THE

Burma Christian Council

Twentieth Annual Report
1934

AMERICAN BAPTIST MISSION PRESS
H. W. SMITH, SUPT.
RANGOON
1934.
THE BURMA CHRISTIAN COUNCIL

OFFICERS

Chairman — The Rev. B. M. Jones, 12 Park Road, Rangoon.
Vice-Chairman — U Hla Bu, Ph.D., Judson College, Rangoon.
Secretary — The Rev. G. E. Stevenson, 12 Fane Road, Mingaladon Cantonment.
Treasurer — Mr. P. S. Moses, Y. M. C. A. (Town branch), Montgomery Street, Rangoon.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The officers, the convenors of standing committees and the following additional members: —
Miss May T. Mack, 94 Fraser Street, Rangoon.
Professor U Tun Pe, M.L.C., Judson College, Rangoon.
The Rev. U On Kin, Thongwa, Hanthawaddy District.
Rev. H. E. Hinton, Kelly High School, Mandalay.
Dr. W E. Wiatt, Seminary Hill, Insein.
The Rev. C. H. Chapman, Box 21, Mandalay.

REPRESENTATIVE MEMBERS

American Baptist
Dr. C. E. Chaney, 121 Mission Road, Ahlone.
Dr. W. E. Wiatt.
Dr. H. O. Wyatt, 17 Sandwith Road, Rangoon.
Miss A. L. Prince, A. B. Mission, Moulmein.
U Tun Pe, M.L.C.
U Chit Pe, A. B. Mission, Pyinmana.
Thra San Ba, Nichols High School, Bassein.
U Shwe Hman, 30 Tank Road, Rangoon.

Anglican
The Right Rev. the Bishop of Rangoon.
The Rev. R. H. L. Slater, Holy Cross Parsonage, University P.O., Rangoon.
The Rev. V. G. Rajaiah, St. Gabriel's Parsonage, Rangoon.
Saya Kenneth Po San, St. John's College, Rangoon.
The Rev. A. T. Houghton (B. C. M. S.), Mohnyin, Upper Burma.
Mr. H. W. Green, School for the Deaf, Tank Road, Rangoon.

Methodist
The Rev. U Po Tun, Methodist Mission, Mandalay.

Methodist Episcopal
The Rev. B. M. Jones.
The Rev. U On Kin.
Miss Winslow, Chinese Methodist School, Canal Street, Rangoon.

Young Men's Christian Association
Dr. J. H. Gray, Y. M. C. A. Hostel, Godwin Road, Rangoon.

Young Women's Christian Association
Miss Estelle Amaron, Y. W. C. A., Brooking Street, Rangoon.

(Continued on back cover.)
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Twentieth Annual Meeting of the
Burma Christian Council

Rangoon, July 25 — 27 1934

PRELIMINARIES

Apart from the regular business sessions of the Council, other meetings connected with its work were held.

School Managers' Conference. This was convened under the auspices of the Committee on Christian Education at St. John's College on Wednesday, July 25th in the morning.

The Committee on Rural Reconstruction held a meeting in the afternoon of the same day in the same place.

Addresses by National Christian Council Secretary. At St. John's College at 6:30 p.m. on the 25th and 26th and at 8:30 p.m. on the 27th, the Rev. J. Z. Hodge gave a series of addresses on the "Message of Christianity to the Orient" which were well attended and much appreciated.

Christian Literature Society. The committee of this Society is the Committee on Christian Literature of the Council. The annual meeting of the Society was held on Friday evening, the 27th, at 5:30 p.m. in St. John's College Hall.

A scene depicting the Book Van at work was shown and characters out of some of the books sold by the Society were represented by children out of various schools.

The annual reports of the Publication Secretary and the Treasurer were passed. Sir Arthur Page, Chief Justice of Burma, presided.

COUNCIL SESSIONS

The following members were present at some or all of the sessions:— Dr. C. E. Chaney, The Revds. U On Kin, H. E. Hinton, Dr. H. O. Wyatt, Dr. W. E. Wiatt, G. E. Stevenson, G. Appleton, Dr. C. H. Riggs, A. T. Houghton, C. E. Olmstead, H. V. Shepherd, P. W. Webb, E. H. Cox, Po Tun, V. G. Rajaiah, H. C. Willans, B. C. Case, B. M. Jones, R. H. L. Slater, C. K. Tan; Messrs. H. W. Green, O. D. Roseboom, Sydney Loo Nee, Kenneth Po San, Dr. J. H. Gray, Dr. Daw
Saw Sa, Miss Mack, Miss Amaron, Miss Dawson, U Tun Pe, U Po Win, U Shwe Hman, Daw Hannah and Miss Prince.

There were also present a number of members of the committees and other visitors.

THURSDAY, 26th July

The Chairman, Dr. Chaney, called the Council to order at 8:00 and introduced the Rev. H. C. Willans, who led the devotional period.

On motion the Council ordered the appointment of a Resolutions Committee and the following were appointed: the Rev. P. W. Webb, Dr. W E. Wiatt and the Rev. H. M. Wilson.

RESOLVED that the privilege of the floor be extended to visitors but that only members may vote.

The programme prepared by the Arrangements Committee allotted a certain amount of time to each of the standing committees and requested them to present whatever papers or subjects for discussion might be desired for their departments and whatever resolutions they wished to have considered and passed by the Council.

The Committee of Christian Education was called at this time and the Rev. C. E. Olmstead presented the report that had been adopted by the School Managers' Conference and the Committee on Christian Education the previous day.

The report consisted of a preamble and six resolutions. The report as revised and passed with the resolutions to be found on page 10.

It was also proposed that as the present Educational Committee was rather large and unworkable much better work could be done with a smaller Committee and it was

RESOLVED that the Council elect annually an Education Committee of five representatives of the Missionary bodies actively engaged in education.

