OFFICERS.

Vice-Chairman—Rev. B. M. Jones, 25 Godwin Road, Rangoon.
Hon’ly Secretary—Rev. C. E. Chaney; 15 Mission Road, Rangoon.
Hon’ly Treasurer—Thra San Ba, Seminary Hill, Insein.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.


REPRESENTATIVES.

American Baptist Mission.—Dr. Cummings, Henzada; Dr. D. C. Gilmore, Seminary Hill, Insein; Miss A. O. Ragon, 15 Mission Road, Rangoon; Rev. J. T. Latta, A. B. Mission, Thonze; Rev. C. E. Chaney, 15 Mission Road, Rangoon; U Ba Kin, Karen Quarter, Kemmendine; Thra San Ba, Seminary Hill, Insein; Saya U Ba, Cushing High School, Rangoon; Thra U San Baw, K. I. H., Tharrawaddy; Saya U Tha Din (Mndy.), A. B. M., Myingyan.

S. P. G. Mission.—The Rt. Revd. the Bishop of Rangoon, Bishopscourt, Rangoon; Rev. W C. B. Purser, St. Michael’s, Kemmendine; Rev. Peter Kin Maung, St. Michael’s Kemmendine; Saya Kenneth Po San, St. John’s College, Rangoon.


Methodist Episcopal Mission.—Rev. B. M. Jones, 25 Godwin Road, Rangoon; Rev. C. H. Riggs, D. D., 34 Creek Street, Rangoon; Saya U Shwe Hla, Pegu.

Young Women’s Christian Association.—Miss M. B. Ferguson, General Secretary, 22 Brooking Street, Rangoon.

Young Men’s Christian Association.—W. B. Hilton, Esq., Act’g General Secretary, 295 Dalhousie Street, Rangoon.

British & Foreign Bible Society.—Rev. W Sherratt, Agent, 19 Sule Pagoda Road, Rangoon.

Christian Literature Society.—Saya U Tun Pe, Judson College, Rangoon.

Women’s Christian Temperance Union.—Mrs. B. M. Jones, 25 Godwin Road, Rangoon.

Medical Representative.—Miss M. Kingsley, M. D., Barr Street, Rangoon.

Co-opted Members.—Saya Po Mya, Baptist Normal School, Rangoon; Dr. M. Kingsley; Saya On Kin, M. E. Mission, Thongwa; Rev. M. Noble, Lewis Street, Rangoon; Miss’y Mack, 20B, 43rd Street, Rangoon; Rev. C. E. Olmstead, M. E. Mission, Thongwa; Rev. J. Mudge, 1, Signal Pagoda Road, Rangoon; W. F. Grahame, Esq., I. C. S., Rangoon; Saya U Toe Khut, M. L. C., A. B. M., Maubin.
Proceedings of the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Burma Christian Council

The Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Burma Christian Council was held at the Central Y. M. C. A., Rangoon, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, July 29th to 31st, 1926. Thursday afternoon at 4 p.m. the meetings opened with a Tea given by the Rt. Revd. the Lord Bishop of Rangoon in honour of and as a reception to Miss E. A. Gordon, Secretary of the National Christian Council of India, Burma and Ceylon, and to the other guests assembled. The Council much appreciated this courtesy of the Lord Bishop.

At 5 p.m. the Chairman called the meeting to order and introduced Miss Gordon who had spent three weeks touring the delta visiting rural schools and who gave us a very fine analysis of the needs of Rural Education. She pointed out several lines of practical suggestions for bettering the situation. A vote of thanks was taken in recognition of Miss Gordon's services.

The following members were present during the meetings:—
The Lord Bishop, Dr. J. E. Cummings, (in the chair) Rev. B. M. Jones, Dr. D. C. Gilmore, Miss A. O. Ragon, Rev. J. T. Latta, Rev. W. C. B. Purser, Rev. S. M. Gordon, Mrs. B. M. Jones, Miss May Mack, Miss M. B. Ferguson, W. B. Hilton, Esq., Dr. C. H. Riggs, Rev. C. E. Olmstead, Saya U Tun Pe, Saya U Tha Din, Saya U Shwe Hla, Thra San Ba, Saya U Ba and Rev. C. E. Chaney. There were a number of visitors present at all the sessions.

FRIDAY MORNING.

At 8 a.m. the Rev. N. K. Anderson, Cathedral Chaplain, took charge of the devotional hour and drew us all very near to God in his remarks on "Ambition". He treated this under three heads with special application to the ministers of Jesus Christ:— The ambition to preach, the ambition to do one's duty, and the ambition to be well-pleasing to God.

It was then voted to adopt the minutes of the last meeting as printed.

It was also voted to accept the program as arranged by the Committee of Arrangements. The Program arranged for one half day session on Evangelism, one session on Public Questions, one session on Rural Education, and one session for the regular business of the Council.
Papers on Evangelism.
Rev. Sydney M. Gordon read a very illuminating paper on "The Approach to the Buddhist Mind."
Rev. J. T. Latta read an equally interesting paper on "Methods of Evangelism."

