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### The Fellowship Circle Bulletin: October 1931

Fort Wayne Bible Training School

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# The Fellowship Circle Bulletin

OF THE FORT WAYNE BIBLE INSTITUTE

"Truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with the Son Jesus Christ." 1 John

VOLUME XI

BERNE, IND., and FORT WAYNE, IND., OCTOBER, 1931

Number 4

## Bible Institute Opening News

**F**OR the 27th time the Bible Institute has opened its doors to a selected—God selected—group of students. This cosmopolitan group has assembled from eight states and Canada.

The formalities of registration occupied the opening day, Sept. 16. In the evening all gathered in the chapel for the first service at which our President, J. E. Ramseyer, extended words of welcome and encouragement to all.

Although the majority of our students presented themselves for registration on the opening day, yet late arrivals have continually been added to our roster until at present date the enrollment is 105.

Several part-time instructors have been added to the faculty. Rev. Joshua Stauffer, heretofore of Westfield Seminary but now a pastor in this city, is giving Expositions on Isaiah. Miss Myrle Gaskill, your editor, is teaching a class in English. Miss Myra Martin, R. N., of Cleveland, Ohio, is conducting a class in First Aid in addition to her regular studies. Miss Hazel Keiser of Bryan, Ohio, is taking Mr. Weaver's place in piano for this year. With these efficient co-workers we are looking to God for His singular blessing upon the School.

During the summer some much-needed improvements were made in the Administration Building. With a little paint and a few fixtures a complete transformation has been wrought in the center hall and in the dining room.

If the buoyancy of youth coupled with the fervency of the Spirit makes the end of this year better than its beginning it will be the greatest year in our history—to the glory of God. L. M. Z.

A missionary from China writes, "I have not received the last few issues of the Bulletin, I think my subscription has expired. Time passes so quickly." No, that is not the reason she has not received the paper, but let us all check up on our own subscription.

Send all monies to the Treasurer, Waldo Schindler, Berne, Indiana.

### PRAYER REQUESTS

From Clyde Bowman in Baluchistan, India, come the following requests:

*Pray* for us missionaries that God's best shall be our portion in ministry.

*Pray* for our three out stations, especially for the few Christians, and the native workers.

*Pray* earnestly for Chaman, the border station. Also that the doors into Afghanistan shall soon be opened and for the many Afghanies that we come in contact with daily.

### PERSONALIA

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Snyder who have returned to West China visited the Bible Institute enroute.

Gilbert Bixler, a former student, who is now living in Van Nuys, Calif., greeted friends at the school on June 25.

LeRoy Suter of the class of 1919, now a Y. M. C. A. worker of Los Angeles, spoke in the First Missionary Church on June 28.

Mr. V. Odell Harrold and Naomi Roth of the class of 1929 were married on June 27. They are now living with her mother near Grabill.

Mrs. Anna Roth Clasper (1913) and daughter Ruth spent the day at the Bible Institute June 29.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Siegel, missionaries enjoying their first furlough from India, have been seen around the school during the summer months and we hope they will be back to address the students.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Seitz of the class of 1922 were visitors at the Bible Institute one day in August. They are now located in Catarina, Texas.

Mr. A. C. Eicher and Artimese Church, both of the class of '30, were married on Sept. 7.

Mr. Harold Sanderson and Marion Jonswald of the class of '31 were married on Sept. 2, 1931.

Rev. H. C. Thiessen, a former teacher of the Bible Institute, is now Dean of the Bible School at Dallas, Texas.

Dale Mitchell, class of 1930, and Lucille Bontrager were married on Sept. 24.

David Lee—born to Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Zimmerman, July 10.

A quartette consisting of Jasper Lehman, Harold Wiswell, Wm. Zuercher, and Paul Steiner traveled many miles the past summer representing the school and preaching the Word. Mr. Steiner has again resumed work in the Institute and Mr. Wiswell is supplying in the First Missionary Church of this city during the illness of Rev. Gerhardt Kliever.

Let us continue to pray for our former editor, Armin Steiner, during his prolonged physical test.

### REPENTANCE

If there is no repentance, there can be no pardon. Some years ago a murderer was sentenced to death in the United States. The murderer's brother, to whom the State was deeply indebted for former services, besought the governor of the State for his brother's pardon. The pardon was granted, and the man visited his brother with the pardon in his pocket. "What would you do," he said to him, "if you received a pardon?" "The first thing I would do," he answered, "is to track down the judge who sentenced me, and murder him; and the next thing I would do is to track down the chief witness, and murder him." The brother rose, and left the prison with the pardon in his pocket.

Have you paid your subscription to the Fellowship Circle Bulletin? Better do it today.

## THE FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE BULLETIN

Published quarterly by the Fellowship Circle of the Fort Wayne Bible Institute, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Subscription Price, 35c per year, or three years for \$1.00.

Send all reports and matters intended for publication to the editor, Miss Myrtle Gaskill, Bible Institute, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Send all monies to the treasurer, Mr. Waldo Schindler, Berne, Indiana.

Entered as second-class matter July 9, 1927, at the post-office at Berne, Indiana, under the act of March 3, 1879.

### EDITORIAL

We are glad to publish letters from members of graduating classes from 1909-1920. In the next issue, D. V. letters from classes 1921-1931 will appear. News items concerning students of these years will be greatly appreciated.

### THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members of the Fellowship Circle:

"Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase." "But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifice God is well pleased."

Yes, your surmise is correct. It's another appeal for money. Perhaps the approach should have been more diplomatic and clothed in the subtlety of euphemistic language. We should have said that we should be pleased to stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance. Your pardon is craved for so abruptly mentioning such a personal matter.

