

for us to retain teachers long at a time. If obliged to go into Tokyo on business, the prospect of that awful journey proves too much for their courage. I was very fortunate this year. The only change was Mrs. M's removal to her husband's native province. For the present her place is partially supplied by one of the former students of this school, lately graduated from Azabu.

I am sure you are delighted with the good news of our increased attendance. This term, too, we are doing well; about seventy of the former pupils have returned, and five new ones are already here. Three or four others have applied. I do hope the popularity of the school will continue, though one cannot count much on that here, as a very little thing suffices to change the current of public opinion in Japan.

I had heard that Yamanashi girls were different from girls in our other schools. They are harder to teach and control—they have more assertiveness, and are rougher in language and manners. But we have some fine warm-hearted girls among them who will one day repay the care bestowed upon them. All over the province there are fine girls who have gone out of this school to make better the little corner about them.

Everywhere the evangelistic work is encouraging. Miss Preston often sighs for another helper, that the evangelistic department might receive more attention. She is a most energetic worker, holding meetings wherever a possibility offers. In her I see the benefit of remaining in the same station—she knows every girl who has been in the school, and keeps the majority of them on her visiting list. A number of openings for evangelistic work have come through these girls. In two weeks we shall have our *alumnae* meeting, when thirty or more of the old girls will be here for the day; many of them, being married, bring their children also. At the committee meeting the other morning Mr. Shinkai took deep interest in planning details for the day's pleasure and profit. It is a great satisfaction to have such a capable wide-awake man at the head of the school. He is never intrusive, but keeps to his own department, and never interferes with mine.