

whom God wills nourish that concern. Schools follow one after another till his personality is equipped for usefulness. Then the Spirit does His Sovereign work and slowly leads the individual on to decision.

Why Not?—Why not scatter our groups of men who train others? Someone would ask that! Read back above in these notes. Note the marvelous ministry trained by a handful of missionaries who had spiritual judgment enough to stay together in Rio and Recife in our two seminaries. Today we have our missionaries of those two groups, and scores of noble pastors trained by them have been sent out to these needy places. If we had scattered them, we should have few workers and little in the way of results.

Dotted Lines of Capitals—Dr. M. E. Dodd was moved by the line of west coast capital cities in South America that have little evangelical witness. No Baptist voice at all is heard in many of them. For nearly a score of years we have been pleading in Brazil, that in the marvelous Baptist growth, it might be given us to have just one missionary couple for each of our Brazilian states. Each of these states occupies a territory that is approximately twice as large as that of the average state of our own country and population is growing rapidly. Yet we have no resident missionaries in the goodly capital cities of Florianopolis and Cuiabá (Matto Grosso) and have just entered Goiania, in three states in South Brazil. No missionaries are resident in the North Brazil capitals of Para, our Saint Louis (Maranhão), Therezina (Piauhy), Fortaleza (Ceara) and Aracajú (Sergipe).

Brother John Tumblin and wife have just occupied Natal, the great air port linking Brazil with Africa and Europe. João Pessoa, capital of Parahyba, renamed for the martyr of the Brazilian revolution, has no resident missionary though Brother Stapp and Mrs. Stapp live

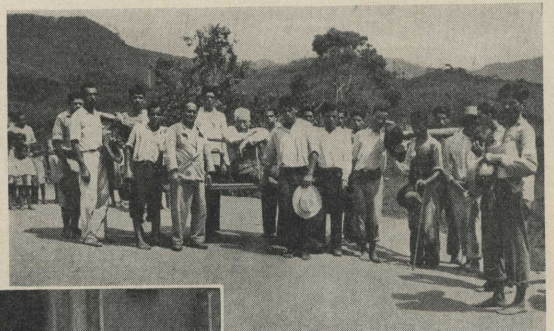
in an interior center that is as important as the capital. Most of these capitals range between 100,000 and 300,000 in population and are centers of accessible towns and villages.

Solidifying Pioneer Achievements in Matto Grosso—The picture below is of the pastors and many key laymen in Campo Grande, Matto Grosso. Missionary W. B. Sherwood rented the large, vacant buildings once used as a school by Brother E. A. Jackson when he established work in that center. A large group came and were guests for two weeks, studying, praying, learning hymns, visiting the unconverted, preaching on the streets to crowds. These were attracted by one pastor who is gifted in chalk

and Intelligence—“The Other Sheep,” foreign missionary monthly of “The Church of the Nazarene,” published 150,000 copies of their recent anniversary number. Even then they lacked 10,000 of supplying the demand. Are they more devoted to what some consider a fanatical witness-bearing than are we to our testimony to what we believe to be “the whole counsel of God” for the whole wide world? The answer will be, in part, the subscription list of *The Commission* when it becomes a monthly, in January.

These pictures tell their story. Veteran Missionary A. B. Deter, greatly loved by a remote inland church, had told them his health did not permit him to visit them again.

TOP—Dr. A. B. Deter and his faithful friends carrying him on a long missionary journey into the interior.



BOTTOM—Matto Grosso Baptist laymen and pastors with Dr. W. C. Taylor, secretary to Latin America. Taken in front of the Matto Grosso Church.

talks. He led them on into the evening worship to hear the evangelistic message that closed the day.

The unifying of all the pastors and leaders in doctrine, spirituality, and evangelistic purpose has borne fruits. One layman went back to his church and said: “I am not the same man whom you sent away. I have grown more spiritually in these two weeks than in the twenty years of my Christian life.”

