Burma Christian Council

Fifteenth Annual Report
1929

RANGOON:
AMERICAN BAPTIST MISSION PRESS,
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1929.
OFFICERS

Chairman.—Rev. B. M. Jones, 256 Creek Street, Rangoon.
Vice-Chairman.—Saya U Hla Bu, Judson College, Rangoon.
Honorary Secretary—(To be appointed).
Honorary Treasurer—Thra San Ba, Seminary Hill, Insein.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Officers of the Council and Conveners of Standing Committees, ex officio, and the Bishop of Rangoon, Rev. Peter Kin Maung, Mr. Yesudian, Saya Kenneth Po San, Rev. C. E. Chaney, Dr. J. E. Cummings, Rev. G. D. Josif, Miss May T. Mack, U Ba Hlaing, Thra Kan Gyi, Mr. S. J. Obed, U Shwe Hla, U On Kin, and Mr. J. Brough.

REPRESENTATIVES

American Baptist Communion.—Dr. J. E. Cummings, A. B. Burman Mission, Henzada; Dr. W. E. Wiatt, Seminary Hill, Insein; Dr. H. I. Marshall, Seminary Hill, Insein; Miss M. E. Phillips, 121-E, Mission Road, Rangoon; Rev. C. E. Chaney, 121-D, Mission Road, Rangoon; Saya U Tun Pe, Judson College, Rangoon; Saya U San U, Zigon; Thra U San Baw, K.I.H., Tharrawaddy; Thra San Ba, B.A., B.D., Seminary Hill, Insein; Samo Aung Baung, Thayetmyo.


Wesleyan Methodist Communion.—Rev. H. Crawford Walters, Post Box No. 21, Mandalay; Rev. F. E. Skinner, Wesleyan Mission, Monywa (Lower Chindwin District); Rev. Po Tun, Wesleyan Mission, Mandalay.

Methodist Episcopal Communion.—Rev. C. H. Riggs, 256 Creek Street, Rangoon; Miss G. L. Stockwell, 6 Lancaster Road, Rangoon; Saya U Shwe Hla, 256 Creek Street, Rangoon.

Young Women's Christian Association.—Miss Estelle Amaron, Acting General Secretary, 22 Brook ing Street, Rangoon.

Young Men's Christian Association.—Mr. J. Brough, Secretary, 263 Dalhousey Street, Rangoon.

British and Foreign Bible Society.—Rev. W. Sherratt, Agent, 262 Sule Pagoda Road, Rangoon.

Christian Literature Society.—Saya U Aung Ba, Seminary Hill, Insein.

Women's Christian Temperance Union.—Miss E. Amburn, 6 Lancaster Road, Rangoon.

Co-opted Members.—Dr. A. H. Henderson (Medical Representative), A. B. Mission, Taunggyi, S.S.S.; Rev. G. D. Josif, 121-F Mission Road, Rangoon; Miss May T. Mack, 20-B 43rd Street, Rangoon; Dr. Ma Saw Sa, 30 Tank Road, Rangoon; Saya U Hla Bu, Judson College, Rangoon; Saya U Ba Hlaing, Bar-at-Law, Moulmein; Sava U Cho, Inspector of Schools, Circle 1, Rangoon; Thra Po Myine, A. B. Karen Mission, Henzada; Saya U Toe Khut, M. L. C., A. B. Mission, Maubin; Thra Johnson Kan Gyi, Judson College, Rangoon; Rev. V. N. Kerno, St. Gabriel's Mission, Rangoon; Mr. Crittle, B. C. M. S.; Miss L. H. M. Laughlin, St. Mary's, Latter Street, East Rangoon; Miss Phoe England, St. Mary's, Kemmendine; Miss S. E. Nicoll-Jones, Zewaka Lodge, 63. 45th Street, Rangoon; Dr. C. N. Sastri, 168 Lewis Street, Rangoon; W. F. Graham, Esq., I. C. S., Rangoon; Mr. Yesudian; U Chit Po, Mahazavban Quarter, Mandalay; Rev. B. M. Jones, 256 Creek Street, Rangoon; Mr. S. J. Obed, Y. M. C. A., 263 Dalhousey Street, Rangoon; Rev. V. Samuel, M. E. Church, Lewis Street, Rangoon; Saya U On Kin, M. E. Mission, Thongwa, Hanthawaddy District; Saya Ling Sing, 256 Creek Street, Rangoon; Mrs. G. H. Luce, University College, Rangoon.
Proceedings of the Fifteenth Annual Meeting
of the Burma Christian Council

July 24th–27th, 1929

The Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the Burma Christian Council was held at the Central Y. M. C. A., 263, Dalhousie Street, Rangoon, on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, July 24th to 27th, 1929. The meetings opened on Wednesday afternoon at 5-30 p.m. with a reception and tea, at which about one hundred persons were served.

At 6-30 p.m. the meeting was called to order and Mr. Appleton led a short devotional period. Following this the Chairman, U Ba Hlaing, delivered the opening address of the Conference, in which he especially emphasized the importance of the Jerusalem Findings and their application to the situation in Burma. After this address the Secretary made several announcements and the meeting closed with prayer.

The following members were present during all or some of the meetings:—U Ba Hlaing, the Bishop of Rangoon, Rev. H. Crawford Walters, Dr. C. H. Riggs, Thra San Ba, Dr. J. E. Cummings, Dr. W. E. Wiatt, Rev. L. B. Rogers, Samo Aung Baw, Rev. G. Appleton, Rev. Peter Kin Maung, Rev. F. E. Skinner, Miss G. L. Stockwell, Saya U Shwe Hla, Mr. J. Brough, Rev. W. Sherratt, Miss E. Amburn, Dr. A. H. Henderson, Dr. Ma Saw Sa, Saya U Hla Bu, Saya U On Kin, Mr. S. J. Obed, Miss May T. Mack, Rev. C. E. Olmstead, W. F. Grahame, Esq., Saya U Cho, Miss L. H. M. Laughlin, Miss S. E. Niccoll-Jones, and Rev. C. E. Chaney, Honorary Secretary. Members of Standing and Ad Hoc Committees present were:—Rev. G. D. Josif, Miss Phoebe England, Rev. M. A. Clare, Miss E. Power, Rev. G. S. Jury, Rev. H. J. Harwood, Dr. H. I. Marshall and Mrs. C. E. Chaney. There were also a number of visitors present at all the sessions, including the following:—Rev. V Samuel and Saya Ling Sing (co-opted members for the coming year), Mrs. C. H. Riggs, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Smith, Miss M. D. Thomas, Miss E. E. Root, Mrs. W. E. Wiatt and Miss M. Wiatt, Mr. C. R. Chartrand, Mrs. C. E. Olmstead, Mrs. M. A. Clare, Miss J. Christenson, Miss G. Moore, Mr. R. S. Spear, Miss M. B. Pound, Mrs. G. D. Josif, Miss I. W. Davis, Mrs. H. I. Marshall, Rev. G. J. Geis, Saw Muler, Saw Peter, Maung John Thet Gyi, Ko Chit Maung, Rev. and Mrs. W. W. Bell, Saya U Ba, Miss M. Winslow, Mr. and Mrs. D. O. Smith, Mrs. L. A. Dudrow, Mrs. J. R. Bahrs, Sayama Ma Thein, Miss S. Smith, Miss O. A. Hastings, Saya Ba Han, Mr. W. B. Campbell and Miss H. Olney. Other visitors were present whose names were unknown to the Secretary.
THURSDAY MORNING

At 8-30 a.m., the Secretary called the meeting to order and introduced Professor U Pe Maung Tin of University College, who gave a most interesting and illuminating lecture on "Some Features of the Burmese Language." There were some fifty persons present, of whom about thirty were members of the Council.

At 9-15 Saya U Hla Bu of Judson College opened the half hour devotional period with the singing of the hymn, "The Son of God Goes Forth To War". Following the reading of one or two scripture selections, he made an earnest plea for greater unity among the workers for Christ's Kingdom. The service ended with prayer and the singing of the hymn, "Onward, Christian Soldiers"

REPORT OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

At 9-45 the meeting was brought to order by Dr. Riggs, the Vice-Chairman, in the absence of the Chairman, U Ba Hlaing. Mr. Walters read the report of the Education Committee (See Page 19), and there followed a discussion of the various points presented.

