ANNUAL REPORT

of the

SOUTH FUKIEN

RELIGIOUS TRACT

SOCIETY

1935
OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE FOR 1936

PRESIDENT
Rev. L. G. Phillips

London Missionary Society

SECRETARY
Rev. H. A. Poppen

American Reformed Church Mission

TREASURER
Rev. H. A. Poppen

American Reformed Church Mission

COMMITTEE
Mr. R. Tully

English Presbyterian Mission

Miss A. T. Duncan

London Missionary Society

Miss M. Fraser

English Presbyterian Mission

Miss E. K. Beekman

American Reformed Church Mission

Mrs. C. H. Holleman

American Reformed Church Mission

Mr. H. J. P. Anderson

English Presbyterian Mission
CONSTITUTION

I. NAME.— This Society shall be called the "South Fukien Religious Tract Society," and its headquarters shall be at Amoy.

II. OBJECT.— The object of the Society shall be the publication and circulation of books and tracts, prepared on the same principles as those of the Religious Tract Society of London or the American Tract Society.

III. MEMBERSHIP.— Any person interested in and willing to further the object of the Society, and recommended by the Committee, may on application through the Secretary and by payment of an annual subscription of FIVE DOLLARS or more become a member of the Society. Friends, not resident in South Fukien, willing to further the object of the Society may, on payment of a subscription of FIFTY DOLLARS and upwards become Life Members.

IV. OFFICERS.— The officers of the Society shall be a President, Secretary and Treasurer; all of whom shall be elected annually.

V. EXECUTIVE.— The business of the Society shall be conducted by an Executive Committee which shall consist of the officers and six other members elected at the annual meeting. This committee shall have power to fill vacancies in its membership during the year. It shall meet when necessary for the transaction of business, four to form a quorum.

VI. ANNUAL MEETING.— The Annual Meeting
of the Society shall be Meeting of the Society shall held at Amoy before the 31st. of January of each year. At the Annual Meeting a report of the past year’s working of the Society shall be presented for adoption together with a statement of accounts; and the officers and Committee for the ensuing year shall be elected. Should fewer than fifteen members be present any matters decided must have the support of three-quarters of the members present.

**GENERAL MEETINGS** may be held at other times when business requires, a quorum at these meetings shall consist of one-third of the total membership present in South Fukien.

**VII. PUBLICATIONS.**— All books and tracts published by the Society must first be submitted to the Executive Committee for examination, and no tract or book shall be adopted which is not approved by a majority of the Committee.

Nothing relating to denominational controversy shall be published by this Society.

**VIII. SALES and GRANTS:**— The price of books and tracts shall be fixed by the Executive Committee. Persons ordering the Society’s publications from the secretary or the book depot shall be responsible for the payment of the catalogue value of the same. Requests for free grants or discounts must be referred to the Executive Committee.

**IX. SUBSCRIPTIONS.** The Treasurer shall be authorized to solicit subscriptions on behalf of the funds of the Society.

**X. REPORT and CATALOGUE.** A Catalogue and
Annual Report shall be printed and circulated.

XI. AMENDMENTS.— Changes in the Society's Constitution can be made only at an Annual or General Meeting by two-thirds vote of the total membership in South Fukien, and provided that one month's previous notice has been given. Members unable to attend may send their votes to the Secretary.

CAPITAL FUND

At the first meeting of the Executive Committee it was decided that all money received from Honorary Membership subscriptions shall be set aside as a Capital Fund, using only the interest for current expenses. Should it at any time be desirable to use the Capital Fund, or any part of it for special purposes, this shall be done only by a three-fourths vote of the total membership present in South Fukien. Other friends may contribute to this Capital Fund.

At the Annual Meeting in January, 1933 discretionary powers were given to the Committee of the Society to use Honorary Membership subscriptions for general expenses if such seemed desirable.
SOUTH FUKIEN RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY

Annual Report 1935.

