MINUTES
OF THE
MALAYSIA MISSION CONFERENCE
OF THE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.
SECOND SESSION
SINGAPORE, FEBRUARY 2-5, 1894.

BISHOP J. M. THOBURN, D. D., President.
REV. W. H. B. URCH, Secretary.

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Conference Officers.

Bishop J. M. THOBURN, D.D. ... ... President.
W. H. B. URCH ... ... ... Secretary.
W. G. SHELLABEABER ... ... ... Statistical Secretary.
C. C. KELSO ... ... ... Corresponding Secretary.

Finance Committee.

R. W MUNSON, ex-officio. | B. F. WEST
W. G. SHELLABEABER | D. D. MOORE
C. C. KELSO, ex-officio.
H. L. E. LUERING and W. H. B. URCH, alternate.

Examining Committee.

H. L. E. LUERING | W. G. SHELLABEABER
R. W MUNSON

Deaconess Board.

R. W. MUNSON | MRS. POLGLASE
MRS. BENJAFIELD | MRS. KELSO
MRS. MOORE | H. L. E. LUERING
W. G. SHELLABEABER | MRS. MUNSON
W. H. B. URCH.

Auditing Committee.

J. POLGLASE | F. J. BENJAFIELD
D. D. MOORE

Corresponding Committee.

H. L. E. LUERING | D. D. MOORE

To preach the Annual Sermon.

W. G. SHELLABEABER.
Alternate—C. C. KELSO.
The Second Session of the Malaysia Mission Conference met at the Coleman Street Methodist Episcopal Church, Singapore, at 10.30 a.m.

Bishop J. M. Thoburn presided.

The Bishop announced the first hymn and conducted the devotional exercises.

The Secretary of the last Session being absent in America, the Presiding Elder called the roll of the Conference, and the following members responded to their names:—D. D. Moore, G. F. Pykett, C. C. Kelso, H. L. E. Luering, W. H. B. Urch, W. G. Shellabear, R. W. Munson, and W. J. Wager.

On motion of R. W. Munson, W. H. B. Urch was elected Secretary.

On motion of W. G. Shellabear, it was resolved that the Conference meet every morning at 10.30 a.m.

On motion of C. C. Kelso, W. G. Shellabear was elected Statistical Secretary.

On motion of R. W. Munson, C. C. Kelso was elected Treasurer of the Conference.
On the nomination of the Chair, the following Committees were appointed:—

On Education.—H. L. E. Luering, Miss Ferris, and W. T. Stagg.

On Sunday Schools.—W. H. B. Urch, John Polglase and A. E. Breece.


On motion of H. L. E. Luering, the question of salaries as affected by exchange was referred to the Finance Committee.

Question 13 was taken up. The character of R. W. Munson was passed, and he presented his report. (See report A.) The names of the following brethren were called, their characters passed, and they reported their collections: D. D. Moore, H. L. E. Luering and W. H. B. Urch.

Question 22 was taken up. The name of B. F. West was called, his character passed, and he was continued in the supernumerary relation.

Question 8 was then taken up. The character of B. H. Balderston was passed and he was continued in the third year.

The announcements were made, and on motion, the Conference adjourned, the benediction being pronounced by the Bishop.

SECOND DAY

Saturday, February 3rd.

Conference met at 10.30 a.m. Bishop Thoburn in the Chair.

D. D. Moore conducted the devotional exercises.

The minutes of the previous day's session were read and approved.

The Committee on Sunday Schools presented their report, which, after an interesting discussion, was adopted. (See report B.)

Question 5, "Who have been continued on trial?" was taken up. The names of G. F. Pykett, W. J. Wager, and W. T. Kensett were called, their characters passed, and they were continued in the studies of the first year.

On motion, the Bishop was requested to leave W. T. Kensett without appointment to attend one of our schools in America.
1894]

MALAYSIA MISSION CONFERENCE.  5

Question 7, "Who have been admitted into full connection?" was taken up. The name of W. G. Shellabear was called and his character passed. The Bishop addressed the Conference and put the usual disciplinary questions to the candidate, who was then admitted into full connection and elected to Deacon's orders.

Question 12 was taken up, and, on motion of R. W. Munson, W G. Shellabear was elected to Elder's orders, under the Missionary rule.

After announcements the Conference adjourned, the benediction being pronounced by Bishop Thoburn.

THIRD DAY

Sunday, February 4th.

Bishop Thoburn preached in the English Church at 7.30 a.m. The sermon was preceded by the baptism of a Tamil convert and followed by the ordination of W. G. Shellabear to the office of Deacon, and at this service thirteen Chinese converts received baptism at his hands.

At the Malay service, at 10.30 a.m., the Bishop again preached.

Bishop Thoburn again occupied the pulpit of the English Church at 5 p.m., and at the close of the service ordained W. G. Shellabear Elder.

The last service of the day was held at 7.45 in the evening, conducted by the Bishop, when the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered, followed by the Conference Love-feast.

All the Services were characterised by deep solemnity and manifest tokens of the Master's presence.

FOURTH DAY

MORNING SESSION.

Monday, February 5th.

The Conference met at 10.30 a.m. Bishop Thoburn in the chair. W. J. Wager conducted the devotional exercises.

The minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

Question 30 was taken up, and Singapore was selected as the place for holding the next Conference.
The Statistical Secretary presented his report in part, which was accepted, with the understanding that he obtain the remaining statistics before the publication of the Minutes.

The Committee on Education presented their report, which was adopted. (See report C.)

On motion of R. W. Munson, H. L. E. Luering was elected delegate to the Central Conference in India.

Mr. John Polglase was introduced, and he briefly addressed the Conference.

Mrs. Kelso presented the report of the Board of Deaconesses, which, on motion of D. D. Moore, was adopted. (See report D.)

On motion of R. W. Munson, the following resolution was adopted by a rising vote.

Resolved: 1.—That it has afforded us very great pleasure to welcome among us our excellent friends, Mrs. Andrew and Dr. Kate Bushnell, two of the Master's workers whose names have become endeared to all friends of advanced and earnest Christianity throughout the world.

2.—That we gratefully recognise the heroic service which these ladies have performed in India, in the interest of public purity and Christian morality, by which a great scandal has been abolished, a great danger averted, and the way prepared for the introduction of radical measures of reform into the management of military affairs.

3.—That we express to Mrs. Andrew and Dr. Bushnell our sympathy in the great work which they have undertaken, and assure them that our earnest prayers for their continued success will follow them as they go on their way around the globe.

R. W. MUNSON.
W. H. B. URCH.

The report of the Committee on public morality was presented and adopted (See report E).

Question 4, "Who have been received on Trial?" was then taken up. The following names were called and, the examining Committee having reported favourably, they were admitted on Trial, William T. Stagg, Edward T. Snuggs, and William E. Horley.

On motion, the Elders of the Conference were appointed a Committee on Conference relations.

On nomination of the chair, W. H. B. Urch and W. G. Shellabear were appointed a Committee for publishing the Minutes.

