REPORT

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING DEC. 31ST, 1911.

OF THE

JAPAN BOOK AND TRACT SOCIETY

3 YURAKU CHO NICHOME, KOJIMACHI, TOKYO.

REPRESENTING

THE RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY, LONDON

AND

THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY, NEW YORK.

(GEORGE BRAITHWAITE, AGENT.)

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1912.
REPORT
OF THE
Japan Book and Tract Society
FOR THE YEAR ENDING
December 31st, 1911.

In presenting this, our thirteenth Annual Report, we would praise God for having watched so graciously over the Society throughout another year, supplying our needs and wonderfully opening doors for the entrance of His Word, thus enabling such a large number of our publications to pass into the hands of this people.

During the year under review, the American Tract Society again sent us some help towards Publication Work. We feel sure, however, that they would send more, if they truly realized the wonderful opportunities. We have to thank the Religious Tract Society for continued assistance, and also for a special grant towards the cost of the Agent's travelling expenses to and from England.

In addition to the usual means of circulation, the Society's publications were, in the course of the year, distributed among the visitors to six Industrial Exhibitions, besides being given out at several special meetings.

The circulation we are enabled to report is the largest we have ever had, being well over the million and quarter mark. This is in part due to the fact that since last February the Society has had the agency for the sale and distribution of "The Christian News," a monthly periodical prepared by the Japan Evangelistic Band. We are thankful, however, to note an increase under almost every head, but we rejoice especially over the substantial growth in the sale of our own books. The actual figures for 1910 and 1911 are given below:—
## CIRCULATION.

### CIRCULATION 1910.

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<th></th>
<th>Our Publications.</th>
<th>Published Elsewhere.</th>
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<td>Sales for Special Distribution...</td>
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### CIRCULATION 1911.

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<th>Total Copies</th>
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<td>9,582</td>
<td>872,834</td>
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During the year under review, the Society has paid for the printing of 19,400 Books and 741,000 Tracts in Japanese. In addition to these, we have, for the convenience of our customers, superintended the printing of 2,500 Books and 56,000 Tracts in Japanese, and 1,200 Circulars in English, the total publication amounting to very nearly twelve million pages.

The books include twelve separate editions. Among these are reprints of Mr. Wm. G. Smith's three books, "Where Does Christianity Come From," "From Paul to Polycarp," and "Introduction to the New Testament"; also of "What Christians Believe." An edition of 2,000 copies of both parts of "Pilgrim's Progress" also left the press; Part I being also issued in a convenient size for carrying in the pocket, there having arisen of late years, especially among the student class, quite a demand for books in that size. An edition of 2,000 copies of "Probable Sons" was also issued.

During the year four new books were issued for the first time by the Society. One of these, "The Baptism of the Holy Ghost" by the Rev. B. F. Buxton, had been printed many years ago but had been out of print for a long time. The edition now issued is an entirely new translation. Two of the other new books, "A Hundred Talks to Inquirers" and "Richard Weaver's Life Story" were both prepared by the Japan Evangelistic Band and issued by them in 1910. Several thousand copies of both books were put in circulation and brought much rich blessing to many souls. The Society has now purchased the copyright of the former and has been kindly allowed by the Band to issue an edition of the latter.

The only entirely new book issued during the year is "Self Improvement," an abridgment of "Todd's Students' Manual" a book which a generation ago greatly helped many young men in
England and America. Several Japanese students have also been much blessed by reading the English edition, and we feel sure that in its Japanese dress its usefulness will be still further extended.

The tracts printed during the year include forty-nine separate editions, forty-eight of which were reprints. The only new one, "The True Way" is by the Rev. W. P. Buncombe. It was written several years ago and has been much blessed; and it is hoped that, now the Society has published it, it will have an even wider circulation.

During the year the Society also bought from other publishers 14,055 Books, 13,402 Tracts, and 207,869 Cards and Pictures, also 174,670 copies of "The Christian News," these being required for stock and to fill orders received.

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GENERAL WORK.

The following is taken from a letter just received as this Report is being compiled:

From Rev. D. Norman, Nagano.

