretary, C.M.S."
15a. It was resolved to appoint M. Beauchamp and A. Large a committee to correspond with Dr. Li, of Shanghai, looking toward his coming to the West for an evangelistic tour. This committee shall report to the sub-committees.

16. Moved that the Sub-committees, on receiving the reports from Messrs. Beauchamp and Large in regard to the visit of Dr. Li, shall make the necessary arrangements for him to visit the Missionary centers.

17. It was resolved to especially invite Mr. Hoste to attend the present sessions of the Advisory Board.

18. Moved and carried that this Advisory Board close its sessions to-morrow night.

19. Resolved to appoint the following committee to consider the practicability of establishing a school for missionaries' children in West China, to report to the next meeting of this Board: Dr. Kilborn, Mrs. Davidson, Dr. Canright, Mr. Grainger.

20. At 12.30 the Meeting adjourned.

Second Session—Monday afternoon.

21. Committees representing the C.I.M. and C.M.M. presenting proposed interests were heard regarding the Border Tribes' district north and west of Gwanhsien.

22. Resolved that this Board greatly rejoices at the desire on the part of several missions to carry the Gospel to the Border Tribes, and earnestly trusts that men and means will be forthcoming for this work.

23. It was resolved that, on the suggestion of the C.I.M., the C.M.M. be at liberty to open work at Wen-chuan, and further questions of division of the field be left over.

24. Resolved that Lifan be regarded as common territory.

25. Dr. Tompkins, W. J. Mortimore, and R. B. Whittlesey were appointed a committee to deal with subjects of Sunday School work and Christian Endeavor, and more especially to make arrangements as soon as they see fit for the holding of conventions on these subjects.

26. Resolved that the Southern Sub-committee be asked to invite the Chungking Missionary Association to discuss the establishment of a language school for
new missionaries on the Chungking hills, and draw up a scheme to be laid before the Advisory Board.

27. On motion the meeting adjourned.

Third Session—Tuesday Morning.

28. The minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

29. Survey of the field.—Resolved that a committee be appointed to collect as full information as possible regarding the conditions and prospects of Mission work in West China, with the view of assisting the Board to advise more fully and accurately regarding the more effective working of the entire field.

30. Resolved that the members of the Advisory Board residing in Chentu constitute the above committee.

31. Resolved that in view of a survey of the whole field, the various missions in West China be invited to supply the Board with information at as early a date as possible regarding the present position of their work, their needs and requirements, and their future policy.

32. Resolved that, feeling the great need there is in our missionary centers for special evangelistic efforts, we invite the authorities concerned to prayerfully consider whether Messrs. Beauchamp, Wellwood, Pollard, and Knipe may be set apart, at least for a portion of their time, to supply this need.

33. The secretary was instructed to communicate this resolution to the respective Boards through the authorities on the field.

34. In view of the following recommendation from the Conference, "that this Board appoint a standing committee to make arrangements if possible to secure the establishment of a translation bureau in some center in West China, and that the functions of this bureau should include the keeping of a record of all books and pamphlets upon which the authors or translators are at work, and that such records be published from time to time in the West China Missionary News."—The following committee was appointed: J. Vale, J. Endicott, and R. R. Service.
35. It was resolved to adopt the Preamble, Constitution, and By-laws of the Advisory Board as herewith presented (See below).

36. Dr. Kilborn was appointed editor of the West China Missionary News, with power to choose an associate.

37. Mr. Franck was appointed business manager of the West China Missionary News.

38. Committees were appointed as follows:— (a) Publishing committee: J. Endicott, together with the editor and business manager; (b) Social Reforms: J. Parker and L. Wigham; (c) Statistics: H. J. Openshaw and J. W. Yost; (d) Sub-committee Secretaries: Chentu, J. F. Peat; Chungking, J. Parker; Yunnan, F. J. Dymond.

39. Upon invitation of Bishop Cassels, the place and time of the next meeting of the Advisory Board was fixed at Paoning, early in March, 1909.