The reader understands, of course, that only expediency causes us to speak with moderation. If it would produce results we would without hesitation issue a decree. But since the only kind of decree this age recognizes is the fashion decree, we must take recourse to tact, which Funk and Wagnall define as an intuitive appreciation of what is fit, proper, or right.

Quite a number of readers of the Bulletin haven't sent in a contribution for years. We wish to disillusion any one who thinks that more contributions would embarrass the Executive Committee. The officers of the Fellowship Circle can truthfully say that they have not been alarmed or threatened with a superabundance of giving. Our experience hasn't been that of the Apostle Paul, who wrote to the Corinthians, "Against one thing we are on our guard—I mean against blame being thrown upon us in respect to these large and liberal contributions which are under our charge." Our experience corre-

sponds to the Israelites, who "gathered little" but had "no lack."

However, it should be said in sincere gratitude to God and with respectful acknowledgment to His stewards that some have been very faithful and generous in supporting the Circle. A minority of the members is actually carrying on the work of the Circle and making it possible for all to receive the Bulletin regularly.

With the payment of this issue of the Bulletin the treasury will be almost depleted—and we will have done nothing for needy students. May we not all rally to the need so that there will be a surplus above running expenses to give to worthy students who are struggling valiantly to obtain an education in these "hard times." Contributions are payable to the Treasurer, Mr. Waldo Schindler, Berne, Ind.

Gratefully yours,  
S. A. WITMER.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

We thank all the members who have been faithful in contributing towards the financial support of the Fellowship Circle Bulletin. May many more send in their renewals and donations soon.

The following have contributed since June 8, 1931:

L. A. ....	\$ 5.00
M. H. F. ....	1.00
R. M. ....	.36
P. P. B. ....	2.00
H. A. A. ....	1.00
E. C. W. ....	.55
E. H. ....	1.00
E. K. B. ....	.25
M. G. ....	.75
Total .....	\$11.71
Disbursement .....	\$30.08
July 6, 1931 (for publication).	
WALDO SCHINDLER, Treas.	Berne, Ind.

## Echoes from the Various Graduating Classes

### CLASS OF 1909

Liu Lo, (East) Honan, China.

Dear Members of the Fellowship Circle:

"It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not, they are new every morning: great is Thy faithfulness. The Lord is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh Him."

This is the song of our hearts. Every day brings new tokens of His love and care; new revelations of His wonder working power.

We truly praise the Lord for His keeping during last year's trial of war. It was as if one could feel the unfolding of the great overshadowing wings.

Though we could not go about and preach; to live unmolested and unafraid in the midst of turmoil revealed God's sustaining and keeping power. Many of the inquirers and Christians in their time of trial also proved Him sufficient.

To preach is not enough; to so live that He may reveal Himself through us and say He is a God of power, then comes a challenge: If all power is at His command why don't He do this or that?

The other week one of the Christians was severely tested in His faith. But praise the Lord it was not more than he could bear. His little son was taken suddenly sick with a high fever. He lay day after day with closed eyes in a semiconscious condition. He ate scarcely anything and yet remained in as good flesh as before taking sick. He being a small child and of

a stubborn disposition it was impossible to reason with him and coax him to take medicine. Chinese medicines are bowls of bitter herb tea and very hard even for grown person to take. The neighbors all said it was demon possession and advised them to get the witch doctor. The mother is still a heathen so she did not have faith to believe for his healing. The Lord waited eleven days then suddenly healed him. It was a real test to his father but he stood true and did not call the witch doctor. We are praying that this may be a real testimony in that village.

Last summer's war broke at the end of the summer so we are able to get to the villages in the itinerating season. Truly the good hand of our Lord was upon us. We were so happy to be able to once more witness from village to village. This spring also offered another opportunity to give out the Word unmolested. As the spring is the longer itinerating season we were able to work farther out and then visit places not reached for several years.

The people have had a sort of jubilee this spring and summer. For several years they have not been able to hold their open air theatricals. So this spring being favorable they have been more active than ever with these. It has given an excellent opportunity to preach the Gospel. A goodly number have been attending and some will always gather around us to listen to the Gospel story. Many tracts have been distributed. Please pray for these little silent messengers,

"For we know not whether shall prosper, this or that or whether they both alike shall be good."

Please remember also the Church in China as it struggles to walk with a strong firm step. It is being greatly opposed by the enemy. It takes much courage on the part of the leading men. Let us stand behind them with our prayers.

Yours in His glad service,  
MARY DEGARMO.

#### IN MEMORIAM

NELLIE BOWEN

I am sure none of the faculty or students of 1907-1909 will ever forget friendly, talkative Nellie Bowen. She was all enthusiasm for Korea.

Shortly after graduation she was accepted as a missionary to Korea, but as the way did not open she was sent to China. She threw herself into language study with heart and soul and as a result she had a partial breakdown.

One of the senior missionaries accompanied her to the hills to recuperate. While there she contracted confluent smallpox. During her delirious condition she spoke in Chinese to imaginary gatherings of natives, exhorting them to accept Jesus as their Savior.

She rests in a valley not far from the assembly hall and American school at Kikung Shan, Honan Province.

While at the hill the other year we visited her grave. We followed a narrow foot path down the side of the hill, winding in and out around boulders and trees through high grass, here and there dotted by wild flowers. After several stops to inspect near by graves we finally came to the one we sought. Unlike graves at home it is enclosed by a rock wall three feet high which has been filled in with earth, a very suitable place to plant flowers.

As we stood beside the grave we thought of the words of our Lord, "Except a grain of wheat fall into the ground and die it abideth alone." Now we do not always understand the why of God's dealings; but praise the Lord we will some day understand.

