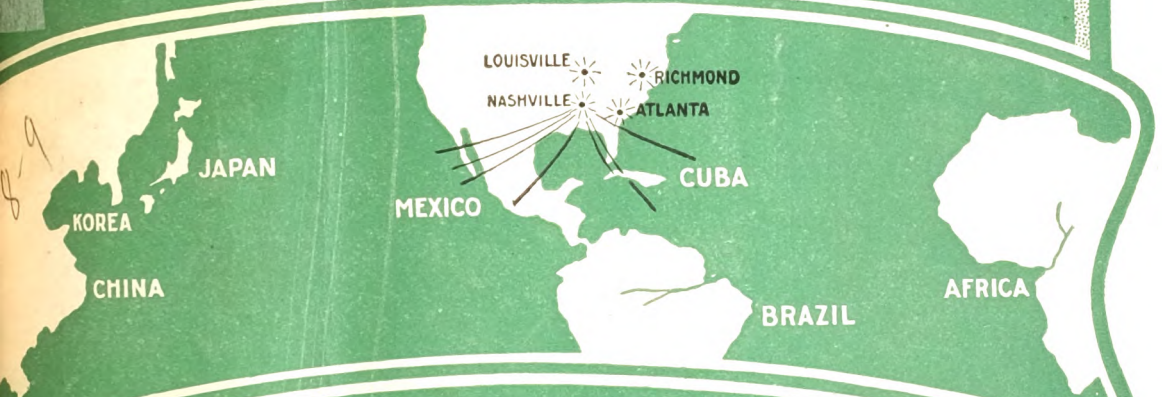


THE MISSIONARY SURVEY



SEPTEMBER, 1918

RALLY DAY OCT. 6

What the Sunday School
sows in the heart of the Child
the Church will reap in the life of
the Man.

WHAT SHALL THE HARVEST BE?

\$75,000 Needed for this Year
for Sunday School Extension.



HOME
MISSIONS

CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION
AND
MINISTERIAL
RELIEF



FOREIGN
MISSIONS

PUBLICATION
AND
SABBATH
SCHOOL
WORK

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U.S.
AT HOME AND ABROAD

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SPRING REPORT FROM SANUKI.

REV. S. M. ERICKSON.

SOME eighteen months ago we entered into correspondence with Kanamori San, the great Japanese evangelist, with a view of seeking his services in a campaign in Sanuki. Last fall he informed us that he could give us two weeks during April. As soon as we got this information we began making preparations.

All the Christians knew that Mr. Kanamori had just finished a five months' campaign in Kyushu, and that there had been over ten thousand decisions, and so they looked forward to these meetings with the joyful hope of a rich harvest. Once a week for ten weeks preceding the campaign we published Christian articles in the Shikoku edition of the *Osaka Asahi*, and in one of the local papers. These articles were two columns long and cost \$7.50 for one insertion in the *Asahi*, and \$2.50 in the local paper. The *Aashi* has a circulation of thirty thousand in Shikoku, and the local paper has about three thousand in this province. In this way thousands of people were introduced to Christianity.

A month before the meetings began we circulated a tract written by Mr. Kanamori in all the places where meetings were to be held. Then we had four different kinds of handbills printed and distributed in every house. In this way every house was reached four times. We had large posters made and placed in every public bath house. At night large lanterns bearing an advertisement of the meetings were placed in front of the homes of the Christians.

Theater buildings were secured for the meeting places, but contracts with the owners were not always certain. The owner in Takamatsu came to us a few days before the meetings, after we had gotten out all our printed matter, and told us that his son had rented the house to others without his knowledge, and we would have to get out. We reminded him of our contract. He only smiled and said it was too bad, but what could we do about it? We were out in the cold. What could we do? Fortunately, the first day fixed for the meetings in Takamatsu was a festival, and so we decided to have our meeting in the afternoon. Of course, we expected to get only half a house, but better than that give up. Then a Christian policeman rented another theater for the meeting the next night.

On the morning of the festival it poured down rain, and our hopes were about as low as they could get, but the rain turned out to be a help. The people could not go to the park, and the baseball game was