1. *Application for Increased Grants to Aided Anglo-Vernacular Schools*

   U Cho stated that Government's decision in the matter of increased grants to Mission schools is final and that it is therefore useless to try to press the matter further.

2. *Protest Against Late Payment of Grants*

   This matter called for no further action or discussion.

3. *Insurance on School Buildings*

   Mr. Walters stated that the Wesleyan Mission insures all of its property. Mr. Chaney made a statement for the Baptist Mission, in support of its policy of not insuring buildings, showing that the cost of such insurance would be many times greater than the loss by fire as estimated over a period of years. Bishop Tubbs stated that the Anglican Church had organized its own insurance company, and in this way the profits are turned back into Mission work instead of being gathered in by some other organization.

4. *Vernacular Normal Stipends*

   The question of normal stipends was next discussed and both Mr. Chartrand and U Cho made statements in explanation of the present system of allotting such stipends. (See Secretary's Notes for further discussion.)
RESOLVED: That we appoint a committee consisting of the Chairman of the Education Committee, Bishop Tubbs, and Dr. Cummings, to bring in a resolution at a later session of these meetings on the matter of vernacular normal stipends. (See Page 11 for final action.)

5. Commission on College Education

RESOLVED: That we extend to the Commission on College Education a very cordial invitation to include Burma in the scope of their survey. (See Secretary's Notes for discussion.)

6. Vernacular Education

Mr. Walters called attention to the fact that the policy of Government in relation to Vernacular Education is to reduce the grant to local education authorities by a fixed quota annually in the expectation that the local authorities will raise additional local funds. Mr. Appleton stated it as his strong conviction that we should strenuously oppose any attempt on the part of Government to curtail grants to vernacular schools. (See Secretary's Notes for further discussion.)

RESOLVED: That the Rural Education Committee be asked to draw up a strong resolution on the matter of Government's policy of reducing grants for vernacular education, and forward it through the Executive Committee to the responsible Government official concerned.

7 Survey of Government Educational Policy in Administration and Finance

Mr. Walters referred to a pamphlet published in Madras, in which the educational policy of Government both in administration and finance is subjected to a searching analysis, and stated that he thought it would be an excellent idea if a similar pamphlet could be written for Burma.

Bishop Tubbs stated it as his opinion that such an analysis of the relative cost of Government education and Mission education, and of Government educational policy as a whole, would be extremely valuable to the cause of Missions and to the cause of education in general. He suggested that a member of the Judson College staff be asked to write such a report during the coming year. (For further discussion, see Secretary's Notes.)

RESOLVED: That we ask the principal of Judson College to arrange for the preparation of a pamphlet along the lines of the Madras report, which shall analyse the educational policy of Government both in administration and finance.

8. Trained Educational Missionaries

With regard to this item, Dr. Wiatt stated it as his opinion that a resolution along the lines suggested by Mr. Walters
would carry weight with the individual Mission Boards if presented with the endorsement of a united body such as the Burma Christian Council.

RESOLVED: That we ask the Education Committee to bring in a resolution on the matter of trained educational missionaries at a later session of these meetings. (See Page 11 for final action.)

9. Triennial Review of Maintenance Grants

Dr. Riggs called attention to the recommendation which has been presented to the Secondary School Board, proposing that Maintenance Grants be assessed only once in three years instead of every year. (For discussion pro and con, see Secretary's Notes.)

The discussion of the Education Committee Report closed at 11-15.

The rest of the morning session was given over to a discussion of the Report of the Findings Committee appointed at the Mott Meetings. (See Page 17 for Report and Secretary's Notes for discussion.)

A motion to adjourn was made and carried at 11-30. The Secretary made several announcements, following which Dr. Cummings pronounced the Benediction.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

The afternoon session opened at 1-30 with the singing of the hymn "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name". Rev. W. Sherratt of the British and Foreign Bible Society led the devotional service, taking as his scripture lesson the portion of the twelfth chapter of the Gospel of John beginning with the 20th verse. After a brief inspirational talk, Mr. Sherratt called on the Bishop to lead in a closing word of prayer, following which all joined in singing the hymn, "The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

REPORT OF THE LITERATURE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order at 2-00, Mr. Walters taking the Chair in the absence of Dr. Riggs. The attendance numbered about fifty-five, of whom some thirty were members of the Council. In the absence of Miss Phillips, Rev. Peter Kin Maung read the report of the Literature Committee. (See Page 22.)

RESOLVED: That the Report of the Committee on Literature be accepted and printed in the minutes of this meeting.

1. Relation to Christian Literature Society

Mr. Walters raised a question as to the connection between the Literature Committee of the Burma Christian Council and
the sub-committee of the Christian Literature Society, and Mr. Chaney explained the relation between the two committees.

A question was also raised as to the legitimate use of the money granted by the Indian Literature Fund, and Dr. Wiatt stated that he had been informed by the Chairman of the Literature Committee that the grant from the Indian Literature Fund can be used only for translation work and not for publication. To clear up this point Mr. Chaney read Dr. Macnicol's letter of February 14th, 1929, with the enclosed copy of the rules on the basis of which grants are made by the Indian Literature Fund. (See Page 23.)

RESOLVED: That we appoint the following committee to consider the preparation and distribution of Christian Literature in Burma and the reorganization of the committees now handling these matters, to report to this Council at its next Annual Meeting:—The Bishop of Rangoon, Dr. Riggs, Dr. Wiatt, Rev. Peter Kin Maung, Mr. J. Brough, U Hla Bu, and Rev. W Sherratt, Convener.

2. Whole Time Literary Worker

Mr. Chaney read Dr. Macnicol's letter of February 7th, 1929, notifying us of the vote of the Indian Literature Fund that we endeavour to prepare a scheme for the purpose of securing the whole time services of the Rev. B. M. Jones for literature work. Several suggestions were made and discussed. (See Secretary's Notes.)

RESOLVED: That we refer the matter of securing a full time Secretary for the work of preparing Christian Literature to the Executive Committee for investigation.

At 2-45 the Council again took up the Report of the Findings Committee appointed at the Mott Meetings. (See Secretary's Notes for discussion.)

At 3-45 the Secretary introduced U Khin Maung, former M. L. A., now editor of a Government periodical, who delivered a most interesting address on "Burmese Festivals and Their Significance." The Council extended a hearty vote of thanks to U Khin Maung and adjourned at 4-30.

THURSDAY EVENING

The evening session, which began at 6-30 p.m., was conducted by the Bishop of Rangoon. The meeting opened with the singing of a hymn, followed by prayer. Bishop Tubbs then delivered his address on "Church Union", in which he made a strong plea for organic unity among the various denominations. The meeting closed at 7-30 with a hymn and the pronouncement of the Benediction.
FRIDAY MORNING

The meeting opened at 8-30 a.m. with a second lecture by U Pe Maung Tin on "Some Features of the Burmese Language", during the course of which the members of the Council made the most of their opportunity to ask questions. The attendance numbered thirty-five, twenty members of the Council and fifteen visitors.

At 9-15 Rev. Peter Kin Maung opened the devotional period with the singing of the hymn, "Love Profound", following which he gave an inspirational talk on the theme of the "Great Commission." The service closed with the reading of a prayer and responses from the Litany and the singing of the hymn, "I Would Follow Jesus."

REPORT OF THE RURAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

At 9-45 Dr. Riggs brought the meeting to order and called for the report of the Rural Education Committee, which was read by Mrs. Chaney. (See Page 24.)

RESOLVED: That the Report of the Committee on Rural Education be accepted and printed in the minutes of this meeting.

1. Daily Vacation Bible Schools

Sayama Ma Thein, a Senior B.A. in Judson College, read a very interesting account of the work done in the Daily Vacation Bible School held at Kyaukyedwin during the hot season of 1929, and showed samples of the handwork completed by the pupils.

RESOLVED: That Sayama Ma Thein's paper on "Daily Vacation Bible Schools" be printed in the minutes of this meeting.

2. Correlation of Normal Training and Village Life

Miss England gave a verbal report concerning vernacular normal training in villages of the Delta, describing the work that she and Miss Hurden have been doing during the past year.

3. Mr. Olmstead's Book on Arithmetic

RESOLVED: That the Rural Education Committee be authorized to approach Government with the request that they bear the cost of publishing Mr. Olmstead's adaptation of Stone's book on "How to Teach Primary Arithmetic."

