

Preaching in China

Editor's Note: The December issue of "Fenchow," published at that place in Shansi, China, contains the following very interesting article by the Rev. Paul R. Reynolds, foreign minister of the Winnetka Congregational church. Mr. Reynolds is well known to many Winnetkans since he served in this community prior to his departure for China.

"THE SILENT PLACES."

By PAUL R. REYNOLDS
 "—away from that quiet of soul, that intensity of thought, that leisure for reading and meditation, which is so vital to worthy work—." (The Freedom of the Preacher. Dr. William P. Merrill.)
 What richness!!! Instead of being driven away from these things rather to have them thrust upon one. Yet such may be the lot of the "poor missionary" as he visits the outstations (that is, provided he is among the 'elect' who are lucky enough to be able to read in the saddle.) There may be from eight to fourteen hours on the trail, day after day. Time to read, time to think, time to pray, time to wait. Above the narrow, rock trail the cliffs tower in majestic quietness, far below in the chasm trickles the tiny stream, overhead the fathomless blue of the Shansi sky, the tinkle of our mule bells is lost in the immensity of range on range of far spreading mountains. Pastor Teng, my travelling companion, is busy with his own meditations. Perched high on my bedding above the box laden pack saddle, or walking slow-

ly along the trail to avoid running away from the slow-creeping surefooted mules, day follows day.

To be sure, a sudden shower may almost drown you, or a dust storm bury you; the blaze of noonday sun does blister through any covering and no mere clothes can keep out the bite of late evening chill, but these are mere incidentals and at evening your dough strings and cabbage soup served with a sauce of love by welcoming hands will surpass tenderloin steak and mushrooms. At evening we "come down the mountain" and foregather with the brethren and there will be noise and confusion and "meetings." Friendly, curious, anxious to fill your every need in so far as their meager equipment can suffice, pastor, deacons, and most of the flock crowded into your tiny room to watch you shave and remove the stains of travel, to inquire as to your health, and the present estate and condition of your family and friends and neighbors,—yea, unto the fourth generation back. But of what value is the quiet of the mountain passes if we come not at even to the multitude. Many of these folk have done a day's hard work wrestling a bare subsistence from these mountain-side fields and then have walked two, three, ten, fifteen miles, to be present when the minister comes to break the bread of life and baptize the new members. How bare their lives, no books, no papers, no pictures, just a little cave home and a tiny field uptilted till you wonder that the farmer does not drop into the chasms below. How bound and darkened with fears and superstitions, no shepherd for their souls, no physician for their ills. No wonder Jesus "looked around upon them with compassion."

Road, Once the Worst, Is Now Among the Best

If you're driving north try out the new Milwaukee avenue pavement into Libertyville. The road, noted of old as one of the worst in the middle west, is now paved and open into Libertyville, and the Rockland road, running east from there, has been repaired to make

pleasant going to its connection with the Milwaukee-Waukegan highway pavement.—*Illinois Motorist, Official Publication of the Illinois Automobile Club.*

Last Call for Payment of The Park Assessments

Last call for payment of special assessments on the Hubbard Woods and

Indian Hill station park improvements was issued this week by Sanborn Hale, treasurer of the Winnetka Park district.

Mr. Hale stated that 500 assessments still remained to be paid. Payment may be made at Mr. Hale's offices in the Winnetka State bank building. The books will be closed on March 15.



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Announcement

The WILMETTE BUILDING MATERIAL CO.

has incorporated under the name of

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—BUSINESS IS GOOD—

Constant growth has brought about expansion. We have opened another branch yard at DesPlaines. Our coal and materials speak well for our steady increase. Our future motto as in the past will be to render service. For we know time has convinced our customers that our business is well balanced with quality and service. Our management and personnel remain the same.

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