On nomination of the Bishop, H. L. E. Luering and D. D. Moore were appointed a Committee on correspondence.

On motion the Conference adjourned until 7.45 p.m., the Bishop pronouncing the benediction.

EVENING SESSION.

Conference met at 7.45 p.m., the Bishop conducting the opening service.
The Minutes of the morning's session were read and confirmed.

The Bishop read a letter from Mrs. Andrew acknowledging the resolution of the Conference recognising the work which Dr. Kate Bushnell and herself are doing in the cause of public morality.

Question 5 was again taken up. The character of C. C. Kelso was passed, and he was advanced to the studies of the second year.

Question 4 was resumed and Arthur J. Watson, having successfully passed the required examination and having been duly recommended by his Quarterly Conference, was admitted on trial.

Question 22 was again taken up, and, on motion, B. H. Balderston was granted a supernumerary relation.

Question 15 was asked, and no member of the Conference having died during the year the doxology was sung.

Mr. F. J. Renjafield was introduced to the Conference.

On motion, the following were elected Auditing Committee on the nomination of the Chair, John Polglase, F. J. Benjafield and D. D. Moore.

On the nomination of the Chair the following were elected members of the Finance Committee, B. F. West, D. D. Moore, and W. G. Shellabear, with H. L. E. Luering, and W. H. B. Urch alternates.

Miss Marks, a missionary of our Church on her way to India, was introduced and briefly addressed the Conference.

On motion it was resolved that our delegates to the Central Conference be instructed to request that body to recognise the "Malaysia Message" as the official organ of this Mission Conference, and that W. G. Shellabear be nominated as Editor.

The Examining Committee reported that R. W. Munson had passed the second year's studies in Malay and D. D. Moore the first and second years of the same course, and they were both advanced to the third year.

The certificate of the ordination of W. G. Shellabear to the office of Deacon and to the office of Elder was read as follows:

This is to certify that on yesterday, February 4th, I ordained William G Shellabear to the office of Deacon and also, on the same day, with the assistance of Elders, I ordained the same person to the office of Elder.

Singapore, Feb. 5, 1894. 

J. M. Thoburn.

On motion of D. D. Moore the following resolution was adopted:—

Resolved:—That the visiting members of this Conference record their appreciation of, and gratitude for, the kindness shown to them by their hosts and friends in Singapore at this Conference.

Bishop Thoburn led in prayer, after which the Appointments were read and Conference adjourned.
The foregoing Journal of the daily session together with the reports following is a correct and complete record of the proceedings of the Malaysia Mission Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church for the year 1894.

Singapore, Straits Settlements,
February, 1894.

President.

Secretary.
Appointments of the Malaysia Mission Conference.

Ralph W. Munson. Presiding Elder.
(P. O.: Singapore.)

Malacca. ... ... ... ... To be supplied.
Penang. ... ... ... ... Daniel D. Moore.
Anglo-Chinese School ... ... George F. Pykett.

Singapore.
Anglo-Chinese School ... ... Charles C. Kelso.
" " " ... ... William T. Stagg.
" " " ... ... William E. Horley.
" " " ... ... Arthur J. Watson.
Chinese Mission ... ... Henry L. E. Luering.
English Church ... ... William H. B. Urch.
Malay Mission ... ... William G. Shellabear.
Orphanage ... ... ... Ralph W. Munson.
Soldiers' Home ... ... ... Edward T. Snuggs.
Tamil Mission ... ... ... To be supplied.
Mission Press—Superintendent ... ... William G. Shellabear.
Manager ... ... ... William J. Wager.

Supernumerary—Benjamin F. West, Benjamin H. Balderston.

On leave to attend school—William T. Kensett.

Transferred to the North-West India Conference—John F. Deakker.

Woman's Conference.

Penang.
Chinese and Tamil Schools ... ... Mrs. Moore.

Singapore.
Woman's work, English ... ... Mrs. Kelso.
" " Chinese ... ... Mrs. Luering.
" " Malag ... ... Mrs. Stagg.
Superintendent of Deaconess' Home and Chinese Schools ... ... Miss Emma E. Ferris.
Evangelistic Work ... ... ... Miss Sophia Blackmore.
Rescue Work ... ... ... Miss Josephine M. Hebinger.
Malay and English Schools ... ... Miss Eva Foster.

On leave:—Mrs. West, Mrs. Shellabear.
COURSE OF STUDY.

MALAY AND CHINESE.

Course of Malay Study for the Members of the Malaysia Mission Conference.—February 1894.

First Year.

Hikayat Yusof in Romanised Malay.
Palayuran Abdullah.
Koran Tract.
Sale's Koran with Introduction. (In English.)
Easy passages from the Gospel of Matthew or from the life of Joseph in Genesis to be translated at sight into colloquial Malay.

Second Year.

Hikayat Abdullah, 1st Book. (Government edition.)
The Gospel of John.
The Epistle to the Romans.
Kratian Isn. (When published.)
Sell's "Faith of Islam." (In English.)
A written sermon of 1,000 words in the Arabic Character.
Passages from the Scripture portions read to be translated at sight into Malay.

Third Year.

The Book of Psalms.
All the Epistles.
Hikayat Bakhtiar.
Sjarah Mayu. (If obtainable.)
Pfander's "Misanul Haqq." (In English.)
Sermon to be preached extempore before the examiners.

Course of Study in Hok-kien Chinese.

First year.

1. Gospel of John, chapters 1-4: to be able to read the Chinese character and translate into the colloquial.
2. "Lun-Gu." 1st & 2nd books: to be able to read in the Chinese character and translate into English.
3. Gospel of Mark: to be read in the Romanised colloquial.
4. Short written discourse in the Romanised colloquial.

Second year.

1. Gospel of Mark: to be able to read the Chinese character and translate into the colloquial.
2. "Doctrine of the Mean," 12 chapters: to read the Chinese character and translate into English.
3. Gospel of John, any two selected chapters: to be able to translate from English into Chinese colloquial, *viva voce*.
4. Sermon, to be written in the Romanised colloquial and read before the examiners.

Third year.

1. Genesis: to be able to read the Chinese character and translate into English.
2. "The great Learning:" to be able to read the Chinese character and translate into the colloquial.
3. Psalms, 1-5: to be able to translate from English into the colloquial, *viva voce*.
4. Sermon, to be preached extempore before the examiners.
DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS.

1. Who have been received by Transfer, and from what Conferences?
   None.

2. Who have been Readmitted?
   None.

3. Who have been Received on Credentials, and from what Churches?
   None.

4. Who have been Received on Trial?
   (a) In Studies of First Year.

5. Who have been Continued on Trial?
   (a) In Studies of First Year.
       William T. Kensett, George F. Pykett, William J. Wager.
   (b) In Studies of Second Year.
       Charles C. Kelso.

6. Who have been Discontinued?
   None.

7. Who have been Admitted into Full Membership?
   (a) Elected and ordained Deacons this year.
       William G. Shellabear.