I have used many tracts during the past year and in several cases have sold Testaments as a result of persons having read tracts and having thereby a desire to know more of the teaching of Christ. In one large town where we have work I have had six baptisms during the past three months and on my last visit there the evangelist remarked that quite a number of the seekers were those who had been brought in by reading tracts etc., that had been distributed. So I have increased confidence in this method of sowing Gospel seed and an increased purpose to go on with it and to study to do it wisely and effectively. I do not think that I have ever distributed more tracts in my ordinary work than during the past year. I wish I had something more definite to tell you but you may be assured that it is a work that I believe to be necessary.
General Work.

The following are particulars of blessing received through the reading of particular Tracts:

John III. 16.

In 1887 a missionary gentleman gave a copy of the above tract to a Japanese gentleman who was his fellow traveller for a few hours on a small coasting steamer. After leaving the steamer, a jinrikisha ride of some fifteen miles brought them to the town where they both intended to pass the night. It was a pouring wet evening and they parted at the entrance to the town, the missionary going to one hotel, and the Japanese gentleman to another, some two miles away. Just as the missionary was finishing supper, however, the Japanese gentleman was announced. His first words were, "When I met you, I was a Buddhist, now I am John III. 16." Then pointing to the text, he said, "Where are these words from, they are different from the rest of the tract?" Having been told they were from the New Testament, and also instructed where he could buy a copy, he hurried out of the room, returning in half an hour or so holding out his new treasure and saying, "Please show me where those words are." He then pressed the missionary to accompany him to his home to make known the good news to his family and friends but the return journey would have taken a week and other engagements made it impossible. After reaching home, he wrote saying he gathered his family and friends together once or twice each week and read to them from the tract and the New Testament and saying he should be glad of other helpful literature. Packets were sent to him from time to time. It is not known that he ever joined any church, but when the missionary called at his home five or six years later he gave him a warm welcome and kept him busy for several hours answering questions which showed that he must have read the whole Bible through from beginning to end and studied it all with much care.

"The Living God."

In 1891, a missionary while travelling by train gave a tract to each of the others who happened to be in the same carriage,
handing a copy of the above tract to one young man there. An hour or two after, when the ticket collector came along to look at the tickets, this young man seemed utterly dazed and, failing to produce his ticket or even to understand anything that was said to him, he was forcibly ejected from the train. Thinking it just possible that the tract he had received had so filled his mind as to make him incapable of taking in anything else, the missionary, to save him from being sent to prison for travelling without a ticket, paid his fare to that station and then continued his journey, never expecting to hear any more of the matter. Ten days after, however, he received a letter from the young man, saying, "For three days after receiving the tract you so kindly gave me I knew nothing. When I came to myself, I at once took the train to my home (some 300 miles) and reached there in the middle of the night. Without stopping either to eat or to sleep I sought for some one to teach me more and after several hours' search had the good fortune to find a Christian pastor who is now instructing me." The young man became a member of the church, and later a Christian worker, and was very active and earnest. Though only quite poor, he persisted in sending presents every few months to the gentleman who had given him the tract.

"He Died for Me."

Miss A. Evans of the C. M. S. has most kindly furnished us with the following account:—

When the Prince Imperial visited Hokkaidō last August, the Christians in Asahigawa made a special effort to reach the thousands of country people who flocked into the town to see him. Many thousand tracts were given away and much fruit will assuredly be the result as, in childlike faith, the workers claimed the promise, "My Word shall not return to me void."

Special Gospel meetings were also held, and at one of these, held in the evening, a non-commissioned officer was noticed sitting on one of the hard forms and listening most earnestly hour after hour. After sitting over three hours he got up; and, going to one
of the workers, asked, "What do you teach happens after death?" On being asked whether he was really in earnest to know, he responded, "If I wasn't, do you think I'd have sat here over three hours listening to the preaching?" He then held up the tract "He Died for Me" and said, "You gave me this little book this afternoon. I have read it all through many times and understand what it teaches, but long to know more." He was faithfully death with and was really saved. He has been heard from many times since and lives a consistent Christian life.

From Rev. C. O. P Cambridge, Hamamatsu.

In forwarding my small contribution of Yen 20 to the work of the Tract Society I pray that God's blessing may ever rest on the printed as well as on the spoken Word.

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SPECIAL WORK.

During the year under review, Industrial Exhibitions were held in many places throughout the Empire. In several cases these were taken advantage of by the Christian workers for holding special Evangelistic meetings and doing other aggressive work. Appeals for special grants of tracts for distribution at these meetings and also among the people flocking in from the country to visit these exhibitions, reached us from six different centres. These we were thankful to be able to respond to from the special grant which the Religious Tract Society so generously made us in 1910. The tracts distributed at such times are carried by the recipients to their homes and thus hundreds, and it may be, thousands of people in out of the way places learn the Society's name and address, and can, if they wish, write for more Christian literature.

