

EASTERN



TIDINGS

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A Message From Pastor A. L. Ham on His Return From the States



AFTER a period of about five months, I am glad to return to the work again in this Division field. Last April we sailed from Bombay by freighter, and had a very pleasant trip through the Red Sea and the Mediterranean and across the Atlantic to Baltimore, arriving there four weeks to the day from the time we left India. At that time I did not know that a few months later I would be coming by air over some of the same parts of the world that we had travelled through on our trip over to attend the General Conference session. Both going and coming we were conscious of the providential care of our heavenly Father, and we were privileged to attend a most interesting and helpful General Conference session. There were, I think, ninety-seven countries represented by their workers and delegates in attendance at this meeting. It was inspiring to see them, many dressed in their national

costumes, as they appeared on various occasions in the programmes, and to hear the words of greeting from our believers in all parts of this world-wide field. The business work of the session was conducted in a very free and orderly manner, and we believe that the officers and departmental leaders of the General Conference and the world field are men and women whom God can use for the quick finishing of His work.

There seemed to be a deep conviction on the part of all who attended this General Conference session that the end of the world is very near, and the coming of our blessed Lord and Master is drawing on apace. There was a keen conviction of the great need of our people in all lands to speedily finish the work which has been committed to us of giving the everlasting gospel to the peoples of every nation, kindred and tongue, so that those who are honest in heart may be sought out and prepared for the coming of the Master. There was also a deep conviction that our people need to be earnest and zealous in their preparation to meet the Lord in peace. Of late there have been many references by men in prominent positions, educators, scientists and military men, with reference to the development of the atomic bomb, which seem very forcefully to bring home to the minds of all of the Adventist people that there is a settled conviction that we are living in momentous times. There is a fear and seriousness settling upon the peoples of this world such as has never been experienced before. What we as a people have been preaching and teaching for many years now seems very reasonable even to the non-religious writers and scientists alike. This is the time for us as a people to energetically proclaim the truths of this message for the peoples of this world

are now in a more receptive frame of mind than ever before.

I found our people in the United States of America greatly interested in the progress of this work in all parts of the world. I am convinced that there is a growing interest on the part of our believers in the United States, in India and the countries of the Southern Asia Division than has been seen before. The political and other changes which are taking place in this land, and the publicity which is given to these changes, has brought the country and this people more before the public than heretofore.

As I visited from place to place, many of the former workers of this Division field asked that I bring their greetings to their former associates and many friends over here.

Our national delegates from this field have given a very good account of themselves as they have travelled from place to place attending camp-meetings, visiting churches and institutions where they have presented to our people the opportunities for the preaching of the gospel in these lands, and have also given a very encouraging report about the progress of the work in these fields. Their messages have been very greatly appreciated. They will be coming back to this field as soon as transportation is available, and I am sure will have much to report concerning their visits among our people in America.

As I returned via London it was my privilege to visit some of our brethren and sisters at the British Union Conference office and conference institutions. I was very cordially received by Brother Carey, the secretary-treasurer of the Union, the manager of the food factory and the ones in charge at the sanitarium, and also Brother Craven, the manager of the publishing house, who

one time served as the manager of the Oriental Watchman Press here in India. Brother Craven sent his kind regards to his friends and former associates here. One sees in London much evidence of the tremendous bombing raids they have passed through, but we were glad to find our people over there rebuilding and improving their properties and equipment and pressing forward with earnestness and zeal for the finishing of the work in that part of the vineyard.

Since arriving in India four days after leaving New York, I have had the privilege of visiting with a number of our leaders here, and have been greatly impressed by the reports which have come to me through them and through the mail concerning the large number of openings in various parts of our Division. The openings for evangelistic and other lines of missionary endeavour are greater than ever before. It seems as if the Lord is going before us and is opening doors that have long been closed, breaking down prejudice, making friends for us, and preparing the way for a speedy work to be done here. For some weeks past we have watched diligently the happenings in this troubled land, and have constantly been praying that the Lord would protect His work and His people and give to us a little time of peace, if it can please Him, so that we may go forward unitedly to complete the task before us. At this writing there are evidences that more favourable times are before us.

We are now nearing the close of another year, and these are times when a large number of annual meetings and camp-meetings will be held. Also it is the time when the Uplift work is being finished, and when many of our evangelistic efforts are being bound off and new converts prepared for baptism and church fellowship. The days before us are indeed very busy days, and we hope and pray that the Lord will greatly bless the gatherings of His people together that there may come spiritual refreshings, and that our people and our workers throughout India and the countries of Southern Asia may be prepared to go forth to win many precious souls for the Master, so that an abundant harvest may be reaped. There have been many years of seed-sowing; many years of watering these precious seeds of truth, and it is our confident belief that we are now in the harvest-time. We trust that every leader throughout this whole field will endeavour to plan with his associate labourers in the binding off of the various efforts so that nothing will be lost. Let no effort be spared to win souls and establish these new converts fully in the faith.

We are hoping and praying that 1946 may be a good year in the number of souls brought into this blessed truth. Pastor Kimble told me as I came through Delhi a few days ago that they expected to have over 200 baptisms this year. It is our hope that other unions, and our local missions as well, are paying special attention to the work of

winning souls and getting the records in shape so that we may know just what we have accomplished in so far as figures will reveal by the close of this present year.

