

do so. But the poverty of the people is such that in many cases it seems wise to assist them to a certain extent. Perhaps only their travelling expenses are paid, or the cost of their lodging in the inn is paid. Very seldom is the whole cost of travelling, lodging, and food paid by the missionary.

For this year the estimates, which were granted for this purpose, amount to \$140, to be used by seven different missionaries. Messrs. Sibley and Morgan asked and obtained \$10 each; Messrs. R. O. Jolliffe and McAmmond, \$15 each; Mr. Hartwell and Dr. Smith, \$25 each; and Mr. Hoffman, \$40.

The Bible Classes and Bible Study School.

From among those who attend these Bible Classes are chosen young men who may prove to be suitable workers. In the Bible Study Class the missionary has an opportunity to become acquainted with these prospective workers in a way that he could not otherwise do. From the Bible Study Class he always selects those who are the most promising, and recommends them to attend the "*Bible Study School*." This is a much more important convention, held at some one of our seven Central Stations, for from one to two months, once during the year. Arrangements for the holding of the Bible Study School are made by Annual Council.

Finally, as the third step in the process of selection, from the students at the Bible Study School, the very best and most likely young men are selected and recommended to the various missionaries needing *helpers*. Those who are employed must remain in the Helper stage for at least one year. If character and conduct are satisfactory, and they give good promise of success in the work, they are then recommended to Council for acceptance as *Evangelists*.

From Bible Class up to a Theological Course.

First, then, the Bible Study Class; next, the Bible Study School; thirdly, employment as Helpers; then acceptance by Council as Evangelists, and entrance upon the nine years' course of study, taking the Middle School and Theological School courses.

Steps Leading to Ordination.

Technically, according to discipline, they remain for the first six years as *Candidates for the Ministry*; at the end of which time, they are received as *Probationers for the Ministry*, looking definitely to ordination on completing the course of study and time of probation.

For the Bible Study School, which was this year held at Cheng-tu, and taught by Messrs. Hartwell, Neave* and others, a grant of \$40 was made.