Developing Missionary Passion

They offered to carry him over the hills to their homes. They made good, carrying the heavy load up the rugged roads by relays, with change of personnel every ten minutes. Of course, in spite of their devotion, it was not a luxury jaunt for Brother Deter. But his evangelistic zeal made every step of the suffering a part of his joy in the Lord.

Have you renewed your subscription to *The Commission*?



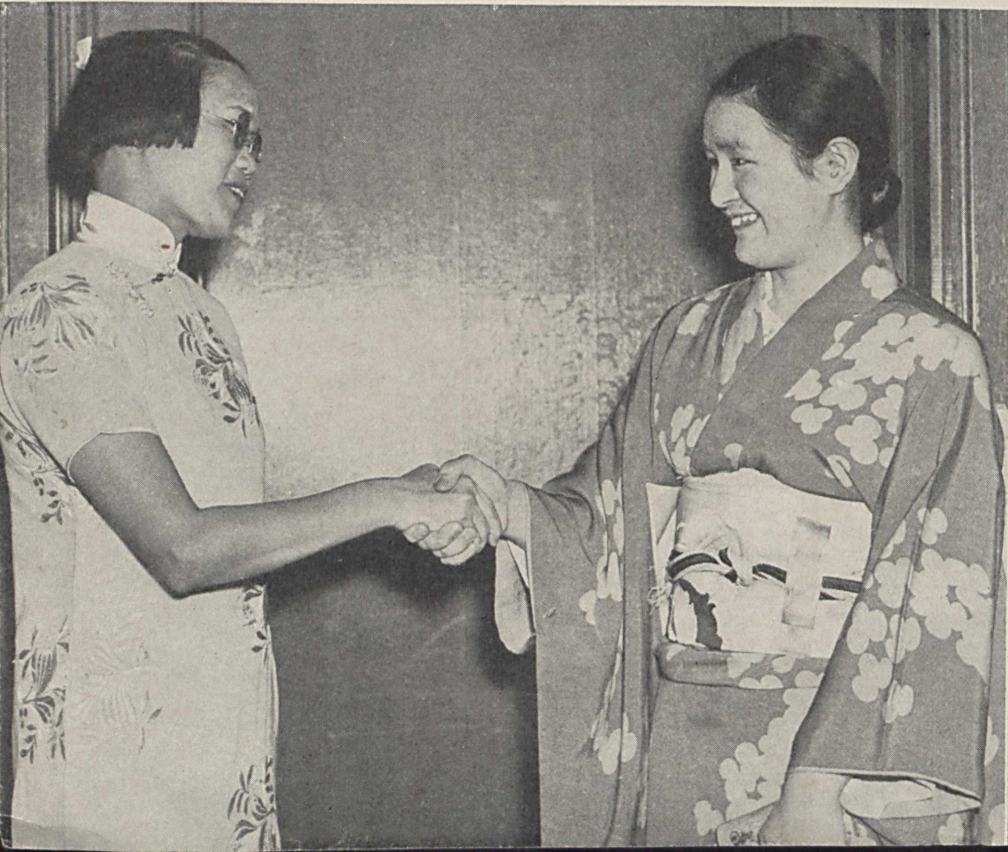
Tatsuko Sasaki, daughter of Dean of High School, Fukuoka, Japan, led 23 of her day school pupils to Christ last year.



Castle at Osaki, Japan

Christians in Japan

China and Japan clasp hands in fellowship in Christ—Misses Moonbeam Tong of Canton (now at B.B.I.) and Kiyoko Shimose of Fukuoka (now at W.M.U. Training School); and Rev. C. K. Djang of Shanghai (now at University of North Carolina) and Sadamoto Kawano of Fukuoka.



Plum Blossom, the oldest daughter of Mr. Kagawa



Home of Toyohiko Kagawa, Tokyo



THE COMMISSION

Published bimonthly by the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, P. O. Box 1595, Richmond, Virginia.

