AMERICAN BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSION SOCIETY

Assam Baptist Missionary Conference Report

SIXTEENTH SESSION
January 29th to February 5th, 1918
GAUHATI, ASSAM
Assam Baptist Missionary Conference

SIXTEENTH SESSION

January 29th to February 5th, 1918

GAUHATI, ASSAM

LIST OF MISSIONARIES
MISSIONARIES PRESENT—41

1. J. A. AHLQUIST
   Mrs. AHLQUIST
   Miss E. C. BOND
   S. A. D. BOGGS
   A. C. BOWERS
   Mrs. BOWERS
   J. M. CARVELL
   G. G. CROZIER
   Miss E. E. CRISERBERRY
   W. E. DOWD
   Mrs. DOWD
   JOHN FIRTH
   F. W. HARDING
   Mrs. HARDING
   Miss E. E. HAY
   Miss L. M. HOLBROOK
   Miss E. M. HOLMES
   Miss N. E. HOLMES
   L. W. B. JACKMAN
   Mrs. JACKMAN
   H. W. KIRBY
   Mrs. KIRBY
   R. B. LONGWELL
   Mrs. LONGWELL
   A. K. MATHER
   Mrs. MATHER
   M. C. MASON
   Mrs. MASON
   P. E. MOORE
   Mrs. MOORE
   WILLIAM PETTIGREW
   Mrs. PETTIGREW
   JOSEPH PAUL
   A. E. STEPHEN
   Mrs. STEPHEN
   J. E. TANQUIST
   Mrs. TANQUIST
   C. H. TILDEN
   Mrs. TILDEN
   Miss E. E. VICKLAND
   Miss ISABELLA WILSON

MISSIONARIES ABSENT (on field)—4

Mrs. FIRTH
Miss A. E. LONG

MISSIONARIES ABSENT (on furlough)—25

Mrs. CARVELL
Mrs. CROZIER
J. R. BAILEY
Mrs. BAILEY
Mrs. BOGGS
Miss F. H. DOE
WILLIAM DRING
Mrs. DRING
U. M. FOX
Mrs. FOX
Miss A. M. GEISENHENER
G. R. KAMPFER
Mrs. KAMPFER
W. C. MASON
Mrs. MASON
Mrs. P. H. MOORE
Mrs. PAUL
E. G. PHILLIPS
Mrs. PHILLIPS
O. L. SWANSON
Mrs. SWANSON
A. J. TUTTLE
Mrs. TUTTLE
W. E. WITTER

Mrs. WITTER
Conference Officers and Committees

Session January 29th to February 5th 1918

President ... ... ... R. B. LONGWELL
Vice-President ... ... ... F. W. HARDING
Clerk ... ... ... A. C. BOWERS
Treasurer ... ... ... Wm. PETTIGREW

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Wm. PETTIGREW S. A. D. BOGGS
L. W. B. JACKMAN M. C. MASON
Miss ELLA BOND

NEEDS COMMITTEE

C. H. TILDEN W. F. DOWD
A. E. STEPHEN Mrs. H. W. KIRBY
Miss E. M. HOLMES

PRINTING COMMITTEE

C. H. TILDEN L. W. B. JACKMAN

EDITOR, FIELD REPORTS

R. B. LONGWELL

CONFERENCE EXPENSE COMMITTEE

Miss L. M. HOLBROOK G. G. CROZIER
A. E. STEPHEN

COMMITTEE ON TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT CONFERENCE

S. A. D. BOGGS A. E. STEPHEN
TO SERVE TILL END OF NEXT CONFERENCE

President  ...  ...  ...  S. A. D. BOGGS
Vice-President  ...  ...  ...  R. B. LONGWELL
Clerk  ...  ...  ...  A. K. MATHER
Secretary  ...  ...  ...  F. W. HARDING
Treasurer  ...  ...  ...  R. B. LONGWELL
Necrologist  ...  ...  ...  Miss E. C. BOND
Librarian  ...  ...  ...  Mrs. A. E. STEPHEN

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
S. A. D. BOGGS (Chairman)  |  Miss L. M. HOLBROOK
W. F. DOWD

EVANGELISTIC COMMITTEE
L. W. B. JACKMAN  |  R. B. LONGWELL
S. A. D. BOGGS

PROPERTY COMMITTEE
C. H. TILDEN  |  J. E. TANQUIST
S. A. D. BOGGS

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE
G. G. CROZIER  |  W. F. DOWD
Miss E. E. HAY

MEDICAL COMMITTEE
G. G. CROZIER  |  H. W KIRBY
W. F. DOWD

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE
Miss L. M. HOLBROOK  |  Miss E. M. HOLMES
Miss A. E. LONG

MANAGING COMMITTEE, JORHAT SCHOOLS
W. F DOWD  |  H. W. KIRBY
L. W. B. JACKMAN  |  J. E. TANQUIST
A. E. STEPHEN
PROGRAM COMMITTEE

R. B. LONGWELL  |  L. W. B. JACKMAN
Mrs. C. H. TILDEN  |  Miss E. M. HOLMES

EXHIBIT COMMITTEE

C. H. TILDEN  |  Miss E. E. HAY
               |  A. K. MATHER

MUSIC COMMITTEE

Miss E. E. VICKLAND  |  Mrs. H. W. KIRBY
                     |  Mrs. W. F DOWD

AUDITING COMMITTEE

L. W. B. JACKMAN  |  C. H. TILDEN

LIBRARY REORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

Mrs. A. E. STEPHEN  |  Wm. PETTIGREW
                     |  Miss I. WILSON

EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE

F. W. HARDING  |  L. W. B. JACKMAN
               |  C. H. TILDEN

COMMISSION ON NATIVE LEADERSHIP AND RESPONSIBILITY

L. W. B. JACKMAN  |  W. F. DOWD
               |  Miss E. M. HOLMES

“MISSIONARY REVIEW” CORRESPONDENT

Miss E. E. VICKLAND
 ACTIONS OF CONFERENCE

Committee of Arrangements.

VOTED: That the Program Committee be constituted the Committee of Arrangements for the present Conference.

