ANNUAL REPORT

of the

SOUTH FUKIEN

RELIGIOUS TRACT

SOCIETY

1938
OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE FOR 1939

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PRESIDENT
Mr. R. Tully

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SECRETARY
Rev. H. A. Poppen

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TREASURER
Rev. H. A. Poppen

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COMMITTEE
Miss D. M. Arrowsmith
Miss G. E. Hewett
Miss L. vander Linden
Miss B. C. Chiu
Miss Lau Po Hwa
Mrs. T. V. Oltman
Mrs. C. H. Holleman
Rev. N. B. Slater
Mr. S. G Shen
Miss A. E. Lindsay (Co-opted)
Miss N. Wheeler (Co-opted)
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 held at Amoy before the 31st. of January of each year. At the Annual Meeting a report of the
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.

SOUTH FUKIEN RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY

Thirty-first Annual Report

The thirtieth Annual Report presented last year closed with the prediction that year 1938 would very probably prove to be a difficult one for the Society, as war clouds were already hanging low over South Fukien. The fear expressed has proved only too true as the events of May 10 and 11 and the sad days following have shown. Interruptions of communications with the interior have very seriously hindered the distribution of literature; during a period of several months mail orders could not be executed. Cash sales at the bookshop also decreased to less than one-third of the ordinary volume. The lowest figure of cash sales $100.37 was recorded in August, and the highest $639.18 in November. Since September the sales gradually climbed and if the last month is at all an indication of the volume of monthly sales for 1939, the year ahead may be a record year for the Society.

The Amoy shop has been closed all year. The shop was broken into at various times and a small amount of stock was lost, some equipment destroyed and carried away. Several attempts were made by interested parties to occupy the shop but appeals to the authorities succeeded in getting their assistance in keeping the shop in our pos-
session. The Committee has not yet abandoned its plans for re-opening; this will be done as soon as a suitable shopkeeper can be found.

The work at the Kulangsu bookshop has been faithfully carried on by Mr. Chng and his assistant. The shop has continued to present a neat appearance. Depot Stock has been displayed to the best advantage possible. The sudden departure for the interior of Chng Jr. after the fall of Amoy, necessitated engaging another assistant which has no doubt caused patrons a certain amount of inconvenience but this could not very well be avoided.

The matter of distribution of literature is an important one. Many new difficulties have presented themselves during the year. The several centers that had become very helpful in the work of distribution experienced a serious crippling of their work, which has greatly reduced the amount of literature that would otherwise have found its way into the interior, through, these agencies. In addition, an extra tax has been levied on parcels sent through the Post Office and this increase in the cost of carriage has made purchasers hesitate to send in orders. The following table gives the circulation of books, Bibles, tracts and portions:

1. Society's own publications;
   (a) Romanised publications....................... 23,504
   (b) Character..................................... 27,868

2. Books sold on Commission (privately owned)
   (a) Romanised..................................... 254
   (b) Character..................................... 261
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Books published in Formosa</th>
<th>37</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Books published by other Societies</td>
<td>13,869</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Portions and tracts</td>
<td>29,197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(a) Romanised</td>
<td>A. T. S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(b) Character</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Dictionaries</td>
<td>44</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Commentaries</td>
<td>349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Sunday School Lessons and Daily Readings</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Seng Hoe Po</td>
<td>four issues only</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sale and distribution of Bibles;**

1. Bibles
   - Mandarin                      | 2,111 |
   - Wenli                         | 6    |
   - Romanised                     | 415  |
   - English                       | 52   |
   -                                  | 2,584 |

2. New Testaments
   - Mandarin                     | 1,149 |
   - Romanised                    | 336  |
   - English                      | 33   |
   - Chinese-English              | 45   |
   -                                  | 1,563 |

