

# INDIA UNION TIDINGS

VOL. 12

LUCKNOW, INDIA, March 1, 1917

No. 4

## At the North India General Meeting

The annual general meeting of North India Mission was held at Najibabad, February 15-20. About forty of our Indian workers and believers were present, besides the foreign workers con-

One very encouraging feature of the recent meeting was the fact that it was conducted almost exclusively in Urdu. There was very little interpreting done except in the meetings in which the writer was the speaker. Brother F. H. Looby gave a series of historical studies



ANNFIELD SCHOOL—1915  
SCHOOL OPENS THIS YEAR, MARCH 18TH

nected with this mission. The North India Mission as it is now comprised includes the stations at Najibabad, Garhwal, Rae Bareilly, and Chuharkana, where the work is directly for the Indian people; and the churches at Lucknow, Simla, and Mussooree, where the work is carried on chiefly in English.

on the rise and progress of the Advent movement. Brother C. C. Belgrave spoke each day on the prophecies of Revelation and also acted as interpreter when needed. Pastor S. A. Wellman gave some talks on the message and conducted the ordinances of the Lord's Supper and baptism. Brother Mattison took up the

subject of the prophetic gift in a series of studies. The writer spoke several times on practical subjects bearing on the work of the ministry.

The programme also included daily devotional meetings, and an hour for the discussion of methods of work or some kindred topic. Dr. Mann was present in the interests of the medical department of the work.

A good interest was taken in all the meetings. Many non-Christians were in attendance also, showing that the efforts of the Najibabad Mission staff are awakening an interest in the district. At some of the meetings a number of the leading Mohammedans of the town were present. A young Mohammedan publicly confessed Christ before these men in one of the testimony meetings. This was a bold step, and drew exclamations of astonishment from some of the visitors. This man is now openly identifying himself with God's people, whom, we trust, will remember him in prayer, asking that the Lord give him an effectual faith in Christ Jesus and protect him from the wrath of the enemy.

Three persons were baptised the last day of the meeting. It was decided to organise a North India Mission church, to include in its membership all the workers and Indian believers outside the churches at Lucknow, Simla, and Mussooree. The new church was organised with twenty-eight members. Brother Mattison was chosen elder, and Brethren Morris, Belgrave, and Loasby as deacons. It is hoped that by the time another general meeting comes round in this mission, we will be able to organise churches at some of the stations whose membership is now included in the general church.

At an evening meeting a very appreciative farewell was extended to Brother and Sister Wellman, who are about to go home on furlough, and who have been

leading out in the work of this Mission during the past biennial term.

The Message is beginning to take firm root among the people of North India. Although the growth is as yet small, we believe the future will show that God is ready to work on behalf of this needy field.

W. W. FLETCHER.

### The Morning Watch

For this year's study, the Psalms have been appointed, and day by day the readers are being brought into new contact with the beauties of this book of praise. Many have already commenced this serial study and express their delight in the "treasures, new and old," brought forth from its storehouse. If you have not already commenced, order a Morning Watch Calendar before the stock is exhausted.

### From Small Beginnings

The first Sabbath-school in India was organized in 1896 on Bow Bazar Street, in Calcutta, with Pastor D. A. Robinson as Superintendent and Sister. Quantock as Secretary. The membership was composed of the mission family and a few who had begun to keep the Sabbath as a result of Brother Robinson's public lectures. God has blessed that small beginning and now there are 23 schools with a total membership of 797.

### Home Missionary Reports

sent to the Lucknow office should not be addressed to the Secretary personally but as follows: Home Missionary Secretary, 17 Abbott Road, Lucknow.

### "Best Stories"

Will all kindly note that the Rs. 1-12 "Best Stories From the Best Book" is no longer in print, a better bound book at Rs. 2-8 having been substituted.

## Methods of Work for Women in India

(Concluded)

A question that is often asked by those working for Mohammedans is, What about introducing those terms in the Bible which are so hateful and abhorrent to Mohammedans? I have always found it safest at first to work on the lines of least resistance, even going so far as to pass over such terms when no principle is involved. Then I have found that Christian love and tenderness bring about such a precious tie that after a few months, words and phrases which would have caused bitterness and enmity are received quite readily and without the slightest objection, so that in the end one gains one's objective without awaking such hatred and bitterness which is often never quenched.

