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for
Tad Wisenor

Sept., 2009

Dear Tad,

This publication has taken a long time indeed - without going into the details, let me say that a necessary change in publishers has produced a better book. Thank you for your assistance in making this project possible, and I hope the final result meets with your approval. With all best wishes,
Bob Gardella, emeritus, U.S.M.M.A.

在慶同仁醫院

袁亮晉女士

福晉堂文

屏城

款不遵命而行請姐姐放心

老伯大人稱體康健否請歸寧時代為致候

表叔母評亦甚至保作支好懇乞在轉告時千萬不

要忘記遠地的恩美

因姐可有信否身者思老妹因年難性多不識望姐

隨加引導以歡家慶之樂前聞先君任處有膿腫

命字就讀言不多孩

敬祝

起居安適



安慰囑摩問候因現在陸續
歌 舞 戲

上課沒有多少未清姐姐原諒

年 月 日

恩小姐

吳景華

although the student did their utmost to keep him there. Before releasing him however, the official squeezed him to the extent of over 100. Strenuous efforts were made by the students to coerce our Christians, and helpers, to join a Chinese society going under the name of the "True Jesus Church", the leaders of which are men who for misconduct were put out of the Church. They thought if our people all left us, we would get discouraged and go home. I am glad to say that the majority of our Christians remained true, and continued to come as usual to ~~the~~ the services. Throughout all these dangers the Lord has showed Himself strong on our behalf to deliver us from the opposition of the enemy; praise be to His name.

We estimate that our district has a population of at least a million people. Beside Manchow, our central station with a population of probably more than 30,000 people, the work is carried on in 8 outstations. To assist us we have a staff of 7 Evangelists, and 1 Biblewoman. Those free to go out are usually joined by one or two voluntary workers, thus forming a Preaching Band, that has done effectual service during the past few years. Encouraging results were seen in different places, where numbers came forward expressing their wish to become Christians, and in one place the son of one of our Church members, who had got into sin and squandered a considerable sum of money was brought under conviction and has since been doing better. It is interesting also to notice how the influence of the Gospel is making itself felt in some quarters. Next door is a rich man who for a number of years after we first came to this city was our sworn enemy. Of recent years he has changed round and is becoming increasingly friendly. Mr. Chin, our evangelist referred to above, seems to have got considerable influence with him. Some months ago the old man's two adopted sons were at enmity and would not speak to one another, although living under the same roof. Mr. Chin was sent for and succeeded in establishing peace between them.

The attendances have been affected a little by the tearing ^(down of) the building to erect our new church, and perhaps a little by the student trouble; but nevertheless here at the main station have averaged from 80 - 100. At the five outstations where we have evangelists stationed the average attendance would be from 20 - 30. At Manchow our Christian Endeavour has a membership of 40 and the attendance usually numbers between 20 & 30.

In the Day-school the teacher has done well, and has not been able to take in all the applicants. In the first half year there were 40 on the roll, - 19 boys & 1 girls. Owing to the troubles however this number shrank during the Summer; parents no doubt being afraid to send them.

Building operations have prevented us visiting the outstations to examine candidates for baptism. In all 9 have been baptized during the year - 5 men & 4 women. Of these 8 were at the main station. Through death and discipline, there were 4 deductions; so that we have an increase of 2 men & 3 women. The total for the district is now 376 communicants, - 232 men & 94 women.

The ^{Native} contributions show a marked increase this year, 241.59 having been given for evangelistic work, and 18.00 for school work - making a total of 259.59. The greater part of this has been given for the Church building.

An encouraging feature of the work this year, has been the number of Scripture portions sold by our workers, it being difficult in some cases to keep the supplies up to them. Over 3,500 Gospels were disposed of besides other books, and 4,000 tracts distributed.

We are glad to notice a marked spirit of enquiry abroad, especially towards the end of the year. In travelling, several men in official and other good positions have been met with, who have boldly in the presence of the crowd expressed their desire to become Christians; and one of them who had been my fellow passenger on a launch, later in response to my invitation, called to receive some books I had promised him. On another occasion recently when travelling to Changteh aboard a launch, we were awakened out of our sleep at mid-night by a boat hand calling another to take his watch. One of the passengers to whom I had been preaching, then started to question me about the religion. He began in an argumentative mood, but before long changed round and seemed really desirous of knowing the truth, and for over 20 minutes I was kept talking not only to him, but to others who had become interested. He asked me where he could get some books and I told him I would give him some in the morning, a promise of which he afterwards reminded me. This may be the reaction from the student movement. In any case we will value prayer, that we may make the best of this fine opportunity.

Yours for the staff

G. F. Driffin