8. What Members are in Studies of Third Year?
   (a) Admitted into Full Membership this year.
       William G. Shellabear.
   (b) Admitted into Full Membership previously.
       Benjamin H. Balderston.

9. What Members are in Studies of Forth Year?
   None.

10. What Members have Completed the Conference Course of Study?
    None.

11. What others have been Elected and Ordained Deacons?
    None.

12. What others have been Elected and Ordained Elders?
    (b) Under Missionary Rule. (Disc. §165, §4.)
    William G. Shellabear.

13. Was the Character of each Preacher examined?
    This was strictly attended to as the name of each preacher was called in open Conference.

14. Who have been Transferred and to what Conference?
    John F. Deatker, to the North-West India Conference.

15. Who have died?
    None.

16. Who have been Located at their own Request?
    None.

17. Who have been Located?
    None.
18.—Who have Withdrawn?
None.

19.—Who have been permitted to Withdraw under charges or complaints?
None.

20.—Who have been Expelled?
None.

21.—What other personal Notation should be made?
None.

22.—Who are the Supernumerary Preachers?
Benjamin F. West. Benjamin H. Balderston.

23.—Who are the Superannuated Preachers?
None.

24.—Who are the Triers of Appeals?

25.—What is the Statistical Report for this year?
See Statistics.

26.—What is the Aggregate of the Benevolent Collections reported by the Conference Treasurer?
See §269.

27.—What are the Claims on the Conference Fund?
None.

28.—What has been Received on these claims, and how has it been Applied?
Nothing.

29.—Where are the Preachers Stationed?
See Appointments.

30.—Where shall the Next Conference be held?
Singapore.
This first year in our history as a mission conference has been remarkable for progress, new developments, and the fraternal spirit that has prevailed throughout the year.

A review of the past eight years of our history as a mission has impressed us with the fact that each year has witnessed some new growth, some solid progress. The past year, it seems to me, is more remarkable in this respect than any other in the past. I express this opinion, not in order to boast, but as a reason for magnifying the name of our God.

"Not unto us, not unto us, O Lord! but unto Thee belongeth the glory!"

The mission staff consists of six married missionaries and their wives, five single men, and four deaconesses. To these should be added one missionary teacher and his wife, and one unmarried missionary teacher, making a total of twenty four. Dr. and Mrs. West are on health leave in America, B. H. Balderston in Canada, Mrs. Shellabear in England, and Miss Blackmore in Australia. W. T. Kensett is studying in the United States. The mission was weakened by the departure of four workers immediately after our last conference, but was strengthened by the return of two missionaries and the arrival of one missionary teacher. In November Miss Foster arrived, and a few weeks ago Mr. Horley, so that on the whole we have been in pretty good running order after all. The homes of Dr. Luering and D. D. Moore have each been brightened and blessed by the arrival of a young missionary. May health and happiness wait upon these infant messengers.

The English Church has received the very best attention an earnest, energetic pastor, and practical, business-like laymen could give it, and in consequence has had a good year. Better congregations and better collections than ever have borne sufficient testimony to the ability and usefulness of the preacher-in-charge. Sinners have been converted, backsliders reclaimed, and believers edified. The Sunday School, while not so large as at some periods in the past, was never so well managed or so well taught, and is filling an important mission in training up our youth to be intelligent and useful Methodists. The sum of two thousand dollars has been spent on an iron roof and other important alterations and additions to the church edifice, which greatly add to its beauty and attractiveness.
The Epworth League has lived down a good deal of prejudice and has won a position of influence and respect in the Church and community. The spiritual, intellectual, and social wants of its members have been well provided for, and one practical result has been a substantial monthly contribution to the expenses of the Church. The Junior League has not been less alive or less devoted, and although less noticed has regularly met and quietly gone about doing good.

In July last, by the unanimous vote of the old Committee, with the approval of the General in Command of the station, His Excellency Sir Charles Warren, the support of the business public, and the co-operation of our laymen, the Pastor of the English Church took over the management of the Soldiers' Home, formerly in South Bridge Road, subsequently in Brasbassa Road, but now in 51, Hill Street. Money was raised and the new Home well equipped. From the very start the new venture was well supported and numerously patronised. It is of course a strictly temperance home, and the chief aim is to make it a Christian home as well. Seven months have put it on a good financial basis, and we shall expect the next twelve months to realise the best possible results in the salvation of souls.

Considerably more than a hundred accessions have been made to the Chinese Church, mostly from the Hok Chiang and Hing Hua community. Early in the year half a dozen men from the districts named were brought in and saved; they, like Andrew of old, went out and sought their brethren, and hence this large success among the Chinese. Dr. Luering has been handicapped by not having a single Chinese Missionary, excepting one local preacher, to assist him in ministering to and looking after this large number of converts. The Chinese Christians turn out well, sing well, pray well, and give well, four strong proofs of a sound Christian life. The work at the outstations has not prospered and one has been temporarily closed. Competent native preachers and a church home are the two great needs of this department of our work.

The Anglo-Chinese School took first rank last year in the Colony, and it has retained that position. This fact is shown not by any private reckoning but by the report of the Inspector of Schools. The new Principal, Rev. C. C. Kelso, B.A., grasped the situation quickly and has great reason for gratitude that so great growth and so much success have attended his first year's labour in such strange and difficult circumstances. The new building has been completed, new desks have been secured from America, and an offer has been made by Dr. W. F. Oldham to raise up to $15,000 Mexican, on condition that the Chinese merchants duplicate that sum, to add a collegiate department, and we hope that this offer will not long be neglected. The Secretary of State has assured us of his appreciation of the services rendered the Colony by our schools, and a tacit declaration was made by the recent Acting Governor that schools which could educate boys and girls for half what it is now costing the Government in their own schools, should have the work to do. Whatever we do
in the direction of educating these youth we must not fail to give every one of them on opportunity to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and it is with this object in view that Christian men are engaged to teach, and the Bible and prayer employed. So long as we pursue an open and wise course, we shall have no reason to fear that any injury will be done our educational work by faithful efforts to present Jesus Christ and Him crucified to the young who attend our schools. We are not without evidence that the seed sown has been fruitful, but greater and better things are in store for us in the future. The Boarding School has had a larger number of boys during the past year than at any time in its record. They have come from the islands west and south of us, from the Native States, and even Japan is represented. The Matron, Miss Josephine Hebinger, has rendered an important service and has been untiring in her efforts to promote the welfare of this department.

The Anglo-Chinese School at Penang has had a more remarkable record even than this one. There has been an increase of eighty-seven, with a present enrolment of 284, and good prospects of large accessions after the Chinese New Year. The great question just now is how we are to provide suitable buildings for this fast growing school. There is less competition at Penang and consequently greater chances of a large attendance than in Singapore.