MARY DEGARMO.

#### CLASS OF 1910

August 5, 1931

Dear Members of the Fellowship Circle Family:

We graduated before the days of the Fellowship Circle so I feel quite a stranger to it.

It was sixteen years ago in January since I arrived on the field, and the same number of years in April since I started work at this station, Mukaa, after nearly three months of language study at an-

other station. I have worked at several other stations since then but returned here in February of this year.

I am working under the "African Inland Mission," an undenominational faith mission, started by Peter Cameron Scott in 1895. At the beginning of 1928 the mission was occupying thirty-five main stations surrounded by many out-schools, among about twenty-five tribes. The aim was a line of stations along the highlands from East Africa in a northwesterly direction to Lake Tchad.

The work was started among this tribe among whom I am working, called the A-ka-mba. We have now six stations among them, the last one opened in charge of native Christians but under white supervision. Until the Gospel was brought to them Satan ruled supreme, was worshiped and served. They sacrificed to him, grain, beer, goats, cattle, and cloth (which they themselves wore) and served him from birth to death. Not until I had lived among these people a number of years did I realize the force of John 8:44. The superstitions and fears with which they are bound and the lies they believe are shocking to one who has lived in a land with an open Bible. They do not realize that they are sinners for much evil is considered good, and much good is considered evil, nor do they realize their need of being reconciled to God. Satan as such they did not know (I am glad to say many now know him as the enemy of their souls) for he came (and he still does to many) to them in the form of the spirits of the dead, to whom they sacrificed. These spirits of Satan that demand sacrifices are called a-i-mu. Sickness or any evil that may befall them they think are caused by them and help is sought by sacrificing to them, a chicken, goat, sheep, an ox, a piece of red or white cloth or whatever the spirits may demand. The witch-doctor is consulted in both large and small matters. They have great faith in dreams, the evil spirits demanding their sacrifices in that way. Many people are much tormented by their dreams. They never think of laying the cause to their physical condition or mental attitude. Sometimes if a child is ailing it is taken to a witch-doctor who prescribes a tobacco box (which may be a cap of a motor car type) on a chain to be hung around its neck. Children are given tobacco when they are only about three or four years old. These are only a few of the things that we see in heathendom and I am glad that God called me to bring to them the message of light, of deliverance and hope. The Gospel is still the power of God unto salvation.

When the A. I. M. started work among these people there were no schools although since then the government is do-

ing more along that line. But now there is a school on each Mission station and some out-schools in connection with each station where natives are taught the three R's, and a devotional period with song, prayer, and a message given or Scripture verses memorized. For many years my work was in the school with village work on Saturday and during the vacation months, but since the beginning of 1928 my work has been entirely village work. My experiences are many and varied, some listen gladly, some assent to everything without accepting anything and some oppose, but we have the assurance that God's Word will not return void. As a general rule the people are very friendly, but our hearts are grieved when we realize that they are blind and bound and will not accept deliverance, as Jesus said one day, "Ye will not come unto me that ye might have life." Yet we are glad to say that many at each station have come out of darkness into God's marvelous light and are manifesting, by their lives, that they are new creatures in Christ.

This station was left without white workers for about a year and a half because of ill health of the workers who had been in charge and had gone on furlough, so in Feb. another single lady and I came. The enemy had been doing quite a lot of mischief among the native Christians but we are glad to say that the Lord has done great things for us whereof we are glad. Many of the Christians have confessed their sins and desire to live pleasing unto God, and many others have accepted the Lord as their Savior. Pray for them that they may stand true and press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. There is much work to be done in the shepherding of the flock and much wisdom is needed.

Sincerely, HELEN GOOSEN.

#### CLASS OF 1911

"The Lord is good and greatly to be praised." I am sure this would be the testimony of all our "Fellowship Circle" friends if each were given the opportunity of expressing the conviction of their heart. Even in these days in which we are living, so fraught with dangers, and marked by changes, we can glory in a God of protection and unchangeableness. "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and today, and forever," is an outstanding Scripture to my own heart these days. And it was at the Bible Institute, of Fort Wayne, that I first learned to know the depths of the fullness there is in Him. I still love the memory of those days, with their rich spiritual blessings, and many of the friendships formed at that time have en-

duced throughout the years since Commencement days in 1911. Scattered we are, to be sure, but not forgotten, each serving the Lord in His appointed place for us.

We rejoice in the good reports concerning God's blessing upon the School which meant so much to us in the early days of our stepping out to walk with Him, and our constant prayer is that He may see fit to use it mightily in the preparation of young lives for the "harvest fields" until He come.

With greetings in Him,  
EDITH M. BEYERLE, Beulah Beach, O.

## CLASS OF 1912

Dear Members of the Fellowship Circle Family:

Greetings to you with Psalm 138:3, 7.

We always enjoy the Fellowship Circle Bulletin, for it brings to us the messages of such whom we know so well in the Lord. Then, also, it helps to recall happy recollections of by-gone days. To some of the readers we may be strangers, however, we feel that we belong to the Fellowship Circle Family, and want to tell you a little of our late experiences.

The civil war in China of last year, which was partly in our field and raged about 6 months, was a trying and dangerous experience for us. Many anxious hours were spent, when day and night we heard the rumbling of heavy artillery from a distance and the buzzing of airplanes over our heads. During those days we found much comfort in God's Word and the Holy Spirit's voice often spoke peace to our troubled hearts. Glory to His Matchless Name!

