

CHINESE IN CANADA.

A LETTER FROM REV. JOHN A. LOGAN, of UNION, B.C.

Dear Young People :—

A few lines about our Chinese Mission at Union, British Columbia, may be of interest to the many young readers of the CHILDREN'S RECORD.

Union is a coal-mining town, on Vancouver Island. It has about 3000 inhabitants. Of these nearly 1000 are Chinese. Less than half of these are employed in the work. The others do laundry and other work or in some way live off those who labor.

Part of them have been in the country for a number of years and have a little English. The majority have more recently come from China and know little or nothing about our language. They live as is their custom in a part of the town by themselves, and as there are but four women among them, they do their own house work such as it is.

Right in their quarters we have a Mission house. It was built over a year ago and last summer it was painted and the inside finished, so that now it is a very pleasant and commodious building and suited for Mission work.

The Mission is in charge of Mr. L. Hall, a young man who has been more or less engaged in Chinese work for the last five years. He is well fitted for the work, has a fair knowledge of the Chinese language, and is a most active and devoted Christian. He has won the confidence and affection of those among whom he labors, a thing which is very necessary before one can do them any good.

He spends the greater part of each day in visiting from house to house, in talking with them, in visiting and waiting on the sick or those who have met with accidents in the mine.

Every evening he has a school in the Mission house which is attended by from 20 to 25 of "his boys," as Mr. Hall affectionally calls his Chinese young men. Here, by the use of English-China books, they get a knowledge of English which they learn very rapidly. This knowledge of English is useful to them in their work but especially does it open up a way by which they may become acquainted with the Gospel of Christ.

In the school Mr. Hall is assisted by a number of the young men and women of St. George's Presbyterian Church here,

and especially by Miss Orchard who is much devoted to the work. These helpers attend on alternate evenings.

Last August we had a visit from Rev. Prof. McLaren and Rev. R. P. McKay of Toronto. The evening we spent in the Mission house with them will long be remembered by the friends of the Mission. With them were Rev. A. B. Winchester, the missionary in charge of the Chinese work in our Synod, and Rev. R. Logan of California.

Quite a number of friends and about 125 Chinamen were present. A service was conducted by Mr. Winchester in which all the ministers present assisted. After the addresses, five of the Chinese young men were baptized, and they, with the Christians present, sat down at the Lord's Table to celebrate the Sacrament of the Supper. It was a most solemn and impressive occasion to all of us. It was the gathering of the first fruits of Mission work here. The large number of Chinamen looked on with deep interest at the service. I wonder what thoughts were passing through their minds!

A few months later the five converts sat with us in the church at Communion. It will be of interest to know that several others are now under instruction, which, it is expected, will lead up to their soon making a profession of faith.

On Sabbath evening Mr. Hall conducts a service. After singing, reading, and prayer the missionary gives an address. Then there are addresses by a number of the converts. The earnest expression on the faces of these young men as they speak to those who have not yet found the light assures one of the real change in their own hearts, and Mr. Hall is much encouraged by their devotion to the cause of Christ.

Thursday evening is their prayer meeting night. After school the tables are brought together and all are seated around them with Bible and hymn book, and for an hour they talk over some passage from the Scriptures which is explained to them and its lessons taught. Most interesting are these services.

Now I do not want to be too long with this letter but I want to tell you one way in which these "boys" shew how thankful they are for what has been done for them.

On New Year's eve the workers in the Mission, with others friendly to it, were invited to go down to the Mission house. There we found the room beautifully decorated with evergreen and with artificial