Resolved: That the two papers on Evangelism be sent to the National Christian Council Review for publication.
The short time remaining was taken up in the discussion of these papers. At 11 a.m., it was voted to adjourn until 1 p.m.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.
The meeting opened with a hymn followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Report on Survey.
Rev. C. E. Olmstead, Chairman of the Committee on Survey, presented this report which has been several years coming to completion. It represents a great deal of pains-taking labour and will be of great value to all Missions. It is well illustrated with charts and maps which make more concrete the significance of its findings.

Resolved: That the Report on Christian Survey of Burma be referred back to the Committee on Survey to make any necessary slight changes in it, with instructions to have it published. (Dr. D. C. Gilmore and Rev. W. C. B. Purser, were appointed to fill the vacancies on the committee.)
A vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Olmstead for this fine piece of work.

Mr. Hilton presented a report on several lines of activity on social conditions looked into by the committee. The report on Housing Conditions in Rangoon will likely be published in the near future. The report called for no action by this Council. (Cf. Page 12.)

Report on Local Option Resolution.
This was presented and moved by Mr. Chaney and seconded by Mr. Gordon. Dr. Gilmore moved that the resolution be referred to a committee which should report to the Executive Committee. This was seconded by Mr. Jones. The Chair appointed a committee of three, Mr. Chaney, The Lord Bishop, and Saya Shwe Hla. There was considerable discus-
sion of the matter presenting various phases of the question before us. The session closed at 4 p.m. to reassemble at 6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY EVENING.

The evening session opened with song. Dr. Cummings led in prayer. The Bishop presided and gave a brief and to-the-point talk on the place and work of the Christian Literature Society. Mr. Journey, Secretary of the Society, read his report, which was adopted. Then Mr. Jones, Chairman of the Literature Committee of the Council, read his report which was adopted. Following this, there was a very interesting program presented by a number of the Rangoon Schools. The recent translations of the Christian Literature Society were presented to a large audience in the form of tableaux. It was a stroke of genius to link the children of the various Rangoon High Schools with this new lot of available literature in so pleasing a way, while at the same time advertising the new literature to a large audience and many missionaries. This joint meeting of the Christian Literature Society and the Christian Council was also a very happy piece of co-operation.

Resolved: That the report of the Chairman of the Literature Committee be adopted. (Cf. Pages 5 and 6.)

SATURDAY MORNING.

The session opened at 8 a.m. Thra San Ba led the devotional service and brought a searching message from the lesson, "Two men went up into the Temple to pray.----------this man went down to his house justified rather than the other."

Report on Christian Education.

Dr. C. H. Riggs read the report of the Education Committee, which consisted largely of correspondence with the Director of Public Instruction on certain pronouncements of the Department.

Resolved: That we approve and adopt the report of the Education Committee. (Cf. Page 11.)

Mr. Purser made a statement with reference to the appointment of the Committee on Rural Education last year, and as to what has been done. Then he recommended that a committee of ladies be appointed on Rural Education and that they take up the suggestions left by Miss Gordon. The suggestions left by Miss Gordon were read and some of them discussed.

Resolved: That Mrs. Chaney of the A. B. Mission, Miss Roscoe of the S. P. G. Mission, and Miss Merrick of the
Wesleyan Mission, be a committee on Rural Education, and that this Committee take under consideration Miss Gordon’s letter of suggestions.

Correspondence concerning the coming of Dr. Stanley Jones was read and it was voted to approve the date, January 15th to 30th, for these special meetings. A Committee of Arrangements, consisting of the Lord Bishop of Rangoon, Dr. D. C. Gilmore, Rev. B. M. Jones, Professor Peacock, and Saya U Tun Pe, was appointed to make all necessary arrangements.

The Committee of Arrangements for the meetings to be held by Dr. Stanley Jones, is to confer with the Executive Committee with reference to the time of the January meeting of the Executive Committee.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee was set for November 20th at 8 a.m. in the rooms of the British and Foreign Bible Society, 19 Sule Pagoda Road.

Mr. Jones reported concerning the manuscript for a small free leaflet to be provided for distribution among tourists and for use in hotels. Mr. Chaney suggested that the manuscript be referred back to the committee for reconsideration in the light of more material made available by the Report on Survey.

The Secretary’s Report was read and adopted with the privilege of editing the same before printing, in order to avoid duplication of materials in other reports.

The Treasurer’s Report for the Annual Meeting is the same as the one submitted to the Executive Committee and printed in the minutes of the June meeting. The Treasurer’s books were audited by Miss O. A. Hastings, Treasurer of the A. B. Mission, and found to be correct. Mr. T. J. Cornelius had handed in his resignation as he was going on long leave.

The matter of this Council making a contribution this year to the National Christian Council was referred to the Finance Committee of the Burma Christian Council.

Resolved: That the fares of all members of the Council in attendance at the next Annual Meeting be paid by the Council as a first charge against the resources of the Council.

Report on Training of Missionaries.