Of late we have enjoyed favorable circumstances and during the spring months we had such good opportunity to travel in our field. Wherever we found some Christians and inquirers we received such a happy welcome, and they would usually urge us to stay longer or soon come again. We believe, that altho our stay was never long at any place, yet our fellowship with them gave evidence of help that was received. Often we feel burdened for these babes in Christ because they live so far apart that it is difficult for us to reach them. Many of the old women are not able to read, how shall they be able to stand in the hour of temptation?

Some of our co-workers not on the field at present, who are also members of the Fellowship Circle are as follows: Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Schmidt have been in the homeland since fall of 1924, and of late have been living in Salem, Oregon; Miss Anna Nyffenegger left in spring of 1927, and the same year was married to Mr. John Oberthur, 6 Sunol

St., San Jose, Calif., where they are still living; Mrs. Susie Baltzer Kiehn together with her husband left the field in fall of 1927. They are living near Balko, Okla., where they are engaged in church work; Mr. R. J. Birkey and Mrs. Ina Birkey Bartel are well known to the Fellowship Circle; Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Schrag and Miss Lena Gerber started on furlough January, 1930, via India and Palestine. Mr. Schrag, having been in failing health for some time was taken to his eternal rest a few days after reaching Jerusalem. Members now on the field: Miss Mary DeGarmo returned in February, 1929, and has been stationed at Liuho, Honan, where the Birkeys used to work; Mr. L. H. Bartel returned in January, 1928. The last two years he has been in charge of our Bible Training School in Tsaohsien.

The Bulletin has proved a source of valuable information to us. We often re-read its pages because its place and people are dear to us.

In working or in resting may we fulfill, Not what we would, but only, the Master's will.

Looking for that blessed Hope,

P. P. AND LYDIA BALTZER.

June 5, 1931, Shansien, Shantung, China.

## CLASS OF 1913

Hickman, Calif., July 20, 1931

Greetings:

I graduated from the Fort Wayne Bible Training School in May, 1913, and left Indiana for California the following September. In June, 1914, I was married to Ethel Moore and in September of 1914 we took charge of the Missionary church in Sterling, Kansas. After staying there one year we went to the work in Groveland, Ill., in Sept. 1915. We were there until May 1917 when we came back to California where we have been ever since. For the past nine years we have been in Hickman, California, where I have acted as pastor for two different churches. About five years ago I was ordained as a minister in the Christian Church and have ever since that time been pastor of the Waterford Christian Church. We have been permitted of the Lord to see a goodly number of young people confess the Christ to be their Lord and Savior and then to follow Him in Christian Baptism.

While we are living in adverse times, and days when people are concerned about everything except their eternal destiny we can still praise God that one here and one there are seeing the need of a Savior and are embracing the opportunity to be there when the roll call is made.

While our hearts have often been made glad to see people come and accept the

Lord Jesus Christ, on the other hand it has also caused sorrow to see the indifference of others. When we realize the shortness of time and see the Day of the Lord drawing near, and to see people by the countless numbers going mad after pleasure and the sins of the world we cannot but wonder what it is all about.

I praise God for the household of faith and the word of their testimony that goes forth and do pray that in some way, before it is too late, God may cause those who are on the down hill way to stop and consider the end of the way.

Have often been thankful for the training and good old days spent in the B. T. S. That which I received there I shall never forget and God being my helper and guide I shall ever abide by the teachings of the Old Book.

Where the rest of the class of 1913 are I do not know but if you should chance to see these lines, to you a word of Greeting in His Name. I hope and trust that God has been and is still the One supreme in all your life and thought. Wishing you all God's best and the choice foods of His table, I am

Yours in His service,

ZEARLE A. KINSER.

## CLASS OF 1914

Chicago, Ill., June 26, 1931

Greetings to the Fellowship Circle:

My loyalty to the Fort Wayne Bible School has not diminished at all since I left there years ago. The influence of its Christian environment, the beautiful ministry of intercessory prayer and the noble example of the Christian men and women who taught at Fort Wayne when I was a student there continue to enrich my life to this very day.

At present my duties are manifold. I am now serving as Head of the Department of Religious Education of the Northern Baptist Seminary; Chairman of the adult division of the Chicago Council of Religious Education; Dean of the Baptist Institute of Leadership Training and Professor of Religious Education at the Summer Session of the graduate School of the Presbyterian College of Christian Education.

Very sincerely yours in His service,

A. J. HARMS.

## CLASS OF 1914

Greetings to the Fellowship Circle:

We came to this hill resort to escape the heat of the plains. This is our first visit to this hill and my first vacation from our station at Changsha in three years. As you may well imagine we are enjoying the change immensely. We have been having hard mountain rains the past few days, but even so rain is better than the

heat of the plain. And, the change is so good; to meet with other people, and to go to a regular foreign, (American-European) church seems like a touch of home, an "oasis in the desert." A big treat too, is for our kiddies to have the chance to play with other little children of their own nationality. In Changsha there are only three other little ones of the ages of our children and we see them seldom as they live in another section of the city from where our compound is located. It is rather amusing now to hear our little folk struggling with their English as they are at home in the Chinese language from the fact their playmates are Chinese children of our colleagues who live with us on the Compound. And then too, Chinese being a language of the monosyllable it is so much simpler than English! Ask the children!

This past year has been a splendid one at the Institute in Changsha. Especially so, when one realizes how just one year ago from this writing the Communists raided the city, and did so much damage, and created so much fear in the hearts of the people. Throughout the year we have not been free from rumors of a possible return of the Communists, but God has been good and we finished our school year in peace and quiet. Altho circumstances were adverse at the beginning of the fall term yet we enrolled over seventy students coming from different provinces. And June twenty-third of this year we had our Graduation Exercises, presenting diplomas to eleven students. Two others had also finished the course, and will receive their diplomas in another year, being conditioned. It was a very beautiful occasion, and while we are sorry to lose the students we are most glad they are ready for service. Such a change in these boys and girls during the past three years. And how we pray that none of them will fail in their future work for Him.

