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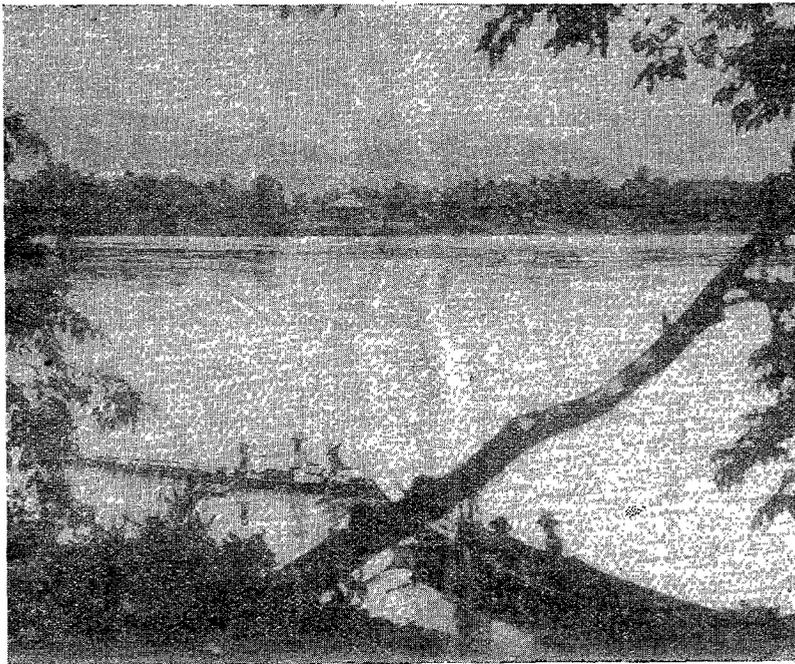
LUCKNOW, INDIA, June 15, 1917

No. 11

A Cheering Message From Burma

The hot weather has been very trying on the Burma workers during the past few weeks, and especially those of us who were unable to get into the hills for a change, have suffered. However, we are

with a reasonable degree of health and strength, and now since He has sent the rains for our protection, I am sure that every worker is ready to reconsecrate his life to Him for more faithful and efficient



OUR KAREN STATION

PASTOR HAMILTON'S BUNGALOW IN CENTRE, BROTHER E. B. HARE'S HOME AT THE RIGHT

glad to report that the refreshing May showers have come to our rescue now, and we are thankful that it will be possible for us to study, work, eat, and sleep with a much larger degree of comfort during the next few months. Although it has been hot, yet God has blessed us

service in winning souls for His kingdom.

Our young men who have been in the Union Training School at Lucknow during the past year have returned to Burma; and those who are not going to school again this year have gone into

various lines of the work. The grade cards that Pastor Blue has passed on to us indicate that the boys have done faithful work. They look back over the school year as one that has been profitably spent, and I am sure that it will mean much to our work in general.

Brother A. Richards has been asked to return to Lucknow with the opening of another school year as assistant Bible teacher. During the vacation he is working in the Rangoon Tract Society office. We appreciate his services in this line very much, as it gives us a great deal more time for language study.

Brother Ba Tin is engaged in evangelistic work out east of the Salwin river, forty miles above Moulmein. We have had a few believers among the Karens out in this section for a number of years, and although we have been able to do very little for them, yet they have remained faithful all these years, and now they are very happy because we have at last sent some one to teach them and their friends more about the wonderful message of the soon-coming Saviour. As we went from home to home in the different villages, the people of all classes were gathered in to listen to the preaching of the truth. The interest in this district is spreading in every direction among Christians and heathen alike, and we are

glad that we can push on into the opening providences of God and answer the Macedonian call that has been sounding from this section of our field for a long time.

We pray that God will richly bless Brother Ba Tin in his work, and we feel sure that he can, by careful, prayerful, consecrated effort, win many precious souls who will shine as the stars in the kingdom of God.

Before returning to Rangoon I was glad to pay another visit to our Karen station further up the Salwin river. I found Brethren Hamilton and Hare busily engaged in the different lines of work that go with a station such as they have. Since Miss Gibbs has gone on furlough Brother Hare has taken charge of the dispensary. This, with his work among the villages, in addition to his language study, keeps him quite busy, and he finds that he has no time for anything but work. Brother Hamilton, aside from his general supervision of the station in connection with the added improvements that they are putting in from time to time, is spending several hours a day with the Karen language. The outlook for our work among the Karens is very bright indeed, and we want to do everything possible to make this station just what the Lord wants it to be.