The Report on the Training of Missionaries was read by Mr. Purser. Special attention was given to the suggestion for the changes in the rules governing the Burmese Language Examinations, also the list of suggestions submitted by Messrs. Gerrad and Sheldon. The report was approved and adopted. (Cf. Page 9.)
Resolved: That the rules for the examinations in Burmese as presented by the Chairman of the Board of Examiners in the revised form be adopted and printed in the minutes.

The time for adjournment at 11 o'clock had arrived, but a motion was made and carried to continue in session until the business before the Council was completed.

The Council then proceeded to the elections for the coming year. The elections select those who are to serve as Officers, Executive Committee (in part), Chairman of the Three Standing Committees, Co-opted Members, and our Representatives to the National Christian Council. Those elected, together with the full membership of the Council, are printed on the inside of the front and back cover of the Minutes.

It was voted to appoint Saya U Ba, Rev. B. M. Jones, Thra San Ba, and Saya U Kin Maung as a committee on gambling. Saya U Ba was appointed Chairman of the Committee.

A hearty vote of thanks was given to the following, and the Secretary was instructed to inform them of it:—The Bishop of Rangoon for his gracious act in providing the Tea at the reception for Miss Gordon; the Y. M. C. A. for their many courtesies connected with providing an auditorium and also arranging to serve the tea and other meals during the meetings; to Rev. N. K. Anderson and Thra San Ba for the stirring messages which they brought to the Council; to Rev. S. M. Gordon and Rev. J. T. Latta for their splendid contributions to the success of the Council in the two papers read; to Miss E. A. Gordon for making the long hard trip to Burma and for touring in the delta during the rains in order that she might see rural education as it is in Burma and help us with practical suggestions, special thanks are due; and to the National Christian Council for arranging their work so as to release Miss Gordon for a month of valuable service to Burma.

A motion to adjourn was made and carried at 11:45.

The Annual Meeting closed with the benediction pronounced by the Lord Bishop.

Respectfully submitted,

C. E. Chaney,
Hon'ly Secretary.

REPORT OF THE LITERATURE COMMITTEE TO THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BURMA CHRISTIAN COUNCIL.

Rangoon, July 30th, 1926.

This is a combined report of the Literature Committee of the Christian Council and of the Publication Committee of the
Christian Literature Society. A zealous soul might conclude from the report of the work of this Society that it's motto is "slow and sure" and that the first half of that motto receives rather more care and attention than the second. At the time of the annual meeting of the Christian Council last year, we had just got under weigh with a new policy and system, having by grace of the Indian Literature Fund which provided Rs. 1,800 for his salary, a full time Burmese literature worker, employed under a half time missionary supervisor, and we looked forward confidently to a period of accelerating progress. This meeting finds us with neither of these workers.

By the end of the year we had published six new books 21,000 volumes, nearly two and a quarter million pages, and nearly one third of the books had been sold. We ran short of money for publication but the preparation of MSS went merrily on. My contract as missionary supervisor expired with the last calendar year but as no one could be found to take over the work, I carried on as best as I could in that capacity till the end of the school year when Saya Maung Yu, the Translator resigned to resume his profession of teaching.

The Committee then adopted the policy of making a selection of books for translation and endeavoring to get the work done by contract, employing teachers or others who might have spare time for it. However, when the committee first met for the purpose of selecting material for translation it was faced with the fact that there is a considerable number of MSS on hand unpublished for want of funds and it decided that the safer policy would be to ask the consent of the Committee of the I. L. F. to use for the present the money now appropriated for production of MSS for the purpose of printing MSS already produced. If the I. L. F. consents to this it should be possible before the end of the year to have on sale the following:

1. The Life of Saddhu Sundar Singh
2. "Tales of Heroism"
3. A booklet on Astronomy
4. McKee's book on the teaching of reading
5. The Manhood of the Master.

For the publication of the last mentioned the Society has the funds in hand and the MS which is still under examination by the Publication Sub-Committee will be sent to the press as soon as it is passed.

The work of MS production has not ceased altogether. A simple introduction to the New Testament, published in English under the title, "How Readest Thou" is being prepared in Burmese by Mr. Purser and one of his assistants. The Com-
mittee is keeping constantly on the lookout for material suitable for translation and publication.

In this connection it may not be out of place to say a word about the policy adopted by the Committee as to the character of the literature to be produced. It has endeavored to maintain a fairly even balance between literature designed to aid the growth and development of Christian character in the Christian community; literature for propaganda purposes and literature of a non-religious character that should help to stimulate an appetite for reading on the part of the general public. Of the six books published, two fall into each of these three classes. In the last class, Ruskin's "King of the Golden River" has been accepted by the Text Book Committee and recommended for use in schools. One of the Burmese members said it was so well done that it did not read like a translation. Hawthorne's "King Midas and the Golden Touch" has also been presented to the Text Book Committee and we hope may be approved. The following is Professor U Pe Maung Tin's comment on it.

"It is a creditable performance, being a free adaptation without any smell of the original. The setting of the story is so in Burmese that none but the informed would suspect its American origin. The style is that of mixed prose and verse but more simple and easy to understand than the classical Burmese mixed verse. I wonder if the modern prose style would have succeeded in catching the spirit of the original so well as the mixed style has."

