

**1947 "Thirty-Fourth Annual Report of the Women's Missionary Society W. D.,
Presbyterian Church in Canada"**

"Chinese Work" section printed pp 52-55.

-part of "national missions" report by Frieda E. Matthews, Executive Secretary

Mrs. MacLellan is Recording and Corresponding Secretary.

(p. 18) Miss Muriel Judd, was Superintendent in Montreal, paid \$1410.00 Salary and expenses

Miss Fay McTavish was Superintendent in Toronto, salary \$1400.00

Miss Ruth Yeandle was Superintendent in Vancouver, paid \$1510.00, Salary and expenses

Miss G. Scott was Superintendent in Victoria, salary \$1400.00

Kanora, helping wherever needed when other members of staff took their holidays. Miss Estelle MacCaustland, a graduate deaconess and now a nurse-in-training, spent five months in the summer assisting in the Chinese work in Toronto and visiting at the Weston Sanatorium. In August Miss MacCaustland gave part of her time to survey work in Weston under the direction of the Rev. R. C. Creelman. Miss Hilda Blackwell, as port worker in Montreal during the summer, was able to give assistance to many people who came to make Canada their home. As secretary to the Rev. H. R. Pickup, Miss Blackwell proved very helpful.

In all of this work we might say, as did one of our deaconesses: "There is much to discourage, but there is also much to encourage. It isn't a week or two or even a month or two that determines the success of any branch of the work. It is the steady doing of the Master's will, obeying His call where the need is presented. Sometimes it is only a whispered promise of the Word to a heart darkened by sorrow, or a word of cheer to a sick person that goes to make up the day's work. And nobody but the Master has seen or heard, or knows the effort put forth, but the Lord has promised that His Word shall not return unto Him void, but shall prosper in the thing whereto it is sent."

Chinese Work

Victoria. Under the capable direction of Miss Gertrude Scott, assisted by Miss Grace Lee, our Chinese work in Victoria has shown progress. In her report Miss Scott says, "On looking back over the year just closed one is conscious of growth, and thankful that the various organizations have continued to function happily and the members have enjoyed good fellowship together."

The kindergarten was conducted each morning, Monday to Friday, with a total enrolment of 42. In June nine children graduated and in September began their first grade work in public schools. Six new pupils told every day, Bible stories in both English and Chinese were hymns were learned. The closings in June and December were very well attended and the children prepared enjoyable programmes for the entertainment of their parents and friends. A feature of the Christmas programme was a nativity play in Chinese, which was repeated at the Christmas concert.

In the afternoons English lessons were given to four young Chinese men who had recently come from China. These young men were faithful in their attendance at church services. Thirteen Sunday School pupils were given music lessons, and a recital was held in June at the home of two of the pupils.

Reports from the organizations are most encouraging. The Senior Women's Auxiliary, with seventeen members and an average attendance of thirteen, held eleven meetings during the year, sent \$56.30 for the General Fund and \$4.00 for the Supply Fund. Bundles of clothing were also sent to the Supply Secretary. From the women's "Charity Box" \$16.00 was sent to Chinese War Relief and \$25.00 to an orphanage in South China. The Young Women's Auxiliary completed its eighth year, with nine members. Collections amounted to \$12.50, and \$2.25 was given to the Supply Fund. The two Auxiliaries met together for the Mother's Day and Christmas meetings. The Shining Light Girls' Guild enjoyed the study book, *This is India*. In April they held a tea, giving the proceeds to help towards the cost of re-decorating the schoolrooms. The

Guild contributed \$3.00 to the Women's Missionary Society General Fund. The Mission Band had monthly meetings, using the study *By The Village*. The Sunday School had an enrolment of fifty. In August a Vacation Bible School was conducted for three weeks.

Classes in the Chinese school, held every school day from 4.30 to 8.00 o'clock, were taught by Rev. Leung Moi Fong and Miss Grace Lee. Religious instruction was given daily.

Miss Scott and Miss Lee gave part of their time each week to visiting in the homes of the pupils attending the kindergarten, Sunday School and Chinese school. Through these visits they reach the parents, many of whom have not accepted the Christian faith.