40. It was moved and carried that the chairman read and approve the minutes of this session. The meeting then adjourned.

H. J. Openshaw,
Chairman.

Jacob F. Peat,
Secretary.
PREAMBLE, CONSTITUTION, AND BY-LAWS
OF THE
WEST CHINA MISSIONS ADVISORY BOARD.

PREAMBLE.

The Advisory Board was formed at a conference of West China Missionaries held in Chungking during January, 1899. The following principles were then laid down, and have been kept in view in drawing up the following articles of this Constitution:

This Conference urges that a mutual understanding be arrived at among the Missions as to the Districts in which they hope to carry on work.

Should any question arise between the Missions as regards occupancy of the field, it is proposed that the matter be referred in the first instance to the representatives of those missions, who will be entitled, in case of failure to affect a settlement locally, to refer it to the Secretary of the Board. The Secretary, having obtained full statements of the case, will present the same to the Board by correspondence or otherwise.

That the Advisory Board be informed of the limits of the fields at present occupied, or in prospect, by the various Missions.

That if the occupation of any field is effective in the view of the Advisory Board, another Mission should not be encouraged to enter.

Where large cities are already occupied by two or more Missions, that those Missions seek to arrive at an amicable arrangement for working the districts of and around such cities.

That Missions contemplating extension carefully consider the work being done by other Missions in the Districts they have in view, and also give due attention to territory as yet unoccupied, endeavoring as far as possible to avoid overlapping.

Missions proposing to commence work in any district already occupied are recommended to consult with the brethren already there.

That before a new field is occupied information be given to the Advisory Board.
The West China Missionary News.

In the case of a new Mission entering the field we recommend that it confer with the Advisory Board.

In conclusion, the West China Conference would state that the object of the above suggestions is to promote such a spirit of harmony and co-operation among the various Missions as shall tend to the speedier and more complete occupation of the whole field by the messengers of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Constitution.

Article I.—Name.
This organization shall be known as the West China Missions Advisory Board.

Article II.—Object. The object of this Board shall be:

1. The promotion of a spirit of harmony and co-operation among the different Missions at work in West China.
2. To suggest such arrangements as shall tend to speedier and more complete occupation of the entire field.
3. To consider and advise upon any questions which may arise relating to the division of the field or to Missionary policy generally.

Article III.—Membership.

1. This Board shall be composed of the duly appointed representatives of all Missions laboring in West China.
2. Each Mission shall be entitled to have one representative for each province occupied.
3. Inasmuch as the Eastern and Western sections of the C.I.M. are managed as separate Missions, they are entitled to one representative each on the Advisory Board.
4. The Bible Societies working in West China shall be regarded as one Mission, and shall be entitled to one representative, appointed by their agents in West China.
5. The Young Men's Christian Association may appoint one representative.

Article IV.—Officers.

1. The officers of this Board shall consist of chairman, secretary, and treasurer. They shall be chosen by ballot at the beginning of each annual session, and shall hold office for one year, or until their successors are elected.
(2) The secretary shall keep a record of the meetings of the Board, and shall send a copy of such record to each of the Missions, Societies, or Associations represented on the Board. He shall conduct the official correspondence of the Board. All matter for publication shall receive the sanction of the Board. The secretary shall prepare and send an agenda to the different members of the Board three months before the date of the annual meeting.

(3) No matter of importance shall be finally decided by any meeting of the Advisory Board that has not been included in the agenda.

Article V.—COMMITTEES.
(1) The standing committees of this Board shall be: Publishing, Social Reforms, and Statistics. These committees shall be elected annually, and shall present yearly written reports.

(2) There shall be three sub-committees (See By-laws, Art. I. (4).

Article VI.—MEETINGS.
(1) This Board shall meet at least annually for the transaction of its business.

(2) The place, and, as far as possible, the time of annual meetings shall be decided by the Board. The final decision as regards time will be left to the secretary in consultation with secretaries of sub-committees.