Public Questions Committee. The report of this Committee, as found on page 13, was presented by Dr. J. H. Gray and accepted. Some amendments were made but were not carried. With regard to speakers to deal with public questions Mrs. Chaney said that Miss Stella Dawson was available for this purpose.

In answer to the question in the report as to the exact purpose of the Public Questions Committee it was

RESOLVED that, in answer to the question of the Convenor, the Public Questions Committee be informed that it is not merely a "protest" body but is responsible for a positive programme of development and prevention and that, to
this end, this Council request the Public Questions Committee to consider the possibility of establishing a Christian Broadcasting Station, a Press agency and such other methods of propaganda as may encourage positive ideals in regard to public questions.

Language Examination Committee. This was presented by the Rev. E. H. Cox. (See page 14.) In response to the request of this Committee that the name be changed from Committee for Training of Missionaries to Language Examination Committee it was

RESOLVED that the name of this Committee be changed to Language Examination Committee.

The afternoon session was opened by a fifteen-minute devotional period directed by the Rev. H. Willans, and was devoted to a series of four twenty-minute addresses by missionaries on methods of evangelization.

(1). The Rev. J. T. Latta of Thonze said that on the analogy of Pentecost the aim was to pray then preach. The Bible School was the way to get into a village; it was more productive of results to visit one village three or four times than three or four villages once. Don’t argue about religion, take it for granted the hearers are seeking God, preach Christ and practice what you preach.

(2). The Rev. A. T. Houghton, speaking for the B. C. M. S., said he was glad the last speaker emphasised prayer. Their aim was to pray and to preach the possibility of a man receiving new life in Christ; they preached that Christ died and Christ is alive. Every worker is an evangelist and every convert too. They aimed at preaching to every man in his own dialect and looked forward to the time when every race of the 150 in Burma would hear the Gospel in their own tongue.

(3). S’ra Shwe Ba of the Pwo-Karen Mission, Bassein, said they believed in sending out teams of Christian young men and women to the villages to teach the children and organise village schools in order to lead the villagers to Christ through the children. They make friends with their non-Christian brethren, bearing their burdens and sharing their sorrows but, in dealing with them, aim at showing the light and salt that are in the Christians.

(4). The Rev. G. Appleton, speaking for the S. P. G. Mission in Kappali district, said the aim was to concentrate on building a strong Christian centre, handing it over to the local Church and going somewhere else. They aimed at quality not quantity. Preparation for Baptism was long and careful, so also for Confirmation. They aimed at making each centre self-supporting by showing the people how to start village industries.
After some discussion the Rev. J. Z. Hodge spoke about the aims of the N. C. C. He referred to the sending of the Mission of Fellowship to Great Britain, a lady member of which came from Burma. They had sent a message of invitation to Kagawa, who hopes to come to India in two year’s time. He spoke of a Mission of Fellowship from China to India and Burma and said that possibly in a year’s time they would be sending a Mission of Fellowship to South Africa.

A study into the Mass Movements had been carried on under Dr. Fickett who suggests that missions should withdraw from unproductive centres and go to the productive.

Arrangements were almost completed to link up the evangelical ministry of Dr. Stanley Jones through the N. C. C. with the various Provincial Councils.

He suggested that the First Sunday in December, the Day of Prayer, should be a day of Offering.

Arising out of discussion on Mr. Hodge’s speech it was,

**RESOLVED that the Council request the N. C. C. to arrange for Dr. Stanley Jones to visit Burma and instruct the Executive Committee to make the necessary arrangements for such a visit.**

**FRIDAY, 27th July**

The morning devotional period was again taken by the Rev. H. C. Willans.

**Rural Reconstruction Committee.** The report of this Committee was presented by U Shwe Hman and accepted. Report with resolutions will be found on page 14.

With reference to Resolution VII, the Rev. B. C. Case said those interested may refer to Local Deputy Directors of Agriculture and District Agriculturalists. He also recommended Agricultural leaflets, Vol. I, published by the Government Printing Press in English at Rs. 1/8 and in Burmese at Annas 12.

Rev. J. Z. Hodge said he was pleased to hear of the interest taken in Rural reconstruction. Burma had a better chance than India owing to the absence of caste and the higher standard of literacy.

**Treasurer’s Report.** This was presented by the Rev. C. K. Tan and was adopted. Report on page 7.

**Christian Literature.** Report presented by Rev. B. M. Jones and adopted. Report will be found on page 8.

A letter from the Salvation Army in Burma was then read by the Chairman and it was
RESOLVED that we welcome the Salvation Army as a constituent body of the Burma Christian Council if and when they see their way to accept the obligations under our Constitution, including the basis of comity and co-operation on which the Christian Councils are based.

In response to another request of the Salvation Army it was

RESOLVED that in response to the request of Major Hughes of the Salvation Army, we appoint the Venerable the Archdeacon of Rangoon, the Rev. H. V. Shepherd, the Rev. Dr. Chaney and the Rev. B. M. Jones to confer with Major Hughes of the Salvation Army concerning some centre for the Army in Burma to open up a work for Burmese people.

The afternoon session started with prayer.

The Business Committee informed the Meeting that the delegation to approach the Minister of Education concerning the Pyinmana Agricultural School consists of the Revds. B. M. Jones, B. C. Case, H. V. Shepherd and A. Dilworth.

Committee of Extension and Research. This report was presented by the Honorary Secretary in the unavoidable absence of the Convenor, Professor Peacock.

RESOLVED that the report be adopted and referred to the Committee of Extension and Research to take up more fully with the Executive Committee.


Reference was made to some necessary changes to be made in the Constitution and it was

RESOLVED that the Executive Committee study the matter and bring in proposals at the next Annual Meeting.

With regard to date of next Annual Meeting it was

RESOLVED that it be held during the Wazo holidays and that it be left to the Executive Committee to fix date and time and that the Officers be the Committee of Arrangements with power to co-opt.

Representatives on the National Christian Council. The following were elected to take the place of those whose term expired this year:—S’ra Shwe Ba and the Rev. R. H. L. Slater.