C. A. LOWRY.

Church Records

(We have received three short articles entitled Church Records, Church Record-ers, and Church Recording, which we hope to give in successive issues of TIDINGS. The first article follows.—ED.)

Doubtless the work of church clerk is not the most important work in the world, and the fact of it being of minor importance is probably the excuse for the neglect with which it is often conducted.

When Paul admonishes us to be "not slothful in business," surely it means as much the business of the church as any-

thing in the world. And when he again exhorts us to "let all things be done decently and in order," he has direct reference to church affairs.

The rewards of heaven will not be granted in proportion to the greatness of the work we have accomplished, but rather in proportion to the faithfulness

with which we have done what has fallen to our lot to do.

It has been thought best to keep records of church membership and of the doings of the church, and clerks are appointed for the purpose. Record books have been specially prepared,—and I wonder how many of our churches have procured the proper book. More, I wonder how many church clerks have read the “Instructions” in the front of the book. I have known some churches, where, not only were the Instructions ignored, but the very church record hardly deserved the name.

To give a better understanding of the duties of the clerk and the system observed by this denomination I want to quote here the first paragraph of the Instructions mentioned.

“No name should ever be erased or crossed off the list. The record must show what has become of them, but their names stand on the list always. Sometimes a member comes to the church clerk and says: ‘You may cross my name off the book.’ But the clerk has no right to do any such thing. He can no more cross off the name by his own authority or even by the request of an individual, than he can take in a member by the same authority. All the clerk has to do is to record what the church has done. No member can take his own name off the list. Each came in by vote of the church; he must go out in the same manner.”

If you want to be a faithful church clerk don’t ever forget the first two sentences of that paragraph.

W. S. MEAD.

A Good Testimony

At times the colporteur is inclined to fear that his work is largely without results, as it is not his privilege to remain in a neighbourhood long enough for him to witness the fruitage resulting from his seed-sowing. For the encouragement of such I quote a paragraph from the March 10th, 1917, issue of the *North China Herald*, a leading Shanghai and China paper. It reads as follows:

“Some eight or nine years ago I purchased from a colporteur a book entitled ‘Daniel and the Revelation,’ a verse by verse expository of these two books, and doubtless some of your readers will recollect being mulcted in the sum of three dollars by the persistent gentleman who hawked the publications around. I recently unearthed the book, however, and have truly found it a mine of information. Although in numerous instances the evidence and arguments supporting the interpretations do not appear to be sufficiently convincing to satisfy a critical

mind, on the whole it is of great assistance to the student of prophecy.”

Following this paragraph the writer gives one entire column of the paper to the explanation of the 70 weeks and 2300 days period as presented in the book “Daniel and the Revelation,” and he holds so closely to the presentation given that one would think the writer were a Seventh-day Adventist minister.

The writer of the above article is a business man in one of the large firms in the city of Shanghai. He is taking a great interest in fulfilling prophecy. Recently he came to our Shanghai Conference office and purchased the following: “Bible Readings,” “Heralds of the Morning,” “Coming King,” “Past, Present, and Future,” “Glorious Appearing,” “Capital and Labour,” “Bible Footlights,” “Paradise Home” and an assortment of tracts. He also subscribed for the *Signs* weekly and *Watchman* magazine.

Such experiences remind us of the statement given us by the servant of the Lord: "It is true that some who buy the books will lay them on the shelf or place them on the parlour table, and seldom look at them. Still God has a care for His truth, and the time will come when these books will be sought for and read." That time has come. Our books are literally being sought for. The man above drove his carriage four miles out to our compound in order to get books.

About five years ago when canvassing for "Heralds of the Morning" in the Punjab, North-west India, a man whom I was canvassing informed me that he had two precious volumes that he prized next to his Bible. I was much interested to know what the books were, so he

brought out "Great Controversy" and "Patriarchs and Prophets." He stated that about ten years before a stranger had visited him and sold him the books.

The colporteurs that sold those books in Shanghai and India so long ago may never know of these two incidents resulting from their seed-sowing, but they with the rest of our large army of colporteurs may leave results with the Lord of the harvest, knowing that He will not suffer His word to return void, "but it shall accomplish that which I please, and prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." Our part is to obey the command, "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand."

