

ear-rings, bracelets, finger-cases etc. of silver or, in the case of poorer women, of copper. — It cleared up in the afternoon and I saw a number of small women, elegant and pretty according to Chinese ideas, in the streets, strutting about round the pools of water, proud of their tiny feet, the showy colours of their dresses and their elaborate coiffures.

The following schools have been opened in the town: 1 si fan hsio tang with 140 pupils and 3 masters, 1 tsung hsio tang, 1 kao teng hsiao hsio tang, 4 ming yang hsio tang and a police school.

The opium reform has not advanced beyond its starting point. Both opium and accessories for smoking are sold openly in the streets. There are smoking dens, too. Last year it was announced by proclamation that opium growing was to be restricted from year to year, but six or seven months later these restrictions were annulled by fresh proclamations. It is now stated, it is true, that all growing of poppies is to cease within a year, but this has not been made known officially. As a result, growing goes on quite calmly, though the taxes have been raised here to 2.4 taels per mou. The number of smokers is said not to be large in the town, approximately 10—15 %. In other places, as e.g. Huan Sien, they are estimated to be about 30 %.

The hsien district is divided into 353 Shang-ja areas of 100—150 tja each. According to the information supplied by the Fu, the population may be calculated as follows:

Tatung fu and neighbouring villages	496,550	Yangkao	69,090
Hwaiian	41,630	T'ien chen	103,810
Shan ing	42,100	Hung-yuan	5—600,000

The district grows millet, shuza, gaolyan, various kinds of peas, hemp, wheat, mustard, red kunsjut and opium. Average crop 11 fold. — 40 head of cattle, 50 horses, 70 donkeys and 300 sheep may be calculated per 100 tja.

The heavy rain prevented me from visiting whatever sights there may have been in the town. The only thing I saw was an old Buddhist temple, built on a terraced hill, large and beautiful with simple and dignified lines. It is particularly beautiful inside, having a large number of images of Buddha of various sizes and kinds along the walls and on big tables in the middle of the enormous room, stone urns and many other objects. There was something special about the spacious interior — something unlike other Buddhist temples that I had visited. The Chinese call it Shangfu sui and consider that it was built during the T'ang dynasty. — Another temple slightly similar in architecture stands outside the E gate on the other side of the river.

July 16th. This morning after innumerable difficulties and caprices on the part of the old Chinese, whom the missionaries had been so kind as to engage for me as a driver, we started at last in glorious sunshine. I was delighted to find that the old fussbox with his squeaky voice had carefully stayed at home and sent a willing and bright young fellow to take his place.

The road leads through the E suburb down to the river. The gate is very dilapidated and the tower above it has fallen to pieces completely, like the wall round the small suburb.