Hill Murray Institute for the Blind:

A Sixteenth Century Temple.

Superintendent's Report

1938
THE HILL MURRAY INSTITUTE
FOR THE BLIND
PALICHUANG, PEKING, N. CHINA

Founder
Rev. W. Hill Murray
Superintendent
Rev. W. Canner

HOME BOARD

Chairman
Vice-Chairman
Alex. Orr, Esq., J.P., 101 Wellington Street, Glasgow, C.2
Secretary
John Grant, Esq., B.L., J.P., 113 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, C.2
Treasurer
Robert MacFarlane, Esq., C.A., J.P., 212 West George Street, Glasgow, C.2

Rev. J. G. Drummond, M.A.
Rev. J. Macbeath, M.A. D.D.
Rev. Canon Jas. G. McCall.
Rev. John A. Macrae, M.A
Rev. Dr. Arthur Taylor, F.R.G.S.
D. S. Macnair, Esq.
David Wight, Esq.
D. Norman Sloan, Esq., C.A.
W. W. Kidston, Esq.

PEKING COMMITTEE

Chairman
The Rt. Rev. Frank L. Norris, D.D.
Superintendent
Rev. W. Canner.
Treasurer
A. J. D. Britland, Esq.
And others.

LADIES' AUXILIARY COMMITTEES

Glasgow

Hon. President
Lady Campbell of Succoth, Garscube, Glasgow
Hon. Vice-Pres.
Mrs. Douglas, 7 Broon Road Newlands.
Secretary
Mrs. G. A. MacLellan, Burtonhill, Helensburgh.
Treasurer
Mrs. Graham Dow, "Fairmount," Ledcameroch Road, Bearsden.

Mrs. W. W. Naismith.
Mrs. J. Dunachie.
Mrs. W. W. Naismith.
Mrs. J. W. R. Murray.
Mrs. J. Dunachie.
Miss S. J. Riddell

Edinburgh

President
Mrs. Annie Cormack, 10 Buckingham Terrace.
Vice-President
Mrs. J. Somerville, "View Park," Bonnyrigg.
Treasurer
Mrs. M'Killop Young, 9 Woodburn Terrace.
Secretary
Mrs. Margaret B. Venables, 9 Craiglockhart Ave.,
Edinburgh, 11.

Mrs. Whitaker.
Miss N. B. Niven.
Miss D. Murray.
Mrs. Wolfendale.

Mrs. Torrance.
THE HILL MURRAY INSTITUTE
FOR THE BLIND

Foreword

BY
The Rev Canon James G McCall.

"I am the light of the world; he that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." So spoke our Lord, and the thought that comes into our minds from these words is that, while physical blindness is a great misfortune, it may be greatly relieved by spiritual sight. Our Lord brought sight to the blind, but He also gave spiritual sight to those who were influenced by His teaching. The work which is being done by the representatives of the Hill Murray Institute in China is a work which must appeal to all those whose sympathies are roused by physical disablement, but especially to those who know the value of spiritual teaching and enlightenment.

The blind are seriously handicapped by their physical defect, though this work amongst them teaches them to use their own faculties in such a way that their loss of sight seems to be compensated. But the efforts which are being made by those whose life is being devoted to help them to develop their characters, by imparting to them the truths of the Gospel, must go a long way to help them to bear their trial with patience and fortitude. The more that this is realised by those who are supporting the work of the Hill Murray Institute, the greater will be their happiness in giving generously for its support. The Report makes it very clear that this support is valued and needed. And thus we venture to hope that it will be increased rather than lessened, enabling this work, which must be dear to the heart of our Lord, to go forward, bringing encouragement to those who have given their lives to carry it on. The greatest encouragement of all, we feel sure, will come to them from the words of their Master: "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me."
Summary of Annual Reports

(1) REPORT OF THE PEKING COMMITTEE.

Our first words must be of thankfulness that the news of Mr. Canner's health from England is good. He really seems to have made a good recovery, though care is still (and will probably in future always be) very necessary. His address is 97 Wragley Road, Lincoln.

Then we must be thankful also that it has been possible to supply Mr. Canner's place for the time being without extra expense to the Institute: and the Committee is grateful to Mr. Fox for undertaking the post of acting-Superintendent.

