

INDIA UNION TIDINGS

VOL. 13

LUCKNOW, INDIA, April 15, 1918

NO. 8

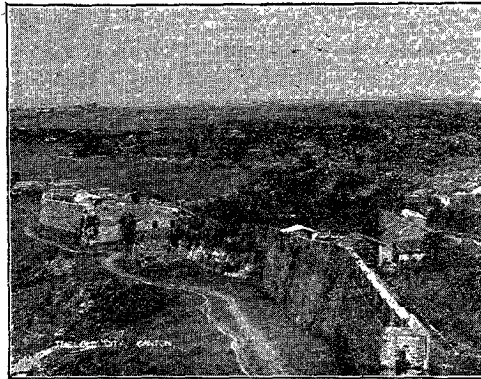
Division Conference Council at Shanghai

On my way over from India to Shanghai to attend the annual meeting of the Asiatic Division Conference Committee, I was glad of the opportunity to spend some days at Singapore. I laboured in the Singapore Mission from 1906 to 1911, and it was a great pleasure to me to meet again the church in that place, and to find the believers still holding on faithfully to the truth. The cause has grown in Singapore since the time I was there, and the work has been greatly strengthened throughout the whole Malaysian field. The Malaysian Union council was being held at the time we were in Singapore, and we were glad to meet the brethren from Java, Sumatra, Borneo, and the Federated Malay States, earnest missionaries who are devotedly persevering in the endeavour to bring the gospel of Christ before the needy peoples of these interesting lands. I was particularly interested in the tidings of substantial advancement made in Borneo, where the message seems to be gaining a good foothold.

My eldest brother is a resident of Singapore, being engaged in business there. I was glad to be able to spend a few days with him again after a separation of some years. Since we last met he has fully accepted the present truth, and I was much encouraged to see the earnest interest he

now takes in the work of the church and the Sabbath-school, of which he is the superintendent. He is also acting temporarily as secretary and treasurer for the mission, pending the arrival of a man from America to take charge of that work.

After a very rough passage we reached Hong Kong in the latter part of January. While waiting for the Shanghai boat we visited the mission training school near Canton, and I had the privilege of speaking (through an interpreter) to the church in Canton city on the Sabbath.



CANTON, CHINA

The principal work of the Division Conference Committee at the meeting just held has been to consider the needs of the whole Asiatic field, to give careful study to the calls for men and means from the various unions, before finally passing them on to the Foreign

Mission Board. The work in Asia has now grown to such proportions that about half a million dollars (gold currency) are needed to cover the operations of a single year, if the additional workers called for are to be granted, and advance moves made in the many places where special opportunities offer. The demands of the work are becoming so great that responsibilities must be borne more and more by the believers in Asia. We must do our utmost in these lands to help on the great

work. I was interested in a report presented by Pastor R. F. Cottrell, secretary of the Sabbath-school department, showing the extent to which the believers in various parts of the field had been able to help the cause through the Sabbath-school offerings. The following is a statement showing the average a week for each church member in the different unions for the year 1917.

Name of field	Average a week, in U. S. currency
Malaysia079
India and Burma077
Australasia073
Japan06
China033
Korea and Manchuria017
Phillipine Islands015

Let us hope that our Sabbath-schools in India will continue to be forward in this good work.

During the council Professor Prescott conducted a very helpful series of Bible studies. The person and work of Christ, and the righteousness that comes through faith in Him constituted the central theme in all these studies. Brother Prescott will remain in the Asiatic field for some time conducting special meetings for the workers at various centres.

I am just about to sail for San Francisco to attend the forthcoming session of the General Conference. I would ask for the prayers of the readers of the TIDINGS for the success of that meeting, and also that during my visit to America I may be able to present the great needs of the India Union Mission in a way that will impress the hearts and minds of the Lord's people. Let us pray that the Master of the harvest will send forth labourers into the waiting fields.

W. W. FLETCHER.

Medical Work in Bombay

It was voted at our last Union Committee meeting in 1917 that an opening should be made in the city of Bombay with our medical work. The beginning of this was to be small, with as little expense as possible, until it was evident that Bombay would be a desirable place for the permanent opening of this branch of our efforts.

