

The Young Women

SOMEONE ELSE.

Someone else can do it, someone else is wiser far,

Someone else is better posted what the latest methods are,

Someone else would be more fitting,
Someone else would have more time,
Someone else would please the others,
Someone else would do it prime.

Someone else has had more training,
Someone else is not afraid,
Someone else is used to leading,
Someone else would give more aid.
Someone else, and do you ask me
Who that someone else may be?
You could find her without trouble,
For its anyone but me.

—Missionary Monthly.

MISS TETSU YASUI, LITT.D., PRESIDENT WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN COLLEGE OF JAPAN

By Amy G. Lewis

"If you will remember that we do not 'hire' teachers in Japan and will call on Miss Yasui and invite her to join the staff I think she may be willing to come." So spoke a Japanese teacher at the Aoyama Girls' School to a missionary in 1909 when Miss Yasui had just returned from a second period of study in England. Calling on her at the Peeresses' School in Tokyo where she was teaching, I found a quiet, unassuming friendly woman who consented to come to teach psychology and pedagogy in our higher department, three years above high school, later merged with the higher departments of other mission schools to form the nucleus of the Woman's Christian College of Japan of which Miss Yasui is to-day the able president.

Miss Yasui, an early graduate of the Woman's Higher Normal School—the highest government school for women in Japan, then or now—has pioneered more than once since her graduation. She was sent by the Government to study at Oxford and Cambridge, and then, in response to the request of the Siamese Government for someone to establish a school for peeresses in Siam, was sent there by the

Japanese Government. In this difficult task she was so successful that a school begun with only eight pupils, taught in English, at the end of three years was well organized with 180 girls. I once heard Miss Yasui telling her class at Aoyama that she could sympathize with the foreign teachers far from their homes because she, also, had taught in a foreign land. It was after her strenuous life in Siam that she went again to England to rest and to study at Cardiff College. On her return she was for a brief time at the Peeresses' School and at Aoyama Girls' School in Tokyo, where I first knew her. Later she taught in the Woman's Higher Normal School in Tokyo for several years.

When plans were being made for the opening of this new college for women in Tokyo, Miss Yasui was sought as its leader but, being a very modest person, she declined to undertake the task except as the assistant of Dr. Nitobe, a leading educator and author whose books are in many languages. It was finally arranged that the college should open with Inazo Nitobe, M.A., Ph.D., LL.D., President, and Miss Tetsu Yasui, Dean. However, Dr. Nitobe was soon called to Geneva as a member of the secretariat of the League of Nations, and the actual work of starting this Union Christian College for Women was done under the wise leadership of Miss Yasui.

In 1923 Miss Yasui was the Japanese delegate to the International Educational Conference in San Francisco and prior to the meeting visited missionary and educational leaders in many parts of the United States. Everywhere she was received with cordial appreciation, and from Mt. Holyoke College received the degree of Doctor of Literature.

Dr. Nitobe has become the Honorary President of the College and Dr. Yasui, since her inauguration June 7, 1924, the President.

It was just seven years ago, April 30, 1918, that the college was opened in temporary quarters in a Tokyo suburb with 84 young women registered. The opening ceremony was most auspicious. The Minister of Education sent congratulations, Governor Inouye attended in person, made a most interesting address and presented to the college fifty trees