AESCHLIMAN, EDWARD J.
Aeschlimann, Edward J.
Present Address
Wife of Husband
Myrtle Louise Patterson, 61 E. 23rd St., New York, N.Y.

BILOGICAL
Birth: Dec. 19, 1897
Appointed: 1917
Birthplace, No.: 
Appointed by, No.: 

CONFERENCE RELATIONS
North China
Peking, P.N. Union
Student Work, 1917

FIELD OF LABOR
North China

Absence From Field

Biographical
Enlisted with M. E. Church, June 1917
18 years in M. E. work.
"Johnny Cake" Popular in Rhodesia

When Myrle Louise Patterson was a young schoolgirl in Wyoming, Illinois, her mother taught her to make "Johnny Cake" from the corn so plentiful in that part of the Prairie State. Now that the little girl is Mrs. Edward J. Aeschliman, wife of a missionary serving in the villages of Southern Rhodesia, Africa, she is again turning to her childhood experience to help the village women in their culinary efforts. Theirs is a "corn country" and "mealies" (corn meal) is the staple food. In her classes among the women, Mrs. Aeschliman has shown them how to make "Johnny Cake," as her mother did, and they have adapted the oven method to baking over an open fire. Mrs. Aeschliman has been teaching the women to make an appetizing variety of foods with native materials -- but "Johnny Cake" is the favorite.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Division of World Missions


The Executive Committee of the Division of World Missions of the Board of Missions of The Methodist Church met in the Division's Committee Room on the 15th floor of Interchurch Center, on Wednesday, March 23, 1960, at 11 a.m., with Charles V. Adams, Vice President, in the Chair.

Bishop W. Earl Ledden led in the opening prayer.

The following members of the Committee were present:

Bishops:       W. Earl Ledden       Roy H. Short

Ministers:     Hillard C. Cleveland  
                S. Walton Cole
                Harold H. Hughes
                Merrill C. Johnson

Layman:        Charles V. Adams
                Wandell H. Mooney

Women:         Mrs. Harold M. Baker
                Mrs. Charles W. Nead
                Mrs. John H. Pearson
                Mrs. Wallace A. Streeter
                Mrs. J. Pount Tillman

Ex officio:    Eugene L. Smith

The following members of the elected Staff attended the meeting: James K. Mathews, Ashton A. Almand, C. Melvin Blake, T. T. Brumbaugh, Tracey K. Jones, Jr., Roland W. Scott, Dallas L. Browning, Roy S. Smyres, Eina L. Robertson, Eleanor P. Clarkson, Howard M. Cordell and G. Gabrieleen.

Excuses were received from the following: Bishop Dana Dawson, Bishop William C. Martin and Bishop Richard C. Raines.

MEMORIALS

The Recording Secretary read the following roll of remembrance, and it was VOTED that proper memorials be spread upon the permanent records in the minutes of this meeting.

Edward John Aeschliman

The Division was notified by cable of the sad news of the death of Rev. Edward J. Aeschliman on the field on January 25, 1960. Mr. and Mrs. Aeschliman had been serving as missionaries at Oic Utlali since 1952 when they transferred to that field after many years of service in China.

Mr. Aeschliman first went to China in 1919. He was stationed in Peking as assistant pastor of the large Asbury Methodist Church and secretary of work among college and high school students in that city. In 1925 he began
work in Tientsin as missionary in charge of the district and as director of
student work in the Tientsin Middle School. In 1936 he went to Peking as
professor in the theological seminary and associate district superintendent
of the Peking District. He was recognized as one of the leading school men
of the Methodist Mission in China.

In 1950, with the advance of the communist forces in China, Mr. and Mrs.
Aeschliman returned to the United States on furlough. In the spring of 1952
they set sail for Southern Rhodesia, where Mr. Aeschliman has been training
young men for the Methodist ministry in that land.

Edward J. Aeschliman was born in Rib Lake, Wisconsin, on January 26,
1893. He received his education at Lawrence College, Appleton, Wisconsin,
Rochester Theological Seminary and Garrett Biblical Institute. Before going
to China he was secretary of the Y.M.C.A. in Wisconsin and Chicago. In 1915
he was licensed to preach and served two years as an assistant pastor of
Asbury Methodist Church, Rochester, N. Y. Mr. Aeschliman was married to the
former Myrtle Louise Patterson in Peking, China, on June 4, 1921, where she was
a teacher in the school for American children.

The Division is aware of the sacrificial devotion of Mr. Aeschliman
whose spirit will long prevail in the hearts and minds of those to whom he so
diligently conveyed the teachings of Christ. In conveying sympathy to Mrs.
Aeschliman and the children we know they will be comforted in knowing that he
has gone to a higher service with the Lord and Master.
Student Work in Peking

We have a delightful little apartment in connection with our large boys' school in the Peking Academy Compound. It is the smallest mission house here but we think it's the coziest. Our work is mostly with the students of Government schools. These students have come from practically all the provinces in China. They spend five to ten years in Peking without returning home. Many of them have never been in a Christian home. We are trying to make our home their home. We believe that one of the greatest services we can render to the Chinese is to give them a vision of what a home really can be. How can we make the home so attractive, so inviting that these students with their reserve and with their absolute ignorance of what a Western Christian home is like, will feel free to come and inspired when they get there? We are planning for an open house at least once a week.

