The Vice President's Report

A PICNIC IN NEW TERRITORIES.

by S. F. N.

The railway continued northward, past the white snowy wastes, and we finally reached the coast. After having lunch, we again set off for Fan Ling because the S. X. Orphanage had invited us to take part in their Yearly Harvest Festival. According to the map, we had to climb over a mountain and walk a long way. But we were very glad when we heard that there would be plenty of things for us to do.

We climbed through the fields and climbed slowly up the mountain. We sang songs together and the sound filled the air. Our free talk and happy laughter mingled with the rolling sound of the trees. Above us was the deep sky and beneath us were the villages and the peaceful sea. Little white clouds moved across the heavens and their shadow slipped silently across the mountains, the trees and the sea below. Then a light brown swamp over the sea with its waves and the calm peace of the sea.

At the head of our procession was our master. He looked at the map from time to time and showed us which direction we were going. And then finally, we found that we had climbed the wrong mountain when we reached the peak. So we all decided to find the right way and climb the other mountain. The sun's rays and a lot of travelling made us thirsty. There was no more water left and we were so thirsty as men who had missed their way in the desert. We began to complain. Our headmaster comforted us kindly. He said that we have to overcome many difficulties if we want to gain a good harvest. This is true. We therefore shouldered our burden and marched forward. At last, however, we arrived at the S. X. Orphanage.

In front of the gate there was a band of musicans which showed that they welcomed us heartily. We walked into the hall with uncertain steps as the musicans began to the blessing. A few minutes later the party began. We danced till the ears of Cocos-Cols while we filled our stomachs as quickly as possible. I, however, prayed for 10 minutes before we could sit down. In the end, however, we arrived at the S. X. Orphanage.

In the end, we enjoyed the day and returned home late.