I.—At the Tsuchiura Exhibition.

Tsuchiura boasts, it is said, of the finest primary school building outside Tokyo. To celebrate the completion of this, an industrial
exhibition was arranged to be held in it from the 1st. to the 10th. of April.

A tent was secured and was put up on a plot of ground a short distance from the entrance, and just in front of the courthouse. A better position could not have been secured. The tent was provided with board seats for about 200 people and with an inquirers' room. Sign boards were put up by the road-side in front of the railway station and at the entrance to the town announcing the tent meetings for Christian preaching. It is interesting to note that in the exhibition were sign-boards which were up in this neighbourhood not more than thirty years ago prohibiting people from becoming Christian teachers or believers.

Local evangelists were called in to do the preaching. Ten thousand leaflets giving the location of all evangelists and preaching-places of the co-operating churches and a short statement of what Christianity is, were prepared. These with about 50,000 other tracts were distributed. Each tract was stamped with the name and address of an evangelist. Preaching and singing were carried on in the tent each afternoon from 1.30 to 5, and again in the evening from 7 to about 10 o'clock. Each speaker was expected to speak about thirty minutes; this was followed by an invitation to go into the inquiry room. It was estimated that more than 1,000 people came into the tent each day.

One of the evangelists afterward in giving a report of the work said, "I was most anxious, and there were many opinions and doubts as to whether we could do anything. So we were more than gratified at the results. The Christian young man who was tent-keeper and slept in the tent dreamed one night that the Buddhists caught him and shaved his head, but really he was not interfered with neither were the meetings interrupted at all.

The Friends had charge of the work for the first five days and in that time over 400 persons signed their names and gave their addresses as showing their desire to become Christian inquirers. The Baptists took the lead the last five days and conducting the meetings somewhat differently did not get proportionately quite as many names.
They, however had a full tent through to the end. A railway guard said, "I see all the people reading Christian tracts as they wait for trains." A young farmer from an out-of-the-way place far from the railway, said, "All the people from my village are talking about the Christian tent at the exhibition and saying that they did not know that Christianity had such good teaching." The evangelists report that they have had a number of persons call at their homes to inquire about Christianity since the tent meetings and that they are following up the inquirers with literature.

The quite respectful way in which the people came and listened to the Gospel and their manifest interest indicate an openness for the truth which had not been previously experienced by the present workers in that district. "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He send forth labourers into the harvest."

From Gurney Binford, Mito.

We had the tent work for five days and distributed the 20,000 tracts that the Tract Society granted us. There were about 10,000 visitors to the Exposition each day and our workers estimate that altogether at least 6,000 entered the tent and heard the Gospel message. They secured over 400 signatures and addresses of people who wish to learn more of Christianity. Most of these are in the neighbourhood of Tsuchiura. The work was most interesting on account of the interest taken in it by the Christians themselves and also because of the interest shown by the people who come into the tent to listen.

From Gilbert Bowles, Tokyo.

I have just reviewed with much interest the Annual Report of the Tract Society, in the work of which I am much interested. A full report of the Tent Meetings at Tsuchiura would reveal much good done by the literature sent there.

2. At the Kobe Exhibition.

Much energetic evangelistic work was carried on during the few
weeks the Exhibition was open. We sent altogether 30,000 Tracts for use among the visitors. The following letters refer to this grant:—

From Miss. J. Harrison, Kobe.

No. 1.

Your letter to hand yesterday. We shall be very glad to avail ourselves of your kind offer of a grant of tracts, and will try to use them to the best advantage. The Exhibition will be open until the 15th. of May. Thus far the smallest attendance in one day has been 6,000. Last Saturday it was 23,000. The daily average is 15,000.

At our Evangelistic Meetings in the Tent yesterday, both in the afternoon and evening we had 100 sitting down inside and another 150 or so standing at the back. It is a grand sight to see that number of people listening to the simple Gospel.

No. 2.

Many thanks for the tracts which arrived yesterday and were used at the evening meeting. I have not had time yet to see what they are, but the outsides of some looked very attractive as they were being distributed. The attendance at the meetings continues good. One man intending to commit suicide was saved on Wednesday afternoon, and came again on Thursday and Friday. There have also been several enquirers. We are far too short-handed.