Exhibit.

VOTED: That Missionaries who have brought materials from their stations be requested to exhibit them in the Sunday School room of the Church.

VOTED: That A. E. Stephen be requested to arrange a place for any exhibits that may have been brought.

Thomas-Ward Memorials.

The Committee on memorials to Rev. Jacob Thomas and Dr. Ward reported as follows:

"A marble tablet 18" x 18" with a suitable inscription in memory of Rev. Jacob Thomas has been placed in the monument in the Nowgong Cemetery. The cost was a little over Rs. 34. This will be apportioned among the members of Conference."

"Pending correspondence with the daughter of Dr. Ward nothing has been done concerning this memorial."

VOTED: That the second portion of the report be recommitted.

The Educational Committee reported that the only matter which had been brought before it was in regard to the Bible Women's Training School, which matter was still before Conference.

Christian Endeavor Committee.

The Christian Endeavor Committee reported that it had endeavored to push the work of the Society, and

1. A difficulty had been found in the opposition in the churches because of the feeling that it tends to divert the loyalty of the young people from the church.
2. The meeting at Dacca was attended by a few of the boys from Tura and Jorhat. But this is not sufficient if real work is to be done.

3. The Committee desires to know: Is any appropriation to be given to the Committee to really push its work?

4. There has been little support from the Conference and the Committee desires advice whether the Conference wishes to continue the work of the Committee and Society.

VOTED: That the Committee of Christian Endeavor be requested to present to this Conference a scheme of appropriation including a budget of expense for the next year.

The following recommendation was later presented by the C. E. Committee and ADOPTED by Conference:

RESOLVED: That we present the matter of Christian Endeavor Societies in Assam to the All-Assam Convention through Mr. Tilden and Comfort Goldsmith.

That we pledge to the All-Assam Convention our whole hearted support;

That we request the Executive Committee to appropriate for two years Rs. 100 each year to the All-Assam Convention towards the support of the C. E. Work on the following conditions:—

1. That the All-Assam Convention secure and employ at least one man to give full time to the promotion of this work:

2. That the reports of the men engaged in this work shall be made out in triplicate, one copy to go to the office of the Secretary of the India Christian Endeavor, one copy to the Assam Mission Secretary, and one copy to the Supervising Committee of the All-Assam Convention.

Executive Committee's Actions. The actions of the Executive Committee which had not been circulated were read by the Corresponding Secretary.
VOTED: That the Conference approve the A. R. C. action No. 1097.

VOTED: That the recommendation of the Executive Committee, in Case No. 1329, that a committee to consider the condensation of the Minutes of the Conference be appointed, be approved.

VOTED: That the Committee of Printing Conference Minutes be the Committee on Consideration and Classification of the Minutes.

VOTED: That the same rules adopted for 1917 for printing and distribution of Conference Reports be followed for 1918.

Fraternal Delegates. VOTED: That for the present we do not send delegates to other conferences of the A. B. Mission in British India.

Missionary Review Correspondent. VOTED: That Miss E. E. Vickland be the Correspondent for our Conference to the Missionary Review.

Editor, Field Reports. VOTED: That R. B. Longwell edit the field reports of the Assam Mission for the Annual Report of the Board of Managers for 1918.

VOTED: That the Auditing Committee audit the accounts of the Mission Treasurer and also of the Property Committee including the ultimate expenditure of all funds assigned to the care of the Property Committee either by the Board or our Executive Committee.

VOTED: That the Delegates to the Bengal-Assam Representative Council for the current year be the Corresponding Secretary of the Conference and the Chairman of the Women’s Committee.

VOTED: That the matter of keeping in touch with the Bengal-Assam Representative Council be left to the Secretary.
Station Reports.

VOTED: That the station reports and discussions be limited to fifteen minutes each, except Tura, to which station twenty-five minutes be given.

Station Reports given by the various Missionaries.

Printing Committee. VOTED: That A. C. Bowers resignation from the Printing Committee be accepted and that L. W. B. Jackman be appointed to fill the vacancy.

Constitution Revision Committee. The Constitution Revision Committee reported, presenting the same Constitutions which was proposed two years ago. It was considered article by article.

VOTED: That Article I be adopted.

" " " II " "
" " " III " 
" " " IV " amended by substituting the words "Secretary and Treasurer" for Secretary-Treasurer."

VOTED: That Article IV, as amended, be adopted.

" " " V " "
" " " VI " "
" " " VII be amended by substituting the term "Executive Committee" for "Reference Committee," to substitute the word “three” for “four” in line five, to insert “Medical Committee” and to insert the words “except as limited by the Board” after the word “funds” in Sec. I, line seven.

VOTED: That Article VII, as amended, be adopted.

" " " VIII " "
" " " IX be amended so the last clause will read: the Chairman of the Property Committee, Educational Committee and Women’s Committee being a member of the Executive Committee.
VOTED: That Article IX be amended by inserting "a member" in place of "the Chairman" in line 1, pp. 4.

VOTED: That Article IX, as amended, be adopted.

"" "" "" X be adopted.
"" "" "" XI be adopted.
"" "" "" XII be eliminated.
"" "" "" XIII be amended by inserting in the last line, after the words, "to them," the words, "the expenditure of the funds."

VOTED: That Article XIII, as amended, be adopted.

"" "" "" XIV be adopted.
"" "" "" XV be amended by inserting the words, "twenty-four hours previous notice having been given."

VOTED: That Article XV, as amended, be adopted.

"" "" the whole Constitution, as amended be adopted.

BY-LAWS.

VOTED: That Article I be adopted.

"" "" "" II be adopted.
"" "" "" III be adopted.
"" "" "" IV be eliminated.
"" "" "" V be adopted.
"" "" "" VI be adopted.
"" "" "" VII be amended by inserting the words, "without vote" after the word, "Conference."

VOTED: That Article VII, as amended, be adopted.

"" "" the By-Laws, as amended, be adopted.

VOTED: To committee the matter of the material to be printed in a pamphlet together with the Constitution and By-Laws to a Committee to consider what shall be so printed and that they report before the close of Conference.
( to )

The following Report of the Committee was adopted.