3. Portions
   - Mandarin                    | 786  |
   - Phonetics                   | 25   |
   - New Testament and Psalms    | 78   |
   - Psalms-Romanised            | 75   |
   - Old Testament               | 3    |
   -                                  | 967  |
   -                                  | 5,114 |
The amount of printing done during the year has been comparatively small. New publications in the press at the close of last year have all been completed and are now on sale at the bookshop. The cost of paper has increased very considerably. There was a period of severeral months when all printing was stopped because it was difficult to obtain the required supply of paper. The American Mission and the London Missionary Society have again made grants to the Printing Fund. Through the help of Mr. Onley of the Religious Tract Society of Hankow a grant of twenty pounds was received from the Religious Tract Society of London. It is now possible to go forward with the printing of new books without the usual lack of funds for this purpose. It is hoped that the incoming Committee will succeed in getting on with the work.

The following gives a list of publications issued during the year:

1. Romanised
   a. Repints
      "Chin-to Bun-tap" .... 3,000
      "Ji-bu Kho-Pun" (revised) .... 10,000
   b. New publications .... Translations
      "Daily Prayers" .... 1,000
      "Gospel Texts" .... 1,000
      "Facts and Mysteries of the Christian Faith" .... 1,000
      "Chimhan and His Khan" .... 1,000
      "Exposition of Gospel of Mark." .... 1,000

2. Character
   a. Reprint "Sip-to Chho-po" .... 1,000
   b. New "Ang-koan Po-to Toa" .... 70,000

   89,000

3. In the Press 5th edition "Seng Si" Large Character. .... 10,000
The Committee regrets to have to report that for the first time in its more than FIFTY years of publication the "Seng Hoe Po" (Amoy Church News) stopped its monthly appearance after the April issue. When Miss A. T. Duncan found it necessary to resign the editorship, Synod's Literature Committee was invited to edit the monthly. This invitation was gladly accepted and the first new Seng Hoe Po, in both the Romanised and Character, was issued in April. The May issue was in the press when the fall of Amoy occurred and the consequent disturbances suddenly stopped an undertaking which if continued would no doubt have meant much to the life of the Church and the Christian movement in South Fukien. The Committee is grateful to the group of men who entered upon this work so enthusiastically and so efficiently.

A perusal of the financial statement presented for the year will show that the total volume of sales is slightly lower than last year. It must be noted that in previous years the volume of sales was largely made up by the large sale of the new hymnal. This, however, was not the case for the year under review, as there was only a small supply of the large character hymnal left at the close of last year. In view of this and the general political disturbances, the fact that the Society succeeded in closing the year with a substantial credit balance of $288.53 is a matter of great satisfaction. The Committee is grateful to all those who have made this possible by their loyal support. The amount received in membership subscriptions was the largest in the history of the Society. This is significant in view of the heavy demands made on every one by other urgent and needy objects
and is again a testimony to the interest of all in the work of the Society.

In presenting this report the Committee wishes to record its thanks to God for guidance during a difficult year. We are living in the midst of war and untold suffering. On this little island we have been busy during the year in an attempt to provide a little food and shelter for the homeless and destitute, just enough to keep body and soul together. We have marvelled at the readiness of men and women to provide funds and to give freely of time and energy to feed the hungry and provide clothing for the unclothed. We thank God for these expressions of human sympathy. There is a deeper hunger and need than that of the body even though many do not realize it themselves. To satisfy this hunger God has placed us in this part of the world. We have in our hands for distribution "that Bread of Life of which if a man eats he shall not hunger again." May God help us to use every means and to take advantage of every opportunity to place in men's hands that Bread of Life.

