The Hill-Murray Institute for the Blind.

PÁ-LI-CHUANG

PEKING.

Annual Report

for the year

1924.

with a brief history of the
origin of the Institute.

PEKING.

1925.
Hill-Murray Institute for the Blind, Peking.

HOME BOARD.

Chairman: Rev. J. Fairley Daly, B. D. Glasgow.
Vice Chairman: W. P. Ure Esq. Glasgow.
Secretary: John Grant, Esq. B. L. 140 West George Street, Glasgow.
Treasurer: J. H. L. Harris, Esq. C. A., 53 Waterloo Street, Glasgow.

and seven other members.

PEKING COMMITTEE.

Vice Chairman: Dr. G. Douglas Gray, M. D., C. B. E., British Legation, Peking.
Secretary: Rev. W. Canner, Hill-Murray Institute for the Blind, Palichuang, West of Peking.

Members of the Committee:

Dr. W. W. Yen, Ph. D., formerly Prime Minister; etc.
Admiral Ts'ai Ting Kan, Chinese Maritime Customs, Peking.
Mr. Kung Pah King, Chartered Bank, Peking.
Professor L. R. O. Bevan, Government University, Customs College, Peking, etc.
Mr. G. G. Wilson, Peking Union Medical College. (representing the London Missionary Society.)
Mr. Hardy Jowett, Asiatic Petroleum Company, Peking.
Foreword.

The Rev. W. Hill Murray came to China in 1871 and from the first took an interest in the blind. In 1879 Miss C. F. Gordon-Cumming visited China and learnt of what he was trying to do in teaching a few blind pupils to read by an adaptation of the Braille method. In 1887 the "Mission to the Chinese Blind" was started, its mainstay at home being Miss Gordon Cumming. Housed at first in the East City and then in 1896 in the West, after 1900 it returned to the East City and continued there until it was temporarily closed in 1919. From 1887 until his death in 1911 Mr. Murray directed it, and from 1911 to 1919 Mrs. Murray with the help of her daughters carried on the work, only resigning it when she felt unequal to the burden.

During this period there was from the first a Home Board responsible for raising the necessary funds for the Mission, and a small advisory Committee in Peking. For the last few years the Peking Committee has had to take an increasing share in the management of the Mission, and it was partly due to their urgent representation that, when Mrs. Hill Murray retired, the work was suspended for a year or two before being resumed on a new basis.

It was determined to sell the existing property in the East City, and to buy land and erect new buildings outside the city, where the blind children would enjoy healthier surroundings, and the work be carried on in more convenient
buildings. The fundamental basis of the new Institute was to be industrial work. The Rev. W. Canner, who had been a Missionary in China since 1907, was appointed the first Superintendent of the Institute.

A site was secured to the north of Palichuang, a village a few miles west of the P'ing Tzu Men gate of Peking, and in 1921 a house for the Superintendent and buildings for the Boys' School were erected from plans drawn up by Mr. J. E. Denham. In 1923 buildings for the Girls' School were added, designed and erected by Mr. Canner himself, and in 1924 additional buildings for the Boys' School and a gymnasium were added.

The funds for the purchase of the site and erection of buildings have all been provided by the sale of the East City property, which has realised $73000; the site and buildings have so far cost about $62000.

The Superintendent's salary and something more for upkeep is found from the funds raised at home; but the greater part of the running expenses have to be met by subscriptions and donations, whether earmarked for the support of particular blind children or given for general purposes. It is confidently hoped that, as the work of the Institute comes to be better known and appreciated, this help will be forthcoming in much larger measure both from Chinese and from foreigners resident in China, as well as from friends at home. The Peking Treasurer for many years has been Dr. G. Douglas Gray of the British Legation, to whose devoted help the former "Mission"
and the new "Institute" owe a very great debt. Dr. Gray's place has now been taken by Mr. A. J. D. Britland of the Church of England Mission. Readers of the Report that follows will learn from it how far the great aim of the Institute, namely to teach the blind children useful industries, is being realised. There is no need to say more about this. But we would point out that when Mr. Canner took up his residence in the new Institute to begin its work, he had but two small boys as pupils. At the end of three years he had sixteen boys and seven girls; and the only thing needed to ensure a large increase in numbers and a great development in the usefulness of the Institute is the supply of the necessary funds, by means of subscriptions and donations. The Committee feels sure that as the Institute becomes better known these will be forthcoming.