No. 3.

I want to thank you very much for the second grant of tracts. They have been of great use to us in our work at the Exhibition, helping to put the people at ease with us as they came into the tent, and so making them more receptive of the Gospel message.

3. At the Chiba Exhibition.

The Exhibition held here last May afforded a splendid opportunity for Christian work as the city was crowded with visitors. We had the pleasure of sending 21,000 Tracts for distribution. In acknowledging these Miss. A. J. Peterson writes as under:—
The case of tracts came last evening, thank you so much. We used a good many last evening at our street meetings, and also sold several Testaments. But the police do not allow us to be free, nor to speak nor sell Scriptures. They were after us several times yesterday and told us to stop, so we did, but went to another place and began again. The Buddhist priests are preaching in the streets all over the town, and in the houses too. They speak against the Christians and say that a very bad disease came into the country when Christianity came to Japan. They also give away tracts like we do. A number of priests from other places have come to work against Christianity during this Exhibition. But we will never give up doing what we can to raise the Banner of the Cross in Christ’s name.

4.—At the Fukui Exhibition.

This Industrial Exhibition, opened as it was for some weeks last June and July attracted large numbers of visitors from the country round. The Special Fund enabled us to send a supply of Tracts for distribution among these. In acknowledging this grant, the Rev. E. C. Hennigar writes as follows:—

No. 1.

I write to thank you most heartily for the grant of 20,000 tracts which you made us for use at the Fukui Provincial Exhibition. They all arrived the day before yesterday in good condition.

We are carrying on Gospel Meetings in a house very near the entrance to the exhibition. The other day in the afternoon and evening I gave away 1,500 tracts as I stood just in front of our preaching-place. That means that at least that number of people were apprised of the fact that Christianity is a live, active force. We have had very good attendance at our meetings although the heavy rains several days last week interfered considerably with the work. The Presbyterian forces are united with us in this work, and in Mr. Dunlop’s name as well as my own I thank you for the tracts sent.
No. 2.

I want to thank you very much for the very generous supply of tracts you sent us for the work at Fukui Provincial Exhibition this summer. They went into the hands of a great number of people and will undoubtedly bring forth their fruit in due season. The work here on the West Coast is very difficult as yet. I sometimes think it has hardly reached the seedsowing time yet. Rather we are pounding away at the rocks of prejudice, superstition and vice, trying to break up the soil to receive the precious seed.

5. At the Wakamatsu Exhibition.

From Rev. C. Noss, Wakamatsu, Fukushima Ken.

Please accept our thanks for the donation of 2,000 assorted tracts you sent for distribution at the Industrial Exhibition held in this city early this month. My boys helped me in the distribution, because I was called away from the city. John, who is fifteen years of age and intends being a missionary, had charge in my absence, giving a tract to each man who passed out of the Exposition, and one to each woman who asked for a copy, but none to children. As my name and address were stamped on all, I am hearing from the recipients. Two milk boys came to me immediately afterwards, saying they wished to become Christians and asking for regular instruction. They told me that it was one of the tracts handed out at the Exposition that had induced them to come.

6. At the Kisennuma Exhibition.

From Rev. E. H. Jones, Mito.

The kind donation of 5,000 Tracts for our work at the Exhibition at Kisennuma last month was very helpful.

We had a large tent, in one of the best sites in the town, a corps of eight workers besides myself, prayer and Bible study meetings every forenoon—with special reference to Filling by the Holy Spirit for Service—preaching from 1 P.M. to 4:30, and from
7 P.M. to 9.30 each of the seven days. The workers were distributed, two at the Bible selling stand at the door of the tent, three on the street distributing tracts and inviting people to come into the tent, and three inside seating people, and preaching. We found the people always ready to receive the tracts, a good number of cheap Testaments were sold. At one meeting we had six raise their hands to show they desired to become Christians.

The thousands of tracts distributed and taken home to many isolated farm houses and small country hamlets are sure to be used by the Master for the great ingatherings of the future. (Nov. 6, 1911).

EVANGELISTIC WORK FOR WOMEN.

