

# INDIA UNION TIDINGS

VOL. 14

LUCKNOW, INDIA, May 1, 1919

No. 9

## The Telugu Meeting

On the 24th of March Brother G. G. Lowry and the writer left Madras for Rajamundry, where we arrived the next morning. Brother H. L. Peden joined us during that day, having come from Vizagapatam, where he is engaged in language study.

Brother Solomon has been labouring in Rajamundry for some time. With the assistance of another of our Telugu brethren he is carrying on school work in a village community on the outskirts of the town. About thirty-five children attend the day school, and almost as many of a more mature class of young people come together for the evening classes. A great deal of the instruction consists of the teachings of Bible stories.

The young people showed great readiness in answering questions concerning what they had learned. The school work seemed to be the only means the brethren could find to establish a point of contact with the people in this district. It remains to be seen to what extent it may be made the means of reaching the people with the truth. Much will depend on the length of time the young people can be kept under the influence of the missionaries.

In the evening we left by river boat for Narsapur, where the Telugu general meeting was to be held from the 26th to the 29th March. The meetings were held in a large vacant Indian House that had been secured for the purpose. More than forty persons were present, if we include the children of the believers, about ten in number. A very interesting and profitable time was spent together. There was not quite so much freedom as in the Tamil meeting, partly because so much of the work had to be done by interpretation. But it was a good meeting, and all seemed to receive a blessing. It was encouraging to see evidences of the growth of the work in this language area, where the message has gained quite a good footing without the direct labours of the foreign missionary.

The outlook for the future is hopeful. Brethren Lowry and Peden are quickly gaining a working knowledge of the language, and our Telugu brethren are growing in experience and usefulness. The cause should make more rapid growth in this field as the days go by.

On Sabbath afternoon the 29th March seven Telugu brethren were baptised in the Godaveri River by Brother Lowry. Four of these were young men direct from Hinduism, and one of them was a leper. The latter was attracted to the gospel by the promise of eternal life through Christ, which he believed. Some of these brethren are enduring persecution because of their decision to follow Christ.

On the 30th March we went to a village about twelve miles from Narsapur, where Brother Daniel is working. This is entirely a Hindu community, but our brethren have found some who are willing to learn the way to Christ. Three men have already decided to become Christians, and asked for baptism at the general meeting, but were advised by the brethren to wait for further instruction. Two of these are elderly men, brothers, and leading men of the village. The third, a young man, has been turned out of his father's home for confessing Christ. These brethren and others attend the Sabbath meetings regularly, and seem to be quite in earnest in the stand they have taken.

Brother Daniel also conducts a day school for about thirty-five children, and this is helping to remove from the minds of the people some of the prejudice against the work of the mission. On going to see the school room we found it to consist of a very rough frame work of poles and logs with a palm leaf here and there by way of a roof. Seeing that the situation in this village is so promising for a successful work, Brother Lowry asked the Telugu brethren to try to rent a small piece of land, so that the mission could have a school house built. This can be done very cheaply, with mud walls, and thatched roof.

Arrangements were made at the close of the Narsapur meeting for a number of the Telugu young people to enter the South India Training School at Bangalore, and one of the brethren from Narsapur was asked to connect with the school as preceptor for the Telugu boys.

Altogether there are many encouraging features about our Telugu work. The Lord went before us in opening up this language area to the message, and we believe he will continue to lead and prosper the efforts for the Telugu people until the work is done.

W. W. FLETCHER.

### Wedding at Bombay

The New Hall, Apollo Bunder, was the scene of a pretty wedding on Monday the 14th of April, when Brother Roy Thrift was united in marriage to Sister Ethel M. James of Australia, who arrived in Bombay by the S. S. Karmala.

Many of the Bombay Church members and friends were present to witness the ceremony, and to wish the bride and bridegroom a happy and useful life union.

Pastor M. D. Wood of Kalyan officiated, and was assisted by Pastor W. W. Fletcher.