There seems to be a wide field open to us in the publication of good literature of this class which sells readily at a profit that will help to carry the cost of the purely religious literature. It is interesting to note that the North India Tract and Book Society has published seven of Shakespeare's plays in Hindi. It would be no small service to enrich the Burmese language to that extent. A few days ago we were visiting two friends in the hospital, one a European and the other Burmese. To the first we took a supply of fresh magazines and when we went to the second I said to myself "We must bring her something to read also," and then I remembered that there was practically nothing worth reading of modern publications that she had not already read.

Anyone who has anything to do with this work cannot but regret exceedingly that it has to be carried on by busy folks whose attention must be given primarily to other things. It is a work of major importance and must suffer severely in the hands of mere honorary workers. All who have an interest in it should pray earnestly for the day to come speedily when a whole or half time literature missionary can be provided by
the bodies at work in Burma to match the grant for a Burmese translator from the I. L. F. If we fail to do so we shall be in great danger of losing that grant.

At the risk of dragging this report to an inordinate length, I must say a word about distribution. Of the six books published last year, 8,322 have been sold. Had the sales been as good in all areas as they have been in some, the editions would all have been sold out long ago. But there are many missionaries and Christian workers still who know nothing about the books and others who are afraid of them. One missionary feared to have the Society's representative appear with a stock of books at the annual meeting of that area lest his sales should interfere with the sales of Bibles and hymn books. The sales would be vastly stimulated if the station missionary would go to the trouble and slight expense of keeping a stock of the books on hand for sale by the workers of his area. There are many useful ways in which they can be used. One hostel superintendent promised prizes for the cleanest dormitory and gave to each of the 35 boys of the dormitory a copy of "The King of the Golden River."

In connection with the need of this work we had a splendid illustration in our Council meeting this morning. Mr. Gordon in discussing the approach to the Buddhist mind mentioned the fact that terms in common use on both sides have not the same content of meaning on the lips of Christian and Buddhist. It will be a long and difficult process to put into these terms for the Burmese mind the full content of their Christian meaning but I doubt whether it can be done in any other way than by representing the full significance of these terms to Christian lives in books and out of them. Perhaps I mentioned in my report last year an incident that illustrated this. Someone who had read Bo So Min said, "Did you ever see a Burman as good as U Shin?" I replied, "No but I should very much like to and I shall have more hope of seeing one if they have before them, though it be only in a book, a pattern to go by."

I think I should here repeat what I have said before, that this work is of sufficient importance that it would be worth while to close up a station if necessary to find the means and the personnel to carry it on in something like adequate fashion.

I should have said when I was on the subject of distribution that the Executive Committee appropriated Rs. 240 for the employment of a colporteur and one has been at work since the middle of May. I have not yet his report for this month but I think he is learning the work and will succeed at it. This, of course, is the most unfavorable time of the year for work and I am in hopes that when the rains are over this man
will be able to go farther afield and dispose of a large number of books. The Executive Committee of the Christian Council also appropriated Rs. 500 towards the cost of publishing "The Manhood of the Master."

TRAINING OF MISSIONARIES AND BOARD OF EXAMINERS REPORT.

Two language examinations were held during the course of the year, the former simultaneously at Rangoon and Mandalay.

At the Elementary examination, six candidates were examined and four passed, one of them passing with great credit; and two with credit. At the Intermediate examination five candidates were examined. One passed with great credit, one with credit, and three failed.

At the Advanced examination three candidates were examined and all passed with credit.

Examination Syllabus.

A revised draft of the syllabus has been prepared by the Committee and is submitted herewith. Their revised draft however, has not proved acceptable to the Mandalay sub-committee which has suggested further drastic alterations. The chief of these is a proposal to add a fourth or "Proficiency" examination. The proposal is put forward in the following form by Messrs. Sheldon and Garrad, but it has not yet been considered by the Rangoon Committee "It is expected that candidates will take the first three examination during their first three years in Burma, special exemptions being made at the discretion of the missions concerned. The "Proficiency" examination is optional, but missionaries are urged to attempt it before the end of their first term of service."

Language Schools for Missionaries.

The following extract from a Report by Dr. F K. Sanders on a questionnaire issued by the International Missionary Council on the subject of missionary training is submitted as being of general interest:—

The dozen or fourteen years of experience which have been gained since the days of the Edinburgh Conference show very clearly the value of a well organized missionary training school for giving in the shortest possible period to a new missionary that grasp of the vernacular and that acquaintance with the life and thought and customs of his adopted people which help to make the efficient missionary. The young missionary who can attend a school of this description, at least for a limited period, seems by common consent to be far
better off than in any other circumstance. This does not hold true of the unusual linguist, for such a man or woman will achieve success under the hardest conditions. Experience shows, however, that the organized school is thoroughly worth while where it can be developed.