Thirdly, the Committee has cause to be thankful that, due largely to the high rate of exchange, our accounts for the year show a balance instead of a deficit. At the same time we must note the fact that the Special Pupils' Account, started some years ago, is entering its last year with a balance only just enough to meet its expenses ($1600) this year. However, the Treasurer has already received some contributions from Scotland which will be credited to this fund, so we may hope to avoid a heavy falling off in receipts in consequence of the exhaustion of the original fund.

The Home remittances for General upkeep at last year's rate of exchange brought us $1500 more than in 1937 and Subscriptions brought us nearly $600 more, exclusive of a legacy of $607.59. Lastly, our Sales brought in $3845, a very satisfactory figure, more than in 1937 even if not as much as we received in 1936. Last year we were driven to ask the Glasgow Trustees somehow to send us £250 extra, which (with some difficulty) they managed to do. This year (1938) we had no such extra help, and yet we were able to end the year with a slightly larger balance than we had on the first of January.

This is very satisfactory: but it must only encourage us to greater efforts in 1939. It is unfortunately true that the cost of living
is rising steadily: this appears to follow wherever the Japanese go, if we may judge from Korea and Manchuria: and of course war conditions aggravate the situation. Our Budget barely balances: we have in hand from 1938 S1880, and we hope to end the year with nearly S1600.

FRANK L. NORRIS, Bishop, Chairman of the Committee.

(2) REPORT OF THE ACTING-SUPERINTENDENT

Note: The Rev. C. R. G. Fox, of the Church of England Mission, very kindly consented to take the oversight of the Institute, as far as anyone with no experience of the work can do so, when Mr and Mrs. Canner went on their long-delayed furlough.

Mr Fox's report is as follows:

Sales show an increase on last year. At Peitaiho and at the British Women's League Bazaar they were very successful, and that in spite of the fact that the latter was held in the vestibule of the Peking Union Medical College Auditorium instead of the Wagon-Lits Hotel, with the result that the available space was limited.

Mrs. Canner's share in the work of the Institute has more than once been referred to in previous Reports, but it has never been so fully appreciated as since she has been away. When she was on the spot, she was always at hand to be referred to when any difficulty arose in the execution of knitting
orders, etc., and such difficulties naturally arise constantly.

Just before Mr. Canner left, he started a "Handwork" class for the schoolboys, and we are glad to report that this has made a good beginning. The schoolroom has been divided by a movable partition, on one side of which are three small looms. Here, twice a week, the schoolboys start, under the supervision of a member of the staff to learn weaving, basket-making, shoe-making, knitting, and bookbinding. Sometimes some of the better workers from the "shops" come to assist. It is too early as yet to say how far this experiment will answer: but at least it has made a good start.

Concerning those in residence, we can report 61 pupils at work. Of these, 21, eleven boys and ten girls, support themselves by their work. Two lads were dismissed in the Spring. Two boys and two girls have been admitted, and one special student, a young man, has been allowed to live as a worker and learn the trades. He was blinded in an explosion during the fighting in Shantung. The Mission that sent him has an idea of starting work of a similar kind in Shantung, if the man turns out suitable: so far, in four months he has made good progress.

One girl left to be married. She is the wife of the sighted man in the shoe-shop, and they live in one of a group of houses just outside the compound.
WORKSHOPS.

It is satisfactory to think that all these are carrying on under the oversight of the Supervisor left in charge by Mr. Canner. The Carpenters' shop has been temporarily reinforced by the engineer who ran the electric light, as that is not now being used. The shop did all the carpentry connected with the B.W.L. sale. The Basket-weaving shop did a great deal of work for this sale, including two new kinds of baskets, one of which had come to the notice of one of the blind workers while in Hospital. This shows the readiness of our workers, and the interest which they take in their work.

![The Basket Weaver.](image)

KINDERGARTEN.

This is a new departure. There are now five children who are taught by two of the blind girls, and a sixth child, brother of one already in the school, is waiting to enter.

CHAPLAIN'S DEPARTMENT

When Mr. Canner left he gave me a list of about 20 names of those who desired Baptism. It has seemed important to secure as far as possible that those who are baptised will be within touch of Christian influences if they leave the Institute, and this has led us to exercise caution. Classes were held for all, and on October 18th, four girls and three lads were baptised. Two
girls and one lad are on the list, the others had left school. These were older, and have had their names down for some time. They have a fair chance of being kept in touch with Church life hereafter if they should leave us. Two have homes in Peking. Some of the others are still under instruction.

