

# EASTERN



# TIDINGS

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## ❖ FROM THE AUTUMN COUNCIL ❖

A. L. Ham

WE ARE here at Grand Rapids, Michigan, in attendance at the Autumn Council. The first meeting of the Council proper was conducted by Elder J. L. McElhany, the President of the General Conference. He brought, what I considered to be, the strongest appeal I have ever heard him make at any one of our large gatherings for a deeper consecration and complete preparation for the reception of the Holy Spirit's power. He brought to our attention the needs of the world field in material things, but stressed the fact that the greatest need is to be right with God and in a position where the Holy Spirit can make use of our lives in the finishing of His work. At the close of this meeting, almost, if not all, of those present crowded forward to the platform where all engaged in very earnest prayer for the blessings of the Lord upon this large group of leaders representing the interest of this cause in many lands.

We are happy that at this meeting there can be a number present from Southern Asia. There are here Pastor and Mrs. F. E. Spiess and their son, Billy, Pastor and Mrs. R. J. Ritchie, Professor C. A. Schutt and Brother C. N. Abraham in regular attendance. We have been hoping that Doctor and Mrs. Coyne would also be here.

The Budget Committee has commenced its work, having had its first meeting last night at which time we were privileged to present the needs of the Southern Asia field. We hope and pray that the Spirit of the Lord may speak to the hearts of the members of that Committee so that a favourable response may be made in meeting as many of our urgent needs as possible. There is a note of courage throughout this Council, but there is also a feeling of disappointment that the income of the General Conference is not ample to meet the needs of the

world field. The requests coming to the General Conference Treasury at this time total around \$4,000,000 more than there are funds in sight to cover. After the war our work in all of the countries of Asia and Europe has presented problems which have resulted largely from the late World War. The need for rehabilitation, for supplying the needs of hungry people, and for the rebuilding of churches and chapels and other institutions, presents an almost overwhelming problem. However, we have courage to believe that through it all there are lessons for us to learn, and one of these is a greater trust in the God whom we serve and in whose work we are engaged. He has sufficient resources to meet the needs. The messages which have come to the Conference from the various parts of the world reveal that our people everywhere are anxious to rise and finish the work of the Lord in all parts of the world.

We are looking forward now to our Southern Asia Division Council. We shall have good help, and we trust that both the Council and the Ministerial Institute will be very successful and mark the beginning of greater things in our work over there.

Yesterday, which was the first business session of the Council, was devoted to the discussion of plans, brought in from a former gathering of Union Conference Presidents in North America, looking to a programme of evangelism. In the discussion of these plans some very touching and stirring words were spoken by our leaders and by our evangelists who were present. I trust that at our Council we, too, may give special emphasis to our programme of evangelism in all its phases. The giving of the message for this hour is our greatest objective, and we believe that every agency should be utilized to its full capacity toward the accomplishment of this objective.

We shall be writing again giving further reports about this Council.

I may say here that the newspapers of the city are giving prominence to the meetings, and those from foreign countries here are being asked to give interviews over the radio, and by this means the needs of Southern Asia are also

being brought not only before our own people and leaders, but the people of the world. The occasion of Brother and Sister Ritchie meeting his brother for the first time in seventeen years was one special feature of the Publicity Bureau activities here. A picture appeared in the newspaper of these people

conversing together with reference to the happenings of the past seventeen years. A further interview, I understand, is being arranged for next Tuesday. So the Lord is leading and blessing, and we believe that Southern Asia is coming in for its full share of consideration and planning at this meeting.

## A VISIT TO BURMA

A. F. TARR

ONE campmeeting in eight years! This was Burma's unenviable lot. But when that campmeeting did come, what a thrilling one it was, and how the workers and members revelled in each other's company, and responded to the messages!

The journey from Rangoon to Myaungmya where the meeting was to be held was filled with beauty and interest. There was but one way to get there—on one of the riverboats of the Irrawady Flotilla Company which operates this service three times a week. It was just bulging with passengers by the time we boarded it, not an inch of deck space being available; and of course this is the only kind of passenger space there is. There are no cabins. People rush aboard with their blankets, plank them down wherever there is an unoccupied spot, and thereafter regard that little spot, possibly eighteen inches by four feet, as their own. They either lie down on it or barricade it about with their possessions. As more people arrive, even this space becomes disputed, and vigorous arguments ensue as to whether the newcomer has a right to a share or not. Eventually most of the passengers are sitting bolt upright hoping that when night-time comes a general shaking down of luggage and humanity will provide sufficient space to permit some sleep.

In this general confusion our workers and members sought their places. Some, including our younger overseas workers, had boarded the night before and had staked out their claims, which they hoped to retain. Fortunately there was space for a few of our fifty workers and members in the second class "screen deck" which is supposed to accommodate six, and which is furnished with six chairs and a table. Possibly a dozen of us crowded into this, some having with them camp-cots, and others sleeping on the floor, with someone's camp-cot projecting over them from above. Elder E. M. Meleen was one of those who slept, or tried to sleep, that way. At night, on account of dacoits, and despite our armed escort, our boat did not travel. It tied up to the shore at some friendly spot where dacoits were thought not to be.

Myaungmya had been struck by a cyclone the night before our arrival, and it presented a very battered appearance. But the mission, three miles out, seemed to have been almost completely missed, and the large bamboo and grass pavilion erected by Brother

Lennie Hare (son of E. B. Hare) and helpers, bore little evidence of the storm that elsewhere had wrought such havoc. Immediately on our arrival Mrs. Hare distributed the newcomers, and soon all were comfortably housed and certainly well-fed. Missionaries' homes and tables, like those riverboats, must also bulge sometimes. Mrs. Hare seated about twenty people at her table throughout the ten-day meeting.