### Secular Instruction

The question has arisen as to what secular instruction should be given in zenanas. I have found very few homes if any, where the people would call for Bible study alone. On the contrary, they would very much prefer you not to teach the Bible at all. But they are very anxious to acquire knowledge, and through that an opening is gained in many homes. I make it a rule for them to learn to read in their mother tongue so that they can read the Gospel for themselves. But in the higher families where they can already read, a little English or elementary Persian always proves a drawing power, and when once you gain an entrance in the home you can teach them to love the Bible. I have homes where if they did not strongly object, they were absolutely indifferent to the Gospel, and now they will eagerly have the Gospel even when too ill to have their secular lesson. The maulvi class are difficult to reach, but as I was coming away to conference, one well-known maulvi's daughter said to me,

"Miss Sahib, I don't begrudge so much losing my lessons, but oh, I do begrudge losing the Gospel."

### Unpromising Readers

One difficulty often arises. What about utterly unpromising readers? I would say, Have no compunction whatever in giving them up. This certainly was not my policy when I first began, but it is now, and after giving the reader the whole Gospel, if her heart remains untouched, we must pass it on to others, break up new ground, enter new territory, otherwise the work would stagnate. I have found it well on having a new call to go once or twice to the house, try and find out whether they are responsive to the Gospel or not before making a definite promise of continuing the visits.

### A Definite Goal

Have a definite daily goal. Never be contented to give a Bible lesson because that is the reason you are in the country; but let it be a real, live message. Do not let them go till they have a blessing and are nearer the kingdom.

Never be in a hurry. Even if you are, don't show it. Nothing paralyzes the Indian mind so much as hurry. Your whole day's work may be nullified and prove a failure if you get into an impatient hurry, trying to gain lost time. Rather upset all your own private arrangements than miss the goal of your day's work in the homes of your women.

### Prayer and Patience

One precious talisman I would recommend to all, and that is patience. Infinite, tender patience; it ever wins out. The hardest, most distracting days can be rendered sweet, harmonious, even victorious, by keeping resolutely patient and gentle whatever may arise.

Before closing I would mention unceasing prayer. Bring before the loving

heavenly Father each of your readers or pupils by name, presenting their case and their needs. Do not pray for them as a whole, but pray for each, for God knows each by name. It takes a long time. I find it generally takes about an hour, but, oh, it is worth it, and I believe, it is perhaps the best spent hour of the day. Three times a day I try to hold them up to God. Then you must let them know it, for it brings a very tender tie and helps them to realise that you bear a perpetual burden on your heart for them even in your own home.

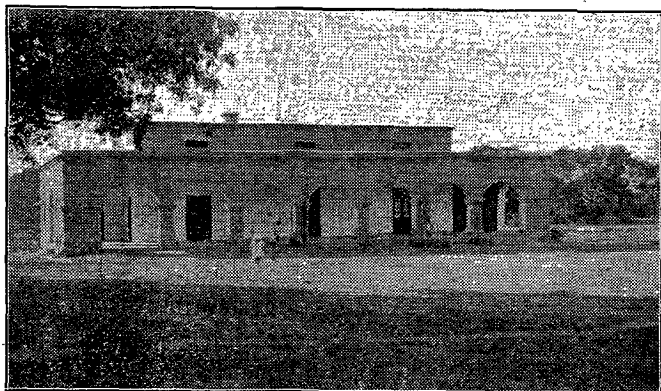
#### The Motive Force

Let love, Christ's love, be the mainspring of every action. Before I left England I made a vow that love was to be the ruling motive of my life in my work for the women of India and I prayed earnestly on entering this country that if ever my heart grew hard or that I should be tempted to dominate or in any way look down upon even the lowliest of these people that God would remove me from the country and save me from being a hindrance and a stumbling block to the gospel.