It has been a great privilege to follow these young people through the past years. Many have been the trials and obstacles through which they have had to work. And with little or no Christian heritage or background. The future of the Christian Church in China is in the hands of its young people. And we as foreign missionaries now have the great and arduous task, which carries with it its peculiar joy, of training these young people.

Other activities of the Institute have been increased. And, truly, in spite of changing conditions, wars and rumors of wars, we have a wide open door for the preaching and teaching of the blessed Gospel. Our bi-monthly magazine, EVANGELISM, has reached a large subscription of several thousand subscribers, touching many foreign countries. Over five hundred are enrolled in our Scofield

Correspondence Course, which has been so recently translated into Chinese. Our seven Biola Evangelistic Bands have also had a remarkable year in their work of reaching un-evangelized places.

And, in closing, let me, as a member of the Class of '14, send my heartiest greetings to all the members of that Class, and to you one and all members of the Fellowship Circle.

Sincerely,  
CHAS. A. ROBERTS.

### CLASS OF 1915

The class of 1915 consisted of six members.

Miss Mary Abegglen returned to her home after her graduation and in a few months the Lord saw best to take her home to glory.

Miss Meta Hirschy, now Mrs. Lee Bishop Sharp, is a pastor's wife in Lewisville, Ind.

Edison Steiner spent a short term as a missionary in South America and then the Lord called him to be with Him.

Mrs. D. C. Stucky, formerly Margaret Emerson, is engaged in city mission work with her husband in Detroit.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Yaggy are serving the Alliance Church in Columbus, O.

### CLASS OF 1916

No subject through the centuries has attracted the interest of the thoughtful Christian more than prayer. The Christian's spiritual power rises or falls in correspondence to his prayer life. This blessed experience of communion with God through prayer is so great that no philosopher has ever sounded its depth, height, length or breadth. When the man of God says "let us pray" he is asking the people to draw near to God that they might have their spiritual strength renewed.

I. Success in prayer.

This is the problem of the church and the individual today. We are told in the Scriptures that God hears and answers prayer. Do we believe it? Do we act upon it? James 1:5, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God." Why do people not ask?

1. Because sin is in the heart. Sin is a wedge that separates God and man.

2. Disobedience to God.

Failure is based upon disobedience. How weak and helpless is humanity in the sore trial of life because the sin principle is at enmity against God, leading men into disobedience. For Daniel to obey God meant the lions' den; the three Hebrew children, the fiery furnace; John, the Isle of Patmos. We must obey God before we can pray.

II. Victories of the prayer life.

The victories of the prayer life are found on every hand. I believe that great

victories are waiting for our full surrender of self and things to God.

1. Pray for God's Glory.

Few people ever get to the place where they pray for God's Glory. Selfishness is in the heart. We want things to come to pass because it will benefit self. May God help us to pray for His Glory. All Glory and power belong unto Him.

2. Pray in Jesus' Name.

The power of Jesus' Name is beyond all wisdom to comprehend. The personality of Jesus is a personality of power. He is God-man. Nowhere in literature does the hyphen mean so much as in the word God-man. We talk about natural power, there is greater power than natural power. It is supernatural power. God can come into the souls of men and change them from nature to grace, from darkness to light, from despair to hope. The greatest victory of the earth is found in Jesus' Name. Sincerely,

L. B. SHARP.

The class of 1916 has 14 members; 6 are ministers in the United States and Canada; 5 are ministers' wives; 3 are otherwise employed.

### CLASS OF 1917

Hope Mission, Council Bluffs, Ia.  
Aug., 1931

Greetings to the Fellowship Circle Members:

"For a great door and effectual is opened unto me." I Cor. 16:9. We have been permitted to labor in this place for several years and find mission work very interesting and a great door of opportunity to witness for our Master. Evangelistic services are being held in the hall every night except Monday and Wednesday. Sunday afternoons we have Sunday School followed by a praise and devotional service for the Christians. During the summer months, a children's meeting is being conducted every Wednesday afternoon. Most of these children come from poor homes and worldly parents. A goodly number of these children have been saved, three of whom are Catholics. Their father found them reading their New Testament and locked them up. We then gave them some gospels with colored pictures so they can read their picture books, as they call them.

Friday evening is given to Bible study and prayer especially for the young people. Our Sunday School has prospered nicely. We had five scholars to begin with and now have fifty enrolled and an average attendance of forty-five. It is a great privilege to teach these little heathen as it were, who did not even know what it meant to pray, and the Bible stories are all so new to them.

Then the visitation work is one of no small interest and affords many opportunities to get the Gospel into homes.

Here we meet with many a sad and broken heart. How welcome a word of cheer to lighten the poor burdened heart. A portion of Scripture read and prayer offered, we leave wishing them God's blessing.

We also have two open air services a week before the regular service in the hall, sometimes nearly two hundred people listen. We often see men with tears streaming down their faces. Many a wandering boy has found the Savior this last year. Pray for this needy field.

Your Sister in Christ,

SYLVIA AMSTUTZ.

#### CLASS OF 1917

Apartado 57, Ambato, Ecuador.