It goes without saying that such a school ought to be a union school. Its interests are common interests, its methods are applicable to everyone, its resources should be open to all. Whether such a school can be in session for the greater part of a year, like a school in England or America, is a matter to be determined locally. Where in countries like India and Africa it is unwise, some other system which contemplates a change of location must be submitted. This is entirely feasible provided the student is working all the while under the guidance of a competent mind or group of minds. The furniture of a school need not be on an elaborate scale. Its real effectiveness depends largely upon a competent director chosen for his ability to evaluate and guide the work of missions and a trained faculty of natives. It is grievous mistake to suppose that a good scholar is necessarily an excellent director or that a long experience is the most necessary factor in making a good director. An elderly missionary may be far inferior to a comparatively young missionary as a director of an efficient language school. The test of a good director is not what he can do himself but what he can make his faculty do.

Another important matter is the curriculum, not only the curriculum for the first year or two of study but a curriculum which follows the student for a group of years doing its utmost to stimulate the continuing study and genuine mastery. Reports show that there is a steady tendency among mission groups where schools have been organized to recognize the director of the training school as having authoritative charge of the linguistic studies of young missionaries even after they have left school. He is regarded as the proper person to administer tests and award certificates.

A relatively unsolved problem is that of the isolated missionary who cannot attend a school. There is a general agreement, however, regarding something that he may wisely do if he is appointed to a field where he must gain his mastery of language and other conditions largely by himself. First of all, he can take a thorough training in phonetics. This is to train his ear to hear accurately, and his organs of speech to reproduce the sounds correctly. It does not take much time but is very important. Secondly—he may secure under a competent instructor at home some specific instruction regarding the proper way of approaching a new language; many of his
difficulties will be minimized thereby. Simple system thoroughly understood and steadily applied will go far toward promoting success in the acquisition of a language. Much can be done by the missions in various parts of Africa through the appointment of one of their number to study with care the wisest possible method of initiating a new missionary into the mastery of the vernacular, provided such a director could also have the responsibility of advising the new missionaries regarding their language studies.

The suggestion made by African missionaries that the University of Cape Town and Witwaters-Rand should offer vacation courses, suggests a possibility of wide obligation. There are untouched resources in almost every country to-day which with some encouragement might be made available for cultural purposes to the missionaries appointed in the country. If this is true in Africa it is abundantly true in Latin America and it is probably true in many parts of Asia.

The language school has come to stay. It is evidently a highly useful factor in missionary training. Few of the schools can expect such large development as the North China Union Training School, and probably it is wiser that they should not be. There is abundant room for the training schools which have grown up at the home base and for those on the field—neither supplants the other—each contributes its own share to missionary efficiency. Their better correlation will be achieved as experience grows.

W. C. B. PURSER,
Convener.

REPORT OF THE EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE TO THE CHRISTIAN COUNCIL.

Christian Council, 30th July, 1926.

This committee has met twice during the year to consider matters referred to it by the Executive Committee of this council. Members have attended well and one or two living at a distance have been faithful in attending the meetings of the committee.

One matter considered by the committee was the proposal of the government to charge full rent on land occupied by schools in order to be able to find the full cost of education in the province. After careful consideration this committee wrote to the Director of Public Instruction stating that they did not think the plan feasible for several reasons. The Director in his reply stated that the matter was still being considered and that our Council would have ample opportunity
to present its opinions. Nothing further has been heard of the matter.

The Director wrote to many of the schools in the province asking for suggestions as to how government could be made secure that buildings for which a grant has been made would continue to be used for educational purposes. This committee replied that as far as the schools which it represented were concerned, it felt that an assurance by the heads of the different missions that buildings would be used for educational purposes would be sufficient.

This committee also addressed the department in regard to the award of Maintenance Grants. It asked that in notifying schools of the amount granted, information might also be given as to how the amount was arrived at especially in cases where certain items in the financial statements were disallowed. In his reply the director pointed out that he had already approved of a form which he was using which explained any items that were not allowed. He also expressed a willingness to explain to any school manager any questions regarding the manner of making the grants.

The matter of the Conscience Clause in Boarding Schools was also discussed in the Committee. All of the missions represented on this body are, as far as we have been able to learn, not in favour of granting the Conscience Clause in our Boarding Departments. Hence the committee was of the opinion that as long as we are of this opinion we cannot complain if the government refuses to grant public money for buildings for boarding departments.

It may be interesting to note that although most of our schools have allowed the Conscience Clause in our day schools your committee has not heard of any difficulties being experienced by our schools on account of it.

C. H. RIGGS,
Chairman,
Education Sub-Committee.

REPORT ON PUBLIC QUESTIONS.

At the last annual meeting I was asked to be the Convener of an ad hoc Committee on public questions. I am afraid I cannot report as much activity as I would have liked, and I regret to say that both of the other members appointed to serve on this Committee have since resigned from the Council.

When Mr. Paton was here last year, he made an attempt to find out what the conditions of the labouring classes were in Rangoon: housing, pay, hours of work, etc., and a few people were called together to consider it. We were all
surprised that there was so little information available. Only one, a Hindu gentleman, so far as we could ascertain, had made any investigation into these conditions. It was felt that there was a great need for investigation of this kind and a few people met together at the Town Branch Y. M. C. A. and formed a Social Service League, with Mr. Cornelius as Secretary, the public being invited to its meeting through the daily papers. This League met about once a month. It divided itself into two Committees, one to study the question of Night Schools in Rangoon, and the other to study Housing Conditions.