Article VII.—AMENDMENTS.
(1) This Constitution may be amended at any regular annual meeting of the Board by a two-thirds vote of all members, provided that the amendment was recommended at the previous regular annual meeting by a majority vote, and has been published in the West China Missionary News at least three months before the date of the annual meeting voting thereupon.

BY-LAWS.

Article I.—STANDING COMMITTEES.
(1) Publishing Committee.—This committee shall consist of three members, two of whom shall be the editor and business manager of the West China Missionary News. The duty of this committee shall be to attend to all matters connected with the publishing of the West China Missionary News. In important matters
they shall consult with the local sub-committee of the Advisory Board. Any vacancies occurring during the year may be filled by the local sub-committee.

(2) Committee on Social Reforms.—This committee shall consist of two members, whose office it shall be to collect general and specific information on the whole subject of opium and cigarettes in their relation to the three Western Provinces, and who shall devise and recommend means whereby the missionary body may co-operate in unitingly fighting these great evils.

(3) Statistics Committee.—This committee shall collect and arrange statistics of the several Missions laboring in West China, and publish the same during the first quarter of each year.

(4) Sub-committees.—There shall be three sub-committees of representatives of the Advisory Board, who shall act for the Advisory Board during the interval between its annual meetings.

(a) These sub-committees shall have centers at Chentu, Chungking, and Yunnan.

(b) The secretaries of these sub-committees shall be appointed annually by the Board.

(c) Sub-committees are authorized to confer about local or emergency matters, or questions referred to them by the secretary of the Board.

(d) A sub-committee may meet at any time at the call of the secretary.

(e) Sub-committees shall send the result of their deliberations to the secretary, to be reported by him to the other members of the Board.

(f) The Northern sub-committee shall consist of the representatives of the Missions working in Chentu.

(g) The Southern sub-committee shall consist of the representatives of the Missions working in Chungking.

(h) The Yunnan sub-committee shall consist of the representatives of the Missions working in Yunnan.

(i) All members of the Advisory Board when present shall be ex-officio members of any sub-committee.

(j) Missions not having representatives residing
in a sub-committee center shall have power to ap­point a member of another Mission to act for them on one of the said committees.

Article II.—DIVISION OF FIELD.
(1) On any question that may arise in relation to division of territory the C.I.M. East and the C.I.M. West shall be regarded as one Mission, with the right to but one vote, that vote to be cast by the representative of the District concerned.
(2) The representatives of the Young Men's Christian Association and the Bible Societies, at their own request, shall not vote on questions of the delimita­tion of the field.

Article III.—EDUCATION. In view of the fact that the committee on primary and secondary education is a body representative of Szchuan missions, and as it is willing to report to this Board annually, resolved that it be recognized in lieu of an educa­tional committee directly appointed by this Board.

Article IV.—PUBLICATION. The West China Missionary News shall be known as the official organ of the Advisory Board, and all important communica­tions or notices shall be made through its columns.

Article V.—EXPENSES. The running expenses of the Board shall be met by pro rata contributions from the various Missions and Societies represented, the annual amount not to exceed twenty taels.

Article VI.—ANNUAL MEETING. All matters to be brought before the Advisory Board at its annual meeting shall be presented by the duly accredited representative of the Mission interested.

Article VII.—QUORUM. A majority of the members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the trans­action of the business of the Board at any annual meeting.

Article VIII.—RULES OF ORDER. The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the Board in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the by-laws of this Board.

Article IX.—AMENDMENTS. These By-laws may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members of the Board present at any annual session.
WEST CHINA MISSIONARY CONFERENCE: 1903.
SELECTED RESOLUTIONS.

Advisory Board.

Resolved—That this Conference recommends the enlargement of the duties of the Advisory Board in the following directions:—

A. To survey the whole field with a view to the planting of new agencies, or the cultivating of new fields; and to make recommendations to particular missions for the opening up of work, or the setting aside of men for such work as the following:—

(i) Literature for West China,
(ii) School for the Blind,
(iii) School for the Deaf and Dumb,
(iv) Asylums for the Insane,
(v) Museums,
or such other work as may from time to time seem to be insufficiently used in the whole field of West China.

