CHINA CHRISTIAN EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION

1925

BULLETIN No. 11

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF TEXT BOOKS

FOR THE

PRIMARY SCHOOL

By

Y. P. Tsien, B.A.

CHINA CHRISTIAN EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION

[Tentative Edition]
BIBLIOGRAPHY OF TEXT BOOKS
FOR THE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

By
Y. P. Tien, B.A.

[Chia Christian Educational Association

[Tentative Edition]
NOTE

This Bulletin contains a tentative bibliography of textbooks available for use in primary schools. The secretaries of the China Christian Educational Association will appreciate comments, both favorable and unfavorable, from those who have used any of these books, as well as the titles and a brief review of other textbooks and manuals that have not been included. It is desired to secure as complete a bibliography as possible of all such books, through the cooperation of those who are using them.

Please communicate with

THE CHINA CHRISTIAN EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION

23 Yuen Ming Yuen Road

Shanghai

July 10, 1925
NEW TEXTBOOKS FOR THE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Y. P. Tien, B.A.
Assistant Secretary, China Christian Educational Association

This article lists the new textbooks published by three of the largest book companies in China, as well as a few books from other publishers. It has been prepared to assist school principals and teachers in the selection of texts for use in the lower and higher primary school, according to the new system.


LOWER PRIMARY

1. NEW SYSTEM TEXT BOOKS (新学制初級小學用書)

Published by the Commercial Press (商务印書館)

(1) CHINESE SPOKEN LANGUAGE READERS (國語教科書)

(In eight books for four years of study. Each book contains fifty lessons.)

These books are based on the standards set up by the new system curriculum committee, and are prepared by experienced teachers. The contents contain both literary and spoken material collected from various fields. New words are selected and arranged with special care so as to suit the capacity of the children, and so that each word will be reviewed eight or nine times before the end of the book. Pictures, illustrations, printing, etc., are quite satisfactory. Project methods are introduced in these books.

Good teachers' manuals for each book have been prepared. In the beginning of the first book of the manuals, two chapters on teaching Chinese in general are specially helpful.

(2) CHINESE COMPOSITION (作文教科書)

(In eight books for four years of study.)

These books are prepared for composition classes in the lower primary grades. Each book contains twenty lessons. The content of these books is selected from the materials in the Chinese spoken language readers that the pupils have already learned; thus these books are supposed to be used parallel with the readers. Specific objectives are outlined for each term of study, such as character combinations, sentence constructions, sentence combinations, etc.

No teachers' manuals are prepared, but some general methods of teaching this subject have been included in the texts.
(3) ARITHMETIC (算術教科書)
(In eight books for four years of study.)

These books are based upon the outline of studies of the new curriculum. The first two books contain mostly pictures, and only a few simple characters are used. Formal arithmetic operations begin in the third book. Much interesting material such as plays, riddles, etc., are found in the lessons. The material in these books is closely related with that of other subjects so as to make the lessons more easily comprehended. “Practice” has been specially emphasized in these books.

Teachers’ manuals for each book are prepared.

(4) TEXT BOOKS ON GENERAL KNOWLEDGE (常識教科書)
(In eight books for four years of study.)

There are more than ten subjects, according to the new curriculum, that ought to be taught in the lower primary schools. Some schools, especially rural schools, may not be able to teach each subject separately, and combined courses are preferable. “General knowledge” combines social study and nature study and these books are prepared for the purpose. The material in these books is mostly collected from the fields of hygiene, civics, geography, history, natural science, etc. The needs of life have been used as the standard for selection.

Teachers’ manuals are prepared.

(5) SOCIAL STUDY (社會教科書)
(In eight books for four years of study.)

This subject is a combination of civics, hygiene, history and geography. The aim of this study is to enable the pupils to know the society of the past and present and the social relations of human beings, to train pupils to be interested in society, to train pupils to have the necessary habits in social life. The first two books have more pictures than the others. In most of the lessons the subject matter is presented by means of stories.

These books have teachers’ manuals.

(6) NATURE STUDY (自然教科書)
(In eight books for four years of study.)

The first two books consist mostly of pictures; only a few characters that the children have learned in their spoken language readers have been used. The next two books contain characters and pictures in equal amount. Observations, experiments, exercises, etc., are added in the last four books. The material in these text books is collected generally from the fields of botany, zoology, mineralogy, natural phenomena, simple physics and chemistry and common gardening. Study of real things is emphasized in the process of presentation.

Teachers’ manuals for each book have been prepared.

(7) INDUSTRIAL ARTS (工用藝術教科書)
(Eight books for four years of study.)

This subject is to take the place of handwork, which has formerly been taught in elementary schools. Most of the lessons in these books are similar to those in handwork, but useless operations have been avoided and useful ones added in. The lessons are grouped about the problems of clothing, housing, and food. Both knowledge and skill are emphasized. Study and practice are equally provided for.