The following further particulars in regard to the work done during 1910 have now reached us:—

The principal work undertaken in the General Woman's Campaign for Women in Tokyo, had three objects in view. First, an effort was made to visit each home and speak the Word of Salvation to each woman in the city. Second, to leave a Gospel Message, either a Gospel or Tract at each home. Third, to invite the women to a special meeting for women at each Christian centre. The city having been divided into sections with a church, chapel or Christian school as the centre, the workers at the various centres became responsible for the work to be done in each district. In mapping out the city for this work, many large sections were found to be altogether destitute of any Christian influence.

The plans for the work were heartily entered into, until it was found that the Gospels would have to be bought; and although the Bible Society generously offered them at half price, many small churches and a great many Preaching-Places felt they could not undertake the expense, and so only tens of thousands were distributed where otherwise hundreds of thousands would have been.
The Tract Society made a large grant and thus a word of truth went into almost every house in the city. Special donations were given for the destitute places.

A frank statement of the object of the call made the workers at once welcome in almost every home. The meetings were generally well attended. In a few cases, receptions with distinctly Christian talks were given for the better class women, who could not be induced to go to a more public meeting, but who were glad to hear. In some places, these receptions have been continued once a month with ever increasing interest and also with most satisfactory results.

Though the direct results of the work were not so evident as had been hoped, the workers find that women in general are now more willing than formerly to listen to the Gospel. This is especially true of the country districts. All the country people read Tokyo newspapers more or less, and the reports in the papers of the work done in Tokyo have aroused a desire among the better class women in the country towns and villages to learn at least something of this new teaching. This perhaps is the greatest influence the campaign had.

As the Special Evangelistic Meetings for Women in Tokyo were, as we believe, a movement born of God, we feel that He alone knows the full fruitage. The loyalty of the Christian women has shone forth in their diligent efforts to do all in their power to distribute the Scriptures and tracts in every home in Tokyo. In some of the large districts of the city, where there are no churches as yet, the work is not completed. In some cases workers were taken off for the Evangelistic Campaign in Nagoya, and so this cannot be a finished report of statistics; for all the meetings have not yet been held. We hope a volunteer band can at least see that the Scripture and Tract distribution is continued in the autumn. Truly, “The Lord giveth the word. The women that publish the tidings are a great host.” This has been joyous service done by prayerful women—often by tired workers who now rejoice that nearly all reports say, “Our work is in much better condition than before these meetings were held—there have been from three to a hundred inquirers as the result of
the meetings.” At least three regularly established weekly meetings have been one outgrowth of the work. An increased attendance at all the regular meetings since has been one of the most encouraging features. At one afternoon meeting in Ushigome, after asking permission to come, a merchant was present. He so thoroughly approved of the work that he hired a large hall and paid all the expenses and called the same speaker to give the Gospel to his neighbours, saying, “This is what our homes need.” In one meeting a woman of fifty-two became a bright and happy believer. She had been an ardent Buddhist but on coming to Tokyo was employed by a Christian family. She was so deeply impressed by the spirit of the Christianity that governed that home that she sought secretly to know the doctrine. As soon as she heard of these meetings she decided to attend. At one meeting after the sermon the Christians were asked to go upstairs to pray, and the unbelievers were asked to remain below for teaching. The sermon had been concerning the sheep and the goats, and to her this division was so impressive an object lesson, that she determined never again to be left outside. She accepted the truth and is a bright satisfied Christian. There were 17 other inquirers in this meeting, half of whom were men.

Most meetings report that the fringe is all that has been yet touched so very much remains still to be done.

In Fukagawa, in one Kogisho, meetings were held every night and sometimes two a night in different districts for the fortnight. On Sunday afternoon all the Christians helped in the distribution. The interest increased daily and the workers felt had they been able to go on for a month there would have been a great awakening. Each church was left free to carry on the work after whatever method seemed best adapted to the community and surroundings. Many thousand printed announcements were given out—some used tickets—in some cases the boys and girls of the Sunday Schools carried special invitations to their mothers. Many meetings report an increased attendance at the regular services, and a constantly increasing number of quiet inquirers after the truth. That this is due to the faithful distribution of Scriptures, tracts, and announcements,
we cannot say; but that there is a marked awakening in many churches is very evident. The statistical and financial reports will be given when the work is finished. It certainly can be said of each worker who took part in this campaign—with hands and heart already full—, “She hath done what she could.”

During the year, some 6,000 Tracts were sent out for this special work. The following letters are in acknowledgment of these:

From Miss M. A. Clagett, Tokyo.