C. E. WEAKS.

Christ The Reason of Our Hope for India

An article, bearing the above title, appeared in the April number of the *Indian Interpreter*. It was written by M. Sanjiwa Rau, B. A., L. T., an Indian gentleman of standing in the Christian community, and in it are thoughts worthy of our earnest consideration. We quote a few paragraphs with the hope that our missionaries will see in them many rays of hope for pressing forward the battle against the ramparts of heathenism, and perhaps also see the reason for past failure.

"Will India ever become a Christian country? Will the sons and daughters of India, irrespective of caste, become the followers of Christ? Will the high castes ever come to Christ's church in masses, like the low castes and outcastes? This question has engaged our serious consideration, because advice has been repeatedly given from high and influential quarters to concentrate all further efforts of the love of Christ on the low castes and the outcastes—no longer direct

them on high castes, because they have already had their way, and deliberately rejected the Gospel."

Even though results have been so meagre among the higher castes, he takes courage from the promises of the Bible, and quotes Sir N. G. Chandavarkar as saying, "Nevertheless India is being converted to Christ; the ideas that lie at the heart of the Gospel of Christ are slowly but surely permeating every part of Hindu society and modifying every phase of Hindu thought."

Then he says, "Suppose they come in masses: what will the effect be?" In answer to his question he states his own view as follows:—

"Personally I am equally in favour of those mass movements to the Church followed by Christianizing within the church. How exceedingly difficult it is to reach the homes and hearts of these people when they are outside the Christian church! But when they are once within the church, how much more easily

we can reach them! . . . Personally I am of the opinion that the churches of the very first century were founded after this manner—there were first mass movements to the church followed by Christianizing within the church. . . . If we recognize the fact that the growth of church life in apostolic times was as slow, as disheartening as in the churches founded recently, if we vividly realize what Paul has in view when he is writing 2 Cor. 12: 21 and Phil. 3: 18, 19, it would remind us that our work is carried on exactly apostolic lines. . . .

“The conviction is growing within me that there is nothing wrong with the mass movements, nothing wrong with the agricultural or industrial establishments. *There* it is all right! All is going wrong whenever the Divine Heart fails to beat within us, as it did beat within Moses, Jeremiah, and Paul. See that Moses, his face hid in the dust, as he weeps heart broken sentences: ‘Oh! this people, their sin! yet now this once if Thou wilt, forgive,—if not, blot me out I

pray thee.’ Listen to St. Paul, ‘Although as Christ’s missionary I might have stood on my dignity, I have been living with you with childlike simplicity; . . . I shall rejoicingly pour out my life-blood, if that were required to water the life planted in you.’

“I can never forget the first year of my Christian life—the fear and trembling with which the convert puts his hands into Christ’s hands and begins to tread the way of life. To the babe in Christ, this tiny bundle of possibilities, extremely sensitive to everything—the world in Christ is but a complex of mysteries. *In the first years, how infinitely important are they, in whose face the Eternal One will smile on the convert, hold him by the hands, teaching him to walk, nursing like a mother, sharing the very life with him.* [*Italics ours*] Suddenly one day the convert awakens and says, ‘Ha! I behold now, One greater than man! Here God shows sufficient of Himself, for me in the dark to rise by,—and I rise!’”

(To be concluded)

Teach Me to Pray

LORD, I know not what I ought to ask of Thee; Thou only knowest what I need; Thou lovest me better than I know how to love myself. O Father, give to Thy child that which he himself knows not how to ask. I dare not ask either for crosses or consolations; I simply present myself before Thee. I open my heart to Thee. Behold my needs which I know not myself; see and do according to Thy tender mercy. Smite or heal, depress me or raise me up, I adore all Thy purposes without knowing them; I am silent; I offer myself in sacrifice; I yield myself to Thee; I would have no other desire than to accomplish Thy will. Teach me to pray. Amen.

—*Francois de la Mathe-Fenelon.*

Famous Words of Famous Men

ALEXANDER: “This will be the last great war.”
 CÆSAR: “This will be the last great war.”
 RICHARD I: “This will be the last great war.”
 O. CROMWELL: “This will be the last great war.”

B. FRANKLIN: “This will be the last great war.”

U. S. GRANT: “This will be the last great war.”

W. J. BRYAN: “This will be the last great war.”

—From *Life*.

