MINUTES
OF THE
Burma Christian Council
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
November 5, 1927

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1927
MINUTES OF THE BURMA CHRISTIAN COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

November 5th, 1927.

The meeting of the Executive Committee of the Burma Christian Council was held at 8:00 o'clock on the morning of November 5th, 1927, at the British and Foreign Bible Society Rooms, Rangoon.

The following members of the Executive Committee were present—The Lord Bishop of Rangoon (in the Chair), Thra San Ba, W. B. Hilton, Esq., Miss May T. Mack, Rev. Peter Kin Maung, Rev. C. E. Olmstead, Rev. B. M. Jones, Rev. W. C. B. Purser, and Rev. C. E. Chaney, Honorary Secretary. Other members of the Council present were Rev. W. E. Wiatt and Rev. L. B. Rogers.

The meeting opened with prayer by Mr. Chaney.

The minutes of the Annual Meeting were approved as printed, with one correction—the inclusion of the name of the British and Foreign Bible Society representative, which had been inadvertently omitted from the list. The Secretary called attention to the inauguration of a new system in the keeping of the minutes, whereby matters of detailed or confidential information are recorded in the Secretary's Notes and not in the printed minutes.

RESOLVED: That a copy of the Secretary's Notes for every meeting of the Executive Committee and of the Council as a whole be furnished to each Mission and group represented on the Burma Christian Council, for circulation among themselves.

The Secretary reported that in accordance with the action taken at the June meeting of the Executive Committee he had secured Mayhue's book, "Education in India." It was suggested that he circulate it, beginning with Mr. Olmstead, the Chairman of the Education Committee.
The Secretary also reported that a copy of U Kin Maung's paper, presented at the Annual Meeting of the Council, on "Modern Trends in Burmese Buddhism" had been sent to Dr. Macnicol and was to be printed in the National Christian Council Review. The two papers on "Devolution", by Rev. Peter Kin Maung and Thra San Ba, had also been sent to Dr. Macnicol and forwarded by him to Mr. Paton to be used as he sees fit and possibly printed later.

The Secretary rose to make a few remarks in farewell to the Lord Bishop at this his last meeting with the Burma Christian Council. (See Page 9.) He regretted the absence of Dr. Cummings, who was to have spoken these words of appreciation. The Bishop was then presented with a parting gift of a Parker fountain pen and pencil in a leather case, and responded with a few words of appreciation and thanks. (See Page 11.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

I. Calling for No Action.

1. The Secretary read a report from the A. B. M. Press on the sale of the "Survey of Christian Missions in Burma." The Lord Bishop asked whether it would not be well to bring the "Survey" up to date. Mr. Olmstead, Chairman of the Committee which made the Survey, stated that the only way of bringing it up to date was to make a new one; that the National Secretaries in India had urged that his Committee undertake such a task, but that he did not feel he had the time for such a work at present; he would have no objection if someone else wished to take the matter in hand.

2. The Secretary called attention to notes of regret from Mr. Walters and Dr. Cummings at not being able to attend the meeting.

3. The Secretary read a communication from the Governor's Secretary acknowledging receipt of the Resolution on Local Option passed by the Burma Christian Council at its Annual Meeting in July.
4. The Secretary also read a letter from Rev. H. G. Banerji, Secretary of the Bengal Christian Conference, enclosing a resolution of protest passed by the Conference against the method used by the National Christian Conference in electing a Christian Indian representative from Bengal to the Jerusalem Conference. The Secretary was instructed to record this letter.

II. Calling for Action.

1. The Secretary read Miss Van Doren's letter of August 19th, 1927, to Mr. Olmstead, regarding the expenses of a delegate from Burma to the Religious Education Conference to be held in India the last of January, 1928.

   RESOLVED: That the Council offer to pay half the expense of the Burma delegate to the Religious Education Conference to be held in India the last of January, 1928.

2. The Secretary read Dr. Macnicol's letter of October 20th, 1927, regarding the expenses of Burma's delegate, Thra San Ba, to the Jerusalem Conference.

