

INDIA UNION TIDINGS

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For Nation shall rise against Nation,
And Kingdom against Kingdom, And
there shall be Famines, and Pestilences,
and Earthquakes in divers Places



These words of our Saviour are true. The conditions mentioned are becoming more real every day. They indicate that the end is at hand. Ours is the work of pointing to these things as true signs of the end. Do we with equal powers of persuasion and conviction point to Jesus as the only hope? Can we tell of the "hope" as an experience, or only a theory that we believe because we have been taught it? Are we as faithful and true witnesses seeking to save some from the impending doom?

Hapur

It has been some time since a report from North India appeared in the TIDINGS. Glad now to report every one well and at work, even though it is getting warm. Our North India Meeting is in the past, concerning which a report has appeared. Word received from different ones since the meeting indicates that the blessings received during the meeting are being extended to others in the form of better and more fruitful service.

I shall not attempt to report from any of the different stations, but hope to see something from the different ones in charge in the near future. Concerning the work in Hapur, I wish to express our thanks to the Lord for His many blessings to us, and for the evidences He gives us every day that the Truth is taking hold in the lives of our hearers in the villages. At present we are teaching regularly in about twelve different villages. The work seems very slow at times, but as we see different ones grasping the truth and beginning to show signs of development, it encourages us greatly. I feel sure that these people will not be saved by villages or by communities, but as individuals, the same as it has ever been with the growth of the Gospel of Christ. At times when we go into a new village, as many as twenty or thirty families give us their names, stating that they want to become Christians. Gradually these sift down and down till at last we find only five or six who really seem to be in earnest.

At times they seem quite puzzled that we do not baptize them at once as some do. They have heard that to become a Christian means to have their *choti* (everyone knows what a *choti* is, I suppose) cut off and some water poured on their heads. One day a man came to my house, and after talking awhile he asked for some water. I had the bearer bring him some and offered

it to him to drink. Then he told me he wanted it on his head. I had a study with him and explained to him why we could not do so. He seemed to understand and is now learning daily from one of our men, and hopes to be really baptized some day. In this work I often think of different ones that have told me how they desired to be located on a station. I do not say station life is not interesting, but I know positively that there are many who express such a desire and haven't the least idea what it involves. I have found that it sometimes takes more patience than I possess, and nothing less than the love of our Master to deal with the simple villager. When you enter his village, he will listen to you intently and say 'yes' to everything you tell him. After talking to him, or after the Hindustani preacher talks to him for a half hour and asks him different questions about what we are trying to teach him, if he is asked what he would tell another man if he was asked why he wants to be a Christian, he spreads out both hands and with a grin says, "Huzur, jo kuchh ap humko bataen" (Sir, whatever you tell me to say). I have some very interesting experiences, and at times some very delicate cases brought before me for decision. Recently I had the honour to decide whether a certain man should live with his wife or not. I told him that was why I married, and I saw no reason why he shouldn't live with his wife. He made serious complaint that she had a very sharp tongue, but agreed to try again. Glad to say he is still keeping her on, and seems to appreciate my efforts for him.

The man in station life is compelled to live in a foreign element altogether. He seldom hears any English except with the members of his own family. He never has the privilege of joining with others in singing the good old Advent hymns or in wor-

shipping in his own tongue publicly. He is constantly compelled to be giving out to his Indian brethren and to the people with whom he is working, without any privilege of attending any other service where he himself might be refreshed. Of course there is that personal connection with the Heavenly Father which sustains him in it all. I want to request our English brethren and sisters in our different centres to remember our station people at your Prayer Meetings. We greatly need to be remembered. I hope what I have written about station life will not discourage any one, nor give the impression that we do not like such work. There is no work we like so well, and our hope is to spend the rest of our lives in it.

Glad to report the work on our building going well, and we hope to soon have a bungalow and a Girls' school here. Have had quite a time getting bricks for building on account of difficulty in getting coal.

Glad to report our canvassing work going well. We are selling about 5000 each of the Urdu and Hindi magazines each issue and about 3000 of the Gurmukhi. Something over 7000 of the Urdu tract "What will Happen after the War" are gone, out of a 10,000 edition. One 5000 edition of "The King's Dream" has been sold since last July, and we are now printing a second edition. Our new tract, "The Prime Minister's Vision" is now ready and we feel sure that it will have a good sale. These tracts are in Urdu on the second and seventh chapters of Daniel.