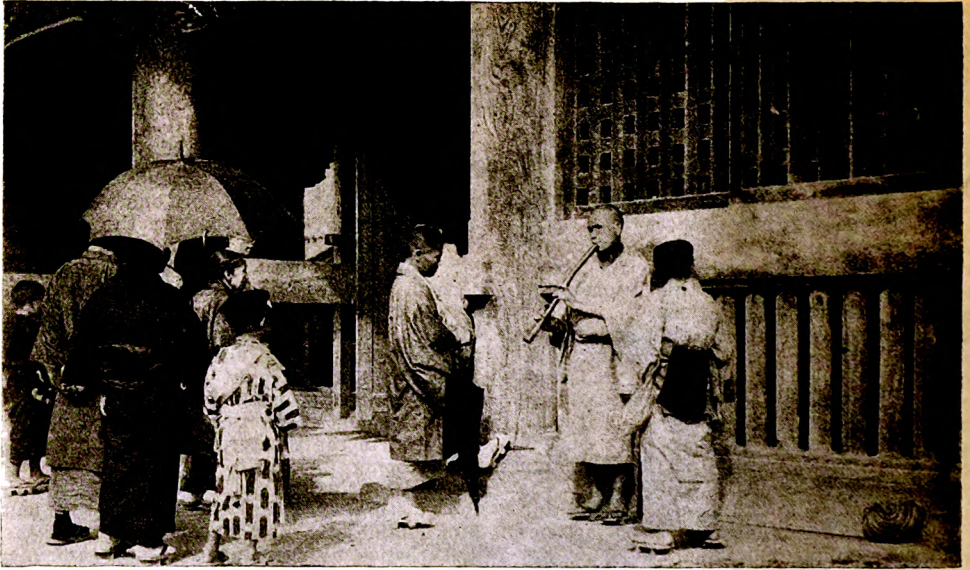
called off. By noon it cleared off, though the ground was still wet, and the people were anxious to get out. At one o'clock the crowd began to assemble in the theater. Mr. Hassell began the singing at 1:30, and Mr. Kanamori began to preach at two. His sermon was two and a half hours long, and at the conclusion of it he called for trail-hitters. About one hundred and twenty of the thousand people signed decision cards. Thus the Lord brought a rich harvest out of the most discouraging conditions.

On the next night twelve hundred people gathered in the theater. Just as the people were being urged to decide a famous Buddhist priest began to try to break up the meeting. A strong young Christian had him outside in a moment, and in spite of the disturbance ninety-three signified their desire to know Christ. The next day we had a welcome meeting for those who signed cards, and two-thirds of the number were present.

After the meetings in Takamatsu we all went to Sanbonmatsu. In addition to four different distributions of handbills, we made another round in order to get out a crowd. The principal of the high school stated that all the boys in the boarding department who wanted to attend might do so. This was a great concession, and the students formed the best part of the congregation. Just as the meeting was being opened we learned that the students had to be back by nine o'clock. The sermon would be only half over, and the students would break up the meeting by leaving. We rushed over to the school and met the head of the boarding department and gained his permission for the students to stay until the end. Seventy-five young people signed decision cards.

Our next meeting was at Tsuda. The crowd was slow in gathering, and just as Mr. Kanamori began to speak the fire bells rang and the whole crowd left. The fire proved to be outside of the town limits, and some of the people returned. Twenty-two decided.

The Christians at Marugame had worked up the meetings well. Saturday night there were eight hundred people in the theater, and Mr. Kanamori was in the midst of his sermon when the same priest who had given us trouble in Takamatsu again started a disturbance. He rushed upon the stage, shouting that Christianity was contrary to Japanese patriotism. The crowd was with him. Soon a couple of policemen quieted him and some others who wished to break



The blind and the lame take their places at the temple gates and receive alms.
Acts 3:2.

up the meeting. Then Kanamori San proceeded and the crowd listened with intense interest. He was drawing them over and when the climax of his sermon was reached there was a burst of applause. Sixty-six decided for Christ. The disturbance with the priest advertised our next meeting, and over a thousand people were out. In all one hundred and sixteen decided in Marugame.

At Sakaide we did not have any difficulty, but it turned very cold and rained. About eight hundred people were out and fifty-six decided. At Kwanonji there were eighty-six decisions.

The priest who had been giving us so much trouble lives at Zentsuji. He tried to get the theater for an opposition meeting in the afternoon just before our meeting was to be held, but we headed this off. We saw the police and they sent several officers, and General Fujita, a Christian, sent a military guard. The priest held his meeting the day before ours, and about three hundred people were out to hear him abuse Christianity. We had a full house of thirteen hundred, and had to close the doors. The priest had helped us to get the

crowd. One hundred and one decided for Christ right under the shadow of the priest's big temple.

This Buddhist priest had also had a meeting at Kotchira, where he hoped to enlist the help of the Shinto priest in charge of the big Kompira shrine. About two hundred and fifty people were out at his meeting. Our little band of twelve Christians worked hard for our meeting. We were doing a bold thing to enter the place, but God gave us faith to go on. Here again our fears proved to be unnecessary, for at eight o'clock the capacity of the house (fifteen hundred) was reached, and the police closed the doors. Here at the site of the largest shrine in Japan ninety-nine decided for Christ.

In spite of all the opposition and difficulties the Lord showed us in these two weeks that he had eight hundred and seventy-two of his elect who were ready for his message. Now we are busily engaged in caring for these babes in the faith. We want you to pray that all these will grow into the full stature of the perfect man in Christ Jesus.

From Mrs. J. A. Barnhardt, Harrisburg, N. C.:

"THE SURVEY is always helpful—always instructive—always inspiring! We want to thank you for it."