The people of Burma love to sing; and despite the limited range of songs in all of the four languages used—Sgaw Karen, Po Karen, Burmese and English—every song seemed remarkably appropriate to the occasion. In the opening hymn of the campmeeting we sang the words,

"Who lovingly guardeth my footsteps,  
And giveth me songs in the night."

What more beautiful or appropriate words could a congregation sing that had passed through the dangers and the darkness that these people had faced? Many were to be the recitals during this meeting of God's providential care and protection through the long years of war and isolation, and these words seemed to express so beautifully the mercy and favour that had been divinely extended to every one of them. The opening hymn of the first week's Sabbath school seemed to repeat the thought, for in it we sang:

"All the way my Saviour leads me;  
Cheers each winding path I tread;  
Gives me grace for every trial,  
Feeds me with the living bread."

Among the congregation were many who knew what it was to suffer. Here was a woman with seven fatherless children. Had it been a mere coincidence that one of the last acts of her husband before disappearing—apparently at the hands of the Japanese when he was in search of food for the family—was that he should have purchased a sewing machine for his wife, and that largely with the aid of this machine she had been able through the years of war to find support for herself and family?

Elder J. O. Wilson, acting superintendent of the Burma Union in the absence of Elder M. O. Manley on furlough, had arranged a programme that breathed throughout the old-time spirit of the advent movement. Not a sermon was preached that did not tie into the ground-work of this movement and its history.

Myaungmya has varied associations for our members in Burma. Here it was that some of the worst atrocities were perpetrated in the early days of war. We stood on the spot within the gaol walls where Pastor Po Shwe was cruelly murdered and where he now sleeps deep beneath the surface, in a big trench with many others who shared the same fate. Sister Po Shwe was with us and this was her first visit to the place of her husband's martyrdom and grave.

The site of our campmeeting seemed almost a hallowed one. It was of this place that Brother Pein Gyi wrote to the Japanese in 1942, asking that the buildings and property, then being damaged, might be protected. From the Administrative Officer of the Japanese Army, then at the peak of a victorious campaign, the following letter was received:

"Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Nippon Imperial Army, Bassein

"Dated the 6th of November 1942

"All the buildings and out-houses together with the compound and trees and plants grown therein at Nyaungblebin Quarter, Myaungmya, which formerly belonged to the Seventh-day Adventist Society, are restored to Saya Pein Gyi, Secretary-Treasurer for Burma and Representative of the S. D. A. Society of Irrawady Delta.

"Saya Pein Gyi is permitted, as he thinks fit, to make use of all the said buildings with all the trees and plants grown therein for the welfare of and in the interest of the members of the society in this country.

"He is, further, advised to take police assistance in the management of the said buildings and compound and the nearest police out-post must give all necessary helps and assistance whenever he require.

[Signed]

"Chief Administrative Officer, Bassein."

As we looked at the buildings, it was good to think of this letter and to reflect that while so large a part of Burma had been reduced to ruins, this was one of the places that God in His providence had seen fit to preserve. Remembering all of this, we shall watch the future of Myaungmya with keen interest.

The question of self-support featured prominently in our round-table dis-

missions. Our people in Burma are anxious that any future separation by war or otherwise from the rest of the world should find them having developed a greater degree of self-reliance and self-support than was the case when the last world war began. The campmeeting offering bore evidence of a desire to put these principles into practice. While the Rs. 1,000 given might seem small compared with offerings in other countries, yet it was given by a people who more than once in recent years have lost every possession that they had. When the Japanese occupation finally ended and a new currency came in, they found that the little cash they did have in hand was completely valueless.

A day was taken from the Myaungmya meeting to visit Bassein. Here, in the south of the Irrawady Delta, Brother and Sister A. J. Sargent have once more settled themselves, and are ministering to the spiritual and physical needs of the people. Visits had previously been made to Mandalay, Maymyo, and Shwenyaungbin. At Maymyo, where we once operated Brightlands Nursing Home, three of our younger overseas workers—P. A. Parker, J. F. Hamel, and F. R. Scott, with their families—have been engaged in language study, and while studying have conducted a small evangelistic effort which has brought ten new members into our message and enabled them to organize a church. It was inspiring to meet with this enthusiastic group.

The journey to Maymyo was one of the interesting features of my Burma travels. The last hundred-mile stretch of railway line to Mandalay had been rendered impassable by heavy floods. Fortunately I had, as travelling companions in my compartment, two university professors, both Burmans, who suggested our proceeding to Meiktila, and who there persuaded the District Commissioner to give us his car and driver for the hundred-mile journey to Mandalay. On our arrival there at night they found a jeep to take me the remaining forty miles to Maymyo. The friendliness of the people of Burma is something one cannot easily forget.

Returning to Rangoon from the Myaungmya campmeeting, we were happy to see the progress made in renovating and equipping the buildings acquired for our new hospital. Dr. Johannes and Nurse B. Gore—the nucleus of the hospital staff—have worked indefatigably, and will have an institution of which the denomination may be proud when their work is done. The public have taken a keen interest in its development, and are constantly making inquiries. There seems little doubt that the patronage will far exceed its capacity, and that an influence will be disseminated which will be a tremendous factor for good in our work in Burma.

We left Burma greatly heartened by the changes that the past two years have brought. We have a membership and a staff of workers there—both

foreign and indigenous—whose consecration and enthusiasm cannot but achieve in this their day of glorious opportunity. And with the gifts of material things which members in other lands are sending us through the General Conference, and the assurance of their prayers, we are confident that the future of Burma is going to be greatly blessed.

