

bringing her daughter to school. The young lady was out walking with one of these student workers, who asked her to call on Miss Cushing; the inevitable "good news" was, of course, the theme, first and last, of their conversation; the young lady was won. She returns and tells her mother, who in turn eagerly listens, and now prolongs her stay in Tokyo, to have salvation before going to her home in the country. Thus it goes on and on; souls are won and then organized into workers; each one returning and bearing precious sheaves. The ladies have both found that for this kind of work, a religious life lower than that of full consecration would not give the needed strength and impulse; on the other hand they find that the work itself undertaken in this spirit ministers also to spiritual growth and happy personal experiences.

AMONG THE POOR.

At the time of distress on account of the failure of crops and floods some time ago, a considerable amount of money was placed in my hands for the distribution of food. This brought us into contact with the misery of the lower classes—and a deep, heart-rending misery it is. We would like to be able to do something to reach this lowest strata, with the hope of better things in this life as well as in that which is to come. Our ladies have begun a work in Dobocho, the poor quarter, and are feeling their way. There is abundance of room for consecrated nurses in this quarter.

OUR REGULAR SERVICES.

I have first of all mentioned these auxiliary phases of our work, to show that the action and reaction of effort about the Tabernacle are not concentrated in purely public appeal. At the same time, this occupies its legitimately important place. The morning preaching service is attended almost exclusively by members and inquirers, the afternoon English service draws from sixty to one hundred, the evening preaching, when there is no special attraction, never falls below two hundred, of whom a large number are University students and officials. The illustrated sermons attract, of course, twice as many. Our class-meetings are increasing in size and fervor, and the Thursday evening weekly prayer-meeting is increasingly well attended. Net result in statistics:—Received on trial, fifty-two; baptized, twenty-six; otherwise received, eighteen; making a total of ninety-six, including five under twelve. Since the District Meeting, when these figures were given, several more have joined the class on trial, and two have been baptized.

The special lectures and stereopticon views, as well as the regular services, have been constantly referred to by the secular as well as the religious press, and always in the most appreciative manner, so that the reputation of the work and an indirect influence thereby has gone forth to awaken an interest in wider circles.

WHAT WE NEED FOR THE FUTURE.

As to the needed staff, I am afraid some of our friends in Canada take a very erroneous view of the state of the case, and judge of our needs from that of an ordinary church at home, and hence cannot see the needs of so large a group of workers. But the two

things differ most radically. A church of this size at home would have a little army of class leaders, stewards, Sunday-school teachers, and other solid and efficient men and women workers. On the other hand, the Central Tabernacle is set down in the midst of a dense and approachable population, with hundreds of young and old coming under our influence, out of which raw material we have to construct a church, and eventually a working staff. In the meantime, however, we have no help but that of very inexperienced young people, besides the staff of workers provided by funds from home. Then this institution must not be looked upon as an established church, which can be run on accustomed lines. It is a great mission experiment, and one of its fundamental principles is to have a group of workers who shall make this not a stopping point, but a centre from which to work in wider circles. Another mistake is to imagine that we are already almost or quite fully provided. The Board has given to the institution only the superintendent and one evangelist helper. The latter, though useful, can only serve us in a limited degree. Mr. Gauntlett, our excellent organist, teaches every day for a living, and gives his leisure time to the work of his department; but he can no more be called a missionary, than an organist at home can be called a minister. Mr. Brown conducted two Bible-classes, and did some secretary and treasurer work, but is now no longer with us. The real army on which I had to depend, and could depend, and did depend with blessed results, consisted of Miss Cushing, her Japanese assistant, Mr. Ebara, and a few young laymen, who assisted in their very short leisure time. The demands of the work call for a minimum of three foreigners sustained by the Board, viz., the superintendent, one more ordained missionary, and Miss Cushing, together with all the help that can be got on the field. This staff, in so large an institution, under such circumstances, would be able to do efficient work during the coming year, but with anything less we shall be like a large steamer in mid-ocean with insufficient machinery and undermanned.

If this enterprise is properly manned, it is on the way to great success; if undermanned, I see grave dangers. With these appliances, this small group of workers will be able to do very much more than a similar number divided. The eyes of all the churches of this nation are upon us; failure would be a wide disaster, while success will uplift all our work and be helpful to the Church of Christ in all its branches in this empire.

DUTY TOWARDS THE CHINESE LABORERS.

THE following, taken from the New Westminster, B. C., *Ledger*, contains a suggestion that is worth considering by those who employ Chinese labor. There is danger, amid the engrossing cares of home duties or business, of forgetting that the Gospel seed is to be sown at all times. "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thy hand; for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good."