A report on Night Schools was presented by the Sub-Committee and subsequently sent to the Minister of Education, the D. P. I., and published in the papers.

Adult education constitutes a public question of the first importance. We cannot get far with reforms of any kind unless we have the intelligent co-operation of those concerned and this is not possible without education.

A very commendable scheme has just been commenced by the authorities and students of St. John's College. The ground floor of the Empress Victoria Buddhist School has been loaned for the purpose of a Free Night School. There are nearly 100 working youths taking advantage of this and the School is open three nights a week from 7 to 8:30 p.m. One valuable feature is that the students are able to give definite expression to the theories of service taught in all good schools.

The other Committee working on Housing Conditions spent a good deal of time in investigation visiting the overcrowded residential parts of Rangoon, both by day and night. A lengthy report has been prepared chiefly by Prof. Jevons and Col. Lack. It is proposed to publish these findings as a preliminary report of the Committee. Adequate housing conditions are elementary and fundamental to all other reforms, and we who live in Rangoon ought to have a first-hand knowledge of these conditions.

In addition to the foregoing the Social Service League has prepared a constitution for its guidance, and this is to be considered at a meeting to be held shortly.

There are other matters which ought to be investigated and brought to the notice of this body, but we have felt that it was better to do one or two things carefully than to dissipate our efforts on a number of issues.

I would, however, like to draw the attention of the Council at this annual meeting to general questions of importance in Burma.
1. **Juvenile Crime.** In the report of the Commissioner of Police for Rangoon just published there appears this statement, "In the year under report an effort was made to deal with the subject of juvenile offenders in Rangoon. During the past few years the juvenile criminal has begun to take a prominent part in professional crime, and during the past year especially we had to take action against a large number of young criminals." The Police Advisory Board took up this question of the juvenile offenders with enthusiasm, and it is hoped shortly to approach Government with proposals for dealing with this most important question.

Many of us were surprised by a statement made by Mr. Alex Patterson, His Majesty's Prison Commissioner, recently, "That there are dens in Rangoon where boys are trained in the way of crime similar to that run by Fagin in Dickens' Oliver Twist." That we have a responsibility here will not, I am sure, be refuted. The important question is what can we do?

2. **Girl Slaves in Burma.** Under this head I would merely call your attention to a letter that appeared in the papers a month or so ago stating that there were a number of girls kept as slaves in private families in Burma. The last announcement on this subject was made on July the 5th, when the Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma stated that if any concrete cases of the kind were brought to the notice of the Government they would be inquired into.

3. **Opium.** This is a subject in which Mr. Paton is greatly interested and in view of the recent pronouncement of Government it is perturbing to see in the minutes of Popular Health Sub-Committee of the Red Cross Society that both Dr. Dalal, Municipal Health Officer and U Hla Pe are of opinion that the opium habit is on the increase in Burma.

4. **Obscene Literature.** During the past few years there has been a considerable increase in the advertisement of undesirable literature by various firms in India, notably Madras. This literature is of such character that if widely read by the youth of India and Burma, it cannot but have a degrading and vitiating effect upon them. It is insidious and sordid propaganda.

I have a catalogue here if any one would like to see it. It would be interesting to know how far literature of this kind is being read by school boys and girls in Burma.

Our own Association in India is taking the matter up at its next Convention to be held in December, and one of our Literary Secretaries, Mr. J. N. C. Ganguly is investigating the matter in the meantime.
RECOMMENDATIONS.

In connection with such questions as Obscene Literature and Girl Slaves, the great loss of an active Vigilance Society in Rangoon is felt keenly. It is a pity that the city which led the other cities of India in these matters should have fallen so far behind them. There is urgent need for a full-time paid worker as Secretary of the Vigilance Society and the Missions might be able to render practical aid to the solution of many public questions by helping to pay the salary of such a person. I understand that both Calcutta and Bombay now have paid Secretaries for these Societies.

Such questions as Juvenile Crime and the rescue of boys and girls living under evil influence might be solved by a Central Committee of representatives of all Social Service Institutions, both Christian and non-Christian, who would investigate all cases of this kind and see that there was no overlapping in meeting the needs as well as finding funds for this necessary work. In Calcutta and Bombay similar organisations do splendid work along these lines.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, I would refer briefly to the disaster which recently overtook Arakan and the work of the Ramakrishna Mission in connection with it. Soon after the calamity was made known, Swami Shyanandaji who is in charge of the Ramakrishna Hospital in Merchant Street, was constrained to send two of his workers to the scene of the disaster. These two workers had had previous experience of this kind in connection with the Bengal Flood Relief. Money was collected chiefly from Chetties.