   RESOLVED: That the National Christian Council in India be asked to provide half the total travel expense, round trip, of Burma's delegate to the Jerusalem Conference, and that the remaining half be provided partly by the American Baptist Mission and partly by the Burma Christian Council;

   OR

   if this arrangement proves unsatisfactory,

   RESOLVED: That the Burma Christian Council contribute Rs. 500 toward the total expense of sending a delegate to the Jerusalem Conference, provided that some other body will be prepared to furnish the balance of Rs. 500.

3. The Secretary explained the situation with regard to the mortgage bonds on school property now demanded by the Government and read a portion of his
letter of November 3rd, 1927, to Mr. Bulkeley, Officiating Director of Public Instruction, on the subject. He also read a copy of the agreement, drawn up by him with the advice of others and forwarded to the Education Department, whereby Mission Schools could be provided for by a single blanket arrangement.

RESOLVED: That the document drawn up by Mr. Chaney for the Baptist Mission, whereby the Government's demand for mortgage bonds on school property will be taken care of by a blanket agreement applying to all schools under Mission control, be referred to the Chairman of the Education Committee for consideration and recommendation to the next meeting of this Executive Committee.

4. The Secretary called attention to Dr. Zwemer's impending visit to India and suggested that he be given an invitation to visit Burma at the same time.

RESOLVED: That the Secretary be asked to correspond with Dr. Zwemer regarding the possibility of his visiting Burma as well as India during the coming cold season.

RESOLVED: That in case Dr. Zwemer's plans make it possible for him to visit Burma before the next Executive Committee meeting in January, we ask the Stanley Jones Committee to make all necessary arrangements.

DEFERRED BUSINESS.

I. Mr. Gordon's Report on Gambling. (See Page 13.)

The Secretary read Mr. Gordon's report and it was discussed briefly. (See Secretary's Notes.)

RESOLVED: That Mr. Gordon's report be printed in the minutes of this meeting, together with the appended quotation from a Chinese newspaper.

RESOLVED: That Mr. Gordon's report on Gambling be referred to the Committee on Public Questions for report at the next quarterly meeting of this Executive Committee.
II. Mr. Paton's Question concerning Medical Committee.

The Secretary referred to Mr. Paton's letter of February 18th, 1927, and to the action taken by the Executive Committee at its June meeting, reporting that only one answer had been received from a medical missionary to Mr. Paton's suggestion. He suggested that the Council ask the Baptist Mission Medical Committee, of which Dr. A. H. Henderson is Chairman, together with any S. P. G. medical missionaries, and any other doctors affiliated with the Council, such as Dr. Ma Saw Sa, to act as the Medical Committee of the Burma Christian Council and to co-operate with the Medical Committee of the Indian Christian Council.

RESOLVED: That we ask Dr. A. H. Henderson of the American Baptist Mission, Taunggyi, to serve as the Medical Representative of this Council.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

I. Committee on Training of Missionaries. (See Page 16.)

Mr. Purser's report was read and accepted.

II. Committee on Literature. (See Page 17)

Mr. Jones' report was read and accepted.

III. Education Committee. (See Page 18.)

Mr. Olmstead's report was read and accepted.

AD HOC COMMITTEES.

I. Public Questions. (See Page 19.)

Mr. Hilton's report was read and accepted.

RESOLVED: That the following resolution, proposed by Mr. Hilton, be adopted and a copy sent to the Press for publication:—

"The Burma Christian Council views with grave anxiety the proposals to re-open registers for Burmese opium consumers and to legalise the sale of Ganja in Rangoon. It desires to associate itself with those who have already opposed the proposals and trusts that Government will not sanc-
tion an act that would undoubtedly tend to degrade the people of this province and would be opposed to the avowed intention of the British Government regarding opium at the Geneva Convention."

II. Gambling. (See Mr. Gordon's Report, Page 13.)

III. Rural Education. (No Report.)

IV Stanley Jones' Arrangements Committee.