We have been happy also to learn of the splendid progress made in the Uplift work. In some sections there is still much to do along this line. Then, there are other evangelistic efforts planned for the last few months of the year. We hope that rich results may come from these efforts also.

We visited Spicer Missionary College a few days ago and were greatly cheered by what we saw and heard. There is a splendid enrolment of fine young men and women, boys and girls, who are preparing for useful lives to do their part also in the finishing of the Lord's work. There is a splendid staff of teachers there. All seemed happy and contented. The physical plant is being improved constantly. Flowers are in bloom and trees and shrubs are green. The garden is producing almost sufficient for the needs of the college family.



Now, just a word also concerning our plans for future months. The General Conference officers are planning to send experienced help to be with us at the time of our coming winter council. Ordinarily these councils are held every two years or about every four years. It has, however, been a long while since this whole Division field could have a regular Biennial Division Council. We have had to postpone such a meeting twice, I believe, because we could not get help out from the General Conference. We have the promise of that help now and are going forward with our plans and in a little while word will be sent out as to who will be expected to attend this meeting. In connection with this it is also planned to hold a Ministerial Institute and we hope that this can be a very successful gathering. Some of our leading evangelists from the whole Division field will be brought in here for several days of prayer and study and the developing of plans for a programme of greater public evangelism for this whole Division territory. You will, I am sure, look forward to further word concerning the plans for this institute and who will be expected to attend. There will also doubtless be some of our General Conference workers who will have opportunity to visit the various organizations and institutions of this Division, and we trust that these visits from our brethren of the General Conference will be encouraging and helpful to all.

So, brethren and sisters, we have returned from the recent General Conference session and visits among our

brethren and sisters in America at the various camp-meetings, churches and institutions, with a greater conviction than ever before, if possible, that this is God's movement; this is His work; we are His people and that we must plan, pray and work more earnestly than ever before and keep pace with our brethren and sisters of other lands in the great programme of finishing the Lord's work in all the world. Soon we may confidently hope to see the face of our blessed Lord, who commissioned us to go and preach His gospel to every nation, kindred, tongue and people.

There are a large number of our furlough workers, whose furloughs are over and who are still in the States, waiting to secure transportation back to their fields in the Southern Asia Division. Transportation facilities have been most difficult to secure during the past few months especially. It is hoped, however, that very soon now there will be more ships carrying passengers that will come either via the Pacific Ocean to India, or from New York, out here. There has been some discussion also about our sharing with other organizations in chartering a plane to bring out some of our urgently needed workers. As I left Washington, D. C., these plans were then under discussion. We have workers on the Pacific coast and on the Atlantic seaboard, as well as in other parts of the United States, who are all packed up and just waiting for word to proceed to the various ports of embarkation. Many of them have been very anxious to get started on the way. Some are almost impatient at the long delays, but these are all being encouraged to hold steady with the hope that transportation facilities can soon be made available.

There are a large number of new recruits who are also ready to sail just as soon as their transportation can be arranged and other formalities completed. I had the privilege of visiting with a number of these young couples who are soon to come to these fields, and I can assure the workers and believers of this Division field that we can confidently look forward to their coming, for they are a very fine group of young workers. Even with all of our furlough workers, whose furloughs are over, and these new recruits coming soon to the field, we shall still be in need of others, and we hope and pray that others may be secured to join us ere long.

In this connection it is proper for me to express our deep appreciation to those who have remained on long at their posts of duty, awaiting the arrivals of those who will come to relieve them, so that they too may go on furlough. Then let me express our appreciation also to those whose furloughs are not due in the immediate future, but who have carried extra burdens in view of our great paucity of workers in this Division. This very helpful attitude on the part of our workers has not passed unnoticed by any means, and we trust

that in the near future relief may be here.

I appeal to our workers everywhere, and to our brethren and sisters of our churches, that we unitedly pray that God may pour out upon His people in this Division a full and rich measure of His Holy Spirit's power, so that as we go forth to witness there may be an influence attending that witness that

will be used of God in the salvation of many, many precious souls, and also may it be that each and everyone will prepare his own heart and life and bring it, by the help of God's Spirit, into conformity with all the requirements of God, so that we may be accounted worthy of an abundant entrance into the everlasting kingdom and receive the overcomer's reward.

and devote those sacred hours to healthful rest, to worship, and to holy deeds."—"The Desire of Ages," p. 207. A rightly directed programme of activities in harmony with the spirit of true Sabbath-keeping will make this blessed day the happiest and best of all the week, for ourselves and for our children—a veritable foretaste of our heavenly rest.

(To be continued)

STANDARDS OF CHRISTIAN LIVING

Recommendations Passed at the General Conference Session

Bible Study and Prayer

SPIRITUAL life is maintained by spiritual food. The habit of devotional Bible study and prayer must be maintained if we are to perfect holiness. In a time when a great flood of reading matter pours forth from printing presses everywhere, when the very ether is filled with thousands of voices, pleading for a hearing, it is incumbent upon us to close our eyes and our ears to much of that which is seeking entrance to our minds, and devote ourselves to God's book—the book of all books, the Book of Life. If we cease to be the people of the Book, we are lost, and our mission has failed. Only as we daily talk to God in prayer and listen to His voice speaking to us from the Bible, can we hope to live the life that is "hid with Christ in God" (Col. 3:3), or finish His work. "Through sincere prayer we are brought into connection with the mind of the Infinite," but "without unceasing prayer and diligent watching, we are in danger of growing careless and deviating from the right path."—"Steps to Christ," pp. 101, 99.