Frank L. Norris,  Bishop,
Chairman of the Peking Committee.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.
1924.

I am glad to be able to report satisfactory progress and successful work during the past year. The unsettled state of the country, caused, by was and rumours of war, gave rise to a certain amount of anxiety. It looked at one time as though we were about to be in the middle of the fighting once again, and this of course added some what to our anxiety and worry. We were indeed thankful when the strife ceased, and we were more
thankful that the work of the Institute went on through it all without very great inconvenience. One evil result of the trouble was that all railway traffic ceased, and we were unable to keep in touch with applicants for admission to the Institute; when things become normal, I hope we may be able to get in touch again. We have had a busy year, and our only regret is that we were unable to accomplish all we had planned. The fact of the matter is we are beginning to feel the need of efficient supervision, for it is a physical impossibility for one person to teach and supervise beginners trying to do different kinds of work in shops some distance apart, and at the same time carry on ordinary compound routine work.

Buildings.

This year we have added 12 chien* to the boys’ school block, and a new Gymnasium has been built. With regard to the addition to the boys’ school, 6 chien are now used as the weaving shop, 3 chien as the carpenters’ shop, and the remaining 3 chien, separated into single chien rooms, are occupied by the staff. This addition has given us room which was badly needed. We have gained a new classroom, more workshop space has been put at our disposal, and it has set free a dormitory which can now be used for its proper purpose.

* a chien is a room or section of a room ten feet wide: it may be of any depth from ten to sixteen feet.
The new Gymnasium is a great asset to the work. It is situated between the two schools, so that it can be used by either or both without inconvenience or trouble. It is used by each school in turn for physical instruction, and both meet together here for morning and evening prayers.

I am sorry to say that the roofs of the original Boys' school block and of the Superintendent's house leaked all over very badly in the summer rains, in spite of careful overhauling before the rains came, and these will have to be dealt with in 1925.

Land.

All the available land was again put under cultivation, and on the whole it was a fairly successful effort. Conditions were not good, but the result was more or less satisfactory.

Boys' School.

Pupils. At the present moment we have 16 pupils* in residence. During the year one pupil, who came for a special short course of study, left for home to take up his work again.

Hand-work.

Weaving Shop. Our new weaving shop is of great benefit to the work, for we have been able to increase our machinery, and at the same time leave ample room for the lads to move about freely. We have now seven looms in good working order, and the material turned out has greatly improved.

* i.e. in Jan. 1925. In July there were 29.
By carefully watching the lads at work and seeing their difficulties, we have been able to make little improvements on the looms which facilitate their working. We are now at work trying to devise other improvements which will enable the full time apprentices to speed up their turn-out considerably, and so bring them nearer the time when they will be able to earn adequate wages. Two of the looms do nothing else but weave material for the use of the Institute, and I am glad to say that this year we have not had to purchase any material for clothes or bedding outside our walls. The output for the year is roughly 1600 feet of calico and canvas, 260 towels and bath-mats, besides other details which were woven by way of experiment or for special use.

Great credit is due to the weaving instructor for his patience and perseverance, and also to the lads for their painstaking efforts in this work which is sometimes tedious and difficult.

Carpenters' Shop. What we should do without this department I do not know, for it supplies very many of our wants in other directions. It is always occupied with work which is to be of use in either school or workshop. At the same time, I wish we could make it of more direct educational value. The great drawback to this is lack of suitable tools. What tools there are, which are limited in number, are my own personal property, and generally far too heavy for the lads to use. Two sets of tools as used by the lads in the school
workshops at Home would rejoice our hearts and set us going very nicely.

Printing Shop. Early in the year we were asked to edit the Braille Quarterly Paper for China, which hitherto we had merely printed. It has not a large circulation, 80 copies were sent out last quarter, but the circulation is increasing, and it shows signs of future possibilities. The Committee for the Promotion of Work for Chinese Blind, in Shanghai, is responsible for financing the paper. We have also printed a number of textbooks for our own use; we should have printed more, but we held back in the hope that by working with the Committee above mentioned, we might make our textbooks of use to other Institutions besides our own. Somehow matters do not seem to progress very rapidly, and we seem to have reached an impasse. I still hope that we may be able to work together, but we cannot wait indefinitely for them to send the selected books along.