Mr. Hilton reported verbally for this Committee, calling attention to Dr. Jones' impending visit to Rangoon, on November 8th and 9th. He announced that the Committee at a called meeting had arranged that lectures should be given at the A. B. M. Union Hall School on the evenings of the 8th and 9th at 6:00 o'clock, U Maung Gale, M.L.C., presiding one evening and Professor G. B. Hall the next; and that meetings should be held at Judson College at 11:30 on both mornings. It was suggested that the Committee confer with Dr. Jones regarding his plans for a future visit to Rangoon.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer read his report (See Page 23), which was accepted, showing a balance of Rs. 450-3-4 at the end of October, 1927. He reported the receipt of two additional cheques, however, for Rs. 175 and Rs. 105, making a total balance in hand of Rs. 730-3-4. Replying to a question of Mr. Chaney's, he stated that the Treasurer's accounts for 1926-1927 had been audited by Mr. Wiatt.

OTHER BUSINESS.

I. The Secretary called attention to the resolution passed by the National Christian Council with regard to the book "Mother India" by Katherine Mayo.

II. RESOLVED: That the next meeting of this Executive Committee be held on January 21st, 1928, at the British and Foreign Bible Society Rooms, Rangoon.
III. RESOLVED: That we tender a vote of cordial appreciation and thanks to Mr. Purser for his excellent work and faithful service in connection with the Burma Christian Council, and that we instruct the Honorary Secretary to write a note of appreciation to Mr. Purser on behalf of this Executive Committee.

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

The meeting closed with the Benediction pronounced by the Lord Bishop.

Respectfully submitted,
C. E. Chaney,
Honorary Secretary.

SECRETARY’S WORDS OF FAREWELL TO THE LORD BISHOP

"I know that no man likes fulsome praise, because no man is perfect. A few months ago Dr. Cummings spoke to us in the Devotional Session on those first words from the 13th Chapter of 1st Corinthians. He said that what he wanted was friends, friends who loved him and stood with him in spite of the fact of his imperfections. But there are times, it seems to me, when it is fitting that we should speak out of the heart words of appreciation and recognition, and this is a time for us to express ourselves to the Lord Bishop who has been one of us and whom we hold in such high regard. I can speak only for myself, but I think I express the feeling of others in the Council. Some of you who have known him longer may wish to supplement what I say at this time.

"I think one reason why we appreciate him so deeply is that we have seen him under fire. It is when a man is under test that you appreciate his strength and the contribution of his life to the community. Sometimes under test men will lose their poise, temper, and even a little bit of their religion, but at such times our friend has shown a high Christian courtesy and understanding which has won the respect of all right-thinking people.
"Then there is another reason which appeals to me strongly. It is right that we should all identify ourselves with some Christian group which is working for the progress of the Kingdom, and we all know that there are times in any Christian group for the Christian leader and minister to take a stand, indicating that there is a loyalty to a higher standard than the common customs and ways of any group. There have been times when the Lord Bishop has taken a stand which has shown a high moral and spiritual courage among his own people.

"Another thing, in addition to the two things which I have just mentioned, is this:—The Lord Bishop has been active and interested in every good work, even beyond the boundaries of his own Christian group, reaching out a hand of co-operation, fellowship, and mutual interest to every good work. It seems to me that in a pre-eminent way he has shown among us all that fine broad Christian spirit which reaches out to clasp hands with Christian workers of other Christian groups. There was a time some years ago when denominational feeling was so strong that some took the attitude that different groups under the Banner of the Cross were antagonistic to each other. That day has gone, thank God, and now we are in a day when different groups recognize that it is not necessary for us to think on all subjects alike, but we do respect one another and co-operate with one another. I know that the Lord Bishop has a large vision of the time when under the guidance of our God we shall be brought to the perfect unity. At the present time it is not the organic unity which is the most important thing but it is the evidences of spiritual unity and mutual helpfulness in the work of our Lord Jesus Christ. I heard it spoken facetiously that the Burma Christian Council had taught us to be courteous and kind to one another. I think it has done more than that; it has increased our sympathy and love toward one another."
"I wanted to say these words out of my heart in behalf of myself and of others. As a token of that appreciation in which we hold our friend, the Lord Bishop, we have brought this little present. Its commercial value is little, but it does signify friendship and high regard. We want him to use it; we want it to be symbolical of our esteem and high regard and our best hopes for his future work. We hope that as he wields the Sword of the Spirit, the Word of the Lord, these instruments, symbolical of our high esteem, will help him in interpreting that Word to others."