Teachers’ manuals are prepared for each book but only two of them have been published.
(8) FINE ARTS (形 象 藝 術 教 科 書)
(In eight books for four years of study.)

This is a somewhat new subject in the primary school curriculum. It covers the field of drawing and a part of handwork. The aim of this subject is to train the children's appreciation, expression and imagination. The subject matter consists of pictures from various sources, presented for appreciation, expression, study and reference, but not as models to be imitated. Nearly all of the beautiful colored pictures are reproductions from the West. This seems to be a mistake, as there is an abundance of Chinese art that could have been used. Teachers in the country schools may not be able to appreciate or understand western art.

Teachers' manuals are prepared but two of them are still in preparation.

(9) MUSIC (音樂 教 科 書)
(In eight books for four years of study.)

Only four of the texts are ready for use.

The interest of the children and beauty have been specially emphasized in these books. The songs have good correlation with the lessons in the Spoken Language Readers. Much of the material in the readers has been put into songs in these books. Some works of modern poets have been included. Most of the tunes are new; some have been adopted from famous songs of the west.

Teachers' manuals have not yet been prepared.

2. NEW TEXT BOOKS (初 級 小 學 用 書)

Published by the Chung Hwa Book Company (中華 书 局)

(1) CHINESE NATIONAL LANGUAGE READERS (國 語 閱 本)
(In eight books for four years of study.)

These books contain rhythmic literature, riddles, stories, fables, materials from history and geography, etc. The lessons for the first three years (the first six books) are written in the spoken language only, but the lessons for the last year (the last two books) are written in both spoken language and wenli. There are about twelve hundred new characters in the first two years of study and thirteen hundred in the last two years. Attention has been given to the "review" of new characters, so that most of them appear at least ten times in the books.

Teachers' manuals have been prepared.

These books and the Spoken Language Readers published by the Commercial Press are about the same in quantity and quality.

(2) ARITHMETIC (算 術 課 本)
(In eight books for four years of study.)

These books are prepared with the purpose of training children's abilities in thinking and of supplying them with a knowledge of arithmetical operations and their use. Practical uses have been emphasized. The first two books deal with numbers below 100 and with addition and subtraction. The second two books deal with the four fundamental operations with numbers below 1000. The next two books deal with the four fundamental operations with numbers of integrals and two figures of decimals. The last two books deal with decimals and denominate numbers.

Teachers' manuals have been prepared and are ready for use.

These books contain more drills than those published by the Commercial Press.
(3) SOCIAL SCIENCE READERS (社会课本)
(Eight books for four years of study.)

These books are similar in purpose to the “Social Study” textbooks published by the Commercial Press. The first book consists of pictures of various kinds. The third book contains pictures and simple reading.

Only three of the texts and one of the teachers’ manuals are ready for sale.

(4) NATURAL SCIENCE READERS (自然课本)
(In eight books for four years of study.)

The first two books consist of pictures of various kinds. These pictures are not so clear as they should be. Book three contains pictures and readings, about half and half each. There are some lessons on animals, plants, and insects.

Only three of the texts and one of the teachers’ manuals are ready for use.

(5) GENERAL KNOWLEDGE READERS (常识课本)
(In eight books for four years of study.)

These books cover the ground of social study and nature study. The first two books consist only of pictures and two of them are colored. The next two books contain some pictures and simple sentences and rhythmic sentences are more used. In the last four books questions have been added to each lesson. The first four books form one spiral and the second four another one. Some of the pictures in these books are not clear enough.

Teachers’ manuals have been prepared.

The amount of material in these books is about the same as that in the books published by the Commercial Press, but the lessons in these books are longer than in the books by the Commercial Press.

(6) CITIZEN READERS (CIVICS) (公民课本)
(In eight books for four years of study.)

This new subject will be put in the curriculum in place of moral instruction which formerly has been taught in elementary schools, but the ground covered by this subject is much wider than that of moral instruction. Moral training now is becoming only one part of the new subject. These books deal with individual life, family life, school life, social life, etc. The first four books contain lessons only concerning children’s lives while the last four books contain lessons more and more dealing with adult life. Books one and two consist only of pictures. Books three and four contain stories and the last four books contain instructions of different types. Pictures in these books do not seem to be as attractive as they ought to be.

Teachers’ manuals are prepared.

3. TEXT BOOKS FOR LOWER PRIMARY SCHOOLS
(初級小學用書)

Published by the World Book Company (上海世界書局)

“MOTHER TONGUE” (SPOKEN LANGUAGE READERS)
(初級國語課本)
(In eight books for four years of study.)