B. To consider more particularly at the present time the feasibility of founding:—

(i) A School for the Children of Missionaries,
(ii) A Language School for new Missionaries, to be held, say, for six months in the year, at such place as may seem to be most desirable.

C. To suggest arrangements for specially qualified men to give a part of their time to special evangelistic efforts in Churches connected with the various missions.

Resolved—That the Nomination Committee be asked to appoint a Committee of three to make arrangements for the holding of one or more Summer Schools this year, to suggest plans for the further carrying on of such work both for Chinese and foreigners, and to report to the Advisory Board.

Resolved.—That the Standing Committee on Church Union be requested to report annually to the Advisory Board (See later).

Resolved—That the provisional Preamble, Constitution, and By-laws, presented by the Advisory Board a year
Resolved—That this Conference appoint a standing Committee to make arrangements, if possible, for Dr. Li, of Shanghai, to visit West China, and hold special meetings in various centres, and that they report to the Advisory Board.

Resolved—That the Social Reforms Committee of the Advisory Board co-operate with the medical missionaries in the preparation and use of literature which will enlighten the Chinese with regard to the cause, prevention, and cure of tuberculosis, and with regard to the cigarette evil.

Resolved—That this Conference ask the Advisory Board to take steps to secure the establishment of a translation bureau in some centre in West China; that the functions of this bureau should include the keeping of a record of all books and pamphlets upon which authors or translators are at work, and that such record be published from time to time in the *West China Missionary News*.

Resolved—That the Advisory Board be asked to appoint a Committee to deal with the subjects of Sunday School Work and Christian Endeavour, making arrangements, as they see fit, for the holding of Conventions on these subjects.

Resolved—that we, the members of the West China Missionary Conference, recognizing the evils which have been shown to accompany the use of cigarettes, and having had it brought to our notice that an Imperial Edict has recently been issued on the subject, therefore appoint Dr. Kilborn, Dr. Cauright, Mr. Grainger, Dr. Tompkins, Mr. Simkin, and Dr. Squibbs a Standing Committee (with power to add to their number) to consider what steps can be taken to bring the evils connected with the importation and use of cigarettes before the Chinese local and central authorities, and before the British and American Governments; and that this Committee report to the Advisory Board.

**Education.**

Resolved—that, in the judgment of this Conference, daily religious instruction should have a prominent place in all our Boarding and Day Schools.

Resolved—that, in the opinion of this Conference, attend-
ance at religious instruction be required from every student as part of the curriculum in all mission schools.

Resolved—That this Conference desires to emphasize the special responsibility devolving upon us, as Christian missionaries, to adopt measures for instilling into the children connected with our Churches, Christian standards of life and conduct, and also giving them such instruction in the Holy Scriptures and Christian truth as shall result in years to come in a strong, intelligent Church membership. And that this Conference therefore most heartily recommends all missions to establish schools, both day and boarding, with this end in view, in which, in addition to special Christian instruction, secular education is provided corresponding to that obtainable by the same class of Chinese outside the Church.

Resolved—That this Conference, while affirming its adherence to the principle of self-support in educational work, desires to point out that the time has not yet come when this policy can be carried out in all cases. While Christian parents should, as far as possible, pay for their children's education, there are many who cannot possibly do so, and therefore the Conference would regard with grave concern any curtailment of this work from over-emphasis of the principle of self-support.

Resolved—That this Conference heartily approves of the general plan of union in educational work as outlined by the Christian Educational Union of West China, and urges all missionaries engaged in school work to join in and assist the scheme.

Resolved—That the appointment of a thoroughly qualified educationalist, who shall give his whole time to the work of inspection of our Primary and Secondary Schools, and other work connected with the Educational Union, is of paramount importance to the satisfactory working of the union scheme; and that the Acting Board of Education be asked to take such steps as may be necessary to secure someone for this work.

