St. Mary's Hall for Girls
Shanghai
1919

TWING MEMORIAL HALL
THE story comes to us of a young girl in a dingy, cold, uncomfortable Chinese house, engaged to a man in the Chinese Legation in Italy. What a change for her when she comes to make her home in Rome! She is one of a group of St. Mary's girls, who gathered every week for prayer and mutual help in bringing their heathen relatives to Christianity. Lately she visited Peking, to see her uncle, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and was introduced to the President. He asked her if she would smoke, and she declined, saying that she never did so.

"Then you must be a Christian," said the President. "Yes, I am," she answered, "I became a Christian at St. Mary's Hall, Shanghai."

"I know of that school," the President responded. So it behooves our Church people in America to be as informed as this President of the Chinese Republic, and to feel an honest pride in and a sincere gratitude for this school, founded by the Mission in 1881, and which has had its large share in bringing about the fact that there is now scarcely an educated family in Shanghai without a Christian or two in one of its branches. "It takes time," one man said when his wife was baptized, "but it's coming, it's coming!"
An Interrupted Year

The students' strike affected St. Mary's Hall as it did the schools in China generally. The faculty closed the school early in June and dispensed with all examinations, granting diplomas and promotions on the daily class work of the term. The students gave up all honors, medals and commencement exercises, and turned their energies to the affairs of the student movement, holding meetings with the utmost seriousness and dignity, poring over newspapers and discussing matters of state. For the first time in history, the boys and girls of China were associated in the same work.

The conduct of St. Mary's girls in this trying time was most satisfactory. They consulted their teachers before taking any important step, and yet they proved their ability to stand on their own feet and to carry a thing through to the finish. They learned that to be of use to their country they must be able to write and express themselves clearly in their own language; that if ever there is to be a united country, there must be one language, Mandarin, and that in unity and organization is strength. On the other hand, their teachers learned that they have a much more intelligent body of pupils than they appreciated, that they are thinking for themselves, that they can take responsibility, and that they mean business.

Apart from this interruption the interests and work of the school went regularly on.

The Students' Union

St. Mary's Branch of the Students' Union devoted itself chiefly to social service. Just after the close
of the summer term the students gave a play in Shanghai and cleared $1,400, with which to open day and night schools for poor children and in these schools they taught during the hot summer holidays. When St. Mary's reopened in the autumn, these girls formed a committee for working in Zaukadoo village, visiting the homes and teaching the women the care of home and children—with a good deal of patriotism thrown in!

Every meeting of St. Mary's Branch was opened and closed with prayer, Christian and non-Christian girls joining together in this. The spirit of the school was never better.

**Church Work**

During the year St. Mary's Missionary Society, the *Tsing Sing We* made a great advance. For the first time one of the Chinese girls, Miss Waung, was president and she showed a tremendous interest, having complete charge and planning and carrying out all the work of the society. The girls also did much more than heretofore, the chairmen of the different committees—missionary, devotional, bible, social, entertainment—taking their responsibility in a wonderful way.

No doubt, this influence affected the whole school in which there has grown a greater desire to learn more of Christianity and Christian principles; and this not only among Christian students, but, to a large extent, among non-Christians. Again and again a girl is asking, "Please, tell me about a book which will explain Christianity, and yet be easy enough for me to understand." The sense of the truth and power of Christianity is dawning upon
them, but they cannot reason it out for themselves sufficiently to accept it. One student, however, who, when she came to St. Mary's two years and a half ago, constantly opposed Christianity, now desires baptism in spite of the disapproval of her whole family. During the term three students were baptized and eleven confirmed.

Such girls as these go out from the school as real missionaries. Vong-zau, for example, has developed into a fine little evangelist. Her mother has become willing to listen to her, and her sister-in-law wants to be baptized. Each night she gives instruction to the servants in her home, and she and another young married graduate had Christmas trees for their servants and told them the Christmas story. She has attended Mrs. Pott's meeting for village women, and told them how she became a Christian at St. Mary's. The poor ignorant women listened eagerly to every word. A Swedish lady living in Shanghai, has most kindly opened her house for monthly meetings, and there these young married graduates have come to sew for the Siberian Red Cross or St. Elizabeth's Hospital, with tea and an occasional talk. This helps to keep up the school spirit and sense of unity.