To sum up all our efforts in hand-work, I may briefly state that over and above the ordinary reading course in school, each lad has been given ample opportunity to cultivate the use of his hands in various ways. This is the main use of hand-work, and I have no hesitation in saying that the hand-work of the year has been most satisfactory from our point of view, and that the lads have benefitted greatly.

Girls’ School.

We opened the year with 7 girls, but one of these had to be sent home as she was too young. I hope she may return
when she is a little older. During the year, one girl was definitely accepted, but she was held back at the last minute because she was too timid. Two other girls are practically accepted, but they are trying to get clear of trachoma before they come. We have had several more applications; some has to be refused of account of age, and the railway stoppage temporarily put an end to negotiations in the case of others. I am not sorry that our numbers have not increased this year, for among other things it has given the staff, who were entirely new to this sort of work, an opportunity to get accustomed to teaching blind children.

The hand-work in this school consisted mainly of sewing and knitting. The girls now make clothes for both schools; the boys weave the material and the girls make it up. They are kept busy, for this year 823 feet of calico has been made up into clothes and bedding.

**Teaching Staff.**

The teaching staff has not changed, it is as follows:—

**Foreign staff:—** The Superintendent, who is also Chaplain.

**Chinese staff:—**

Boys’ school:— Teacher for the school.
Weaving instructor.
A blind lad who gives part time to teaching in school.

Girls’ school:— Teacher for the school.
Matron, who also assists with hand-work.
Once again it is with great pleasure that I have to report well of all their work. Besides looking after the children faithfully and well, they have used much of their spare time in helping to augment the Free Scholarship Fund by making all sorts of saleable articles. This shows a little of how they try to help the children, and their help and encouragement is very much appreciated.

**Chaplain's Department**

As Chaplain, I have with thankfulness to report progress. It is a great joy that we are now able to gather both schools together for our morning and evening prayers in the new Gymnasium, and I think the children very much appreciate it.

All the children have received regular daily Scripture instruction either in school or chapel, and what they learn means a great deal to them. It is interesting to watch the change that comes over them through such teaching and through living in a Christian environment. They come to us in some cases rather sullen and apt to cover their faults and failings by means of lying. This is not surprising when one considers what they come from. In course of time their whole aspect seems to change; they realise that they are trusted and they in turn begin to trust; they seem to exude happiness, and they really make an effort to live useful and straightforward lives. The bigger lads do much to help the younger ones,
and I am thankful for their example and helpfulness.

The School Course.

The subjects studied throughout the schools are with few exceptions common to all, differing only in degree. The general subjects are:

Scripture, Chinese Readers, Chinese History, Chinese Ethics, Geography, Arithmetic, Object Lessons, Plasticine Modelling, Physical Drill, Braille Writing and Hand-work.

Some of the older lads have done a little Algebra and Elementary Geometry. For some time, once a week, we had a short lecture on subjects usually chosen by the lads themselves. Their choice of subjects was at times rather surprising, e.g. The Moon, Asbestos (a thing none of them had ever handled and most of them had never heard of), Colour etc.

We are feeling the need of maps, more text books and models of various kinds, but I think these may be supplied by our own workshops in the near future.

General Health.

It is with deep thankfulness that I have to report practically a clean bill of health for the year. Our Medical Officer has paid us three visits during the year; twice he came for general medical inspection, and once he came to vaccinate those children needing the operation.
Free Scholarship Fund.

We have been able to meet all demands made upon this Fund up to the present, but, as most of our applicants seem to be unable to provide fees, the upkeep of the Fund is getting more and more difficult. The Fund has no endowment, and we have to rely upon the generosity of friends and special efforts of work on our own part to keep it going. Great credit is due to our boys and girls in this connection, for in their spare time they have made many articles, which have been sold, and the proceeds put to this Fund. The boys knit gloves and socks, and the girls make soft toys for this purpose. We have not refused a grant to any child in need so far, and I trust that the Fund will grow with our increased needs so that we may never have to refuse help to any child.