4. Vernacular Institutes for Rural Teachers

The next topic for discussion was "Vernacular Institutes for Rural Teachers." Mr. Chartrand of the Baptist Normal School stated that the Inspectors of Schools are very much in favour of such institutes. One was conducted at the Baptist Normal School last year and was found to be very helpful.
This year the institute was carried out in co-operation with St. Michael's Normal School, Kemmendine. It was suggested that such an institute, lasting two or three weeks, be made a regular annual affair.

RESOLVED: That the question of Vernacular Institutes for Rural Teachers be referred back to the Rural Education Committee with the request that they arrange for further consideration of this matter by those members of the committee who are present and such additional members as they may wish to co-opt, and that they bring in a definite proposition on the subject to be acted upon by this Council at its business session on Saturday.

5. Adult Education

RESOLVED: That the question of adult education in villages be referred back to the Rural Education Committee with the request that they formulate a resolution to be presented to the Council at a later session. (See Page 12 for final action.)

6. Vernacular Teachers' Journal

RESOLVED: That the matter of a Vernacular Teachers' Journal be referred back to the Rural Education Committee with the request that they formulate a resolution to be presented to the Council at a later session. (See Page 12 for final action.)

At 11-00 the Council turned to a further discussion of the Report of the Findings Committee appointed at the Mott Meetings. (See Secretary's Notes.)

The discussion ended at 11-30 and Mr. Walters led in a word of prayer. The Secretary read several notices and the Council adjourned to meet again at 1-30 p.m.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

The afternoon session of the 26th opened at 1-30 p.m. with a devotional service led by Mr. Olmstead. After the singing of the hymn, "In the Cross of Christ I Glory", Mr. Olmstead gave a brief devotional talk, followed by five minutes of prayerful meditation. The service closed with the hymn, "Jesus Calls us O'er the Tumult". There were forty-five persons present, twenty-five of whom were members of the Council.

REPORT ON PUBLIC QUESTIONS

At 2-00 the Acting Chairman, Dr. Riggs, called the meeting to order, and Mr. Chaney read the report of the Committee on Public Questions, in the absence of Mr. Hilton who has gone on furlough. (See Page 27 for report.)

RESOLVED: That the Report of the Committee on Public Questions be accepted and printed in the minutes of this meeting.
1. **Lotteries**

RESOLVED: That we instruct the Public Questions Committee to take up the matter of the use of the mails for lotteries with the C. I. D. and with the Chief Secretary to Government, and that we request all interested parties to forward such material received through the mails to the Secretary of the Burma Christian Council.

The Secretary was instructed to include in the printed minutes the law on the subject of lotteries as laid down in the Indian Penal Code. (See Page 29.)

2. **Race Course Gambling**

RESOLVED: That we put on record our disapproval of the encouragement to gambling and the facilities provided for it in connection with the race courses in Burma, because of its detrimental effect upon the people of the country, and that this resolution be printed in the papers for the information of the public.

**RESOLUTION ON CHURCH UNION**

At this point in the meeting Dr. Henderson presented the following resolution on Church Union:—

"In order to foster the feeling of national entity and of personal responsibility in the minds of all the Christians in Burma, and to meet the growing desire for unity, a committee be appointed to consider the advisability and practicability of organic union among Christians in our great and common task of the evangelization of Burma."

Mr. Sherratt seconded this resolution and Bishop Tubbs spoke briefly in support of it, expressing his gratitude to Dr. Henderson for his courage and vision in proposing it at this time.

Discussion followed. (See Secretary’s Notes.)

Bishop Tubbs called attention to the evident need of propaganda and educational work on all sides, and suggested that for the present it might be well to drop the original resolution and substitute some such plan as that followed by the Lausanne Conference. He proposed the following substitute resolution:—

"Realizing that our Lord’s purpose was that all Christians should be one, and realizing that in our fellowship here in this Council we are indeed one in Christ, this Council desires to express this unity visibly, and therefore appoints a committee to discuss the problem of unity, and asks each of the bodies constituting this Council to send three delegates to that committee."

Further discussion followed. (See Secretary’s Notes.)
RESOLVED: That realizing that our Lord's purpose was that all Christians should be one, and realizing that in our fellowship here in this Council we are indeed one in Christ, this Council desires to express this unity visibly, and therefore appoints a Committee to discuss the problem of unity.

RESOLVED: That we appoint a committee of three, the Bishop of Rangoon, the Chairman of this Council, and the Honorary Secretary, to nominate representatives from each Church on the committee constituted to discuss the problem of Church unity.

At 3-45 the Council again took up the Report of the Findings Committee appointed at the Mott Meetings and completed its review and discussion of the matters taken up in that report. (See Secretary's Notes.)

The meeting adjourned at 4-20 with prayer by Dr. Marshall.

FRIDAY EVENING

The Lord Bishop of Rangoon presided at the evening session, which was a joint meeting of the Christian Literature Society and the Christian Council. The meeting opened at 6-30 p.m. with the singing of the hymn, "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun" followed by prayer. The audience were then favoured with a selection by the Choir of the Karen Baptist Theological Seminary at Insein.

Mr. Brough, Honorary Secretary of the Christian Literature Society, read the reports of the Honorary Secretary, the Honorary Treasurer, and the Publications Sub-Committee, all of which were accepted and approved.

Following another selection by the Karen Seminary Choir, the address of the evening, on "The Future of Burmese Literature", was delivered by J. S. Furnivall, Esq., I.C.S. (retired). This was followed by the Chairman's remarks.

The audience then joined in the hymn, "The Church's One Foundation is Jesus Christ Her Lord" during the singing of which a collection was taken up for the work of the Society.

The meeting closed with a third selection by the Karen Seminary Choir, and the pronunciation of the Benediction by the Lord Bishop.

SATURDAY MORNING

The morning session of the 27th opened at 8-30 with a devotional period led by Mr. Obed. Following the singing of the hymn, "Crown Him with Man Crowns," Mr. Obed spoke briefly on "Following Christ", and closed with the hymn, "Awake, Our Souls" Mr. Chaney led in prayer. There were fifteen members present and about five visitors.
At 9-00 Dr. Riggs called the meeting to order for a business session and the Council took up the matters listed on the Agenda.

ROUTINE BUSINESS

1. RESOLVED: That we adopt the minutes of the last Annual Meeting as printed.

2. RESOLVED: That the Secretary's Notes for the last Meeting be approved as circulated.

3. RESOLVED: That Mr. Hilton's resignation be accepted with regret and that we express our appreciation of his faithful work as a member of the Council.

4. RESOLVED: That Miss Heermance's resignation be accepted with regret and that we express our appreciation of her service on the Council.

CORRESPONDENCE CALLING FOR ACTION

1. The Secretary read Dr. Macnicol's letter of July 12th, 1929, which dealt with three matters calling for action.

   a. Handbook

      The proposal to publish a handbook giving information as to openings available in each Province in different lines of business, a trade or occupation for boys, and also opportunities for technical training, was read for information, but no action was taken.

   b. Agra Resolution

      The Secretary called attention to the fact that this matter had already been considered in connection with the Report of the Education Committee. (See Page 3, Commission on College Education.)

   c. Proposed Mission of Help from India

      The Council expressed its approval of the following resolution passed by the Executive Committee of the National Christian Council:

      "RESOLVED: That this invitation and the opportunity of spiritual service that it brings should be placed before the Provincial Christian Councils and through them before Christian bodies throughout the country, and that the Secretaries be instructed to take steps to secure that this shall be effectively done."

2. The Secretary read Dr. Macnicol's letter of June 22nd asking for the nomination of a Burma delegate on the commission of inquiry which is being formed for the purpose of finding out the actual situation in regard to the distribution of literature.

   RESOLVED: That we appoint Rev. B. M. Jones as our delegate from Burma on the Commission of Inquiry which is
being formed for the purpose of finding out the actual situation in regard to the distribution of literature and the co-ordination of publishing societies, with a view to discovering the lines along which further advance should be planned.

3. The Secretary read Mr. Philip's letter of April 29th with regard to a proposed enquiry into forms of oppression.

RESOLVED: That the question of an enquiry into forms of oppression affecting the depressed and backward classes of Burma be referred to the Committee on Public Questions.

4. The Secretary read a letter from the International Missionary Council calling attention to the impending visit of a Commission being sent to the Far East by the League of Nations to enquire into the opium smoking problem.