Report on Special Committee appointed to examine and report on the question of the Suppression of Brothels and Prostitution in Rangoon. The Rev. G. E. Stevenson, the representative of the Council on the above Committee, gave a short report on what was done.
Elections. The Rev. B. M. Jones was elected Chairman of the Council. Dr. U Hla Bu was elected Vice-Chairman; the Rev. G. E. Stevenson, Honorary Secretary; and Mr. P. S. Moses, Honorary Treasurer.

Additional members of the Council were co-opted and the standing committees were appointed as per the list on the cover.

A vote of thanks was passed to all who had helped in making the Annual Meeting so successful.

The Session then closed with prayer.

Next Executive Committee Meeting will be on October 20th, at 8 a.m.

Geo. E. Stevenson,
Hon. Secretary.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF EXTENSION AND RESEARCH

The committee met regularly throughout the year. Changes took place owing to the departure on leave of several members.

In October 1933 a Vacation School for Vernacular teachers was held at Judson College. Thirty-four students registered for the course and the majority boarded at Judson College. Courses were held in Religious Education, Social Hygiene for Women, Scouting and Rural Clubs, Geography, Arithmetic and Rural Work in general. The School was a success and involved no charge on B. C. C. funds. It is proposed to hold a similar school next March.

The sub-committee appointed to work on Buddhism and Christianity has been unable to follow any set programme. An investigation of this kind cannot succeed unless men are set apart to work on definite sections of the program and meet regularly to discuss progress reports. Although this subject is of primary importance for the work of the Church in Burma no Mission has ever set aside a part-time worker for this field. It is suggested that the B. C. C. consider the possibility of setting aside one worker to devote himself entirely to this investigation and also the possibility of asking the Barrows Lectures foundation to send a teacher here to study the question and arouse missionary interest.

The committee has appointed a sub-committee, Secretary Miss Gaudoin, Judson College, to act as a clearing house for information of use in the Mission field and asks that enquiries may be sent to Miss Gaudoin and also that she may receive all possible help in the collection of the required information. We cannot be of much use for some time but ultimately such a centre of information ought to be able to prevent the working out of the same problem several times over by independent workers. Although local problems may require local solutions, the methods used in one successful attack can often be modified for use in another district.

A course of lectures on Christian leaders is being given during the Rains in Rangoon; one lecture on "Kagawa," has already been given.

D. H. Peacock,
Convener.
# TREASURER'S REPORT

*For the period 6th July, 1933, to 25th July, 1934.*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Receipts</th>
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<tr>
<td>Balance from last year</td>
<td>4 7 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Baptist Mission</td>
<td>175 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burma Baptist Missionary Convention</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anglican Church</td>
<td>140 0 0</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. C. M. S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>M. E. Mission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wesleyan Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Y. M. C. A.</td>
<td>35 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y. W. C. A.</td>
<td>35 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British and Foreign Bible Society</td>
<td>35 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Literature Society</td>
<td>35 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. C. T. Union (last year)</td>
<td>35 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. Peter Kin Moung—Collection from a Mass Meeting</td>
<td>46 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. C. T. Union</td>
<td>35 0 0</td>
</tr>
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**Total Rs.** 1030 9 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>Rs. a. p.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. P. W. Webb—Train fare</td>
<td>44 4 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. U Po Tun—Train fare</td>
<td>41 9 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. C. E. Olmstead's Bill</td>
<td>5 8 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing and Publications</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contribution to N. C. C.</td>
<td>200 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. H. E. Hinton's Train fare</td>
<td>30 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hony. Secretary—Office Expenses</td>
<td>31 6 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hon. Treasurer—Office Expenses</td>
<td>11 12 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance</td>
<td>61 6 4</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Total Rs.** 1030 9 10

Dr. Chaney—Collection from the Meeting of the Barrow's Lectures 35 3 3

For special use

Extension and Research 234 4 6

C. K. Tan, Hon. Treasurer.
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CHRISTIAN LITERATURE

The following new books were issued during the year:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Copies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ben Hur</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kagawa</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Fact of Christ (reprint)</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Boy Lost at the Pwe</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maung Pwa and the Beanstalk</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Devil's Hill (Karen)</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christ and Human Progress</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The aggregate is 14,000 volumes totalling 1,028,000 pages. If our periodicals be included, the total will be greater by a quarter of a million pages.

The printing of The Practice of the Presence of God has been sanctioned and it should be soon out.

It may be noted that we are continuing our effort to maintain a balance as among the several kinds of literature: theological, biographical, fiction, juvenile, etc. If anyone is surprised at the proportion of juvenile publications, I may say that we recognized some years back that it was incumbent on us to begin at the bottom and endeavour to develop a reading habit in the young. Many Burmese children learn to read by a very laborious method and never have any further desire to read when they leave school.

In addition we have continued publication of the Treasure Chest and the Burma Teachers' Magazine, monthly and quarterly respectively. We are grateful for the fact that Miss Watt of the Baptist Girls' School at Mandalay has undertaken the editing of the Teachers' Magazine and we bespeak for her your co-operation in this enterprise.

With regard to manuscript production, I regret to have to inject here a word of personal apology in fairness to the Society. The manuscript production side of the work of the Committee depends almost exclusively on the Publication Secretary and his Burmese assistant. Ill health cut the former out of the active ranks for about half of the year. Early in the year, the assistant resigned and his successor, after protracted ill health, was compelled to retire. A further curtailment resulted from the Secretary's spending some months assisting in the work at the Seminary at Insein. Friends are entreated to be patient and take these facts into consideration when they look at the rather meagre results of the year's work.

This paves the way for saying that this phase of the work should not depend so largely upon the publication secretary. Some years back in a session of the committee of the Indian Literature Fund, when the question of a grant for the employment of a Burmese translator was up, the representative of a North India publishing house said, "Why should you need to hire a translator? I can get all the manuscripts I need produced honorarily." We sincerely hope the time is not far distant when our Burmese friends with the ability to do it, will submit manuscripts for publication on their own initiative.