The problem of entertaining groups of students keeps one thinking. They are interested in all our party games and stunts. But we have knowledge of only a limited number of such games and stunts. We wonder if some folks couldn't help us by sending suggestions and also a list of new games or stunts from time to time? We need games, such as different kinds of game boards, puzzle games, etc. It would help us greatly if you would send out any games which you may have and are not using. Send us your suggestions and we will let you know how they are working out.

Our Union Student work has had a very successful year and we are planning an even greater program. We have started a Peking Student Christian Movement. At the present time we have 37 of the leading schools in Peking united in a common Christian Program. Through our Christian Student Work Union we carried on and organized the great Peking Famine Tak Day in which 4,000 students representing active famine relief work. The students in this Student Christian Movement last year conducted 11 schools for poor boys, 2 schools for poor girls, and 6 schools for college servants. During the summer months we had 66 vacation schools with an enrollment of 3,224 boys and girls, conducted by 148 of our students. Seven play grounds were conducted. During the winter months the students made a survey of the poor sections of the city and distributed flour and relief to 4,609 poor families. There were 147 Bible Class groups enrolling 1,342 students conducted last year. We had 378 lectures on religious and social subjects.

This promises to be an exceptionally busy year for me. At conference I was given three jobs. First, I was again appointed to carry on the student work with the responsibility of taking charge of the work in five of the largest schools in Peking. The second appointment was that of associate pastor in Ashbury Church, our large student church which has a usual attendance of over 1,000 students at its services. The other appointment came as a great surprise. Dr. Felt, the Dean of the Peking Bible Institute, could not return this year so the conference put me in as acting-dean of the Bible Institute. I have had no experience in this field of work at all but through the help of splendid Chinese associates the school is going along real well.

Edward J. Aeschliman, Peking, China.
Welcomed Back to Korea

Here at Seoul our spare time for six weeks was taken up with welcome receptions. The Governor General, Baron Saito, gave a dinner in our honor; the leading business men of the city gave a reception for us at the Banker's Club; the musicians of the city, Japanese and Korean, gave a "Welcome Concert" at the Public Hall; the Seoul Church, the Korea District, various other churches of the peninsula and even the Dairen and Mukden Christians away in Manchuria.

Wild Animals Figure in a Missionary's Life

I really need more lantern slides to make it possible to show my pictures over and over in some places, for the people never seem to tire of them.

We have been having many experiences with wild animals. In a village about sixteen miles north of Jagdalpur one of our workers was mauled by a panther in January. Some men grazing the village cattle were in a clump of scrub jungle early in the morning when they saw the panther and brought word to the preacher, who has a gun. He took up his position near where the panther had been seen and several men drove the panther out of the jungle toward him. After having fired twice but only wounding the animal they searched further and suddenly the preacher came upon him. One cartridge would not fire so he endeavored to strike the advancing animal, when the gun stock came off. The only thing remaining was to grapple with the animal and in doing so he succeeded in holding it down but his hands were very badly bitten. While thus sitting astride and holding down the wounded animal, he called for help and finally one man got up courage to come up and strike the animal some blows with his hatchet but these blows did not seem to have very much effect on the ferocious beast, and the preacher decided to try to get clear of the brute. After getting off he pushed it away with all his might. The panther gave up the struggle and died on the spot.

I went out that night over the very rough jungle roads and brought the preacher to Jagdalpur. One hand that was not so badly injured has healed up but the other is still very badly swollen and so badly infected that it may be necessary to amputate it.

On the evening of the same day that I brought this preacher to the hospital, word was brought to me that a woman had been killed in a village about eighteen miles from Jagdalpur by a tiger. I went next day and gathered about 100 men for a beat, but as the men seemed to be too few they desired me to sit over the "kill" so I tied up a shooting platform to a nearby tree and spent the night watching for the tiger to return for a second feed on the remaining half of the woman's body. He failed to return, however.

I have never known of so many people being killed by tigers and panthers as nowadays.

F. D. Campbell, Jagdalpur, India.

Prohibition in Chile.—Rev. Paul Barnhart, who is promoting temperance work in Chile, writes, "The battle is getting hotter, but we believe the growing opposition simply proves that the shots are taking effect in the enemies' ranks. The president of Chile has recently announced himself and family as total abstainers. This declaration will have great influence."
Professor Edward J. Aeschliman of Rochester, New York, on furlough from missionary service in the Methodist Church in China, will be the guest-speaker at

Mr. Aeschliman, a missionary for thirty-one years, is a member of the faculty of Peking Theological Seminary.