Reports have appeared in the local press stating the condition as discovered by these representatives and of what they were able to do to relieve distress. I attended one of the meetings of this Society and was much impressed with the keenness of the young man there and the work they proposed to carry on. It is no easy matter to go from house to house collecting food and clothing for those in need. This is what was done and a considerable sum of money as well as food and clothes has been collected. I was much impressed that a small non-Christian Society should be the first, and I believe the only unofficial body on the spot and I felt it would be a desirable thing to have fellowship with these young men in this work, I passed on this suggestion to the responsible authorities of several missions in Rangoon.

W. B. HILTON,
Convener.
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY,
BURMA CHRISTIAN COUNCIL.

Another year has passed by and your Secretary offers as his Report a brief review of the year's work. There is nothing of great outstanding importance to record, but the review of many smaller items of importance will serve as a summary of the year. The accumulative effect will make us more appreciative of the work and position of this body in the Community.

Items growing out of the last Annual Meeting.

The meeting a year ago left instructions for the Committee of Arrangements to arrange a program for a two days meeting instead of for one day. It also suggested that some papers on Evangelism be read to the Council, and that emphasis be placed on Evangelism, Christian Rural Education, and Social Questions. The program offered this year plans a half day session on each of these vital topics.

The instructions to inaugurate an annual audit of accounts has been carried out. Miss O. A. Hastings, Mission Treasurer of the A. B. M., has rendered us this service.

No further action has been necessary concerning the question of Normal Schools which was before us. The Clark Scheme which was at the time under consideration has not yet been accepted, and it is not likely it will be adopted unless in a much modified form. The A. B. Mission feels very strongly that it must continue its normal work for boys and girls in order to maintain the necessary supply of Christian teachers for its many schools, and the Mission plans to improve both its staff and equipment for normal work.

The Annual Meeting voted that Mr. Barretto should continue his work on the question of gambling. Soon after the meeting he sailed for England. The study of gambling was then given to the Committee on Public Questions. Two of the members of this committee resigned shortly after this. Then a new committee was appointed to take the problem under study. The Chairman went on long leave and thus no report is prepared for this meeting. The experience of this Committee make one think of the French Cabinet and Gambling like Finance remains an unsolved question of importance.

And last of all, the work in bringing the Constitution up-to-date has been completed, the same being printed in the minutes of the October meeting.
THE OCTOBER MEETING.

In addition to some of the items of business mentioned above, which were under discussion, was the announcement by the Education Department that in the future building grants would only be made for Boarding Departments on condition that the School went on record as accepting the Conscience Clause in the Boarding Department. This and several other important matters in connection with our relation to Government are found in the Report of the Education Committee.

The matter of securing a successor for Rev. B. M. Jones as half time Missionary in charge of translation and literary work was put up to the various Missions. But all Missions seem to be very short in money and staff just at present and could not spare a man or woman. We have therefore proposed to have the work done on the contract system and the matter is being referred to India for approval.

Mr. Paton's long and helpful letter following his visit a year ago contained some suggestions for our consideration; 1st, that the travel of members to and from the Council be paid from Council funds and thus secure a more representative attendance; 2nd, that Mr. Walters suggestion relative to social questions taking a more important place in the Council be adopted; 3rd, that the newly formed committee on rural education find ways and means to keep growing the interest created by Mr. McKee's work and visit to Burma; 4th, that the survey of the Christian occupation of Burma be completed; and 5th, that the Council give at least two days to its Annual Meeting.

THE JANUARY MEETING.

Dr. Beven of India sent a long questionnaire on Mohammedan work in Burma with a request that the information be secured for him. Rev. H. F. Myers of the Baptist Mission and Rev. Baldwin of the Methodist Mission undertook and completed the task.

Miss E. A. Gordon, National Secretary, Indian Christian Council, who is well acquainted with the work at Moga and has made a special study of Rural Schools, was invited to visit Burma and tour among our rural schools during the month of July. We very fortunately secured her services and arranged for an extended tour which was successfully carried out. We hope to profit greatly by her observations and advice.

A committee was appointed to get out a folder containing some pointed information about most Religious Bodies
at work in Burma, which folder would be made available for all for free distribution at hotels and for tourists. This will meet in part a long felt need, and will be much appreciated by those who visit Burma.

THE JUNE MEETING.

The Committee on Training of Missionaries brought before us proposals for changes in the Burmese language examinations. These were referred to the various Missions for approval and will appear printed in the minutes of this meeting.

The Secretary was instructed to get into touch with the various Tourist Agencies and suggest to them that we furnish in-bound Tourist Ships at the last Port before arrival with a lecturer. The lecturer would be selected from among the Mission Staffs and would be prepared to give a series of interesting and informing lectures on The Land of Pagodas, thus assisting travellers to make the most possible out of their visit to Burma.

IN CONCLUSION.

This rapid review of some of the items of Council business during the year ought to leave an impression of the important place this Council has in the life of the Community. But more important still, it ought to suggest to us the potential possibilities for good in our combined councils and efforts for the welfare of the Kingdom of God in Burma. The possibilities are limitless. There is increased strength and effectiveness in co-operation. May we so prosecute the work as to command the respect of men and the blessing of God in the name of Christ, our Lord.