RESOLVED: That we appoint Rev. F. E. Skinner as Chairman of a committee to gather information with regard to the opium smoking problem in Burma, giving him the power to co-opt such committee members as he may wish.

5. The Secretary read Dr. Macnicol's letter of February 7th, notifying us of a grant of Rs. 750 to Burma from the Indian Literature Fund, and suggesting that we endeavour to secure the whole time services of the Rev. B. M. Jones for literature work. The latter question had already been considered at an earlier session. (See Page 5.)

REPORTS

1. Reports of Standing Committees

a. Education Committee

The report of this committee had been read and discussed at an earlier session. (See Page 19.)

RESOLVED: That we ask the committee already appointed, consisting of Bishop Tubbs, Mr. Walters, and Dr. Cummings, to do what is necessary, in their judgment, in the matter of normal stipends. (See Page 3 for previous action.)

RESOLVED: That we approve the following resolution submitted by Mr. Walters and recommend that a copy of it be sent by each of the constituent bodies of the Council to their Home Boards:—

"The Council, whilst reaffirming its conviction that educational work is a factor of high value in missionary propaganda in Burma and recognizing that conditions to-day call for increased efficiency in Mission Schools, views with grave concern the increasing proportion of the time and energy of station missionaries which education is demanding, especially in view of the fact that in many cases these missionaries are not trained for such work and do not feel called to it. The problem is how to meet the claims of evangelistic and educational work and do justice to both. We believe that the situation
would be considerably eased by the appointment, to a greater extent than in the past, of trained lay educational missionaries. Such appointments would make for increased efficiency in education and at the same time release the station missionary for his specific work. This Council would urge the Home Boards of the Societies working in Burma to give this matter their most earnest consideration."

b. Literature Committee

The report of this committee had been read and discussed at an earlier session. (See Page 22.)

c. Committee on Training of Missionaries

Dr. Wiatte made a verbal report, with the understanding that his written report would be submitted in time to be included in the printed minutes. (See Page 24.)

2. Reports of Ad Hoc Committees

a. Public Questions Committee

The report of this committee had been read and discussed at an earlier session. (See Page 27.)

b. Rural Education Committee

The report of this committee had been read and discussed at an earlier session. (See Page 24.)

RESOLVED: That the question of the editing and publishing of a Vernacular Teachers’ Journal, as suggested by the Rural Education Committee, be referred to the Committee on Literature for consideration and action. (See Page 7 for previous action.)

RESOLVED: That the missionaries of all Societies in Burma be asked to consider the possibility and need of encouraging and helping the village pastors to conduct courses of general information and education for the adults of the villages, using literature now available from the Public Health Department, co-operative societies, and the Christian Literature Society. (See Page 7 for previous action.)

RESOLVED: That we appoint the following as members of the Rural Education Committee for the year 1929-1930:—Miss England (Chairman), U On Kin, Mr. Bell, Miss Hollinshead, Mr. Appleton, Mr. Chartrand, Miss Ebersole, and Miss Pound.

3. Other Reports

a. Annual Report of the Secretary

Mr. Chaney read his annual report as Honorary Secretary of the Council. (See Page 30)

RESOLVED: That the Report of the Secretary for the year 1928-1929 be accepted and printed in the minutes of this meeting.
b. **Annual Report of the Treasurer**

Thra San Ba read his annual report as Honorary Treasurer of the Council. (See Page 33.) Dr. Wiatt reported that he had audited the Treasurer’s accounts, checking them with vouchers, and had found them correct.

**RESOLVED:** That the Report of the Treasurer for the year 1928-1929 be accepted and printed in the minutes of this meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That the expense of the Mott Meetings held in February, 1929, be met out of our Special Fund set aside for such uses.

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**MISCELLANEOUS OTHER BUSINESS**

1. **Constitutional Alterations**

   a. **Executive Committee**

   Mr. Chaney read the proposed amendment to the Constitution, providing for an increase of five in the membership of the Executive Committee.

   **RESOLVED:** That Article VII of the Constitution under the heading, “Executive Committee” be amended to read:—

   “The Council shall appoint at each annual meeting an Executive Committee consisting of the officers of the Council, Convener of Standing Committees, and enough additional members to bring the total up to twenty-one”, etc.

   A question was raised as to the reason for this increase in members of the Executive Committee and Mr. Chaney explained that it is always difficult to secure a sufficiently large attendance at the Committee meetings, especially of indigenous members, to make the group adequately representative. Mr. Appleton wished to know just what the attendance had been at each Executive Committee during the year, and since the Secretary did not have the information in hand at the moment, he gave notice that he would ask the same question at the Annual Meeting next year.

   Dr. Wiatt gave notice of a proposal to amend Article VII of the Constitution to read “This Committee (Executive) shall ordinarily meet once a quarter.”

   b. **Rural Education Committee**

   Mr. Chaney also read an amendment to the Bye-Laws proposing that the Rural Education Committee be made a Standing Committee of the Council.
RESOLVED: That we amend Article I of the Bye-Laws to read as follows:—

"Standing Committees shall be appointed annually by the Council as follows:—(1) Christian Education, (2) Christian Literature, (3) Training of Missionaries, (4) Rural Education.

2. Report of Nominating Committee

The Council next proceeded to the elections for the year 1929-1930. The Secretary presented the proposals of the Committee of Arrangements for Officers, Conveners of Standing Committees, Members of the Executive Committee, and Co-opted Members. The ticket was accepted with a few changes. (See Secretary's Notes.) The names of those elected, together with the full membership of the Council, are printed inside the front and back covers of these minutes.

RESOLVED: That the Officers, Conveners of Committees, Members of the Executive Committee, and Co-opted Members of this Council, as listed in the revised slate, be declared elected for the year 1929-1930.

3. Time of Next Meeting

Rev. Peter Kin Maung proposed that the Annual Meeting of the Council in 1930 be held during the time of the Wazo Holidays in July, in order to enable a greater number of the indigenous members of the Council to attend the meetings.

RESOLVED: That the Annual Meeting of the Burma Christian Council in 1930 be held during the time of the Wazo Holidays in July.

RESOLVED: That the next meeting of the Executive Committee be held on November 9th, 1929, and the following meeting on February 22nd, 1930.

4. Secretary's Expense Bills

The Secretary asked whether the Council considered it necessary for him to submit all routine bills to the Executive Committee for approval before paying them, and the Council authorized him to use his own discretion in settling such ordinary routine bills.

5. Miscellaneous Resolutions

a. Church Union

The committee appointed on Friday afternoon to nominate representatives from each Church on the committee constituted to discuss the problem of Church unity (See Page 9.) reported at this time.
RESOLVED: That we appoint the following Committee to study the problem of Church Union and ask the Bishop of Rangoon to call the members together for their first meeting, at which they can elect their own Convener.

Anglicans
The Bishop of Rangoon
Rev. N. K. Anderson
Rev. G. Appleton
Rev. Peter Kin Maung
Mr. Nanavariam

Baptists
Dr. W. E. Wiatt
Dr. H. I. Marshall
Dr. A. H. Henderson
U Ba Hlaing
Thra San Ba
Thra Shwe Ba
Thra San Baw
Mr. Satyam

Wesleyans
Rev. H. Crawford Walters
Rev. W. Sherratt
U Po Tun

Methodists
Rev. B. M. Jones
Miss G. L. Stockwell
U Shwe Hla
Rev. V. Samuel

b. Union Vernacular Normal School

Mr. Appleton wished to know what would be the attitude of the Council towards a Union Normal School. He stated that due to the expansion of their Mission to the Blind at Kemmendine the Anglican Mission will find it necessary to move their Normal School to another location, this change to take place some time in 1931. He wondered if there were any possibility of other Missions, especially the Baptist, co-operating with them in a Union School to be established preferably in some village center.

RESOLVED: That the question of a Union Vernacular Normal School be referred to the various bodies represented in this Council, with the request that they seriously consider the proposition and forward their replies to the Executive Committee of this Council.