Beginning with January 1st, Mrs. Kimble and I made our first attempt to get acquainted with those who were ill and wanted treatment. This, one will realize, was no small undertaking, for in Bombay, as in all large cities, there are always a large number of doctors and scores of others who are extending their services to the ill. Regardless of this we went forward, trusting in our great Leader who has promised His support if we will only go. Our equipment was small, consisting of a few fomentation cloths, kindly lent by Sister Wood, massage cream, and an improvised photo-

phore, which could only be used where electricity was in the home.

The first treatment was given by Mrs. Kimble to a lady who had been suffering for a number of years with rheumatism. She was acquainted with our treatments and glad to find someone who could give them. She had been having fomentations in her home and requested that some other line be given. So with our simple photophore a course of treatments was started. During the month some improvements were noticed, but at the end of the month it was found that our photophore had been duplicated and the good work that had been started was taken over by those in the family. Another patient was put on our list who was suffering from a general infection caused by pyorrhea. He was running a high temperature, and most of his joints were swollen and inflamed. He had been in this condition for several months

when we met him, and he was a most discouraging sight. He had treatments for several weeks. When I left him he was able to walk three to five miles a day. Still other patients came and we were kept busy day by day. Our patients have been from among the English, Parsis, and Indian peoples. Her Highness the Maharani Saheba of Baroda was among these.

The value of treatments given during our first three months up to April 1 was over Rs. 1050. Aside from the patients who have had treatments there are at least ten who are ready to take treatments as soon as we equip a place and can give some of the more vigorous kind. The electric light bath, hot and cold spray, electric tub baths, and the various other electrical treatments, are what they are wanting.

them for himself and three were left with me to be mailed to a friend in Persia. I told him about the medical work we were soon to open in Bombay, and the great good this work was doing in other parts of India. With interest beaming from his eyes he moved a bit closer to me and said, "I would like to give you a little gift for your medical work." This, I told him, I would be glad to accept. I made an appointment to meet him later in the day at the hall. I was there at the appointed time and after waiting a little an automobile drove up, the door opened and this gentleman hurriedly came in the hall, handed me a check and left almost before I could thank him in a polite way. I did not have time to read the amount while he was there but when my eyes glanced on the amount

"There is no limit to the usefulness of one who, putting self aside, makes room for the working of the Holy Spirit upon his heart, and lives a life wholly consecrated to God. All who consecrate body, soul, and spirit to this service will be constantly receiving a new endowment of physical, mental, and spiritual power."—*Ministry of Healing*, p. 159.

We are asked nearly every day when we will be ready to give these treatments. Surely Bombay has thrown its doors wide open for the reception of this branch of our work.

It was but a few days after we arrived in Bombay that Mrs. Kimble and myself were unpacking some boxes in our church hall when a young man came in. I walked up to the front of the hall to meet him and found he was looking for the book "Daniel and Revelation." He said he had had one about three years ago; had read it through, and then lost it. Since then he had been telling others about the good reading that was in it, but he was unable to remember all and he wanted to get another. After having a little talk together on the prophecies he bought seven of our books, four of

it read, "Please pay the sum of Rs. 450" etc. It was not only a surprise but a source of great encouragement to Mrs. Kimble and me. With Brother and Sister Pettit we sought God in prayer, thanking Him for his goodness and mercy to us.

Aside from this sum of Rs. 450 we have been able to secure from others who are interested in our medical work enough to make a total of Rs. 1000. Here again we thank our heavenly Father for all, for it is not any merit of ours; He has only used us, His weak instruments.

Surely the time has come when a good work can be started in this city. The cry is to be heard on every side, "Come to Bombay." There are few as good openings in India.

We have had many interesting experien-

ces since coming here. We feel that God has surely blessed the efforts put forth, and we are glad for a part in His service

R. L. KIMBLE.

The Manmad Mission Station

The workers at the Manmad station are like Tommy Atkins, still "on top and smiling." We have made a slight advance over the quarter ending December, 1917; so we feel free to state our case before the brethren in the form of this report, asking you to be sure and allot us a portion of your good wishes for next quarter.

Beginning with January, 1918, we held a series of workers' meetings for five days a week, totalling altogether 60 readings. These sermons and studies were given on such special points as seemed to me would be the most helpful in preparing the men for village work. The meetings were conducted in the vernacular, of course, and I believe they will be helpful to the men, both preachers and canvassers.