High ideals, appreciation of beauty, reading habits, children’s interests, and the spirit of the present times have been emphasized in these books. The books
contain poems, dramas, stories, riddles, fables, biographies, compositions, etc. There are about 2400 new characters in these books and they are divided as follows: for the first year about 500, the second year 600, the third year 650, the fourth year 700. In the first four books each lesson contains four or five new characters and in the last four book each lesson contains six or seven new characters. The pictures are well printed.

Manuals are ready for sale.

These books are not inferior in amount of subject matter and quality to those published by the Commercial Press and Chung Hwa Book Co. The pictures in these books and those in the Spoken Language Reader of the Commercial Press are better prepared than those in the books of the Chung Hwa Book Co.

(2) CHINESE LANGUAGE READERS (初級文讀本)

(In eight books for four years of study.)

These books contain stories, fables, riddles, poems, biographies, travels, etc. and juvenile literature has been emphasized. These books are prepared in wenli. They are not based upon the outline of studies of the new curriculum. They seem to be adapted from the old text books of the time when the spoken language was not used in school books.

(3) ARITHMETIC (初級算術課本)

(In eight books for four years of study.)

These books are based upon the outline of studies of the new curriculum. Drill has been emphasized in the lessons, and inductive methods have been used in presenting the teaching materials. The first book consists only of pictures and of figures. The second book deals with addition and subtraction with numbers below 20. The third book deals with addition and subtraction with numbers below 100, and multiplication and division with numbers not larger than 5. The fourth book contains lessons of review work that has been learned in the three preceding books. Multiplication and division with the numbers below 100 have also been treated.

Teachers' manuals are prepared.

(4) "USEFUL KNOWLEDGE SERIES" (初級常識課本)
(GENERAL KNOWLEDGE READERS)

(In eight books for four years of study)

The first two books consist of pictures and in the other books simple reading materials have been added gradually. These books contain materials of hygiene, civics, history, geography, nature study, gardening, etc.

4. BOOKS BY OTHER PUBLISHERS

(1) RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

SYLLABUS OF RELIGIOUS TEACHING FOR LOWER PRIMARY SCHOOLS (初等小學聖經科要目)

This syllabus is adapted by the West China Christian Educational Union from Miss G. B. Ayre's "Suggestions for a Syllabus in Religious Teaching."

The first year gives stories on God the Father; the second year stories from the Old Testament chiefly; the third year takes stories from the life of Christ; and the fourth year stories of the apostles.

Four teachers' manuals have been prepared to supplement this syllabus, but they do not contain as full material as the ideal manual should.
THE WORDS AND ACTS OF JESUS

This book is prepared by the West China Christian Educational Union for use in the third year of the elementary school. It consists of the selections from the four gospels that are called for by the Syllabus. Clear ming type is used.

THE WORDS AND ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

This book is also prepared by the West China Christian Educational Union for use in the fourth year of the elementary school. It consists of the selections from the Acts and the Epistles that are called for by the Syllabus.

RELIGION

(In eight books for four years of study, published by the North Fukien Religious Tract Society, Foochow.)

Only the first two text-books and manuals are ready for sale. The books are based upon the standards that have been worked out by the committee of religious instruction organized by the three missions in North Fukien. The standards have been included in the beginning of the first volume of the manual.

The books deal with the evidences of God's love from the family life, everyday supplies, natural phenomena, life in the natural world, human body and intelligence, the coming of Jesus for mankind, etc. The last ten lessons of the second book deal with the topic of how to return God's love. Pictures in the books need very much improvement.

The book has the general good features of common text-books for other subjects. It contains simple reading and many pictures.

In the manual each lesson contains the items of conversation, story, recite of important scripture verses, and hand work, play or actual observation. These books may be considered as more practical and interesting than any other Chinese text books on religion in existence.

GRADED BIBLE STORIES

(In six books for six years of study.)

These books are translated from the work of Professor W. James Mutch of Ripon College. The stories in these books are arranged in groups. In the first year there are such groups as, "Sheep Stories," "Baby Stories," and "Cave Stories." In the second year, "Stories about Good People," "Stories about the House of God," "Stories about Giving," etc. The third year has, "Kinsman Stories," "Sacred Things," "Friends of Jesus Stories," and other groups. The fourth year has, "Brothers and Friends Stories," "Parables of Jesus," "Tales of Bondage," "Tales of Judges." The fifth year deals with "Tales of Kings and Prophets," "Primitive Hero Tales," "Tales of True Heroism." With the sixth year, when the pupils are beginning to appreciate time values, the new principle of chronological order appears in the series, and beginning with the time of Abraham the stories are arranged in a chronological sequence which is followed throughout the rest of the stories.

For the method of using these books the author, Dr. Mutch, has said, "The teacher tells the story to the class, and then lets the pupils vie with each other in reproducing it until they all know it perfectly."

These books are handled by the Mission Book Company.