The Malay work has met with fair success, the attendance at the Sunday service having averaged about forty throughout the year. More than half of the audience has consisted of Miss Ferris’s girls and the boys from the Orphanage. Little special effort could be made outside the regular services. Five people were baptised during the latter half of the year—two boys from the Orphanage, one young man from the Coco Islands, one Chinese Mohammedan and one girl from the Deaconess’ Home. Late in January the Malay Quarterly Conference was organised. On the Sabbath following the Sunday School was organised with an attendance of forty pupils.

In June last I opened the Orphanage for boys, and started with one lad, but this number had increased to twenty at the beginning of January. We were obliged to move from the house in Wilkie Road to the one we now occupy on Mount Sophia, because of the limited accommodation in the former building as our family of boys increased. We hope by another year to see something definite accomplished in the direction of a permanent home for this institution. We impart as sound religious instruction as we can, and are perfectly free to baptise any boy who seems fit and who asks for it. We employ them for self support. They all attend school regularly and receive daily instruction in the Home. Means to support the work have not been wanting and most of the money has been contributed or earned locally. The sale of the book known as “Scenes from Every Land” made a substantial addition to the funds of the School. Both boys and money have come without any solicitation and we are persuaded that as the work was providentially begun it will be providentially
supported. The Lord has unlimited resources and His promise is sufficient. We feel not only hopeful but confident that this Home will help to solve the problem of native preachers and helpers in our mission, as similar institutions have in India.

The Mission Press has increased its staff of workmen from twelve to twenty men, made valuable additions to its plant, and undertaken some large contracts for the Bible Society. The Book Room has done well. The moving of the Press from Selegie Road to the Square was a most important step wisely taken. Work has been done in five languages. Full particulars are given in Bro. Shellabear's report, which deserves a careful perusal. The Press is destined to wield a potent influence for the salvation of the races of Malaysia, and this with our Book Room should have the hearty support of all our people.

The Tamil work has languished in Singapore for want of a missionary. The school has made the poorest percentage and attendance record in its history and until an experienced master, and a reliable, effective preacher can be secured we shall not be able to report progress. I am glad however to say that the new Tamil mission in Penang has done well. A vigorous little class of twenty-six members has been organised and a school for boys developed numbering nearly seventy lads, and all since our last Conference. The funds to support the school have been raised locally. This work includes also a Tamil Girls' School. The attendance is small but that is to be expected; nevertheless, this little school has been a source of encouragement. The Anglo-Chinese Girls' School is perhaps the most gratifying of all the work for women and girls in this station. In spite of reverses it has won a good percentage and maintained a fair attendance.

The Woman's work in Singapore under the superintendence of Miss Emma E. Ferris has progressed most encouragingly. The Boarding School has grown in numbers, and the day schools in attendance, and the house-to-house visiting has been vigorously prosecuted. The Chinese girls' school was from Cross street to Telok Ayer, and has increased from 18 to 28 in attendance. Much pride is very properly felt in this important feature of the W. F. M. S. work in this settlement. A most important and desirable property on Mount Sophia, known as "View Place," has just been acquired for the Deaconesses' Home and Girls' Boarding School. It includes nearly three acres of land and a fine large house well suited to the needs of the work. Miss Eva Foster who arrived in October is taking hold of the educational work with quiet enthusiasm and we anticipate the best success. She come so well prepared both by education and experience that the schools, particularly the English Schools, must greatly profit by her management. When they are settled in the new Home she intends to open classes for English speaking girls in a large room, well suited to the purpose, on the ground floor. This will be the first step toward what we hope will develop into a successful English school.

The entire range of mission interests has quietly but successfully gone forward during the last ten months and we have no reverses to
report worth of the name. I think I can discern a strong and growing faith in God on the part of our missionaries, a confidence that He is leading us on to victory and not defeat, and that we have a divine Commission to spread Scriptural holiness throughout these lands, and these islands of the sea. May we rise to the full height of our privilege and "expect great things, attempt great things and do great things" for God!

R. W. Munson.

The Committee on Sunday Schools beg leave to submit the following report:

We are thankful to note the fact that the important work of Sunday Schools has not been neglected in our Mission. A number of successful schools have been established and are not only accomplishing much good but are giving promise of usefulness in the future. It does not seem however, that this important agency has been employed as fully as it might have been and we therefore venture to offer a few suggestions for the consideration of the Conference.

1. In every place where a Day School is held, either for boys or girls, a Sunday School should also be maintained, not only for the pupils of the Day Schools but also for any others that may be gathered in.

2. The members of our English congregations should be encouraged to hold Sunday Schools in private houses or in any other available place where even ten or a dozen children can be gathered together. It is not necessary that a rigid formality be observed in every case or indeed in any case, but if only singing, prayer, and a little oral instruction are introduced, a good impression will be made and a way opened for better things.

3. Our young people of both sexes should be encouraged to take up this work. If they go out, too, as is often done in India, they would rapidly acquire a valuable experience, and at the same time accomplish much good.

4. We should recognise the Sunday-School as a more valuable missionary agency. We learn that our brethren in India have used it as such with the most satisfactory result.

We venture to express the hope that a general effort will be made throughout our Mission to give a new impetus to this department of our work and that both the number of our schools and of pupils in attendance will be doubled before the next session of Conference.

In closing we beg to be permitted most earnestly to exhort all our officers and teachers to press upon the pupils in their charge, the claims which the Church has upon them, and do their utmost to secure their attendance at the services of the sanctuary that they may be brought up to love the House of God.