Respectfully submitted,

C. E. CHANEY,

Hon'y Sec'y.
BURMA CHRISTIAN COUNCIL

Rules for the Examination of Missionaries in the Burmese Language

I. The Burma Christian Council shall appoint a Board of Examiners in Burmese who shall examine the candidates presented to them by Missions represented on the Council.

II. The Board shall consist of two representatives of the Baptist Mission and one each of the Wesleyan, Methodist Episcopal and Anglican Missions, each Mission nominating its own representatives. The Wesleyan representative shall have power to co-opt representatives from the other missions in Upper Burma to act as a sub-committee of the Board for the purpose of conducting examinations in Upper Burma.

III. There shall be two examinations annually the date and place to be fixed by the Board.

IV. The representatives on the Board of the various missions shall be responsible for securing the names of the respective candidates and for communicating them to the Chairman of the Board at least one month before the Examination.

V. The Board shall present a report to the Council at the annual meeting of the work done during the year.

VI. Three examinations shall be open to candidates, entitled "Elementary," "Intermediate" and "Advanced."

VII. All examination questions shall be approved in advance by the Board of Examiners.

VIII. Three members of the Board at least shall be present either personally or by proxy at every examination.

IX. Marks gained in the examinations shall be moderated by the examiners in joint session.

X. A certificate shall be issued to each candidate who passes any of the examinations. In order to pass a candidate must obtain half the maximum marks. If three quarters are obtained the words "with Credit" shall be added to the certificate; if nine tenths, the words "with Great Credit" shall be added.

XI. The requirements of the Elementary Examination shall be as follows:

(1) To read at sight with tolerable fluency and accurate pronunciation any passage from the first ten chapters of the Gospel according to St. John and to construe it into English clause by clause. (Either Dr. Judson’s or the Bible Society’s version may be used.)
(2) To write a Burmese translation of short English sentences containing only words in common use.

(3) To write, with the aid of a dictionary, an English Translation of an easy passage from a Burmese newspaper.

(4) To pass an examination in elementary Burmese grammar (Judson's Grammar and Lonsdale's Simpler Grammar are recommended for study.)

(5) To read and translate into English Standard II Burmese Reader omitting the pieces of Poetry and the Mottoes or Proverbs.

(6) To carry on a simple conversation in Burmese without any aid from English. (25% of the total marks will be allotted to this conversation.)

(7) To write accurately from dictation, without any aid from English, a passage from the Gospel portion mentioned above. (N.B.—Only such variations of spelling as affect pronunciation will be taken into consideration.)

(The Anglican Mission is expected to arrange its own tests in reading and translating the Book of Common Prayer.)

XII. The requirements of the Intermediate Examination shall be as follows:—

(1) To read at sight fluently, with accurate pronunciation, any passage from the Synoptic Gospels, the Acts of the Apostles, I Corinthians, Hebrews and 25 selected Psalms, and to construe them viva voce.

The Psalms selected are: 8, 15, 19, 22, 23, 27, 42, 46, 51, 68, 84, 90, 91, 95, 103, 104, 107, 116, 118, 121, 122, 127, 130, 139, 145.

(2) To write an English translation of any passage from the first 100 pages of "The Way to Health" and the first 100 pages of the Standard V Reader.

(3) To write a Burmese translation of complex English sentences.

(4) To write an English translation of a passage from a Burmese newspaper.

(5) To read and translate into English a Burmese letter of ordinary difficulty.

(6) To write a letter in Burmese on a subject to be assigned at the time of examination.

(7) To carry on a conversation with a Burman unacquainted with English, on subjects secular and religious to be assigned at the time of examination.

(8) To reproduce viva voce in Burmese an incident or parable from the Bible after reading it in English if desired. (Missions are expected to arrange their own preaching tests.)
XIII. The requirements for the Advanced Examination shall be as follows:—

(1) To read, translate and explain the grammar of any passage from the Wethandaya, Maha Zanaka and Standard VI Burmese Reader.

(2) To translate a passage from any printed Burmese book or newspaper, not being a technical treatise.

(3) To write in Burmese a translation of a passage from an English book or newspaper.

(4) To write at sight an English translation of a passage of Burmese manuscript.

(5) Conversation as in the intermediate examination.

(6) To give a ten minutes' religious address in Burmese on a subject to be assigned the day previous to delivery.
STANDING COMMITTEES.

(The name of the Convener is given first in each case.)

I. Christian Education.—Dr. C. H. Riggs and the following elected representatives of the constituent bodies engaged in educational work:—


II. Christian Literature.—Rev. B. M. Jones, and members of the Christian Literature Society General Committee.


Karen:—Rev. E. N. Harris, Dr. D. C. Gilmore, Mrs. A. E. Seagrave, Rev. Hughes.

REPRESENTATIVES TO THE NATIONAL CHRISTIAN COUNCIL.

For four years . . . . . . Dr. J. E. Cummings.
"  "  " . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Saya On Kin.
For two years . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Rev. W C. B. Purser.
"  "  " . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Saya U Tun Pe.