Vancouver. Miss Yeandle reports that although it was a difficult year progress was made.

In the kindergarten 72 children were enrolled; 17 of these graduated into public school in June. A Young People's Society was organized in the spring with a membership of 15. The senior Auxiliary had a good year with attendance at meetings fairly regular. On the Day of Prayer five members took part in the Chinese service. At their annual meeting in December they entertained about seventy-five guests; the Rev. H. A. Berlis, Moderator of Presbytery, installed their officers. The Esther Armstrong Young Women's Group had also a very successful year. It is of great interest to know that one of their members gave the devotional message at the evening session of the Presbyterian annual meeting.

Under the capable leadership of Miss Arnie Wilson the Mission Band had a fine year. They are to be commended for the splendid way in which they conducted the devotions at the Mission Band spring rally in Fairview Church.

A Daily Vacation Bible School was held in July, with 58 children enrolled. Miss Yeandle believes that a great deal is accomplished during the Vacation School periods. Sunday School was conducted all year, in the morning in the summer and in the afternoon in the winter. On the Cradle Roll are the names of 53 children, all under the age of four, showing the prospect of future kindergarten pupils.

The missionary givings are interesting. To the Church budget \$300.00 was given; to the Bible Society, \$86.00; to the Women's Missionary Society (all groups), \$90.67; to other missionary causes, \$57.90. Total \$533.97. Besides, the congregation gave \$600.00 towards the minister's stipend and also contributed to the Advance Fund.

In November a mothers' group was organized. The purpose of their meetings is to show what the mission aims to do for their children, in laying good foundations, physical, mental and spiritual, for life, to seek the parents' co-operation in carrying out these aims, and to help with any problems they may have.

The Boys' Brigade was active through the year, with a large membership. The well-rounded programme included Bible study, handcraft, and sports. A former leader writes, "I look back on these years at the Mission as one of the high points in my spiritual experience. I feel that the opportunity for the work among the fellows there is tremendous and would mean a lot for the future of Christianity in Chinatown." Toronto. The kindergarten had a splendid year. Thirty children enrolled and the average attendance in the spring was the highest it had been for some time; there were three in the graduating class.

The attendance at Sunday School was exceptionally good, with fifty on the roll at the beginning of the year. When the mission car was sold in June it was feared that the attendance would decrease, but in September fifty-six children enrolled. From the offerings \$25.00 was sent

to the Board of Missions and \$23.00 to our Society. Because of limited space at the Chinese Y.M.C.I., where most of the meetings are held, the Sunday School meets in Cooke's Church. Miss McLavish expresses appreciation of this kindness shown to the Chinese children.

The Vacation Bible School, conducted for three weeks in July, was most successful. At the closing, held on Sunday evening, the children sang, recited Scripture, answered questions on Bible stories, and showed the handwork they had done.

The Mission Band met every second Saturday and was well attended. At each meeting there was a period for mission study and for handwork. Their offerings amounted to \$8.00. The members attended a rally in Morningside Church and also a meeting in Parkdale Church, where they were in charge of the programme. The summer's activities ended with a picnic at High Park.

The Women's Missionary Society Auxiliary reported a good year. At each meeting they have Bible study as well as mission study. Five members subscribe to *The Glad Tidings*. Supplies valued at \$13.12 and \$2.00 for expenses were sent to the Supply Secretary and \$21.00 was forwarded for the General Fund.

There is also a very active Ladies' Auxiliary, which meets each week. Through the kindness of the women gifts were sent to the Chinese patients in the Weston Sanatorium, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, and the Chinese Convalescent Home. From the proceeds of their bazaar in October they contributed \$40.00 to our Society.

The young people meet once a month and usually have a speaker. During the year they attended a meeting at Glenview Church and one at Victoria. The older teen-age girls enjoyed six days at Westminster Camp, Lake Simcoe.

Miss Agnes Traill, for many years a faithful, devoted friend of the Chinese Mission, passed away in September. She is greatly missed both by our workers and by the Chinese people.