July 17, 1931

My dear friends of the Fellowship Circle:

Can you imagine yourselves sitting practically on top of the Equator with a big overcoat on, wishing that you were warm? Well, "that's we" here at Ambato. Within a distance of about four or five blocks from our home you get a view of the beautiful snow-covered mountains and volcanoes which every so often give us a good shake-up. And although Ambato is nestled in a narrow valley, and you drop right down into it coming either on the train or on the highway, about a ten minutes' walk takes you to a point of vantage and you get the most beautiful view that human eyes should wish to feast on. Deep gorges which the rivers have patiently cut through the mountains, terraces of hills and mountains, and snow-capped volcanoes, all spread out by the loving hand of our God in a glorious jumble. Here sin, shame, filth, sorrow, sickness, suffering, fanaticism, ignorance, superstition, godlessness, fear, and the inventions of hell and Satan are trying to blot out the face of a loving Heavenly Father. Here Satan's masterpiece in religion holds sway. And, until recently, undisputed sway. Big, fat, drunken, debauched, shameless, greasy priests set themselves up as the representatives of a pure and holy God. The god that these folks have presented to them is a being who keeps souls in flames of torment, while a few favored priests charge money for praying them out of these sufferings. And the things I could tell you of the abuses they commit, even in taking the money of these poor dupes, and then not saying their prayers and responses. Their saints are folks like Domingo, who instigated the Inquisition where literally thousands of real Christians were murdered. They are presented to these poor ignorant folk as enjoying the blessings of God the Father, yet demanding that the poor widow rob her children of their daily food, while the money is given to make feasts to these saints (?). And if they don't come across

with these feasts, they say that the saints (?) get angry and punish them. Folks hate the priests, and fear them as they would the devil, yet innocent little children will kneel in the dirt of the streets to them as they come past. Fathers and husbands say that they would not allow one of these deceivers to enter their home where the wife and daughters are alone, yet these same men will go and open their hearts to them in confession as if they were gods. Words fail to describe the actual conditions as they exist, and tears have dried up in their fountains, as a person comes into actual daily contact with the great spiritual needs of this poor country. As one sees these awful conditions the heart cries out, "Lord, how long?"

Just a word about the work. It consists in services in the jail, which are encouraging. Several have been saved and a goodly number are showing a real interest. Then there is the Sunday School, and the preaching services at the chapel, which is one large room in our home. Also the Bible study classes on Wednesdays, and the cottage prayer-meetings. These are the meetings right here in Ambato, a city of about 14,000 inhabitants. Then our hearts have gone out to the surrounding towns and villages. At first we reached out to those near by, then up to Banos at the foot of old Tungurahua, to the east; to Latacunga about 25 miles to the north; to Riobamba about 40 miles to the south; where two girls (Miss Figg is one of them) are holding the fort and doing a splendid work. Yet there was a vast territory which was not being reached. To the south of Riobamba lies a stretch of over one hundred miles, with its scores of villages, towns and cities without a single missionary. And to the north of Ambato a similar stretch with only one couple working among the Indians. The girls at Riobamba have suffered their insults, attacks, etc., but it does not seem exactly the thing for them to have to go out to the surrounding towns, and receive the rebuffs, stones, sticks, dirt, which often are the lot of the missionary who ventures into new territory. Consequently we are reaching out to these new districts. We used to try to cover this vast territory on horse-back, but time was too short, so the Lord impressed the possibilities of a motorcycle on my heart. It will travel almost anywhere a horse can go, and when we get stuck in the mud, a couple of Indians with a rope which I carry for such emergencies, pull us out of the muddle. When the impression first came to me regarding the motor, it seemed a wild dream. But I am learning one lesson, which I should have learned long ago, that if a thing is of the Lord, just take a step by faith and He'll see you

through. I hardly dared think of realizing this thing, but I felt convinced that God would have it so. So the first thing for me to do was to find a motor. I found one in Quito, brand new only shop worn, which was offered to me for \$120.00 less than cost. I could hardly believe my ears. A certain brother who knew about it, offered to advance some private funds which he does not need immediately, and another missionary who spent some time with us on this station, was so taken with the possibilities of not only reaching the city of Ambato, and the immediate province of Tungurahua, but reaching out to some four or five other provinces which are not as yet touched, representing about one half of one million souls who know not the blessed Story of the Love of God, that he also wanted to share in this part. So between the two of us we offered to have a certain part of our allowances deducted every month for the next year so that the work of our Savior might go forth in a greater way.

I might tell of some of the blessed experiences, of the open-hearted receptions, like we had in a town a few weeks ago, where in spite of all the priest could do, the whole town turned out to hear the Old Old Story while I spoke for about an hour and a half from the steps of the Catholic church. And also of towns where we leave amid stones, dirt, and sticks that come flying through the air. But really folks, the blessings even at such times far surpass the persecutions, only that it makes our hearts sad that these poor ignorant folk should thus close their hearts to the Blessed GOSPEL. Our hearts are especially glad to note that there are more and more doors and hearts open to the Gospel of the LORD JESUS CHRIST. The priests are complaining that the Protestants are making such inroads, and are trying to incite the people to violence. Just the other week, two of our missionaries were nearly killed. The intentions were to kill, but GOD. Hallelujah.

Your fellow-laborer,

D. F. SIEMENS.

#### CLASS OF 1918

Ho-Shuen-Ksiang, Tengynuch,

Via Rangoon, Upper Burmah,

Dear Fellow Students and Workers:

It is with a measure of shame that I, after a period of over five years on the mission field, write my first line to the Fellowship Bulletin. I have hesitated to write about work in "my small corner", carried on single-handed and alone, but not with loneliness because of the One along side. And it is first of all with notes of praise to Him that I would greet you, thanking God for His loving Fatherly faithfulness which has followed through all the days.

We, in this western part of Yunnan, have reason to be especially grateful, that we have been permitted to continue our ministry in peace without such opposition as has in so many places attended the work of the missionary. However, we realize that even amid these outwardly peaceful conditions, the hearts of all are not free from anti-foreign sentiment and even this year in the schools, subjects have been introduced in the course whose aim is to fan this feeling into a higher flame.