6. Votes of Thanks

Mr. Chaney proposed the following vote of thanks:—

RESOLVED: That we wish to put on record our appreciation of and thanks to all who have by their assistance and cooperation helped to make this annual meeting the success it has been along many lines. We thank the Y. M. C. A. for the use of their hall and for the various courtesies received; we thank Mr. Brough and the committee of ladies who provided the refreshments for the social hour; we thank those who have brought to us the various inspirational messages which have lifted our hearts near to God in Jesus Christ our Lord; we thank U Ba
Hlaing for the keynote address on the first evening and the Bishop of Rangoon for the very enlightening address on Church Unity; we thank those who have given so freely of their time and thought in the report of the Indigenous Committee and also to the preparation of the Report on the Findings of the Mott Meetings; we thank Professor U Pe Maung Tin of the University and U Khin Maung for their informing lectures which did so much to open up the cultural life of Burma as recorded in their language and festivals; we thank those who have taken time from their busy life up country to come down to Rangoon to have part in these deliberations; we thank those who are not members of the Council but who have nevertheless given us encouragement by their interest, attendance, and assistance; and we thank all those who in other ways have made contributions to the interest and progress of these meetings in which we are all seeking a larger, freer expression of the interests of the Kingdom of God.

Mr. Walters moved the following vote of thanks:—

RESOLVED:—That we extend a special vote of thanks to Mr. Chaney, upon his retirement from the Secretaryship, for his enthusiastic and tireless service in that office.

Miss England moved a special vote of thanks to Mrs. Chaney.

RESOLVED: That we extend a special vote of thanks to Mrs. Chaney for her splendid work as Chairman of the Rural Education Committee.

Mr. Appleton moved a vote of thanks to Dr. Riggs.

RESOLVED: That we express to Dr. Riggs our appreciation of his service in acting as Chairman of these meetings.

7 Recognition of Communions Rather than Missions

Mr. Chaney asked if it would not be better hereafter to list the various bodies represented on the Council as Communions instead of Missions, and was authorized to do so.

8. Regular Committee Meetings

Mr. Josif inquired whether there was any provision in the Constitution or Bye-Laws for regular meetings of the various Committees of the Council, and stated that in his opinion some such provision should be made.

A motion to adjourn was made and carried at 11-00.

The Annual Meeting closed with the singing of the “Doxology” and the pronouncement of the Benediction by Mr. Chaney.

Respectfully submitted,

C. E. CHANEY,
Honorary Secretary.
REPORT OF FINDINGS COMMITTEE
APPOINTED AT MOTT MEETINGS

As Revised by the Burma Christian Council in Session at its Annual Meeting, July 24th-27th, 1929

Training of Leaders

1. Bearing in mind the position now held by the Christian Religion we realise the importance of developing real leaders of the Church in Burma. Organization of Leadership is the most important thing we can do. "He who does the work is not so profitably employed as he who multiplies the workers."

2. We believe that our large institutions must in the end justify their continuance by the development of indigenous leaders, who should constantly be sought and trained for leadership.

3. We feel that the time has come when, in his training of leaders, the foreign missionary must definitely aim at passing over the authority he has held in the past to the indigenous worker. The chief characteristics which should mark any leader, be he foreign missionary or indigenous worker, are humility, willingness to learn, to suffer, and to work harder than those whom he leads. The vision of the glory of service in every aspect of life must so possess him that he is able to infect those who look to him with the romance and glory of a life devoted to the service of our Lord in His Church.

4. In this connection we welcome the revival of patriotism amongst the Christian youth of Burma, and desire to emphasize the fact that loyalty to Christ deepens and emphasizes the loyalty to one's native land. In and through the Church, the Christian must contribute the influence of his personality to every sphere of the national life.

5. Missionaries are now realizing that in the future the main responsibility for leadership must rest on the indigenous leader. We therefore appeal strongly to the best of our young men—especially the college students—to offer themselves for the Ministry, and to the parents to be ready to face the sacrifice involved by giving their sons to this most important work. At the same time we would emphasize the fact that Christ may be served both by men and women through faithful work in any walk of life.

6. As the lack of adequate salary has deterred some from entering the Ministry or becoming religious leaders, we feel that means must be found to ensure at least a living wage for all such workers and would urge the churches to do their part toward the accomplishment of this purpose.

7. The distinction between the Church on the one hand and the Mission on the other is such that a man feels that when he
works for the Mission, he works for a foreign institution. We must endeavour to make the Mission really indigenous—that is, Church-centric—in every sense of the word. It will then appeal much more strongly to the prospective leaders among the younger generation.

The Indigenous Church

As defined by the Jerusalem Conference we feel that the Church in Burma has not made much progress in the way of becoming truly indigenous. The time has come when larger use should be made of Burmese music, art, and architecture by the Church, and to this end we feel that an effort should be made to utilize that which is best in these. Some one skilled in music should be sought who can adapt Christian hymns to the Burmese music. Care should be exercised in this, however, to see that only the best music be chosen. In future Churches and Chapels and other buildings some effort should be made to incorporate that which is best in Burmese architecture.

Feeling that the development of an indigenous Church is bound up with the economic question, we would recommend that Mission Boards should assist the Burmese Christian Community where so desired, to secure men of missionary spirit, in order to build up a co-operative business, such for example as dairy farming or some commercial venture, it being understood that the Boards would assume no responsibility for salaries.

Rural Education

That in view of the fact that the great majority of the peoples of Burma live in villages, we would emphasize the need of pioneer work in Rural Education. There seems to us to be a great opportunity for the Church in Burma to emulate the efforts and experiments which have been made in Moga and similar institutions in India.

We would also urge our educated Christian men and women to consider the call to devote their lives to the development of village life in all its aspects.

Christian Literature

We realise the importance of Christian Literature in the cultural development of the Nation and as a potent instrument of Christian work. The present condition of Christian Literature in Burmese is due to the lack of indigenous Christian authors endowed with true literary talent and the gift of authorship. The bulk of the literature we now possess is the work of missionary writers who cannot be expected to produce anything having the same literary appeal as literature produced by indigenous scholars. The remedy we think lies in the diligent search for indigenous authors and promising students in the University with a view to training them for the vocation of the Christian author.
The Christian Message

First and foremost, we fully endorse that the one message is Jesus Christ. We would lay stress on presenting Jesus Christ as the perfect revelation of God. The Gospel has been presented as a means of salvation from punishment in the next world. We would recommend that the emphasis should be laid on the positive fact of Jesus Christ, in His Life, Death, and Resurrection, disclosing to us the Father, the Supreme Reality as Almighty Love reconciling the world to Himself by the Cross, bearing with men and for men the burden of sin, forgiving them as they with forgiveness in their own hearts turn to Him in repentance and faith; and through the Holy Spirit creating humanity anew for an evergrowing, everlasting life.

By the appeal and triumph of that Love, shown in its completeness on the Cross, He summons us to a new life of faith, self-sacrifice, devotion to His service, and the service of men.

The Gospel is the sure source of power for social regeneration and we would add "national regeneration"

Sd. MA SAW SA.

J. ROSCOE.

REPORT OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Several matters have been referred to the Education Committee for action during the year under review.

1. Application for Increased Grants to Aided Anglo-Vernacular Schools

A detailed scheme for an increase in grants on the basis of the grade and number of pupils was drawn up and approved by the Council. The object of this scheme was to secure increased Government support for small schools which are difficult to maintain on the present grants. This scheme was submitted to Government, but was not accepted owing to financial stringency. It is understood that the financial condition of the Province is still a difficult one and the present would not therefore seem to be a suitable time for making further representations on this subject.

2. Protest Against Late Payment of Grants

At the request of the Council a letter was sent to the Director of Public Instruction calling attention to the grave inconvenience caused by the delay in the payment of grants last autumn and expressing the hope that measures were being taken to prevent the recurrence of such a situation. A reply was received stating that the delay was caused by increases in the Maintenance Grants over and above the Budget Estimate which made it necessary to apply for a further allotment, which allotment had to await the approval of the Legislative Council in its December session.
3. Insurance on School Buildings

During the year a circular was issued by the Government stating that building grants would not be given to school buildings unless they were insured against fire and stating that the premiums would not be chargeable for the purposes of the Maintenance Grant. This Committee was requested to call for the opinion of constituent bodies and make representations to Government accordingly. The information received was as follows:—

Diocesan Education Board—No reply.
A. B. M.—It was unofficially stated that the Mission was not in favour of insurance.
M. E. M.—Was of the same opinion.
W M. M.—Insures all property.

The one point on which there was unanimity was that, if we are compelled to insure, the premium should be chargeable on the Budget.

The position outlined above was represented to the Director of Public Instruction in an interview and the Director stated that the whole matter was under further examination in the Government Departments concerned and that our representations would be taken into consideration. This year, it may be noted, insurance premiums were accepted as expenditure for the purposes of Grant. Our approach to Government would have been more effective if all the constituent missions had been able to state their policy and if some degree of uniformity had been reached.

