

## ANNUAL LETTER

### South China Limchow Fu Station 1927

*Please post your Annual Letters (dealing with the year ending June 30) not later than August 31.*

*We depend on the Annual Letter to give such an account of the individual missionary's work, and such a general view of the Mission and of the conditions in which the work is carried on, as shall supply the information needed for the Society's "Story of the Year." The General Review, the official historical record, and for articles and paragraphs in our magazines and in the Church press.*

*When any of the work referred to in the course of the letter is please state a new station or out-station indicate where it is situated.*

*All native names should be written in English capital letters. Please state if any part of your letter is not for publication.*

Progress & Activities In November of last year the Annual meeting of the Native Church Council was held at LIMCHOW station, we missionaries were there only by invitation. Rev. Lai Kai Chong proved to be an ideal Chairman, we all realized he had come in our midst in the power of the Holy Spirit, he is a man with initiative and one in whom we have every confidence though prove to make mistakes, even as we do. Yet thank God "mistakes" are over-ruled by God, and become stepping-stones toward reaching higher ideals, and a safeguard against future errors. At this meeting three important 'matters' were determined upon:

- (1) That a "Convention for the deepening of the Spiritual life" be held in different centres
- (2) Weekly house-to-house Prayers Meetings
- (3) A Summer-School be held annually either in LIMCHOW or PAKHOI.

Since our recall from LIMCHOW at the end of January 1927, we have received the encouraging "news" to say that all three are functioning.

No.1. A Convention has been held in three Centres via Kotak, PAKHOI, and LIMCHOW with encouraging results

- (a) That regular contributions be given to a 'fund' by church members, whereby aged and poor members be assisted
- (b) A Two-by-two Band was formed in order to ensure that regular visitations be made to the houses of Christians and Enquirers

No.2 the Weekly Prayer Meetings are being held in three centres and quite a number of houses each have readily offered to hold them.

No.3 We have already had proof of the Spiritual and Practical help, the Summer School held in LIMCHOW last year had been to some. I will report one instance, when itinerating in the outstations in Oct. of last year, at MOLEI we had all day meetings, which would have been somewhat of a strain, had it not been for the help given by a youth, who volunteered to assist with the meetings, whilst we had time to rest awhile after the day's work was over, he told us that had it not been for the help he had received at the Summer School he would not have

had either the courage or the confidence to stand up before his own people and unless for Jesus Christ, this being the very first time he had done so.

Itineration In May of this year the Rev. Lai-Kei-Chong visited all the outstations, e.g. SHEK HONG, SHEUNG LOK, MOLEI, LINGSHAAN, NANNING, celebrating Holy Communion in each centre and Baptisms in two. He reports good meetings all the way, the Anti-X-mas Movement becoming less and less, which news inspires one with hope for a speedy return to LIMCHOW. MOLEI and Nanning are in need of Chinese workers. An offer has already come from a village near MOLEI, a Christian family is willing to have a part of their house altered for a 'catechist' or 'Bible-woman' to live there, if one is sent, to carry on work there.

Evangelistic effort Before leaving LIMCHOW we had completed the plans for the New Year work and though the generous support of many friends in the homeland were able to appoint two (2) Bible-women to two stations which had been without and thus have the joy and satisfaction of knowing, although we are absent a faithful work of ministry and preaching and teaching the Gospel of my Lord Jesus is going on in all stations with the exception of MOLEI. Please unite with us in praying to the Lord of the Harvest that He will speedily send forth His labourers to that needy part of His field.

Baptisms Before our departure in the beginning of the year there were seven (7) baptisms in LIMCHOW, with nine (9) others ready for the "preparation class", which class is now in abeyance owing to our speedy departure, and which are hope to return to in September. D.V.(?) In May of this year (6) six were baptised in LINGSHAAN and one (1) in SHEUNGLOK. This last one being an interesting case. I had the joy of helping to explain the Catechism to him, one day his wife was suddenly possessed with an evil spirit. She struggled, shrieked and foamed, her husband belaboured her with sticks, calling for pity from the many "deities" whose they worshipped, all to none effect. In his extremity he recalled a talk he had had with the Catechist about a wonderful powerful yet living God. Off he started with a heavy heart and a doubtful mind but thought he would try the experiment. After a long talk about the world only saviour and the one and only true God they knelt in prayer, pleading for forgiveness of sine and pity, he returned home with a new-born hop and a comforted heart to find his wife fully restored. This increased what little faith he had had and fully surrendered himself through baptism to his Savior. Lord, Please uphold him. (Saam Shuk is his name) in prayer and also pray for his wife that she also? may be willing to leave the false for the true.

Education Six (6) small primary schools throughout the Lim-Pak district have been running until close of Term; with a total of 276 pupils, although numbers have decreased considerably through the Anti-X-mas and Anti-British troubles, we have much to thank God for, for not only have the Teachers stand out faithfully against all Bolshevist propaganda and ?? all means of 'intimidation' used by their agitators, but have been faithful in the teaching of the 'Sculptures'.

Women's School. Quite a number of women had requested to enter and we had hoped for a big school. Our sudden departure necessitated the closing down of the school until our

returns. Please pray for this part of the work, it is so important for from it we glean future “workers” for the District.

Enquirers Class. In spite of the Anti-X-mas Movement being at its highest, five (5) women from this class decided for Christ, we hope to have the joy of preparing them for baptism on our return. One of the women has a son and daughter having under X'tian education. The boy preparing to become a future worker in the Lord's work, we are praying that the same future has ahead of the girl, they are both very keen in their studies from this class, they enter the women's school.