But while we have felt no alarm from bandits we have had to take refuge in the 91st Psalm from the "terror by night" for many times during the past year we have been awakened by earthquakes rocking the house. These cause the Chinese to fast and call upon their gods. We love to use such times as opportunities for warning them and pointing them to Him who is able to keep them.

During this period in China besides work with the two companions with whom I came out—who in the Lord's appointment have now gone to distant places of labor—I have had a number of village trips with C. I. M. workers and no little fellowship with Swedish missionaries. But for the most part I have worked only with Chinese helpers. We have visited many villages, staying sometimes for a week or two in places where hitherto missionaries had only passed through, holding evening meetings and witnessing in the day time.

The village where I live is a wealthy little place. The people are satisfied with their idols, and the enemy tells me, "You vainly live here," but God has said, "I do send you unto them" so I'll just live here for God.

The witnessing is blessed, however, the opportunity comes, whether through extracting an aching tooth an occasion is given for conversation upon spiritual things and an invitation is extended to the Sunday meeting, or whether a tract is folded and put into the hand of a little child to give to his father. It is prayer that brings down blessing on all these things. It is not by might, nor power, nor even our faithfulness but by His working with us, confirming the Word, and proving Jesus Christ the same, yesterday, today and forever, and this first in our own lives, day by day.

One of the greatest problems we face here is that of the Chinese in their poverty, believing the doctrine for some material advantage. We have learned through experience and come to believe it as well that it is well for the foreigner to offer them neither "silver nor gold", but oh! that we might, as Peter, know the power of His Name to meet them in their sicknesses and various needs. For the past year, passing through a severe physical

test, the desire to prove Him as my Healer that I might have a richer, fuller Gospel to bring to them, has burned in my heart. Searching the Word, I have rejoiced in believing that we, with the Syrophenician woman may *through faith* leap over the dispensational walls that some would pile before us, and hear this response, "Be it unto thee even as thou wilt."

I covet your prayers that He "Who forgiveth all our iniquities, who healeth all our diseases," may by life and testimony be magnified through me, and manifested forth as the *Living* God among these people who pray to dead idols.

Yours for Christ,  
ELEANOR HABERLING.

### CLASS OF 1919

Santa Teresa 11, Sancti Spiritus, Cuba,  
July 14, 1931.

Cuba—such a small and, perhaps, for the rest of the world, a very insignificant place. But in God's sight it is a very important place. Over three million souls live in Cuba; souls who need to know more of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and of His saving power. Of course, Cuba is a very important place for us also, as it is here where God has sent us, and it is here where we are spending our lives for His Cause.

Cuba is a Roman Catholic country and in some parts it is very hard to do evangelical work because of the opposition of the Catholics. The Baptists, Methodists, Episcopalians and the Presbyterians are the four evangelical denominations working here. There is an estimate of 10,000 Christians, or Protestants as we are called, which leaves over 2,890,000 souls without the light and love of Jesus in their lives.

Conditions in Cuba today are very sad and discouraging. The political conditions on one side, the financial on another and the spiritual all around makes one wonder sometimes if Cuba will ever become straightened out again.

It is not an uncommon sight to see entire families, babies and all, walking from town to town in search of work, food, clothing, etc. They leave their home-town because they have no work and cannot pay rent for a house. They keep on walking in the hope of finding better conditions elsewhere, but alas! poor Cuba and the poor Cubans are all in the same financial difficulty.

One of the things that is helping the poor of Cuba to keep alive is that God in His kind providence is giving a good supply of fruits and vegetables this year, which are sold very cheaply and in some cases the owners are giving them away constantly to the poor.

The main products are sugar, tobacco, minor fruits and vegetables. Of the latter

two there are very many different kinds of which the people in the States know nothing.

A few words about the work with which we are entrusted. We are located almost in the very center of Cuba, in an old conservative town called Sancti Spiritus (Holy Spirit). I am sorry to say it is not as holy as its name. It has a population of over 27,000. Here there are two Catholic Churches, a convent and two Catholic day schools, one Baptist and one Presbyterian Church and a Presbyterian day school. We are ministering in the Presbyterian Church and have a communicant membership of 101 and an average attendance of 125 to the Sunday evening services. In the Sunday School we have an average attendance of 250 during the school months, but during the summer many of the children leave town to spend their vacation in the country and of course our attendance to Sunday School comes down to 100. Besides our Central Sunday School we have three annex Sunday Schools which are conducted by members of the Church. These annex schools are for children who live too far from the church to attend the central Sunday School. In these three together we have an average attendance of 120. We are happy and much encouraged in the work here.

I receive the Bulletin regularly. I am always glad to get it. Through it I receive news of my classmates and other dear friends of the dear old B. T. S. I always remember the days spent there as full of joy and happiness in the Lord.

E. LUELLA (BENZ) ACOSTA.

### CLASS OF 1919

China Inland Mission,  
Kiehsiu, Shansi, China.  
August 19, 1931.

The Ft. Wayne Bible Training School  
Fellowship Circle,  
Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to have a chat with you in this way telling of what the Lord is doing in this particular part of the vineyard. Although a stranger to many of you, our mutual love and esteem for dear old B. T. S. and what it stands for immediately makes us feel as members of one big family.

A visit to the B. T. S. when home on furlough was a great joy to me. Many faces had changed but Mother Lugibihl, Mrs. Ramseyer and a few others still remained by the ship and one still felt "at home."