4. Vernacular Normal Stipends

The new method of procedure by which the Principal of the School is deprived of the privilege of nominating students for Vernacular Normal Scholarships was protested against but without success. Our request was that the Principal of the School should nominate 50% of the candidates. The reply of the Education Department was that as the new method had only recently been adopted it would not be reconsidered until given a trial. It is hoped that in this meeting of the Council we shall hear the experience of those in touch with Normal Schools as to the working of the scheme and that then we shall be in a position to determine what further action is called for.

5. Commission on College Education

The Missionary Societies of Great Britain and America are co-operating in the appointment of a Commission to enquire into the organization and work of Christian Colleges in India. The Commission will probably come out in the autumn of 1930 and will report through the International Missionary Council to the Societies concerned. It is understood that one of the chief
objects of the Commission will be to further co-operation in this work. Does this Council desire the Commission to include Burma in its survey? If so, early communication should be sent to the National Christian Council in India.

6. Vernacular Education

The policy of Government in relation to Vernacular Education is to reduce the grant to local education authorities by a fixed quota annually in the expectation that the local authorities will raise additional local funds. In many areas the Municipalities and District Councils have failed to do this and are reducing the number of teachers employed instead. This is a serious situation and if it is allowed to continue will cripple Vernacular Education. It is suggested that this Council should request the Government to deal with this situation.

7. Educational Policy

Our attention has been drawn to a pamphlet published in Madras, being a reprint from the Madras Christian College Magazine, in which the educational policy of Government both in administration and finance is subjected to a searching analysis. The subject is viewed not simply from the standpoint of mission schools but from that of the interests of education in general. Each stage of education from Primary to University is brought under review and expenditure under each head analyzed, showing the distribution of grants between Government and Aided Institutions, and discussing the trend of Government policy. One can understand such a publication increasing the respect of Government for the Madras Council. It has been suggested that some such work should be undertaken here and the matter is referred to the Council for consideration.

The position and influence of this Council in relation to the Local Government is not such that we can afford to neglect any means of improving it.

8. General

The year has on the whole been one of growth and development without any outstanding features, favourable or otherwise. It is obvious that the demand for education increases in Burma and that the scope for educational work widens yearly. In spite of the many schools that have been opened under indigenous management during the last decade, the numbers in mission schools continue to increase. Educational work absorbs an increasing proportion of the time and energy of a decreasing missionary staff. Does not the present situation indicate that the time has come when, to a far greater extent than previously, this work should be done by qualified and trained lay educational missionaries, and not put as an additional burden on the station
missionary who in many cases is neither trained for it nor called to it? That education must play a very large part in missionary work in a country like Burma is clear, but if it is to be done efficiently and effectively without robbing evangelism, then it must more and more pass into the hands of the qualified layman. This, of course, is a question for each missionary board, but it is one on which this Council might well give a lead. We could certainly not address ourselves to a subject of more vital importance in missionary policy than that of saving the station missionary for his true work and at the same time increasing the efficiency of our schools.

H. Crawford Walters,  
Convener, Committee on Education.

REPORT OF THE LITERATURE COMMITTEE

Our failure to report considerable progress during the past year has been due to the fact that no one has been able to give much time to the selection and preparation of suitable material for publication.

One thousand copies of "The Adventure of Prayer" a devotional book of more than two hundred and fifty pages, have been printed in Burmese. This book may also be used as a study book in schools, workers' classes, etc. I am glad to report that more than two hundred copies have already been sold.

A few new books are now being printed. One thousand copies of Primary Scripture lessons (second year study course in Burmese) will be off the Press very soon and ready for sale. Since the Burma Sunday School Union has recommended this book as a study book for Primary Departments in Sunday Schools and day schools we feel sure that it will be widely used.

At its last meeting the Committee voted to print "Pilgrim's Progress" in Karen. This manuscript is now ready for the Press.

Two thousand copies of the "Teaching of Primary Reading" by McKee are now being reprinted. They will be ready for sale soon. The Committee also voted to reprint two thousand copies of "The Manhood of the Master" in Burmese.

In India, China, and certain other countries great progress is being made in the publication and distribution of Christian Literature but it is due to the fact that these fields have Secretaries who are able to give either part or full time to this important phase of Christian work. I feel sure that we cannot hope to accomplish much in Burma until we too have someone who can give his time to this work. During the period when
Rev. B. M. Jones was giving a great deal of time to the supervision of the work of translation quite a few new books and pamphlets were published. For some time we have been receiving an annual grant from India for a translator. At first there was a grant of Rs. 1,800 which made it possible to employ a full-time translator. Later, when there was no one who could give time to the supervision of the work, there was not sufficient material to keep a full-time translator busy. The grant has been gradually decreased. We still have a balance in the Indian Literature Fund and unless the various Missions will co-operate in providing literature for translation I wonder if we are justified in asking for a grant each year. Recently the Literature Sub-Committee held a meeting to discuss ways and means of using the surplus in the Indian Literature Fund, but since this money has been given for a translator we cannot use it unless we have material for translation. As long as we do not have a part or full-time secretary for this work we must depend upon the assistance of the various missions if the work is to progress.

I would like to present for serious consideration and discussion at your Annual Meeting the following questions:

1. Will it be possible to set aside some missionary or someone else who is interested in literary work who will give part or full time to the supervision of translation work? If so, how will his salary be provided?

2. How can we use the surplus in the Indian Literature Fund? Are we justified in asking for a grant for another year?

3. Necessity for closer co-operation on the part of the various Missions in furnishing material for translation.

MARY E. PHILLIPS, Convener,

Literature Committee of the Burma

Christian Council and Publication Committee

of the Christian Literature Society.

THE BASIS OF GRANTS MADE BY THE INDIAN LITERATURE FUND

1. The present method of making grants should be generally continued with certain modifications.

2. In the case of publishing Societies which need capital to enable them to put out certain publications, the payment of grants may occasionally be anticipated by the advance of a sum of money not exceeding Rs. 2,000 for the publication of books which shall be specified by the Society, provided that in no year the amount of money given in loan shall exceed one-third of the total amount available for distribution after payment of literary workers.
3. This amount so advanced shall be accounted for by the Society concerned to the Executive of the Indian Literature Fund and dealt with as follows:—
(a) On the approval of the Executive Committee of the Indian Literature Fund of a grant and loan for the publication of a book, the total amount shall be paid to the publishing Society and debited to its account. On the publication of the book the amount of the grant, if any, shall be deducted in the accounts of the Fund and the loan be dealt with as specified below.
(b) The balance of the loan shall be repaid in annual instalments to the Executive of the Indian Literature Fund as the books specified in connection with the loan are sold, until the whole is returned. The amount annually so returned should be at least proportionate to the loan made for each book and the sales effected.
(c) The whole of the loan must be repaid within five years unless the Executive Committee after consideration of the sales and stock of the books at the end of that time, extend the period of repayment further or take other order.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRAINING OF MISSIONARIES

The semi-annual examinations in Burmese were held in Rangoon and Mandalay as usual. Of those who sat for the Elementary Examination in November, 1928, one failed, five passed, three passed with credit, and one with great credit. Of those who sat for the Intermediate Examination at the same time, one passed, two passed with credit, and one with great credit.

At the examination held in June, 1929, there were no candidates for the Intermediate Examination, and only four for the Elementary, of whom one failed, one passed, and two passed with credit.

In the Sgaw Karen Department there were no examinations held during the year.

W E. Wiatr, Convener,
Committee on Training of Missionaries.

REPORT OF THE RURAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

You remember that immediately at the close of our annual meeting last year, two members of our committee with Miss Van Doren called on the Director of Public Instruction. A report of that conference was made at the October meeting of the Council. I will only repeat here that Mr. Bulkeley gave us to
understand that the Education Department would welcome any constructive experimental work in rural education, especially when carefully supervised, saying that the "Government had long waited for the Missions to give them a lead in Vernacular education as they had done in Anglo-Vernacular education." So the old fear that any deviation from the prescribed code would be frowned upon and that such a school would be cut off from support can be put behind us. Miss Hollinshed went home to enthusiastically introduce newer and better methods in her school and I had hoped she would be here to-day to tell us about it.