GRADED BIBLE LESSONS

(The originals of these six books were prepared by Mr. A. C. Clayton, a missionary in India. They are translated for use in China by Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Clayton. Each book contains 78 lessons and in each of them special aims of the lessons, numbers of chapters and verses from the Bible for reference reading are included, and at the end of each lesson there are three questions for review.)
As to the contents of these books the translator says: "The stories in the First Book tell of God's care for flowers and insects, birds and beasts, and of how Jesus brought help and kindness to the lives of men. The Second Book tells stories of the deeds of Jesus and some of the stories which He Himself told, and also tells stories about the heroes and saints of ancient times. The Third Book gives an outline of the life of Jesus and stories of some who are to be admired and some who are to be blamed among the Hebrews, while the Fourth Book tells stories of the friends and foes of Jesus and stories of great and good deeds of ancient Hebrew heroes and leaders."

Since the lessons are all stories it would not be necessary for the pupils to have the books, especially the first two books, which are too difficult for them to read. Bible selections for reading have been printed in four other books which should be used together with the story books.

A small pamphlet, called "Suggestions for Teaching Clayton's Bible lessons," (聖經課題接授教授應用指南) has been prepared by Deaconness E. E. Fueller. Some general points and methods for using these books have been outlined in this little book.

(2) ARITHMETIC

MODERN ARITHMETIC (初等實用數學)

This set consists of five books prepared by Mr. J. S. Helps at the request of the Board of Control of the Central China Christian Educational Association six years ago.

The first book deals with the four fundamental operations with numbers not larger than 100; the second deals with numbers not larger than 1000, and some of the common measures. The third book deals with the four operations with numbers not larger than 10,000, factors, decimals, and fractions. The fourth book deals with decimal numbers, fractions, and denominate numbers. The fifth book is especially prepared for the teacher. It gives the answers to the problems in the other four books and some general principles for teaching arithmetic. Each of the first four books contains 38 lessons for one year of study. Drill has been especially emphasized in these books as the texts consist only of questions and problems.

The first book is somewhat difficult for the first year pupils and there is too much reading. The printing, also, is not very suitable for young children as the figures and characters ought to be larger, and the spaces between them should be wider. The later books might be useful, as much material of practical value is included in them, but the printing is not quite satisfactory and some of the problems are not written in good Chinese.

These books are handled by the Religious Tract Society, Hankow.

MENTAL ARITHMETIC (初等實用心算術)

This book is also prepared by Rev. J. S. Helps. It is to be used together with the Modern Arithmetic just described. It contains 20 lessons and each lesson is divided into two parts. Part I is for the third grade pupils, and part II is for the fourth grade pupils. This is a useful book for the teacher in drilling the pupils in mental work in arithmetic.

ELEMENTARY ARITHMETIC (小學算術)

(In twelve books for six years of study.)

These books are translated from Professor Thorndike's Elementary Arithmetic by Mr. Liu Kwang Chao; the primer is prepared by Mr. Liu himself. The primer is prepared only for the teachers in teaching arithmetic to the pupils of the first term of the first year. Only oral methods will be used at this time.

The material in these books is practical and interesting, as from the very beginning problems of everyday life have been used. The books have not been quite adapted to conditions in China.

These books are published by the China Christian Educational Association and sold by the Mission Book Company.
(3) Chinese Language and Literature

(A) Books on Chinese Letter Writing

Published by the World Book Company

CHILDREN'S LETTER WRITING (兒童新尺箋)

These two books contain 52 letters of various kinds and each has been written in two forms, in wenli and in the spoken language. They are arranged in groups, as family letters, letters to relatives, school letters, and commercial letters. At the end of the second book forms for writing short notes, post cards and envelopes, a table of titles, and list of punctuation marks, etc., have been included. Explanations of difficult terms have been prepared. There are many pictures in the books which are very interesting and clear. The printing of the books is also good. These two books can be used as supplementary study in the lower primary schools or as home study.

ELEMENTARY NEW LETTER WRITING (初等新尺箋)

These two books contain 60 letters of different kinds, each letter being written in both wenli and the spoken language.

The general nature of these two books is about the same as the books just described above, but they are more difficult. They would be useful in the last two years of the elementary school.

STUDENTS' NEW LETTER WRITING (學生新尺箋)

These two books contain more material than the two sets of books just described. They are not as elementary as those in the former two sets but the general character of the books is about the same.

LADIES' LETTER WRITING (女子新尺箋)

These two books contain about 100 letters written both in wenli and in the spoken language. Explanations of difficult terms in the letters are given at the end of the letters. At the end of the second book forms for writing post cards, short notes, etc., are included. These books could be used as supplementary work in girls' schools or for home study. The material in these books is practical and useful.