The year 1935 will go down in the history of the Church of South Fukien as a year of spiritual awakening. The problem before the Christian forces has been that of following up this awakening and using it constructively for the Kingdom of God. In some sections of the church this problem has been very acute and has baffled the Christian leaders. There has been a desire on the part of the Christians to witness for Christ, Voluntary evangelistic bands have been very active. But many members of these bands have discovered that more than enthusiasm is necessary. There has been a praise-worthy effort on the part of the leaders to lead Christians into a clearer knowledge of the truths of Christianity. Short term schools for inquirers and short term training institutes for voluntary workers have been held in many sections of the church with encouraging results. The coming year will undoubtedly see these schools and institutes continued. The need of supplying literature suitable for this type of work is a challenge to the S.F.R.T.S. as well as to the Church in South Fukien. It is obvious that the Chinese Christians in South Fukien should have a larger share, and feel their responsibility, in producing literature suitable for their own needs. There should be a more effective co-operation between the Society and the Chinese Christians for the production of literature as well as for a larger distribution of
literature already available. It is hoped that something can be done along this line during the coming year.

Mr. Chng and his assistant have again carried on faithfully. Their lack of ability as Depot salesmen has been compensated by their care in keeping a record of the stock and their honesty in financial matters. A duplicator has been added to the depot's equipment and circulars calling attention to new literature and special discounts have been distributed to patrons of the Society from time to time. There has been each time some response and more emphasis should be put on this in the future so as to keep patrons in touch with the stock available and also to help move literature for which there has been little or no sale.

The Committee herewith submits statistics showing the number of books and tracts that have been put into circulation in the course of the year. The circulation this year has been larger than during any year in the history of the Society, and is an indication that the Christians in South Fukien are becoming more and to realize the value of Christian literature. It was interesting to see when checking up the stock that there were very few books for which there had been no sale during the year. Many books for which there had been no sale for several years were again bought. It is also interesting to notice the large increase
in the sale of commentaries. This would seem to indicate that the Christians are seeking to understand better the Bible and the truths of Christianity. More tracts and portions were sold this year than any previous year, which would appear to be an indication of the way in which Christians are endeavouring to reach non-Christians with the Christian message. The Committee is thankful to God that He has made it possible for the Society to be of service in this way.

1. The Society's own publications.
   (a) Romanised publications 31,243
   (b) Character 73,692

2. Books sold on commission. (privately owned)
   (a) Romanised 1,217
   (b) Character 4,689

   Romanised publications 402

   Character 25,479

   Romanised and character combined 3,186

6. Dictionaries 90

7. Commentaries 336

8. Tracts, portions and posters 7,960

9. "Amoy Church News" - (Seng Hoe Po) copies monthly 600

These statistics show a very welcome increase in both the Romanised and character publications. With the new emphasis and interest in the Rom-
anised there is certain to be a larger demand in the year that lies ahead and the Society must be ready to meet this demand.

**Sale and distribution of Bibles.**

1. **Bibles**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
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<td>8555</td>
<td>$2,835.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wenli</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>20.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romanised</td>
<td>643</td>
<td>590.70</td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>37.40</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>4251</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,429.25</strong></td>
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2. **New Testaments**

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Wenli</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>22.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romanised</td>
<td>783</td>
<td>252.70</td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>21.05</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>3067</strong></td>
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3. **Portions**

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<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
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<td>7673</td>
<td>104.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phonetic</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>2.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romanised</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>18.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>7 7920</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>15238</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4336.66</strong></td>
</tr>
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</table>

This year again the Synod of the Church of Christ in South Fukien asked the **Publications Society** to print the new hymnal, “Seng Si” The first character edition of 10,000 copies was put on the market in July and was completely sold out by the end of September. The second edition of 10,000 copies was put on the market the first week in December and is rapidly being distributed. A Romanised edition of
5000 is now in the press and will be ready for distribution at the beginning of the new year. A staff edition of the new tunes is being printed in Shanghai and should be ready for distribution within the very near future. A committee is now at work getting a new staff edition of the entire hymnal ready for the press. The new hymnal has met with general enthusiastic approval. The decrease in the cost of printing and the readiness of the Society to sell at a very small profit has no doubt been a large factor in the ready sale of the book. The Committee has again welcomed the opportunity to be of service to the Church in this matter. Nothing, however, has been done in the way of printing new books. The financial depression is still with us and the Committee has hesitated to make appeals to its patrons and friends for contributions for this purpose as war done in previous years. Besides, much of the Society's funds were tied up in the printing of the new hymnal so that it was difficult to release funds for the printing of new publications. Then too, the depleted missionary force has made it difficult for anyone to give much time to translation or to the production of new literature.

