

INDIA UNION TIDINGS

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No. 3

East London

'Twas August, and the fierce sun overhead
Smote on the squalid streets of Bethnal Green,
And the pale weaver, through his windows seen
In Spitalfields, look'd thrice dispirited.

I met a preacher there I knew, and said :
"Ill and o'erwork'd, how fare you in this
scene?"—

"Bravely!" said he; "for I of late have been
Much cheered with thoughts of Christ, the
living bread."

O human soul! as long as thou canst so
Set up a mark of everlasting light,
Above the howling senses' ebb and flow,

To cheer thee, and to right thee if thou roam—
Not with lost toil thou labourest through the
night!

Thou mak'st the heaven thou hop'st indeed
thy home.

—From the poems of Matthew Arnold.

The Karen Sabbath-School at Kamamaung

About August of 1915 Pastor and Mrs. Hamilton and Miss Gibbs commenced work here at Kamamaung, and since that time a Sabbath-school has bravely struggled for life and growth. Its membership has varied from the five members of the mission family who commenced work here to 18 when we were all here, then down again, and finally for one month last summer, while we were at the hills, there was no Sabbath-school. But then something happened; our work took a new hold; we were reinforced with new workers; and now we

are glad to report a healthy Sabbath-school of 17 members.

It came about this way. After our return from the hills, Peter, a Karen boy from our school at Meiktila, joined us and together we succeeded in organising a Mission school with six pupils. Then our members were increased by the family of Thra Myaing who had come to help with evangelistic work; and soon our school increased again to eleven, so I wouldn't be surprised if even this report is out of date by the time it is printed. Seventeen regular members, with sometimes up to ten visitors, meet to study about Jesus and repeat the memory verses in our little leaf and bamboo church building. I am sure you would all rejoice to see with what joy and gladness the children who but a few months ago were living in dirt and heathenism sing and study about a loving Saviour who died to save them.

E. B. HARE.

Mesopotamia

We receive frequent word from our brother, Sgt. Harrison, in Mesopotamia,



THE KAMAMAUNG MISSION FAMILY

and perhaps cannot do better than quote a few lines from some of his recent letters.

"I have sold the *Armageddon* and *Jerusalem* to quite a few of the boys. To Baghdad and a few other stations these two books have gone. Thanks for *Reviews* received yesterday; you have no idea how they cheer me up. One of our Sgts. leaves for England tomorrow; he has also fallen in love with our *Reviews*. May God grant that he will see the promises given to the people of God who trust and obey.

"Today is Xmas Day and I have nothing to do but read and study the Word and write. Before me are the good Book and *Christ Object Lessons* open at page 303 where I have just been reading. O that I may be more zealous for Him, Bro. Mead if I could save these men who are here;—strong drink, debauchery, love of pleasure; who is to blame? I wish we could impress upon the minds of the English officials and clergymen the great need of a temperate nation. I pray and hope to see the day when this accursed stuff will be forever banished.

"Last Sabbath I went to see Brother and Sister Bashir: they were glad to see me once again. Bro. Bashir gave me a few *Reviews*, and yours arriving today will keep me in reading material for a while.

"Went to see Brother Glover yesterday. He was not at home. Shall possibly go again next Sunday.

"Have been looking through the *Reviews*. I was struck forcibly by an article telling what Sister White saw in a vision of the Judgment—sins written opposite the names of a good few professing Adventists. I thought, Can it be possible that there are any of those sins recorded against my name? I do hope I shall be clean from the sins so besetting us. I pay God to cleanse me from these polluting things.

"Have you any more *Reviews*—late ones?

"Thanks for splendid *Reviews*."

More Baptisms

On New Year's Day the boys and girls from our two Bengali schools here in Calcutta, and some of the members of our Bengali church, met together for a special service, at the close of which six girls and one boy were baptized. They have been

looking forward to this event for some months and have been preparing their hearts by confession and forsaking of those things which hinder the working of the Holy Spirit in their lives.

We ask an interest in your prayers that the Lord may bless the schools.

L. J. BURGESS.

Property for South India Training School

At last a property for the Training School has been purchased. For four years the school has been conducted in rented quarters, but now that the land has been secured we look forward to a permanent home of our very own for the school.

