

[Roll 276, Set 3, unnumbered document]

[pp. 1-6]

1908

Hokusei Jo Gakko, Sapporo, Japan.

The last year has been one of growth in numbers and, correspondingly, in financial receipts on the field. The latter have just about met the increase in teachers' salaries made necessary by classes which had to be divided, by a large number of organ pupils, and, to a small extent, by the increase in the cost of living. The latter item looms large before our eyes as we look towards the future. Our present salaries are small when compared not only with government schools or other private institutions, but are even smaller than those paid by other Mission schools. The explanation lies in the fact that a large part of our teaching force is recruited from the ranks of our scholarship girls, who promise to teach for us two years, at a merely nominal figure. After that, they sometimes remain two or three years more at a higher but still relatively low salary, - in fact, about half the amount received by government teachers of like training and experience.

Government inspectors who visit the school early in the year expressed themselves as greatly pleased with the school in every particular, - arrangement, light, ventilation, course, and instruction. The increased registration shows that parents, also, are increasingly well disposed towards us. The entering class this year, eighty in number, was the largest but one in the history of the school. The exception was the year of the war with Russia, when, I believe, one hundred new names were enrolled.

Miss Ward's absence on furlough has left the school with only two foreign teachers except for a part of the spring term, when Miss Miller, a cousin of our Mrs. MacCauley of Tokyo, gave us valuable and much needed help. At the opening of the Fall term, the West Japan Mission very generously lent us Miss Margaret E. Moore, to take the classes of Miss Smith during her furlough, then over due.

The acting principal wishes here to record her appreciation of the loyalty and cordial support given her by the whole teaching force, during these first months of her administration.

The activities of the school show little change. Daily required Bible classes for all the students are still maintained, as are the weekly school prayer-meeting and (in the dormitory) weekly meetings of the Christian Endeavor Society. Some of the classes also hold class prayer meetings. What we believe will form [*sic*] an advance step in the older section of the C. E. Society, was the adoption of the pledge. Heretofore, only church members were accounted Active Members. Thus were debarred a number of earnest Christians who could not obtain permission to receive baptism. Of the present membership of 21, 19 have signed the active member' s pledge, - fourteen at the time the new plan was adopted, the other five later. The number of church members in that society is 14. During the year the two sections of the society gave for mission work among the poor of Tokyo, Yen 17.16 (\$8.58), and to the church here Yen 5.60 (\$2.50).

The "Violet Society" , also composed of dormitory girls, still continues its good work. During the year 2019 bouquets, mostly of pansies and nasturtiums, were taken to the city hospitals. Each bouquet was fastened with a strip of paper on which had been written a Bible verse. This society also contributed to various church and Sunday School enterprizes [*sic*] the sum of Yen 6.00.

During the year, nineteen (19) of our girls were baptized. Thirteen baptized Christians have left the school (upon graduation or otherwise), and forty-two are now enrolled.

Our most pressing material needs are: (1) for a new fence; (2) for fresh paint on the school building and residence; and (3) for a new sewing room. As for a fence, the present one of bamboo is past mending any longer, as the supports are all rotten. The paint is flaking off badly, leaving the wood beneath exposed. And the sewing room is very cold, very dark these long winter months, and rather too small. With a new light room for sewing the present room could be used for calisthenic[s.] We have now no safe place for the girls to exercise; for out of doors is impossible except for a few weeks in the early fall and late spring, and the chapel, on the second floor, is neither a suitable nor, for the sake of the building, a desirable place.

Our most urgent need of all is, as always[s,] for faithful, believing prayer, -- and ever more prayer.

Respectfully submitted.

Alice M. Monk

Jan. 26, 1909.

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Statistical Report of Hokusei Jo Gakko
of Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan.
for 1908.

Total Enrollment Apr. ' 07 - Mar. ' 08	165.
“ “ Apr. '08 to date (Jan. '09)	175.
Number actually in attendance Dec. '08	148.
Number graduated from Regular Department of 4 years to at Mar.1908	13
“ “ from Preparatory Dept. (2 yrs. ¹)	
Number entered, from April to July	74
“ “ from Sept. to Dec.	<u>6</u>
Total number entered new this school year	80
No. baptized Christians enrolled during the year	55
“ “ Christians left school during the year	13
“ baptized during the year	19
Present no. baptized Christians enrolled	42
Teachers : -- 9 Regular	
2 Special	15: of whom 3 are not yet
2 Foreign	Christians, but are studying
<u>2</u> Pupil	Christianity.

¹The number 2 is not completely clear in the original.