Training Class for Bible-women. Two (2) women from this class entered into full work at the beginning of the year, they were appointed to two (2) outstation and PAKHOI Rev. Lai Kiei-Chong reports that they are doing a faithful work. Please pray for them. Recently I received a letter from one of them, pleading for me to adopt a little twin-girl, belonging to her daughter-in-law who is very poor. My reply was there are three “Bible-women” in the district who are supporting little picked-up babies, and more that you are engaged in Our Master's work it will be good and well-pleasing to Him if you, follow their good example. Will you pray with us that she may be ready to make sacrifice for her Saviour, by taking charge of this little one. There is a prospect of two (2) other women studying in the class immediately on our return. Much prayer is needed both for those who teach and those who learn, that all may be kept humble and filled with the Holy Spirit's wisdom and forever.

Medical. The one (1) and only trained Chinese worker for the LIMCHOW district, though carrying on her good work in greatly handicapped owing to lack of “medical necessities”. She has recently had entrance into the Homes of ‘officials’ in each instance a “precious son” was born which would add to her importance, and offered splendid opportunity to bear witness for her Lord. May we ever remember our sacred duty of faithfully upholding, those our fellow X'tian sisters by prayers as we expect them to faithfully witness for Him. It is not only a terrible blow to PAKHOI that the Hospital has practically be closed since September last year, but to the whole district, Dr. Wakins weekly visits to LIMCHOW were a help beyond words, he was truly a Lord-send to us and to the district. For one, only those who have had the experience can imagine what the anxiety of a complicated midwifery? or other case can be, to one who has had very little, if any, medical training, and what a relief it was to be able to call upon a Dr.? for help on advice. Now the whole District within an area of 100 miles is without medical leg of any kind, apart from the above-mentioned worker who has had but one (1) year training, not long before our departure, we were faced with a complicated midwifery case, a matter of life or death, following the birth of a child. Our worker came to us in great distress, the case seemed hopelessly beyond has, we felt so helplessness too, but sent her back to the case, encouraged with the promise that we would pray very specially for her, must leave the rest to God. We met together in the upper sorrow and simple reminded our Lord of this precious promises to help in time of need and extremity, and He did not fail us.

New Work. The need for a girls' school in Ling-Shaan had long been felt, one was started at the beginning of this year. Although numbers are small at present, we hope for greatest thing in the new Term.

## Report from “Kowloon City” and DISTRICT

Re a Movement of the Spirit of God. Recently one was approached by a “Bible-woman” on this wise. “I have been working here for quite a times now. I am most discouraged, the peoples’ hearts are hardened, they are unwilling to attend meetings, or even spare time to listen to the Gospel. I think it would be good for me to have a removal. But why? was my answer! for wherever you go there will be the same difficulty, the warfare with Satan has never been easy! Souls are always hard to win! I fear the trouble lies with us! Are we praying for them as we ought. Let us give more time to prayer and leave the rest to God. It was not so long, before we met again, and by the look of ‘joy’ in her face, one was prepared for the “good news”. “Truly it is wonderful!” she began, the people have changed, being more willing to listen, some asking for teaching, amongst those a family of six (6), three of the children already attending our school, and there is no sign of ‘idol-worship’ in their little home. There is every hope of this family coming into His fold. May we ever be faithful in our prayers for those waiting? ones and thus have the joy of leading them to Home. Another instance of the working of the Holy Spirit was as follows.

Baptisims. Amongst the 34 who were baptised on the Sunday after Trinity Sunday was a family of 5, Mr. Lau, the Head of the family gave the following testimony. “I was a gambler, an opium smoker and thought nothing of throwing stones at Preachers of the Gospel and disturbing class meetings. Suddenly my heart changed, the Holy Spirit entered my feet, my hands, my head, I felt wholly possessed by Him. The longing for opium left me like this, he clapped his hands together. Now only the desire is to fill? out to my people what the Lord has done for me. These newly ‘baptised ones’ need much upholding in prayers. Satan is very busy seeking to snatch them away from their newly-found Saviour. One woman whilst preparing for baptism was surely? tried in the following way. She gained her livelihood by rearing poultry. One evening her room was broken into by thieves, who stole all her fowls and ducks, her boss was angered, enraged her, her conduct so concerned us that we feared baptism would be altogether out of the question, needless to say, the way the burden of our prayers at each preparation class, from which she kept away. One meeting we had the joy of seeing her there, and very humbly and causally she confessed her wrong, sought forgiveness, and when asked should she again meet with just such another loss, how would she behave, her answer was “I will ask the heavenly Father to pity, help and forgive me”. She was amongst those baptised ones, her name is ‘Anna’. With our prayers supporting her, she will be enacted to follow in the footsteps of that “Godly Saint”.

Educational Work. In connection with Victoria Home & Orphanage, there are 13 Schools throughout the Colony of Hong Kong and NEW TERRITORIES with a total of over 1200 children. Each school is in charge of a “Christian Teacher” daily Biblical instruction is given, and the aim of those in charge is to give a “monthly” Examination, including a thorough one at the end of the Term. Many hundreds of Homes are open to us through the children which afford untold opportunities for Christian propaganda, please unite in prayers that wisdom and strength be given to bring up those opportunities. Form one of the outside schools, three of the older girls

were amongst those who were baptised recently. The Teachers in charge of those schools need prayerful?-support, this? is a big responsibility.