Resolved—That this Conference recognizes the great importance of a first-class Normal School for West China, for the raising up of well-equipped Christian teachers for our Primary and Secondary Schools, and submits the question to the Acting Board of Education, with the hope that they may be able to include such an institution in the proposed Union University in Chentu, or elsewhere.
Resolved—That this Conference urges upon the Acting Board of Education the importance of founding a Medical School in connection with the proposed Union University as soon as the latter is started, as it considers that only through thoroughly qualified Christian Chinese doctors can the missionary expect to fully discharge his responsibility to the sick and suffering in this part of China.

The Chinese Church.

Resolved—That this Conference adopts as its ideal—One Protestant Christian Church for West China.

Resolved—That this Conference appoint a body, to be called "The Standing Committee on Church Union," to consider what measures can be taken to further this ideal.

Resolved—That the Special Committee on Church Union (consisting of two members of each mission at work in West China) act, in the meantime, as the Standing Committee on Church Union, and that the missions concerned be asked to approve these representatives or appoint others.

Resolved—That the Standing Committee on Church Union be asked to report annually to the Advisory Board.

Resolved—That whereas all Christian Missions labouring in West China have for their aim the establishment of the Kingdom of God; and whereas there is a sincere desire for more co-operation and a closer union of our Churches; this Conference recommends the free interchange of full members upon a recommendation from the pastor of the Church from which they come.

Resolved—That the Standing Committee on Church Union be asked to draw up a form for the interchange of members.

Resolved—that where two or more missions are working in the same city or district, they be urged to conduct union services wherever possible, and thus foster the spirit of union among foreigners and Chinese.

Resolved—that the West China missionaries are recommended to discuss the subject of Church Union in the West China Missionary News.

Resolved—that this Conference recommends to the Standing Committee on Church Union the calling of a Conference of Chinese Christians, the time, place, method of representation, and programme to be left with that Committee.
Resolved—That this Conference would strongly urge upon missions the necessity of exercising the utmost care in receiving gifts of money and property from those who are not thoroughly tested adherents of the Church.

Special Committee on Church Union, as appointed by the Conference, to act as the Standing Committee on Church Union, in the meantime:


**C.M. (East).**—Bishop Cassels, Rev. C. H. Parsons. **(West).**—Dr. Parry, Mr. Vale.

**C.M.S.**—Rev. O. M. Jackson, Rev. H. Taylor.

**F.C.M.**—Mr. Ogden, Dr. Shelton.

**F.F.M.A.**—Mr. R. J. Davidson, Mr. B. H. Jackson.

**C.M.**—Dr. O. L. Kilborn, Rev. J. L. Stewart.

**L.M.S.**—Rev. J. Parker, Mrs. Parker.

**M.E.M.**—Dr. Canright, Rev. J. F. Peat.

**U.M.M.**—Rev. F. J. Dymond, Rev. S. Pollard.

**Special Subjects.**

Resolved—That this Conference recommends the revival of the suggestion that Wednesday morning shall be observed as a time for mutual intercession for the work in West China; and that this idea be, as far as possible, extended to the Chinese Church, either separately or together, in the morning or evening.

Resolved—That this Conference expresses its high appreciation of the value of the services rendered by the Bible Societies at work in these provinces. We often find evidence that the books are read. We cannot but rejoice in the sowing broadcast of the Word of God, and are sure that the Holy Leaven of Divine Truth is gradually doing its blessed work, and that the work will grow stronger and more perfect, especially as there are now more and better converts from whom colporteurs may be selected.

Resolved—That (a) in view of the greatly increased area of the West China Religious Tract Society’s field of operations, and the pressing need of large developments to meet the requirements within our present field, a greatly increased income is an absolute necessity; and (b) that we should seek to secure this increase by enlisting the financial co-operation of every missionary in West China, by regularly bringing the claims of the Society before all our Chinese Churches, and by appealing to the Societies in the home lands for increased assistance.
Resolved—That this Conference urge upon the various missions at work in West China the necessity of reaching the student classes at the present time, and to this end earnestly recommends co-operation with the Young Men's Christian Association where possible.