The Director also allayed our fears that the training of Vernacular teachers would be centralized. But he did strongly advise (as did Miss Doren) that the missions unite in one strong good Vernacular Normal School for BOYS. The Committee brought this before the Council at the October meeting and it was considered by the missions concerned; but for the present it does not seem possible.

The Education Department, through the Secretary of the Burma Christian Council, asked the Committee on Rural Education to send in suggestions and proposals for the improvement and extension of the present E. T. C. course, and during the year various communications have been sent. Under cover of August 16th, 1928, the committee sent suggestions for extension courses for the E. T. C. graduates. In December Miss Hollinshed sent a very full and carefully worked out syllabus for the two year course. It was not until February that Miss England and Mr. Olmstead and I were able to get together, at which time we made further suggestions (as supplementary to what Miss Hollinshed had sent in) and under cover of February 21st, 1929, sent them to the Director's office.

During the hot season Mr. Olmstead put into final shape his excellent adaptation to Burma of Stone's book on "How to Teach Primary Arithmetic." This has been circulated and the committee heartily approve of it. It fills a real need in vernacular training and teaching. We would like to have this endorsed by the Council and brought before the Text Book Committee in the hopes that Government will bear the cost of publishing it. Miss England will briefly review the book for you.

This covers the actual work of your committee for the past year. There is still the crying need for more suitable text books and maps and teachers' helps in the vernacular. Some future Rural Education Committee of this Council may be able to fill a few of such needs as has been done in this book in Arithmetic and the Primary Sunday School Lesson Book, but could not the Council bring pressure to bear on the Education Department to supply these more rapidly?
We are not inclined to let you forget that the much needed Vernacular Teachers' Journal is still lacking. Our committee tried the substitute of a few articles in the church papers especially for the rural teachers. That is good as far as it goes; but it does not go far enough and it is too irregular. I fear it will not be done on an adequate scale until the Council can put some money into a vernacular worker who will have at least part time free for translation and writing of material for such a journal.

One of the committee has brought up the question of Institutes. I have noticed in the papers at various times announcements and programs of Vernacular Institutes held by the District Boards; for instance, one in Magwe last October where school managers and assistant teachers were invited with expenses paid. I hope someone can give us information concerning these; to what extent do they supply the need of our Christian rural teachers? I notice that always such institutes carry on over Sunday and I strongly suspect that our Christian teachers would not feel at home in such an atmosphere. Should not the Council plan to provide a similar gathering for our own teachers?

To correlate the training in the training school with actual rural life has been an objective often stated. That has been tried in a very practical way this past year by the Normal School at Kemmendine and Miss Roscoe will later tell us how it succeeded.

Another very practical expression of Christian interest in village life has been made through the Daily Vacation Bible Schools carried on by students and teachers. This is not in any way the work of our committee; but I bring it before you as a successful method of Christian service in the villages. Mr. Harrison and Miss Phillips of our Mission, with teachers and college students, have conducted these in various places. In 1927 they tried it out in one village. In 1928 they had forty workers conducting schools in five different jungle villages. In 1929 five schools were again held under the supervision of Mr. Harrison and Miss Phillips. Mr. Josif's workers conducted three others and two were held in Bassein.

These are distinctively religious schools. All the work of each day centres around the Bible stories selected; handwork, object lessons, memory verses, songs, and even games and dramas are all correlated to that particular lesson. Ma Thein, formerly a teacher in Kemmendine Girls' School, and now a Senior B. A. of Judson College, will tell you more about this: what it has done for the children, for the village, and perhaps most important of all for the workers who gave their time without salary during their vacation.

A Daily Vacation Bible School Book helpful for this work is now obtainable at the Mission Press for Re. 1/4. The book is called "The Palace of Heroes"
More and more we are coming to see that "rural education" from the church's point of view must mean more than the conducting of a school where the Bible is taught. The Jerusalem Conference spoke of it as the "rural Christian service of the Church" and at the Madras Conference the consensus of opinion was that the church was missing her opportunity and shirking her obligation if she aimed at less than changing the village life not only morally but economically and physically. Much was made of the duty of a mission when considering its success in a rural area, to include the cleanliness of the homes, the care of the sick, the intellectual life of the adults, as indicative of results, as well as the number of names on the church roll and the ability of the children to sing hymns and recite Bible stories.

The village problem in India is much larger than here in every way; but we are warned in time to avoid the situation which confronts the church there where non-Christian agencies are doing much of the social service work and the church finds itself following in a movement it should have led. Of course the Church (or more accurately the Christians) cannot do everything, but should not the Church lead in all that is done for the uplift of the people? That will save the Church from criticism and form another point of contact with the non-Christian community. It was with this in mind that the Sub-Committee on Rural Education when sending in its suggestions for a more comprehensive E. T. C. course, included the following:—

"Since the village teacher has much influence and prestige, he should be trained to feel his responsibility for the whole moral and intellectual uplift of the village. He should be prepared to become a leader in the planning and carrying out of village sanitation, in conducting adult education and night schools, and should be prepared not only in first aid treatment but also in the simple treatment of common diseases or even in holding village clinics or conducting simple dispensaries."

Elsie N. Chaney, Convener,
Sub-Committee on Rural Education.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Mr. Hilton who has in the past taken such a keen interest in these questions, and who has rendered such excellent service for the Burma Christian Council along this line, left on furlough last March, so that there is at present no Chairman to report; but inasmuch as Mr. Hilton often conferred with me on the items he was presenting as a sort of co-opted member of his committee, I am therefore reviewing the year and reporting in his stead.
REVIEW

Report on Gambling, Meeting of October, 1928

Attention was called to the evil of lottery tickets passing through the mails, the Mallerkota State Lottery, the Roman Catholic Ballot Lottery of Delhi, the Central Club Viceroy Cup Race. (In the minutes of the meeting on January 21st, 1928, are printed copies of two letters from the Postmaster General of Burma which clearly recognize that the passing of lottery tickets through the mails is illegal.)

His Report of January 19th, 1929, was a longer report

After referring to the organization of the two homes for homeless street boys, Mrs. Luce's at Kokine and the Y. M. C. A. home in town, I quote from that report the leader from the "Times"

"In Burma betting is indulged in not as an intriguing pastime but too often with the vain desire to get rich quick. It soon develops into a passionate, desperate affair with melancholy, debt, and crime as close companions. The amount of legitimate betting facilities we can afford to have in this country is precisely nil, for every chance to gambling will be followed by ethical and even criminal unscrupulousness. Burma should cut down gambling facilities and on no account extend them. Betting in England brings in its train restlessness and unhappiness. In Burma the results are grimmer."

A letter also appeared in the Gazette with an appeal to stop the illegal football competitions. Mr. Hilton goes on to say, "It is the duty of all Christian organizations to bring the evil results of gambling to the notice of the public as well as to bring this opinion to bear upon the authorities concerned to take stronger measures to deal with the evil." He suggests that we take the matter up with the Postmaster General and if necessary the Chief Secretary to Government. Mr. Hilton was referring especially to the matter of lotteries, and also the football competitions carried on by the Rangoon papers. I do not know whether the latter is continuing this season or not. If it is, it ought to be challenged. But I do know that the matter of lotteries is still continuing, for I frequently have such tickets forwarded to me by Station missionaries. For example, I have recently received tickets from

1. The Private and Confidential Dholpur Dewali Luck for Charitable Purposes.
2. The Bansda Unai Philanthropic Association Fund.

It is a crime for these agencies to disregard the legal restrictions of the law with regard to lottery tickets, and it is also a
crime for them to corrupt the youth of our schools with this sort of material. It comes to them like a wolf in sheep's clothing under a cloak of charity when everyone knows that the motive back of it is not charity but personal gain. And it instills the insidious temptation, that while the purchaser of tickets is aiding charitable causes, he is also likely to win a large amount of money.

I called upon the Postmaster General concerning the use of mails for such purposes. He explained that all the postal authorities could do in the matter would be to return such material to the senders. But he suggested that the way to correct the trouble is to take it up with the C. I. D. or with Government direct. The following letter was received from him concerning the law:

"(2) The law on the subject of lotteries is thus laid down in section 294A of the Indian Penal Code:

294A Whoever keeps any office or place for the purpose of drawing any lottery not authorized by Government shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine, or with both;
And whoever publishes any proposal to pay any sum or to deliver any goods, or to do or forbear doing anything for the benefit of any person on any event or contingency relative or applicable to the drawing of any ticket, lot, number, or figure in any such lottery, shall be punished with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees;

and the rule of the Indian Post Office Rules referred to above, which has the force of law, prohibits the transmission by post of circulars relating to lotteries and directs the interception and return to the senders of postal articles which are actually found, in course of transmission by post, to contain such circulars.