The advantage of having a roomy chapel has been increasingly realised, as the old chapel would have been always crowded out with our present numbers.

**CONCLUSION.**

The year had been peaceful except for the sound of bombs or firing elsewhere; nothing has interfered with our work at the Institute or with the transport of our goods and materials to and from Peking, nor—so far—has there been any interference from authority except the change of school books.

The staff remains the same, and they are working well. Each member of the staff has had a good deal more work and responsibility and all have helped as much as they could, or perhaps it would be more accurate to say all have borne as well as they could the inconveniences due to the ignorance of the Acting-Superintendent. For my own part, I should like to express my pleasure at having, quite unexpectedly, a small share in the work, a share which may perhaps be summed up in the words, "Eyes was I to the blind."

C. R. G. Fox.
MR. AND MRS. CANNER’S VISIT TO SCOTLAND

We had the pleasure of welcoming the Rev. and Mrs. Canner when they came on a visit to Scotland.

A number of meetings had been arranged for them in Glasgow and Edinburgh, at which they gave very interesting and encouraging accounts of the work in the Institute.

The ladies of the two Auxiliary Committees were very pleased to make the personal acquaintance of the Superintendent and his wife, who could give an up-to-date account of the children supported from Edinburgh and Glasgow.

Mr. Canner met the Home Board in Glasgow and it was arranged that they return to China in the Autumn, leaving their children John and Mary at home to continue their education.

Pray for them.

Rev. J. A. Slimmon, 192 Wilton Street, Glasgow, N.W., who acted as Superintendent of the Institute in Peking in the absence of Rev. W. Canner, at home on furlough on a previous occasion, and is intimately acquainted with the work and its needs, will count it a privilege to call on anyone who would like to hear more about this work. He would also be pleased to address meetings on this subject.

REPORT OF THE GLASGOW LADIES’ AUXILIARY FOR YEAR 1938

The work of the Hill Murray Institute for the Blind in Peking is still being carried on with a measure of success. We have been responsible for providing for 5 children. Of these 5, 2 are now self-supporting, having completed the course. Our aim is to add to that number when funds will permit. We hear from time to time of our little proteges, of the response of these poor blind girls rescued literally from the streets, to the love and care with which they are surrounded. They are so handicapped with their poor sightless eyes! I sometimes close my eyes and attempt to walk about, or to do a few stitches of knitting, and oh! how helpless I feel. How we should sympathise with those who are in perpetual darkness! In spite of their serious disability they find happiness in their changed
circumstances. They are taught habits of cleanliness and tidiness, and most important of all, they are brought to know the Lord Jesus.

It takes five years to train and equip these children so that they can be self-supporting, and the sum required is £40. It is thought wise to have the full sum before accepting responsibility of a child.

The Treasurer's report up-to-date shows a balance in the bank of £5 14/6. During the past winter we have been holding our Monthly Prayer Meeting in the C.S.S.M. Rooms, 280 St. Vincent Street, by kind permission of the Secretary, Mr. Beveridge.

We hope to commence again in October, if God wills, and would like to take this opportunity to let all friends know that we purpose holding our P.M. on the 1st Friday of each month at 11.30 a.m., instead of the afternoon as formerly. We hope this arrangement will be more convenient for many and shall be glad to welcome all friends. There were several resignations from our Committee in October 1937. New members are Mrs. Naismith, Mrs. Dunnachie, Mrs. Kidston, Mrs. Fischbacher and Mrs. MacLellan, who temporarily undertook the duties of Hon. Secretary. An opportunity was given at the close of our meeting to all friends to contribute as they felt led. The Lord loveth a cheerful giver!

REPORT OF THE EDINBURGH LADIES' AUXILIARY FOR YEAR 1938.

The Edinburgh Committee has not been idle during the past year, and the work of the Auxiliary has gone steadily forward. There were two outstanding features, the first of which was a Drawing-room Concert in June, held at the home of Mrs. Candlish Henderson, Doune Terrace. Those who took part were friends of Mrs. David Ritchie (a remarkable lady of nearly fourscore years) who arranged and carried through the concert for us. All the items were delightful, a 'cellist and boy singer who were blind, added special interest. The collection which was taken during the concert made a substantial addition to our funds.
We were exceedingly grateful to Mrs. Candlish Henderson for so kindly giving the use of her drawing-room, and for the refreshments served after the concert.