OUR IDEAL.

Editor, —Dear Sir,—

The Committee appointed by the Executive of the recent Chentu Conference to arrange the session on Church Union, consisting, I believe, of Mr. R. J. Davidson, Dr. Kilborn, and Mr. Vale, had drawn up a set of resolutions for presenting to the Conference. Of these, the first was to the effect that the ideal before us was One Christian Church.

At the last moment, however, another involved resolution was presented instead, which, after being amended by the Conference, finally reverted to the original form. But, in the process of amending, a word was inserted, limiting and lowering the loftiness of the ideal, and making the wording One Protestant Christian Church.

I do not now propose to discuss the wisdom of thus limiting the ideal. But I wish to be allowed to state the fact, which I only discovered when it was too late to ask the Chairman to have the vote cast again, that a considerable number of the members of the Conference voted for the limitation when they meant to vote against.

Lunching at a mission house the day after the Conference, I was told that every one at the table had been in this position, and since that, I have met with several others who recorded their votes wrongly, under a misapprehension. So that I have no doubt that the mind of the majority was to retain the unqualified ideal, and I venture to express a hope that attention may be drawn to this when the Report of the Conference is issued.

But apart from this, surely the ideal is one that ought to be ever before us. Are we not all weary of the modern ecclesiastical arithmetic—the addition of denominations, the multiplication of sects, and the division of Churches? Christ's robe may be many coloured, but it must not be rent. Competition may be allowed where interests are opposed, but co-operation is the law of the Church of Christ where interests are identical.

So I venture to urge that the subject of unity should be kept before us in earnest prayer. For I see no way of attaining to it but by the over-ruling providence of God and the directing influence of His Spirit. And as we pray we shall be brought to realize more and more that it is our carnality and worldliness, our selfishness and partizanship, our unspirituality and lack of faith, which are among the greatest obstacles to our unity, and so we shall be led to fight against these things rather than against one another; and thus, striving for unity will also be an incentive to holiness.

I am, Sir, Yours truly,

W. W. CASSELS,

Paoning, February 28th, 1908.

Bishop.
THE WEST CHINA BAPTIST CONFERENCE.

The West China Baptist Conference was held in this city, Jan. 15-18. Only thirteen of the twenty-two members of the Conference were present, but something was accomplished in spite of our few numbers.

Two subjects received particular attention—the union educational movement, and the work among the aboriginal tribes of Szchuan. Advices from our Executive Committee in Boston encourage us to believe that our needs in these particular directions are receiving due recognition at home, and we hope for speedy reinforcement.

The Shanghai Missionary Conference has played no small part in bringing China into more vital touch with the Churches at home, and now our Board contemplates establishing an additional bond between the Baptists of America and their missions in the Orient by the appointment of a field secretary, whose duties it shall be to visit all of our stations and conferences, counselling with us, and taking our messages in person to the Churches at home.

Many of the actions of the Chentu Conference were anticipated at Yachow, and need no mention here. We adjourned with a little better appreciation of what our brothers are doing, and with a little deeper enthusiasm for the work of the Master.

Dr. C. E. Tompkins, of Suifu, was re-elected treasurer, and Mrs. Tompkins, statistician.

Next year the Conference is to meet at Kiating, about Chinese New Year.

Joseph Taylor, Moderator.

Yachow, Feb. 11, 1908. Asa Z. Hall, M.D., Clerk.

STATION NOTES.

NING YUENFU.

By the time this reaches you the second West China Conference will be over. Gladly would we have gone had circumstances permitted. Trust that much good was accomplished which will have a beneficent influence on the future of the work in West China.