The outcome of the Farquhar Prize Competition mentioned in the report last year was rather disappointing. Only a few MSS were presented and none were up to specifications. As there was nearly a year left of the period during which the prize was available, we again offered prizes, this time for translation of one of five books which we named, the manuscripts to be in by the end of October, 1934. I have notice of
a considerable number going in for this competition and we hope the results will be more satisfactory than last time.

Work on the preparation of manuscript for the Bible dictionary in Burmese has made some progress.

I do not know that it really appertains to the office of a Publication Secretary to deal with the matter of circulation, but so long as we continue to print from fifty to one hundred per cent more books than we sell, the problem of distribution must engage the attention of all who are interested in making literature the powerful influence that it ought to be in the land.

A few years ago our one and two pice booklets sold by the tens of thousands. Now they do not, in the aggregate, keep pace with our higher priced books. Indeed there is rather a striking uniformity in the numbers of copies sold of each book, regardless of price; about the same number, for example, of Landmarks of Civilization at 12 annas and Helping People Grow at 14 annas as of the Pirates of the China Seas or The Three Bears at 2 annas. This may sound rather encouraging, but, as a matter of fact, to my mind it confirms evidence derived from other sources that there are some keen and wide-awake folks who make use of all our books and a great many others who do not use any of them.

Some of our publications issued during the year have met with a gratifying reception. Ben Hur went on sale in November and a fourth or more of the edition of 2,000 has been sold, while more than a third of the edition of 1,000 of Kagawa which came out at Christmas time have gone. More than half of the edition of 5,000 copies of The Boy Lost at the Pwe has been disposed of, though it was printed only in March. Our children's stories do not sell nearly as well as they deserve to. Burmese parents have not yet realised the advantage of buying their children story books instead of cheap jewellery and sweets.

For reasons mentioned above, it was not possible to get on with the travelling bookshop project until more than two-thirds of the year was past. Subscribers did not tumble over each other to contribute, so we had to choose between surrendering our hope of a Rs. 3,000 equipment and interminable delay. Cutting our coat according to our cloth, we bought an old touring car that had already run 85,000 miles and erected on it a bookshop. The total capital cost to date has been Rs. 961-7-0, on which there is a deficit of Rs. 70-0-0 though the equipment is still far from complete. So there is still opportunity to take stock in it.

We took the road with it on March 16th and spent a little more than three weeks between Rangoon and Maymyo. We resumed operations with it again after the schools had reopened at the end of May and spent another three weeks between Mandalay and Rangoon. The total books sold numbered something over five thousand for the sum of Rs. 1,248, being an average of between three and four annas per book as against an anna and a half or two annas in previous years.

Since our return to Rangoon we have visited three schools with the bookshop and disposed of another six or seven hundred books for Rs. 150.

We have had occasion to regret very greatly that it did not prove possible to adhere to the original plan for a ton or a ton and a half truck would carry a much heavier load than the present equipment. We were not able to carry nearly as large a stock as we needed and we found it necessary to take along an extra car to carry our duffle and cook, thus increasing greatly the operating expenses. Had we been able to get on with the van alone, the discounts on the books would have just about covered the expense.
So we look forward to a day when we shall yet be able to procure the better equipment. It must be borne in mind that we need to carry books in twenty languages or more. Also that there is a fair demand in mofusil stations for ordinary English books which bulk large and add greatly to the weight.

We have become well known on the main trunk road. At Myohla we drove up to a school that we had never visited before, though we had stopped a time or two at another point in that village. The car had hardly come to a stop before one of the little boys shouted, "Maung Pwa, Maung Pwa." As a rule we find it easiest to sell where we have sold before.

This method of distribution has proved effective in the areas that are accessible by road. That, unfortunately means only a small fraction of Burma. We must set our wits to work to find some equally effective method for reaching the delta and other sections where there are no roads. There is no method, of course, that is equal to that of every man and woman with the interest of the people at heart, keeping some of our books conspicuously about the premises and recommending them to friends. There are a number who are doing this and we are under heavy obligation to those who have co-operated so heartily in the work. May their tribe increase!

B. M. Jones,
Publication Secretary.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

In Burma, which is pre-eminently a rural and agricultural country, we have been teaching a purely academic course to meet the requirements of the University. To the credit of the Education Department there have been for years courses for various forms of vocational training in its codes, but except in very few instances there have been neither funds nor opportunity to follow them. Inspectors have demanded, with a few outstanding exceptions, adherence to the dictates of the University in examinations. A few institutions have branched off, but not without paying the price.

We welcome, therefore, the instructions of our last annual meeting and the subsequent organization of committees for the development of alternative curricula for vocational and pre-vocational training. We welcome also the Department's recent steps in the same direction. With Burma Christian Council backing and Departmental approval, the near future ought to witness a real advance in this direction. Perhaps we ought to thank God for the Depression which has called attention to the waste of the former and the urgency of the latter type of education.

Were it possible for all schools to adopt some such policy as was recommended by this committee at the last meeting of the B. C. C., namely, to start village uplift clubs in their nearby villages and simple vacation and leisure-time schools, a great deal could be accomplished in rural uplift through institutions which have already attained leadership in such communities on one line of progress. The difficulty, unfortunately, lies in the fact that teachers and school superintendents do not know what should be done nor how to attempt it. Could our rural reconstruction leaders provide a little help here it would be eminently worth while.

Our task also includes a consideration of the status of the teachers who work in our institutions. The Department has already devised a plan for assigning Provident Funds which will make it easier to draw them in case of a teacher's death in service — so that much of our discus-
sion of last year is provided for. The idea of the purchase of life insurance with Provident Fund contributions though useful in prospect was dropped because there seemed to be no practical interest in it.