The second event took place in November, when we had a Sale in conjunction with the St. Nicholas Moukden Auxiliary. This was held at the Walpole Hall (kindly granted), and was opened by Principal McGregor, and our stall looked most attractive with its interesting assortment of Chinese goods, potteries, and other articles, which were quickly bought up.

As a result of these two activities we were able to remit to the Treasurer our usual cheque.

Again there has been a change in the personnel of the committee, and it was with much regret that we accepted the resignation of our esteemed Secretary, Miss Gordon, who has given such valued service over a number of years. We know that her interest will always remain with us.
List of Donations and Subscriptions

For Year ended 31st December, 1938

(a) Collected by R. Macfarlane, C.A., Treasurer.

Botterill, Miss B. .................. £0 10 0
Brown, Miss J. .................. 0 10 0
Daly, Mrs. M. Fairley .......... 0 10 0
Dudgeon, Miss .................. 0 10 0
Edinburgh Ladies' Auxiliary .... 30 0 0
Edwards, Miss E. G. ........ 0 5 0
Goldie, Mrs. E. C. ........ 2 0 0
Haig, Miss M. L. ........ 1 0 0
Hill Murray Trust .......... 122 12 4
Jenkinson, Miss ........ 0 10 0
Mackarness, Mrs. .......... 0 3 6
Russell, Mrs. S. M. ........ 9 0 0
Sloan, D. Norman ........ 0 10 0
Stuart, Mrs. ........ 1 0 0
Two Friends, ........ 0 10 6
Ure, W. P. ........ 2 0 0
Walker, Mrs. A. Douglas .... 8 7 0
Lady Wilson ........ 1 1 0

£180 19 4

(b) Collected by Rev. J. A. Slimmon.

Details per separate sheet, ........ £220 19 11
### List of Donations as Collected by the Rev. J. A. Slimmon

**For Year Ended 31st December 1938**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donator</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Friend</td>
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<td>Ainslie, Rev. J. L., D.D.</td>
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<td>Anderson, R. Woodrow</td>
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<td>Bow, Miss</td>
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<td>Campbell, Sir Archibald, Bt.</td>
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<td>Dunlop, Miss A.</td>
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<td>Dunnachie, J. S.</td>
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<td>Elliott, Miss A.</td>
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<td>Fischbacher, E.</td>
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<td>J &amp; B. C.</td>
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<td>Kennedy, Mrs. J. B.</td>
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<td>Kidston, W W</td>
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<td>Knox, J.</td>
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<td>Lister, Rev. T. W</td>
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<td>McGilp, Miss</td>
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<td>Lord MacLay</td>
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<td>McNicoll, Rev J., B.A., D.D.</td>
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<td>Marshall, Frank S.</td>
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<td>Noyes, J. Y</td>
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<td>Paterson, Miss C. T</td>
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<td>Ritch, J</td>
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<td>Ritchie, G.</td>
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<td>Service, G. W</td>
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<td>Wight, D.</td>
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<td>Women’s Meeting, Queen’s Cross Church</td>
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<td>Workman, G. A.</td>
<td>£0.10</td>
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**Less Postages and Incidentals:** £0.065

**Total:** £40.07
# THE HILL MURRAY INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND

## Receipts and Payments Account for Year ended 31st December, 1938

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Receipts</th>
<th>Payments</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ordinary</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ordinary</strong></td>
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<td>(a) Dividends and Interests, £482 18 1</td>
<td>(a) Remittances to China, £425 0 0</td>
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<td>(b) Income Tax Repayment, 159 19 2</td>
<td>(b) Special Remittances, 184 14 7</td>
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<td>(c) Donations and Subscriptions, 220 19 11</td>
<td>(c) Rev. W Canner's Salary for half-year, 175 0 0</td>
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<td><strong>Total Receipts</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total Payments</strong></td>
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<td>£863 17 2</td>
<td>£784 14 7</td>
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<table>
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<th><strong>Home Expenses</strong></th>
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<td>Postages and Incidentals, 6 11 10</td>
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<td>Audit Fee, 3 3 0</td>
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<td><strong>Total Home Expenses</strong></td>
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<th><strong>Surplus Transferred to Reserve Account</strong></th>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Grand Total</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>£863 17 2</td>
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</table>

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Glasgow 8th March, 1939.—We certify that the foregoing Receipts and Payments Account for the year to 31st December, 1938 is correctly stated.  
(Sgd.) J C. Thomson Pender & Co., C.A.