#### Results

I do not want to do all the talking for I am longing to get help, and light from others, but I feel that I have barely touched the subject and there is so much left yet to be said. There is only one thing I would say before closing. I have mentioned many plans and methods which I have been carrying into practice for some time now and it is only natural that people before taking hints and adopting any of them should say,—But what results have you had? I realise it is due to God's help and love alone that I can say, Yes, I have had results, both visible

and invisible. As many of you know, souls for whom I had agonized and laboured and were ready to come out and witness for Christ have been p'unged back again into the darkened depths of Mohammedanism because we had no converts' home, no place where they could be cared for. The last woman to whom I have been clinging desperately in the hope that our women's home would soon be ready, by stress of circumstances brought to bear upon her, was swept from my grasp only a short while before coming to conference. It has been per-



BUNGALOW AT NAJIBABAD

haps harder than you can realise to see one soul after another for whom my very vitality has been given, come out into the light, ready to make their stand for Christ, only to be swept into black darkness again because there was no place to put them. But God has saved me from discouragement by giving me a wider view of my work. I have one Mohammedan woman who is a Seventh-day Adventist. She keeps the Sabbath, is looking for a soon-coming Saviour, longs for baptism, and is gradually accepting the principles of our faith all in a simple way to be sure, and yet the principles of our faith are there; and all this on her own initiative. She was never urged to keep the Sabbath or any other points but

from the methods I have mentioned of combining the first and third angels' messages, she has gradually passed on from one point to another and accepted all. In another home they are trying. My heart was gladdened one day by hearing a little girl say, "Miss Sahib, we keep the Sabbath in our home." This is a Mohammedan home. In many, many of my homes, I can see the blessed results—the Gospel Spirit is working. Here one woman is struggling against untruth, there another is trying to subdue temper, and so it goes on, and you will understand what it means when these people who have as uperficial idea of sin turn right around and try for Jesus' sake to conquer it. I believe nearly all my women are looking forward with joy to the soon-coming of the Saviour, and though they are still bound in many fetters of darkness and superstition yet He who queneth not the smoking flax is able to save them to the uttermost, and will not cast them out when He cometh in His kingdom.

Dear sisters, let us join together in a noble band to save these, our sisters who sit in darkness and the shadow of death. Let us be as the meat-offering which was consumed. Let us be wholly consumed in the service of God and these our sisters.

VERA CHILTON.

### Reviewing the Past

As the year 1916 with its varied experiences has now passed, one naturally pauses for a moment to recount the blessings which have been bestowed upon his labours by the hand of a loving Father.

We can and should profit by the mistakes of the past and make them stepping-stones to victory.

Gratitude to God fills our hearts as we review the thirteen months' work in this

land, for His blessing has in a marked manner been added to the humble efforts put forth to disseminate the message-laden literature among India's millions.

Although ours is the work of seed sowing, yet by the eye of faith we look to the ingathering of God's people and believe that when that company stand around the great white throne and the sowers and reapers rejoice together, we, if faithful, shall have a part with them. Believing His promises, we sow the seed and leave the results with Him who rewards every man according to his work.

While statistics are dry to some folk, they are appreciated by others, therefore I give the following figures which serve to show what has been accomplished in the Bombay Presidency during the period mentioned before. Hours travelling, 336½; hours canvassing, 1,150½; calls made where the book could not be exhibited, 175; canvasses given, 2,095; orders secured, 1,038; total value of orders, Rs. 8,486-4; of this amount Rs. 1,126-8 was received in deposits. 843 of the orders secured have been delivered while others are for a future date. 53¾ per cent of these books were delivered to non-Christians. It is true that we cannot measure the gospel work by rupees and figures, nevertheless by them we may see that the time and efforts have not been spent in vain.

Before ever the first denominational tract was written, God's servant saw in vision that the rays of light from the publishing work were like the rays of the morning sun, which extended until they shone around the earth. The colporteurs in India are praying for that day to come, and we expect soon to see it too. God has abundantly blessed us during our first year in the Orient, and to His name do we ascribe praise. Will you not remember the colporteurs in your daily devotions?