The home is the cornerstone of the church, and a Christian home is a house of prayer. "Fathers and mothers," says the Spirit of prophecy, "however pressing your business, do not fail to gather your family around God's altar.... Those who would live patient, loving, cheerful lives must pray."—"Ministry of Healing," p. 393.

Community Relationships

WHILE our "citizenship is in heaven, from whence also we wait for a Saviour," (Phil. 3:20, A.R.V.) we are yet in the world as an integral part of human society, and must share with our fellow men certain responsibilities in the common problems of life. As children of God, Seventh-day Adventists should be recognized in every community where they live, as outstanding citizens in their Christian integrity and in working for the common good of all. While our highest responsibility is to the church and its commission to preach the gospel of the kingdom to all the world, we should support by our service

and our means, as far as possible and consistent, all proper efforts for social order and betterment. While we must stand apart from all political and social strife, we should always quietly and firmly maintain an uncompromising stand for justice and right in civic affairs, along with the strict adherence to our religious convictions. It is our sacred responsibility to be loyal citizens of the governments to which we belong, rendering "unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's." Matt. 22:21.

Sabbath-Keeping

THE sacred institution of the Sabbath is a token of God's love to man. It is a memorial of God's power in the original creation, and also a sign of His power to re-create and sanctify the life (Eze. 20:12), and its observance is an evidence of our loyalty to Him. The proper observance of the Sabbath is an evidence of our fidelity to our Creator and of fellowship with our Redeemer. In a special sense the Sabbath is a test of obedience. Unless we can pass that test as individuals, how can we adequately present the Sabbath message to the world?

The Sabbath hours belong to God, and are to be used for Him alone. Our own pleasure, our own words, our own business, our own thoughts, should find no place in the observance of the Lord's day. (Isa. 58:13.) Let us gather round the family circle at sunset and welcome the holy Sabbath with prayer and song, and let us close the day with prayer and expressions of gratitude for His wondrous love. The Sabbath is a special day for worship in the home and in the church, a day of joy to ourselves and our children, in which to learn more of God through the Bible and the great lesson-book of nature. It is a time to visit the sick and to work for the salvation of souls. The ordinary affairs of the six working days should be laid aside. No unnecessary work should be performed. Secular reading or secular radio broadcasts should not occupy our time on God's holy day.

"The Sabbath is not intended to be a period of useless inactivity. The law forbids secular labour on the rest-day of the Lord; the toil that gains a livelihood must cease; no labour for worldly pleasure or profit is lawful upon that day; but as God ceased His labour of creating, and rested upon the Sabbath and blessed it, so man is to leave the occupations of his daily life,

TO WHOM SHOULD THE TITHE BE GIVEN?

E. R. Osmunson

QUESTIONS have sometimes arisen in the minds of our church members as to whom the tithe should be given. I have heard people say, "Oh, it doesn't make any difference to whom it is given, it is all for the Lord's work." Then someone else says, "I give my tithe to pay the cost of printing a book." And his companion may say, "I believe it is proper to use the tithe for erecting a school building, or to pay the salary of the teacher." Then another says, "It is best to use the tithe to pay lay-preachers because the mission officers are not using mission funds properly."

These and many other answers are given to this question, "To whom should the tithe be given?" But the Bible is very explicit in its answer to the question. "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed Me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed Thee? In tithes and offerings.... Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse that there may be meat in Mine house, and prove Me now, herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Mal. 3:8-10.

The Storehouse

In this scripture God plainly instructs His people to bring the tithes into the "storehouse." The "storehouse" of the Lord in ancient times was in connection with the temple of God. All tithes and offerings were brought there to be used by the Levites for the service of the temple and for their support. (See 2 Chron. 31:10-12.) No person was to keep the tithe for his own personal use, nor was he to use it as he thought best. The tithe was sacred unto the Lord, and was to be used only for the support of the priests.

In New Testament times the same procedure was followed. "Do ye not know that they which minister about holy things live of the things of the temple?... Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel, should live by the gospel." 1 Cor. 9:13, 14.

We understand, therefore, from both the Old and New Testaments that the tithe is to be taken to the "storehouse," or to the treasury of the temple of God.

This, we all believe, is the church. From this fund the ministers and gospel-workers are to be supported. Only those directly engaged in the work of the ministry are to be supported from this fund.

Personal Use of Tithe Forbidden

People sometimes reason that they can use the tithe as they think best. The Spirit of prophecy bears very pointed messages against such a method, and sternly rebukes those who persist in using the tithe according to their own judgment.

"God has given special direction as to the use of the tithe.... The portion God has reserved for Himself is not to be diverted to any other purpose than that which He has specified. Let none feel at liberty to retain their tithe or to use it according to their own judgment. They are not to use it themselves in an emergency, nor to apply it as they see fit, even in what they may regard as the Lord's work.

"A very plain, definite message has been given to me for our people. I am bidden to tell them that they are making a mistake in applying the tithe to various objects, which, though good in themselves, are not the object to which the Lord said the tithe should be applied. Those who make this use of the tithe are departing from the Lord's arrangement, and God will judge them for these things."—"Selections From the Testimonies," p. 142.

Once in a while some honest soul will feel that he should use the tithe to support some school, help a colporteur, conduct an evangelistic effort, or pay the expenses of a lay-preacher. But the Spirit of prophecy warns against even this:

"One person reasons that the tithe may be applied to school purposes. Still others reason that canvassers and colporteurs should be supported from the tithe. But a great mistake is made when the tithe is withdrawn from the object for which it is to be used,—the support of the ministers."—Id., p. 142.