In addition to what we might call "fundamental truths," and the study of eschatology, we delved quite a little into the prophecies. While I feel at present (though future experience may cause me to change my opinion), that dates, battles, and the demise of glorified kings is more liable to be husks than meat to the average native worker, still we tried to present portions of Daniel and Revelation in an attractive light. We treated them more as supplements to broad lines of doctrine than as a filling out of certain prescriptions in the form of various diagrams. The "truth of the fourth beast" and the "great red dragon" with the "great whore," were treated purely as questions involving the Sabbath truth in all its suggestiveness; it was an attempt to trace a uniform principle, and not a compilation of various popes and kings with dates marking their entrance and exit on the world stage. And I felt that it was worth the effort, for Thombre, the new worker, was visited by the native

pastor of the C. M. S. church, with various followers, and subjected to a cross-examination on the Sabbath question. Instead of having a protracted argument involving the merits of various texts, he took his Bible and confronted them with Rev. 17—apostate Protestantism—with the denial of God's Sabbath. The men were so unprepared for such a line of thought that they left him with the convincing (?) argument that he should not join the Adventists, because they were few in number!

Last quarter we reported literature sales to the value of Rs. 125-7. This quarter we are pleased to report Rs. 367-15-9, an increase of Rs. 242-8-9. Whereas Peter Shindi sold Rs. 115-7-0 worth last quarter, this quarter he has sold Rs. 202, an increase for him of Rs. 76-9-0. I began a new man to sell with Peter on the Manmad station platform on January 19th; so his quarter is somewhat short. Still, he sold Rs. 165-15-9 worth. Of free literature, 1151 pages were distributed.

Our annual offering for four people was Rs. 10-8, and Sabbath-school offerings from the same number totalled Rs. 18-11-9. And, while I realize that the amounts are woefully small, yet it's a beginning; the work is young; and we are hopeful that "the child is father to the man," and time and Providence will work with us. We now have one worker beginning to give his entire time to village preaching.

ROLLAND E. LOASBY.

"Doctrines are of use only as they are practised. Men may go to perdition with their heads full of truth. To hold the truth and fight for it is one thing. To be sanctified through it is another."

Bombay Presidency

For almost five years we have been calling for someone to open work among the Gujarati-speaking people. We are still hoping and praying that God will grant our request and that help will soon be on the ground to follow up the interests already created, for this is a most interesting field and gives promise of being a very fruitful one.

During the closing days of March three persons were buried with their Lord by baptism in the Tapti river at one of the large bathing ghats in the city of Surat. These three, as well as one of our young men from Lucknow, have been looking

the first baptism by immersion known during the past forty years in Surat. The father of one of the men is a well known pioneer, and a minister of the gospel for more than forty years. He attended the service and said it was the first baptism of this nature that he had ever witnessed, but said it seems to meet the requirements of the Bible. I should also state that this man while preaching the gospel has been an honorary pastor of the Irish Presbyterian Church for this forty years and served without pay, choosing to earn his own living and to give his children a liberal education by his own labour.

When to Leave the Cities

As the siege of Jerusalem by the Roman armies was the signal for flight to the Judean Christians, so the assumption of power on the part of our nation (U. S. A.), in the decree enforcing the papal sabbath will be a warning to us. It will then be time to leave the large cities, preparatory to leaving the smaller ones for retired homes in secluded places among the mountains.—*Test. Vol. V, pp. 464,465.* (See also Vol. VII, p. 141.)

forward to the day when they could openly take this stand before their own countrymen. The time seemed ripe for these to be baptized while I was visiting the place, thus leaving the young brother who has been in attendance at the Lucknow school for a later period. We trust that it will not be long before others will follow. By far the largest interest in the Bombay field is to be found in the Gujarat. On the whole they are a very progressive people, and are searching for something they have not yet enjoyed.

Some three hundred persons gathered to witness the scene. I was told that it was

Among the onlookers was another prominent Indian minister who has travelled much in his labour, and at this time was on a tour from Jubbulpore, spending a few days in the Gujarat. He stated that this was the first baptism of this nature he had ever seen. We believe a good impression was made, and we feel that the ones taking this stand will prove faithful, and, under God, will in reality be not only among our "first fruits" here, but will do much to lead others into the light which they enjoy.