On behalf of the Committee,

H. A. Poppon
Secretary

Kulangsu, Amoy
February 7, 1939.
List of Members and Subscriptions for 1938

A. Ordinary Members

Miss J. M. Platz ........................................... $30.00
Mrs. Fenwick ...............................................  5.00
Miss B. C. Chiu ...........................................  5.00
Miss A. T. Duncan ......................................... 10.00
Dr. G. Cummings .........................................  5.00
Mr. H. A. Forsythe ....................................... 10.00
Miss J. Veldman ........................................... 25.00
Rev. R. Mobbs .............................................  5.00
Rev. and Mrs. L. G. Phillips ......................... 10.00
Miss J. Nienhuis .......................................... 30.00
Mrs. W. W. Jett ........................................... 10.00
Dr. and Mrs. W. A. Busby .............................. 10.00
Mr. E. Tipson ............................................. 10.00
Miss L. Vander Linden ...................................  8.00
Miss M. Fraser ............................................ 30.00
Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Shen ................................ 10.00
Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Ting ................................ 10.00
Rev. and Mrs. F. Balchin ............................... 10.00
Mr. and Mrs. H. J. P. Anderson ..................... 20.00
Dr. and Mrs. C. H. Holleman ......................... 40.00
Rev. and Mrs. N. B. Slater ............................  7.50
Mr. and Mrs. R. Rogers ................................ 10.00
Mr. and Mrs. R. Tully .................................. 20.00
Dr. T. C. Read ........................................... 10.00
Rev. and Mrs. W. De Velder ......................... 40.00
Miss. E. G. Bruce ....................................... 20.00
Miss. A. E. Lindsay ..................................... 15.00
Miss Daisy Pearce ....................................... 15.00
Miss T. Holkeboer ....................................... 15.00
( 11 )

Miss D. M. Arrowsmith.............................. 10.00
Miss N. Wheeler................................. 8.00
Rev. I. R. M. Latto.............................. 5.00
Rev. and Mrs. H. A. Poppen...................... 40.00
Dr. and Mrs. T. V. Oltman....................... 30.00
Rev. and Mrs. E. W. Koeppel..................... 25.00
Rev. and Mrs. H. P. Boot......................... 10.00
Dr. and Mrs. R. Hofstra........................ 25.00
Mr. and Mrs. P. Anderson....................... 10.00
Rev. and Mrs. H. M. Veenschoten............... 30.00

$638.50

B. Honorary Members

Miss L. N. Duryee.............................. 20.00
Dr. and Mrs. A. L. Warnshuis............... 16.50
Miss E. J. Herschell.......................... 15.00

$51.50

Special Donations Account

Rev. W. De Velder.............................. $20.00
"A Friend" Per Miss J. Veldman.............. 30.00

$50.00

Donations to Printing Fund

R. T. S. London £ 20........................... $335.37
R. C. A. Mission............................... 300.00
London Missionary Society..................... 337.55

$972.92
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<td>To Salaries</td>
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<td>To Light</td>
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<td>To Printing Reports</td>
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<td>To Discount on Sales</td>
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<td>To Printing</td>
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<td>To Purchase of Stock</td>
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<td>To Refund on Sales</td>
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<td>To Seng Hoe Printing</td>
<td>134.65</td>
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<td>To 1937-1938 Croit Balance</td>
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<td>$ 6993.73</td>
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<tr>
<td>To Balance carried forward</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Account</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To Balance Carried forward</td>
<td>868.55</td>
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ACCOUNT

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>By Seng Hoe Po.</td>
<td>$ 134.80</td>
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<td>By Members Sub's (reg)</td>
<td>$ 638.50</td>
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<td>Ay &quot; &quot; (hon).</td>
<td>$  51.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>By Sales on Account</td>
<td>$1,630.82</td>
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<td>By Cash Sales...</td>
<td>$ 4,434.88</td>
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<td>By Commission on Sales...</td>
<td>$   53.23</td>
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<tr>
<td>By Special Donations.</td>
<td>$    50.00</td>
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**Total: $6,993.73**

PROJECT FUND

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<tr>
<td>By Balance 1937</td>
<td>$3,993.49</td>
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SUPERANNUATION FUND

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<tr>
<td>By Balance 1937</td>
<td>$  754.38</td>
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<tr>
<td>By Society's Contribution 1938</td>
<td>$   42.00</td>
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<td>By Mr. Chng's &quot; &quot;</td>
<td>$   42.00</td>
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<td>By Int. from Salary A/C 1938</td>
<td>$   30.17</td>
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**Total: $868.55**
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To Balance carried forw'd</td>
<td>44.00</td>
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**PRINTING**

