

PRAYER CARD LEAFLET.

SUBJECT FOR PRAYER.

NOVEMBER.

For the Chinese Empire, all the Chinese on this Christian continent, our work in British Columbia, and those to be sent by our Church to China as missionaries; that the prayer of the Shanghai Conference for 1,000 workers be answered.

SCRIPTURE READINGS.—*Psalm lxxii. 8-19.*

What is the extent of the Chinese Empire?

About as large as the Dominion of Canada. Within this area are 400,000,000 of inhabitants, or one-third more than all the countries of Europe combined; and not one in 10,000 of these has ever heard of a Saviour.

What is the national age of China?

It is the oldest nation in existence, having passed through many centuries before Babylon was founded; it was highly civilized before England became a nation. Its history and institutions were ancient before those of the oldest European countries.

What systems of religion have the Chinese?

China abounds with religions. On every hand are shrines to the gods of the river, the gods of the trees, gods of the hearth, of the kitchen and of the hills. Every store has its altar, upon which incense is kept burning to the god of good luck. These superstitions belong chiefly to the system called Taouism. This error is so woven into the thought and belief of the people, that almost every object is invested with a deity, or is believed to possess some supernatural influence. Hence they are polytheists, having "gods many and lords many."

Another system which largely controls the social and moral life of the people is Confucianism. Its author, Confucius, was contemporary with Laotze, the founder of Taouism, though much the younger. He seemed to see the error into which the people