The tithe is sacred, reserved by God for His work, and should be brought into the church treasury to be used to sustain the gospel labourers in their sacred work of preaching the gospel.

Are You a Dissatisfied Tithe Payer?

At certain times, individuals have become dissatisfied because they think that the tithe is not being used economically; or they have some personal feelings against some worker that is supported by the tithe, and they begin to reason within themselves something like this: "I have no confidence in the way things are managed at the mission office, and by the committee. If Brother _____ is receiving his salary from the tithe, I am not going to pay my tithe any longer."

But, my brother, will you rob God, because you think the mission is not being managed properly? or because some brother whom you dislike is a

gospel worker and receives his support from the tithe? The proper way to remedy such a situation, if it exists, is to make your "complaint plainly and openly, in the right spirit, to the proper ones. Send in your petition for things to be adjusted and set in order, but do not withdraw from supporting the work of God and prove unfaithful; because others are not doing right."—Id., p. 142.

Co-operation Essential

We should all remember, brethren, it is only because our people all over the world have been faithful tithe-payers that the gospel of the second coming of Jesus is at the present moment being preached in India. If the believers in other countries had withheld their tithe because of some personal prejudices, our message would not now be preached in this country. But because our believers all over the world are faithful in giving an honest tithe, the Seventh-day Adventist Mission has been able to proclaim the gospel in more than 413 countries and islands,—a deed which is a wonder and an amazement to other missions.

At certain times, different individuals have chosen to withdraw their support of the mission programme of sending gospel workers into other sections of the mission field. They have decided that their tithe will be used in supporting lay-preaching work right in their own communities, thinking that by so doing the gospel will go faster. But they have forgotten that individually they can accomplish very little without the assistance of the organized work. In such cases where individuals have started supporting personal gospel workers from the tithe which rightly should go to the "storehouse" of God, they have very soon given up the work they started supporting, or they have left the truth.

Co-operation is one of the great essentials of successful mission work. In unity there is strength; in division there is only weakness. Individually, we can accomplish little; but with all believers united and working in close harmony, the gospel can soon be proclaimed in all the world and Jesus will come.

In closing we shall quote one more pertinent statement from the Spirit of prophecy on this subject of using tithe for work other than the support of the gospel ministers:

"The tithe is the Lord's, and those who meddle with it will be punished with the loss of their heavenly treasure unless they repent. Let the work be no longer hedged up because the tithe has been diverted into various channels other than the one to which the Lord has said it should go. Provision is to be made for those other lines of work. They are to be sustained, but not from the tithe. God has not changed; the tithe is still to be used for the support of the ministry."—"Selections From the Testimonies," p. 143.



The old Kamamaung Hospital

TENASSERIM LOCAL MISSION OF BURMA

Saw Chit Maung

I WISH to take this opportunity of writing a report of our work here in the Tenasserim Mission of Burma. As far as I understand, from the time of the Japanese invasion and up to the present time, very little or practically nothing has been submitted. But I thank God that He has made it possible for me to gather the following reports in order to present them to the constituency of the Southern Asia Division.

Our Tenasserim Local Mission includes the whole of the division of Tenasserim, which extends from the Toungoo Hills in the north down to Victoria Point in the south along the coastal strip of Burma, and is very mountainous. As in days of old and during the period of the dark ages, our faithful workers and believers had to take refuge in the mountains and dense forests. The suppressive enemy, the Gestapo police of the Japanese army, had caused great trouble and hardship to them. Some of our brethren were betrayed into the hands of the Japs as spies for the British Government, and were arrested and kept in custody, but, by the grace and mercy of our heavenly Father, none of them was tortured or killed. In spite of these hardships and difficulties, our people have been looking forward to the dawn of a new day for the revival of our work.

Many of our young men were forced to join the labour corps of the Japanese army, and were sent to the malarial infested areas. Due to the lack of medicines and proper treatment, we lost three of our very faithful and

promising young men. They had been the best students in our Meiktila Training School. One was in the tenth standard and the other two were in the ninth. The mother of one of the deceased young men told me that in the morning before her son went to work for the Japs, he read one chapter from his Bible. In the evening before he went to bed he did the same, and also spent his time in reviewing his high school English composition.

There is no doubt that many of you, indigenous and foreign workers as well, who have been in Burma, know something about our headquarters at Kamamaung. It has been well known to our people both in this country and in India since the year 1920. You possibly remember the progress which it made in the time of Pastor Eric B. Hare. All the buildings on this station were set on fire by the enemy in the early days of the occupation. There is nothing left but the parched, scorched, and twisted cocoanut and mango trees. The whole campus is covered with thick bushes and sensitive thorny shrubs. Not even a single charred post of our buildings could be found, but huge bomb-craters and enemy trenches were seen everywhere.

During my first itinerating visit and inspection of this place, our old Kamamaung mission school campus, four of our workers accompanied me. It was in last April, the hottest month of the year. Every one was so sad to see that our own beloved school was in such a condition. Two of these workers wanted to set fire to the dry bushes and shrubs to clean the place. I forbade them to do so for I was afraid that there might be some castaway shells or bombs which would explode because of the fire, but they kept on insisting and kindled a fire. While the fire was burning in one place, I heard some explosions of cartridges. I then shouted to them to stop and keep clear from the fire. They did not care but went on. I warned them again and told them that they would lose their heads if they did not obey me. They ran back to me at the old gate. No sooner had they arrived at my side when the whole place shook and quivered with a loud bang. It was the explosion of a bomb. These two men were startled and speechless. It is indeed very sad to see the fate that has befallen our old mission station of Kamamaung. May our God of the heavens revive it again and make it more prosperous than it was in the past.