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>To Printing “Mark”</td>
<td>222.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>To Translator</td>
<td>50.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>To Chin-Ham and His Khan</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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<td>To “Facts and Mysteries”</td>
<td>214.80</td>
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<td>To Balance Carried Forw'd</td>
<td>1130.57</td>
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**TOTAL**: 1717.37

**TRIAL**

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<tr>
<td>To Property Project Fund</td>
<td>3993.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Superannuation Bal.</td>
<td>868.55</td>
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<tr>
<td>To Superannuation Assistant</td>
<td>44.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>To Printing Fund Bal.</td>
<td>1130.57</td>
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<tr>
<td>To 1937-1938 Credit Bal.</td>
<td>288.53</td>
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**TOTAL**: 6325.14

**STOCK**

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<tr>
<td>R. T. S. Publications</td>
<td>6499.89</td>
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<tr>
<td>Books Sold on Commission</td>
<td>4025.92</td>
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<td>Books Printed in Formosa</td>
<td>46.92</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commentaries</td>
<td>300.96</td>
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<td>Other Societies</td>
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**TOTAL**: 12444.83

*Audited and Found correct.*

*Jan. 14. E. W. Koepp*
SUPERANNUATION

By Carried forward 1937............................................ 24.00
By Society’s Cont’n 1938............................................. 10.00
By Assistant’s „ .................................................... 10.00

$ 44.00

FUND

By Balance carried forward........................................... $ 744.45
By R. T. S. London....................................................... 335.37
By R. C. A. Mission Grant............................................. 300.00
By L. M. S. Grant 1937 and ’38....................................... 337.55

1717.37

BALANCE

By Fixed/Deposits Superann’t........................................... 754.38
By Property Project F/D............................................... 2000.00
By Current A/C Bal..................................................... 3570.76

6325.14

ON HAND

Bibles................................................................. 1032.45

Respectfully submitted
H. A. Poppen. Treasurer.
ANNUAL MEETING

The thirty-first annual meeting of the South Fukien Religious Tract Society was held in Union Church, Kulangsu, Amoy, on Tuesday, February 7, 1939 at 5:40 P.M.

The following members were present: Misses Daisy Pearce, M. Fraser P. Reid, J. Veldman, T. Holkeboer, E.G. Bruce, L. Vander Linden, J. M. Platz, N. Wheeler, Rev. and Mrs. N. B. Slater, Rev. and Mrs. E. W. Koepppe, Rev. and Mrs. W. De Velder, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Vander Meer, Mrs. C. H. Holleman, Dr. R. Hofstra, Mr. S. E. Ting, Mr. R. Tully, Rev. H. A. Poppen and Dr. T. V. Oltman.

The Minutes of the annual meeting held January 17, 1938, having been printed and circulated were taken as read.

The secretary read the report of work done during 1938, and the treasurer presented a statement of accounts.

The Rev. E. W. Koepppe moved that the reports be accepted, printed and circulated. This was seconded by the Rev. N. B. Slater. This was unanimously carried.

After a brief discussion on some aspects of the work of the Society, the following officers and committee members were elected for 1939:

President
Mr. R. Tully

Secretary and Treasurer
Rev. H. A. Poppen

Committee members
Miss D. M. Arrowsmith
Miss Lau Po Hwa
Miss G. E. Hewett
Mrs. T. V. Oltman
Miss L. Vander Linden
Miss B. C. Chiu
Mrs. C. H. Holleman
Rev. N. B. Slater
Mr. S. G. Shen
Miss A. E. Lindsay (co-opted)
Miss N. Wheeler

The meeting adjourned at 6:30. The Rev. E. W. Koepppe led in the closing prayer.
Herewith I enclose...being my subscription to the

South Fukien Tract Society for 193

To the Secretary
SOUTH FUKIEN RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY,
AMOY