## WITH BURMA'S PRIME MINISTER

A. F. Tarr

IT WAS on Burma's "Liberation Day," November 7, that a group of Seventh-day Adventists paid a visit to Thakin Nu, Burma's new Prime Minister. In the delegation were: J. O. Wilson, Acting Superintendent of the Burma Union, Saya Pein Gyi, Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. J. Johannes, Medical Secretary, and the writer from the Division.

The Prime Minister had, in fulfilment of a vow, just spent nine days in a selected spot, in prayer. He spoke of that season as his "Sabbath," when during our conversation our own Sabbath was considered. It was while returning to Rangoon from this prayer season, the day before our interview, that an attempt had been made to assassinate him, a British soldier in his escort being killed and an officer wounded.

Thakin Nu's home, like those of his ministers, was heavily barricaded. Barbed wire entanglements surrounded the grounds, while sand-bag fortifications protected the soldiers who with rifles and sten guns guarded the entrance. Inside the grounds bands of soldiers moved, while the open portions of the house itself, its porches and windows, were enclosed in expanded metal. From adjacent properties other soldiers with guns in position kept vigilant watch.

Throughout the day Thakin Nu had attended and addressed gatherings, some being attended by many thousands of people. He must have been very tired, therefore, when accompanied by a strong military escort he arrived at his home late in the afternoon to meet us. But he did not for a moment let that tiredness become evident. Dismissing the officers who entered with him, he talked with us most interestedly on every matter we cared to present. We found him as informal and friendly as any man could possibly be.

Our memorial being first read, we discussed many aspects of our doctrine and practice, emphasizing more especially—in view of his Buddhist religion—our principles on religious liberty, and our transcending duty to God. He assured us of his appreciation of our stand and of his desire to do all that he could to respect our views. He was delighted over our plan to start a hospital in Rangoon (toward which the Thirteenth Sabbath overflow, December 27, is going), and begged us, in laying these plans, to do something to save the children. Two hundred and fifty out of every thousand babies born in Burma

die at birth, he said. And could we not do something to help? Time and again he repeated these figures and plead that in our programme we keep them in mind. Dr. Johannes promised to do all that he could to help.

On Burma's attitude toward the Westerner and toward Christian missions, following her independence, Thakin Nu was confident that relationships would improve rather than deteriorate. The Christian missionary would no longer be regarded as the tool of an "imperialistic" power, but would now be accepted on his own merits. He felt that this change would be automatic, but if it were not so, it would be Government's policy to educate the people in that direction.

While waiting for Thakin Nu to arrive, we heard one of his children upstairs singing in English the nursery rhyme: "Baa, Baa, black sheep, have you any wool?" And now sitting by his side on the sofa, where he had asked me to sit, I spoke of his children and of the song I had heard, and of their knowledge of English. He seemed pleased at our mention of this, and proceeded to tell us more about them, the education he was giving them and the school they attended. It was evident that he was much attached to his family. We told him of some books we had—"Bedtime Stories"—which we thought his children would enjoy. He was most happy at our thoughtfulness and desired that we send him a set. This we readily promised to do, and if we read aright his affection for his family, he himself will, in the evenings, be often found reading these books to his children.

It was long after sunset before we bade Thakin Nu goodbye, but we felt that there were few better places in which we could begin Sabbath that evening than in the home of the Prime Minister of Burma, talking over with him our message and work.

Thakin Nu thanked us repeatedly for our visit and seemed particularly grateful for the sentiments expressed in the opening paragraph of our Memorial which read:

"On this memorable occasion when the people of Burma take their place as a free and independent nation among the nations of the world, we the Seventh-day Adventist denomination offer to you personally, and through you to the members of your Government, this expression of our loyalty and hearty support. We do this the more earnestly because of the many problems which we know will confront you in the unsettled times to which Burma, in common with other nations of the world, has come. As you face these problems and as you bear the burdens pertaining to your office, we assure you of our daily prayers and of our sincere endeavours to contribute what lies in our power toward the prosperity and peace of this nation and its Government."

We left Thakin Nu's home, believing that the blessing of God had attended us in this further interview with a great national leader.



## VOICE OF PROPHECY Bible Correspondence School

EVERY one of the Voice of Prophecy lessons extends an urgent and earnest invitation to the non-Christian and to the unconverted Christian to look to Jesus Christ and find in Him the only but all-sufficient Redeemer from sin. We do not, however, gauge the success of our work by the standard of visible results, for eye will not see and ear will never hear of all those who are lead to the foot of the cross until we reach the heavenly shore.

We simply bring the gospel of repentance and redemption from sin before the people, confident that our heavenly Father's word will not return to Him void, but will carry out His blessed purpose.

Nevertheless, our gracious heavenly Father has given us evidence of His divine presence with us and of His enduring mercy towards us by permitting us to see some tangible results of our labour.

We can never sufficiently thank Him for the gracious response which we are receiving. Our hearts pour forth a prayer of thanksgiving for what He has done. In less than six months, more than ten thousand students have enrolled.

More than one hundred students have answered "Yes" to all of our Sabbath questions and have asked definitely for a Voice of Prophecy representative to visit them. A number of these have also asked for baptism. Some of them have asked if they might attend our churches.

As the Voice of Prophecy work grows and the interest increases, our responsibilities multiply.

We trust that the church members will do all within their power to welcome these new believers and make them feel at home should they attend our church.

Let us make these "students" desire to attend again because of our love for and our interest in them.

One of our students wrote: "Last week I attended a Christian church for the first time. I was surprised to receive such a warm welcome. The people were wonderful to me." And then he added, "I am going to be a Christian and associate myself with such people." Unfortunately this church he attended was not one of our churches.