Conclusion.

It looks as though the scope of our work will have to be considerably increased in the coming year, and I hope that nothing may turn up to hinder our efforts towards proper and wise development. Two of the lads, who hope to become school teachers, ought to get some sort of Normal training, but as yet I do not quite see how it is to be managed. Much that looks big and difficult in the distance will no doubt assume its proper proportions and be taken in our stride when we get into actual touch with it. This of course does not ease our present worry and anxiety about it, but encouragement from the past, with the sympathy of our friends, stimulates us to go ahead and do what we can with all the problems facing us.
It is good to feel that what little we are able to do is helping some poor blind child towards light and happiness, helping it in time to help itself. I am convinced that this is worth working for, and I am sure that if only people outside could have a little of our experience, they would do more and more towards helping on this humane and vital work.

Walter Canner
Superintendent

List of Wants.

Carpenter's shop
Two sets of tools costing about $50 each. (from England.)

Basket weaving shop
Tools likely to cost $50. (from England.)

Shoemaking shop
Tools likely to cost $100. (from England.)

Weaving shop
New machinery: which could be made at the Institute, probable cost $200.

Gymnasium
If furnished out here, probable cost $400, if from England, probable a good deal more. Wanted wall-ladders, vaulting horse, parallel bars, Horizontal bar, and mattresses.
(The sterling cost above may be roughly reckoned at $10 to the pound, i.e. $50 as equivalent to £5.)

Treasurer's address:
Scotland: J. H. L. Harris Esq.
53 Waterloo Street, Glasgow.

China: A. J. D. Britland Esq.
Church of England Mission, Peking.
14

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

Note: for clearness sake a summary of the Accounts for 1920–3 is reprinted here from the 1923 Report, with a brief note on Investments.

I.

Land and Building Fund. 1920—3.

Received: by sale of property $73000.

Expended: on site, surrounding wall, etc. 4806.75
" Superintendents house, Boys' School 35974.37
" furniture, etc. 798.76
" Girls' School 7500.00
" furniture, etc. 858.11
Balance 31,12,23. 23062.01

$73000.00

Note: Of the above Balance $22497.70 had been invested, $564.31 was in the Current A/c at the Bank.

The Investments made at a cost of $22497.70 were as follows as on 31.12.23:—

Chinese Govt. 11th year Bonds $13000
" 3rd year Bonds $4500.
" " Reorganisation Loan £720.

II.

General Fund. 1921—3.

Received: Balance in hand 1.1.21. $437.04
From Home Treasurer 15285.23
" Other sources abroad 796.83
" rents and interest in China 4019.65
" subscriptions and donations in China 735.95
" sales and earnings in China 171.54

$21446.24
Expended: on winding up the old work, (bonus to Chinese staff, provision for old pupils, etc.) 1051.40
Superintendent's salary (April 1921—December 1923.) 2473.95
School upkeep (Oct. 1921—Nov. 1923) 4039.97
Miscellaneous expenses 1551.92
Balance 31.12.23 5324.00
$21446.24

Note: This account only dates from 1921 because in 1920 the School was in abeyance.

III.
Land and Building Fund. 1924.
Received: by Balance at Bank 31.12.23 (investments, $22497.70.) 564.31
by Bonds sold or drawn for repayment 10329.09
Total $10893.40

Expended: Buildings (Gymnasium and enlarging Boy' School) 8200.00
Balance at Bank 31.12.24 2693.40
Total $10893.40

IV.
Note on Investments.
On 31.12.23 we had investments
3rd year Chinese Govt. Bonds $4500
11th year Chinese Govt. Bonds $13000.
Chinese Reorganisation Loan (French) £720
During the year there were drawn or sold the whole of the 3rd year Bonds, and $5900 of the 11th year Bonds.
on 31.12.24 we had investments
11th year Chinese Govt. Bonds $7100.
Chinese Reorganisation Loan (French) £720
V.

General Fund. 1924.