CHARLES E. MADDRY, *Editor*
INABELLE G. COLEMAN, *Associate Editor*
NAN F. WEEKS, *Associate Editor*
JOHN HALL JONES, *Business Manager*

Contributors

W. O. CARVER, Professor of Missions Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
J. H. RUSHBROOKE, Secretary Baptist World Alliance
EVERETT GILL, European Representative
GEORGE GREEN, M.D., Secretary for Nigeria
M. T. RANKIN, Secretary for the Orient
W. C. TAYLOR, Secretary for Latin America
DEWEY W. MOORE, Secretary for Italian Mission
LAWSON H. COOKE, Executive Secretary Baptist Brotherhood
R. S. JONES, Home Secretary
JESSIE RUTH FORD, Executive Assistant
MARY M. HUNTER, Manager of Department of Literature and Exhibits
CHARLES A. WELLS, Cartoonist

Subscription price 50 cents per year. Extra copies 15 cents each. Editors and Publication office, Sixth and Franklin Streets, Richmond, Virginia, Post Office Box Number 1595.

VOL. II

JANUARY, 1939

No. I

The Rising Sun in the Orient

A new world empire has arisen over night in the Orient. Only eighty-eight years ago Commodore Perry, commanding a squadron of United States naval vessels, compelled Japan to open her ports to Western commerce and civilization. She eagerly accepted the teaching and guidance of Western nations. Today she is the undisputed mistress of all Eastern Asia, holding under her domination, five hundred million peoples of the yellow race, and apparently able to stand against any nation or combination of nations that may challenge her authority.

We are living in a great epoch-making hour; but we are so close to these breath-taking, destiny-making events, that we fail to grasp their full significance. In eighteen months we have witnessed five hundred years of history unfolding before our eyes. For good or evil, in these brief months, we have seen a nation of 70,000,000 people bring under its sway and domination a nation of 450,000,000.

What is all of this going to mean to the cause of Christ's Gospel in the Orient? No man knows. We can only hope and pray that, out of all the suffering and human misery now engulfing both Japan and China, the eternal purpose of the God of all the nations may be wrought in the sure and certain coming of the Prince of Peace "with healing in His wings."

What of our duty and obligation to Japan? We failed her eighty-eight years ago. We sent her some of the products of our Western education. We sent her cotton, tobacco, machinery, arms and ammunition—ruin of all kinds and in abundance. Occasionally we sandwichee in a missionary. We waited too long, and thus lost our opportunity to win to the Gospel of Christ and the way of peace, a great nation-in-the-making.

But it is not too late to undertake, in a worthy and adequate way, the challenging task of giving the Gospel of Christ to the people of Japan. We must speedily send re-inforcements to our depleted Japanese mission. A few years ago,

we had over thirty missionaries in Japan. Today we have nine. We plan to appoint, at the April meeting of the Board, three splendidly equipped missionary couples for service in Japan.

Now, in the supreme hour of her destiny, Japan needs the sympathetic understanding and the earnest prayers of all who wait for our Lord's coming.

Prison Doors Swing Open for Baptists

We fondly imagined that John Bunyan and Roger Williams had won forever the fight for religious freedom and liberty of conscience. Baptist preachers in Massachusetts, Virginia and North Carolina, went to prison that humble folk, who accepted the Bible as the Word of God, and who loved Jesus Christ, might worship, unhindered and unmolested by any one on earth. The precious doctrine of religious liberty was written into the fundamental law of the United States when the Constitution was adopted. Baptists played no mean part in that struggle; and we thought that now all decent and civilized people in all lands, accepted this fundamental human right of religious liberty. Suddenly we are awakened to our senses by the unspeakable tragedy that has overtaken our Baptist brethren and sisters in Rumania.

At the close of the World War, greater Rumania emerged, largely through the efforts of Woodrow Wilson and the American delegates to the Peace Conference. The new Rumanian constitution was a beautiful, idealistic document. It guaranteed to everyone religious liberty and civil equality before the law. The Orthodox Greek Catholic Church is the State Church in Rumania, but the new constitution granted religious liberty and civil rights to all religious or racial groups.

Twenty years have passed. The Patriarch of the Orthodox Church in Rumania is Prime Minister. To-