The income of teachers still incites our concern; for not only during the years of the "Ratchet Rule," could no increments be given and every advantage was taken of the salary cuts made necessary by its operation, but also since then have definite orders been issued disallowing any increases in salary or establishment. All this while the salaries of Government school teachers continue to increase and no cuts, save the one of 5 per cent., have been necessary. Financial stringency is offered as the reason for the one; what excuse may be found for the other we do not know. Something must be done about this unfair discrimination against the teachers in Aided schools.

And this leads us directly into the financial questions flying about our task. Partly perhaps as the result of your Deputation's representation to the D. P. I. and certainly because of some other influences, the "Ratchet Rule" has now been released. Six schools of the province have had their grievances partly redressed.

The audit rule still remains, as far as we know, although your Deputation protested against the harm of going back three and four years to claim refunds of excess payments. Such a practice "may" be cancelled when it works hardship, we are told.

Already there is a wide disparity between the fees in Government and Christian schools. The latter are "permitted" to find the funds to meet part of their expenses by taxing their clientele beyond what pupils of the former pay, though the former are three times as costly to the country as are the latter, per pupil. If the Departmental advice were followed, the disparity would be still further increased by still higher fees in Aided schools, and the attractiveness of the competition with lower-fee schools enhanced. National schools have refused to press parents too hard for contributions, but have met the difference between income and expenditure by other methods, apparently successful thus far.

From other quarters come attacks upon school income, namely the demands of some municipalities and the Rangoon Development Trust. Instead of looking upon the school as an instrument for social improvement, and through the general uplift of society making possible enhanced incomes for themselves, they would make sure of their own income first.

The outstanding contribution Christian schools have made to education in the province has been in the realm of personality, through trained superintendents, progressive, deeply concerned in the development of the country's citizens. They are the reason for the outstanding quality of Christian schools. Nevertheless, we meet constantly the sceptical query, "What contribution are missions in Burma making to schools?" Probably we have errer through our modesty in not showing in financial statements the exact cash value of these superintendent's salaries contributed to the schools. In view of the attitude of those who see such statements, that ought not to be omitted, and further we should try to show to the world in any other way the amount of the contribution which Christians and Christian schools are making to Burma.

During the year the D. P. I. has asked for help in devising a new scheme for assessing maintenance grants. Your committee has spent considerable thought and work on this proposition, and has devised and considered several schemes, none of which has yet been brought to the point of perfection where we wish to propose it for adoption by this group. The committee next year will continue the study.

Considerable interest was evinced and much time given in the School
Managers' and Headmasters' Conference yesterday to the two reports presented on vocational curricula by the chairman of the sub-committees for English and A. V. Schools, Miss Reid and Mr. Hinton. These committees were continued for the coming year.

At the School Managers and Headmasters Conference yesterday the following resolutions were adopted:

1. Resolved that since it will create further definite hardship for many schools if the Lump-sum Assessment is subject to audit and recall of balances for each separate year we urge upon the Department that in the coming review of the Lump-sum Assessment by the Inspectors for the three-year period, no refund be demanded where the average expenditure for approved items for the three-year period equals the Lump-sum amount for one year.

2. Resolved that the Burma Christian Council is gravely concerned with the growing practice of the Education Department to insist upon audit of accounts to which Government makes no contribution; and we express our conviction that any private funds, e.g., athletic, library, exams, building, etc., which are independent of Government grants may be inspected, but should not be subject to audit.

3. In view of the fact that school strikes are becoming more frequent and tend to have a political bias, we feel that the threat contained in Confidential Circular No. ... can be used by outside agencies to wreck a school.

The existing regulations permit any individual or group to approach Inspectors and the D. P. I. and the Minister if they have a grievance. We suggest, therefore, that if it were clearly understood that no departmental official would parley with any strikers or strike delegates during the progress of a strike, and that a return to school be the necessary preliminary to departmental inquiry, it would strengthen the hands of authority in dealing with agitators without in any way lessening the right of appeal in cases of hardship or ill-treatment.

4. Resolved that on behalf of the teachers in aided schools (many of whom have received no increment in salary for several years) we request the Educational Department to remove their bar to salary increment as manifestly unfair, making an invidious distinction between teachers in aided schools and those in Government schools. Furthermore we request that increments be allowed in figuring the maintenance grants for the current year.

5. The Education Committee of this Council was instructed to take up personally with the Education Department the matter contained in Municipal Department Letters No. 729/730/731/1M-7, dated the 24th October, 1933, from the Commissioner of Tenasserim Division to the D. P. I.

6. The Burma Christian Council learns with alarm of the very greatly enhanced demand for ground rent on leased land of the Rangoon Development Trust occupied by schools as the former leases expire; and wishes to protest most vigorously to the government authorities and especially to the Rangoon Development Trust and the higher authorities against any such increases, and feels strongly that such lands should be leased to schools at a nominal rate only.

The Managers' Conference discussed the advisability also of closing the schools on the Buddhist Sabbath, especially during Lent, as well as on the Christian Sunday, when they fell on different days, but inasmuch as each manager may do as he pleases in such matters, it was deemed that a resolution was not necessary.

C. E. Olmstead,
Convener.
REPORT OF THE PUBLIC QUESTIONS' COMMITTEE

Your Committee begs to submit the following report for the year 1933-34.

No outstanding events have necessitated the frequent calling together of the Committee during the year. Meetings have been held when necessary and members have kept in touch with one another through correspondence.

The absence of the need for specific action on the part of the Committee may be taken as a matter for congratulation. On the other hand the Committee does not regard this fact as indication of any great advance in the social or moral life of the Community as a whole. During the year, the Committee has followed up the points raised in the Resolutions passed at the meeting a year ago. Clothing was asked for the unemployed and co-operation with existing agencies in this field has been rendered when possible. The D. P. I. has been corresponded with in the matter of the introduction of suitable text books on "Temperance."

Social Hygiene lectures have been given in certain Mission Schools by Committee members and the Committee has offered to secure suitable speakers for any groups desiring them. The Committee has also watched the work of the Special Committee appointed by Government to rewrite the "Brothels' Act" for Rangoon. It was felt that no help was required of us there.