Your letter gave me a joyful surprise yesterday morning. Last week I discovered a large section of the city, over beyond the Asakusa Temple, where no work was done last spring, and where according to the report given me last Wednesday there is no work within over a mile in any direction. I will visit the Ward Office this week and learn the exact conditions and begin work there next week. I had asked the Lord for tracts for the place, and your letter is His answer. When it is convenient, some time this week, will you please send me two or three thousand.

From Miss A. B. Slate, Yokohama.

Thank you so much for the liberal donation of tracts you so kindly sent me. I will be very glad to send you any results I hear from the use of them.

From Mrs. Caroline W. Van Petten, Yokohama.

I want to thank you for the tracts that have helped me so much in the evangelistic work among the Japanese in Corea. They have been eagerly received and will, I am sure, bear fruit in due time. This is the day of small things here, but the opportunities and possibilities are great, in church work among the Japanese.
OTHER SPECIAL WORK.

The letters given below refer to other grants of Tracts which the Special Fund enabled us to make:—

From Rev. F. W Kennedy, Matsumoto.

We are having during the month of August in Matsumoto preaching meetings every night. The police have given us permission to put up a sort of tent right in the centre of the city and we expect to get in touch with a very large number of people. It is a "Union Work" for the Methodists, Presbyterians and Baptists are joining in with us the Episcopalians. I have been requested to write and ask if you would assist us by giving us a grant of tracts. If you can see your way to do this we shall be most grateful.

No. 2.

Thank you so much for the kind grant of 10,000 tracts, also for the offer of a few larger ones for those becoming interested.

No. 3.

I am now in a position to write and tell you something about the meetings which were held in Matsumoto during the month of August.

The tracts you kindly sent were most useful but unfortunately were delayed on the road through "wash outs" caused by the floods and did not reach us until the middle of the month.

The meetings were well attended, as many as 300 sometimes stood out in front of the place of meeting listening to the Message and about 30 or 40 became so much interested in what they heard that they kept coming night after night. It is difficult to say how many of those who came were influenced but already three young men are coming to our meetings on Sundays and are receiving instruction. Our annual Matsumoto Festival is on the last and first days of this next month and if possible we shall have meetings on
those two nights. The workers seem pleased with the results of the month's work so far and I am sure that as the Seed was sown with faith, fruit will be reaped sooner or later. I am sending you a photograph of the workers and their tent, and thank you again for your great kindness in this matter.

From Rev. E. C. Fry, Utsunomiya.

No. 1.

The coming week, beginning I believe about the 12th, there is to be an educational gathering at Utsunomiya representing several of the provinces of Japan. Also, at about the same time there is to be a similar medical meeting here. I am not posted as to details, but the pastors and evangelists here state that for a few days great numbers of people will be gathered in the city, and they are making arrangements for union meetings.

If you can help by a gift of tracts, the pastors will much appreciate it. It would be well to have at least part of them suitable for distribution among influential educators and doctors, but other smaller tracts will be appreciated, too.

No. 2.

On behalf of the pastors and evangelists and Christian community of Utsunomiya, I want to thank you for the donation of tracts in aid of the special effort while the educational meeting was on here. It centred in a meeting held in the principal public hall, attended by nearly 300 intelligent people, many of them manifestly being educationalists. Tracts were distributed and I am sure that they were well placed and will do good. I again thank you for timely aid given to a worthy effort for advancing the Kingdom of God.

From Rev. E. H. Jones, Mitō.

Thanks for the timely contribution of 5000 tracts for our work at Makabe—It was a Yearly Fair (Toshi no Ichi). We had a temporary preaching place 24 feet by 60 built of boards. It was on the most frequented thoroughfare, while not in the midst of the noisy shows that were opened to exploit the crowds for money. We had it open from 2 P.M. till 5 and from 6.30 to 9. Six workers were associated
with me in the preaching. Three were on the street in front to get the people in, to distribute tracts, and to sell Scriptures, and four inside. We sold about 175 Scripture portions, distributed the 5000 tracts, and had about 250 at each meeting. Thus some thousands were reached with the Gospel message. As one result of the work, the tracts will be read and pondered in many hundreds of Japanese homes for months to come. God was very good to us in helping us to secure such a good location, in giving us such superb weather, and in granting us the evident presence of His Spirit at the meetings. A good number remained to the after meetings to hear the message more particularly. We hope for a good harvest from this seed sowing.

From Rev. W. P. Buncombe, Tokyo.

