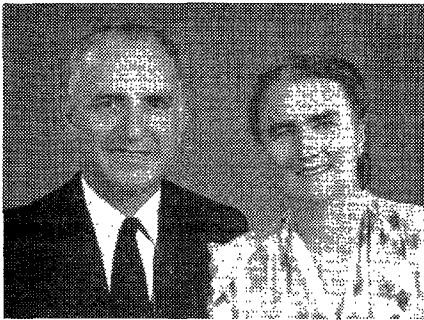




VOLUME 53

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NUMBER 18

**A LAST****AGENCY****IN****FINISHING THE WORK**

J. W. NIXON

**T**IME is rapidly running out, and yet there remains a tremendous task to be done in Southern Asia. Five hundred million souls live within its borders, and the population is increasing at a rate faster than the number of people we are contacting each year. In completing this task what agencies will the Lord use? We know that He has a thousand ways that we know not of with which to finish His work. But of the agencies which we know, what is He going to use right up to the close of probation?

An inspired statement from the pen of the Lord's messenger partly answers our question.

"As long as probation continues, there will be opportunity for the canvasser to work. When the religious denominations unite with the papacy to oppress God's people, places where there is religious freedom will be opened by evangelistic canvassing. . . . Until in heaven is spoken the word, 'It is finished,' there will be places for labour, and hearts to receive the message." *Colporteur Ministry*, p. 11.

Sometime ago a challenging and thought-provoking pamphlet was written, entitled "A Drop of Ink Can Make a Million Think." Many drops can make many millions think. I wonder sometimes if we fully appreciate the tremendous power of literature, and the important part it has to play in finishing this work.

A few years ago there was a newspaper strike in a large city, there had not been such a thing for over a hundred years. It is reported that eight out of every ten people were asking "What, no newspaper?" Radio and television will never take the place of the daily newspaper which a man can sit down and read at leisure. Nor will they ever supersede the place of literature in the finishing of this work. They will be silenced but no government nor any other power can stop the literature which is

already in the hands of the people from speaking its message to the seeking heart.

When we reach the final critical moments of this world's history it would seem that only two forms of organized work will exist, the literature ministry and the medical work. All other organized work will be brought to a standstill.

The Protestant churches in general are not making the use of literature that was made by the early church. The Reformation was very largely brought about by an

LITERATURE-  
EVANGELISTS  
RALLY DAY  
OCTOBER 18, 1958

attack with literature. During the sixteenth century, more than one million pieces of literature were printed on slow, hand-operated printing presses, in Germany alone.

What was it that made William Carey such a great influential force in India? Not his preaching, but his pen. Before he sailed from England he said to William Ward, a printer and editor, "If the Lord blesses us we shall want a person of your business to enable us to print the Scriptures." William Carey was directly or indirectly responsible for publishing the Scriptures or portions thereof, in some forty different languages. What was the effect of this great printing achievement? The historian Richter wrote, "During the first thirty years of the last century, so fresh and far-reaching was the influence of the men of Serampore, (that) literary work was the main item on the programme of every mission and every large and well equipped station possessed its printing press."

It is claimed that even unjust government officials feared the pen

of the missionary. I believe that today our crying need is for our national and overseas workers to get some ink into their pens, and do some writing.

In India today you could buy a copy of every Christian book that is written in the four major languages, Tamil, Telugu, Hindi and Bengali for less than the amount of literature delivered by one of our leading colporteurs in one month.

This lack of Christian literature is not peculiar to India alone. In Africa there are still 94 different languages which have only one Christian book in each language. In Japan where literacy is very high they have only 57 different orthodox Christian books.

In India today literacy has greatly increased. It is estimated that there are 200 million more reading adults today than there were only 25 years ago. What a tremendous opportunity and challenge this is to us as a people. The apostle of the adult literacy programme, Frank Laubach is reported to have said concerning India, "I am unloosing something

that has been chained since the dawn of time—If these unthinkably vast multitudes be educated in pagan ideals, God pity the future."