We ask an interest in your prayers for this most interesting part of our field. One thing that makes this field progressive is

that compulsory education has been introduced, and the American system of education has been adopted. If we had compul-

sory education all over the Empire much would be done toward preparing India for the Message.
G. W. PETTIT.

Madras

The end of the cool season brings the duty of sending on a report of what has been achieved during the winter in our work for the English-speaking population of Madras. We have held an effort in the Mount Road district but our interest at Vepery, where our hall is located, was not neglected while the special meetings were in progress. At their close, one brother went forward in baptism.

As Madras is a stopping off place for missionaries, coming and going, we have been favoured with the presence of frequent visitors, some of whom have addressed our meetings, and our people have thus received some education on the scope, unity and purpose of the operations we are carrying

forward throughout the world. We were the first in India to welcome Brethren E. M. Meleen and N. L. Peden to this field. The latter, who is still in Madras, is studying Telugu eight hours a day.

The invitation we have received from headquarters to assist in selling *Signs of the Times* is meeting with the approval of our church members, and a beginning has been made. As experience in the art of soliciting orders is gained we shall see development along this line.

In Madras we find open doors everywhere, and we feel the grave responsibility that is upon us to sound the warning to this the largest and most important city of the south.
P. C. POLEY.

Ingathering Service, Malayalam Field

Our first Harvest Ingathering services for this field were held February 27th and 28th and March 1st and 3rd for each company. A small earthen vessel was given to each family about six months ago to put their tithes and offerings in; and on the dates mentioned we held services at each place that all might have opportunity to bring their savings. Before the service, every man and woman came with their pots, also with grains, vegetables, roots and fruits. Then, after the service was over, all the perishable materials were put on auction. The following amounts were realized from the several companies:—

Kolathamal	Rs. 11- 8-0
Vunathakal	12- 3-3
Vaoaodu	5-12-0
Palicokhonam	20-14-0

Total 50- 5-3

The Lord has indeed blessed our people. They have never done so well before. We expect still more at the next ingathering.

As this is our hot season we have not been able to work much during the daytime. Cholera and malaria are very prevalent and I was twice attacked by the fever. As no hospitals were near I had to go four or five miles, and when those in charge knew me to be an Adventist they made me pay more for the medicine.

One of our church members was attacked by cholera but escaped death through prayer. Many deaths have occurred among our neighbours but so far we have been spared.

We are planning to hold open-air lantern lectures in interested places in the near future as Brother Woodward has promised to help with his lantern. We expect some

will soon be ready for baptism. Many are now studying the Bible with us. Pray for these new believers.

E. D. JOSHUA.

Dropping Members from the Church Roll

We now have at Union headquarters a list of all our baptized members in the Mission. By the appearance of some of the lists sent in it would seem that some churches do not know how to deal with their members who have left the vicinity and have not reported.

It should be clearly understood that all who are not active members of the church and those whose whereabouts are not known should not be left on the regular roll of the church, for this not only has a deadening effect on the church itself but also exaggerates our statistics.

But it is not necessary to take a vote of the church and drop these absent members.

As given in "The Church and Its Organization" by J. N. Loughborough: "A better plan is . . . that all members whose address can not be learned should be placed upon what should be known as the "retired list," and not be counted with the other membership of the church. This is done with the understanding that as soon as any of these members are heard from, their names shall be added to the regular list of members, provided they have remained faithful in the truth."

We trust this plan will be inaugurated in each church of the Union that we may soon be able to obtain accurate returns regarding our membership.

If so desired, the church could advise church clerks to take up correspondence with a view to locating "retired" communicants, but first of all let us start the "retired list" and lighten our records of the many "lost, strayed, or stolen" members.

SECRETARY, I. U. M.

It is a conquest when we can lift ourselves above the annoyance of circumstances over which we have no control; but it is a greater victory when we can make those circumstances our helpers, when we can appreciate the good there is in them.—
Lucy Larcom.

Considerable adverse criticism has been going, the rounds of the missionary papers concerning an action of the Standing Committee on Mass Movements of the Representative Council of Missions, which reads as follows:—

"That whereas we must keep before our Christian workers in the *Chamar* Mass Movement area the great danger of the perpetuation of the caste spirit in the Church, and that we should steadily teach our Mass Movement Christians that caste is an evil to be ultimately abolished, we nevertheless feel that the breaking of caste should not be made an indispensable condition of baptism."