THE LORD BISHOP'S RESPONSE.

"I had no idea that anything of this sort was awaiting me when I came here this morning, and I have no words ready to reply to these kind words which Mr. Chaney has said. I must, however, thank you sincerely for this beautiful present. Sometime ago I found myself under the necessity of replacing a pen which I had lost on a ship and I resisted the temptation of buying a Parker pen for fear I should lose it as I had the other. So you will see that no gift could be more acceptable, and I am most extremely grateful, especially because it comes from you all with so many kind and I am afraid undeserved words which Mr. Chaney has said.

"I felt from the very beginning of my diocese that I must throw myself into the work of the Burma Christian Council and unite with my friends in doing all that I could for the work of our Lord's Kingdom. I think I have always made it clear that in the work of our Church we stand for an idea of organized unity. I believe it comes to us with the authority of the Holy Scriptures. I believe myself that the Order of the Catholic Church as we uphold it is the secret of organized unity among Christian people. It seems to me, as I look back, to come down to us with just the same authority as our Scriptures come down to us. I say this because I want to make it clear what our position is
and how I believe that Christian unity can be obtained. There are a great many things in our Church which can be altered, which are not necessarily part of our tradition. I believe if ever Christian unity shall arise in a practical form we shall find we are much nearer together than we think. Though we may not agree about that, we can thank God that we do agree about a great many other things.

"It has been a great joy to me to be able to help forward in any way the advance of the Kingdom of Christ in this country. It has been a great happiness to me that this Council has brought me into such close touch with the other Christian communities in this country. It has been a great regret to me that the great Roman Catholic community have not seen their way clear to join with us here. I do think that our joining in this Council has taught us to respect one another, to love one another, and to speak the truth in love, knowing that those who hear our words will weigh them reasonably and not resent them. I welcome this Council for that reason.

"Mr. Chaney has referred to other activities in which all of us can join. The work of the Vigilance Society is one of these. The backbone of work of that kind always does depend on Christian people. Therefore, I hope that the members of the different bodies that go to make up a Council like this will join in a great public work of the sort that we have tried to do in this Vigilance Society. I am bound to say that I think it really has done something for this city that has altered its whole life for the better, and I have to thank warmly all who have joined in that work.

"Mr. Chaney has alluded to little troubles I have had to pass through in other ways and alluded very kindly to them. I think when people get us by the throat, the only thing to do is to stand fast and strike no unkind blow in return."
"These are very halting and unworthy words, considering all the kind words that Mr. Chaney has said. I can only say that I shall remember our meetings, not always large ones, but always, I think; interesting ones; and I shall pray that God will bless all the work this Council undertakes and pray that He will draw us nearer and nearer to Himself. I thank you very much for this beautiful gift."

REPORT ON THE QUESTION OF GAMBLING IN CONNECTION WITH THE UNIVERSITY ENDOWMENT FUND.

July 25th, 1927

The question of gambling in connection with the University Endowment Fund was first brought before the attention of the Burma Christian Council at the meeting of its Executive Committee on the 11th June, 1927, when a strong resolution was unanimously adopted and it was directed by that Committee that copies of the resolution be sent to the Chancellor of the University (His Excellency Sir Harcourt Butler), and to the Vice-Chancellor (Sir Benjamin Heald), as well as to the press for publication. It was further resolved that the undersigned be asked to gather further information and prepare a report for presentation to the Council at its Annual Meetings.