One of the best things I know of to give a person a change from their regular work is a day or two in this line of the Lord's work. Almost everyone lives near enough to a bazar where they could sell some papers. I think it is a good plan to always carry some of our magazines or tracts with one when travelling and as opportunity offers sell them. Get permission from the Guards of passenger trains, if you happen to be so unfortunate as to be travelling by

such, to sell in the trains to the Indian passengers. I have had good success in selling papers this way. This week, while in Delhi with one of our boys, it was very clearly demonstrated to me that the people of India are hungry for our literature as they have never been before. On Monday, in less than eight hours, I sold 762 magazines to the Hindus and Mohammedans. Our men who were before the war selling six and eight annas worth of papers per day are now selling two and three rupees worth in the cities. This is not very large compared to what is being done in Europe and the States, but it is very good when we consider that we are selling a two-pice paper. It has done me good to hear of the good success of the other Divisions of our Union in this branch of our work. No one understands how much we need a man in North India to direct our literature work.

The few lines I started to write have developed into quite a lengthy report. We are all of good courage in the work of the Lord in North India. There are at times many things we hardly know how to meet, still we feel confident that the Lord will see to it that His Message triumphs in India, and He will use us to forward the same if we as His servants remain humble and contrite before Him. It has done me good to get word this week from some of our North India people on furlough and to know that their hearts are still here with the work. We need their help and shall welcome them back.

Pray for us and every branch of the work in the North. M. M. MATTISON.

Never say to yourself that your work is too hard; say to yourself instead: 'I will do it so well that the very doing of it will make it easy;' and never forget that the only real way to do your work easily is to do it well. Never pity yourself. Self-pity begins a sickness of the soul from which few recover.

The Message in Mesopotamia

On account of the proximity of this field to India I am sure the readers of TIDINGS will be glad to hear "good tidings" of the Message from Mesopotamia.

From the "European Division Review" an organ of the European Division Conference I cull some of these items.

Elder Isaac of Egypt left Port Said at the end of June, 1913, to make an extended visit to Mesopotamia to learn at first hand the needs of that land, and to organize the field. He spent a number of months in Basrah, Baghdad, and Mosul, and several days at the ancient city of Babylon, which is two days' travel by horse from Baghdad. At different times he narrowly escaped death from the Arabs, who knew he was a Christian and wanted him out of the way. At one time they led him up into one of the towers of a mosque to show him the country, and then locked him in and tried to take his life. God on this occasion had sent His angel as in the day when Daniel in this very land was delivered and protected.

He says the city of Baghdad in 1913 had a population of 150,000, one-third of which were Jews, ten thousand were Christians consisting of Chaldeans, Jacobites, Armenians etc. The Protestant community at this time was very small.

While in Baghdad he met Brother Hasso, a faithful representative of the Message who had been witnessing for it in Baghdad, Basrah and Mosul. Brother Hasso is a graduate of the University of Chemistry of Beirut and at that time was serving in the Church Mission Hospital at Baghdad. He reports some interest among the business men of these three leading cities of Mesopotamia. He adds that Mosul is a large city on the edge of the ancient city of Nineveh. It took twenty-one days to reach this place by horse from Baghdad.

Brother Isaac states that it had been planned for Brother Hasso to locate and

work under the direction of the Mission.

After the war broke Brother Hasso called upon us in Bombay and soon after returned and connected with a Government Hospital at Baghdad where he helped to relieve the sufferers at the siege of Kut. Soon after this he wrote us that he had decided to set up a chemist shop in that city and begin business for himself. He is now the proprietor of two chemist shops in Basrah, one for Europeans and another for Natives.

Through Brother Hasso our church in Bombay has furnished hundreds of papers, thousands of tracts, and many books, which have been scattered far and wide among those that wanted to read. Being cut off from his home church in Armenia he applied for membership in the Bombay church. Thus we feel that we have a missionary in Mesopotamia. Recently I met three people from this section who told me of the high regard in which this man is held by both Europeans and Arabs. It surely demonstrates the need of the truth being lived, for the truth lived is better than the truth merely preached. Let us remember Brother Hasso in our prayers, for he is doing good work.