We hope and pray that when these new people attend our churches, the same love and kindness will be shown them, and that they will be drawn to the Master by the love of the church members.

May our churches be little havens where storm-tossed souls may find peace, happiness and salvation, and, at last, a home in God's kingdom.

A. E. Rawson.

## BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL—CEYLON

GOOD reports continue to come in of the work of the 20th Century Bible Correspondence School in Ceylon. In the "Ceylon Messenger" appears the following:

"The 20th Century Bible Correspondence School, the first of its kind in the East, has proved a great blessing to the work of God in Ceylon since its establishment in April, 1946. I can well remember a conversation I had with Pastor Dunn, just before the first advertisements appeared in the newspapers. We agreed that if we had 800 students in the school and 200 of these graduated, we would have accomplished something. Nearly two years have slipped by since then. Our school is now a well established one with 8,000 students and nearly 1,000 graduates.

"When I think back on those days, I can picture a little scene in the school office at 77, Greensland Road, Havelock Town,—a small group of workers kneeling faithfully each morning, praying that God would give the school an enrolment of 1,000. Very soon this prayer was answered and since then the work has taken great strides till we have reached the present enrolment.

"A great interest has been created throughout the island, and besides those who have already taken their stand, many have expressed their belief in the three angels' messages. It is a difficult task, however, to contact all of these interested ones, scattered everywhere, but as opportunities arise, all the workers do their best to help these people make their decision for the truth. The seed has been sown, we know, and in due time the Lord will bring forth the harvest.—B. D. Juriansz, Secretary, Bible School.

### "They Come From the North—JAFFNA

"Jaffna is the second largest city in Ceylon populated mostly by Tamils who proudly maintain the Eastern civilization and its culture. Some of her sons and daughters are ardent supporters of the Adventist message. It was my privilege to go to this city to assist Mr. Y. G. Prakasam in Uplift work. We were able to reach our goal easily, and with a little more effort, trebled it. We thank God for this splendid success.

"Some days were spent in visiting some of the students of the Bible School. As in many other places the Bible School has also done much in Jaffna. It has advertised us far and wide—so much so that not very many are left in the town who do not know about the Adventists and their activities. The Bible School has really found some starving and earnest souls

from nooks and corners where the evangelists ordinarily cannot go. There are over 100 graduates in Jaffna area. Our hearts were cheered as we visited these dear souls. Many have testified that they have learned more truth of the Christian church in one month than they have learned in all their lifetime. Let us all earnestly pray and work so as to reap the fruits of the Bible Correspondence School's activities.—C. P. Jonahs.

### "And They Come From the South— MATARA

"It was my privilege to visit Matara in connection with Bible School work. I came across four families who are deeply interested in the truth. I was also happily surprised to find about twenty baptized members in the business section of that southern city. These people have been carrying on business for many years and they are holding a Sabbath school by themselves. I understand that in the past there was a worker stationed in Matara. I am happy to learn that the Ceylon Mission is planning to send a worker there. A very strong work can be developed in that unprejudiced and promising field.—C. P. Jonahs, Elder, Divulapitiya Church."

## S. INDIA UNION

### CHURCH ORGANIZED AT PULIYANKUDI

K. Joseph, Evangelist.

IN THE year 1946, an effort was conducted at Tuticorin. As a result of that effort Brother and Sister Alayam were baptized. Having a great desire to spread the third angel's message in his village, Brother Alayam resigned his government post and went to Vadanathampatty. One of our able and experienced lay preachers, Brother G. Monickam, went to work with him. These two men sowed the seeds of salvation in many places. People were very happy to hear the message about the last days.

They went to a small town called Puliyanudi and gave the last message of mercy. Some people showed a real interest in the message presented, so these two brethren requested the South Tamil Mission committee to arrange for an effort in this place. Accordingly, the Mission sent Brethren E. V. Duraisamy and S. K. Arumanayagom to conduct this effort with the help of the other two brethren. They untiringly presented the message for a period of six weeks. As a result of these meetings and by the grace of God, twenty people accepted the truth. Following the effort, Brother S. K. Arumanayagom held a baptismal class for these candidates for a month.

On July 4 of this year, sixteen were baptized by Pastor C. Moses, the superintendent of the South Tamil field. To develop the work in this place, the writer was transferred from Sivagnapuram by the mission committee.

October 3 and 4 were days of great rejoicing to our people at Puliyanudi. We were very glad to have Pastor O. O. Mattison, the union superintendent, with us. Pastor C. Moses, Brother K. Arumanayagam and Lay-preacher Monickam were also with us. Those two days were days of spiritual feasting and great rejoicing, and it will be remembered by the people for a long time.

On Friday night, Pastor O. O. Mattison delivered an inspiring sermon about seven Sabbaths in the different periods of this world's history, touching upon the seven incidents of Sabbath observance from the Bible. As he pointed to the seventh Sabbath which is going to be observed by all the redeemed of the earth on their way to heaven with their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, oh! what an inspiration it was to all of us. "Lord, help us to be numbered with that great host," was the prayer in our hearts. Thank God for the message He gave us through His servant.

On the 4th, Sabbath morning, we all gathered in the small shed where Pastor Moses examined the candidates, prior to baptism. It was found that they were all instructed properly and were able to answer many questions and they had a change of heart which is the most important of all. As the candidates were fit for the rite of baptism, we all proceeded to a near-by spring and there three women and two men were baptized by Pastor C. Moses.

Then we had Sabbath school at Brother Joseph's place. Following it, Pastor Mattison spoke about the need and purpose of a church being organized. He stressed that each member has a responsibility to spread the truth to others. In order to do this the church needs organization. After his speech the Puliyanudi church was organized with twenty-six members including the worker and his wife. The regular officers of the church were elected and Brother Alayam was ordained as the deacon of this new church.

