

Program of Compassion, Inc. for Over-Aged Orphans

The problem of the future of grown orphans in Korea is a cause for concern in society, and especially for those of us who are endeavoring to alleviate their plight. There are several phases in Compassion's Program for these young people, and we are constantly exploring new possibilities. Some of the programs are initiated by the organization itself, while others are initiated by the orphanage superintendents.

First of all, Compassion is providing 50 scholarships in Seminaries, Bible Institutes, colleges and nurses' training. The largest group of over-aged orphans would be those who are finding jobs in local areas through the efforts of the superintendents themselves, usually on an apprentice basis. In many cases we continue their sponsorship even while they are in apprenticeship.

At the present time two organized efforts are especially worthy of mention. For the Kimpo Farm School the Government has given 275 acres of rolling land for development, and in the first year each boy has brought under cultivation for the first time 600 pyung or 1/2 acre. Compassion continues the support of these boys (58 at present) and has built buildings, furnished equipment and supervised their efforts. This winter Compassion will furnish them with rice-straw rope-making machines and bag-making machines. They will work 3 hours a day and spend several hours a day in class rooms increasing their academic studies right at the farm school. Farming techniques are at present being taught them, and a good yield from the ground was realized the first year. Each boy will eventually be given one thousand pyung of land which will be his own. The Korean Government started this project by erecting several small mud houses, but ran out of funds so that no children were ever brought there and it was turned over to Compassion. This program will continue to be enlarged and the Government has offered us much more land as we are able to develop it and settle the boys there. Rev. Lee Kwang Sik is the superintendent. He has founded two other successful vocational schools and was superintendent for some years of the third orphanage that Compassion has supported throughout the years.

The next project is the Young Jin Girls Christian Vocational Center which has been built by Compassion during this year on the South edge of Young Dong Po with help in materials and equipment from American Army units. There are 42 girls there at present, brought from our orphanages throughout the country. They are being trained as seamstresses, hairdressers, typists, and receive Bible instruction. Other courses are planned for the future including home economics with the idea of future placement in foreign homes. The enrollment will be enlarged to 100 shortly. In each case the course is for one year. The former head Chaplain of the Korean Marine Corps, who, together with his wife superintend one of our orphanages nearby, gives Bible training and goes to the school daily to conduct services.

The plant is a modern two-story building with plans for expansion as funds are provided. Mrs. Lee Chin Hi, the principal, is a former Korean Army Nurse who has had training in the States. She also was formerly employed by the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs for several years.

Many individual orphanages have developed their own projects. Eastern Light in Taegu is engaged in wood carving. All that they can produce is sold in the P.X.'s. One home for uninfected children of lepers is manufacturing organs. Silk worm culture is being encouraged by some. Love Nurture Orphanage is training their children in stock raising in the mountains between Chinju and Kuchung. We have provided rice mills, orchards, several small textile looms and thread-making machines. The orphanages themselves are developing many projects in which they are training and employing the older-age children.

We are seriously considering reclaiming some large sections of tide-flat land in cooperation with the Korean Government which would provide income for the

orphanages as well as land which the children could use in the future.

Among those we have cared for in our orphanages during the first 10 years five have become pastors; twenty-seven have become evangelists; forty-seven have become seminary students; one hundred forty have been graduated from college; seven hundred fifty are in military service; 1134 have married; and 1433 have jobs.

Dictated by Rev. Swanson
11/17/63

TO BE PRINTED IN "KOREA CALLING" - A PAPER
FOR MISSIONARIES IN KOREA - BY ITS REQUEST.