Also Brother Harrison, who is a sergeant in one of the forces in Mesopotamia, has been for the last 18 months at Kut el Amara, and there while on duty been faithfully witnessing to hundreds of souls both in and out of the army. Like Brother Hasso he has used large quantities of our literature, some of which he has sold, and thousands of papers and tracts he has given away.

Our Bombay church people have been cooperating with Brother Harrison in his faithful endeavours. Brother Harrison has a wife and mother living in Florida who are Americans and loyal Seventh-day Adventists. When the war broke out he was called, being an Englishman, and has been

seeking to uphold the truth before his fellows in the army. Brother Harrison on a recent visit to Bombay on leave stated that the men in the army will read the "Review and Herald" and tears will stream down their cheeks. They all seem to like the "Review" the best. It shows that in the army there are many honest souls whose hearts may be touched by the stirring messages of our good church paper.

Let us pray for these dear brethren, and if any desire to second our efforts to supply men in that field with the Message-filled literature they may write me. Clean copies of the "Review" would be welcome, to be passed on to our representatives in Mesopotamia.

G. W. PETTR.

12 Victoria Terrace, Mazagaon, Bombay

Notes from Bombay

At a recent meeting of the Bonibay Presidency Committee a Mission church was organized, with Brother R. E. Loasby as local elder. This new organization enables the isolated believers to have a church home and strengthens the work of the Division. The new church starts with nine members and includes some of the new believers from the Gujarat.

On the third Sabbath of April we enjoyed another baptismal service at our English church when two more souls were added to the believers. Several friends from the city came out to the serevice. It was a day when all renewed their baptismal vows to faithfulness in the service of Christ. Pray for these and others that are now studying the Message.

Sister Wood with Guild and Della and Brother and Sister Loasby of Manmad are taking their change this year in Poona from the first of May. They have a place overlooking the beautiful river.

Miss Millie Ballard who has been connected with the Kalyan medical work for

the past three years was married to Mr. Gannon of Kalyan, on Monday, April 29th, Pastor Wood officiating. The friends of Miss Ballard will join us in wishing her a life of blessing and happiness; and our prayers shall follow her.

The new Medical building at Kalyan is nearing completion. The walls are up and the roof is being put on. The entire building is of stone taken from the hills about the Mission station and Pastor Wood is directing the work. It is hoped that by the breaking of the rains the new building will be fully ready for use. A number of inpatients now desiring attention will then be accommodated in our own quarters. We have been able to stop a rental of Rs. 900 annually by the new plans which are now being executed. Although the new buildings at the Mission station are out two miles from the former place in the city, yet a large number of patients are now coming to our place instead of the workers going to them. It also has the advantage of being close to the Mission chapel and school and comes under the influence of the organization.

The Spirit of God is already working upon the hearts of many as a result of faithful work done by our Indian colporteurs. Our men have been having some precious experiences, as well as some trials and even disappointments. These all help to bring out the pure gold in the life of the worker, and if he remains humble it helps him to see his great need of Divine power and to put away the dross. Pray with us that this branch of God's work may be blessed in soul winning.

We are greatly encouraged to have Brother Thrift come among us to learn the Marathi language and take charge of the literature work in our Division. Brother Thrift has had a splendid experience in the English literature work in India and Australia, and

with his zeal for the spreading of the Message through the printed page we look forward with hopeful anticipation to the future of this work in the Bonibay Presidency among the Indian people. Already Brother Thrift has made encouraging strides in the language. Let us pray for him and this very important branch of the work in India.

The literature sales for April have been most encouraging. Our eight men have sold over Rs. 500 worth of our Message-filled literature. This includes Marathi, Gujarati, Urdu, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Gurmukhi and English. For the most of the month we had but six men working.

The people have made such demands to outside bookstores that they have been forced to order supplies from us to meet the calls. We are glad to cooperate with other Christian bodies in telling the people of the meaning of world events and of the return of our Lord. I am persuaded that there is a great field for our literature in our Division, and under God this great scattering of the precious Message will cause interests to spring up.