At the evening service six children were dedicated to the Lord by Pastor C. Moses, who explained clearly the responsibility of the parents in training the little ones for the Lord. Following this service, Pastor O. O. Mattison delivered a very timely message. His topic was, "Just Five Minutes More." We were all moved by the message from the Lord, as it was just for the time in which we are living. Thus the holy day came to a close. We have evidences to hope that this is going to be the second largest church in this mission field. I earnestly solicit the prayers of all for the progress of the work in this place.

## "Not by Might, Nor by Power, But by My Spirit"

G. Gurubatham

THE long-felt need for medical missionary work in the North Tamil field was met on the second of this month by the opening of a clinic at Trichinopoly, in the cantonment area. Trichinopoly is a place where there are already sixty-three popular doctors, with all possible facilities in their own nursing homes. But, in order to strengthen our already established work in this place, it was very kind of the union to open the clinic here and it is indeed a good selection of the location of the same. Dr. W. G. Thomas is in charge of the same and Brother Paul Devaraj is assisting him.

Dr. Thomas arrived here at a time when cholera was raging, and the first case he had to treat was his servant girl, who was attacked with choleric diarrhoea and severe vomiting, and she was cured.

On November 1 we had Sabbath school and the church service at the clinic, and special prayers were offered. Pastor V. D. Koilpillai, superintendent of the North Tamil Mission, conducted the service and gave a very good talk on the necessity of medical missionary work, showing that we should follow Jesus who was the very first medical missionary. He emphasized that the medical missionary work is the right hand of the gospel. Those who attended the meeting said they enjoyed the talk very much.

Our clinic is named after our Tamil health journal, the NALWAZHI, of thirty-five years' fame. A patient who was diagnosed as enteritis and was sent home from another hospital as hopeless, was the very first case taken in as an inpatient. Thank God she is cured and has been discharged today to the admiration of the people of the locality. Praise the Lord for having given the clinic a good start, and it is proved that His work shall and will be done wonderfully, not by might, nor by power, but by the Spirit of God. There has been a good rush of patients from the very beginning, mostly Anglo-Indians, and they seem to appreciate the treatment given in our hospital. The maternity ward is proving very popular. Some have shown definite interest in the Voice of Prophecy course and have taken enrolment cards with them. We thank the Almighty for the wonderful way He is using us to carry the third angel's message in all its glory. He is leading us in spite of the keen competition here. A qualified nurse with maternity experience is badly wanted and will be a great blessing to our work.

I request the readers to pray for the medical work at Trichinopoly. We do hope that in the course of time this will turn out to be a prosperous institution bringing healing to many thousands, both physically and spiritually.

## SOUTH TELUGU MISSION

R. John Moses, Superintendent.

IN THE village of Meenavolu, the fourth railway station from Bezawada, we have been conducting a village effort. We have been holding meetings for the past two months and about two hundred people have been in attendance each night. At present there are thirty people in the baptismal class. We hope to have a baptismal service very shortly.

In Jangamgudem, which is about five miles from Nuzvid Mission Hospital, Brethren Solomon and Gopal Rao from the hospital have been working there and conducting a Sabbath school. We have about twenty people who are actually attending the Sabbath school and most of them have taken their stand for the message. The brethren have also decided to conduct an effort there and they are now ready to start. They hope that they may interest the rest of the villagers so that the whole village may be brought to the truth.

About two hundred miles from Nuzvid, in the Nellore District, there is a place called Kandivaripalli where we have baptized seventeen people. The brother who was in charge of this group is a lay member of the church and he has been working there for the last two or three years receiving no help from the mission. We have no worker there, no church building, not even a thatched house. Brother Joseph has done good work and when I paid him a visit recently he was immensely pleased to see me, and told me that he is preparing three candidates for baptism.

The plea from the church members is that now that they have some members there, they would very much like a meeting-place, as they now find it difficult to conduct the meetings in living houses or under the shade of trees. When I asked them what help they could give, they said that they would give the land for the church and the worker's quarters, apart from that they said that they would be willing to give their labour and Rs 200 for the construction of the building. Shall we not remember these brethren and sisters in our daily prayers so that the God of heaven may hear their prayers and that they may be furnished with a church building in which to worship Him.

In Ambarpet, near to Nandigama, we have conducted another village effort. The brother in charge of this effort reports that he had very good meetings and there are ten candidates who took their stand for the message. In both Ambarpet and Keesara according to him there are still more people whom he thinks will possibly join the church.

We are also conducting an effort at Pottipadu, which is about twenty-five miles from Nuzvid. May I request the readers of the TIDINGS to kindly remember the work in the South Telugu Mission so that we may have better results in conducting these efforts.

## PROVIDENCES IN NORTHWEST INDIA

Carrie J. A. Robbins, M. D.

THE summer of 1947, being our first in India, the union committee thought best to send us to Landour Language School in Mussoorie, for the summer. While in Mussoorie the country celebrated Independence Day and soon afterwards parts of the country were plunged in rioting and bloodshed.

By the end of August, when we should have gone home, travel was impossible, and we had word from the Division to remain in Mussoorie for a time. Somehow it was felt that Mussoorie would escape trouble, as it was so strongly European. We moved over to our Vincent Hill College and tried to make ourselves useful, but were anxious to get back to our own work at Chuharkana, near Lahore, in Pakistan.