Laypota is a village situated about twenty miles north-west of Kamamaung. Here we have quite a strong community of church members, about thirty in number. With their leader, Thra Ohn Bwint, our evangelist, and some other faithful lay-workers, this community remained faithful during the time of trial and hardship. They have a good school supported by the Government. Its enrolment is more than fifty. There are quite a few candidates in their baptismal class, and these will

be baptized at their coming local annual meeting which will be held in this next dry season. They have also definitely planned to build a small church which will be used solely for religious and church services.

There is another place where we have four families of our church members. It is about seven miles north-east of Kamamaung. Our village school teacher of this place had to flee for his life. Being a teacher and a religious leader as well, he was threatened by the enemy's activity in the surrounding villages. Later we learned that it was really a good thing that this brother had done so. Although our brethren of this village were converted from animism, I am glad to report that just a few of them were shaken in their new Christian experience in the time of trouble and hardship during the occupation. At present the teacher has returned, and the school was reopened, and the members have reconsecrated their lives for more and stronger work for the Lord.



For the time-being we have our Tenasserim Local Mission headquarters at Paan, a small town on the Salween River, about forty miles north of Moulmein. Our Union Committee has voted that a suitable site ought to be chosen in the vicinity of this town for our local mission central school. We found it to be a proper and suitable place. With better transportation and communication than Kamamaung, this new location is accessible from all parts of our Tenasserim field. Our people in the district and villages, believers and unbelievers as well, are pleading earnestly for this institution to be re-established. Many of them have expressed their willingness to help and even to solicit contributions in paddy towards this new institution.

Eight miles north of this new headquarters, there is a place where many of our old workers have been taking refuge during the occupation. The Adventist community of this place have been very faithful. They suffered much from the enemy. Two of our workers were forced to go round the country which took them away for months to search for the spies. One old lady believer, sixty years of age, was imprisoned for forty days and was almost starved to death. In spite of all these hardships and difficulties our people are

firm and true to their principles. At present, we have a good school of sixty pupils which is the largest one in our Tenasserim field. It has two teachers, one of whom is self-supporting.

There are two more places in Don Yin or the paddy field area, which I should not omit in this report. Although Satan had tried his best to put a stop to our work in this section of the field, our people have successfully gone through the gloomy days of the past. A few had backslidden but were reconvinced by the faithful ones. Our brother, Thra Kalee Paw, the only indigenous missionary to Siam is now back. He proved to be a great help to our people of Naungkaring. At Natkyun, twenty miles south of our headquarters, we have a very faithful group of believers. It is interesting to note that this little church was raised up by the efforts of a lay-preacher a few years ago. We very much regret the death of our brother, Thra Po Gyaw, which occurred on July 21, 1946. He was then the teacher at Naungkaring. He is survived by his wife and five children.

There is another place which I also would like to mention in this report. It is ten miles south of this headquarters, and on the Salween River. I feel very sympathetic towards this group of believers, because their village was frequented by dacoits and notorious people during the occupation and the last few months. Among our believers, there is a brother who will take up any responsibility he is asked to. He is teaching his own little private school. He has become well known among the animist Sabbath-keepers of the surrounding villages. The animist Sabbath-keepers are a group of people who keep Saturday as their holy day, and the rest of their creed resembles that of the devil worshippers. As the leader of these people died some time ago, our brother took hold of this opportunity to convince them of the truth. We pray that God will be with this brother and help him to bring in many souls.

Shwenyaungbin is the last place I shall mention. This is a mission station established by Pastor H. Baird on the Toungoo Hills at about 3,000 ft. above sea level and twenty-one miles east of the city of Toungoo. In spite of the infidelity of one or two of our brethren, the others have become a strong light and help to the surrounding camps of refugees. Because of the sincere co-operation of our members and workers, our Sabbath school and church services of this place were not in the least interrupted. The mission buildings were intact during the occupation, but when the Allied troops reoccupied the place, our buildings were greatly damaged, due to the blast and concussion of the eight big guns. Readers of this report have already learned something about the efforts of our old worker, Pastor Tha Myaing, and the others in a previous issue of the

BARAGAIN DORCAS SOCIETY

OUR Baragain, Ranchi, Dorcas group consists of six members. The picture displays some of the finished and partially finished products of the society. Three boxes of clothes containing 160 articles have been sent to Burma already and we are now working on a fourth parcel. Since the beginning of the year 231 hours have been spent with an average of four people working. Besides the Burma clothes, 20 other articles have been finished including cushions, children's dresses, etc. Forty rupees was given to worthy church members who were in trouble and need.

We hope this brief report will encourage and inspire others to organize like societies in their churches. We have found that real joy accompanies such service for others.

Leader, Mrs. Fernando. Sec'y., Mrs. Hoag.



EASTERN TIDINGS, and I need not add more.

Our Tenasserim Mission is now operating with eight village schools and ten teachers, three of whom are self-supporting. According to the last report of June 30, we have 238 pupils in our schools. I am sure that at the time of writing this report the number will have increased.