A pleasant feature of the church decoration was the floral path down the aisle; it expressed the wishes of all present for their future walk through life. Before leaving the church Brother and Sister Thrift were garlanded in true Indian fashion with Jasmine and roses.

A reception was later held at "Sea Foam" Bungalow, the home of Sister R. Taylor, where the bride had been a guest since her arrival in India.

Pastor Fletcher, in proposing the toast of the bride and bridegroom, welcomed Sister Thrift as she associated herself with the work in this land.

Brother and Sister Thrift have taken up their residence at Mazagon, in the home recently vacated by Brother and Sister Pettit, where Brother Thrift has entered on his duties in connection with the vernacular literature work while continuing the study of the Marathi language. We wish Brother and Sister Thrift every happiness and blessing in their united service in the Master's cause.

C. M. SCANLON.

### Zenana Work—Lucknow

We are glad to report a very interesting baptism at Lucknow, on Sabbath, April 12. For almost eight years, Miss Chilton, has been labouring earnestly for the Zenana women of Lucknow, seeing very little apparent response to her untiring efforts. However, among the many, one woman was led to accept Christ, and has been keeping the Sabbath quietly behind the Purdah for about four years. The miracle of grace, shewing in the changed life, has brought her husband to a full acceptance of the Gospel. On account of the opposition from their friends, arrangements were made for the baptism of this sister to be held at the home. Brother Mattison was allowed into the house to offer the benediction, but was not permitted to see her face. In the meantime a large number had gathered at the river side to witness the baptism of this brother coming direct from Mohammadenism. We rejoice with Sister Chilton at this evidence of the work of the Holy Spirit on hearts so lately steeped in the darkness of Mohammadenism.

### Notes from Bombay

Before leaving India Bro. Pettit prepared a special envelope for the Week of Prayer. At the top was the date of this special season of prayer, and then followed some helpful texts encouraging each to give an offering unto the Lord. It seems as though this has proved a real help, for when the Annual Offering was taken the total amounted to Rupees 272/-. It surely was not without some sacrifice that this figure was reached, but it was all with a willingness of heart, knowing this, that "it is more blessed to give than to receive."

To remember the 13th Sabbath throughout the quarter is a good thing. Evidences of this prove it to be true, when offerings to the amount of Rupees 20/- and over were given by individual members of one Sabbath school.

The medical work in this city is progressing encouragingly and we have before us many evidences of a continual growth. Notwithstanding the hot season has come, new patients are coming in for treatment. They all express themselves well pleased to have such an institution in their city.

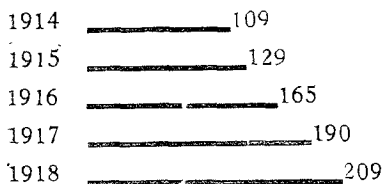
## LINES OF PROGRESS

Illustrating growth of membership

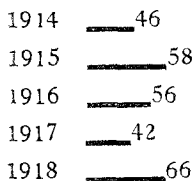
### UNION



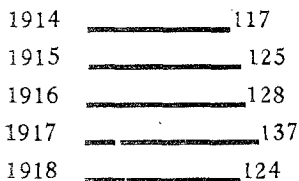
### BENGAL



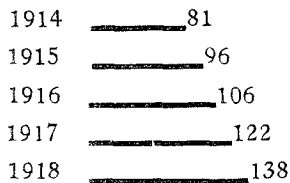
### BOMBAY



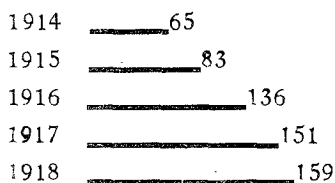
### BURMA



### N. INDIA



### S. INDIA



**Note:** Component details of 1914 membership not available. The local division figures for 31-3-1915 are quoted instead.