G. W. PETTIT.

An Allegorical Catalogue

It has been the "Desire of Ages" to understand "The Heralds of the Morning" speaking of the "Conflict between Capital and Labour" and the "World's Crisis." The "Watchman," always on "Morning Watch," can explain "The Signs of the Times" with "Present Truth" about the "World War" and "Armageddon."

"The Story of Daniel the Prophet," as well as "The Story of the Seer of Patmos," gives us many "Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation" in which we learn of "God's Hand in History" guiding in the "Captivity and Restoration of Israel," and they furnish us with "Scriptural Evidences" of "Things Foretold" about "The United States in Prophecy."

"The Men of the Mountains" and "The

King's Daughter" love to hear "The Story of Joseph," who lived with the "Patriarchs and Prophets" and enjoyed the "Ministry of Angels."

We learn through "Gospel History" how "Shiloh, the Man of Sorrows," or "Christ Our Saviour," went about "Teaching Truth" and "Soul Winning" in His "Ministry of Healing." The same is true of the "Acts of the Apostles" which gives us a "Missionary Idea."

These "Best Stories from the Best Book" are "Helps to Bible Study" and are written for our "Education" "Here and Hereafter." They give us the "Past, Present and Future" of "Modern Spiritualism"; also of "The Man that Rum Made" who lived in "The Shadow of the Bottle" all his life because he did not have a "Youth's Instructor" or "Little Friend," and the "Life Boat" never came his way.

If you want to know "How to Keep Well and Live Long" you need a "Practical Guide to Health." "The Vegetarian Cook Book" is "A Friend in the Kitchen" and will assist in giving "Life and Health" and "Making Home Happy."

"The 'Bible Students' Library" contains many "Words of Truth" for the people of "Our Day" in regard to the "The Christian Sabbath."

All "Gospel Workers" teaching "The Master's Greatest Monosyllables," while "Learning to Teach from the Master Teacher," feel the importance of being "In Touch with God" through "Real Prayer." They love to be "Alone with God" and receive the "Counsels to Teachers" before they give "Bible Readings" and tell "The Story of Redemption."

Those who are "Looking Unto Jesus," the "Coming King," and are looking for "His Glorious Appearing," gather many "Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing" as they follow the "Steps to Christ" guided by "Bible Footlights." They feel that they are a part of "The Great Second Advent Move-

ment" but understand from the "Early Writings" of one who gave "Testimonies for the Church" that the "Great Controversy" will not cease until we reach "The Other Side of Death" and are in "Our Father's House," or "Our Paradise Home," which will be "Eden Restored."

C. H. NIELSEN.

Here's a true quotation from a letter dated April 28, 1918.

"We are seeking to get every one on the TIDINGS list over here. Several subscriptions will be coming in at an early date. Too, I hope we may be able to continue a stream of subscriptions for the Signs. We usually get a few every week."

Now who wrote that? Well, why wasn't it you?

Word just comes that Brother Loasby of Chichoki Mullian narrowly escaped death on a recent night. Hearing some disturbance about the stable he went out to see if anyone was attempting to steal his cow, whereupon he was attacked by two Punjabis, one of whom dealt him a terrific blow with a weighted bamboo, which, aimed at his head, stuck him fair across the shoulder.

Whether any bones are broken we know not. There is some consolation in the fact that though the men escaped, it was without the cow.

Last year at Chuharkana two bullocks were stolen and only one was ever recovered.

Loath as Miss Chilton usually is to take leave from her work, yet the heat of May in the zenanas of Lucknow has made her decide that discretion now and conservation of strength by a few weeks in Mussooree will add effectively to her efforts next winter. She left Lucknow May 14 for The Grange.

Brother Burgess writes of very pleasant weather in Calcutta up to the present. Brother Nolda is finding plenty of work to do in giving Bible studies in the homes of interested ones.

In connection with Brother Pettit's report on Mesopotamia it will be of interest to know that the latest Government statistics give the population of Basrah as 60,000, and its distance from the sea as 67 miles. Kut el Amara has a population of 4,000 and is 285 miles from Basrah, and Baghdad is 500 miles from Basrah.

Oh that people might know and understand the pitiful hollowness of some of the widely-circulated arguments against Seventh-day Adventists. One of the latest we have noticed attempts to show the awful simplicity of Adventists in accepting and believing Mrs. White when she states what they claim is a palpable absurdity, namely, that from the time of His crucifixion and ascension till 1844 Christ ministered as priest in a temple somewhere.