On the map of Burma you will find that the Sittaung River has formed almost an exact border-line between Tenasserim and Burma proper, with the exception of the western part of the Toungoo district. You possibly know that fierce fighting went on in this Sittaung sector for weeks up to the time the enemy surrendered. You can well imagine the serious situation here and what the retreating enemy did to the people here in Tenasserim. Prices of commodities rose high and every one had piles of Jap paper money, and yet could not spend any of it. An egg cost at least one or two hundred rupees and a duck or hen one thousand or more, and even then there were very few obtainable. Our people accumulated church offerings and tithes which were of no account. But let me report here that our tithes which have come into the treasury since the reoccupation of the British troops, that is, from June, 1945, up to June, 1946, excluding the workers' tithes, amounted to Rs. 894-3-0 in Indian currency. This may mean a small amount to you, but not so to us here in Tenasserim, for I know our people here lost much of their property and possessions.

In closing, let me assure you, our brethren and sisters in Southern Asia, that we, your fellow-believers, have greatly appreciated your sacrifice and gifts of clothing we received some time ago. We humbly solicit your interest and prayers that the Lord may prosper our work here in this Tenasserim Local Mission of Burma.

Happy Happenings in Karachi— The Aerial Gateway of India

P. Kenneth Simpson

WHEREAS, it has been some time since any mention has been made in the columns of the EASTERN TIDINGS regarding the work at Karachi, Sind Province, it seems fitting that something should appear in this issue.

It was on March 18 that Pastor and Mrs. R. J. Ritchie left Karachi on transfer to Lucknow, and the following evening Pastor and Mrs. P. K. Simpson, together with their two daughters, Margaret and Dorothy Simpson arrived just before midnight to begin their labours for God in this "City of Opportunity." Since then several campaigns and happenings have occurred which should have been reported in the TIDINGS, but on account of the rush of work, such work has been left for others to do, and you might well have thought Karachi had suddenly ceased to function.

On April 3 we were pleased to have both Pastor and Mrs. R. L. Kimble visit us for a few days during our annual Uplift campaign. Over Rs. 3,000 in Uplift funds were collected by Pastor Kimble and the writer during the short time he was in our midst. His sermons were greatly appreciated by all our company of believers, for whom this was a rare opportunity of having both the superintendent and his wife visit us. Sister Kimble was also able to give good counsel to the ladies of our Dorcas Society and help them with some of the work for Burma which they were doing. On April 11 they were compelled to leave us en route to Surat. Pastor Simpson accompanied them as far as Hyderabad, Sind, where they spent a few hours soliciting for Uplift funds, and seeing the opportunities for work in the second city of the province. Many large donations of Rs. 200 and Rs. 100 were received during the stay of

Pastor Kimble in Karachi, and all seemed to give gladly.

Pastor V. Wood-Stotesbury arrived on April 22 from Lahore to assist us in reaching our Uplift goal of Rs. 5,500 which at that time was not reached. During the time Pastor Stotesbury and the writer worked the business firms and individuals on our list from previous years, we were able to receive in cash and pledges just a little over Rs. 2,500 which remained on our goal. A number of individuals who had not given for several years were contacted and God richly blessed us as we presented the needs of the medical and educational work. Once again we realized as never before that the secret of success of our work in Sind must be in developing a strong medical work or centre in this large city of 750,000 population which, after twenty-five years of giving some of the largest donations received in India, has still no medical centre.

One outstanding experience of our Uplift this year was the meeting of Sir Ghulam Hussain Hidayatullah, Prime Minister of Sind Province, on the first day of Pastor Stotesbury's visit. As we presented our needs, the Premier promised to head our list with the largest donation whenever we could definitely begin the medical work somewhere in Sind like we showed him we had done and were doing in other parts of India. Finally, he promised to assist us with a small donation to encourage others to give, and sent out to us a cheque of Rs. 160 on a silver platter by the servant. This was a means of encouraging others also to give us larger donations.

Pastor Stotesbury had spent several years in Karachi as pastor and all were pleased to see him again. He took the Sabbath service, and sang a beautiful solo as a part of his closing appeal. The last Sunday evening before he left we had a church social on the roof of the parsonage which was well attended by our members and others.

By the time of the union committee meeting in New Delhi on May 7, Karachi Station, Sind Mission, had reached its goal of Rs. 6,000 in Uplift in cash and pledges which were later received. Some are sending funds in each month still. At the present time the total figure for Karachi's 1946 Uplift receipts stands at Rs. 6,064 in cash with more to follow which will make it over Rs. 6,100 for the year. Surely God has been good to us as we have presented our Uplift appeal and in a place where Parsee, Hindu, and Mohammedan wealthy merchants give so liberally without our having any centre of our own. Surely we as a people must soon do something to begin a strong medical work in this province before it is too late. From all sides we hear the retort, "You folks have been getting large donations for years from us promising sometime you will have something here. When are you going to keep your promise? How much longer must our province wait for you to begin medical and educational work? We are a poor province and our need is greater than other provinces. Why do you not begin something soon?"

Mention should be made of the faithful labours of our Indian workers, Brethren Sultan Ahmad and Parker Howard, who were able with God's help to solicit and turn into the Uplift Fund this year over Rs. 434 which is the largest amount they have ever raised in Karachi. Many Rs. 25, Rs. 30, and Rs. 10 donations were included in their lists, and this gave them a great thrill of joy.