# India Union Tidings,

ORGAN OF THE

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## — NOTES —

On the 10th of April, Pastor & Mrs. J. E. Fulton arrived at Madras from Australia via Singapore. From Madras booking was secured by boat to Calcutta. Accompanied by Pastor L. J. Burgess, Brother & Sister Fulton passed through Lucknow on the 17th April, on their way to Mussorree where they will stay till after the Union Mission Committee.

The S. S. Karmala, having on board Sister Fletcher, two children, and Miss E. M. James, arrived in Bombay, on Thursday, the 10th of April. We are glad to hear of their safe arrival, and extend a hearty welcome to the new worker.

A Union Mission Committee meeting will be held at Mussooree commencing with the second of May. A full attendance of committee members is expected. Pastor J. E. Fulton, India's General Conference representative, will be in attendance. Many important matters affecting the work in this country will be given consideration.

After a brief stay of five days, Pastor W. W. Fletcher and family left Lucknow for Dehra Dun, where Brother Fletcher plans to spend a few weeks in language studies. Accompanying them, Brother N. C. Burns, recently from Australia, has also bade farewell to Lucknow for the summer. He has been vigorously pursuing his studies in first year Urdu, and will continue same at either Mussooree or Dehra Dun.

A pleasant evening was recently spent at the Union Office on the occasion of a farewell to Brother W. S. Mead and family, given by the workers in our Lucknow Press. Seats had been arranged on the lawn, and a number of friends were present. Suitable farewell addresses were read by the staff, both in English and vernacular. On the evening of the 21st April, Brother and Sister Mead with their family, left Lucknow for Calcutta, preparatory to securing booking to the home-land. With them is Miss Rachel Mattison, who is returning to the States.

Many of the friends of the Mission will have read the newspaper accounts of the damage done to Chuharkana Railway Station during the recent riots, and will be anxious to hear of our work and workers there. The following extracts from a letter written by Brother F. H. Loasby, dated the 19th April, will therefore be of interest:—

"On Sabbath, April 12th, I went to Chuharkana to hold a meeting with the workers there. I found the people of the mandi not only excited but threatening as a result of the news of the Arrritsar outrages.

"On Monday the 14th I went to Lahore to get provisions, and found things in a very unsettled state. Under the circumstances I telegraphed to Mrs. Loasby at Chichoki to leave the station and come to Lahore. I also telegraphed to Brother Smith, advising him to come to Lahore. Owing to the rails being torn up and wires cut, I was with difficulty able to reach Chichoki again, but managed to do so by evening, and brought my family away to Lahore. Brother Smith got into Lahore the next morning.

"On the 16th my family and Brother Smith left for Mussooree on a special train. During those two days all the women and children were sent to the hills. I am staying at Lahore Station.

"You will wish to know chiefly of our property. Chuharkana railway station is completely destroyed, as also are a number of stations further down. Brother Smith's house has been looted, and his goods are strewn all about the place. Beds are ripped open, and things torn up generally. However, his piano and such like things seem to be intact. The House itself is not damaged, nor is the hospital or other buildings.

"Brother Gardner and the rest of the mission people are safe. Nothing has happened at Chichoki Mullian, and everything there seems to be quiet."

Brother & Sister Stevens are spending their hill leave at Shillong, Assam. They are taking the opportunity of working among the English residents with our larger books, in the hope that some honest soul may be found to listen to the truths of the message.

Brother & Sister C. C. Kellar have gone to Darjeeling for a month, leaving Brother & Sister Leech at Karmatar Station.

Sister A. M. Wood is spending a pleasant change at Cuddalore, Madras Presidency.

## The Home Study Habit

That is the habit to form if you can not go to school. And the Fireside Correspondence School was organized to help you form this habit. The President of the General Conference says, "I believe this school is conferring an unspeakable benefit upon our people."

For full particulars write today to the principal, C. C. Lewis, Takoma Park, Washington D. C., U. S. A.