

AROUND THE EWHA TABLE ^{12 3}

(Several members of the Ewha Family are seated around the table - Alice Appenzeller, Marie Church, Marion Conrow, Jeannette and Esther Hulbert.)

Miss Appenzeller. What in the world are we going to do with all your English classes when you go home this summer, Miss Church?

Miss Conrow. Oh, I'll take them! There are only 74 hours of English to teach! I'd only have to teach every period in the week twice over and a couple on Sunday!

Miss Appenzeller. But this is serious! What about the new contract teacher we are hoping for? Has anything been heard from her?

Miss Conrow. Nothing definite yet.

Miss Church. We certainly do need her. I hope she is willing to follow the Palmer system of English teaching that has been so successful here. We've bled and died for that, haven't we, Miss Conrow?

Miss Conrow. Yes, indeed. The English Research Bureau has meant a lot to the English teachers of the Japanese Empire.

Miss Esther Hulbert. They use the system in Pyengyang, too, and I'll continue it if I'm sent there again next year. But I have enjoyed my second year in language school here, and even more than that, the College English classes that I have had.

Miss Church. The college girls are certainly the backbone of this school, and the faithfulness of the girls in the Missionary Society has made my heart glad. Rather than give up their work in India they have raised their dues from ten sen a month to fifteen. One member said, "What would become of those three students in Isabella Thoburn High School that we have been helping so many years, if we should give all our money to the Korean Women's Missionary Society? We can't let those girls suffer!" So they pledged themselves to give the extra – and five sen means a lot to them!

Miss Hulbert. Who will look after the Missionary Society when you have gone – and the girls who go out to the little churches to help every Sunday, too? How many do that work?

Miss Church. Sixteen this year, and fifteen teach Sunday School in First Church.

Miss Appenzeller. Well, let's get back to the subject of English teaching.

(enter Mary Young, Alice Kim Jung and Laura Ye.)

Miss Young. Are we missing something?

¹ This is a typescript of a skit given at a conference in 1926.

² Handwritten by Alice Appenzeller at top front of the first page: Given at Conference, 1926.

³ Handwritten by Griffis on the back of the 4th (last) page: Appenzeller; Girls' Play

Miss appenzeller. Oh, we're just trying to see how we can arrange to have one person teach all the English in three schools!

Miss Young. Well, you'd better think about the music teaching in three schools, too! Sungduk Youn has her passport to go to America as McDowell Fellow this summer, and Ruth Bonwick, who has been helping us, is going home, too, so all those hours are unprovided for. It's a privilege for us to have a registered Music Department in the College, But it surely means keeping up the work. And I can't keep up the pace I've been going and do justice to my work.

(Enter Edna Van Fleet, Moneta Troxel, and Mytra Stover.)

Mrs. Jung. Well, I'm sorry I can't take any more hours. Isn't any music teacher coming from America this fall?

Miss Young. We're glad you can carry your full schedule but you ought not to do it, with your little baby. What gets me is that all the Branches in America can't find us even on music teacher! We've been scoured Japan for help, but no one is to be found.

Mrs. Jung. It's a good thing you came back when you did, Miss Ye. But how do you teach that heavy schedule, and take care of Frey Hall, too?

Miss Ye. I wouldn't mind anything if I could get books to use; but having to translate and copy all my text-books myself this year certainly has taken every spare minute!

Miss Troxel. If it only weren't for this language study I could teach some five-finger exercises, maybe.

Miss Hulbert, Well, if you're going to be mission treasurer and teach biology, there will be little enough time for the Korean language – don't worry!

(Enter Charlotte Brownlee and Mrs. Poksun Ha-Yi)

Miss Troxel. Miss Stover, when can I play Chinese characters with you? We ought to be getting to work on it.

Miss Stover. I don't see how I can tomorrow. I have basket-ball before breakfast, gym classes most of the morning and tennis matches and sports till six. This idea of having 400 girls in some sport twice a week is fine, but it keeps one physical director hopping.

Miss Van Fleet. And the playground is so full that those 383 primary kiddies haven't even a corner to play hop-scotch in.

Miss Appenzeller. They surely ought to have a separate school of their own and not be crowded in here with the older girls. It is terrible to have to refuse to take students from our city day schools because the rooms won't hold even our own promoted classes.

Miss Hulbert. And if the primary school could be moved we could take in more than 74 out of 232 high school applicants, and have several sections, instead of only one great, big class.

Miss Van Fleet. I hope they won't move too far for my observation class in the Kindergarten Normal to visit them. I am always proud to take them to our first grade to see Pauline Kim do some real teaching, but it breaks my heart to see our second and third grade kiddies crowded three into a seat.

Mrs. Poksun Ha-Ye. Our kindergarten children won't be so crowded now with the nice new classrooms we've added to the Hooper Kindergarten.

Miss Brownlee. But what are you going to do without me? If it weren't for my mother I'd stay over a year. Miss Ryang is leaving, too, our fine Kindergartener from the Australian Presbyterian Mission. She has taken so much responsibility. I think I have enough songs and stories translated to last a while, anyway. I'm going to bring someone back from America to do that work that we need so much. The classes in the Normal are so big now. I don't think anyone realizes how different it is from the old days when they studied with the College Preparatory. The new registration of the College has made that impossible now.

Miss Van Fleet. I certainly realize it! anyway, I didn't think we needed to apologize for our Training School work when I saw the Normal Schools in Japan.

(Enter Helen Kim.)

Miss Appenzeller. And I don't feel we need to apologize for our College, either when we compare it with those in Japan. With applications from 18 different high schools, ten of them not mission schools, the College has surely arrived. The missionaries in Japan thought that to have 110 girls in the first year of our registration was wonderful progress.

Miss Kim. But there won't be room for us much longer on this site. Oh, when are we going to get the new college? The high school could use the college building right away if we could vacate it.

Miss Appenzeller. The primary and high school teachers like your new Bible course, don't they Miss Kim?

Miss Kim. Yes, I think so, and I hope it will be useful in other schools, too.

Miss Esther Hulbert. It surely will. That is a real service to the whole country.

Miss Trozel. Like miss church's English course, which all high schools in Korea are using now.

Miss Young (rising). I have a lesson. Please excuse me. (Exits.)

Miss Church. I teach a first hour class, too. Goodbye. (Exits.)

Miss Appenzeller. It's almost summer vacation now, and we're having the Secretary of the Daily Vacation Bible School work come to chapel to tell about the work. They have always depended a lot on Ewha girls for their workers, you know. After all, that is just the same sort of thing that our girls have done in their summer vacations since the time when girls in Korea were allowed to go outside of their houses at all. Miss Van Fleet, who was that girl who did so much last summer?

Miss Van Fleet. Kim Sangsun? Yes, she had a school all by herself in a church for over a month – 92 little boys and girls in three classes all morning, 25 kindergarten kiddies for stories and games in the afternoon, and a singing class of 50 men and women in the evening.

Miss Appenzeller. Well, we may sometimes feel we're a big machine, but when we think of what our girls mean to their people, we know that this school has a heart, and that its love and helpfulness go out to the farthest corners of the country.