W. H. B. Urch.
J. Polglase.
A. E. Breeze.
REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The Committee desire to report concerning the general aspects of our educational work in Malaysia, that we have to return thanks to God for the signs of growth and development which are manifest in this department of the work of the Mission. We find in all our educational work a very healthy and vigorous condition of prosperity. Amongst those particular events of the year past which are noteworthy we might mention that the Anglo-Chinese School building in Singapore has been completed and furnished with new and comfortable desks. Some few changes have occurred in the teaching staff. The enrolment for the year has been considerably above that of the previous year, and the instruction has been of the usual high order, as evidenced by the result of the last Government inspection. An addition to the staff is expected soon to meet the increasing demands of the work. The Boarding-school at Bellevue has had an average increase during the year. The premises are now being renovated to prepare for the reopening after the present vacation incident to the Chinese New Year. The Boarding-school of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society has had an increase of nine inmates, while the day school has received an addition of at least thirty pupils. Miss Eva Foster, of Oregon, has recently joined Miss Ferris in the work, and a sixth standard has been added to the school. Girls were presented at the last Government Inspection in five standards, and the average throughout in literary work was one hundred per cent., earning a grant of five hundred and twenty-two dollars. The sewing work, however, was not so creditable and thus the general average is brought to ninety-three. The Teluk Ayer branch of this work has had an addition of ten girls. Payments have been made on the school property in Middle Road, so that all the W. F. M. S. property here stands unencumbered. A very successful zenana work has been carried on in the homes of the Chinese. An orphanage opened by Brother and Sister Munson during the year has grown to twenty inmates, mostly Chinese boys, and the quarters have been changed to a very pleasant and commodious location. The boys all receive instruction at the orphanage and attend our Anglo-Chinese School. The Tamil School in Singapore has not prospered of late, and there has been some cause of complaint in its management, but we believe that with a competent and energetic head much might be accomplished. This School has been receiving a grant from the Missionary Society, and since the Tamil school work in Penang is said to have pressing needs, we suggest it might be well to divert this fund into that channel, unless steps are taken at this session of Conference to establish the Tamil school work in Singapore upon a better basis.
Our Anglo-Chinese School at Penang has undergone some changes in the teaching staff. There has been a considerable and creditable increase in the enrolment of pupils during the year. There is evidently a great need for a school property of our own to accommodate the increasing attendance, and we would suggest also that one or two trained English teachers are urgently needed to assist the principal in this important work. The teaching staff are persons who have been engaged for the work in Penang, and not trained teachers who have definitely committed themselves to the work of upbuilding the school. In case of the illness of Brother Pykett, we regret to say that there is no one able to assume the extra labour thus incurred, and there is reason to believe that the attendance would be much increased if the comparison between our teaching staff and that of our competitors in Penang were less unfavourable. Our Tamil Boys' School in Penang reports seventy-five pupils. A rental of three dollars and fifty cents is paid monthly. The school has no source of revenue, we are told, except the English Church, and this support will, it is said, have to be discontinued during the present year. About twenty-five dollars a month would suffice to meet the demands of this work. The Chinese Girls' School supported by the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, has earned a grant of about one hundred dollars this year. All the Tamil educational and spiritual work in Penang is done in rented buildings. A small chapel, to be used both for a church and a school, would be of great service to this work. Twenty-five girls are in attendance in the Baba Chinese Girls' School.

The Committee desire in closing to suggest that, with the increasing attendance at our schools, and the spirit of competition engendered by Government Inspection and the grant-in-aid system, we must steadfastly withstand the secularising influence of the conditions under which we labour, and bear in mind with studious and jealous vigilance our solemn duty to impart as far as possible, along with secular instruction, a knowledge of saving truth.

H. L. E. Leuring.
Emma E. Ferris.
W. T. Stagg.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC MORALITY.

It is an encouraging sign of the times that earnest Christians in all parts of the world, are rousing themselves to a sense of their responsibility in reference to the most prevalent forms of public vice. We believe the time has fully come to assume and maintain firmly the ground that liquor shops, opium dens, gambling resorts, and brothels are not necessary evils to be either tacitly tolerated, or formally regulated by law. The only recognition which Christian law should give
to such resorts should be in the direction of abolishing them altogether, and we are thankful that as a Church we have in all parts of the world assumed this advanced position.

We view with regret and extreme surprise the alacrity with which witnesses have come forward to testify before the Opium Commission in India in behalf of the pernicious habit of using opium in any form. Much of the testimony offered has evidently been given by persons who had no personal knowledge of the subject. In this remark we regret to have to include not a little of the medical testimony recorded by the Commission. We deem it our duty to protest against much of this evidence as extravagant and absurd, as contrary to patent facts, and unworthy of serious attention. We agree with the great body of missionaries throughout the world in regarding the opium habit as extremely dangerous to the young, hurtful to those of older years, a source of misery to the poor, an enemy to morality, and a blight to moral character.

While fully recognising the growing difficulties which necessarily surround the question of morality in the army, especially in such a country as India, we nevertheless rejoice in the signal overthrow which has attended the attempt to uphold the disgraceful C. D. Acts in defiance of English law and English opinion.

We would strongly urge the imperative need for such changes in the laws of these Colonies as would deal an effectual blow to the present systematic importation of women for immoral purposes.

W. H. B. Urch.
C. C. Kelso.
W. G. Shellabear.

REPORT OF THE DEACONESS’ BOARD.

The Deaconess’ Board beg leave to present the following report.

(1) Four Deaconesses, Miss Josephine M. Hebingèr, Miss Emma E. Ferris, Miss Sophia Blackmore and Miss Eva Foster, have been favourably approved by us during the present session, and are continued on probation.

(2) Miss Agnes Povall has been favourably approved, and admitted as an Associate Deaconess, and requested to take up the Course of Study.

(3) For reports of the Deaconesses please see Minutes of the Woman’s Conference.

(4) The Board beg leave to congratulate this Conference on the continued efficiency, and fresh additions to the ranks of our Deaconesses. We desire also to express the very great satisfaction with which we regard the progress of this important movement in our mission field, and to express the hope that the Woman’s Foreign Missionary Society will continue to support such workers on our field without any misgivings or reservation of any kind.

Mary C. Kelso,—Secretary.
REPORT OF THE MISSION PRESS.

The past year has been marked by a more rapid extension of our publishing work in this Mission field than we have yet been able to report, and perhaps it is not too much to say that the changes which have taken place will render the year 1893 memorable in the history of our Press.

During the first month of the Conference year I was obliged to go to England for a short time on account of the health of my wife, and during the five months of my absence the work was carried on by the Manager, Bro. W. J. Wager, with efficiency and success, under circumstances of increasing difficulty, owing to the large amount of work on hand and the very limited space in the premises in which we were then located.

My visit to England was beneficial to our work in enabling me to arrange advantageous terms with wholesale firms for the supply of books, stationery, and printing materials; and my representations to the British and Foreign Bible Society, supported by Mr. Haffenden, the Society's Agent here, obtained for our Press a loan of £100 (to be repaid in work done) towards the purchase of machinery. This sum of money enabled me to complete the purchase of a Double-Demy machine, containing the latest improvements.

While I was in England I received the information that some of the work was blocked for want of type and I immediately sent an order to the type-founder to double our leading fount of book-work type. This type arrived shortly after my return and we have now sufficient for our present needs, but before any considerable extension of the work can be made it will be necessary for us to increase our stock of types.

While I was ordering this additional type I also had matrices made for the peculiar accents necessary for printing Chinese in Roman characters; these accents have now arrived and we are therefore prepared to undertake work in Romanised Chinese.

The removal of our Press to a central position in the town, which was advocated at the last Conference, was carried out shortly after my return to Singapore, and we are now established in a large and very suitable go-down on the upper floor, in the very heart of the business part of the town.

At the last Conference we reported a staff of ten natives, six of whom were compositors; we have now eleven compositors, three machine-men, and six book-binders, or a total of twenty men. In addition to their other work two of our men can do lithography and two are stereotypers. More than half of our employees are professed Christians, and all the most important work is in the hands of the Christian men. During the year two men have expressed their desire to become Christians and to join our church, and in the case of a third man such a marked change has taken place in his work and general conduct that we doubt not it arises from a change of heart.
Of the Bible Society's work done during the year a large part was reported as already in hand at the time of the last Conference, namely a 2000 edition of Luke in Javanese, 5000 Proverbs in Malay, and 5000 Luke in Malay. The whole of this work has been completed with the exception of the binding of the Malay Luke. The only other work for the Bible Society which has been commenced during the year is the Acts of the Apostles in Malay, but we are expecting shortly to commence a reprint of Keasberry's Genesis in Malay, on the receipt of additional type from Beirut, and the revised version of Matthew's Gospel will probably be commenced almost immediately. We also confidently expect further orders for Javanese Gospels in the immediate future, and the Bible Agent has already received the copy of a Sundanese Gospel, which is shortly to be printed in Arabic characters at our Press.