W. H. STEVENS.

## A Visit to Pitcairn Island

From the Australasian Record

A passenger by the *Ruahine*, Mr. J. B. Kattern, of Bowen Hills, sends us the following interesting account of a visit to Pitcairn Island, on Sunday, November 26:

"We sighted land at 5 A. M. Through the dim morning light a dark patch stood out against the sky—the Pitcairn Island of Bounty fame. Tropical showers shut out our view of the island at times, but at 6.30 we breasted the shore, and the hoarse roar of the steamer's whistle acquainted the inhabitants of our approach. A rocky coast-line revealed itself, against which the Pacific Ocean breaks in clouds of spray. There is practically only one landing place, and that lies within the shelter of a small reef. Deep water is everywhere, and our good ship was anchored about a mile from the shore. Soon we saw a couple of surf boats being pulled out from a gap alongside the reef, against which every now and again the huge rollers thundered and broke.

"After a strenuous pull these boats were made fast to the steamer, and the islanders, including two of their women-folk, came aboard and started trading. They proved to be a sturdy, weather-beaten lot, and the women were soon besieged by the lady passengers. The latter had made up many parcels for distribution among the islanders, which gifts were gratefully accepted. About 8 o'clock the boats pulled back to the island taking with them the captain and several passengers, including myself and three other returning soldiers. We made safe landing, though many of us were thoroughly soaked by a heavy tropical shower. Anyhow, we all scrambled ashore, and the first thing we did was to have a look at the schooner which the natives are building for themselves. This schooner

is forty-five feet long with a fifteen foot beam and is built on good lines. The timber was all cut and hand-worked on the job. The little vessel is a credit to the builders, and should prove of great service in relieving the monotony of island life, as the natives anticipate being able to run to Tahiti, which lies one thousand miles distant, and so carry on a little necessary trade. After finishing our inspection of the schooner we went to the boat-sheds and in one we saw the life-boat presented by Queen Victoria to the Pitcairn Islanders. The boat is still good and serviceable, and is reserved for special duties, such as rescue work, etc.

"Making our way under the able guidance of Mr. Adams, who is the Seventh-day Adventist missionary to the island, we scrambled up a very steep and muddy track to the village, where we were met by the people and cordially greeted. All were delighted to see strange faces and have a chat with us about the outside world. To these innocent folk the news we brought proved very welcome and exciting, especially that from those of us who had been to the front, and were able to give a short history of the war. Proceeding on, we were invited by Mr. Adams to enter his house, where we were met by Mrs. Adams, who, like her husband, is by birth Australian. Both minister to the spiritual as well as the bodily needs of the inhabitants.

"The total number on the island is eighty-seven females and seventy-seven males. Mrs. Adams made us very welcome and gave us a short history of all the happenings in island life, besides regaling us with delicious fruit which the island grows in abundance and which all enjoyed immensely. As our time was limited we had to make a very hurried inspection. Everywhere we noticed the utmost cleanliness.

(To be concluded in next issue)

## The Forum

### How to Reach Hindu Children

I. *Point of Contact.*—There are differences between Hindu children and Christian children and the contrast in the homes and religious life of the two groups is constantly confronting us, but we must forget differences and remember that there are certain ways to appeal to all children. Whether they be Christian or Hindu certain things appeal and those we must use to establish a happy relationship with Hindu children and their homes.

1st.—Find out what the children are playing and play with them.

2nd.—Teach simple songs with much repetition of words and possible actions in them.

3rd.—Tell stories of various kinds until you know what appeals to the children.

4th.—Do something with them which makes them use their hands and minds.

II. *Cooperation in Work and Play.* Sermons make almost no impression on children but do something *with* them or play *with* them and they will never forget it but keep asking for more. Many a little Hindu girl is sitting by the roadside building a house in the sand or making cooking vessels out of clay or piling up little stones and berries to play selling in a bazar. Sit down and play with her and she greets you as a friend. Boys like fair play and if someone joins with them and helps them to play together an element of respect and cooperation is established at once.

The chance to talk, to tell stories and sing songs comes after this cooperation is established. Find out what the children are thinking about, tell stories first which will picture incidents in their own life, making them feel that they are

understood. Then lead on to stories with a moral, but *do not preach a sermon on the moral* at the end. If the story is well told it will preach its own sermon better than you can.

Tell Bible stories in such a way as to create admiration, courage, love, and joy in the children, but not to make them laugh and think the Bible is just a book of funny stories.