Even Mahatma Gandhi doubted the wisdom of teaching the multitudes of India to read, if no better reading material was available to them, than that which is found on the streets and railway bookstalls.

To teach a child or an adult to read and then send him back to his village with nothing but the current trash to read is to make him an educated villain. It is like the evil spirit going back into the house which has been swept and garnished. "The last state of that man is worse than the first."

The whole Protestant world is faced with the tremendous challenge of providing books and periodicals that can compete with the flood of atheistic, secular, and anti-Christian literature which is sweeping the world.

The Roman Catholic Church is using literature as never before to convince the world that she is the only true church. In Japan they are publishing a type of "digest" which is competing with secular magazines in circulation figures. They are also preparing to move a team of twenty-three men into West Africa, in an endeavour to capture the religious market in that area of the world.

They have chosen the psychological moment to do this because many nations are planning to help make the coming generation of Africans much more literate. They will probably succeed, because for the first time in history the masses of Africans are beginning to understand that success and progress depends very largely on the ability to read and study.

The communists have long since realised the mighty power of literature, they claim that the pen is mightier than the sword. With an estimated one-third of the world communists, it would seem that they have proved that books are more powerful than bombs. Bombs may compel submission but books bring the mind and will into subjection. Communists claim that they won China by pen.

## ONE HUNDRED COLPORTEURS

STANLEY CAMBRIDGE

*"From the light given me I know that where there is one canvasser in the field, there should be one hundred."*—*"Testimonies,"* Vol. 6, p. 315.

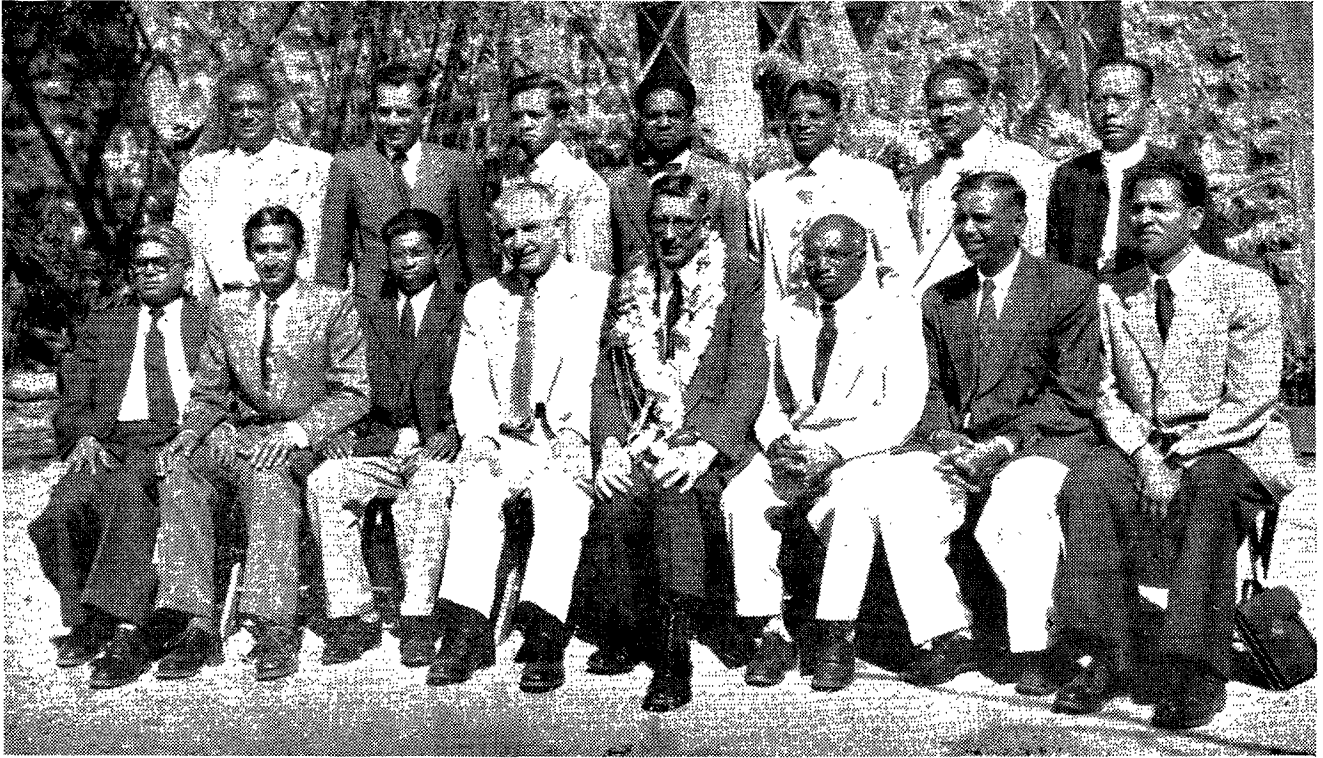
One hundred Colporteurs, but Oh, how few  
To tell to these great isles of life to be;  
More yet must come, and more the work to do,  
Ere from the grasp of Satan man set free  
Will rise for truth, for right, for liberty.