Ten of our own Malay tracts and four others have been printed in the Dutch spelling for circulation in Java. Two Malay almanacks, for the Christian and Mahommedan years respectively, have as usual been printed during the year; these almanacks embody a considerable amount of Christian teaching and have a good circulation among the Mahommedans. A new version of the "Story of Joseph" has been translated during the year and is now being printed.

Of the other work done the most important has been as follows: The Book of Common Prayer in Malay, Fifth Standard Geography, Sixth Standard Geography, and the Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society, Straits Branch. We have also in hand a new Vocabulary for schools in English, Malay and Chinese, roman characters, and a Malay-English Primer. Other works for use in our schools are in course of preparation and will be printed during the coming year.

The amount of commercial printing undertaken during the past year has been very small, and we have made no effort whatever to obtain work of this nature, taking only such work as came to us.

In accordance with the recommendation of our last Conference, a sale-room was opened towards the end of October in connection with our Press, and is known as the Methodist Book Room. The stock of books, Christmas cards, and a variety of other articles suitable for the Christmas season sold out rapidly, and the success of this new enterprise seems to be fairly established. Arrangements have been made with the New York Book Concern for a supply of their publications on favourable terms, and we are daily expecting the arrival of our first consignment, which will include the works for the Conference Course of Study. We have not the capital to enable us to conduct this branch of our business on a large scale, but the small commencement which has been made gives promise of a healthy growth.

The building in which our Book Room is at present situated is to be pulled down and rebuilt at the end of this month, and it will therefore be necessary for us at once to seek for a temporary location elsewhere.

W. G. SHELLABEAR.
## MALAYSIA MISSION STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEB. 5, 1894.

### NAMES OF CHARGES.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHURCH</th>
<th>MEMBERSHIP</th>
<th>BAPTISMS</th>
<th>SUNDAY SCHOOLS</th>
<th>CHURCH PROPERTY</th>
<th>PASTOR'S SUPPORT</th>
<th>CURRENT EXPENSES</th>
<th>BENEVOLENT COLLECTIONS</th>
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<tr>
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<td>No. of Probationers</td>
<td>No. of Full Members</td>
<td>No. of Local Preachers</td>
<td>No. of Deaths</td>
<td>No. of Children</td>
<td>No. of Adults</td>
<td>No. of Schools</td>
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<td>No. of Deaths</td>
<td>No. of Children</td>
<td>No. of Adults</td>
<td>No. of Schools</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SINGAPORE.

- **English Church:** 15 members, 80 full members, 1 death, 10 children, 14 adults, 1 school, 3 teachers, 98 scholars, $15000 in property.
- **Chinese Church:** 105 members, 42 full members, 2 deaths, 18 children, 3 adults, 3 schools, 6 teachers, 50 scholars, $1500 in property.
- **Malay Church:** 16 members, 6 full members, 1 death, 4 children, 1 adult, 6 schools, 4 teachers, 40 scholars, $1500 in property.
- **Tamil Mission:** No data provided.
- **W. F. M. Society:** No data provided.
- **Anglo-Chinese School:** No data provided.

### PENANG.

- **English Church:** 7 members, 6 full members, 2 deaths, 5 children, 1 adult, 2 schools, 12 teachers, $256 in property.
- **Tamil Church:** 10 members, 28 full members, 2 deaths, 16 children, 1 adult, 9 schools, 18 teachers, $300 in property.

### TOTAL.

- Last year: 156 members, 106 full members, 4 deaths, 16 children, 16 adults, 7 schools, 25 teachers, 205 scholars, $14700 in property.
- Increase: 97 members, 56 full members, 2 deaths, 5 children, 3 adults, 1 school, 7 teachers, 28 scholars, $300 in property.
- Decrease: 9 members, 9 full members, No data.

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**MALAYSIA MISSION CONFERENCE**

23
## MALAYSIA MISSION STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEB., 5TH, 1894.

### Name of Charges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sunday Schools</th>
<th>Day Schools</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No. of Schools</td>
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<tr>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Malay Church</td>
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<td>W. F. M. Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anglo-Chinese School</td>
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<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamil School</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
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<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Church</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamil Church</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. F. M. Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anglo-Chinese School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indian Boys' School</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Increase</td>
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<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MALAYSIA MISSION CONFERENCE.

[1894]
MINUTES
OF THE
WOMAN'S CONFERENCE.

FIRST DAY
The members of the Woman's Malaysia Mission Conference met at the home of Mrs. R. W. Munson, No. 8, Mount Sophia, Singapore, at 7 a.m., February 3rd, 1894.
Bishop Thoburn called the meeting to order, and read St. John xi. 1-9, and offered prayer.
Mrs. R. W. Munson was elected president, and Mrs. C. C. Kelso secretary.
The roll-call was responded to by six members of the Conference, and the total number present was twelve.
The following Committees were appointed:—
On Course of Study.—Mrs. R. W. Munson, Miss E. E. Ferris, Mrs. H. L. E. Luering.
On Sunday School.—Mrs. C. C. Kelso, Miss Eva Foster, Miss J. M. Hebinger, Mrs. Pierce.
On Education.—Miss E. E. Ferris, Miss S. C. Fox, Mrs. R. W. Munson.
The reports of the work were then read.
Mrs. Munson read a report of her work in the Boys' Orphanage.
Mrs. Moore being absent, Mrs. Munson read the report of the W. F. M. S. work in Penang.
Miss Hebinger reported on her work in the Anglo-Chinese Boarding School for boys, and her outside work.
Miss Ferris reported the W. F. M. S. work in Singapore.
On motion the Conference adjourned to 7 a.m. on Monday, February 5th.
The Doxology was sung, and the Bishop pronounced the Benediction.

SECOND DAY
The Conference met at 7 a.m. with the Bishop in the Chair, and was opened by singing
"Oh for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise."
The hymn was followed with prayer by Bishop Thoburn.
On motion the Bishop appointed as Committee on Examination, Mrs. R. W. Munson, Miss Sophia Blackmore, Mrs. C. C. Kelso.
On motion the Conference elected Mrs. R. W. Munson as delegate to the India Central Conference, to be held at Allahabad, February 22nd, 1894.
Miss Ferris was elected Conference Treasurer.
Bishop Thoburn retiring, Mrs. Munson took the Chair.
Reports of work were taken up. Mrs. Luering read her report on work among the Chinese.
Mrs. Kelso reported the English work.
Mrs. Pierce reported her work as Bible woman.
Miss Fox read her report on W. F. M. S. work among the Chinese women.
Mrs. Lewis reported her work in the Methodist Girls’ School.
The report of the Committee on the Course of Study was presented and accepted. (See report A.)
The report of the Committee on Sunday Schools was read and accepted. (See report B.)
The Committee on Education presented their report, which was accepted. (See report C.)
On motion, Mrs. C. C. Kelso and Miss Eva Foster were appointed as Committee on the publication of the Minutes.
The Conference voted that eight dollars be appropriated for the expense of publishing the Minutes.
On motion, the Conference adjourned, closing with the singing of the Doxology and the Benediction, pronounced by Rev. W. H. B. Urch.
MARY C. KELSO, Secretary.