It is gratifying to be able to report from information so gathered that Gambling in this connection was not universal throughout the Province and that some divisions appear to have been almost wholly free from it. On the other hand, in divisions where gambling was countenanced, e.g. Mandalay, its spread was rapid and fairly thorough.

It would appear that District Officers had been invited to raise a definitely named amount as the quota from their district and in at least one case the amount first named was greatly increased and practically turned into an assessment, gambling being pointed out as a likely means of raising the increased figure.
The gambling "wainggs" appear to have been sold to contractors for varying sums. It is reported in some cases that Rs. 1,000 per day was paid by the contractor for periods of about ten days. In other cases Rs. 10,000 is named as the amount paid for the license for the full festival, and in another Rs. 15,000.

There can be little doubt of the illegality of the gambling indulged in. In one instance the 36 animal game was openly organised under a license separate from that issued for the "waings" of that neighbourhood. Here and there it appears to have been thought by missionaries that a license issued by a district officer legalised gambling held illegal by the Burma Gambling Act and Amendments. This is not so.

It is to be noted with some satisfaction that within a fortnight of the sending to the Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor of the University of copies of the Resolution adopted by the Executive Committee of the Burma Christian Council the following Press Communiqué appeared in the daily Press:—

"With reference to the recent statements in the Press in regard to gambling, Government has issued orders drawing attention to the necessity for observance of the law."

Since the publication of that communiqué and the issuing of orders by Government, no instances of gambling in connection with the University Endowment Fund have been brought to my attention.

How the question of gambling was introduced to the Legislative Council at its sessions of Wednesday, the 6th July, 1927, and how it was there debated will be known to the members of the Christian Council. If what is reported in the daily Press is a true record of the debate it may be taken that the weakness and lack of frankness in the official replies are due to the weakness of the case.

Mr. Hilton, Convener of the Sub-Committee on Public Questions and on Gambling, has sent me the attached extract from a Rangoon Chinese Vernacular
Newspaper. (Read extract attached.) This extract may call for further enquiry and possibly action by the Council and it is therefore submitted.

I should like to express a word of thanks to those who have been so good as to let me have information and for the many encouraging letters I have received from missionaries and laymen interested in public welfare.

May I suggest that a private letter of thanks be sent to the Editor of "The Rangoon Gazette" for the courtesies afforded and for the support given in two very convincing leading articles on this question?

SYDNEY M. GORDON.

Extract from a Chinese Paper.
(Printed in Rangoon in Chinese.)

"It appears that the Local Government will leave no stone unturned and is exploring ways and means to swell the University Endowment Fund. They seem not to have been satisfied with the amount collected and which is to be collected from the wealthy of the country and so they strike a new idea to collect subscriptions from the clubs. It is now known that arrangements have been made with clubs by which every club is to contribute a monthly subscription of Rs. 1,200 towards the University Endowment Fund, and for this they can go on with their gambling without the apprehension of a police raid. The period of this privilege arising from the arrangements is said to extend to the end of the year as the Governor will then retire from the Governorship of the Province.

"According to my knowledge there are already (19) nineteen clubs which have entered into this arrangement and have accordingly paid their first instalment to the said fund.

"It is said that the Government also intend to approach liquor shops for subscriptions and the privileges given in turn are not difficult to infer. They may
be either allowed to sell illicit liquor or the extension of the sale hours and they will have no reason to fear an interference by the excise party just as the Clubs who will have no police worries during this period.”

From a Correspondent.

“Four Chinese members of the Police Advisory Board have been asked to approach on behalf of the University Endowment Fund.”

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TRAINING OF MISSIONARIES.

To the Executive Committee of the Burma Christian Council

November 5th, 1927

The half-yearly examination was held on October 28th and 29th simultaneously at Rangoon and Mandalay. At the Rangoon Centre there were four candidates for the Elementary and one for the Intermediate Examination. At Mandalay there were four candidates for the Elementary, two for the Intermediate, and two for the Advanced Examination.

