

1930 From bound volume, "The Acts and Proceedings of the Sixty-Sixth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada." Held in Hamilton, Ontario, June 4-11, **1930**.

Notes below [and page numbering] are from Appendices:

"The General Board of Missions, Home and Foreign Mission Report,"

Sub-section "Reports of Synodical Missionaries"

"Report for Northern Ontario" by "W. M. MacKay, *Synodical Missionary*" (2 page report)

Excerpt (p. 20) "Summing up then we see that while in 1925 we had five preaching places we have now some thirty-five with membership trebled. Minority groups have erected one hundred and fifty thousand dollars' worth of church buildings during the last four years. Possibilities are limited only by the supply of ministers and money. As time goes on the calls for help from our own Presbyterian people are becoming more urgent. The restoration of the Presbyterian church in Northern Ontario is a necessity if Protestantism is to be maintained in that connecting link of East and West."

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Section "Non Anglo-Saxon Work"; Sub-section headed "Chinese Work in Canada" [report submitted by David A. Smith]:

(32) "It has been truly said that Chinese work in Canada is "Foreign Missions at our door, minus the romance." But no more important work faces the Church today. So much depends upon our attitude to the Chinese in Canada for the success of all mission work in China." [Photo-copied pp. 32-33, "Chinese Work in Canada"; also pp. 49-50 on the Presbyterian Home, seemingly for **unwed mothers**]

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Addresses for deaconesses not given for 1930.

CHINESE WORK IN CANADA

It has been truly said that Chinese work in Canada is "Foreign Missions at our door, minus the romance." But no more important work faces the Church today. So much depends upon our attitude to the Chinese in Canada for the success of all mission work in China.

A New Attitude. 1929 has seen a different spirit coming to the fore again. The anti-foreign, and therefore the anti-Christian attitude of a year or so ago on the part of the Chinese, because of the move for national and Church independence in China, has been largely dissipated. This has resulted in the reorganization of Sabbath classes in Canada and increased attendance at those carrying on. Moreover, the rapid growth of trade with China is also pressing Canadians toward many new viewpoints regarding the Chinese, a fact which, in turn, makes our Christian mission work easier.

Population. Considerable controversy has taken place recently regarding the population of the Chinese in Canada. This has been fixed at between 50,000 and 55,000. B. C. has half that number. It is true that Chinese to the number of 400 a year are registering out of the country and failing to return. The natural increase, however, easily offsets that number, thus leaving the population more or less unchanged. There are practically no new immigrants. It is estimated that there are 600 young Chinese women in Vancouver, between the ages of 16 and 25. This is most significant.

Workers. There are 18 workers among the Chinese in Canada, seven of these are Chinese. The 18 includes Miss Dickson of Toronto, and Miss Reid of Montreal, returned missionaries. Three workers were appointed during the year— Miss S. Crawford, deaconess to Vancouver, Mrs. J. O. Herman, half-time teacher to Montreal, and Mr. T. Y. Lee, a Chinese teacher to Victoria.

This latter, Mr. Lee, is a High School principal who took one year's training in Theology. He was brought over to Canada, and is supported entirely at the expense of the Chinese. In addition to teaching, he conducts Bible class work. He has a class of 75 pupils and is responsible for increased S. S. and Church attendance not only on the part of the pupils, but of many mothers who have become interested.

Activities. In addition to the regular work that is carried on from year to year at the various centres, there are several noteworthy matters that should be pointed out, briefly, and which best show the progress and trend of the work.

1. *The work among the young.* This is our most promising and most encouraging phase. Not only do we reach them, but through them get into the home and reach the parents. Vancouver has a Cradle Roll of 61. A unique event took place in Montreal, when your Superintendent had the privilege of baptizing a fourth generation Christian, three generations being present at the ceremony, while the great grandmother is still alive in China. Two new C. G. I. T. groups were begun during the year. That is four groups in two years. Also a Trail Ranger group. This is a new departure. While in Victoria, a Young People's organization of over 70 members has been set up. All these, together with increased attendance at Kindergartens, and Sabbath Schools mark real progress.

2. *Financial Responsibility.* This the Chinese are assuming fast. Increased Budget givings, and the teaching of the young to give to missions, show the new spirit. The Victoria congregation raised \$1,440.00, the highest in its history, \$743.00 being for missionary purposes. \$323.00 went to our General Church Funds. This kind of giving, be it noted, was only begun in 1925. There are several cases of Chinese classes throughout the country also contributing to the Budget of the Church.