Mr. Aeschliman will discuss the Christian movement, which he says is "vigorous and vital" despite and perhaps because of the political condition prevailing.

Mr. Aeschliman first went to China in 1919. He was stationed in Peking, where he was assistant pastor of the large Asbury Methodist Church and secretary of work among college and high school students in that city. In 1925 he was transferred to Tientsin as missionary in charge of the district and as director of student work in the Tientsin Middle School. More recently he has been in Peking as professor in the Theological Seminary and as associate district superintendent of the Peking District. He is recognized as one of the leading school men of the Methodist Mission in China.

Mr. Aeschliman is a native of Wisconsin. He received his education at Lawrence College and at Garrett Biblical Institute. Before going to China as a missionary he was a secretary of the Y.M.C.A. in Wisconsin and in Chicago. In 1915 he was licensed to preach by the Methodist Church and served two years as an assistant pastor of the Asbury Methodist Church in Rochester, New York.
W. W. Reid
Board of Missions of the Methodist Church
175 Riverside Drive, New York 27, N. Y.

E. J. Aeschliman
Dies in Africa

The Rev. Edward J. Aeschliman, missionary of the Methodist Church in Southern Rhodesia, Africa, and formerly of Peking, China, died on Tuesday (January 26) at Old Umtali, Southern Rhodesia, according to a cablegram received by the Board of Missions of the Methodist Church. He was 66 years of age.

Mr. Aeschliman first went to China in 1919 under the Board of Missions of the Methodist Church. He was stationed in Peking, where he was assistant pastor of the large Asbury Methodist Church and secretary of work among college and high school students in that city. In 1925 he was transferred to Tientsin as missionary in charge of the district and as director of student work in the Tientsin Middle School. In 1936 he went to Peking as professor in the Theological Seminary and as associate district superintendent of the Peking District. He was recognized as one of the leading school men of the Methodist mission in China.

In 1950, with China overrun by communist forces, Prof. Aeschliman returned to the United States on furlough. Two years later he was transferred to Southern Rhodesia, and taught until his death in the training of young men for the Methodist ministry in that land.

Mr. Aeschliman was born in Rib Lake, Wisconsin. He received his education at Lawrence College, Appleton; and at Garrett Biblical Institute, and Rochester Theological Seminary. Before going to China as a missionary he was a secretary of the Y.M.C.A. in Wisconsin and in Chicago. In 1915 he was licensed to preach by the Methodist Church and served two years as an assistant pastor of the Asbury Methodist Church in Rochester, New York.

Surviving are his wife, the former Myrl L. Patterson; and three daughters, all born in China.
Methodist Missionaries Honored by Colleges

Five persons related to the Board of Missions of the Methodist Church have been honored by various colleges during the 1958 graduation season. Four received honorary degrees and one received a medal for distinguished service.

The persons honored:

The Rev. Lewistine M. McCoy, Lexington, Ky. -- a doctor of divinity degree from Kentucky Wesleyan College, Owensboro, Ky. Dr. McCoy was a missionary to China from 1946 to 1951 and to Brazil from 1952 to 1957. While in Brazil, he was treasurer of all Methodist mission funds and teacher of theology in the Methodist Theological Seminary. A graduate, former teacher and field representative at Kentucky Wesleyan, Dr. McCoy is now working in the New York offices of the Board of Missions.

The Rev. Douglas P. Coole, Lancaster, Kan. -- a doctor of divinity degree from Baker University, Baldwin, Kan. Dr. Coole has been a Methodist missionary in India, Malaya, China and Sarawak, Borneo. Now on furlough, he was for five years principal of the Methodist school in Sibu, Sarawak, and pastor of the English-speaking Methodist church there. Dr. Coole is a graduate of Baker.

The Rev. Eduard J. Aeschliman, Rochester, N. Y. -- a bronze medal for distinguished service from his alma mater, Lawrence College, Appleton, Wis. A missionary to China for more than 30 years, Mr. Aeschliman is now on furlough after five years of evangelistic and social service work at Umtali, Southern Rhodesia.

Miss Oscie Sanders, London, Ky. -- a doctor of humane letters degree from Kentucky Wesleyan. Miss Sanders, a Methodist deaconess, will retire in August after 14 years as president of Sue Bennett College, London, Ky. Sue Bennett, a
junior college, is supported by the Woman's Division of Christian Service of the Board of Missions.

The Rev. Willard J. McLaughlin, New York -- a doctor of divinity degree from Taylor University, Upland, Ind. Dr. McLaughlin, a Methodist missionary to India from 1932 to 1947, is executive secretary of the Vellore Christian Medical College Board, Inc. Vellore College in India is supported by many British and American mission boards, including the Methodist Board of Missions. Dr. McLaughlin is an alumnus of Taylor.
Photographs from this file have not been included but are available upon request. For more information please contact research@gcah.org