As regards gambling and betting, nothing seemed possible of attainment in the form of united action by the Committee. Perhaps progress along such lines might be made another year as a result of answers to the questions asked later in this report.

As to the censorship of films, the matter has been investigated and it is ascertained that the scope of this work is limited to protest on any particular film that might prove to be objectionable. Should political separation occur it may then be possible to have a larger influence in this field.

As a result of our experience during the past year we feel that the B. C. C. might take action on the following points:—

1. Endorse the work of the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides and give support and leadership wherever possible.
2. Request the Christian Literature Committee to insure suitable text book material for use in Schools on
   (a) Temperance (b) Gambling and Betting (c) Sex Instruction.
3. Endorse and support as far as possible the work of the (a) Rangoon Vigilance Society (b) W. C. T. U.
4. Arrange for speakers or plan for the best use of such speakers as are already available, on the subjects mentioned above.

Certain questions have arisen in the minds of members as to the purpose and functions of this Committee and we suggest that instructions be drafted which will help future members to more ably carry on the work desired by the Council.

The answering of such questions as:—

1. Is the Public Questions Committee simply a protest Committee which watches the trend of affairs and speaks when some flagrant violation of law or decency occurs.
2. Or does its work consist in creating and changing public opinion by calling public meetings, arranging lectures, writing in newspaper articles and submitting memoranda to Government, etc.
3. Or is it a research and investigating Committee which goes out
to unearth facts and discover harmful or wicked conditions and then proceeds to suggest remedies or secure alteration in them?

(4) Or is it all of these?

(5) To whom is it responsible and should it assume independent responsibility for its actions or only report to the B. C. C. who would then take action?

Shall it take action or assume responsibilities in which the B. C. C. has not made definite pronouncements as to its position?

A discussion on these points we feel would be helpful.

J. H. Gray, Convener.

REPORT OF LANGUAGE EXAMINATION COMMITTEE

Two Meetings for Examination in Burmese have been held at each of the two Centres, Upper and Lower Burma. Altogether fifteen candidates have been examined.

At the Lower Burma Centre, there were five candidates for the Elementary test, of whom four passed, two with credit. One candidate for the Intermediate failed in the oral test. At the Upper Burma Centre, there were four candidates for the Elementary, all of whom passed, two with credit; also five candidates sat for the Advanced test, of whom four passed, and the other passed the oral test only, not having sat for the written examination.

The Committee has had under consideration the question of altering the Method of Dictation in the Elementary test, or rather of returning to the original method of dictation which was altered in the present Syllabus, published in 1931. At a Joint Meeting of the members of the Upper and Lower Burma Committees, it was unanimously decided to recommend a return to the old method viz. “Candidate to write accurately from dictation a passage from the Gospel portion, mentioned above. (N. B. Only such varieties of spelling as affect pronunciation will be taken into consideration)”

At the same Meeting it was decided to recommend to the Council the alteration of Rule VII, to read: “In each Examination there shall be one set of papers for Upper and Lower Burma, but the marking shall be done by each centre independently.”

The members of the Committee, both of Upper and Lower Burma, feel that the name of the Committee ought to be altered from “Committee for the Training of Missionaries,” to “Language Examination Committee,” and recommend their opinion to the Council.

E. H. Cox, Convener.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RURAL RECONSTRUCTION

The following is a summary of the work reported from several places:

Kyauktaga Grant —

The Grant consists of about 30,000 acres of paddy land between Thategon and Kyauktaga railway stations brought under cultivation by Indian labour and now occupied almost entirely by Indians. The present managing director is Capt. W. E. Rivers, a member of this committee, who lives at the place.
Let us describe the work at the Grant in Capt. Rivers' own words: "The whole success of the Grant depends on personal contact. I personally visit every village once a week and any one knows that if he has any report or grievance to air, he can see me in my office.

Besides myself, I have a European manager, whose interest is the welfare of the people and under him he has police for protection of the tenants as well as surveyors and clerks. When I first came to Kyanktaga, I found that the tenants were being robbed by chetties and money lenders who were taking anything up to 50% compound interest.

This difficulty was overcome by opening a bank where the tenants can get agricultural loans at a moderate interest (12%).

During the last year of depression we have attempted to reduce the tenants' expenses and increase their income. This we have achieved by irrigation schemes and encouraging dry-weather crops. I hope that they will be self-supporting except for salt and kerosene oil.

**Thongwa Methodist Mission — U On Kin, Superintendent.**

Mr. A. Campbell, Inspector of Schools, in his report (1933-34) on the work of the school says: "Few of the pupils of this School go to a High School. For this reason and for sound educational reasons I think this school is doing very valuable work in the development of practical work in carpentry, in basket making, in weaving, in vegetable gardening, in poultry rearing and in paddy growing on a considerable scale. In the slojd classes the boys made saleable deck-chairs, barrows, picture-frames and parts of weaving machines for the weaving classes. The girls are weaving towel-stuffs, table cloths and napkins and it is hoped that soon they will be able to make their own sewing. The boys, under the supervision of their masters, run a farm of seven acres. The girls do the transplanting and the boys the ploughing and harvesting. The boys look after the plough animals. In addition, the boys rear chickens and the girls ducks for hostel consumption and for sale."

The Hostel gardens produce all the vegetables required by the boarders. The management hopes that its work will have valuable practical results when pupils find their way back to their villages and become the focus of organized literary and vocational precepts and example in their villages.

**Kyaukse Methodist Mission — Miss Hollinshead.**

"We try to keep the pupils of this school, especially of the Training Class, in touch with village life. In the Kindergarten Class a good deal of time is given to school gardens and the trees and plants in the compound together with its animal life. All the boarders learn cooking and hygiene is considered one of the most important subjects. Our work here does not seem to consist in the establishment of a rural community centre, but rather in so planning the work and environment that the pupils' interest shall be centred in village life as much as possible, and that they shall have some practical ideas as to how they may work for the benefit of the village or town in which they live.