The Karachi Sabbath school has been making good gains. Our Sabbath school offerings last quarter were Rs. 271-6-0 under Brother A. S. Scott's able leadership. The Dorcas Society, headed by his wife, Sister Scott, has also made a most noble contribution this quarter and last in sending many clothes to Burma as well as conducting a very successful food sale on July 23, which brought in over Rs. 137 in clear profit for the Rehabilitation Offering of July 27, in spite of the sale being conducted on

very short notice after it had been called off.

Over Rs. 115 was given by the church members as a Rehabilitation Offering in response to the appeal made in the church on July 27. This, in addition to the amount raised by the Dorcas Benevolent Association's food sale and the personal solicitation of the leader, Mrs. Scott, of over Rs. 75 cash, enabled us to turn in just a little over Rs. 252 as a Rehabilitation Offering. God has given our members a willing heart to give and they are blessed as they continue to support each campaign of the church.

Each Sabbath morning a Hindustani Sabbath school is conducted in our chapel by Brother P. E. Howard, and this is followed by a preaching service led by Brother S. Ahmad, when attendance justifies it. Most of our Indian members live too far from the meeting-place to be able to attend regularly each week.

With the return of our regular colporteur, Brother Ernest Gibson on August 22, we were favoured with a visit by Brother E. H. Joseph, our union publishing department secretary, who spent twelve days in our midst. On account of malaria he was obliged to stay with us longer than originally intended. God blessed these brethren with over Rs. 200 in sales during the first four days he was here in spite of unrest in the city.

On August 21 we were pleased to have Miss Mildred Bradley, from the Florida Sanitarium, a new missionary nurse en route from Montreal by plane, stop over one day with us before continuing her journey on via Lahore and Delhi to Surat Hospital.

Since the 7th of July (once a week, each Wednesday evening), we have been having film-strip lectures in English at the Theosophist Hall on Bunder Road with from 200 to 350 attending. Owing to the unusual interest being shown, permission to use the hall has unfortunately been discontinued.

During the hottest weather of the year, in June this year, Karachi experienced a heat-wave when the highest temperature ever recorded for that month here (according to reports in the papers) was experienced. We were able, however, to survive until rain came on the first day of July. Since then we have enjoyed cool breezes as is customary in Karachi most months of the year.

The great burden of each member of our church is to pray for a site for our new church where we may have room enough for all to meet together to worship God on the Sabbath. At present we are hard put to seat all who come if we advertise anything special in our small chapel.

Recently a large new sign, "ADVENT CHAPEL, THE CHURCH THAT TEACHES PROPHECY, A WELCOME TO ALL," was raised above the front wall of our mission compound, which has caused all who pass to know that there is still a live S. D. A. Church in this place.

Each week copies of the "Signs of the Times" and other periodicals, when available, are mailed out to the list of names we have received during our lectures in the Theosophist Hall, and we trust many may be led to study and find this truth precious as a result of this missionary endeavour.

Several openings have been arranged for temperance and health lectures in different parts of the city, and God has blessed us with a lively interest from those lectures which we trust may be followed up in our Hindustani effort in November. Last Thursday night I addressed a crowd of from 150 to 200 boys scouts on health,—"How to Have a Healthy Body," and this has caused them to request another lecture on September 16 in the same hall on "Alcohol—the Menace." In this way God is opening the way for us to reach more people in spite of the Theosophist Hall cancelling the agreement we had with them. On one evening I addressed a large crowd in the Khalik Dina Hall, the largest in the city, under the auspices of the Municipal Employees' Association, and many enjoyed my lecture and gave us their names for free "Signs."

Each morning except on Sabbaths we study the Sindhi language with a Sindhi munshi, and both of our Indian workers, P. E. Howard, and S. Ahmad, are becoming quite proficient in reading and speaking simple Sindhi. We believe this is the first time our workers here have studied Sindhi and we believe this may be one of the reasons why we have not been able to reach the masses as we desire.

Pray for God to continue to use us to His glory in this great city.

TITHING AT S. M. C.

C. A. Schutt

AT THE time of the church service on Sabbath, the 14th of September, the question of tithing was taken up with the student group at Spicer Missionary College and students were invited at the close of the service to sign the Tithe Covenant Pledge. More than 90 per cent of the students signed this pledge without any urging at all. Following the service students made payments of tithe on special earnings. On the part of all of the students that signed the covenant definite plans were made to pay their tithe on their earnings in the school.

It seems that if our young people in the school are given the proper training concerning tithe-paying that when they leave school they will have this valuable principle very definitely fixed in their lives. Many times the payment of tithe is not too satisfactory as we look over the results in the various churches and missions throughout this field. But we believe that there will be a new day dawning for the work in India when this important principle is implanted in the hearts of our young people, for we feel that the work will be greatly blessed in India when our people fully ascribe to this important principle.

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EASTERN TIDINGS

MRS. A. F. TARR, *Editor*

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GLEANNINGS

Pastors Ham and Thomas left Poona on the night of the 21st to attend the annual meetings in the Northwest.

* * *

September 23 was a great day of victory for Spicer Missionary College. The staff and student body turned out en masse to raise their Uplift goal. At the close of a busy day, as the students gathered together to give their reports, it was found that Rs. 1,722 had been collected. Of this amount about Rs. 400 was brought in by the girls who had solicited in Kirkee. Another day like this and Spicer Missionary College will be well over their goal.