"(3) A lottery has been defined to be a distribution of prizes by lot or chance, and any scheme or transaction in which chance forms part of the consideration bargained for, is prima facie a lottery, irrespective of whether the transaction is genuine, or where or by whom it is carried on. This definition includes lotteries and raffles of all kinds, schemes for investment in what are known as "Premium bonds" and the like.

"(4) As to what constitutes a circular relating to a lottery, any paper, pamphlet, etc., which contains a notice, announcement, or advertisement mentioning the terms, conditions, or other particulars concerning a lottery, and is used with the intention of advertising a lottery, should be regarded as a circular relating to the lottery. As an exception to this general rule, a news-
paper or other periodical, with the offending advertisement appearing in the body of the paper, should not be so regarded, provided that the paper is distributed in its ordinary form and in the ordinary course of business.

Note:—A premium bond or a letter, report or other communication addressed to the holder of a premium bond in regard to prizes drawn by him is not a circular relating to a lottery.”

With regard to the matter of gambling at the race course at Kyaikasan, it is often reported that business firms and also some Government Departments have suffered losses of various amounts of money through misappropriation of funds for gambling purposes, some of which have been large sums. It is difficult to see the consistency of raiding some Chinese shop in the center of the city for gambling and at the same time provide and legalize gambling on the scale carried out at Kyaikasan.

In consideration of the above items in this report I beg to submit for consideration the following proposals:—

1. That we instruct the Public Questions Committee to take up the matter of the use of the mails for lotteries with the C. I. D. and with the Chief Secretary to Government, and that we request all interested parties to forward such material received through the mails to the Secretary of the Burma Christian Council.

2. That we put on record our disapproval of the encouragement to gambling and the facilities provided for it in connection with the race courses in Burma because of its detrimental effect upon the people of the country, and that this resolution be printed in the papers for the information of the public.

3. That the law about using the mails for lotteries, and the penalties attached, be printed for the information of the Council.

C. E. Chaney for W B. Hilton, Convener,

Committee on Public Questions.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

The Chairmen of the separate Committees will doubtless review the work of their committees for the year, so that it would be useless repetition for me to do this. But there are a few items to which I would call your attention, which items have made this an outstanding year in the work of the Burma Christian Council.

First, the changes, local and worldwide, which are taking place are causing a general ferment and readjustment along
many lines. Missions share in the necessity of adjusting to different conditions and times, just as do all other groups of people and causes espoused. The present age is presenting many and most difficult problems for Christian Missions to meet and solve. Our central task is unchanging in a changing world, namely, the discipling of the nations.

Second, the Jerusalem Conference inaugurated a series of other Conferences, all of which have been of vital importance to us in Burma. We had several delegates in attendance at the enlarged meeting of the National Christian Council. Then following that meeting we were able to secure Dr. Mott to meet with us in special session last February. The Findings of the Jerusalem Meetings were almost the sole topic of discussion at Madras and again in Rangoon. We have been facing the task of seeking to square our work to the great declarations of Jerusalem. And here we are in Annual Meeting again with the biggest item on the program being the Findings of the Mott Meetings.

Third, this is the first year that the Burma Christian Council has ever been chaired by one of our indigenous brethren. U Ba Hlaing has filled this office and filled it well. This is the beginning of a rightful and larger recognition of indigenous leadership which is coming to recognition in Burma. A large advance in this line in the Burmese and Karen Departments of the Baptist Mission is now in process of passing from missionary to indigenous leadership.

These three examples indicating changes taking place are indications of far-reaching changes, and are of the greatest significance to every Christian Church. The world changes, intellectual, social, economic, political, are tremendous and are creating a new world with new characteristics. Are those characteristics to be Christian or pagan? The world changes made necessary Mission changes equally significant in order to meet the needs of a new world. For example, the concept in the term, “The Older and Younger Churches” indicates a tremendous change in attitude of each to the other. Along with this comes the third factor, the devolution of leadership and responsibility, to which I have called attention. Suggestive examples of this have been mentioned which indicate that the matter is moving out of the realm of theory and anticipation into practical application. No doubt there is much for each to learn from the other and we shall at times need to exercise all the Christian love and patience we can command. Nevertheless, we ought to rejoice in the inauguration of this new period as one for which we have prayed and laboured and to which we have looked forward with earnest desire.
I do not mean to indicate that the forces behind the changes taking place or the changes themselves are confined to any brief period such as the past year, but I do mean to call attention to the fact that the process of precipitation and crystallization of some of these long slow movements has been unusually rapid just at this time for us in Burma, so that this year is a year of unusual significance for us.

This year opened with the Annual Meeting a year ago in which the Findings of the Jerusalem Conference were reviewed. Then followed the enlarged meeting of the National Christian Council at Madras last Christmas. Then followed the Mott meetings in Rangoon last February. And now we are assembled again discussing the matter of devolution of responsibility. With this annual meeting we are inaugurating the policy of an enlarged Council and the proposal is before us to enlarge the Executive Committee. This year the Annual Meeting has been prolonged by one day. All this indicates a growth in interest and importance of the things the Council is seeking to develop.

In this connection may I be suffered to urge upon all, but more especially upon the indigenous members of the Council, that we take more seriously our membership on the Executive Committee and arrange to be present and take part in the deliberations. We have been seeking to make this a joint committee, but unless or until we can find sufficient indigenous members who are free and willing to give of their time and effort to the work of the Executive Committee, it is doomed to remain pretty much a missionary committee.

Respectfully submitted,

C. E. Chaney,
Honorary Secretary.
TREASURER’S REPORT

The Treasurer’s accounts to the end of December, 1928, have been reported in the minutes of the previous meetings. The following is from the beginning of 1929.

Regular Account

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**Jan. 20**

Debit balance brought forward 324 14 5

**Jan. 24**

National Christian Council
(Refunded for Madras Delegates) 382 8 0

Rev. C. E. Chaney
(Delegate to Madras) 203 0 0

**Jan. 25**

Rev. W. E. Wiatt (A. B. M. Press Bills) 8 8 0

**Feb. 9**

Rev. C. E. Chaney (Postage, etc.) 12 3 9

**May 16**

Rev. C. E. Chaney (for the B. C. C.) 64 0 0
A. B. M. Press Bill No. 22041 74 0 0

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Literature Account

**Jan. 20**

Credit Balance 1429 10 0

**July 1**

R. C. Hunter, C. L. S. 179 0 0

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Summary Account

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Audited by—
W. E. Wiatt

San Ba,
Honorary Treasurer,
Burma Christian Council.

July 24th, 1929.
STANDING COMMITTEES

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

I. Christian Education.—Rev. H. Crawford Walters and the following elected representatives of the constituent bodies engaged in educational work:—


II. Christian Literature.—Rev. B. M. Jones, and the members of the Christian Literature Society General Committee as follows: Miss L. H. M. Laughlin; Rev. C. H. Riggs; Rev. H. J. Harwood, 319 Godwin Road, Rangoon; Thra San Ba; Rev. Peter Kin Maung; Saya U Aung Ba; Miss M. E. Phillips; Rev. G. Appleton; Mrs. V. N Kemp; Miss E. Power, 242 Creek Street, East Rangoon; Rev. C. E. Chaney, Rev. G. S. Jury, Judson College, Rangoon; Mr. J. S. Furnivall, I.C.S. (Retired).


IV. Rural Education.—Miss Phoebe England; U On Kin; Rev. W. W. Bell, 12 Park Road, Rangoon; Miss Muriel Hollinshed, W. M. M. Girls' School, Kyaukse; Rev. G. Appleton; Mr. C. R. Chartrand, Baptist Normal School, Rangoon; Miss Stella Ebersole, M. E. Mission, Thongwa, Hanthawaddy District; Miss M. B. Pound, A. B. Mission, Maubin.

AD HOC COMMITTEE

Public Questions.—The Bishop of Rangoon, Chairman.

REPRESENTATIVES TO THE NATIONAL CHRISTIAN COUNCIL

For term expiring July, 1930 . . Dr. J. E. Cummings.

" " " 1932 . . Rev. J. M. Young.

" " " . . Rev. Peter Kin Maung.