We are now in the rush of the last few days of the old Chinese year. Everyone seems in a hurry, the creditor hunting the debtor, and the debtor running away from his creditor. The usual anxiety amongst the poor to scrape sufficient cash together to lay in a few
extra meals of rice, and the inevitable incense, cash paper, and candles. It is really pathetic to watch and hear these poor people. Somehow, as one sees them so anxious to worship the idols and provide the necessities for this worship, even before their own needs are cared for, reminds one of the story of the widow's mite recorded in the Gospel. God has a large place in His heart and Gospel for the poor, and this desire in the hearts of these poor people to worship according to their light cannot be wholly and entirely forgotten by Him.

The little Christian Church in Ningyuenfu has provided a fund to supply about 30 piculs of rice for distribution. Each holder of a ticket receives about five pounds of rice. We wish more could be provided, but considering the other demands made on these few members, this represents a good amount of liberality. There are more poor people in this city than I have seen in any other Prefectural city I am acquainted with.

We are busy building our new chapel, and hope to see it finished by next May. The greater part of the funds for this purpose are raised on this field.

Lately I went on an itinerating tour of forty days, and visited only about half this district. Twenty-four towns were visited where there are enquirers. It was not possible to remain more than a day or so in each place. Some few in each of these places evince genuine interest in the Gospel. Our great need is for competent and efficient native workers.

Our new Prefect has lately come, and seems according to the "wiseacres" to be most unfortunate. In the first place he was engaged on a case which did not especially please the populace, and anonymous placards appeared in which he was severely scored. Then the Hillmen are on the warpath, after three years of comparative peace, extending over the term of office of the late Prefect. This new man seemed anxious for a fray, and sent about 250 soldiers in to punish a refractory tribe. It happened, however, that the soldiers were punished instead. Some twenty were either killed or kidnapped; one small gun was captured, and about ten repeating rifles. It is said that the Prefect is a wiser man now, as most men usually are—after the event! And that next time he will be more cautious in dealing with these brave but obstreperous Hillmen. The soldiers are brutal. They burned a few houses, killed the women, children, and old men who could not fight or get away. These soldiers made a raid on a settlement of Hillmen at night, and it was only after their return home from these brutal murders that the Hillmen sought revenge. Now the Chinese authorities are collecting and enlisting soldiers, while the Hillmen are preparing for defence.
To add to the discomfort and unpopularity of our new Prefect, a destructive fire raged a few days ago outside the city. Seventy-eight families, according to official statements, are homeless. Over twenty stores on the West Street, the principal street of the city, were burned down. This will be a very sad New Year for these poor people, who practically lost their all.

The weather is delightful—bright sunshine all day and almost every day.

Jan. 29th, 1908. R. Wellwood.

[Note.—We regret that several valuable contributions have been crowded out, for lack of space. They will appear in next issue—Ed.]

BIRTHS.

Adam.—At Taichow, Chekiang, on the 31st December, 1907, to Mr. and Mrs. James R. Adam, a son—James Horatius George.

Carson.—At Chentu, on the 15th March, to Rev. E. J. and Mrs. Carson, a son—Marvin John Dunfield.

Moyes.—At Chatham, Ont., Canada, in January, to Mr. and Mrs. Moyes, a son. The baby, "a hearty boy," but Mrs. Moyes very ill.

DEATHS.

Corlies.—We regret exceedingly to learn that a cablegram has been received telling of the sudden death of Dr. Briton Corlies in U.S.A.

Moyes (Later).—We regret exceedingly to have to announce the death of Mrs. Moyes on Feb. 7th. We are sure that Mr. Moyes has the deep sympathy of all West China missionaries.

Webster.—At Fushuen, on February 25th, Hilda Edith, daughter of J. W. and Mrs. Webster.

All Business Communications to be addressed:—

THE BUSINESS MANAGER,  
West China Missionary News,  
Chentu, Szechuan, China.

All other Communications to:—

THE EDITOR,  
West China Missionary News,  
Chentu, Szechuan, China.

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