On September 26 one of the brethren succeeded in getting to Mussoorie from Delhi, and he had verbal orders from Pastor Kimble, our superintendent, to come to Delhi at once. By this time floods had washed out highways and railroads so no trains had been running for ten days. We prayed for guidance. We had a station wagon in Dehra Dun at the foot of the mountain. Should we try to take it or not? Petrol was very hard to obtain. The roads were washed out in many places. Would the Government conscript our car? As these problems were flooding our minds, on Sunday, September 28, we received a letter from the Governor of the West Punjab, which had been two weeks in reaching us. This letter was in answer to one we had written over a month before offering our services in this hour of crisis. We now had official permission to go home and ration coupons for thirty gallons of petrol. Thus our trip began.

Getting down the hill was quite a problem. By this time there was trouble in Mussoorie and no buses were running. However, my husband finally got a ride to Dehra Dun with some military men, and brought the station wagon up to get Miss Bradley, our nurse from Surat, two Sikh "munshies," who had been our teachers, and the writer. We loaded up and left Mussoorie on Friday afternoon and spent the Sabbath with our workers in Dehra Dun.

Sunday morning we drove forty miles to our school in Roorkee. There were many bad places in the road, but all were passable. We spent the night there, succeeded in getting four more gallons of petrol, and moved on Monday morning. Before the station man could give us petrol, the district magistrate must sign the coupon. In one place a Hindu magistrate refused to sign, because we were going to Pakistan, and we "ran out of gas" just as we reached the next town. However

Mr. Robbins and the "munshies" walked to find a magistrate and some petrol. In about three hours they returned, with the necessary red tape accomplished, and again we were on our way. Dirty petrol gave us some engine trouble, but my husband cleaned it out, and we continued until we were within six miles of Delhi, where we came to a complete wash away in the road. People were wading the water knee deep and more for over a mile.

We retraced our steps to Ghaziabad where there is a Methodist Mission school. They very kindly took us in and entertained us royally. The next morning Mr. Robbins and the "munshies" waded the water to get to Delhi, and found that they would have missed Pastor Kimble had they been one day later. They decided to have us try to drive home, gave us some petrol they had saved, and that evening Miss Bradley waded the water to meet one of the workers on the other side, who would take her on into Delhi where she would be able to get a train for Surat.

The next morning we drove back to Roorkee, and Thursday morning really started for home. We passed camps with thousands of refugees, and met and passed more thousands walking and with bullock carts trying to get to a land of safety. Many were dying by the way of cholera or starvation or both. By evening we safely reached the village of our "munshies" which was barely over a hundred miles from Lahore. Here we spent the night and were grandly entertained. They wanted us to stay several days, and only by promising to return and hold some meetings were we able to get away.

Friday we got into another flood area, where the road had been washed out for miles. About 30,000 refugees were estimated to have lost their lives in their camp as the flood waters came down upon them. Here the military police stopped us and were not going to allow us to proceed to Pakistan. However, a pass was eventually granted us and we were on our way again. The road was very difficult because of the wash-aways, but in the worst places, bricks and mud had been laid down, and we were able to pass.

We finally arrived in Amritsar, only thirty-five miles from Lahore, and the last city in India. We had very little extra petrol by this time, and the road signs had been turned around so we missed the way. No one, not even a policeman, would tell us the right road to Lahore. They professed not to know. Finally we beckoned to a nice looking Sikh gentleman in a car. He came over to us, and we recognized him as being a doctor whom we had formerly met in Lahore. He had safely reached India and was now teaching in a medical college in Amritsar. He was very kind and not only pointed out the way, but invited us in for something to eat and drink.

As we drove on and reached the border, we had no trouble at all, in

fact the Pakistan soldiers seemed glad to let us in. We were very glad to be back in our own territory. Soon we were at our mission house in Lahore. We found the work hindered of course, but no real harm done. None of our workers or believers have lost their lives, or even been seriously molested. The promises in Psalms 91 are being fulfilled daily in Northwest India these days. Very few Christians of any denomination have suffered.

We spent Sabbath and Sunday in Lahore, and Monday drove out to our mission in Chuharkana. We found Brother and Sister R. P. Morris working hard, and having seen untold suffering, but they and all the school teachers and children were in as good spirits as they could be with so much suffering all around, and going ahead with their work.

It is so good to be home and back to work again. We cannot praise God enough for His goodness to us. Pray for the work in Lahore that it may be quickly finished, so Jesus can come and put an end to all this suffering, sin, and death.

## Learning in the School of Experience

Kalee Paw  
Evangelist, Burma

IT IS a little over a year since I came back from Siam and joined our work here as an evangelist. During this short period I have met with many classes of people, and have learned many new lessons in this line of work. But it was during my period of service as a missionary in Siam that I learned my first lessons in evangelism, learned them the hard but effective way—in the school of experience.

During the first portion of my work in the mission, I did not think much about the importance and value of the work of an evangelist. At that time I was young in age, and new also in mission work, and regarded teaching in our schools as the most important work in the mission.

But in the year 1937 I was sent to Siam, and I had to give up my teaching business. There in a foreign country I became an evangelist.

I was sent to a certain village which was situated near the boundary line of Burma. As the work was new and I did not have very much experience in this line of work, I met with many difficulties right from the very beginning. I did not know how and where to start my work. Moreover, the villagers were stern heathen, and did not care anything about religion. They had never heard of the name of Jesus, and did not know anything pertaining to the Deity. They are superstitious people and believe in anything—things which, to us, are groundless, giving no evidence. To preach to them as one does in a church of Christians is entirely a failure. Under such conditions I was very much disappointed, and felt



like giving up the work. No other worker or missionary was by me to encourage me or to give me any advice. Only my wife and a baby boy were with me. We were far away from town and communications. We did not know what we should do. We approached the Lord in prayer, placing before Him our difficulties and burdens. The Lord heard our prayer, and touched my heart with a Bible text which is found in Luke 9:62, "And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." My heart beat fast, and my thoughts ran high. What shall I choose? Shall I give up the work as an evangelist, or shall I stick to it just as the Lord wants? With much prayer in my heart I asked the Lord to give me strength to remain steadfast at my post. By His grace I stood firmly at my post, and had enough courage to appraise the people.