MODELS OF LETTER WRITING (新式尺箋範本)

These two books contain 60 short letters all written in simple wenli. They are prepared for self study for the elementary school students. Facts in the letter, main points in and methods of writing the letter have been outlined for each letter. Difficult terms have been explained at the end.

(B) Books on Composition

Published by the World Book Company

HIGHER PRIMARY NEW MODELS FOR COMPOSITION (高小對照高等作文新範)

These three books contain 120 lessons and each of them has been written both in wenli and in the spoken language. The style is simple and clear, the printing is very good. The first book emphasizes common sense; the second, academic theories; the third, world problems. Methods of composing the essays have been treated at the end of each piece of literature. Explanations of difficult terms have been added.
LOWER PRIMARY NEW MODELS FOR COMPOSITION
(言文對照初等作文新範)

These four books contain 96 essays, each of which has been written both in wenli and in the spoken language. The general nature of these books is not very much different from the books described above, as they are prepared by the same author.

NEW MODELS OF SPOKEN LANGUAGE ESSAYS
(新式國語文範本)

These two books contain 48 essays on common topics. They are prepared in good clear spoken language. Good use could be made of these books in the last two years of the elementary school.

(C) OTHER BOOKS

THE WRITING OF THE TWO THOUSAND COMMONEST CHARACTERS (雙千通用字書法課本)
(In four books for four years of study.)

These books were published in 1918 by Rev. J. S. Helps following the selections of Mr. Krantz, with the purpose of enabling pupils to have the two thousand commonest characters mastered in the first four years of education. One or two of the most common usages have been given below each character. These books were, in August 1918, adopted by the Central China Christian Educational Association as the standard requirement for character writing in each of the four years of the lower primary school. These books are very practical and helpful as they have a good scientific basis. Even though during the last few years the language in the text books has been changed from wenli to the spoken language these books still have the possibility of being very useful as supplementary studies in the elementary school.

These books are handled by the Religious Tract Society, Hankow.

FOUR BOOKS (四書)
(In three volumes.)

These books are prepared by the Central China Christian Educational Association. Only the plain texts of the books have been included. All commentary has been omitted and the chapters and verses have been numbered for convenience of reference. The printing is fairly good.

The books are handled by the Religious Tract Society, Hankow.

PERIODICALS FOR CHILDREN

1. CHILDREN'S WORLD (兒童世界). Published by the Commercial Press. Issued weekly. $2.50 per year, postage extra.

2. CHILDREN'S GRAPHIC MAGAZINE (兒童畫報). Published by the Commercial Press. Issued semi-monthly. $1.50 per year, postage extra.

3. YOUTH MAGAZINE (少年雜誌). Published by the Commercial Press. Issued monthly. $1.00 per year, postage extra.

4. LITTLE FRIENDS (小朋友). Published by the Chung Hwa Book Company. Issued weekly. $2.00 per year, postage extra.

There are many other books of juvenile literature published by the Commercial Press, Chung Hwa Book Company, the World Book Company, and the Great Eastern Book Company. They will send their catalogs on application.
HIGH PRIMARY

TEXT BOOKS FOR HIGHER PRIMARY SCHOOLS (高級小學用書)

Before describing the books let me say a few words about the "New Methods" and "New System" Series, published by the Commercial Press.

The books in the "New Methods Series" were published just after the new school system had been adopted, before the outline of studies had been worked out. The books in the "New System Series" were prepared after the outline of studies was announced.

All the books in the "New System Series" have been written in the spoken language, while some of the books in the "New Methods Series" are in wenli. The contents of these two series are quite similar, with the exception that the books in the "New System Series" are based on the outline of studies. This is the advantage in the books of this series.

Registered schools are free to use the books of either series, for both have been approved by the Board of Education.

1. THE NEW SYSTEM SERIES (新學制組)

Published by the Commercial Press

(1) CHINESE SPOKEN LANGUAGE READERS (國語教科書)

(Four books for two years of study.)

The books contain materials in biography, stories, poetry, etc. In the last two books, prose and poetry written in simple wenli are added. Very few pictures are included in the first two books and no pictures in the last two.

Teachers' manuals are prepared and in the first book there is a chapter on "Teaching Method in General," which may be helpful to the teacher.

(2) CIVICS (公民教科書)

(Four books for two years of study.)

The knowledge, habits, and experience of a good citizen are all emphasized. The first book deals more with family life, the second with local life, the third with national life, and the fourth with international life.

Teachers' manuals are prepared.

(3) HISTORY (歷史教科書)

(Four books for two years of study.)

The first three books deal with Chinese history and the fourth one with foreign history. The spiral method is used in the arrangement of material in the first three books. Book one and two form one spiral and book three another. Racial relations and movements and the evolution of civilization are emphasized. Historical maps and illustrations are provided. These books will enable the people to generalize the historical knowledge that they have learned in the lower primary studies, and will also supply them with a foundation for further study in the secondary schools.