Received: by Balance at Bank 31.12.23 5324.00
,, remittances from Glasgow £500 4130.63
,, interest on investments 1509.49
,, subscriptions 618.27
,, " " for Moukden 47.60
,, sales 980.82

Total $12610.81

Expended: Maintenance etc. to 30.11.24 4544.48
Hospital expenses 22.20
Transferred to Moukden (1923 a/c) 52.85
Insurance 176.24
Interest on temporary overdraft 30.52
Peitatiho a/c furniture 326.09
,, " " taxes 45.00
Superintendent’s salary 3499.92

8697.21

Balance at Bank 31.12.24 3913.60

Total $12610.81

VI.

Note on Bank Balances:

Land and Building Fund as above 2693.40
General Fund " " 3913.60

Total $6607.00

The Bank Passbook shows $6938.77, owing to one cheque of $331.77 outstanding.
Boys' School and Work-shops

Boys in Class.
Girls' School and Work-rooms

Girls in Class.
Blind beggar-boy, before coming to School.

子童目瞽男之飯討前學入未倉

Blind School boy, after coming to School.

生學目瞽男之後學入
Gymnasium temporarily used also as Chapel.

堂拜禮為用借時暫室身健
院

 seizure 明

 首前切切器入时点图

 其院
新校址座落北京阜成门外西八里庄村北於一九二一年购买而监督住所与男校

亦是年建筑竣工一九二三年又添设女学一九二四年男校房屋加添并建筑健
身室一所此项工程及由甘监督自行经营东城旧校址房租共售洋二〇〇〇元。新校地价及建筑皆由此款所出共用洋六二〇〇〇元。监督薪金等费则由西国捐助

但所最期望者为学校发达学校发达则在中西捐助者踊跃倾囊如此则此种工作

可日臻完善数年来本校会计皆由北京英国府德大夫担任学校之发展实多赖之。

著者诸君披读以下报告当悉此种工作已实现至如何地步无须重述当甘君开捐

之初学生只二人而已三年以来男生已增至十六名女生七名之多给学生增添与

本院扩充与否均在应需即项是否充足委办等诚信如本院工作为多人所明瞭则

捐助者必不乏人而款项一层面自充足矣。
啟明瞽目院監督報告

一九四零年

本院一年來雖經過數種困難而進步亦頗不少所困難者如交通一事自去歲戰事
發生鐵路因之隔絕而求來院亦因之乏人本院事業非常忙碌所抱歉者本院一年
計劃未能完全施行蓋以本院當行者多而職員數少故也想將來定可臻完善
建築

本年於男女校方面加增房屋十二間及健身室一所加添房屋六間作紡織
室三間木匠房其餘三間則為職員辦公使用健身室設於男女兩校之間為兩校共
用每日在內亦施行早晚禱

可惜男女校房屋及監督住所今年雨季又復破漏不堪所以來年必須從新修理

田產

所有可用土地皆又耕種頗不甚宜而效驗頗為良好

可於校中四人已受稍高的教育其中三人預備將來作教員事業其一尚未確定又

啟明瞽目院報告書

三
缺乏物品单

木工科
木工器具两套（英）
约值洋五十元

编织科
编织器具（英）
约值洋一百元

鞋科
作鞋机器（英）
约值洋二百元

纺织科
纺织新机械（可由本院自作）
约值洋四百元

健身室
本室如以中国物品设备所需约需洋四百元
如用英货其费增多所需物品如

以上所开洋元价目每十元约值英镑一镑

本院会计
宣武门内安立甘堂毕雅德先生
帳目報告

為清楚起見，特將一九二〇至一九二三年帳目的大略於此一九二四年的報告內

重印並附加投資的簡單的說明

甲
房地基金帳

乙
產業的售賣

支出

房基及園牆等

監督的住所及學校

傢具類

女學校

傢具類

共計

在以上的下存款內有二三四九七
七○元為已投資款項

一九二三年十二月三十一日

一九二六年二月一日

七三○○○○

一九二六年三月二日

七三○○○○

七六○○○○

七九八七八七

八五八○○○

七三○○○○

七三○○○○

九

敢明署目院報告書
如下所示，车辆的行驶路线如下所示。车辆的行驶路线如下所示。车辆的行驶路线如下所示。车辆的行驶路线如下所示。车辆的行驶路线如下所示。