"Your committee, appointed to bring in recommendations on the subject matter which should be printed with the Constitution and By Laws of the Conference to from a Hand Book for the guidance of the members, submits the following:

2. Rules for the guidance of the Mission Secretary.
4. Resolutions and Rules in regard to Bible Translation.
5. Curricula and Rules for Language Examination.
7. Rules for submitting Conference and Committee Expenses.
9. Committees of the Board of Managers.
10. List of the stations of the Assam Mission, with their Post Office addresses and Districts.

That room be provided in the back of the booklet for the addition of such resolutions and rules as the Mission may adopt in the future.

That the printing of this booklet be placed in the hands of the Printing Committee and that the cost of the same be equally divided among the missionaries of the Conference, whether on or off the field."

VOTED: That the words in Article II of the Constitution, "New Missionaries shall have the privilege of voting only after they shall have passed the first year's language examination," shall not be operative until after the close of the present Conference, and shall not be retrospective.

A. E. C. Action.

VOTED: That we elect the Secretary with instructions to carry on the work along the lines of the Corresponding Secretary during the past year.
F. W. Harding was elected Conference Secretary.

VOTED: That the motion regarding the Secretary be reconsidered.

VOTED: That the above-mentioned motion be amended by substituting, after the words, "with instructions," the words, "that he be not expected to give his entire time to the Secretary's work."

VOTED: That the motion, as amended, be adopted.

The motion as adopted reads as follows:—That we elect the Secretary with instructions that he be not expected to give his entire time to the Secretary's work.

L. W. B. Jackman and J. E. Tanquist were elected to fill the vacancies on the Managing Committee of the Jorhat Schools.

Managing Committee, Jorhat Schools.

VOTED: That the Mission Treasurer be instructed to audit, so far as practicable, the accounts of all missionaries.

VOTED:—That all matters, arising from papers on Newton Center Findings, topics taken from the Report of the Newton Center Conference, be referred to the Resolutions Committee to bring in resolutions to Conference.

The following members opened the discussions on the topics named:

C. H. Tilden  "Cultivation of the Home Base"
W. F. Dowd, "Administrative Responsibility"
G. G. Crozier "Financial Policies"
M. C. Mason "Efficiency of the Missionaries Force"
R. B. Longwell "Missionary Objectives and Forms of Work"

F. W. Harding "Cooperation," "The Conscience Clause" and Dr. Murphy's request to Conference.
L. W. B. Jackman "Native Leadership and Responsibility."

VOTED: That this Conference approves of the six resolutions adopted regarding a Conscience Clause in Indian Educational Institutions by the national Missionary Council of 1917.

VOTED: That, because of distance involved and diversity of tribes in Assam, we feel that the time is not yet ripe for cooperation with the movement suggested by Dr. Murphy.

VOTED: That a Commission of three be appointed to make a thorough study of the subject of "Native Leadership and Responsibility" and bring in a report to Conference a year hence.

The Organization of a Medical Council was announced and, after much discussion the following Resolution, presented by the Medical Council, was ADOPTED by the Conference:

RESOLVED: That the Medical Council be requested to collect and keep a file of all data which will be of service in the future development and unification of the Medical Work, and to supply to the Executive Committee such information as will be if assistance to the Committee in the designation of medical workers and in dealing with all problems of the medical work which regularly come before the Committee for decision and that the Executive Committee be requested to seek advice from the Medical Council.

VOTED: That a Committee of three be appointed to Efficiency Committee consult, collect and circulate to Conference in convenient form for advice and digestion practical suggestions on personal efficiency.

Resolutions Committee. VOTED: That Miss L. M. Holbrook's resignation from the Resolutions Committee be accepted.
Miss E. C. Bond was appointed to fill the above vacancy on the Resolutions Committee.

Report of Committees. Report of the Evangelistic Committee was read.

Report of the Managing Committee of the Jorhat Schools was read and adopted.

Report of the Five Year Program Committee was read and adopted.

The Language Examination Committee reported that Miss E. E. Vickland had passed the Second Year's Examination with great credit.

Librarian's Report. Report of the Conference Librarian was read and adopted.

Treasurer's Report. The Report of the Treasurer was read and adopted.

**VOTED:** That the Treasurer be authorized to pay the bills submitted, after confirmation by the Conference Expense Committee, and furthermore that the Treasurer be instructed to apportion the total amount among the missionaries on the field and those at home who were on the field at the time of Conference.

The Committee on Time and Place of Next Conference reported, recommending that the date be January 16th to 23rd, place be Tura; which report was ADOPTED.

Report of Women's Committee. The Report of the Women's Committee was read and accepted with thanks.

**VOTED:** That the Girls' School for Upper Assam ought to be located as nearly as possible in the center of the work in
the Upper Valley; that possibly Amguri might meet the demand and that a Committee, consisting of two members of the Women's Committee and two members of the Property Committee, look over the situation at Amguri and other places and report their conclusions to the Executive Committee and secure option on land.

Women's Bible School. VOTED: That a Bible School for Women should be located at Golaghat.

VOTED:—That the Assam Conference is agreed that workers of the Women's Board be sent to Impur within the current year to carry on Women's Work.


Centralization of Naga Educational Work. Paper on "Centralization of Educational Work in the Naga Hills" was read by J. E. Tanquist.

VOTED: That the above paper be printed in the Conference Annual Report and this question be referred to the Executive Committee for report at next Conference.

Resolutions Committee. Report of the Resolutions Committee read and adopted.

Committee on Needs Report. The Committee on Needs reported.

VOTED: That the report of the Committee on Needs be referred to the Executive Committee, who will present it directly to the Board.

Ward Memorial. The following report of the Committee on Memorial to Dr. Ward was read and approved:

"As Mr. Paul feels that he is not able to assume responsibility for the memorial in the Sibsagar burying ground, we recommend that this be held in abeyance till some later date."
REPORT OF
Resolutions Committee.

TOPIC I, NEWTON CENTER FINDINGS.

"Missionary Objections, &c."

