

wooden pulley where they draw at the well.

Before the bell rings, calling the girls to the dining hall to drink their rice-water, the grain-pounders have begun their part of the house work. Eight girls pound the chollam in large stone mortars with heavy pestles. On Saturday there is twice as much to do because food is prepared in advance for Sunday. After the grain is pounded these girls sweep the dormitories and the compound. The kitchen girls scrub the kitchen floor while the chollam cooks, in anticipation of my inspection. The house kept the neatest this month is to have a picture—"a framed picture with glass in front of it"—as a prize. Only one of the seven dormitories boasts a picture, and that is but a motto, and in English at that!

While these activities are going on in the school compound, the bulk of the school is at work in the two school gardens. They work until ten o'clock on Saturdays, at which time it is hot enough to come home and rest awhile. Later comes mending. While the girls'

cottages were being renovated, they worked hard many hours every Saturday and some school days, carrying stones, digging and carrying baskets of earth, etc. They did not take graciously to this at first; but, as they began to see the improvement in their homes, they worked very happily, though the sun did get very hot about 11.30, and they did get very tired. Our clean houses and green compounds are such a joy, but the best of all is this family of 150 girls, laughing at their work.

Young Women's Rally, Fonthill.—An enthusiastic gathering of Young Women's Circles from Marshville, Welland, Port Colborne and St. Catharines met with the Fonthill Circle on April 10. Miss Ellis of Moulton College came with her message of inspiration, and with her unusual power of unfolding to us the unlimited possibilities and the glorious obligations of our lives. Her subject was "The Making of a Missionary." We all enjoyed the opportunity of meeting her during the social hour which followed.

GIRLS AND BOYS

MISSION BAND NEWS.

Two months ago the "Loyal Messenger" Mission Band of the Ossington Ave. Church was organized, and under the capable leadership of Mrs. Simpson it has grown in interest and numbers. We meet semi-monthly alternately for study and work. Mrs. Alloway is leading the older boys and girls in the study of the "Land of the Golden Man," while the younger ones are instructed in some phase of our work.

During Easter week we had a "ten party," to which our "honorary members" were invited. Everyone of the one hundred and fifty present enjoyed the dainty repast prepared by the girls, also the very excellent programme given by the Band members.

FRANCES MacLEAN,
Hon. Vice-Pres.

NEW YEAR IN CHINA.

Mrs. Nannie B. McDaniel, Soochow, China.

China New Year, with the festivities attendant thereupon, has just passed. The date upon which New Year's day falls varies. The year is lunar, but its commencement is regulated by the sun. New Year falls on the first new moon after the sun enters Aquarius, which makes it come not before January 21st, nor later than February 19. This year it fell on January 23.

The return of the year is an occasion of unbounded festivity and hilarity, as if the whole population threw off the old year with a shout. The evidences of the approach of New Year appear some weeks previous. This has been a prosperous year, and the preparations were more elaborate and more after the old style than any since the first Revolution.

Just before the New Year, presents of