Harvest Field rightly remarks, "We believe that those who are so keen to bring the *Chamars* to the feet of Christ are laying up in store for themselves and their successors a heritage of trouble and woe. Those who are familiar with the history of the Roman, Lutheran, and other Churches in South India know the long and stern fight those Churches have fought to eradicate caste, and the end is not yet."—True indeed. We cannot bring down the church to the standard of the world that the world may enter the church.

When Brother Town, the secretary of the General Conference Publishing Department, heard that we might have to cease publication of our good paper, *Signs of the Times and Oriental Watchman*, he wrote, "It seems to me it would be worth while to keep up the paper, even though it may be published at some financial loss. I believe that the Mission could well afford to spend on it what it would cost to sustain one good evangelical worker, because I believe the results of its circulation will be as great or greater than that of any minister in your field." We are very thankful to tell you it is reaching the largest "congregation" of any time in its history. We indeed thank our good brethren and sisters who have made this possible. At a low estimate, about 15,000 persons are getting its monthly messages. Was it not worth the effort?

India Union Tidings,

ORGAN OF THE

India Union Mission of Seventh-day Adventists,
17 Ahhott Road, Lucknow

Subscription Price: Rs. 1 8-0 a year

EDITOR: R. D. BRISBIN

"Copy" for 1st of month should be received by editor by 20th of preceding month. "Copy" for the 15th, by 5th of same month. Single-spaced ms. not acceptable.

Printed and published semi-monthly at and for the International Tract Society, Lucknow, by W. S. Mead. 1345/18

Here and There

"Those who will study the manner of Christ's teaching and educate themselves to follow his way, will attract and hold large numbers now, as Christ held the people in his day."—Vol. 6, p. 57.

It's getting warm again. 102 in the shade in Lucknow before the 1st of April. What will it be in June? But then, sunshine is an antidote for the plague, so we must not long for too much cool weather.

The Editor is collecting all the pamphlets and booklets possible which are being printed by our friends (?) against the Sabbath, the mortality of man, the second advent, etc. He will be glad to receive any additions to this "anti" library.

The General Conference commenced the 29th of March. Wouldn't we like to be there though and meet the delegates from all over the world, and hear the news of progress! And again we wonder if this one will be the last. "For yet a little while, and He that shall come will come, and will not tarry." We all have the privilege of attending that glorious reunion in the New Jerusalem. Courage, brother, it's not many more years in the future.

From Pondicherry comes the news: "We hear that two of our boys who have gone to Basra are doing good work for God. They were once studying in the Coimbatore school. They are not only keeping the Sabbath, but are doing all they can to teach the truth to others. Please do not fail to pray for these boys so far from home and friends."

Four new members have been added to the Tamil-Madras church recently by baptism.

Rs. 1132 has been raised for a church building at Nazareth by the local church members. They have been promised one half the expense by the Union Mission. We wish them every success in this worthy enterprise.

The Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam canvassers are again "going strong." 23 canvassers working 92 weeks altogether sold and took subscriptions amounting to Rs. 389-2-6. Some of them made very good records.

Some of our missionaries are getting very worldly we fear! We hear that one of them has a motorcycle; and reports have it that he is rarely to be found at home. He even visits his preachers and catechists by means of this twentieth century contraption!

The North India general meeting is in progress as we go to press. Nearly all the labourers, Indian and European, are in attendance, also Brethren Blue and Williams and Sister Blue.

"The world will be convinced, not by what the pulpit teaches, but by what the church lives. The minister in the desk announces the theory of the gospel; the practical piety of the church demonstrates its power."—Vol. 7, p. 16.

Notice to Church Elders and Tidings Contributors

Our subscription list has been rapidly diminishing of late. In fact, the list stands at less than 100 at present. Because of this sad state of affairs it does not pay to have the paper printed. We have lately received several pictures for reproduction in the paper, but we hardly feel justified for the expense of having blocks made when our subscription list is so small. We trust our church elders, mission superintendents, and others responsible, will see that our church members are supplied with this very necessary medium of exchange of thought. Please do not delay, but take the matter up at the very earliest opportunity, and send us some good, long lists of subscribers.

Wanted

I want the book, "The Consecrated Way to Christian Perfection" by Jones. Who has a copy that they will sell or exchange?

W. S. MEAD