RESOLVED: That this Conference express itself as being in full accord with the findings on Missionary Objectives and Forms of Work as recorded in the reports of the Newton Center Conference.

TOPIC II, N. C. F.

"Native Leadership and Responsibility."

1. RESOLVED: That the Conference approve in general all the ideas and goals mentioned in the ten divisions under "II, Native Leadership and Responsibility" of the Newton Center Findings.

2. RESOLVED: That the Commission, appointed to consider the whole matter of Native Leadership and Responsibility, be requested to draft a statement defining the position of the Missionary to the Native Community as one of helper and emphasizing the necessity of the Native Christian body assuming larger and larger responsibility in the supervision and support of the Kingdom's work in Assam.

3. RESOLVED: That the Conference approve of the principle of placing the responsibility for the choosing and supervision of village school teachers and native evangelists on the native churches or associations as rapidly as this can wisely be done.

4. RESOLVED: That the Conference approves of the principle of turning over to the native churches or associa-
tions Mission funds for assistance in paying native teachers and evangelists, providing proper accounting to the missionaries on the respective fields is provided for, and the salaries paid be not out of harmony with the status of the community served, and provided that in every case an increasingly large share of such funds shall be contributed by the native community.

5. RESOLVED: That it is the sense of Conference that, so far as possible, native pastors, ordained evangelists, or men chosen for the purpose, should administer the ordinances.

6. RESOLVED: That we, as a Conference, realizing the great need on all our fields for a far greater number of trained leaders in Christian work, fully and heartily cooperate in all efforts being made to meet this need.

**TOPIC III. N. C. F.**

"Co-operation."

RESOLVED: That the Assam Conference finds itself in full accord with the findings of the Newton Center Conference on Co-operation with other denominations, with other benevolent organizations and with Government in educational work.

**TOPIC IV. N. C. F.**

"Financial Policies."

RESOLVED: That as to the several sections under the general topic, "Financial Policies" the Assam Conference puts itself on record as follows:

A. 1 Approved.
A. 2 Approved.
A. 3 Approved.
A. 4 Approved, with the reminder that Assam chose missionaries, though in great need of equipment.
A. 5 Approved, with the explanation that shifting a station from one location to another in the same field area is not to be understood as opening new work.
A. 6 Approved.
A. 7 Approved as to first five lines, the balance not applying to us.
A. 8 Approved so far as it applies to our Mission.
A. 9 Approved.
A. 10 The Insurance of property in Assam Not Approved.
B. 11 Not applicable to our Mission.
B. 12 Approved.
B. 13 Approved.
B. 14 Approved in toto and it is requested that the Board do not withdraw the provision.
B. 15 Approved.
C. 16 Approved so far as it applies to our Mission and also recommended conference with the English Baptist Mission in Calcutta in the matter of handling the Treasury and shipping interests of the Assam Mission, perhaps in cooperation with the Bengal and Orissa Mission. We would also suggest that, if a joint treasury is located in Calcutta, the person in charge might well attend also to the shipping interests of the Mission.
C. 17 Approved.
C. 18 Approved.

**TOPIC V, N. C. F.**

"Administrative Responsibility."

**RESOLVED:** That, having tried for several years most of the methods of field administration recommended by the Newton Center Conference of 1917, including the Mission Secretaryship, we place ourselves on record as favouring in general the greatest practical degree of field responsibility and administration.
We especially welcome the recommendations which urge the closest and most sympathetic understanding between the Board and the several missions and the suggestion that the Foreign Secretary should pay frequent visits to the fields.

We would add to this that it is also desirable that the Mission Secretary, if long in the work, should have more frequent furloughs than the ordinary missionary in order that he may present in person to the Board the conditions and needs of the Mission.

We believe in, and are practicing, the delegation of executive functions to an Executive Committee and subcommittees for each important department of the work.

We fully approve of the proposition for a Mission Secretary and have adopted a constitution at this Conference providing anew for this office. Assam was the first field under our Board to appoint a Mission Secretary and our experience has shown that the right kind of a man in this office can do much towards unifying the work, securing greater efficiency and the coordinate development of the various departments on the field.

We heartily agree that a considerable degree of continuity is necessary for the most effective work of those having executive functions.

We rejoice in the extension of work by women for the women of Assam and are glad to welcome these workers to a share in the general work of administration.

We therefore, endorse the findings of the Newton Center Conference on "Administrative Responsibility."

**TOPIC VI, N. C. F.**

"Efficiency of the Missionary Force."

1. **RESOLVED:** That, since the efficiency of mission work depends on the efficiency of the individual missionary,
the selection of missionary candidates is of the highest importance, and should receive not only the attention of a most capable Secretary but the systematic efforts of wise helpers throughout the country.

RESOLVED: That Christ-like, patient, gentle, winsome characters should be the first essential qualifications; gifted, trained, well-balanced minds, with broad and clear vision, are also very important.

2. RESOLVED: That in the case of candidates of suitable characteristics, and many qualifications, advice and aid to acquire such may be wisely given.

3. RESOLVED: That we believe that the Board of Managers should consider the advisability of such help.

4, 6, 9. RESOLVED: That these findings appear to us commendable.

5. Approved.

7. RESOLVED: That we approve of efforts in this line.

8. RESOLVED: That the purpose of this is most commendable and we recommend that the language examiners report, not only their examinations, but also the names of those who have not taken the examination, to the Executive Committee.

10. RESOLVED: That we approve of the finding and that for Assam the term of service be not less than 5½ nor more than 7½ years, except on the action of the Executive Committee.

11. RESOLVED: That this finding seems commendable and that we should willingly lend what help is possible towards its aim.
TOPIC VII, N. C. F.
“Cultivation of the Home Base.”

RESOLVED: That the Assam Conference express itself as being in full accord with the findings on "Cultivation of the Home Base" as set forth in the Newton Center Conference.

RESOLVED: That we greatly rejoice in the visit of Secretary and Mrs. Robbins. We anticipate much benefit from this visit to the different fields. We hope that his service as Secretary may be a long one and that he may make further visits of longer duration.

BESOLVED: That we approve the action of the Medical Missionaries in forming a Medical Council.

