

## The University of Shanghai.

THE institution described in the following article by Dr. H. C. E. Liu has a special interest for Baptists, since it was founded, and is still supported and, in a measure, controlled, by our American brethren. There are, in Shanghai, two Christian universities, that of which Dr. Liu is now President, and St. John's, which was started by the American Episcopal Church. The former is much the more liberal, both in its religious views and in its policy of registration with the Chinese Government. The United Committee for Christian Universities of China, which has headquarters at Edinburgh House, reports that both institutions are full to capacity, and that the University of Shanghai seems likely to develop still further in the near future. Its growth has been more remarkable than that of any of the other Christian Colleges. Up to 1931 some 450 students had graduated and fifty-eight per cent. are reported to be in definitely Christian work. In one of the missions which support the University, large use is being made of graduates in pastorates, hospitals, etc., with most promising results.

There may be some surprise at the inclusion in the curriculum of a course in Music Appreciation, but in this age when the gramophone and saxophone have reached China, an attempt to bridge the gulf between Chinese and Western music is to be welcomed, particularly when there is emphasis on the best that we have produced rather than the most popular.

Dr. Liu is well known in Baptist World Alliance work.

E. A. PAYNE.

THE University of Shanghai was founded in 1906 by the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society, and the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. It was originally known as Shanghai Baptist College and Seminary. Dr. R. T. Bryan was the first President of the Theological Seminary, and the late Dr. J. T. Proctor was the first President of the College. After the College and the Seminary had been combined, Dr. F. J. White was elected President. Under his careful guidance the institution enjoyed a phenomenal growth. In 1928 the Board of Directors of the University was re-organised; Dr. Herman C. E. Liu was elected the first Chinese President, and Mr. T. K. Van the first Chinese Dean. In 1929 the institution was registered with the Ministry of Education of

the National Government; and in 1931, with the approval of the Board of Founders in America, the name was changed from "Shanghai College," to "The University of Shanghai." The institution is now among the foremost in faculty, student body, and equipment.

**CAMPUS AND BUILDINGS.** About six miles from the downtown district of Shanghai, on a campus of sixty acres along the left bank of the Whangpoo River, in sight of ships of all nations which pass by daily, stand the stately buildings of the University. There are twelve large buildings and about thirty smaller ones, such as faculty residences, dining-halls, and dispensary, and the electric power plant. The total cost of the plant is about \$2,000,000. Most of this was provided from America, but in recent years the Chinese themselves have made considerable contributions towards the various extensions.

**STUDENT BODY.** In the last term of 1931 there were about 570 students in the college, 430 in the middle school, and ninety-five in the elementary school and kindergarten. On account of the local situation, due to the fact that the Japanese military headquarters and aeroplane base adjoined the campus, it was impossible to open school on the campus for the Spring term, 1932, so classes for the college and middle-school students were offered in the downtown district, with more than half the normal enrolment. The students come not only from the provinces of China proper, but also from Singapore, Java, Burma, Borneo, Honolulu, Australia, and Korea. The University is thus a melting pot for the Chinese from many distant parts of the world. In 1931 95 per cent. of the college faculty and 43 per cent. of the students were Christians, unusually large percentages for such an institution. More than thirty Fellowship Groups, or Bible Classes, were held, and during the year twenty persons were baptised.

**CO-EDUCATION** was started in 1920, the University of Shanghai being the first institution in China to open its doors on equal terms to women and men. In 1931 there were 170 women students enrolled. It seems they have a serious attitude toward their work, ranking well with the men. On Honours' Day, 1931, we found that half of the highest honour and high honour students were girls. They take their full share in all student activities, including games. The number of women students who can be admitted is limited by the size of the dormitory. A new building, a dining-hall and gymnasium for women, has been erected, which provides more space for the women students. The funds for this were supplied by the Baptist women of America. We feel that co-education, while still young in China, has passed out of the experimental stage. The young women have borne

themselves with such dignity and charm that they have won for themselves the admiration of the faculty and of many friends who have visited on the campus.

**CURRICULUM.** The University includes the following divisions of work: post-graduate work, the College, the Senior Middle School, the Junior Middle School, the Elementary School, and the Kindergarten, besides the Theological Seminary and the Yangtzepoo Social Centre. The University endeavours to fit students for life. Therefore, most courses of study are arranged in vocational and pre-vocational groups. At present it is organised into five groups of courses:

*Education.* The education group offers both graduate and undergraduate courses, training teachers, supervisors, and principals for elementary and secondary schools in China. It has well-conducted Middle Schools and Elementary School and Kindergarten for demonstration and practice work.