To this end the Training students have taken turns in visiting the Child Welfare Clinic and are beginning to realize of what benefit a little knowledge of the simplest rules of health might be, if really put into practice in the houses of the people."

**Baptist Mission Toungoo — Rev. G. E. Blackwell.**

"We have at Pe Le Chi village near Thandaung a man, Thra Timothy and his wife engaged in Rural reconstruction work. He took one year of intensive training at the Pyinmana Agricultural School and
has had one year at the Collegiate Department of the Insein Seminary. His wife is a trained nurse.

A very gratifying degree of success has attended their efforts. It is a marvel that so many of the villagers are ready to try new suggestions after a short time of work in their village. A few are beginning to keep hens according to approved methods. Several are trying to improve their fruit trees. The sick are beginning to trust modern nursing and the child mortality at birth has gone away down.

The boys are all cubs, scouts and rovers and a good band of girl guides has been started. These have kept their village much cleaner than ever before and built roads and water conduits.

Many institutes were held during the year, in which practical lessons in animal husbandry, meat curing, grafting and gardening were taught.”

Baptist Mission, Pyinmmana — Rev. B. C. Case.

“The Fresh Egg Association has made a steady growth this year. A member has to give eight annas to belong to the Association and is given a number which he can place on the eggs to identify them. The members are given the first opportunity to sell their eggs to us and are given the first chance to buy pure bred cocks from us. The Association is now collecting about 3000 eggs a week and its activities, extending from Meiktila to Toungoo, are employing five of our Agriculture School graduates. During last March two village poultry shows were conducted at two of our poultry centres. Babies were exhibited and prizes given for the healthiest.

On June 9th, 1934, eleven Christian men organized the Pyinmmana Industrial Co-operative Bank, Ltd. with shares of Rs. 50 each to finance poultry farming in Yamethin and Toungoo districts and in Taungdwingyi sub-division.

Two Co-operative Poultry Societies were also organized at Shwemo and Lewe. Each member puts in Rs. 5 a year until he pays Rs. 25 for half a share in the Society. In case the Society becomes liable for debts which it cannot otherwise meet the member may be called upon to pay the remaining Rs. 25.

The egg market also supports trained workers who live in the villages and carry on other uplift work such as conducting groups of scouts.

There are farmers carrying on demonstrations on their own land under my direction at Shwemo, Lewe and Kantha. The demonstration of what crop can be grown more profitably than paddy on some of the land that was formerly devoted entirely to paddy is an urgent need at the present time.

The records at the Pyinmmana Agricultural School show that with paddy at Rs. 40 there was a return of only half an anna per hour of labour, while there was a return of 2½ annas per hour on maize and 1½ annas on beans.”

Mr. Case also reports on the work of constructing sanitary latrines in a new centre around Takton.


“In our work among the southern Chins we have formed the Southern Chin National Association for the improvement and development of the race. It is hoped that the S. C. N. A. will be able to help the Chins in better Agricultural methods, better weaving, better sanitation, better health and better education.

We have worked with the Agricultural Department and have encouraged our people to go to the Allanmyo Government Farm to learn new methods. We have helped them to dispose of crops and live stock
in the town and to get permission to make a dam to supply water for their paddy fields.

My hobby is extracting teeth. I found it to be a very good method of getting an entrance into the hearts of the people by relieving them of tottering teeth, without pain and without paying. In 1933, 1278 teeth were extracted by me; my disciple, Samo Tun Pa, 437, and even Rev. B. C. Case has joined the exodonists and made me give instruction on the art at one of his institutes at Pyinmana.

Miss L. P. Bonney of the Baptist Mission has gone to live at a small village called Themington three or four miles from Thategon Railway Station, right among the paddy fields. She is living a real Burma rural life in order to do her bit for the uplift of rural life."

S. P. G. Mission.

We received no report from the Chaungwa Training Village nor from Kappali. However, we believe the Mission at both places is doing most valuable work for rural Burma. We learn that Mr. West has been leading a rural life among the Karens for a number of years at Kappali, a small village up the Salween river. He has done much to improve the conditions at the place and in the neighbourhood and he has been more than a father to these poor people.

After writing the above we heard an illuminating and inspiring description by the Rev. G. Appleton of the work that is being carried on at those places and we hope the Secretary of the Council will incorporate the substance of the speech in his report of the meetings.

Maymyo Baptist Girls A. V. School.

This School has started a Home Arts Course of three years duration for Christian girls or girls from Christian homes. The Minimum qualification for entrance is a pass in the A. V. Fifth Standard. We understand that 14 girls are taking the course this year.

A meeting of the Rural Reconstruction Committee was held before the Annual Meeting and at this the Rev. E. T. Fletcher dwelt on the insanitary conditions under which the villagers live, and emphasised the fact that whenever we attempted to attend to the ills of the soul we were confronted with the ills of the body. Rev. J. T. Latta of Thonze told how during the rebellion some 3000 people came into the Mission compound for shelter and advice and how he and his colleagues attended to their bodily needs, with assistance from Rangoon, without forgetting to attend to their souls. Rev. J. Hodge said that Burma was ahead of India in respect of the Brass Band at Pyinmana and the dental work of Mr. Condict. He said that the greatest thing that had happened in India recently was the visit of Dr. Butterfield who taught that the work of the Church was not only preaching, that the whole man—body, soul and mind—must be attended to. Before attempting to start co-operative Societies a thorough survey of the place should be taken and a thorough study of all the literature available on the subject and on banking should be made.

He showed how the Government of India recognised the importance of pioneer work done by Mr. F. L. Bryane, I.C.S., by opening a Rural Reconstruction Department and putting him in charge.