RESOLVED: That we feel most grateful to the Gauhati Missionaries for their very commodious accommodations, for their efforts to make us comfortable and for the boarding of so many of us.

REPORT OF THE
Woman's Work Committee.

While more or less correspondence has been carried on during the year, until we met in Gauhati at Conference time, only three actions had been taken by the committee. At the request of the Foreign Department of the W. A. B. F. M. S. the committee considered Miss O. E. Carter’s request she be granted the privilege to attend Mrs. Arbuthnot at Kohima in June 1917 and her request was granted. As the Chairman of the Woman's Work Committee is a member of the Executive Committee, and is supposed to
represent the Woman's Work, it seemed necessary for her to have access to the correspondence of the Woman's Work Committee and in order to simplify the work action was taken that the Chairman perform also such duties as would devolve upon a Secretary of the Committee. There being no woman in the station at the time of the Executive Committee Meeting at Jorhat it was voted that Mrs. Wm. Pettigrew be requested to act as chaperone for the woman's representative at that meeting.

While Conference was in session at Gauhati the Executive Committee referred the question of the location of the Girls' School for Upper Assam to the committee requesting us to make definite recommendation. Although the vote was not unanimous the committee recommended that the Girls' School for Upper Assam be located in the vicinity of Tinsukia. The Executive Committee also referred Miss Long's request, that the Woman's Bible Training School be moved from Nowgong and linked with the proposed Woman's Medical Work, to the committee for consideration and advice. After much discussion the following action was taken. That in general we approve of Miss Long's scheme of linking the work of the Woman's Bible Training School with the proposed Woman's Medical Work but in view of the letter of Oct. 9th 1917 from the Woman's Society to the effect that the Board is not at present able to furnish funds or workers for the establishment of the medical work, we recommend,

1. That Miss Long be requested to open the Woman's Bible School temporarily in Nowgong, providing the necessary structures as far as possible from funds in hand and funds from the sale of the original building erected in Nowgong for this work.

2. That plans for the location and equipment of a permanent Bible Training School in connection with a
Medical Plant for woman's work be presented in detail as soon as possible.

3. That, after plans and estimates have been approved, Miss Long be requested to present to the Board at home her scheme for soliciting, as specifics, funds for financing the joint Woman's Bible Training and Medical Work.

I am also glad to report that Rs. 180 have been added to the Emergency Fund of Asssm to meet the expenses of our committee and that, in accordance with our new Constitution, this committee is to be called the Woman's Committee instead of the Woman's Work Committee which is much more to our liking in as much as it is the name chosen by the Woman's Society.

As our Woman's Work as a whole was included in the Five Year Program for the Assam Mission and that program has been before our Board this year, for their consideration, we have not considered it necessary to make a new survey of the field and its needs.

L. M. Holbrook,
March 1st, 1918.

Librarian's Report.

During the year the additions to the Conference Library have been, from Miss Doe, two copies of Anundar Gan from Mr. Pettigrew, three copies of Pathen La, Thado Kuki Hymn Book, and three copies of Probhu Jesugi Ishei Manipuri Hymn Book, from Mr. Swanson one copy of Outlines on what the Bible teaches concerning Jesus Christ.

Mrs. A. E. Stephen,
Librarian.
Supplement to Report of Librarian.

Presented by G. G. Crozier.

At the present time there are about 250 publications in the library, the indefiniteness being due to not having counted some leaflets, about 20 of them. Of the 232 registered publications 85 are in Assamese, 48 in Garo, 32 in Manipuri, 25 in English, 13 in Ao Naga, 13 in Tangkhul Naga, 12 in Mikir, 6 in Angami Naga, 4 in Kachari, 1 in Rangdania Rabha, 1 in Daphla, 1 in Thado Kuki and 1 in Bengali. All these except the Bengali and the Daphla and some or all of the Kachari are the work of the Assam Baptist Missionaries and their native workers. The button-hole rose bud should be given to Mr. Pettigrew for the largest number of publications, totaling 46 in all.

There are quite a number of publications in the Mission that have not yet been handed in for the library; all of us should take note of this fact and should look over the list and see what ones they have not yet placed in the library.

There are 6 publications over 50 years old and 20 others between 40 and 50 years old. It is strongly to be recommended that these be placed in good envelopes for preservation or that they be suitably bound so as not to be destroyed.

It is also recommended that the other tracts and leaflets be bound together in suitable cover for preservation.

There are many old scrap notes and letters that accompanied the statistics, such as, Dear Fanny Jane, I am sending you 6 copies of books and the statistics for the past year. There are also the MS. Statistical reports for 14 years. These statistics have been printed in the reports, and it seems a useless waste of space in the library and that these should be destroyed. It is therefore recommended that a committee of two be appointed to look over the
library and discard what is useless. No librarian would like to take that liberty alone or without instruction from the Conference.

JORHAT CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

Managing Committee’s Report 1917

The Managing Committee met at Jorhat August 30th 1917 at 8 a.m.

The five Missionary members were present, viz. O. L. Swanson, W. F. Dowd, F. W. Harding, A. E. Stephen and W. Pettigrew, and the Superintendent of the Schools, A. D. Boggs. Four Indian members, one each from the Jorhat, Golaghat, North Lakhimpur, and Darrang Districts were also present part or whole of the time.

The meeting opened with reading of the Scripture by the Chairman O. L. Swanson, and prayer by A. E. Stephen.

Brother Swanson was elected Chairman, Brother Dowd Vice-Chairman, and W. Pettigrew and Henry Goldsmith as Recording Secretaries.

The Superintendent of the Schools read his report for 1916-1917. VOTED to accept the report.

The Executive Committee of the Managing Committee were elected as follows:—W. F. Dowd and W. Pettigrew. Also Rev. Tonoram for Upper Assam, Rev. Probhu Doyal for Nowgong. Alternates for the Indian members, a representative of the Garo Hills, and Zapuzhuli of the Naga Hills.

VOTED: That the Executive Committee be instructed to audit the accounts for 1915-16, and 1916-17 at their next meeting to be held the first week in May 1918, and that the Secretary be requested to bring before next Con-
ference, the subject of the date of the meeting of the Executive Committee for amendment.