The passes were as follows:—

In the Elementary Grade,

Three failed and four passed with credit.

In the Intermediate Grade,

One passed with credit; two obtained a simple pass.

In the Advanced Grade,

Two passed with credit.

As the Chairman will be going on leave before the next Examination the Rev. A. C. Hanna was unanimously elected by the Board of Examiners to succeed him.

W. C. B. PURSER, Convener,
Committee on Training of Missionaries.
REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LITERATURE

To the Executive Committee of the Burma
Christian Council.

November 5th, 1927

I am glad to report that the promise made at the Annual Meeting has at last been made good and the book of Primary Scripture Lessons is, after long delay, at last finished and on sale. A copy is laid on the table.

The plan suggested of having a number of books bound up in fancy binding for use as gifts and prizes has been carried out and Tales and Legends and The Manhood of the Master are now on sale in illustrated cloth cover at Rs. 2/8 and Rs. 1/4 respectively. Copies are laid on the table for your inspection and with the hope that members will make use of these books and endeavour to extend their distribution.

The English manuscript of a booklet on astronomy has been circulated to the Publication Committee and has been approved by its members. The translation has now been completed. I learned that Mr. Furnivall of the Burma Book Club has been interested in the preparation of Popular Science Booklets in Burmese and I have submitted the manuscript of this booklet on astronomy to them, with a view to seeing what cooperation may be possible in the publication of literature of this character. It is hoped that whatever arrangements are made may be completed promptly and the manuscript got into print at an early date.

Miss Bonney of the Baptist Mission has sent out from America two books, A Straight Road toward Tomorrow and The Adventure of Prayer, with the suggestion that grants might be obtained for printing them in Burmese. The Committee decided that the translation of the first book was not practicable without its being re-written and adapted. The second has been accepted and a translator engaged to make a translation.
The Committee has under consideration the question of reprinting half a dozen of the old tracts that have been issued from time to time for many years past. The matter will be settled at the regular meeting next week.

B. M. JONES, Convener, Committee on Literature.

REPORT OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

To the Executive Committee of the Burma Christian Council.

November 5th, 1927

The Committee on Education has had no meeting since the Annual Meeting of the Burma Christian Council, but an effort was made to gather some statistics regarding the amount of Government grants per pupil to the schools of the constituent bodies of this Council. Only fourteen schools have replied to the request for information, but they show a very wide range of difference, so much so that it is impossible to draw any inferences along the line which the committee had in mind, except possibly that some school managers seem to be able to draw up larger budgets than others.

One Anglo-Vernacular girls' school of 815 pupils received Rs. 31/8 per pupil. Another, of 376 pupils, received Rs. 28/8. A boys' school with 130 pupils received Rs. 28/10. Another of 185 got Rs. 19/- Another of 300 pupils got Rs. 11/5. One English school reported Rs. 44/- per pupil.

It will be remembered that the Department reported an average grant per pupil in Anglo-Vernacular and English Schools of Rs. 26/8 for the current year.

Another interesting statistical survey would be the additional cost of mission schools to the parents of children, due to enhanced fees which the department urges them to charge. But such facts might at the
present stage react unfavourably toward our institutions because this extra cost would be no small amount. Hence the committee has not felt justified in asking for these figures.

Replies from various mission education boards to the request from this committee at the Annual Meeting regarding their ideas on changes in the basis of maintenance grants and on the religious education discussion memorandum have not been received, but it is understood that some have made replies on the latter.

C. E. OLMSTEAD, Convener, Committee on Education.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC QUESTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BURMA CHRISTIAN COUNCIL.

November 5th, 1927

Since the Annual Meeting where I mentioned the question of pernicious literature and my letter to the Minister of Education regarding it, I have received a request from him for a copy of the letter as the original did not reach him. There has been no reply to the second letter so far.