I must again very heartily thank the Japan Book and Tract Society for the great help given to the work in our Mission Hall—the Whildborne Mission Hall—in the Ginza, Tokyo. As I told you in my last year’s letter, we have preaching here nearly every night throughout the year, resting only on Mondays and a fortnight in the summer, and a week at the New Year. A very important part of this work is the distribution of leaflet tracts to passers by, and giving large tracts to those who come in and stay for the services. In this way we have used some 50,000 leaflets during the year 1911, and a considerable number of others. Many on receiving the tract at the door will stop and come in, who would not have done so otherwise. Some thank it is the ticket of admission, and offer to give it up when they get inside. Sometimes when we have run out of tracts, the workers find their work of getting people in is much harder, and they also feel that they are losing opportunities of giving a word to be read to the many who are passing to and fro. Some indeed take the tract and throw it away after they have gone a few yards, but the proportion who do this is remarkably small, they are nearly all carried away to be read. One can often trace the influence of the Tracts read in after conversation with those who come.

As this presents an opportunity of distribution to an ever varying
set of people it is most important; for the people who pass are many
of them on their way to Tokyo's greatest railway station; and the
thoroughfare is frequented by all classes of people at leisure after the
day's work.

So in thanking for the very substantial help received, I would
earnestly ask for continued help in this way in the year and years to
come.

We have a Second Mission Hall in Fukagawa, a very poor part,
for which also we have often received grants of tracts when we have
had special missions there.

From Mrs. Nakano, Ito, Idzu.

No. 1.

How very kind of you to say you would send me some more
tracts! You do not know what a great help the tracts you left with
us last summer have been in our work. I should be very glad to
get more of "The Boy who Loved Truth more than Life", "John
III, 16", "Good Tidings", "It is Nothing" etc.

I shall be so thankful if you can send them to us free of charge.
We have been longing to be able to get some more of your good
little tracts but have not had money to pay for them, so your letter
made our hearts full of thanks to God and we shall try our best to
get the glad tidings before the people. I have been out to-day all
the forenoon going from house to house visiting the parents of the
children who come to our meetings and leaving a little tract at each
house. This kind of work has proved to be a great blessing.

No. 2.

The tracts you so kindly sent to us came yesterday. Many,
many thanks! Hope and pray God may bless them as they are
given out to the people. It is indeed very kind of you to send them
free of charge to us. Surely the Lord will reward you.

From Miss J. M. Holland, Osaka.

Thanks for your letter and the grant of books which arrived
almost together last Sunday. I used them in two factories that night. Please return my thanks to the Society.

FREE GRANTS.

These are rather more in number than during the previous year. They include copies sent to Japanese newspapers for review and specimens given to possible purchasers; also 6,300 Tracts sent to Mr. H. R. Wansey, for use, some in Nikko and the others among the labourers in the Copper Mines at Ashio; 87 Books and 2,000 Tracts given to Miss L. J. Wirick for use among former soldiers; 49 Books granted through the Rev. A. Oltmans for the work among the lepers; 30 Books forwarded to Miss J. Mackie for a bazaar held to raise funds for rebuilding the Tokushima Church which had been much injured by storms; 1,000 Tracts sent to Miss A. M. Hutchings for distribution at Nikko; and 4,000 Tracts given to the Salvation Army for placing in the Comfort Baskets they distributed at Christmas time to some of the extremely poor in Tokyo and Osaka.

The following letter refer to these grants:—

From Mr. H. R. Wansey, Nikko.

No. 1.

I am writing to ask if you can give me a grant of tracts as in previous years. A request for copies of "Just a Word" Nos. 1, 2 and 3 has just come from the Copper Mines where the Buddhists are very busy, so in any case would you send 100 copies of these. My request is that you would send a small grant of good tracts to me for use here in Nikko, and that you would also make a grant for use at the Copper Mines.

No. 2.

I am very grateful indeed to you for the two free grants of tracts you have sent us. Thank you very much. We are having
meetings now every night in our Nikko Mission Rooms so that we have good opportunities and I am sure the tracts will be most helpful.


I received the two packages of books you so kindly donated for our work at the Leper Hospital. In the name of our Society, the Kozensha, I thank you most heartily for the help you thus render to the cause.

From Miss J. Mackie, Tokushima.