The Tsing Sing We also has continued its usual annual gifts of $180 to support a Bible woman in Shensi and $100 towards the amount presented by the Woman's Auxiliary of the diocese each October and gave help at Christmas to the girls' day school in the village and to Mr. Wong, the teacher in the Kiangpeh School. There were monthly meetings of the society, with speakers, and special devotional addresses during Lent. The studio is open to those
who wish to keep the morning watch before prayers. The usual practical work was done by the members, who spoke at the Sunday evening voluntary meetings, told stories Sunday evenings to the younger children, taught the school servants and in the Gate Sunday School, visited the Children's Refuge to teach games, and, since the coming of the school nurse, have gone occasionally with her to visit in Zaukadoo.

The Children's Society

The Sung E We divided into seven circles, each with a leader and meeting on Sunday afternoons, has held its regular monthly meetings. It used mite boxes in Lent, and in September held a fair in Zanfong and raised sixty dollars to contribute to the purposes of the Diocesan Auxiliary. It also made Christmas gifts of money to the two schools in Zaukadoo. The children are faithful little workers, and have been carefully trained by Miss Koo, who is leaving St. Mary's to marry a teacher in the government university at Nanking. Her going is a great loss to St. Mary's, but an equal gain to the group of graduates who now live in Nanking and are earnestly working for the Church there.

Beside these separate efforts, the girls continued the yearly support of a day school in the village and to share in the regular Church offerings. They also took part in philanthropic work, outside the Church, giving $32 to the Blind School and nearly $200 in money, with 700 garments through the Red Cross for Siberian Relief. Altogether, within the last year and a half they have contributed very nearly $2,000 from their own pocket money for these various purposes.
The School Work

The English Department has been under the charge of twelve of the foreign members of the Mission, together with six English-speaking Chinese teachers. The aim is to teach by the direct method, but experience has proved that better results are obtained by using translation classes for literature and reading up through grade six. Thus each group of girls has a Chinese as well as a foreign teacher.

All arithmetic is taught in Chinese.

At the close of school 233 students were in attendance, 98 of these in the primary, 80 in the preparatory and 55 in the high school grade.

The use of the library has increased, and a newly planned course in outside reading has been welcomed.

The Music Department numbered ninety pupils. Miss Lin, a graduate of the School of Music, had the whole responsibility of the department, arranging the schedule for two foreign and three Chinese teachers.

The Art Department did splendid work, and by request from Peking its last exhibit was sent there where arrangements were made to pass it on from school to school.

To summarize: Our English is good; Chinese improving; music excellent, the best in China; art leading all other schools, both Christian and government; our library, through the kindness of friends, especially the Church Periodical Club in Washington and New York, the best and largest in any girls' school in China.
Improvements

The infirmary consists of a large room with seven beds, a small dispensary and bathroom. Dr. Fullerton is the school doctor, Miss Pumphrey the school nurse. Two Chinese nurses are associated with her, and this medical staff did splendid work in the very severe epidemic of influenza which visited the school. All recovered, and with no bad results. Miss Pumphrey keeps the health records of the girls, and teaches hygiene and the Bible.

Twing Hall has been painted, varnished and whitewashed and looks new again.

A sweet-toned bell has replaced the old cracked one in former use. It was cast in Wusih, weighs 900 pounds, and bears the name of the school and the date. Until the chapel of the new St. Mary's Hall be built it hangs in a bell tower on the lawn and rings at six in the morning and night and at noon.

Needs for 1920-1921

Four Teachers—for Music, Science, Domestic Science and English. Our great need is women, good consecrated women.

Equipment especially for Science, better and more up-to-date. No efficient work can be done with our present tools.

Repairs on the original building, built thirty-two years ago, $1,000.
The year 1921 will be the fortieth anniversary of St. Mary's. It would indeed be a Jubilee Year if it might see the completion of all funds for the new buildings and the laying of the corner stone.
Copies of this leaflet can be had by applying to the Literature Department, Church Missions House, 281 Fourth Avenue, New York, and asking for No. 280.