One hundred Colporteurs, and is that all  
Out of the thousands who are saved to serve?  
Are there no more to answer to the call?  
No more with courage, energy and nerve  
Who will at last the urgent need observe?

One hundred Colporteurs, what a task  
To enter every home with God's good news;  
Is it too much for you that He should ask  
Your talents and your time for you to use,  
That you, His light to all may now diffuse.

One hundred Colporteurs? No! many more  
Will come from office, kitchen, shop, and plough,  
From every trade, as never known before;  
And 'neath the yoke of Christ to serve will bow.  
Yes friend! Are you not one to come just now?

One hundred Colporteurs where now stands one,  
To enter yet the long-neglected field,  
To labour earnestly till all is done;  
That every corner may some harvest yield  
Of the true wheat that lieth now concealed.



The Publishing Department Secretaries of the Southern Asia Division in attendance at the Soul-winning Sales Council, Poona, February 1958.

Left to right, front row: L. D. Paul, M. C. Lall, N. K. Samuel, J. W. Nixon, E. R. Gane (P.D.S., Australasia Division), T. M. Sigamoney, Ch. John, R. M. Massey.

Back row: J. M. Khan, S. O. Nugera, F. D. Nongseij, E. N. Simon, D. Raju, J. Japagnanam, Hla Pe.

In a concentration camp in China a Missionary was studying her Bible. The guard came up and laughed at her. He said that Communists could place two of their books in the hands of any Chinese who could read and make a communist of him, because their literature is so powerful and effective.

Communism is flooding the world with literature, spending tremendous sums of money on the enterprise. In 1954 alone, Russia and her satellites set as their goal the publishing of five billion pieces of literature—enough to place two pieces in the hands of every man, woman and child in the world.

They are spending \$40 for every \$1 that the United States is putting into literature to reach the minds of the uncommitted peoples of the world. They increased the volume of literature which they are publishing in twenty-four free world languages by 41 per cent in one year. It is a tragic fact that non-Christian cults are spending more money to win converts, than all the combined Protestant denominations put together.

In India where we have some 700,000 villages there is an ample supply of communist literature available in almost every village, even those in the most remote areas.

The following is from the Communist publication *Paix et Liberte*, reprint in "Dawn."

"The gospel is a much more powerful weapon for the renewal of society than is our Marxist Philosophy, but all the same it is we who finally will beat you. We are only a handful and you Christians are numbered by the millions. But if you remember the story of Gideon and his three hundred companions, you will understand why I am right. We communists do not play with words. We are realists and, seeing that we are determined to achieve our object, we know how to obtain the means. Of our salaries and wages, we keep only what is strictly necessary, and we give up the rest for propaganda, we also "consecrate" all our free time, and part of our holidays. You, however, give only a little time and hardly any money for the spreading of the Gospel of Christ.