Because of the tremendous financial responsibility resting today on the Christian Church in China, Canadian Chinese have been called on to subscribe to its support.

There were no fewer than four canvasses made during the year for Missions in China. To one, Vancouver Chinese gave \$1,500.00, Victoria \$900.00. Corresponding amounts were given at the other Chinese centres in Canada. Another canvass of the United States and Canadian Chinese brought in \$50,000.00, in gold money, for mission work in China. All this was in addition to increased giving at home. This deserves our attention—Christian Chinese helping themselves.

As an outcome of this same spirit, the Toronto Y. M. C. I. members have organized a Chinese Church. They have asked our Church to co-operate with them in this effort and appoint a Chinese preacher to help solve Chinese Canadian problems. Our Church gave a grant of \$250.00 toward this Institute's work last year.

3. *Training workers.* The policy inaugurated a short while ago, of selecting young Chinese for training in missionary service is now in action. Following David Lee, who went to Shanghai to enter the Medical College, Miss Lilian Leung, of Victoria and Miss Lily Yeung of Vancouver, the one for medical missions, the other for music and kindergarten work, have now entered the Deaconess Training Home. The thoughts of several other young Chinese also are turning toward Christian service. The recent revival movements in China are having a definite effect.

4. *Literature.* The organized distribution of Chinese Christian literature set up last year by Mrs. Walter Martin in Saskatchewan, is proving very successful. Sunday School helps, particularly, in Chinese are being sent to every family, and results accomplished. This is evidenced in one letter received from a Chinese boy who writes thus: "I can say my prayer now. I try to teach my sister how to say her prayer. She could not catch it. I hope later on she can catch."

Similar distribution of literature is taking place in Ontario and Quebec, and has also been begun in B. C. We are hoping to cover all the families that way with their own written language.

5. *Eastern Canada Convention.* One of the greatest forces in the work East is the Eastern Chinese Workers' Convention. This is made up of Chinese and Canadians. Here the lay workers get together and discuss questions of importance to the work. Here the Chinese can air their views. Last year's Convention was held in First Presbyterian Church, Brockville. This year it is to be held in Knox Presbyterian Church, Toronto. Over 20 Presbyterian Chinese classes are represented there.

6. *Vancouver Mission.* Another year has gone past and we are still without a Church building in Vancouver. Quarter of Canada's Chinese population is in that city. As the gateway to the Orient, it is the strategic point in Canada. We are fortunate in having a piece of land on which to build, with a manse already on it, making a considerable saving in rent. We are desperately in need of a Church building, however. The original plans for such a building have been altered, and the estimates almost cut in half in order to make it possible to get a place of our own. The present rented Hall is most unsuitable. It is out of the Chinese section, and across street car tracks, and now up two flights of stairs. It is, therefore, far from satisfactory. We are glad to say that despite these handicaps the attendance keeps up, and the interest sustained. With a building, however, on our own site we could almost immediately double our attendance and work.

7. *New Chinese preacher.* Last year it was agreed that we secure a new Chinese preacher for our work in Ontario, with Toronto as centre. The need for this man is most pressing. We must conserve our work, and meet the needs of a field that is particularly ours. "The harvest truly is plentiful."

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID A. SMITH.

Scott Institute Report

When we began our season's work early in autumn, right after the Jewish High holidays, we were fearful and apprehensive as to the success of our work this year on the present premises. The district in which we are now situated is rapidly changing. What used to be "the Ward", or the Jewish residential part of the city, has now become the business section of the city, and as a result, most of our people have moved west, very few being left in the immediate vicinity of our mission. The outlook, at least for large numbers, did not seem to be bright; but we are happy to report that in spite of the disadvantage of location we have experienced this winter the most successful season of work in the history of the Scott Institute.

While our statistical report shows a slight decrease in the aggregate attendance of meetings during the year, 1929, in comparison with last year, (1928), yet the attendance at the individual meetings during the year had actually increased. The decrease in the aggregate attendance is due to the fact that the Jewish holidays during 1929 occurred in the month of October instead of September. Thus it was well on in November before we could start our regular services, organize clubs, and hold our Sunday School Rally.