Really, a careful reading of Hebrews would save them the trouble of blaming everything onto Mrs. White. And it seems very much like unthinking prejudice which pretends to believe that Adventists are blind and dumb followers of Mrs. White.

When people desire a final and conclusive argument against "the Sabbath of the Lord thy God" they usually come out with, "O the Adventists follow a prophetess." Probably Jesus' remark to Nicodemus about the new birth would seem absurd to some; and when Nicodemus asked how it could be, the reply was, "Art thou a master of Israel and knowest not these things?"

So we might say today, 'Art thou Rev. Mr. So-and-so and knowest not the priestly work of Christ in the heavenly places, where He maketh intercession for us; and that He entered upon that work only after having offered the suitable sacrifice—himself?'

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Here and There

A cable from Bro. Fletcher—which took nearly three days to reach us from San Francisco—announces that India's calls (supposedly for both men and money) have been granted by the General Conference. Bro. Fletcher plans to start on his return journey from San Francisco early in June.

With Brother Furnival down sick following the sickness and death of little Frederick, and Miss Judd away from the school, Bro. Peugh sent out a distress signal for teaching help at Annfield, which was answered by Bro. Blue in person, he and Mrs. Blue going to Mussooree the last week in April. We understand that their address is The Grange.

The Brisbins also departed from the "loo" of Lucknow the last of April, and expect to spend a little while at The Grange—though Bro. Brisbin anticipates a tramp across the mountains to Garhwal. True, there's more than one way to get to Garhwal.

And while we're talking of Mussooree we might mention that Bro. and Sister Pettit went up from Bombay the first week of May. Brother Thrift is to remain with his language study and the canvassers while they are away.

500 Rupees in sales for one month is good for eight men; and Bro. Pettit adds the interesting item that one man sold 14 rupees worth of vernacular literature in one day—a Monday. Now talk about "Blue Monday." Also, two men who have been canvassing along the way on their return home from the Lucknow Training School, reached a total of Rs. 65 for one week's work. The rupees are not everything, but at least they are a convenient measure of the amount of literature put into the people's hands. Now it is for us to pray that God will water the seed sown, and so shall some produce an hundredfold, and some sixty.

Bro. Stevens, Sister Burgess, and Miss Burroway are in Darjeeling for a little while. Bro. Burgess will be joining them ere long.

Although Bro. Mattison reports all well we believe Bro. Stafford has had Dengue so that he could not continue the work of overseeing the building operations at Hapur. But we have definite word that he is better, and probably ere this is back "at it."

If you have not read recently the English tract entitled The Sufferings of Christ we commend it to your careful attention. The title seems just a trifle unfortunate, for the tract actually is a beautiful setting forth of the love of God. We believe every one who will take the time to read it through carefully will feel more than well repaid. And we ourselves have heard very appreciative remarks about it from Christians who think little of our doctrines and activities. It is a good tract: see for yourself.

And speaking about tracts. We are printing a revised edition of Heralds of His Coming which we believe will make it more useful than ever. The war has altered many things, and made some of the expressions in our tracts a little archaic. By eliminating these and freshening the whole thing up a bit we have a new effective piece of literature.

Also the tract New Testament Sabbath is being reprinted, and in the process we hope to turn it out looking a little fresher. This truth and this Message deserves as neat and attractive a dress as it is possible to give it.

Last year when we began doing Gujarati work in the Lucknow Press one of the first jobs was a booklet "Coming King." An edition was completed in September. Now in May we are asked to reprint it because the first edition is sold out. Good, let them sell! Paper may be hard to buy, but we'll manage somehow. Anyway it seems good to see regular editions of 5000 Gujarati magazines going out, and 5000 Marathi, and 5000 Urdu and 4000 Hindi, and 6000 Nepali, and 2500 Chittagong.

We don't want to give away any secrets, but if you wondered where we got the Superman in the last Signs it might interest you to know he came from Mussooree. Bro. Wyman had a few minutes between treatments, and lo! And what is still more interesting, there's more to follow—but that's really giving away secrets.

Don't complain bitterly if TIDINGS savours too much of "Press" this week. The editor is out of town on a holiday.