How can anyone believe in the supreme value of this Gospel if you do not practise it, if you do not spread it, and if you sacrifice neither time nor money for it? Believe me, it is we who will win, for we believe in our communist message and we are ready to sacrifice everything, even our life, in order that social justice shall triumph. But you people are afraid to soil your hands."

This may not apply to us in the same way as it does to other church groups, but it is at least a challenge to us.

What are we doing to reach the remote villages of this country? It is estimated that of the 700,000 villages in India 600,000 do not have a resident Christian living in them. But what do they have in Christian literature? If the communists can get their literature into these places, then we ought to be able to do the same. It will cost money but it will bring results and bring them perhaps faster than any other way we can spend the same amount of money. This is a task for the whole organization to tackle. It cannot be left to the

Publishing Department and the Home Missionary department but must have the support of every section of the denomination. Not only the sympathy—but the support. Allowing one colporteur to every quarter of a million people throughout Southern Asia, we would need 2000 colporteurs.

Who will respond to this stirring challenge? Who will say "Here am I, O Lord, send me." The Lord is calling for men and women, "not from the floating element in society, not from among men and women, who are good for nothing else and have made a success of nothing, but from among those who have good address, tact, keen foresight, and ability. Such are needed to make a success as colporteurs."—*Colporteur Ministry*, page 28.

### A CEYLONESE LITERATURE-EVANGELIST

**M**Y WIFE and I were baptized into the faith in September 1950. Ever since we have witnessed the working of Satan, and more so, the working of the Holy Spirit. We are winning victories in the battle of life. I lost my secure job in the Shell organization towards the end of the year 1953. Since 1954 I have been in the literature ministry. Now my interest is ever on the increase in seeing souls converted, in hearing news of transformation in life.

I have heard from many customers how our literature has influenced them to quit smoking. One man has not failed to renew his subscription every year since 1920. Another man claims that he is becoming a home doctor with the aid of our journal.

There is joy in heaven over one sinner that repenteth. There is joy in finding people who receive the light of the Gospel of Christ. I am particularly interested in Mr. Sam Selvanayagam of Mahakande Estate (standing behind the motor bike) whose main interest in life is the salvation offered by Jesus. He is interested in distributing our denominational literature among the estate labourers. He is himself

"Let none of you think that you cannot engage in this work because it is taxing, and requires time and thought. If it requires time, give it cheerfully; and the blessing of God will rest upon you. There never was a time when more workers were needed than at present. There are brethren and sisters throughout all our ranks who should discipline themselves to engage in this work."—*Colporteur Ministry*, p. 21.

There is no place on earth where a whole-hearted response to this appeal is more needed than in Southern Asia. Time is running out. Soon there will be "time no longer." What we do must be done quickly. Now is your opportunity to be a full or part-time literature evangelist. Who will respond?

a subscriber to the health journal in the Tamil language, and through him there are other subscribers, too, on the same estate.

I desire to see more of the working of the Holy Spirit in me, in my home, in the church and in Kandy District.