Two books that have been out of print for several years have been reprinted. Miss A. A. Symington completed the revision of "Daily Light" and this has been reprinted and is now on sale at the depot. A book of short stories, "Chip Hap Ju To e Ko-su" has also been reprinted and is meeting with a ready sale. The following is a list of publications issued
by the Society in 1935:

1. Romanised and character combined.
   “Chu Jit Sin Liong” (Sunday School Lessons and Daily Readings) 5,000

2. Romanised publications
   “Kí-liok book IV 1,500
   “Seng Kong Jit In” (Daily Light) 1,000
   “Jí Bu” 20,000
   “Chú Ía-So e Su-Liók” 2,000
   “Seng Si” (in the press) 5,000

3. Character publications
   “Seng Si” 1st. edition 10,000
   “Seng Si” 2nd. ,, ,, (in the press) 10,000
   “Supplement of rëw tures” 500
   55,000

“Amoy Church News” (Seng Hoe Po) has now entered upon its fifty-second year. At the annual meeting of the Society in Jan. 1935 the Committee was asked, “To consider plans for making more effective use of the Amoy Church News”. The Committee has given considerable thought to this matter but has not as yet found a satisfactory solution, though some progress has been made. Mrs. W.R. Angus as editor has given much time and thought to the Seng Hoe Po and under her able Editorship the paper has been enlarged from and eight page edition to one of twelve pages. There has been a slight increase in the list of subscribers, but there
should be a wider distribution of the periodical. Missionaries in the interior were asked to promote the periodical in the sections of the church where they resided. This has met with a small measure of success. Extra copies were printed and distributed with the hope of interesting new readers. A group of Chinese were invited to assist on the editorial staff. Not sufficient time has elapsed to warrant any definite conclusion as to the success or failure of this experiment, but it is undoubtedly a move in the right direction. The report shows that there has been a slight increase in subscriptions paid in but as in years past it has been difficult to collect all subscription fees so that there has again been a financial loss. The American Mission kindly made a grant of one hundred twenty-five dollars towards the cost of publication which has helped to offset the loss.

The report shows that this year there has been a slight increase in membership fees, **Finances** an indication that friends of the Society have again been loyal in their support.

The Committee started the year with a debit balance of $137.81 carried over from last year. Then too, the R.T.S. of London failed to give their usual grant of twenty pounds sterling. Only a small donation of thirty dollars was received for printing compared to three hundred thirty dollars received last year. In spite of these handicaps we were able to close the year with a debit balance of only twenty-five dollars. The Committee rejoices in this accomplishment and we feel sure the friends of the Society
rejoice with us.

The Committee gives thanks,-

Thanks (1) to the members and friends of the Society for their annual subscriptions,
(2) to the American Reformed Church Mission for its generous grant of one hundred and twenty-five dollars to the Amoy Church News.
(3) to Mrs. W.R. Angus for the able way in which she has edited the Church News, and to all who have contributed articles for the paper.
(4) to Miss L.N. Duryee for translating the Sunday School Lessons and Daily Readings for 1936.
(5) to Mr. Lu Chin tiong for reading the proofs for the "Seng Si", the new hymnal.
(6) to all who have by prayer and otherwise forwarded the interests of the Society.

The Committee closes this report with thanks to God for guidance given during the year and for the privilege of having a share in the building of His Kingdom through the distribution of Christian literature, and prays that this literature may have carried a blessing with it whereever it has gone.

On behalf of the Committee,

H. A. POPPEN.

Secretary.

KULANGSU, AMOY.