With regard to lotteries, etc., I have received the following letter from the Post-Master General:—

"With reference to your letter dated the 20th July, 1927, forwarding specimens of literature posted by the Central and Commercial Bank, Paris, to the addresses of school pupils in this province and asking that something to be done to stop such literature, I have the honour to inform you that instructions have been issued that all such literature discovered in the post should be destroyed."

I have written thanking him for this and since then have received no further complaints.
The following letter was received from Mr. Chaney with regard to Raffles:—

"I received in an envelope without any information concerning it this raffle ticket for Saint Anthony's School Extension Fund. I forward it to you as the Public Questions Member of the Burma Christian Council to see what you think we ought to do about it. It might be mentioned at the next meeting to see what others think about it."

In connection with this I will read a resolution passed by the Cawnpore Missionary Society in 1926:—

"We as a body of Christian workers assembled at a regular meeting of the Cawnpore Missionary Conference wish to record our anxiety regarding the growth of Betting and Gambling and allied evils and our emphatic disapproval of all such practices. In particular we would draw attention to the prevalence of lotteries and raffles and we would appeal to all Christian bodies to discourage actively all such practices among their own members. Especially we would appeal to all Christian Institutions who have been in the habit of raising money by such methods, to discontinue the same."

So far as I know the only people who use this means of raising money in Burma are the Roman Catholics—I ask for information—if this is so it would perhaps be unwise to suggest that a similar resolution be passed here.

The question of betting and gambling can be discussed under Mr. Gordon's report.

I would, however, like to mention here that Major Wellborne, Inspector-General of Police, in his recent report suggested controlled gambling as a remedy against crime. This was ably answered in a leader in "The Rangoon Daily News."
There are two other matters of importance that have arisen since the annual meeting. The first is the proposed reopening of registers for opium consumers and the second is a proposal to legalise the sale of ganja in Rangoon. These proposals met with strong protest in the Rangoon Corporation where resolutions opposing the proposals were proposed by Mr. S. A. Tyabji and carried. "The Rangoon Daily News" had a strong leader against the proposals in the issue of September the 8th. A protest meeting was also held at the Jubilee Hall where resolutions against the proposals were also passed. Since that time the question seems to have been dropped but I understand that it is only shelved temporarily and may be brought up in the next session of the Legislative Council or the proposals may even be put into operation without further notice, although it seems unlikely that this course will be adopted.

The Indian Witness has a short article on the subject which with your permission I will read:—

"Seldom have we ever read more disheartening proposals put forward by a responsible Committee than two recommendations contained in the report of the Capitation and Thathameda Taxes Enquiry Committee to the Government of Burma. This Committee, appointed to consider the possibility of finding substitutes for the unpopular Capitation and Thathameda Taxes, has advised the selling of Ganja, that has been prohibited in Burma since 1873, and the reopening of opium registers to Burman addicts, they having been closed to all Burmans since 1894.

"That any Committee at this day in the world's history would frankly advocate the introduction of the sale of such harmful drugs as Ganja and Opium comes as a shock. That any Government would evince sympathy with such recommendations is hard to believe and when it has to be accepted as true is disheartening in the extreme."
"We are glad to see that a meeting has been held in Rangoon to protest against these proposals. We hope the Burma Christian Council will support the protest and take its due share of responsibility for arousing public opinion to demand that the proposals be dropped."

It seems desirable, therefore, at this time for this Executive Committee to pass a resolution on the subject and I suggest the following:—

(See Page 7.)

W. B. HILTON,
Convener,
Committee on Public Questions.
TREASURER'S REPORT TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BURMA CHRISTIAN COUNCIL.

November 5th, 1927

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<td>August 13</td>
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<td>C. E. Chaney, Postage</td>
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<td>A. B. M. Press bill No. 9425</td>
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<td>August 30</td>
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<td>C. E. Olmstead, T.A.</td>
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<td>A. B. M. Press Printing 450/16 pp.</td>
<td>60</td>
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<td>October 21</td>
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<td>Balance at the end of October, 1927</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>757</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
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San Ba,

Honorary Treasurer,
Burma Christian Council.

29th July, 1927.