The property is situated near the first railway station out of Bangalore on the Madras line, and is about six miles from town by cart road or railroad. It is just far enough away from town to be free from plague and other objectional things which we find in towns. The land is oblong in shape, twice as long as wide, and contains about 12 acres, with a beautiful grove of mango and other fruit trees on it.

We plan to build a bungalow, school house, boarding house for the boys, and homes for the teachers as soon as we can.

Being close to Bangalore and on the main line to Madras we will have a good market for any thing that we may produce for sale. We hope to do something with poultry after we get the buildings completed.

G. G. LOWRY.

Calcutta

Our Harvest Ingathering campaign has opened and a number of our workers and church members are devoting all the time they can spare to this work. The matter was presented to the members of our congregation on Free School St. one Sabbath evening. A Bible Study was given by Brother Wyman on Our Individual Responsibility, after which we explained the object of the Ingathering for the present year. At the close a number volunteered for the work and were supplied with papers and solicitor's cards. Our faith is strong that "the street shall be built again and the wall, even in troublous times."

L. J. BURGESS.

Notes from Kamamaung

1918 Has passed into history and we have been up very late at nights working out our yearly reports.

We find that this dispensary has supported itself for the entire year, and has still a cash balance of Rs. 17. Receipts were Rs. 235 and Expenses Rs. 217. However good this may seem, it is almost more by accident than good management for had it not been that our Dispensary girl left us a few months ago, we would have been Rs. 32 on the wrong side of the account.

Our Mission family has increased from 3 at the beginning of this year to 6 at the present time, besides a flourishing little school of 11, making in all 17 members for our Karen Sabbath-school.

During a recent visit from Bro. Lowry we celebrated a baptism and a wedding; and during the year have torn down one mat house and built a nice mat chapel in its place; have renewed mat walls to the school-teacher's house, and have built a new mat house for our Karen evangelist.

Perhaps these few notes are sufficient to show that the work at Kamamaung is getting on its feet. That it may prepare many of these jungle people for our Saviour's return is our prayer.

E. B. HARE.

Sabbath-School Goal for South India

Since the beginning of our work as a denomination the Sabbath-school has filled a very important place. It has been a help and strength to our church work. Nothing has so encouraged systematic Bible study among our people as the Sabbath-school. It has also been a very great help in developing and training workers among the laymen.

This is true of our work in the home lands; we have found it true also in the mission field. We look upon the Sabbath-school as one of the strongest assets that we have, and we expect to see many souls converted as a result of this work.

In comparing the Sabbath-school work of today in South India with what it was a year ago I find that we have made advancement. The report for the last quarter of 1917 shows that our membership was

376, and the offerings for the year were Rs. 525. Our membership is now 419, and our offerings for the year just closed were Rs. 691.

The last two quarters some of our schools tried the plan of setting a goal for Sabbath-school offerings. And the schools that have tried it found the offerings much larger. We found it to be so profitable that we have decided to carry it a little further and set a goal for the entire South India Mission for 1919, asking each school to help us reach it. The committee at its recent meeting set the goal at Rs. 900. In order to realize this amount every Sabbath-school will have to work hard, and this I am sure they will gladly do.

G. G. LOWRY.

Bangalore Notes

Two of our school boys were baptized a few days since.

The first three Harvest Ingathering papers given away in Bangalore brought Rs. 22. We hope the rest will do as well.

Some of our boys spent a portion of their time during the Christmas holidays in canvassing, and had some very interesting experiences. Two of them went up to the Kolar Gold Fields, and spent a few days, selling about Rs. 50 worth of literature, mostly vernacular. It was interesting to hear them tell about their trip.

Calcutta Boys' School

Pratap Gyin and Upen Halder just came in from their first day of the Harvest Ingathering. They could scarcely repress their joy over the fact that the day's work had yielded the amount of Rs. 23. They plan to start out again early in the morning.

Here are some figures regarding the Seventh-day Adventist denomination for the year ending Dec. 31, 1917.