Upon my return to the field in 1928, I was again designated to my former station but to take up somewhat different work. Our headquarters are still in Kiehsiu, but Miss Bachmann, my co-worker, and I have been doing forward work in the untouched corners of our parish. Our



parish extends about 60 miles from North to South, and about 50 miles in the other direction. Outside of three evangelists with their families who are in the main and out stations, there are no other workers in this district. These evangelists are primarily engaged in local church duties, so that leaves us two foreigners and a Bible woman to reach those villages and towns where no one is proclaiming the Gospel.

To preach Christ where He is not known is not only a privilege but a great joy. In this forward work we live right with the people. Making our headquarters in one village we endeavor to reach as many other villages as possible from there. Sometimes we are called upon to live in a cave with two or three Chinese friends, the previous occupant having been a mule or donkey, and our evening companions, chickens. This one room serves as bed room, dining room, preaching chapel, guest room and hen roost all combined. During the day the room fills up with men, women and children who practically the whole day long listen attentively to the Gospel story. We never lack for opportunities of preaching the story of Christ and His love. There are more doors open that we can effectively enter, helpers being so few. Some folks at home, no doubt, have the impression that on the mission fields it is easier to lead souls to Christ and that they readily turn to Him in great numbers. From my experience I have found the contrary to be true. The darkness of heathenism is appalling and the devil has such a hold upon the people. He does not give up his prey without a severe struggle. But praise God, souls are being saved. Our God shall triumph gloriously! We believe there shall be many present from this land in the day when He maketh up His jewels.

Up to the present time we have been able to go about our work in peace and quiet when other parts of China have suffered from bandits and Communism. We, indeed, have much to praise God for.

Pray much for the youth of China. We believe the Church has a great responsibility toward them. We have just recently closed a month's D. V. B. S. for girls, the children of believers. It has been a great joy to have this closer contact with them. Twenty-five girls lived here with us on the station and we had the great joy of showing them the way of salvation. Chinese children are much like our own, with children's joys and sorrows and peculiar idiosyncrasies. They respond to the Gospel message more readily than grown-ups.

Coveting an interest in your prayers for the work here that God may be pleased to give us an abundant harvest of souls, I remain.

Yours in the fellowship of His dear Son,  
RUBY JOSEPHINE LUNDGREN.

## CLASS OF 1920

Chumatien Honan,  
August 7, 1931.

Dear Members of the Fellowship Circle:

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. There are two seasons when my mind goes back in a special way to the B. T. S. though it has been eleven years since I left her doors. One is at the commencement season and the other is at convention time. The former, I think of as a time, when more people are going forth to carry the glad tidings of a Savior's love to a lost world, and my heart is made to rejoice. The latter, as a time, when students both past and present, are gathered together to feast upon the things of God. At these gatherings of course there are always some missing but, praise God, if we remain faithful unto that great meeting with our Lord, there will be none missing there. Truly, "What a day of rejoicing that will be."

After having almost two years again on the field, we can say "Our God is good." It was quite a disappointment to us, on our arrival in Shanghai, to find that we could not go immediately into Honan, but again we found that "Our disappointments are often His appointments." He showed us so clearly that we were in His will in staying in Shanghai at that time and in His own time brought us into Chumatien. There were many doubts on the part of Shanghai friends as to the possibility of our getting here but when and where God leads it is always safe to follow.

"He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty," has been so real to us since we have been here in the midst of the judgments that have been abroad in this land. How wonderfully God has kept His own and how truly it is being proven that when judgments are in the earth people will learn righteousness.

During the recent robber raid on Sha Ho Tien, a station about seventy li (about twenty-one English miles) from here, not one Christian lost their life, though they had to flee from their homes and lost most or all of their possessions. It was touching, indeed, to see these weary refugees often coming in when our meetings were in progress and dropping into a seat with a "Praise the Lord" or a "Hallelujah" on their lips and then to see the faces of loved ones light up as one more of the family reached a place of refuge. The aim of the robbers was to take this place also and they did get within two miles of the city. We were wakened one morning by the firing of a cannon and some one reported that robbers had come. We could only commit ourselves in the hands of God and await whatever He

should permit. Praise the Lord! He allowed them to come no further. The band numbered several thousand. Most terrible reports came to us regarding the treatment of the poor captives. They are far worse than in former years. After some time they were frightened away by the soldiers and we have recently heard they have been taken into the army.

We had planned a series of meetings for the first part of July but felt we could not ask the Sha Ho Tien church to come as our compounds were already well filled. They, too, said that they would not have felt they could have come but God used this way to get them here and they went back greatly blessed and helped. During those days we housed between forty and fifty extra people, over twenty women and children sleeping in one room.

At the present time people are suffering greatly because of heavy rains. For over a month we had rain then it cleared for eight days and now we have rain again for five days. Many lives have been lost, homes destroyed and crops ruined. Just a few days ago, a company of eight hundred flood refugees passed through here on their way south. They had lost their all.

North of us there is war between the Nationalists and Feng Yu Hsian and his allies. South of us the communists are at work. Though we are hemmed in on all sides, Hallelujah! there is a way up and we are looking that way.

Our Lord is coming soon and there are sheaves yet to be gathered in. There are some young people who are willing to go out into the harvest field but there is need of a vast army being thrust out to gather in the ripened grain. Communism is getting vast numbers of China's youth. Shall we not stand in the gap for them?

Yours for the Master's use,

AMY I. APPLEGATE.

## DIVERS FOR SOULS

Down amid the depths of heathen  
darkness

There are heroes true and brave;  
Shrinking not from death, or toil, or  
danger,

They have gone to help and save:  
But we hear them crying, "Do not  
leave us,

'Mid these dreadful depths to drown,  
Let us feel your arms of prayer  
around us,

Hold the Ropes as we go down."

—A. B. Simpson, D. D.