Fresh Air Camp. We have procured two houses at Grimsby Beach, Ont., which we remodelled and equipped for our use, from voluntary contributions of friends interested in the work of the Scott Institute. Last summer we were the only Presbyterian Fresh Air camp in the Presbytery of Toronto, and we entertained 275 mothers and children, of whom about half were families of returned soldiers. We wish to thank the Board of Missions for their financial assistance, which enabled us to take about 140 Presbyterian mothers and children whose husbands and fathers are veterans of the World War.

We are especially indebted to the Council of the W. M. S. for their annual grant and also for a consignment of beds, quilts, and chairs which they so kindly sent to our camp last autumn. The interest that the W. M. S. is showing in this work is instigating us to more fervent zeal and greater work in God's vineyard.

This last year we have experienced a new joy in our work. We praise God that we are able to report instead of persecution on the part of the Jews, goodwill and kindness. We are gradually winning the Jewish community and are breaking down the barriers that have so long separated us from them. We are experiencing daily such wonderful changes that it would take a book to record them all. We do not wish to recite them all in this report, but one or two examples will not be out of place.

In years gone by, missionaries to Jews were about the least appreciated workers in the Lord's vineyard. Persecution, insults, and discouragement were their daily lot. We are happy to report that this is not our experience. Last passover some Jewish people sent us about four bottles of wine and also a big five-pound, freshly-killed chicken. We doubt whether many city congregations were as generous to their pastor as the Jewish people were to us.

A young man came some time ago, before going to a hospital, and left with us fifty dollars for safe keeping without a receipt. He said that he would rather trust us than anybody else. In sickness, in trouble, in sorrow and in joy we are with our people. They place their confidence in us and we are there to help them to the best of our ability and the means at our disposal. These are only a few minor instances which could be multiplied many times, if time and space would permit.

We hope that in the near future our mission will be removed to a more strategic point in the Jewish community. We are looking forward to greater things and an ingathering that will be a blessing to our Church.

Respectfully submitted.

M. ZEIDMAN.

STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE AGGREGATE ATTENDANCE AT THE SCOTT INSTITUTE, FOR THE YEAR, 1929.

	TOTAL ATTENDANCE
Sunday School	1917
Sunday Tea	1829
Evening Service	2112
Mothers' Meeting	319
Children at Mothers' Meeting	139
Girl Guides	358
Brownies	341
Boys' Club	465
Y. P. S.	241
Girls' Club	296
Children's Service	718
Jr. Mission Service	521
Bible Class	564
English Class	794
Specials	911
Inquiry	962
Fresh Air Camp	275

Total Attendance 12,762

Note:—This report is for 9 months,—July, August, and September, were taken up with Fresh Air Camp and open air meetings.

Visitation, homes and hospital	275
Visitation, Jails	8
Bibles sold and distributed	497
Baptism, adults	3
Open Air meetings	6
Addresses in Churches—Mr. Zeidman	28
Addresses in Churches—Miss Paton	11

M. ZEIDMAN

Presbyterian Home, Toronto

In this Home, all that can be accommodated for any length of time, are 16 girls. There is no hospital accommodation, but as far as hospital care is concerned for the maternity cases, this has been well taken care of by City Hospitals.

There has never been the death of an adult in the Home.

During the last 12 years, 5 children died in Hospital—2 (twins) very shortly after birth—2 of erysipelas contracted from mothers and 1 as the result of a deformity of the stomach. These last three were in The Hospital for Sick Children where every possible care was given under direction of Dr. Alan Brown. Dr. Skinner Gordon, Specialist for children and Dr. Edna Guest, Specialist in venereal diseases are in close touch with the Home at all times and have the girls and children under their care along all medical lines.

There is no industry in the Home with a view to making money, and for many years the girls have paid no board, simply because the percentage of them who could do so is hardly worth mentioning. In the maternity cases, however, the Home insists that the girl or her friends provide enough money to cover hospital expenses. These are really quite small, but any girl that is admitted to the Home understands that there is no fund in the Home to cover them. The plan has been found to work out very satisfactorily.

Every girl who is the mother of a child understands (before admission) that she must stay in the Home and look after her child till some suitable provision—possibly adoption—is made for it, and even after that (in many cases) remain till the Home thinks she will be able to look after herself.

Besides maternity cases a number of delinquent girls have passed through the Home. In most cases these are quite young—sometimes as young as 11 or 12 years of age. In passing, it must also be noted that an appalling feature of the work is the increasing number of maternity cases under 15 and even as young as 13 years of age. There have been also a few police cases in the Home. We have no locks and no form of punishment.