Nurses Training School, Chuharkana, Punjab

September 1, 1917, a training class will be opened for European and Anglo-Indian nurses at Chuharkana under the management of Dr. V. L. Mann. The first year's work will consist of 3 terms, 33 weeks, or 396 hours, ending May 1, 1918. The second year will begin October 1, 1918 and continue to April 1, 1919, which will be 27 weeks in duration, or 294 hours.

OBJECT.—The object of the school is to train our youth in India to engage in treatment room and dispensary work within our own organization. Prospective students should bear in mind the object for which the school is started, as it will avoid a great loss of time for the student as well as for the Mission. Any student losing sight of the object of the school will be required to forfeit any concession that may have been allowed him by the Mission.

COURSE OF STUDY.—The course covers two years' work, and is outlined in accordance with the first two years' work as prescribed by the General Conference for the Nurses' Training School. Eight months of the first year and six months of the second year will be spent in training at Chuharkana; and four months of the first year and six months of the second year will be spent in training in one of our treatment rooms.

RECOMMENDATIONS.—Each student must be recommended by the local pastor or mission station superintendent, the local Mission superintendent, or the president of the Union Mission, and also be approved by the India Union Mission Committee.

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—Each candidate must have passed his or her Middle School examination.

HEALTH.—Before admittance, each stu-

dent is to furnish a certificate of good health and also be willing to undergo an examination at the dispensary.

AGE.—The minimum age shall be seventeen years; and the maximum thirty-seven years.

THREE MONTHS' PROBATION.—All students will be admitted on three months' probation.

LABOUR.—The student will be expected to do his share of the routine work of the hospital and dispensary.

NUMBER ADMITTED.—The number admitted will be limited. Other qualities being equal, education and adaptability for this line of work will receive preference.

MISSIONARY ACTIVITIES.—In accordance with the object as outlined, each student will be expected to take an active part in the religious work of the institution.

ABSENCES.—Absences of over two weeks for any cause, including illness, will have to be made up.

SUBJECTS, FIRST YEAR.—Physiology, Anatomy, Principles of Hydrotherapy, Massage and Electricity, General Nursing, Materia Medica, Bible and Testimony Study, Missionary Methods, History of Massage, Compounding.

SUBJECTS, SECOND YEAR.—General Diseases, Bible and Testimony Study, Doctrinal Points, Dietetics, Surgical Nursing, Bandaging, Operating Drill, Skin Diseases, Tropical Diseases.

All applications should be addressed either to local Mission superintendents or to the president of the Union Mission.

I never saw a useful Christian who was not a student of the Bible. If a man neglects his Bible, he may pray and ask God to use him in His work; but God can not make much use of him, for there is not much for the Holy Ghost to work upon.—*D. L. Moody.*

The Forum

All Too True

"We have heard Indian evangelists, after a rambling address in which the life, death, resurrection, as well as the claims of Christ, were expressed in a hundred sentences, tell their hearers that now the responsibility of accepting or rejecting Christ rests with them. But does it? No, certainly not. How can they either accept or reject the Saviour in any real sense of the words until they know a great deal more about Him than can be conveyed intelligibly to custom-bound and ignorant people in one short address?"

"Missionaries are preaching in the same villages as their seniors did before them, villages from which no one has ever been baptized; they are obliged to use the same poor uneducated class of evangelist, and to spend the best years of their lives in an effort which they know to be pitifully inadequate to the task in hand. They write accounts of their tours and work to the English missionary magazines, and the impression is created in the minds of the average reader that the people of India are being given what it is the Church's duty to give them—an adequate opportunity of knowing Christ. Could any impression be farther from the truth? The missionary is of course an optimist, but his very optimism not infrequently blinds the eyes of the 'home' reader of missionary magazines to the real state of affairs; to the fact that in regard to the evangelization of India we have only just made a small beginning."

—*The Harvest Field.*

Our Urdu and Hindi bi-monthlies are enjoying the most prosperous time in their history. 6100 of the Urdu and 6700 of the Hindi are the numbers for the last issues of these papers. They contain 12 pages and cover and sell for two pice.

Do You?