—John A. Nayagam, Kandy

*Literature evangelism in and around the hills of Kandy (Ceylon).*

John A. Nayagam

with his friend

Selvanayagam

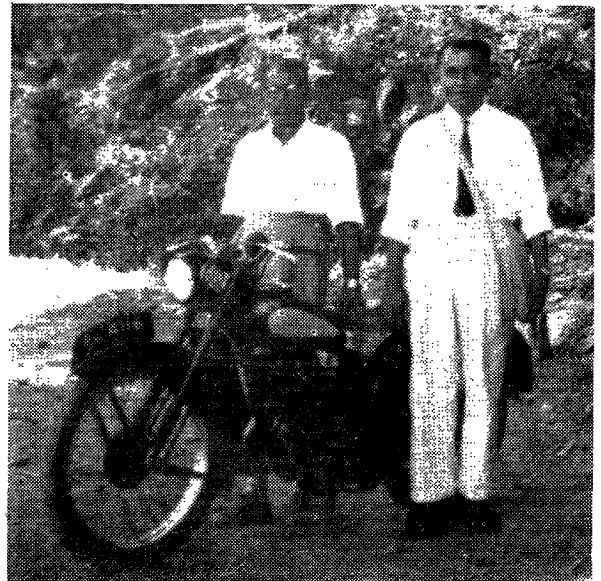
who distribute

our literature.

### A SUCCESSFUL LITERATURE-EVANGELIST SPEAKS

**I** HAD been to a certain humble home previously but had not made a sale. Now I came inquiring where a certain family lived who had written in asking about our literature. After receiving the desired information I mentioned my previous visit and said that I was still convinced that they should have the books. (I was selling *The Great Controversy*, *The Desire of Ages*, and *The Bible Speaks*.) Then the woman told me something that I had not learned the first time I was there. They were opposed to Seventh-day Adventists and their teachings—more specifically, to our position on the punishment of the wicked. As we went through the main scriptures on these subjects the woman was speechless. She said, "I am torn between the teachings of my lifetime, which seem to be largely tradition, and the plain scriptural truth, which these books contain."

I had explained to her every reason I could think of for her having these wonderful books in her home, but she was still undecided as to what she should do. Finally I said, "Why don't we bow our heads and pray for a definite



answer?" We did just that. I wish you could have heard this honest soul pray for divine help in making her decision. In that moment all heaven seemed to be in that small, hot room.

As she opened her eyes she sat quietly for just a moment and then said, "I feel a definite need for those books. Come what may, I must have them."

Experiences like this are daily showing me the method a loving and all-wise heavenly Father uses

to reach and save His lost children.

My wife and three children are also happy about my work. I have been a literature evangelist now for three years, and during that time I have delivered Rs. 230,293.67 worth of literature. The year 1954 was my best year, with deliveries amounting to Rs. 87,061.90 and seven souls won to the truth.

Dear reader, won't you give this effective soul-saving work definite consideration?

—Charles Eddy

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## SAVED TO SERVE

E. R. GANE, *Publishing Secretary, Australasian Division.*

IN A LITTLE village named Kellyville, about twenty-five miles west of Sydney (New South Wales), there lived a young woman named Mary Pryce. Her father was the local school master. She taught sewing in the school, was the local post-mistress, and the Church of England school teacher.

While Mary Pryce was absent on a vacation, a tent mission came to Kellyville, with Pastor Robert Hare and David Steed in charge. When Mary returned from her holiday the mission was well under way. One day an old gentleman acquaintance came into the Post Office and asked, "Miss Pryce, have you been to the mission yet?" Miss Pryce answered in the negative, stating at the same time that she had too much to do to be bothered with missions outside the Church of England. The old gentleman then expressed the wish that she would attend the mission ". . . because they say we are keeping the wrong day."

"What utter nonsense," said Miss Pryce, "I can show them from the Bible that we are keeping the right day."

"Can you?" hopefully asked her friend. "I wish you would find it for me. I have been searching, but have not been able to find it."

That night Mary Pryce sat up with her Bible and Concordance and spent almost the entire night

in a vain search for evidence in support of the Sunday sabbath. Disillusioned, she decided to attend the mission, and on the next meeting night, with Bible and notebook in hand she selected a front seat, determined to find out more about this strange new teaching.

The evangelists were perturbed, thinking that the local Sunday school teacher had come for one purpose only, namely, to upset the really good interest that had developed. But Mary Pryce the teacher, came to be taught.