VOTED: That Mr. Dowd be requested to write a letter of thanks to the D. P. I. Mr. Cunningham for the kind contribution of Rs. 200 towards the apparatus for the Geography department of the High School.

The Budget for 1918-19 was taken up for discussion. VOTED that it be discussed item by item.

Adjourned to 1 p.m.

Meeting assembled at 8 p.m. After prayer by Mr. Dowd, the minutes were read and approved.

The Budget items were taken up.

Mr. Dowd made a report of the Special Committee appointed last year to look into the question of graded salaries and a Provident Fund. Voted that we accept the report and defer action.

VOTED that we ask the Executive Committee to recommended as a Special for 1917-18, the purchase of two tables Rs. 50, and periodicals Rs. 50 for a reading room in the High School, for the use of teachers and students.

Adjourned to meet Friday 8 a.m. for inspection of dormitories, school etc.

Friday August 31st 1917.

The Managing Committee devoted the best part of the morning in inspecting the two dormitories, the buildings etc., land, and the new bungalow. During the afternoon the Committee inspected all classes of the High School.

Saturday, September 1st, 1917.

Meeting assembled at 8 a.m. After prayer by W Pettigrew the minutes were read and approved, after correction.

VOTED to discuss the graded salaries of teachers.

Considerable discussion on the question of more Bible study in the school was taken up beforehand.
RESOLVED: That the Managing Committee of the Jorhat Christian Schools approve in general the idea of regular grades and salaries for teachers, and the idea of the provident fund for Mission workers, and that this Committee requests the Executive Committee to appoint a Commission representative of the Mission to make a thorough and wide investigation concerning these two matters, and bring in a report to next Conference recommending in detail a plan which would not only be applicable to Jorhat but also to the whole Province.

RESOLVED: That the Managing Committee is in perfect accord with the Management Committee of the School that opportunity for Bible study should be for all students in all classes in the school at the earliest date possible.

After prayer by the Chairman, adjourned to 1 p.m.

The Committee came together at 1 p.m. After prayer by Mr. Dowd, a continuation of the Budget, which was finally passed.

After prayer by Mr. Harding, the Committee adjourned since die.

W. Pettigrew,—Secretary.

Assamese Language Examination Committee Report.

Gauhati, 4th Feb., 1918.

The Assamese Language Examination Committee report that Miss E. Elizabeth Vickland has appeared for the Second Year’s Examination in the Assamese Language and has passed with great credit. The Committee had the assistance in this Examination of Srijut Indreswar Borthakur of Jorhat; of the assistants in the Nowgong Girls’ School and the Head Master in the “Satri Bari” Girls School Gauhati.

S. A. D. Boggs,

Edith Crisenberry, The Committee.

REPORT of the Christian Endeavor Committee will be found in the Minutes.
# CONFERENCE TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1917-18.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>To Pd.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Rs.</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>G. R. Kamfer, (for cartage on Tents and Conf. dishes to Kamrup)</td>
<td>312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A. E. Stephen (Freight and cartage on tents to Shibasgar)</td>
<td>188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R. B. Longwell (Printing Conf. Program)</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>U. M. Fox (Conf. Exp.)</td>
<td>12415</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A. E. Stephen (Freight and Cartage on Conf. dishes to Shibasgar)</td>
<td>710</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>U. M. Fox (Conf. Exp. after the Conf. for taking down the huts)</td>
<td>499</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Printing Conf. Minutes 200 copies</td>
<td>19615</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>F. Kurtz (for publishing &quot;mission directory in the Review&quot;)</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mather's Exp. on above</td>
<td>04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Rs.</strong></td>
<td>61986</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|                        | Boards' share                  | 29826 |
|                        | Collection from the missionaries on fields        | 25220 |
|                        | Collection from the missionaries on furlough      | 6940  |

**Total Rs.** 61986

W. PETTIGREW,—Treasurer.
RULES FOR THE WORKING OF THE HARVARD PLAN.

I. That part of all the expenses incurred by missionaries in attending Conference, which is not paid by the Society, shall be apportioned to the several missionaries who attend Conference, the entertaining Missionaries, included, each adult to pay one share and parents to pay one half share for each child three years of age or older.

II. A committee of two, of which the Treasurer shall be Chairman, shall be appointed at each Conference with authority:

(a) To decide what items not covered by these rules shall be allowed.

(b) To decide what charges under the rules are reasonable.

(c) To apportion the total approved expenses according to paragraph I.

(d) To recommend to the Executive Committee such amendments to these rules as experience may prove desirable.

III. Each missionary shall, immediately on his return to his field from Conference, send in an itemized bill of his expenses in attending Conference. These bills shall, in addition to other items, state the number of days board each on railway, steamer, in dak bungalow, etc., and rates paid for:

(a) Adult missionaries.

(b) Children of missionaries.

(c) Servants.

IV. Transportation.

(a) Coolies, carts or other conveyance necessary for carrying the missionary and his family together with the necessary camp equipment for the trip and for the
stay at Conference, and fees for rest houses and ferries shall be considered legitimate expense. But the missionary may not charge for the use of his station camp equipment except for supplies consumed, such as feed for horses, petrol for motor cars, etc.

(b) Steamer fares or second class railway fares for the missionary and his family, and the charges for the necessary luggage shall be allowed.

(c) Third class fares may be allowed for one servant if the missionary does not board himself, and for two if he does board himself. In case there are small children the fare of an additional servant may be allowed.

2. Board.

(a) Each adult missionary shall be allowed Re. 1 per day and each child over three years of age As. 8 per day for board while attending Conference.

For mess on steamers, railway and at dak bungalows while enroute to and from Conference actual expenses within the regular rate less Re. 1 for each adult and As. 8 for each child above 3 years of age shall be allowed.

(b) In case only part of a family is able to attend Conference and thereby an extra servant is necessary, the wages of that servant may be allowed.