I began to tell the people Bible stories in a very simple, childlike way, that they might understand them. For three years we worked in that way, till at last one man was baptized into the truth. At the same time we organized a Sabbath school class with forty-seven persons in attendance. What a thrill! What joy we had on that day! I cannot forget it in a lifetime.

From there on a new idea came into my heart, and I began to love the work of the evangelist. Now I am back among my own people in the Tenasserim Mission field, and carrying on the same line of work.

Here also, as elsewhere, people look down on the preacher as a mean or undesirable man. I can say that among the three classes of workers which we have in our mission,—the preacher, the teacher, and the doctor,—the preacher is the one who receives much blame, rebuke, envy, and hatred from the people. In our churches, and among our own people, we are received well. But we cannot expect the same thing from other people.

I believe that in every country in this world, there is no place for a preacher to be welcome in every home he enters. Many people look upon us as their arch enemy, even though we try to help them.

The power of the Lord is great. Even though Satan tries to bar the truth in all possible ways, the light of the gospel shines even unto the darkest corner of the earth. We see the people here and there, one after another, give up their old practices and return to the Lord.

Our greatest preacher, the Lord Jesus, has shown us a good example in this line of work that we may follow. He passed through many hardships in upholding the evangelistic work while He was on this earth. He has foreseen, too, all the difficulties which will befall us during our days of service, so He has left behind these messages that we may learn and endure for Him to the end. Please read Matt. 5:12; 10:22; John 16:33.

Dear fellow preachers, we are few in number in this land. Let us hold fast this blessed hope and march forward with one heart in this fight for the Lord. Soon He will return and give us the reward He has promised, a reward far beyond what we have really earned. In our work let us remember this little song, which is found in "Christ in Song," No. 511, last stanza:

"Hand to hand united, heart to heart as one,  
Let us still keep marching till our journey's done,  
Till we see the angels come in glory down,  
With the shining garments and the victor's crown."

## S. M. C. NEWS

### S. J. Louis

THE officers for the different church activities and the clubs have been chosen for the second semester:

#### Sabbath School

|                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Superintendent  | L. C. George   |
| Asst. Supt.     | Altamae Isaiah |
| Asst. Secretary | Lall Singh     |
| Secretary       | C. A. Chacko   |

#### Y. P. M. V. Society

|                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Leader          | Bhau Madhale      |
| Asst. Leader    | Sadar Khan        |
| Secretary       | Amelia Rouse      |
| Asst. Secretary | Mohanlal Boiragee |

#### Ministerial Seminar

|                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| President      | Stephen Pandian  |
| Vice-President | S. Yesudass      |
| Advertiser     | C. C. Kurunathan |

#### Manley Boys' Club

|                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| President       | M. Thavasimony   |
| Vice-President  | T. J. S. A. Raja |
| Secretary       | R. Shinge        |
| Treasurer       | Joseph Basker    |
| Sgt. at Arms    | Simpson Poddar   |
| Parliamentarian | L. C. George     |
| Artist          | David Poddar     |

#### Bertha Girls' Improvement Club

|                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| President           | Kezia Vedamuthu    |
| Vice-President      | Margaret Christian |
| Secretary-Treasurer | Mary Moses         |
| Sgt. at Arms        | Barbara Whittaker  |
| Artist              | Pauline Thomas     |

Our field day was the 30th of October. Everyone went out to solicit funds for our medical and educational work. Many interesting experiences were told at the end of one day's work. The total collections amounted to Rs 892-8-0.

A splendid programme was given by the College Chorus on the night of the 16th of November. The programme was advertised in many places in Poona, and we had several visitors. The assembly hall was filled to capacity. Credit should be given to Pastor E. L. Sorenson for his able leadership.

## UPLIFT CAMPAIGN—1948

IT IS time to prepare the folder for next year. Only a few fresh pictures are in hand. If you have any that are suitable, please send them in at once. When cuts have been made the prints will be returned to you if you want the pictures back.

Several requests have been received for the list of donors which was published for several years. If names are sent to us we will publish the list again.

The co-operation of the worker is solicited on the following points:

Send names according to the amount given. List all donations of Rs. 100/- (for example) together. Names for amounts less than Rs. 25/- should not be sent in.

As far as possible list the names alphabetically under each amount; for example,

|        |        |
|--------|--------|
| Able   | Rs 100 |
| Brown  | Rs 100 |
| Sears  | Rs 100 |
| Ayres  | Rs 50  |
| Wayne  | Rs 50  |
| Beadon | Rs 25  |
| Jones  | Rs 25  |

Unless workers can co-operate in arranging their individual lists in this way, it may not be possible to issue the list. Too much time would be required to edit and get it in shape for the compositors.

As far as possible, send lists typed and double spaced with at least four spaces between amounts.

L. C. Shepard,  
Uplift Secretary.

## Eastern Tidings

Official Organ of the  
SOUTHERN ASIA DIVISION  
of the General Conference  
of Seventh-day Adventists

EDITOR MRS. A. F. TARR

|              |                           |
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| C. A. HART   | Asst. Secretary-Treasurer |
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# GLEANINGS

## DECEMBER 27, 1947

E. D. Thomas

From the Fall Council at Grand Rapids, Elder A. L. Ham writes under date of November 19 that he and Sister Ham expected to sail from San Francisco in a few days' time. With them on the boat are likely to be: Pastor and Sister F. E. Sless and son, Billy; Pastor and Sister E. A. Crane, Miss Emma Lehman, and Brother and Sister Crossball.