Thank you very much for the lovely lot of books you so kindly sent us, I rejoice to tell you a great many have already been sold and I feel sure all will sell in the end. We had a lovely day yesterday and took over 100 Yen; for a country place, this was a great blessing, and we felt God's Hand with us. We also received 15 Yen as a donation.

From Miss A. M. Hutchings, Nikko.

Your parcel has arrived, for which many thanks. I can soon make use of them for distribution in roadside work, and hope some may benefit from reading them.

THE CHRISTIAN NEWS.

As has been already said earlier on in these pages, the Society has since last February had the agency for the sale and distribution of the above absolutely unsectarian periodical. When first issued in 1905, only 4,000 copies were published each month, whereas now the monthly circulation is about 14,000 copies. These go to subscribers all over the Empire, also to Japanese in China, Corea, America, Australia and England. The following letters show how much the paper is appreciated:—
OUR PRESENT NEEDS.

From Rev. H. W. Myers, Kobe.

I want to order ten copies of the Christian News to be sent to one of my helpers. They were sent to him last year, but as I heard nothing from them, I discontinued my subscription. A letter has come begging me to send them again, so please send them. My helper writes me that the News is very helpful indeed, and he is distressed at the thought of doing without it.

From Miss C. E. Stirling, Santa Monica, California.

The Christian News is very much liked by the Japanese to whom I supply my copies from time to time, and I think is doing a good work among them. I hope we may long have its help in our work for the Master and that all your large and useful labours in His service may be greatly blessed.

From Miss Ada Killam, Kofu.

The Christian News is highly appreciated by MANY readers here, both Christian and non-Christian. One who is not within reach of any religious service, says her faith has been greatly strengthened by reading the paper. There are some who wait eagerly for each issue.

WEEK OF PRAYER CIRCULARS.

At the request of the Evangelical Alliance of London who bear the financial responsibility, the Society has undertaken to attend each year to the reprinting of the circulars in English and to distribute these among the missionaries in this country; and also to supervise the work of translating them into Japanese.

OUR PRESENT NEEDS.

In addition to our ordinary requirements, the Society's most pressing need at present is a fund for issuing new books. Several
years ago we issued "Foster's Story of the Bible" but the edition is now exhausted and the translation out of date. We are having an entirely new translation made and hope to print it as soon as we have the means to do so. Another book that we also wish to issue is "With Christ in the School of Prayer."

Possibly too some of our friends might incline to send us money for placing copies of the Japanese edition of "Self Improvement" which we published recently, in the school libraries and in the hands of school teachers and students in various part of the Empire. Much good could thus be done.

CONCLUSION.

In closing this review, we would ask our readers to unite with us in praising God for what He has already wrought in this land, and to continue in earnest prayer that He will continue to supply our needs and may be pleased abundantly to bless every effort that is put forth to make known to this people the glorious news of salvation from sin through simple faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, to-day and for ever.

Secretary,

George Braithwaite,
3, Yuraku Cho, Kojimachi,
Tokyo.
Cash Account of the Japan Book and Tract Society
for the year ending December 31st, 1911.

Receipts.

<table>
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<th>Description</th>
<th>Yen</th>
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<td>Cash in Hands of Treasurer, Jan. 1st</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; , &quot; , Agent</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Tract Society, U.S. Gold $200.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Religious Tract Society, £678.19.2</td>
<td>6,651.02</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Donations</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss E. Y. Dawbarn</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. J. Hind</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. C. O. P. Cambridge</td>
<td>20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. B. F. Buxton</td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>From Sales</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Correspondents</td>
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<td>Booksellers</td>
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<td>Special Fund</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>For Special Advertising</td>
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<td>Rev. B. F. Buxton, for Printing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federated Missions, do.</td>
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<td>Bank Interest...</td>
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Disbursements.

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Printing Books and Tracts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Binding Expenses</td>
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<td>Books, Tracts and Cards Purchased</td>
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<td>Management Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Part Cost Agent's Passage Money</td>
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<tr>
<td>Depot Expenses:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rent and Taxes</td>
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<td>Assistants' Salaries</td>
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<td>Fire Insurance</td>
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| Cash in Hands of Treasurer, Dec. 31st | 1,184.70 |
| " " " " Agent " "                     | 567.61   |

| Total                                | 20,312.76 |

Audited and found correct. (Signed) S. H. Haslett, D. C. Ruigh

Auditors.

Tokyo, February 1st, 1912.

N.B. - The Yen is equal to about 50 cents U.S Gold, or 2/1.