Teachers' manuals are prepared.

(4) GEOGRAPHY (地理教科書)

(Four books for two years of study.)

The first three books deal with Chinese geography and the last one with foreign geography. The subject matter in these books emphasises the natural side,—mountains, rivers, productions, weather, etc.; and the human side,—situations, communications, industries, customs, governments, international relations, etc.
These books are written in the form of a travel story. Pictures and simple maps are included.

Comprehensive teachers’ manuals are prepared.

(5) TEXT BOOKS ON HYGIENE

(Four books for two years of study.)

Each lesson consists of three parts: first, suggested problems for observation; second, the text; third, exercises. The material in these books is arranged according to the systems of anatomy and physiology. Pictures and illustrations are given. Book four deals more with family and public hygiene.

Teachers’ manuals are prepared and all of them are ready for sale.

(6) TEXT BOOKS ON NATURE STUDY

(Four books for two years of study.)

These four books together with the eight books that are for the lower primary school form one set. The general nature of the contents is similar to the former eight books, and more material has been put in. At the end of each lesson an outline, generalization and comparisons are added.

Teachers’ manuals are prepared.

(7) ARITHMETIC

(Four books for two years of study.)

The books cover the ground of the four fundamental operations, dealing with integrals and decimals, ratio, fractions, formulae, simple equations, denominate numbers, percentage, interests, bookkeeping, etc.

The books are divided into chapters and sections but not lessons, so the teacher is free to suit the length of each lesson to the ability of the pupils. Theory and practice are both emphasized in these books.

Teachers’ manuals are prepared.

(8) AGRICULTURAL READERS

(In four books for two years of study.)

Vocational courses, according to the new school system, should be included in the studies for the higher grades in the elementary schools. Agriculture is one of these courses. These books are prepared for such a course of study. Practice and knowledge are both emphasized in these books, yet in some places the information may have not very much practical value. Materials are arranged according to the degree of difficulty; also the seasons of the year have been given much consideration. There are clear pictures and illustrations in the books.

Only three of the text books and two of the teachers’ manuals are ready for sale.

It would be best to have the text books for such a subject prepared locally, as agriculture means different things in different places. Perhaps text books would not be necessary if this course is handled by intelligent teachers who really know the agricultural life of the places that the schools are serving.
2. **THE NEW METHOD SERIES** (新法組)

*Published by the Commercial Press*

(1) **CHINESE SPOKEN LANGUAGE READERS** (國語教科書)

*(Four books for two years of study.)*

These books are prepared to develop the children's abilities in creative
thinking and judgment. The contents of these books are collected from various
types of literature, such as story, description, poetry, etc. There is only a small
amount of practical literature included.

The selection of material is based upon child psychology and the needs of
child life. Positive morality, emotion, imagination, and appreciation are
emphasized in the books.

Teachers' manuals are prepared and all of them are ready.

These books and those of the new system series contain nearly the same
amount of material.

(2) **CHINESE LANGUAGE READERS** (國語文教科書)

*(Four books for two years of study.)*

These books are prepared with the purpose of enabling the pupils to have a
good understanding of the nature both of spoken language and of wenli. The
contents include literature written both with spoken language and with wenli
and most of the lessons are prepared in both. There are four kinds of style in
these books; namely, narration, description, discussion, and poetry; the first
receives the largest amount of attention. Since these books contain lessons in
two styles, the material subject matter is not so full as in the spoken language
readers.

Teachers' manuals are prepared for each book and all of them are ready.

(3) **CHINESE CONVERSATION** (會話教科書)

*(Four books for two years of study.)*

The subject matter of these books is selected from general knowledge, social
life, custom and morality, school life, family life, etc. Only common language,
or mandarin, is used in these books. Phonetic symbols are used to help the
pronunciation of every character.

These books are useful for the schools at the places where mandarin is not
used, but they will not be so valuable for those schools in the places where
mandarin is already used as every day language. A course in “Conversation”
need not be taught separately, as it is quite possible to include it in the course
in Chinese language.

No teachers' manuals have been prepared.

(4) **ARITHMETIC** (算術教科書)

*(Four books for two years of study.)*

The first book deals with integers, decimals, and simple areas and volumes;
the second with denominate numbers, both Chinese and foreign systems; the
third with fractions and percentage; and the fourth with ratio and bookkeeping.
The material in these books is selected and arranged according to a logical
order. The interests of children are somewhat neglected. The material in these
books is not so full as that in the New System Series.

Teachers' manuals have been prepared.
(5) NATURE STUDY (自然研究)
(In six books for six years of study.)