III. *Pictures and Booklets.*—These are great aids in reaching children because a picture, especially if it is coloured, has a great fascination for the little people. Much evangelistic work can be done by showing Bible pictures and talking about them, but there again poor pictures or original drawings very crudely made, which only create a laugh, are harmful in their effect. Good pictures wisely used create a wonder and interest which lead to real belief.

All children at a certain age are eager to learn to read. Some never lose the desire and attractive pamphlets written in simple language tell the story of Jesus far and wide. Gather groups of children together and read to them.

IV. *Forming Ideals.*—Do not condemn Hindu parents to their children. Take the temptations which come to every child and show how Jesus helps you and me to meet them. Emphasize one thing at a time in story and game such as obedience, helpfulness, courage, honesty. Tell the story of Jesus as a wonderful secret that you want to tell and not as a challenge to everything they have heard before.

V. *What to do now.*—

1. Get acquainted with all the Hindu children on your street and know them by name.
2. Play games with them every evening and then tell them a story when they want to sit down and rest.

(Concluded on page 8)

# India Union Tidings,

ORGAN OF THE  
India Union Mission of Seventh-day Adventists,  
17 Abbott Road, Lucknow

Subscription Price: Rs. 1-8-0 a year

EDITOR: R. D. BRISBIN

## "Copy"

All "copy" intended for publication the 1st of the month should be in the editor's hands promptly on the 23rd of the preceding month. "Copy" for the issue of the 15th should be received by the editor not later than the 8th of the same month. Matter received later than these dates will be held over until the next issue. Hand-written or double-spaced type-written "copy" will be gladly received, but *single-spaced type-written manuscript we can not use.*

## How to Reach Hindu Children

(Concluded from page 7)

3. Invite them and take them yourself to some meeting or class where Christian children are taking part.
4. Keep up your interest and go to see any sick child or any child that is staying away.
5. Practise every sermon that you preach.
6. If you are conducting a Sunday School class for Hindu girls or boys use all methods for creating interest and impressing the lesson that you would before an Inspector or Inspector in your daily teaching. Whenever possible introduce some hand-work, such as paper cutting or drawing, to illustrate the lesson and let each child take home what he has done.
7. For memory work teach the children groups of verses with some central thought rather than many individual unconnected verses which have no meaning to the child.—*Miss G. E. Chandler in United Church Herald.*

## Did You Know

There are 35,285 miles of railway in India.

That in 1914, 76,590 people died of smallpox in the Indian Empire; 280,730 of cholera; 4,092,459 of fevers; 278,225 of dysentery; 266,474 of plague; and 260,149 of respiratory diseases?

That in India and Burma there are:—

Hindus,	217,337,943
Sikhs,	3,014,466
Jains,	1,248,182
Buddhists,	10,721,453
Zoroastrians,	100,096
Mohammedans,	66,664,299
Christians,	3,876,203
Jews,	20,980
Demon Worshippers,	10,295,168

That of the 315,156,396 people in the Indian Empire only 16,938,815 men and 1,600,763 women are literate in one of the vernaculars; and 1,518,316 men and 152,026 women literate in English

## Here and There

Out of town visitors in Lucknow recently, were,—Pastors Burgess and Pettit, Drs. Menkel and Mann, and Brother M. M. Mattison, who attended the Union Committee Meeting held from the 21-26 of February.

Brother and Sister F. A. Wyman recently stopped at Lucknow over night while on their way to Mussooree.

Pastor Fletcher left Lucknow for Mussooree with his family, March 1st. Mrs. Fletcher will remain in the hills during the absence of Brother Fletcher in China.

We are very sorry to learn that Sister M. D. Wood is in poor health on account of her heavy responsibilities of the past year or more. This leaves Kalyan with no one to carry on, as Miss Reid has gone on furlough. We pray that God will impress some of our many workers in the homeland to come over and help us in the Bombay Presidency, and come quickly. India has been sadly depleted of workers lately and few have come to take their places.

Judging from reports we hear, an excellent meeting was enjoyed at Najibabad.

Pastor Wellman and family left Lucknow February 26th for Colombo. They go via Bombay and will visit some of our mission stations en route to the coast.