REPORTS.

A

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON COURSE OF STUDY FOR DEACONESES.

Your Committee recommend that the Deaconess Course of Study in English accepted by the Central Conference of India be adopted with certain additions, making the course as follows:—

First Year.

English Bible—
Old Testament, to Job.
Discipline.
Catechism, No. 2.
Theological Compendium—Binney.
Smaller History of the Bible—Smith.
Life of Sistor Dora.
Deaconesses Ancient and Modern.

Second Year.

English Bible, completed.
Church History—Hurst.
Mudge’s Handbook of Methodism.
Life of Elizabeth Fry.
Christian’s Secret of a Happy Life.
Life of Christ by Geikie.
A Book on Malaysia.

Vernacular.

The same Course required for Members of the Annual Conference.

CARRIE L. MUNSON.
VIOLET M. LUERING.
EMMA E. FERRIS.

B

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The Sunday Schools have prospered during the year, and the one located in Teluk Ayer has been especially encouraging, showing a
large increase in attendance and interest. We recognise the importance of instructing the children in Bible truth, and winning the little ones for Christ before they have become hardened in heathenism. To this end we urge that special effort be made to increase the number of schools, and to develop the efficiency of those already in existence.

Your Committee submit the following suggestions for the enlargement of the work:

That Sunday Schools be established, wherever practicable, in the homes where day-schools are in operation.

That opportunities be sought for opening Sunday Schools in the homes of Malay-speaking people in general.

That our Christian young women be urged to consider it their privilege and duty to assist in this form of the Master's work.

That Sunday Schools be opened by Christian women in their own homes, where they may gather in the little ones with song and story and teach them the love of Jesus.

Mary C. Kelso.
Josephine M. Heisinger.
Eva Foster.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The Committee on Education are pleased to report steady progress during the past year in the schools for girls in Penang and Singapore. In Singapore, there are two day schools, six home schools, and one boarding school. In the home schools there are thirty-six pupils; in the Chinese day school twenty-eight; in the Methodist Girls' School, in Middle Road, ninety.

Total number under instruction, 159.

The tendency seems to be for the home schools to diminish and for girls to attend the day schools.

We are pleased to note a growing sentiment in favour of education for women among the Baba Chinese. We are in hearty sympathy with the plans proposed for establishing an English day and boarding High School. We are thankful to God for His blessing in the past and look forward with bright hope for the future.

Carrie L. Munson.
Salome Fox.
Emma E. Ferris.

W. F. M. S. WORK IN SINGAPORE.

The past year has been one of success in the true sense of the word. We have been watching for the fruit of the many years' faithful sowing and have begun the reaping. I learn from our Bible woman, Miss Fox, that this has been the first year since she has been connected with the work that she has been besought by any of her women to teach them to pray and to instruct them how to lean upon
God. One woman is learning the Lord’s prayer as she believes it is the only proper one. Miss Fox explains it to her and she grasps the petitions as best she can. When she learned the petition, “deliver us from evil,” she exclaimed, “It is true if we trust in God He will deliver us from all evil.” This woman has begun to teach others, thus showing that she has the seal of the living God. When Miss Fox went to give her her accustomed lesson, not long ago, she found her imparting the knowledge which she had received to two of her friends; she has asked for instruction for her sons and daughter-in-law, and is highly pleased that one of her grand daughters attends Sunday School, where she will learn about the loving Jesus. During the past year we have been called into homes the inmates of which were strangers to us. The first words with which we were greeted after the customary salutations were “Tell us about Jesus your God.” The leaven has been hidden away in many hearts, and we believe the day is not far distant when these Chinese women will give up their idols and trust in the one true God.

Our work in the homes this year has been carried on with success. We have had teachers in two new homes and also kept all the old ones until the last few months. We have had to withdraw teachers from two houses as the parents were not able to support them. The Teluk Ayer school has been marching on in numbers, and the pupils are doing excellent work under the efficient care of Miss Yzelman. The number in attendance at the beginning of last conference year was fourteen and at the present time we have twenty-four girls, giving us an increase of ten in our school this year. We started a Sunday School for these children in March; number present the first Sunday, one; we have now an attendance of twenty. The children are taught Bible texts and stories. We have also begun to teach them the catechism. They are eager and willing to learn, thus making it doubly pleasant for us.

We have been reinforced in this work by securing a new Bible woman, as one woman cannot do the work. Mrs. Pierce has found her way into seventeen new homes, in ten of which she is received joyfully. The inmates of the other homes are afraid of Christianity, so hold her at a distance, but she has hopes of getting closer to the hearts of these people. She has brought five girls to our home and, in fact, is doing a little of all kinds of missionary work, as well as teaching the Gospel.

Our Methodist Girls’ School in 1892 had an average enrolment of about fifty-five, in 1893 we have had an average attendance of about seventy-five, and an enrolment of ninety-five, giving us an increase of about thirty or thirty-five pupils. At the Government Examination we presented girls in standards 1-5 and they reflected credit on the teachers, Mrs. Lewis and Miss Norris, by taking 100 per cent in their studies. The Sewing Examination was not so creditable to us, but we intend to grade up in this work, if it is necessary, and we do not expect to stand third or second to any school in Singapore.
When the Conference convened last year we had thirteen girls in our Home. One of these has left during the year and we have had an increase of nine, thus making at the present time twenty-two girls in our Home.

We have had three baptisms during the year, and seven of our girls have united with the Church on probation. The two youngest children received in the home this year are Malays, and it is needless to say our hearts were gladdened with the thought that may be this is the beginning of our work among this people whom we so long to reach. We have learned a lesson this year in that we do not go out to seek children for our Home, but we ask the Lord to send us the needy ones, and since we have been trusting Him in this way He has sent us children. We have had a Sunday School in connection with our Home during the past year, and some few girls from outside have attended.

As to finances we have been enabled to make our last payment on our property in Middle Road and it now stands unencumbered. We have also re-roofed the building and, through the kindness of friends, we have made some other very necessary repairs. We have been reinforced in our work by the presence of Miss Foster, A.B., a successful teacher in public schools. She has taken up the sixth standard work and is looking forward to a school of higher grade for our Methodist girls. God has led us this year and we are following trustfully, knowing that whether walking in the dark or in the light all is well.