Miss McLavish writes of the kindly service given by Miss Ruth Ma, who assisted with the work among the children, both in the kindergarten and the Sunday School. We are glad to know that Miss Ma and her sister, Miss Ruby Ma, are continuing in the Sunday School work. Appreciated, too, was the help given by Miss Estelle MacCauley during the summer months in kindergarten, Mission Band and Vacation School.

We are glad to report that Miss Sui Ping Kong, for whom we had been waiting for some time, arrived in Toronto from Canton on New Year's Day. Miss Kong had served for several years in China as teacher and deaconess.

Our only regret is that again we begin the year without a Chinese minister for our work in Toronto. As Miss McLavish says, "It is hard to understand when the need is so great."

Ottawa. The report of the work in Ottawa was most encouraging. The Church is deeply indebted to Miss Katherine Reid for her devoted services among the Chinese people there. The Young People's Society met every two weeks during the winter months. In February at an afternoon tea and money shower, when costumes were on display, Canadian as well as Chinese, they raised \$565.00 for the Canadian Aid to China.

The young people sponsored the June picnic for the pupils and friends of the Sabbath School and Day School. In September they held a farewell dinner for those of their members who were leaving Ottawa

to attend University; they were glad to have the Rev. D. Smith of Vancouver as their guest speaker on this occasion.

The Christmas concert in December was a happy event, with a large attendance of Chinese people and friends who had been interested in the work for a number of years. The readiness of the young people to assist in so many ways in the work of the Mission speaks well for the future. As they continue to grow and develop in the service of the Church, so will the Mission continue to be a blessing to them.

Montreal. In Montreal the question before each one in the Chinese Mission is, "When will the new church be built?" On November 5th it was necessary to move the work from the old building to the main hall of the Chinese Y.M.C.I. Until the church building is ready this appears to be the only solution to their problem. The hall is suitable for older age groups, but because of a sloping floor it is not so practical for the children's activities.

Church services were conducted each Sunday, with some of the Chinese men usually taking part once a month. Visitors to the Mission included Dr. A. S. Reid, Rev. David Smith, Vancouver, Rev. E. J. White, and Rev. Peter Wong and Rev. Calvin Lee of China. On behalf of a family in his congregation, St. Matthew's, Mr. White presented a pulpit Bible to the Chinese Church.

In the Sunday School attendance was quite good all year. Miss Judd expressed appreciation of the volunteer workers who come each week to help in this important work amongst the children. It is interesting to know that three children had a perfect record for attendance and that six had missed fewer than seven Sundays when the school was held. The June picnic, which over one hundred attended, was held at St. Helen's Island. A Vacation school was conducted for two weeks in July.

The kindergarten was held four afternoons a week, with a regular attendance of eleven. At the closing service in June, which was well attended, three children graduated from the kindergarten and five received diplomas for having completed the Presbyterian Beginners' Memory course. The programme presented by the girls and boys was much enjoyed; the Presbyterian provided refreshments.

Chinese school is conducted four afternoons a week by the Rev. Paul Chan, assisted by Mrs. Louie and Miss Judd.

G.I.T. meetings have been attended quite regularly by the girls. Though the group is not large, it became a "Cheriton" group because of the girls' excellent work. A contribution of \$3.75 was sent to the Society's General Fund, and as a project in their mission study a soap-book was made and sent to Miss Bessie MacMurchy in India.

Boys' work was carried on successfully during the winter and spring. Owing to the lack of a leader and, since November, lack of suitable space, no meetings were held in the fall.

Under Mrs. Louie's leadership the W.M.S. Auxiliary meets once a month. The members sent \$25.00 to the General Fund, and several parcels of clothing to China. Synodical and Presbyterian representatives were welcome guests at some meetings.

The prayer meetings, held twice a month, were attended by faithful friends of our work whose interest and prayers are much appreciated. The Christmas concert was a decided success; over one hundred were present. A play written and directed by Mrs. Louie was well presented by some of the young people.

Mr. Chan and Mrs. Louie do most of the visiting, as it is usually necessary to speak Chinese. They do a great deal of good work in helping the people in many different ways, and their interest and help are much appreciated by the Chinese people.