Financial Statements
— 1935 —
**List of Members and Subscriptions 1935.**

A. *Ordinary Members for 1935.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Subscription (1934)</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miss J. Platz</td>
<td></td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. and Mrs. H.P. Boot</td>
<td>(1934)</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;A Friend&quot; per Rev W Short</td>
<td></td>
<td>20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss K.M. Talmage</td>
<td></td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. and Mrs. Mumford</td>
<td></td>
<td>10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rev. and Mrs. H.J Voskuil</td>
<td></td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss J. Veldman</td>
<td></td>
<td>15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. and Mrs. T.V Oltman</td>
<td></td>
<td>15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss R. Broekema</td>
<td></td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss E. K. Beekman</td>
<td></td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. and Mrs. R. Tully</td>
<td></td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. and Mrs. W.A. Busby</td>
<td></td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. and Mrs. R. Hofstra</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rev. and Mrs. L.G. Phillips</td>
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<td>10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rev. and Mrs. H.A. Poppen</td>
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<td>10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss J.P. McKay</td>
<td></td>
<td>10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss Daisy Pearce</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rev. and Mrs. W.R. Angus</td>
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<td>10.00</td>
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<td>Rev. and Mrs. A.J. Hutchinson</td>
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<td>5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss M. Fraser</td>
<td></td>
<td>15.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss M. Clarke</td>
<td></td>
<td>15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. and Mrs. H.P. De Pree</td>
<td></td>
<td>10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss F.E. Reynolds</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. and Mrs. A.F. Griffiths</td>
<td></td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss E.G. Bruce</td>
<td></td>
<td>10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss G.E. Hewitt</td>
<td></td>
<td>10.00</td>
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Mrs. H.C. Jett 15.00
Mr. Peter Anderson 10.00
Miss J. Nienhuis 10.00
Rev. and Mrs. J. Roberts 10.00
Miss A.T. Duncan 10.00
Miss L.N. Duryee 10.00
Miss M.C Morrison 10.00
Rev. and Mrs. G. Lerrigo 20.00
Miss L. van der Linden 8.00
Rev. and Mrs. E.W. Koepppe 10.00
Dr. and Mrs. C.H. Holleman 10.00
Miss A.E. Lindsay 5.00
Mr. and Mrs. H.J.P. Anderson 20.00

$ 516.00

B. Honorarg Members

Miss M.G. Ewing $ 10.00
Miss J. Ewing 10.00
Miss E.J. Herschell 15.00
Rev. and Mrs. A.L. Warnshuis 7.20
Liss. L. Lecky 12.23
Miss A.A. Symington 4.00
Dr. L. Thacker 10.00

$ 68.43
Donations for Special Purposes

Donations for Publication of Books Fund.
"A Friend" per Miss Ruth Broekema $ 30.00

SPECIAL DONATION FOR "AMOY CHURCH NEWS"
PUBLICATION
American Reformed Church Mission $ 125.00
### FINANCIAL Year ending

1. **General working a/c for 1935.**

   **Income**
   
   - Members subscriptions (annual) $516.00
   - Members " " " (Honorary) 68.43
   - Sales on Account 2,025.78
   - Cash Sales 4,583.42
   - Commission on sales 66.51
   - Donations for printing 30.00
   - Subscriptions "Church News" 92.56
   - Grant for "Church News" 125.00
   - 1934-35 debit balance 25.03

   **Total Income** $7,532.73

2. **Suspense Account for advance Payments.**

   - Balance in hand 30/11/34 191.83
   - Advanced on 1936 printing a/c 700.00
   
   **Total Suspense Account** $893.83

3. **Depot-keeper’s Superannuation Fund.**

   - Balance in hand 30/11/34 $434.22
   - Mr. Chng’s contribution 1935 42.00
   - Society’s " " 1935 42.00
   - Interest to 30/11/35 8.99

   **Total Superannuation Fund** $537.21
STATEMENTS
November 30th. 1935

Expenditure

Salaries $ 660.99
Light 30.00
Printing R.T.S. Pub’ns 1,842.67
Discount on cash sales 58.46
Municipal assessments 61.86
Reports, stationery etc. 32.84
Purchase of stock 2,501.99
Refunds, sales 1,322.41
Miscellaneous 140.70
Cost of "Church News" 263.00
Rent 480.00
1934–35 debit balance 137.81

$ 7,532.73

Payments made in 1935 $ 191.83
Balance 700.00

$ 893.83

Balance $ 537.21

$ 537.21
4. **Property Project Fund.**

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<th>Description</th>
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<td>B. F. and Bible Society 1935</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rent S.F.R.T.S. for 1935</td>
<td>480.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest on Fixed Deposit</td>
<td>8.75</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,377.15</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Balance</td>
<td>$ 3,377.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
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<td>$ 3,377.15</td>
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Expenditure.
STOCK IN

Books for sale on Commission $4,523.32
S.F.R.T.S. Publications 5,221.97
Formosa 116.87
Commentaries 172.66
Other Societies 1,791.67

$1,826.49

Respectfully submitted

Signed: H.A. Poppen
Treasurer.

Jan. 10th 1936.
Audited and found correct.
Signed:  R. Tully
        Auditor.
Jan. 10th. 1936