Total No. churches	...	...	2,216
Total members	...	...	153,857
Increase over 1916,	8½	per cent	12,369
Tithe	...	...	\$ 2,946,907
Offerings to Missions	...	...	\$ 1,353,685
Other offerings	\$ 818,940
Amt. per capita	\$ 33.27
Increase over 1916	29 per cent

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NOTES

Lest some be dismayed at a four page TIDINGS let us explain at once that at the recent committee meeting in Lucknow the suggestion to reduce TIDINGS to once a month found considerable favour. Some however urged that it be kept on as a fortnightly visitor to cheer and encourage, even though it were reduced in volume to only eight pages per month. Hence your four-page paper. But by judicious condensing, and the use of less spacing out material, the printer hopes to give you a worthy paper.

We hear that nine were baptized at Kalyan recently.

Brother and Sister Meleen's little daughter of South India has a new baby sister, born January 15.

A telegram from Colombo from Dr. Mann informed us that they expected to sail from that port on Jan. 25 for Hong Kong, enroute to San Francisco.

We now have definite word that the Brisbins got away from Rangoon safely: and later word reports them at Penang.

Brother and Sister Johnston, and their daughter Dorothy, of Mussooree sailed from Bombay on Jan. 18 by the S.S. Manora for three years in England. Their house in Mussooree has been taken on a lease by the Mission.

Notice to Home Missionary Workers

With the February issue the publication of our Lucknow *Signs of the Times* will cease; but we hope that those who have hitherto used clubs of this paper will continue their activities, using the American paper instead.

We are now booking orders for clubs at the rate of one anna per copy, in clubs of six copies and upwards, post free. Inasmuch as there are fifty issues yearly of the *Signs of the Times* weekly, a club order for say ten copies for one year would cost five hundred annas, or Rs. 31-4-0 post free.

A. H. W.

Bro. Roberts, a Telugu canvasser working in Burma, reports one week's sales of vernacular literature amounting to Rs. 73.

Well done!

Last week we received a cable sent by Bro. Fulton on Jan. 21 from Wahroonga, Australia, reading thus: "Burns Butler Sardinia Fultons Fletcher James booked Orsova."

Now, putting things together and translating them into modern English we understand from the cable that Bro. Nelson C. Burns, who has been working in the Victoria Conference, is coming by the P & O Steamer, Sardinia to take up evangelistic work in India; also that Bro. Frank J. Butler is coming by the same boat to take up work as assistant to the Secretary and Treasurer of the Mission.

Further, we understand that by the Orient liner Orsova we may expect Brother and Sister Fulton who are to reside in India for a time. Accompanying them are Miss E. M. James and Sister Fletcher. Miss James may locate in Bombay—at least the news of her coming was telegraphed to Bro. Thrift. Later: Orsova due in Colombo Jan. 31.

Now just think of that! Didn't you suppose that with the awful cataclysm in Europe our work had well nigh stopped there? Just listen to this, quoted from a letter from Europe (not England) mind you.

The Lord is wonderfully opening doors for the preaching of the gospel. Our canvassers have in all sold nearly \$ 200,000 worth of literature [six lakhs of rupees], counting from July 1917 to June 1918, so the printing house is in a flourishing condition."

Isn't that good!

"Brother and Sister Spicer plan to spend a few months in Australia and then go on to China"—*Exchange*.

—And India would be awfully glad to see them once more, too.

We learn from an American paper that Bro. James, who has been working in the Central Union Conference for a time, has been recommended to take the Home Missionary Dept. of that conference, instead of the book work, in which he has had excellent results.

Those who read the *Literary Digest* probably noticed that some of our books, such as *World's Crisis*, *World in Perplexity*, *Armageddon*, etc. were prohibited by the U. S. Government from circulation in U. S. Army Camps. We now learn from Takoma Park that in harmony with suggestions kindly made by the Army Dept. the books have been revised and reprinted, and now go forth with the Military Censor's approval mark printed on the title page. Thank the Lord for that.

At the Lucknow office we have for sale two individual cup communion service trays. These are nicely made, of dark wood, and varnished. One is oblong; has a nickel handle, and holds 36 cups. Price 6-8-0. The other is round; holds 27 cups; and has a wooden handle, but is nicer finish. Price 7-8-0.