* * *

"BIG WEEK" BEGINS IN KARACHI

"JUST a few lines regarding the new Big Week books sale this week. ... I have only had time to dispose of 12 sets myself so far, besides helping several others sell theirs.

"Brother Parker Howard alone has sold 13 sets, and with my help 2 sets. That is a fine record, I think, of 15 sets in all. Brother Ahmad had illness at home and was only able to sell 2 sets but will do his when he returns from the Chuharkana meetings. We are so glad that we received our books early this year.

"Brother Stanley Hendley sold 11 sets of the Big Week books in two days, on Bunder Road in Karachi before leaving for Poona, right after they came. The



K. W. Joseph, aged about 18, a Tamil first year student-colporteur from the James High School, Prakasapuram, recently made a splendid record by earning three scholarships during the vaca-

Parsees do not buy as well as we had hoped since they do not smoke. So far we have sold only 3 books on the cigarette to Parsees. The other books are sold best to Hindus and Mohammedans."

P. K. Simpson.

SUGGESTIVE CANVASS FOR "BIG WEEK"

Home-to-Home Canvass:

"Good morning Mr. or Mrs. Blank, I am visiting the homes in this section of town and I've come to call on you, too, at this time." (Begin stepping into the room and the person will automatically move aside and invite you in. Be seated and comfortable.)

"Do you smoke?"

(1) If the answer is "Yes," then tell him that many who smoke wish they never did, and that they could leave off the habit because, firstly, much time and money is spent; secondly, the nerves are unnaturally stimulated. Thus when the effect of the cigarette has worn off, or is wearing off, another cigarette must be lighted. Then continue, "Today I have with me a booklet on the cigarette by Dr. Kress, a doctor who has made an exhaustive study of tobacco and its influence on human beings. Mr. Ghandi says, (page 29): 'Smoking clouds one's intellect and is a bad habit, which we must not become slaves to!' Mr. Hoover, Dr. William J. Mayo, Thomas Edison—all men of genius—prove beyond a doubt that tobacco is a handicap, and I'm sure that by the time you have read halfway through this book, you, too, will be thinking the same way." (Don't forget to smile or else he'll throw you out).

"And it comes to you for just Rs. 1-12-0." (Say one—twelve and not one rupee and twelve annas.)

(2) If to your question he answers "No," then say:

"Why, I'm glad to hear that! Surely then you'll be interested in this booklet that I have with me today—'The Cigarette.'" (Show book to customer.) "I know that many times you may have tried, but unsuccessfully, to convince your 'smoker' friends to give up the weed, but after reading this book you will have convincing proof of the evil effects of tobacco. Thus after you have read such stirring chapters as:

- (1) How and Why Tobacco Injures
- (2) Tobacco's Effect on Character
- (3) Billions for the Tobacco God
- (4) A Cure for the Tobacco Habit

which will give YOU food for thought, PASS the book on to a friend in need—Rs. 1-12-0, thank you!

"Many advertisements today offer pills, injections, powders, and other drugs to keep one young—but, my friend, the best thinking men and women today realize that no such thing will KEEP them young. Thus the quest goes on for "ETERNAL YOUTH." (Show book as you say this.) "Such a booklet by Arthur Warren brings to you such health stimulating chapters as,

- (1) The Birth of a Beautiful World
 - (2) Dawn in Eden
 - (3) The Land of Eternal Youth
- "Health, growth, development, progress, new ability, new power—this is youth. Follow then with us in the 'Quest for Eternal Youth.' For you—Rs. 1-12-0. The set, Rs. 3."

The people to whom we go will either be smokers or non-smokers—hence as they answer "Yes" or "No," the appropriate "answer canvass" above should be adapted to the occasion and used.

W. Janes.

BAPTISMS IN THE NORTHEAST

R. S. Fernando

SOON after the opening of the new school year at the Assam Training School a Lushai young man was baptized by Pastor O. W. Lange. This brought the total baptized members of the Lushai Hills to fifteen. Six more are keeping the Sabbath in the Lushai Hills as a result of the colporteur work of the Assam Training School students. Some of them along with hundreds of others in Assam have been enrolled in the Bible Correspondence Course which Pastor Lange is conducting from the Assam Training School.

Pastor Barko Kisku reports a baptism of two at Solbandha and one at Kolyan in the Santal field. Funds have been made available to erect a church building at Solbandha.

The baptisms in the Munda field for the first half of this year total thirty-three. Five were added during the second quarter.

Brother John Bazroy who is in charge of our only church in Orissa, writes from Binjipali to say that nine souls are getting ready to receive baptism.

Two students of the Jalirpar school were baptized by Pastor Gayen and one more was added to the church at Buruabari in East Bengal.

Eight more souls were accepted into the church at Barobisha in North Bengal; where a house of worship is now under construction.

Chokoakheti church was the first organized church in the Jalpaiguri district. The membership now stands at forty-one, three of whom were recently baptized by Pastor Gayen.

Brother K. S. Ekka is now working at Satali, another village in the Jalpaiguri district, where a church was organized in April of this year. Eight souls were baptized in this place during the visit of Pastor Skau.

Not very far from Satali a whole village, including the preacher of the village church, has begun to keep the Sabbath. Brother Seth Kujur has been transferred to this village, Palasgori, to prepare the candidates for baptism.

A total of eighty-two baptisms have been reported during the first half of this year by our churches in the northeast and we praise God for the victories won.