At home she studied over carefully all that she had heard in the tent, compared the Scriptures, and found the truth for herself. In the Sunday school she commenced to teach her new found faith until the Rector of the Parish informed her that unless she quit such teaching she would have to leave the church. The inevitable happened. Mary Pryce left the church of England, and with her went almost the entire Sunday school class.

The members of the James family, still living at Kellyville, are the children and grandchildren of those who left the Church of England with Mary Pryce.

Shortly after the Kellyville tent mission the first Seventh-day Adventist camp meeting was held in Brighton, Victoria. Mary Pryce attended this meeting during which

time she was taken seriously ill. Dr. M. G. Kellogg and Mrs. E. G. White from U. S. A. were delegates at this same camp meeting.

Dr. Kellogg was called to attend Miss Pryce, and his diagnosis of her condition was of the gravest. She was in a rapid decline, and, humanly speaking, there was no hope of recovery. However, to be doubly assured, Dr. Kellogg requested the privilege of consulting with another physician, and messengers were sent from the camp ground to the Government Medical Officer, who at the time was resident in Brighton. His reaction to the request was at first abrupt and discourteous. He refused to consult with an "American quack." "Oh, but this is not an American quack," protested the messenger. "This is Dr. Kellogg, of the Battle Creek Sanitarium."

"Dr. Kellogg!" said the surprised medical officer. "I will most certainly come." The fame of the Battle Creek Sanitarium, and the name of Kellogg had gone around the world.

The united opinion of the two doctors, following their joint examination, was as stated above. Mary Pryce's case was hopeless.

One night at the camp ground Mrs. E. G. White had a dream, the subject of which was Mary Pryce. In the morning she told her dream to the nurse and others vitally interested in the very sick girl. Mrs. White had seen that if charcoal poultices were prepared and applied to Mary Pryce where her pain was most severe, she would recover. The method of preparation for the poultice as revealed was also explained, and the nurse carried out the instructions.

Mary Pryce felt relief immediately this treatment was commenced, and began to show signs of recovery. Although carried from the camp ground weighing only six stone (84-lbs.), Mary continued to improve until her recovery was complete. She attended the first school this denomination ever conducted in Australia in St. George's Terrace, St. Kilda Road, Melbourne, and later became one of our earliest colporteurs, selling the books "Great Controversy"

and "Patriarchs and Prophets." In the course of time Mary Pryce married, and the third child born of this union was the writer of this article.

Mrs. Mary T. Gane lived to her eighty-first year, devoting her life in a lay capacity, to the truth she espoused as a young woman in the little village of Kellyville, New South Wales. She sleeps now after a life of faithful service, miraculously snatched from the brink of the grave in her early twenties.

Mary Pryce was saved to serve.

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### WHEN DOES GOD BLESS A COLPORTEUR?

**A THOUSAND WAYS**—"Our Heavenly Father has a thousand ways to provide for us of which we know nothing. Those who accept the one principle of making the service of God supreme, will find perplexities vanish, and a plain path before their feet."—*Ministry of Healing*, p. 481.

For the past three years I have had many experiences but none are as impressive as this particular one. In my early colporteur service I worked hard but received little blessing so I worked still harder but received less blessing. I wondered what the secret could be. I questioned, "How can a colporteur be blessed in his service?" but later I was happy to find the secret which I shall now let you know.

The great mistake lay in my tithe paying. I had worked very hard, presented many demonstrations, prayed earnestly to God yet it all seemed a failure. At that critical moment I chanced to meet the Pastor who had baptized me, and he related to me his experience of tithe paying while he was a canvasser. I was deeply impressed that, that could be the reason why I was not blessed, so I determined to start paying tithe regularly. I made a large cover and each day after returning from canvassing I would count the money I collected for that day and first separate one-tenth of it and put it in the cover and ever since that time I feel that God's blessing is coming out of that particular

cover. What a wondrous gift this 10% is! Colporteurs must experience for themselves this secret blessing.