\* \* \*

The sad word has come of the death of Pastor G. B. Hoag's mother after many months of suffering. The sympathy of TIDINGS' readers will be extended to Brother and Sister Hoag in their bereavement. But with that sympathy is the joyful hope of a glad reunion in the now not distant future. Brother and Sister Hoag are endeavouring to reach San Francisco in time to sail on the boat bringing Elder Ham and party.

\* \* \*

Welcome to Pastor and Sister R. J. Borrowdale and Brother and Sister Weldon Mattison on their return to India; Brother and Sister Borrowdale for a further term of service, and Brother and Sister Mattison for their first term, though India is by no means a new country to Brother Mattison.

\* \* \*

Elder E. M. Meleen has returned to Poona after his visit to Burma, and a subsequent trip with Elders Skau, Ashlock and Lange, to the Lushai Hills.

\* \* \*

A telegram tells of the arrival at Cochin on November 22 of Mrs. Bertha Lowry, returning to India for another period of service. Mrs. Lowry will be greatly welcomed by her many friends and fellow-workers, and by the staff and students at Spicer Missionary College.

\* \* \*

The work in China is onward although there are many hardships that our workers and believers are having to face in that great land. Welcome word comes from the president, W. H. Branson, in a letter to A. F. Tarr. Pastor Branson writes:

"This year has been a year of reconstruction with us in China. We have done something in evangelism, but the energies and time of most of our staff in China have been consumed in rebuilding and re-equipping our institutions and churches. While the funds granted us for this rehabilitation work have not been nearly enough, yet, as we look back over the year, we can see that great strides have been taken.

"Our sanitariums at Mukden, Manchuria and Hankow are in operation again. The repairs are not complete but should be by the end of the year. The Shanghai sanitarium is to be re-

THIS is a red-letter day for the Southern Asia Division. The overflow Sabbath school offering taken on this day throughout the world field has been assigned to our Division. We have by articles and stories in our periodicals and letters to friends and church elders, placed our need for a hospital in Burma. Different ones have written to us that they have been working hard to arouse the interest of our people in the States and elsewhere in our Burma medical work.

Rs. 3,415-14-0 was the largest Thirteenth Sabbath Offering ever raised in the Southern Asia Division. This sum was raised in the third quarter of 1945, for building churches, chapels, and workers' homes. At this time our people in Burma were not in touch with us because of war. We received from the General Conference as overflow offering for that quarter, Rs. 1,00,099-2-0. Because of these liberal gifts, it was made possible for us to meet some of our urgent needs along this line.

While our people throughout the world-field will be sacrificing on our behalf on the last Sabbath of this quarter to raise the largest Thirteenth Sabbath Offering they have ever raised, we should also do our best. The Sabbath School Department, in consultation with the Treasury Department, feels that we should raise at least 50 per cent more than we did in 1945. The following goals have accordingly been set for the different fields:

|                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Burma           | Rs. 550   |
| Ceylon          | 450       |
| Northeast India | 1,200     |
| Northwest India | 1,200     |
| South India     | 1,200     |
| Western India   | 1,000     |
| Total           | Rs. 5,600 |

We understand that the Bangalore church has definitely pledged to raise Rs. 450 as their Thirteenth Sabbath Offering. We are confident that our other Sabbath schools will follow the noble example set by this sister Sabbath school and rise up to the situation and raise the goal set for the Division.

opened on January 1. By that time it should be restored to a first class condition. Due to the cost of building, the repairs on this and many other institutions and homes have been greater in U. S. dollars than they originally cost.

"New medical city offices have been opened in Shanghai and are in operation. Most of our homes for foreign workers have been repaired and we are making good progress in repairing and rebuilding our native workers' homes. Many of our churches have been rebuilt or repaired and are in use again. Others are waiting until more funds are made available. Our college has opened in temporary quarters with an enrolment of three hundred or more. We are already beginning to rebuild the plant that was entirely destroyed.

"Our Signs Press has been re-equipped and is in full operation and our large Middle School at Hongkong has been reopened. UNRRA has helped us a great deal.

"Because of the inflation which becomes worse daily, we are having a most difficult time. Just this last month living costs in China have doubled. We simply cannot keep up with it.

"The rate of exchange today on the black market is around 85,000 Chinese dollars to one American dollar. A few years ago it was only 2 to 1. When we arrived here on the 19th of last December, it was about 4,000 to one.

"Next year, we hope to have our rehabilitation work so far along that we can give our attention largely to evangelism and building up our ministry.

"Our radio work is developing rapidly as is our Bible Correspondence School. Thousands of enrolments are pouring in and already some have been baptized from the work of this department. We expect great things from this branch of our work.

"We plan on a large institute in January in connection with our Biennial Council. Following that will come our union sessions, then we hope to line up the entire working force for public efforts all over China. Our baptisms have been quite good this year considering conditions, but we hope for much greater results another year."

\* \* \*

"DO not become overwhelmed with the great amount of work you must do in your lifetime, for you are not required to do it all at once. Remember that you are to live but one day at a time."—"Youth's Instructor," January 5, 1893, by Mrs. E. G. White.

\* \* \*

*Like a house without a dooryard,  
Like a yard without a flower,  
Like a clock without a mainspring  
That will never tell the hour;  
A thing that always makes you feel  
A hunger, all the while;  
The saddest sight that ever was  
Is a face without a smile.*

—Author Unknown.