EMMA E. FERRIS.

REPORT OF THE ANGLO-CHINESE BOARDING SCHOOL.

We had twenty-two boys, on the average, this past year. We have family prayers each morning and sing with the boys. Many Sunday evenings have been spent with them, singing and reading. Mending, and otherwise caring for the boys, took up much time. It has been my privilege to speak with two of our boys about their souls' welfare. We have Sabbath School each Sunday morning in the dining-room of our school.

EPWORTH LEAGUE.

Five devotional meetings have been conducted in the Epworth League. Thirty-six calls were made to the Pauper Hospital, and meetings were led both in the men's and the women's wards. The Lord has encouraged us greatly in this work by showing us results. One poor man found the Saviour, and one of the women came to me wishing to be baptised. We give them tracts and Bible stories in their own tongue and pray with them.

I have also a Sunday School class, and a meeting twice a week with the little ones in Queen Street. In Rescue Work I have made fifteen visits and talked with twenty different ones.

JOSEPHINE M. HEBINGER.
In visiting the homes of our English-speaking people, of which 140 were visited, we reach the mothers and children—the very throne and centre of our work. In reaching these the men are won and families united with us in the Church service. Five special opportunities for prayer have been given while in these homes, and we are blessed above what we know. I have made fifteen personal visits to the Leper and other Hospitals. Our Mercy and Help Department, together with the "Junior Epworth League," send the poor sick bodies tokens of love through God's beautiful flowers, which draw out many a smile from pinched lips and pale faces. 344 bouquets have been sent. In the Junior Department have held twenty-five meetings. A supply teacher was needed in the Sunday School and I have filled the vacancy, teaching nearly every Sabbath since our arrival here. I have given away two testaments with prayer that they may be studied, and thus be guides to the way of life.

MARY C. KELSO.

REPORT OF THE BOYS' ORPHANAGE.

In May last, soon after Conference, we took a house in Upper Wilkie Road, with two extra rooms that could be used for dormitories. At the beginning we had neither boys nor money, but God answered our prayers and about $40 was given us. Then four boys came; then a gift of $100 to buy furniture, and then more boys. It was hard to decide at first just how to treat the boys as to food and occupation, for there exist in all these countries peculiar ideas about manual labour. But we maintained that they must work for their soul's health, and the boys and their friends soon learned to agree with us. During the year twenty lads have had a home with us besides three young men who are students and board with us but with whom we have no written agreement.

My work has been to take the place of mother to these. I have tried to teach them to do all their own work neatly and well. They buy and cook their own food, wash their clothes, and keep their own rooms clean. They have learned to sing many hymns and to repeat a good many portions of scripture. Two boys have been baptised and I believe that not one boy has any thought of withstanding the Grace of God. It has given me much pleasure to notice a growing spirit of helpfulness and industry.

We often pray that all who enter our doors may find salvation, and I firmly believe God will answer that prayer. We have lost three boys for different reasons, the present number being sixteen. Others are promised after Chinese New Year.

I have been much drawn out in prayer and interest to native women and as I have had time I have made a few visits. One poor strange woman who has been lost in the world ever since her childhood,
which was spent in a Christian school, wept and wanted me to find her a home, but alas we are not ready for such as yet. Others have said "Come often. How can we bear our life shut away from the world as we are." They would talk on about spiritual things for hours if I had the time to stay.

Our strength is little and our time short, let us do the will of God with such faith that we shall see the power of heaven come down. He will do such a work that we shall wonder to see it.

CARRIE L. MUNSON.

REPORT OF CHINESE WORK.

The whole female membership of the Chinese Church is five. The fact of the great lack of women in the Chinese Churches in Singapore is greatly to be deplored, and until their number grows there is little expectation that the churches will be less affected by the constant fluctuation of its members. In our Church two marriages were celebrated during the last year for the first time in its existence—a very gratifying circumstance. With the exception of the Baba Chinese, the heathen Chinese women are exceedingly inaccessible and averse to Christianity, full of superstition, and partly afraid of the foreigner.

Together with Miss Hebinger I have visited some houses of ill-fame in Malay Street and other places, and spoken to the inmates in Malay. This work, though not an easy one, has been much upon my heart as of exceeding great importance, and it will, if faithfully continued, surely bring a rich harvest. I would for this work especially ask your sympathy and prayers.

VIOLET M. LUERING.

REPORT OF THE WOMAN'S WORK IN PENANG.

The Schools.—Last year we reported thirty-seven scholars in our two schools. We are able to record an increase of twenty-six pupils in the last ten months, or a total at present of sixty-three pupils. The Baba Girls' School and the Indian Girls' School, though located at different points of the city, are reckoned as one school, and in that way all of the pupils will be presented together for Government Inspection at the end of the year. We employ for these sixty-three girls three teachers, one in the Chinese school, and two in the Indian school. In the latter the girls are instructed both in English and Tamil, and will be presented for inspection in both languages. At the Inspection held in September our girls made 94 per cent of passes. Both the Hon. Resident and Mrs. Skinner were present at the examination of needle-work, and were pleased with the progress of the school, and the manners and singing of the girls. The schools have been maintained through the year partly with the assistance of the W. F. M. S., partly from school fees, which fluctuate, and partly from local subscriptions. We fear, however, that the effect of a narrowing of the
grant to any great extent from the W. F. M. S. will be the sacrifice of one of the schools. We are encouraged with the influence we have over the girls and with the acquaintance the teaching of them has given us in their homes. Two years ago there was scarcely a native girl going to an English school in Penang, and their education was regarded with utter disfavour by their parents. Now we are entering upon a new day, and these sixty-three children are the advance line of an host who will come to us to be taught. In reference to the Christianising influence of the schools, it is enough to quote again the exclamation of Bishop Thoburn, as he stood in our school last year "Every day it is Sunday-School here."

General Work among Women.—A class is taught by Mrs. Moore on Sunday morning. To this a few of the girls belonging to the day-schol come, and it is open for the attendance of Chinese women, two or three of whom are often present. The Chinese women are beginning to understand that our house is open for them to come and visit us. A good number of them, mostly the mothers and relations of our little pupils, now come to call upon us. They are open to religious conversation, but for the most part maintain that they are too old to learn a new religion. They are densely ignorant, and difficult to arouse to any religious idea or convictions. Behind this deep mist of ignorance their conscience seems to be obscured, and almost beyond reach. However, even with these mothers time and patience will tell, and God will have prepared some to accept the truth even among the ranks that seem most gross and unlikely. The houses of the Chinese are open to us, and we often avail ourselves of this opportunity to enter their homes. They receive us with marked honour, and always beg of us to teach their children all that is best, and to make them good. This year we shall also be able to illustrate the Bible story before hundreds of Chinese women, by means of the magic lantern which Dr. Floyd has sent to us for this purpose.

Mrs. D. D. Moore.

Owing to lack of space, the reports of assistants, which were read at the Conference, must necessarily be omitted.