Occasionally it has seemed necessary to take older women into the Home, but the policy has been to receive young girls—the reasons being obvious—though, indeed, it is a matter for concern how much evil even the younger members of the household are aware of before coming here.

The girls in the Home are taught in a particularly practical manner all that is taught in a Domestic Science School—or what should be taught in one—from decorating the walls and ceilings to taking care of a furnace—How to care for children—how to make a good garden—cooking, sewing, washing, scrubbing and how to do most artistic fancy work.

The girls are taught to be happy with good amusements. There is lots of music, lots of birds to help along, lots of flowers to make them good—lots of good books. A happy, hopeful life kept always as an ideal before them. Above all the great motor means of the work is the Word of God “contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments” which, curiously enough, they evince extreme interest in reading, though not forced to do so. They also commit many chapters to memory. Some when leaving know approaching a hundred chapters or psalms.

The girls attend Church—have Sunday School in the Home—and a straight Bible Class every morning.

We have been able to keep in touch with many of the girls who have passed through the Home, principally from the girls willingly and gladly keeping in touch with it. Among over 600 girls who have passed through the home, there have been some failures—these who have not appeared to succeed might be classed—1st, as some whose parents' judgment was to take them out of the Home too soon, and 2nd, the feeble minded. But the large majority of the girls have done well. Some were restored to their homes, and some are respectably married—some hold fine business positions. Twenty-five at least have trained as Nurses—several of these have a brilliant record in their profession. Some are ready to train now.

During the last few years the work of the Home has been directed by two paid workers assisted by several voluntary workers.

In a work such as this Home covers the incidents connected with the working out of each individual case go to prove perhaps more than any statistics that this gesture of the church to help those in need of help is worth while.

MARIE C. RATTE.

Student Missionary Societies

KNOX COLLEGE MISSIONARY SOCIETY

The Knox College Missionary Society begs to submit the following report for the year 1929:

During the college year 14 regular charges were supplied each week by our students. Additional supply as required by Interim-Moderators, and other vacancies, makes a total of 527 pulpits supplied by our students, with an average of 17 men engaged each Sunday.

The Society has as its objectives; the securing of recruits for the ministry of our Church through the Young People's organizations, and the work on the Home Mission fields. Toward this end thirty-seven meetings were conducted by our students in church services and Young People's Societies, when appeals for recruits were made.

In February a rally for Presbyterian students in the University of Toronto, and members of Young People's Societies was held in Knox College chapel. This meeting was addressed by the Moderator of the General Assembly who then presented the needs of our Church and its work.

The men of the College are assuming the responsibility of providing for a native worker under the direction of Mr. Reoch, in Northern China.

The above report is respectfully submitted.

J. LOGAN VENCTA,
President.

PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE, MONTREAL, MISSIONARY SOCIETY

The work of the College Missionary Society falls into two divisions; supervision of the devotional life of the College, and the arrangement of student supply from week to week.

Daily devotional periods were held and were conducted by the students, each registered man taking his turn. During the present year the members of the Faculty have been responsible for conducting the devotional period one night each week. In this way they showed their interest in the work of the Missionary Society and were enabled to meet with the students and discuss with them any of the perplexing problems of College or spiritual life. The attendance at the meetings has been excellent, the entire student body co-operating to make this part of the Society's work a success.

The other part of the work was somewhat onerous. In addition to those students who supplied regularly at certain mission fields, there were eighteen others who desired supply. To date, these students have been sent out on 106 occasions. Reports received from the fields supplied indicate that, on the whole, satisfactory service has been given by the students.

The Society was able to secure a number of missionaries to address the student body; among these were Rev. Dr. Cropper of British Guiana, Rev. C. Whitman, B.A., of West Africa, and Mr. Hooker, B.A., of Cambridge. The addresses given by these men were instructive and stimulating.

Dr. A. S. Grant of Toronto was present on one occasion and addressed those students who expect to serve the church on mission fields during the summer. It is hoped that his outline of a student's responsibilities on a mission field will be long remembered by the students.

Some of the students addressed a number of Young Peoples' Societies in the city in the hope of interesting suitable young men in the Christian ministry.

Respectfully submitted,

T. J. WATSON.
President.