*Social Sciences.* The group of Social Sciences includes the Sociology Department, and the History and Political Science department.

The present development of the Sociology department is the result of the belief of the American founders of the institution that the field of social life should be a central part of the work of the college. The understanding of Chinese society and its problems is an indispensable preliminary to the building of a new China, and Shanghai is a good field for study of social and industrial development.

The work in Political Science and History has received increased emphasis since the year 1919, which marked a turning point in popular interest and participation in politics in China. This interest has been reflected in the large increase in the proportion of students taking courses in government and history. A club has been organised to study international problems.

*Natural Sciences.* The University has strong Science departments, which are housed in a large, well-furnished building.

In the Biology Department may be found well-organised laboratories for students to do practical work in observing life's processes, under the direction of competent teachers.

The Department of Chemistry has six laboratories, which are provided with gas, electricity, compressed air, and running water. The department prepares students to meet the great need of China in general chemistry, industrial chemistry, science teacher training, and pre-medical training.

The Physics Department is well equipped to train students who wish to specialise in different branches of physical science, in preparation for engineering or medical courses, or for science teaching in middle schools.

*Commerce.* The University has a department of Business Administration in the College. It also conducts a Downtown School of Commerce in the heart of the city. This school was opened for the first time last March, amid the sound of firing between the Japanese and Chinese forces, and offers classes in the late afternoon and evening for those who work during the day. It has an enrolment of 217 students, and over thirty prominent specialists are serving on its faculty. The leaders of the Chinese community have taken keen interest in the school and supported it generously.

The urgent need of the school at present is for library facilities, not only for its students and teachers, but also for the business leaders of the community. The Economic Society of China and the Foreign Trade Association of China are co-operating with the school to build up such a library, \$10,000 having been promised by the Economic Society. The China Committee of the International Chamber of Commerce has affiliated its library with the library of the school.

*Languages, Literature, and Music.* This includes instruction in Chinese, English, Japanese, German, and French.

A special effort is made in the Chinese department to train the students to appreciate modern literature and to write modern essays with ease. The staff is composed of men who are eminent in their profession.

The aim of the courses in English is to enable the students to read, write, and converse in English, using the English language that is found in the best magazines, newspapers, and books.

A course in Music Appreciation is required of all freshmen, and elective courses are offered in piano, organ, and singing. The glee clubs and the orchestra make a real contribution to the work of the University.

**THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.** It is the purpose of the Seminary, which is now affiliated to the University, but not registered with the Ministry of Education, to train ministers, Bible teachers, Sunday School workers, etc. More than thirty students have graduated from the Seminary, and most of them are filling responsible positions in Christian work, many of them leaders in Chinese Baptist Churches.

**YANGTZEPOO SOCIAL CENTRE** was founded in 1917 in the heart of the largest industrial community in China. It is used as a laboratory for the departments of Sociology, Education, and Religion, and gives the college students opportunities to obtain practical experiences and first-hand observation in social investigation, community organisation, and research work. The main activities of the Centre are educational, social, religious,

and recreational. Normally there are about 850 pupils in the day and night schools for labourers. Recently a nursery school was started for the children of the factory workers. In co-operation with the National Child Welfare Association of China, the Centre is providing a clinic for the poor children in the district. During the recent troubles in Shanghai it had to be closed for a time, but was re-opened on March 15th.

**LIBRARY.** The library, which was built with funds raised in China, is complete in every detail, and is a constant source of satisfaction and comfort. The reading-room is very large and pleasant; the stock room, holding over 52,000 books, is in great demand.

One of the unique features of the University library is its International Relations Library—the first library of its sort in China. There are about 4,000 books in it; and it receives publications from forty different countries. The League of Nations, the International Labour Office, and the Carnegie Foundations have also sent their publications to the special library.

**TESTIMONY.** Much has been said in appreciation of the work at the University of Shanghai. The following testimony was offered by Dr. H. H. Kung, formerly Minister of Industry, Commerce and Labour in the Central Government of China, who wrote in a letter to the President of the University: "Your college is rendering splendid service to the young men and women of New China, and is surely filling a need, which is most urgent in our period of reconstruction. My visits to the campus of your college impress me with memories which will ever make me appreciative of the excellent work of your good self and staff and hope that all your efforts will be crowned with success."

In a recent address, Dr. Sherwood Eddy, a prominent American scholar and lecturer, made the following remark: "My heart is very much touched by this institution. I have just been going through a series of colleges from Harbin to Canton, but I have been trying to think of any college equal to it that I have found, and I can't recall one. I can't recall a college that is doing just what you are doing."

H. C. E. LIU.