For servants the rate for food ordinarily allowed by the missionaries on his field may be allowed to the steamer ghat or railway station and returning therefrom. On the railway and the steamer the regular rate, and at Conference As. 2 a day may be allowed for each servant.
CENTRALIZATION ON EDUCATIONAL WORK
IN THE NAGA HILLS AND MANIPUR

By J. E. Tanquist

A letter was sent to the Reference Committee in the year 1916, setting forth some of the things that could be said in favour of a general centralization of the Missionary work in the Naga Hills and Manipur. Copies of that letter and of some correspondence that followed were forwarded to the Foreign Secretary. A matter like this should never be hurriedly disposed of; so while it was one of the items on the program for our last Conference, the time did not then seem opportune for a calm and profitable discussion of the subject and it was deferred until this Conference. It is to be hoped that we at this time can intelligently and sympathetically tackle the problem and take some forward step towards its proper solution. I would suggest that the proposition is now: Centralization, in some form, of the Educational work in the above mentioned area, it being understood, of course, that this has no reference to what is known as village or Primary Schools, and possibly not to M. E. Schools.

I believe it is fairly well recognized that the conditions and problems which are peculiar and common to our work in the Naga Hills District and the State of Manipur are such that this area can easily be regarded as a Mission field by itself. Whether the peculiarities of location and racial characteristics are so pronounced as to make imperative or even justify a special provision for Educational and Bible Training work apart from what is offered at Jorhat is a question worthy of our most earnest consideration. For under certain conditions there is perhaps no other similar area and population in all Assam where the prospects for the upbuilding of a strong and progressive
Christian work during, say, the next ten years is so promising as here. The need is for better educational and Gospel spreading facilities.

The Mission Training Schools now conducted at Impur, Kohima and Ukhrul are all doing valuable work. These Schools are only listed by Government as Primary Schools, but the work done often reaches the equivalent of that of the regular Middle English. The languages for these Schools could most advantageously be restricted to the Vernacular and English, especially since Government seems distinctly in favour of such a policy. The fact that the Schools at Kohima and Impur are not recognized Middle English Schools prevents the students of these schools from competing regularly or under favourable conditions for the three Middle English Scholarships annually allotted by Government to the Naga Hills District, the D. P. I. having ruled that only a recognized Middle English has any claim to these scholarships. There is a regular Government Middle English School at Kohima, but very few of its Naga students ever reach the point where they can compete successfully for a scholarship. Did we have Mission Training Schools of recognized M. E. Standard we could without much trouble secure for our students at least two of these scholarships every year under the present ruling, and chances are that several more would be granted before long. Scholarships being renewable every year up to the fourth and even fifth year we should at this rate at the end of the first three years have constantly eight or nine boys in High School supported by Government at Rs. 8 per month for each. This would virtually mean an additional contribution (to that which is now received) from Government of seven or eight hundred rupees per year for the ordinary follow-up-work of these two Mission Training Schools. It would perhaps not be desirable or necessary to lower the present high standard in two of these three so called Prima-
ry School in order to provide for the extra expense of maintenance involved if the third were to be conducted as a regular Middle English; it would be so much more satisfactory to be placed in a position where all three could attain to this same goal. But the present deplorable scarcity of men and funds is such that we should not without most serious consideration dismiss the matter as impracticable. If one missionary family could in the main care for the school work that now ordinarily occupies the greater part of the time of three missionary families, and could even so offer promising students better facilities for advancement than those that exist at present, would not the release of two missionary families for other work be a consideration that of itself outweighs all of the minor disabilities that could possibly be adduced as arguments against this proposition?

The Government Scholarships mentioned above are awarded to deserving Naga boys in order that they may be enable to avail themselves of a High School course. This brings us to the matter of High School. There may be differences of opinion as to the advisability of sending large numbers of Nagas to High School; but fact is that we are rapidly arriving at a point where Nagas are clamouring for the privileges of a High School education and will not be swayed from their purpose even if house and fields have to be sold to provide the necessary money. Naga lads will have a High School education whether we approve or not, and why should we not heartily approve? Some of them find their way to Shillong where the climate suits them and others turn up at Jorhat. The boys at Shillong, finding it impossible to visit their homes during most of their vacation periods, get out of touch with and lose interest in their own people, take on a different and more extravagant mode of living, lose all respect for the dignity of labour, acquire an undue sense of superiority over
their primitive and ignorant fellow tribesmen, and early make it their aspiration to settle down some fine day in a Government office on a fat income. As for Jorhat the distance is less and the boys are taught to have some regard for manual labour, but the climate of Jorhat will continue to prove severely trying to Nagas and more than one sturdy chap will succumb to malarial fever. Furthermore if the Naga youth could get his High School education in his own country he would be spared many of the influences that in the Plains unfit him for the highest usefulness in connection with his own people and the Mission cause. Let us have the faith to believe that the day is not distant when we shall have a Christian High School at Kohima where our Naga and Kuki youths will under favourable circumstances better themselves for true service.

The matter of Middle English and High School has an important bearing on the problem of getting trained and efficient Evangelists and Pastors, to be sure but linked up with these in some way must also be a Bible School, if our work is to prosper all around. Perhaps the greatest source of weakness in our Mission work in the Naga Hills today is the utter lack of trained native leaders, and it seems impossible to contrive any plan whereby this need can be met, except through a Bible School in the Naga Hills. For the same arguments that hold good in proving the desirability of having a High School in the Naga Hills apply with even greater force to the proposition for a Bible School. And think what an advantage it would be if the missionaries could have the native leaders of the future under their influence all through their years in Middle English, High and Bible School and to give them continual encouragement along the road that makes for efficient Christian leadership. The diversity of tribes and languages and the lack of Scriptures and other literature renders it singularly important that Evangelists and Pastors in this area should
be High School graduates and as such have access to the entire Bible and other literature in English. But unless some scheme along the lines hinted at in the foregoing is adopted there is little hope of ever arriving at such a goal.

Thousands upon thousands of Mission rupees have been and are being spent on Mission propaganda in the Naga Hills and Manipur every year. Are we making the best use of this money and of our time and efforts as Missionaries?

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

This body shall be called the Assam Baptist Missionary Conference.

ARTICLE II.