The first four books are for the lower primary school studies while the last two are for the higher primary school. They are prepared with the purpose of enabling pupils to have a general knowledge of nature and its relation to human life. The author has outlined the objectives of the study of this subject as being appreciative, economic, social, and hygienic. The material in these books is collected from the fields of animate and inanimate things, gardening, industry, physics, chemistry, meteorology. In each book the lessons are arranged in groups in the order of the natural phenomena of the four seasons, natural life, and the utilization of nature. The organization of material in these books seems to be not so satisfactory as in the text books on nature study of the New System Series. They are not so interesting and attractive. Many of the pictures are not so clear as they ought to be.

Comprehensive teachers' manuals for each book have been prepared.

(6) SCIENCE READERS (理科教科書)
(In four books for two years of study.)

The material in these books is selected from the fields of botany, zoology, agriculture, physiology, physics, chemistry, etc. The first two books deal more with biology, physiology and agriculture. Book III and Book IV deal more with physics and chemistry. The lessons are well related, and outlines for comparison have been put in the text wherever they are necessary. Sufficient pictures and illustrations are presented.

Very comprehensive teachers' manuals for each book have been prepared.

These books as a whole seem to be inferior in comparison with the text books on "Nature Study" of the New System Series in methods of presentation of the lessons. The ground covered by these two sets of books is nearly the same, with the exception that "Science Readers" have some lessons on physiology, which is not treated in "Nature Study."

(7) CIVICS (公民教科書)
(In two books for two years of study.)

The content of these books consists of material dealing with individual life, family life, school life, local life, national and international life. Group organization and common sense in central and local governments are emphasized. The material in these books is not so full as that in the books of the New System Series. The arrangement of lessons also is not so satisfactory as that in the New System Series, as each lesson is prepared for two periods of study in two weeks. The time between lessons is somewhat too long.

Teachers' manuals are prepared.

(8) HISTORY (歷史教科書)
(In four books for two years of study.)

The spiral method is used in the arrangement of lessons. Book I and Book II form one spiral, Book III another one, and Book IV still another. The first two books deal more with the history of Chinese governments. Book III deals with the history of Chinese civilization and Book IV with important historical facts of foreign countries. Democracy has been emphasized in these books.

Teachers' manuals are prepared.

This set of books and that for the same subject in the New System Series are prepared by the same author so there is no great difference between the two, but the latter seems to be superior to the former in selection of material and in its organization, as the history of civilization is more emphasized.
(9) GEOGRAPHY (地理教科書)

(In four books for two years of study.)

Book I and Book II deal with the Chinese provinces separately. Book III deals with China as a whole and Book IV deals with the geography of foreign countries. Industry, communications, government, etc. are emphasized in these books. Simple maps and pictures are included, but they are not so attractive as they ought to be. This is the same fault with the geography books in the New System Series.

Teachers' manuals are prepared.

These books are not so full and interesting as those for the same subject in the New System Series.

(10) HYGIENE (衛生教科書)

(In two books for two years of study.)

These books are prepared by the same authors who have prepared text books on Hygiene of the New System Series. The material in these two sets of books is somewhat the same and some of the lessons are exactly the same, only they appear in different places. These two books as a whole are inferior to those in the New System Series in arrangement of lessons. One lesson for two periods of study in two weeks is really not satisfactory. The books in the New System Series are also superior in their lesson organization, as they include observation, problems, exercises and outlines of topics.

Teachers' manuals are prepared but only one of them is ready for sale.

3. PUBLISHED BY THE CHUNG HWA BOOK CO., (中華書局)

(1) CHINESE NATIONAL LANGUAGE READERS (國語讀本)

(In four books for two years of study.)

These books are well correlated with those for the lower primary study, and the general characteristics of these books are about the same. There are about 70,000 characters. Most of the lessons have been written in the spoken language but some simple and interesting literature in wenli has been included.

Teachers' manuals have been prepared.

These books contain longer lessons than the Spoken Language Readers prepared by the Commercial Press, but they do not contain as much material, the Spoken Language Readers have more lessons in them. The value of the lessons in these two sets of books is about the same.

(2) CHINESE LANGUAGE READERS (國文讀本)

(In four books for two years of study.)

These books are specially prepared for use at the present time, the transition period, as some schools still prefer to use text books written in wenli. The lessons in these books are all prepared in wenli but some modifications have been made, so that they are not so difficult as those in the old text books of several years ago. The books contain poetry, conversation, stories, fables, biography, discussion, etc. There is nothing in the teaching that will oppose the thought and the spirit of the present time.

Teachers' manuals are prepared.
ARITHMETIC (算術課本)
(In four books for two years of study.)

The lessons in these books are continued from those in the books for lower primary schools. The first two books deal with the four fundamental operations of integrals and decimals, areas, values, fractions, percentage and interest. The second two books deal with ratio, systems of measure of foreign countries, and bookkeeping.