"What proportion of your time for reading do you give to reading your Bible? An hour a day? Half an hour? A quarter of an hour? Ten minutes? Five minutes? For myself, I always feel that divine things thrive best with me—aye, and all things else—when I let nothing invade me and my Bible between ten and eleven at night. And you also are, as a rule, free from all your day's work, and from all your entertainments, and from all your visitors, by that hour. And it is about that hour that your Bible always says to you, unless you have completely silenced its voice by your long neglect of it: 'What!' it says, 'can you not watch with me one hour?'"

—*Dr. Alex Whyte.*

Years ago in South India a missionary became discouraged in his work. He wrote to a friend of his: "I am leaving India. I am accomplishing nothing. God wants a better man here than I am, and I am going home to make room for him." The old friend replied: "You are perfectly right. God does want a better man where you are, but He wants you to be that man." The missionary learned his lesson, stayed on, and became the better man.—*Selected.*

One of our good church members has undertaken to earn a scholarship by the sale of our magazines. They are already well on the way toward the 250 subscription mark. If we only had a dozen church members to do the same we would not worry about the future of our papers.

An evangelistic effort is being conducted by our brethren this year in the old historic town of Stirling, Scotland. Seven battlefields can be seen from Stirling Castle. Another battle is now on, but this is against evil, and the object is to save life and not to destroy.

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"Copy"

All "copy" intended for publication the 1st of the month should be in the editor's hands promptly on the 20th of the preceding month. "Copy" for the issue of the 15th should be received by the editor not later than the 5th of the same month. Matter received later than these dates will be held over until the next issue. Hand-written or double-spaced type-written "copy" will be gladly received, *but single-spaced type-written manuscript we cannot use.*

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Here and There

How are you progressing with the Reading Course this year?

Pastor L. J. Burgess has been taking his hill leave in Mussooree the past month.

Pastor J. M. Comer has also been a welcome visitor in Mussooree the past few weeks.

Pastor and Mrs. Pettit and Brother W. H. Stevens spent part of their vacation in walking from Simla to Mussooree. They report a most enjoyable time.

Among the "Grangers" in Mussooree this year we find Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Comer and children, Mrs. Blue, Mrs. Mattison and little girl, Mrs. A. H. Williams and children, Mrs. F. H. Loasby, and Nina Belcbambers. The "Happy-Hearted" at "Dilkhusa" are represented by Brother and Sister Pettit, Sister R. P. Morris and children, and Brethren A. W. Knight and W. H. Stevens.

Brother and Sister Raymond are enjoying the cool breezes of Shillong, Assam, during the hot weather this year.

According to word recently received from Shanghai, China, Pastor Porter has been obliged to return to America because of failing health. Pastor J. E. Fulton has been elected to the presidency of the Asiatic Division and

Pastors F. H. De Vinney and J. S. James to the vice-presidencies.

Because of conscription measures being adopted both in America and Australia, the outlook for reinforcements at the present is not very encouraging. The times in which we live call for a very positive consecration and zeal. We have no time to lose.

The headquarters of the European Division have recently been transferred from The Hague, Holland, to Bern, Switzerland.

Brother O. E. Reinke who had been planning to leave Russia before the Revolution, has now been allowed to remain and has again taken up his work among the people of that country. Praise the Lord for religious liberty in Russia.

Not so very far from our north-western borders in the city of Tabriz, Persia, lives one of our faithful missionaries, Brother F. F. Oster, who has seen considerable of the trouble which has overtaken Persia during the last three years. Mrs. Oster has been down with typhoid during the past year, but has been restored to health again and they are still working the best they can under very trying conditions.

The Pacific Press Association announces that Pastor M. C. Wilcox will edit the West Indian *Watchman* which has heretofore been edited and published in Riversdale, Jamaica.

During the past year Mrs. Pennel, widow of the late Dr. Pennell of Bannu, N. W. Frontier, enjoyed (?) the experience of having her bungalow raided by Mahsuds who carried off all moveable property and have since been trying to sell it back to her at very high prices. It is thought they wanted to kidnap her and hold her for ransom, but she was "not at home" at the time of the raid.

Electric lights and fans in the Lucknow office have greatly moderated the unpleasantness of summer days and evenings; and the office workers seem real pleased to come to work when the temperature is hanging around 100 to 110. Electric punkahs have also accelerated Sabbath-school and church attendance as well as preventing tardiness.

Pastors Fletcher and Blue attended the recent meeting of the South India workers, held at Coimbatore June 1-10. We hope to present a report of this meeting in the near future.

P. S.—We would have this page filled every month if "someone" would only send us news items from the different stations.