Its membership shall be composed of all the appointees of the A. B. F. M. S. and the W. B. F. M. S. to Assam; but new missionaries shall have the privilege of voting only after they shall have passed the first year's language examination, except in the case of those whose work is such that they are not required to take language examinations. In this case they shall have the privilege of ballot only after they shall have been in Assam at least one year.

ARTICLE III.

Its object shall be the extension of Christ's Kingdom in the Province and borderlands of Assam. In pursuit of this object the Conference shall (1) seek the enlargement and enrichment of the spiritual life of its members; (2) endeavor
to secure the highest attainable degree of efficiency by discussing the needs and methods of work of the whole field, and by aiming at systematic combination and division of labours (3) administer the work of the A. B. F. M. S. and the W. A. B. F. M. S. in Assam.

**Article IV**

The officers of this Conference shall be a President, a Vice-president, a Clerk, the Mission Secretary and a Treasurer who shall be also the Conference treasurer and statistician. With the exception of the Mission Secretary and the Treasurer, whose duties are hereinafter defined, these officers shall perform the duties usually pertaining to their offices.

**Article V**

The Conference shall meet annually at the time and place previously appointed.

**Article VI.**

The Conference shall keep a record of its transactions which shall be printed and distributed as shall be determined at each session.

**Article VII.**

1. The administration of the work of the A. B. F. M. S. and the W. M. B. F. M. S. in Assam shall be entrusted to the Mission Secretary and an Executive Committee of three with power (1) to apportion and appropriate funds, except as limited by the Board; (2) to designate missionaries to their stations and work; (3) to permit furlows and pay passages homeward and to order missionaries to take furlo when they deem that the good of the missionary and of the
work so demands; (4) to direct the work on the several fields in accordance with general instructions from the Conference; (5) but the Executive Committee shall not have power to appoint missionaries to Assam, or to dismiss them from the service of the Societies, or to raise or lower their salaries, or to change the policy of the Mission; such right of changing the policy of the Mission remaining with the Conference subject to the approval of the Home Boards; (6) and the Secretary and the Executive Committee shall have no direct relation with the churches. In general, with reference to the work in Assam, the Secretary and Executive Committee shall have all the administrative powers of the Board of Managers but limited as above and subject to review and veto by the Conference and the Board of Managers.

2. In order to provide for the work of the Mission in all of its departments, there shall be a Property Committee, an Educational Committee, an Evangelistic Committee, a Medical Committee and a Women’s Committee.

**Article VIII.**

The Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected annually by the Conference. They shall conduct the work of their offices in accord with the Rules for the Guidance of the Mission Secretary and Treasurer as these may be revised from time to time.

**Article IX.**

1. (1) The Executive Committee shall consist of three members, one of whom shall be a representative of the W. A. B. F M. S. They shall be elected by Conference at its annual session and shall take office at the close of the session at which they were elected. They shall be eligible for re-election. (2) Any member who leaves
Assam for four months or longer or is incapacitated for active service for two months or longer thereby automatically vacates his place on the Executive Committee. (3) The Executive Committee shall have power to fill unexpected vacancies. (4) All elections to the office of Secretary and to the Executive Committee shall be without solicitations either by the candidate or by others.

2. The Property Committee, the Educational Committee, the Evangelistic Committee, the Medical Committee and the Women’s Committee shall each consist of three members and shall be appointed by the Executive Committee, a member of the Property Committee, Educational Committee and Women’s Committee being a member of the Executive Committee.

**Article X.**

1. Inasmuch as the Board of Managers are held responsible by the denomination for the due administration of the whole field, the right to veto any act of the Secretary and Executive Committee (or Conference), or to annul any appointment or election is recognized.

2. Any missionary may appeal from any action of the Executive Committee to the Conference, or from any action of the Conference to the Board of Managers.

3. All appeals from actions of the Executive Committee or Conference shall be forwarded through the Mission Secretary.

**Article XI.**

1. Funds for the use and support of the Assam Mission are to be sent out by the Home Treasurer as heretofore.

2. All missionary field salaries will be notified by the officers in Boston to the Mission Treasurer as well as to the individual concerned.
3. All specific donations and all incomes from invested funds for work in Assam will be sent as at present and will be notified both to the Treasurer and to the individual concerned.

4. All other funds available for work in Assam and for passages, property needs, etc., not included in "2" and "3", will be subject to appropriation by the Executive Committee which will notify the Mission Treasurer, the missionaries and the Board of Managers of all appropriations so made.

5. The Mission Treasurer will pay to the Missionaries their salaries and work appropriations as formerly.

**Article XII.**

In dealing with property interests the Secretary and Executive Committee, working through the Property Committee, shall have power to secure such technical advice, either from missionaries or others, as shall enable them more efficiently to conduct the property interests of the Mission. They shall have power to entrust any extensive repairs or any building operations either to a smaller committee or to an individual as executive who shall be responsible to them for the expenditure of the funds and the completion of the work.

**Article XIII.**

The Conference shall have the right to call for the resignation of any one whom it has elected to office.

**Article XIV**

This Constitution and the By-Laws following may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular session of the Conference, twenty-four hours previous notice having been given.
BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE I.

The meetings of the Conference shall be opened and closed with prayer.

ARTICLE II.

All officers shall be elected by ballot. Before the close of each session of Conference the officers of the following session shall be elected, and shall assume office at the close of the session at which they were elected.

ARTICLE III.

Robert's Rules of Order shall be the guide in all deliberations of the Conference.

ARTICLE IV

The Executive Committee shall conduct its work in accordance with rules to be prepared by it and approved by Conference.

ARTICLE V

The Executive Committee shall appoint language examination committees for the languages in which examinations are likely to be held, who shall conduct the examinations in accordance with the rules adopted by Conference.

ARTICLE VI.

The Mission Secretary shall be an ex-officio member of all Standing Committees of the Conference, without vote.

ARTICLE VII.

In case of necessity the Executive Committee shall be authorized to fill any vacancies that may occur during the interim between the sessions of Conference.
BANERJEE PRESS,
2, Maharani Saranamayee Road, Calcutta.