The amount of material in these books and that in the books in the New System Series published by the Commercial Press is about the same. The only exception is that the latter books have some material on plotting and simple equations which the former do not have. These books are organized into lessons, whereas the books in the New System Series of the Commercial Press are organized into chapters and sections.

SPOKEN LANGUAGE HISTORICAL READERS (歷史課本)
(In four books for two years of study.)

The lessons in these books form two spirals, the first two books forming one and the last two another one. Chinese and foreign history are combined in the lessons. More than half of the lessons in the first book are concerned with great men, such as Confucius, Buddha, Christ, etc. The second book deals more with important modern historical facts. The third book deals more with Chinese history of ancient and medieval times. The fourth book deals with the modern history of foreign countries.

Teachers' manuals have been prepared.

These books and those published by the Commercial Press are not as interesting as they should be. The lessons are short. The material in them is dry and not full enough. More reading should be given to the pupils as the spoken language has been used in preparing the texts. The pupils will enjoy their work if the material in the lessons is full and interesting enough. Some lessons in these books consist almost entirely of names. I have counted two lessons in the Spoken Language Historical Readers, each of which contains over 60 names.

WENLI HISTORICAL READERS (文體歷史)
(In four books for two years of study.)

These books contain the same lessons as those in the Spoken Language Historical Readers. The only difference is that these books are prepared in wenli.

SPOKEN LANGUAGE GEOGRAPHICAL READERS (地理課本)
(In four books for two years of study.)

The first two books contain lessons in Chinese geography; the third book contains lessons in foreign geography; and the last book deals with industry, commerce, productions, communications, customs, governments, etc., of both China and foreign countries. Some simple maps and pictures are included. Some of the lessons are prepared in the form of travel stories.

Teachers' manuals have been prepared.

These books do not contain so much material as the books of the New System Series published by the Commercial Press for the same subject. More reading material is needed in both series of books. It means nothing to the pupils to have such statements appearing again and again in their lessons, “If you go from a certain place in a certain direction you will reach a certain other place”! Attractive and interesting pictures are also needed in these books. For this the books of the Commercial Press are much better than the books of the Chung Hwa Book Co., comparatively speaking.

Most of the simple maps in these books are not clear enough, as they are poorly prepared.
(7) **WENLI GEOGRAPHICAL READERS** (文體地理)

*In four books for two years of study.*

These books contain lessons exactly the same as those in the Spoken Language Geographical Readers. The only difference in these books is that these books are prepared in wenli.

(8) **CITIZEN READERS** (公民課本)

*In four books for two years of study.*

The first two books consist almost entirely of stories and biographies. The third book deals with common knowledge concerning governments. The fourth book deals more with social life.

Teachers' manuals have been prepared.

The contents of these books are not so full as those in the books for the same subject published by the Commercial Press. The Civics books of the New System Series prepared by the Commercial Press are better than these and those in the New Method Series of the Commercial Press.

(9) **SPOKEN LANGUAGE SCIENCE READERS** (理科課本)

*In four books two years of study.*

The first two books contain lessons on zoology, botany, and mineralogy. The second two books contain lessons on physics, chemistry, and physiology. Practical value, appreciation of natural beauty, and scientific knowledge and spirit have been included in the books.

Teachers' manuals are prepared.

(10) **WENLI SCIENCE READERS** (文理科本)

These books are the same as those just described, only they are in wenli.

(11) **NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL ENGLISH READERS** (英語課本)

*In four books, each containing 20 lessons.*

These books are prepared with the purpose of enabling the elementary school pupils to use simple English as it might be needed in their later lives, even though they do not enter middle schools. Practical use has been specially emphasized in the lessons. In the first two books the direct method has been used and in the last two books serial method has been used. Grammar is included in the lessons. Word lists are prepared at the end of each book.

4. **Books by Other Publishers**

**PRACTICAL AGRICULTURE READERS** (家業農業教科書)

These two books have been especially prepared by Professor J. B. Griffing of Nanking University, and translated by Mr. T. S. Shao. They are handled by Edward Evans and Sons, Ltd. There are six chapters in the first book and they deal with school gardens, seeds, plants, soils, water in the soil, and agricultural works. The second book has chapters deal with the management of plants in winter time, reproduction of plants, school forest, flowers, beans, common trees, and wild grass. There are two more books of this set but they have not yet been published.

Teachers' manuals are announced, but are not yet ready.

These books could be considered practical.

**SYLLABUS IN RELIGIOUS TEACHING FOR HIGHER PRIMARY SCHOOLS** (高等小學聖經科要目)

This syllabus is adapted by the West China Christian Educational Union from Miss G. B. Ayre's “Suggestion for a Syllabus in Religious Teaching.” It was prepared for the three year higher primary course, but it can be used for the two year course. It covers the whole Bible in outline.