In the light of the report and speeches mentioned above and the discussion that followed, it was voted that the following resolutions be placed before the Council:

I. Resolved that each station select some one person to be in charge of health activities in his own town and surrounding villages, to circulate health literature, explain it to villagers and by personal persuasion get its
suggestions followed, and to secure the organization of local resources, both of funds and personnel for health education and disease prevention.

II. Resolved that we attempt to secure the aid of local private practitioners and where possible that of the Civil medical officers in the organization of itinerary dispensaries.

III. Resolved that the reports presented to the Rural Reconstruction Committee concerning definite advance work already successfully done be edited and summarized for publication in local Christian magazines and other papers.

IV. Resolved that Daily Vacation Bible Schools, Scouts, Girl Guides and such other organizations receive a prominent place in the program of Rural Reconstruction in Burma.

V. Whereas the Pyinmana Agricultural School is rendering a unique and effective service for the villages of Burma of a character especially needed during the present financial depression and whereas its influence has already extended to many parts of Burma, resolved that representatives from the Burma Christian Council be appointed to approach Government with the request that Grants-in-aid to the school be continued at not less than the present rate.

VI. Whereas the price of paddy has fallen to a level where its production does not give the cultivator sufficient remuneration to adequately support himself and to pay his taxes and whereas there appears little hope of improvement in the present generation we recommend that Missions plan for the future with a view to helping villagers to change their agricultural practice from that of one-crop paddy farming to diversified farming with legumes, fruit and animal production to replace part of the paddy crop.

Shwe Hman,
Convener.
British and Foreign Bible Society
The Rev. H. C. Willans, 262 Sule Pagoda Road, Rangoon.

Christian Literature Society
Mr. O. D. Roseboom, Baptist English High School, Rangoon.

Women's Christian Temperance Union
Miss Stella Dawson, Thayettaw Street, Kemmendine.

Co-opted Members
The Rev. G. E. Stevenson.
Mr. P. S. Moses.
Miss Niccoll-Jones, Girl in Need Hostel, Little Sisters Road, Kandawglay, Rangoon.
The Rev. H. M. Wilson, St. John's College, Rangoon.
Major G. K. A. Bartles, Supt. Govt. Medical Stores, Newlyn Road, Rangoon.
Professor D. H. Peacock, Ava House, University Estate, Rangoon.
Miss England, Chaung-wa, Wakema P.O.
Saw Loo Nee, Sgaw Karen High School, Rangoon.
Dr. Daw Saw Sa, 30 Tank Road, Rangoon.
U Ah Mya, Anglican Divinity School, University P. O., Rangoon.
Major Hughes, Salvation Army Hqrs., Lewis Street, Rangoon.
U Hla Bu.
U Aung Thwin, Y. M. C. A. Hostel, Godwin Road, Rangoon.
Ma Nyen Kyin, Girl-in-Need Hostel, Kandawglay.
The Rev. C. E. Olmstead, 14 Lancaster Road, Rangoon.
Miss Robertson, Methodist Mission, Mandalay.
Miss May T. Mack.
Miss R. Seagrave, Pengu Karen High School, Ahlone.

STANDING COMMITTEES

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The Rev. H. M. Wilson, Convenor.
Dr. C. E. Chaney.
Mr. H. W. Smith, A. B. Mission Press, Rangoon.
The Rev. C. E. Olmstead.

II. Language Examination
The Rev. E. H. Cox, Convenor.
The Rev. R. F. Spear, Pengu.
The Rev. B. C. Case.
Daw Nu, Seminary Hill Insein.
Miss Reifsnedier, Mandalay.
Thra San Ba.
Miss R. Seagrave.
The Rev. W. B. Hicks, E Hai.

III. Rural Reconstruction
The Rev. C. E. Olmstead, Convenor.
U Shwe Hman.
The Rev. B. C. Case.
Sayama Daw Hannah, 121 Mission Road, Ahlone, Rangoon.
The Rev. U On Kin.
Thra Maung Gyi.
Miss England.
Miss Hollinshed, Kyaukse.
Captain Rivers, Kyauktaga.
U Aung Thwin.

IV. Public Questions
Miss Nicoll Jones, Convenor.
Major Hughes, S. A.
Dr. J. H. Gray.
The Right Rev. the Bishop of Rangoon.
Miss May T. Mack.
Dr. Daw Saw Sa.
Mr. F. G. Dickason, Judson College, Rangoon.
Ma Nyein Kyin.

V. Extension and Research
Professor D. H. Peacock, Convenor.
The Rev. C. E. Olmstead.
Mr. D. A. Patterson, Diocesan Boys’ School, Rangoon.
Mr. F. G. Dickason.
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The Rev. G. Appleton.
The Rev. R. H. L. Slater.
U Hla Bu, Ph.D.
Miss H. K. Hunt, Judson College, Rangoon.
Dr. G. Jury Judson College, Rangoon.
The Rev. H. C. Willans.

VI. Christian Literature
Dr. C. E. Chaney, Convenor.
Mr. S. S. Gnana Viran, Barrister-at-Law, Rangoon.
Mr. S. S. Cushing Viran, Barrister-at-Law, Rangoon.
Miss A. M. Druiitt, St. Mary’s School (S.P.G.) Canal Street, Rangoon.
The Rev. B. M. Jones.
Thra Maung Bu, Seminary Hill, Insein.
Mr. H. W. Smith, A. B. M. Press, Rangoon.
Thra Tudee, A. B. M. Press, Rangoon.
U Ba Han, Seminary Hill, Insein.
The Rev. W. E. Wiatt.
The Rev. H. O. Wyatt.
Miss M. Reid.
Prof. D. H. Peacock.
The Rev. H. C. Willans.
Miss Ebersole, Methodist English High School, Rangoon.
Major Hughes, S. A.
Saw Mooler.
Thra Morris, Seminary Hill, Insein.
Saya U Po Kha.

REPRESENTATIVES ON THE NATIONAL CHRISTIAN COUNCIL

Term expiring in 1938 ...... S’ra Shwe Ba and The Rev. R. H. L. Slater.