G. Isaiah, Literature Evangelist,  
S. India.

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### NO OTHER WAY

**A LARMINGLY** enough the Roman Catholic Church is launching a great literature promotion campaign on all fronts. Other denominations are going 'all out' for literature promotion. In Africa one conference leader confided, "Brother Bucy, if we do not reach the people this year and next we shall find ourselves the very tail." Yes, friend of mine, I say again as I have so oft repeated before—What we do must be done quickly! The Spirit of Prophecy bears this out. We should be the head and not the tail. Our literature offensive must be the greatest—now and until probation closes. Do you agree with me?

Yea, thousands upon thousands would enter the portals of the true church if it were not for the offshoots and fallen churches of Babylon and their false propaganda. In England I have been in contact with one of the leaders of the Jehovah's Witness group there. I asked them how they were able to win 26,000 converts in 1955, another 30,000 in 1956 and another 34,000 in 1957 making 90,000 converts in the three-year period in the British Isles alone. I was interested because I was told that less than 4% of the 56 million people in Britain attend church, and our own membership is only 8,000. The answer to my question came from the Jehovah's Witness leader quickly and softly, "We give some 30,000 Bible studies every month to the people of Britain. We use our own Bible and text books. We have been told that the best way to reach the people is in their homes. House to house labour was Jesus' favourite way of reaching people. His disciples used the same method. We, too, use Jesus' method. We are not interested in numbers, we want converts who are

true to our church. By reaching the people in their homes through church members who desire to do the work, we were able to add the 90,000 members in Great Britain. In fact other churches have other ways of reaching the people but we have no other way of doing our work."

Friend of mine THINK!!—90,000 converts in three years. If others can do it, we can too! But we must go where the people are. This was Christ's method. It was highly successful. If we followed it as religiously and faithfully as Jehovah's Witness people, we too would have tens of thousands of converts more each year. What do you think? The inspired pen wrote so long ago, "How can the work of the third angel's message be accomplished? It must be largely accomplished by persevering, individual effort; by visiting the people in their homes." *Historical Sketches*, page 435.

—J. M. Bucy

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### Literature News Flash!

Literature sales show a healthy trend. Magazine subscriptions reached their highest point for a long time, and the total sales for the Division up to the end of July are Rs. 39,828/- higher than they were for the same period last year.

—J. W. Nixon

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Praise is like a shadow. It follows him who flees from it, but flees from him who follows it.—*Auslese*.

The humblest citizen of all the land, when clad in the armour of a righteous cause, is stronger than all the hosts of error.—*William J. Bryan*.

The most exhausting thing in life, I have discovered, is being insincere. That is why so much of social life is exhausting; one is wearing a mask.—*Anne Morrow Lindbergh*.

Everybody likes and respects self-made men. It is a great deal better to be made in that way than not to be made at all.—*Oliver Wendell Holmes*.

Perseverance is more prevailing than violence; and many things which cannot be overcome when they are together, yield themselves up when taken little by little.—*Plutarch*.

If you were choosing someone you had to trust to educate your children, to teach them good citizenship, and to bring them to Christ, would you, could you conscientiously choose yourself?—*Frederick Roblee*.

# MV WEEK IN SALISBURY PARK

MARCELLA K. ASHLOCK

**T**HE Salisbury Memorial Church MV society enjoyed a most profitable MV Week of Prayer during July 18-26, 1958, with Pastor E. P. Wolfe of Surat as the guest speaker.

The executive committee under the leadership of E. G. Moses and his associate, George Thomas, laid plans well in advance for this week of special spiritual emphasis. Madhukar Ohol, the SYF secretary, with his committee prepared the youth census. Upon his arrival Pastor Wolfe was informed of the number and the ages of the youth, the types of homes from which they come, the schools they attend or the work they do, and the present state of their spiritual experiences as far as could be judged from conduct and appearances.

Amirtha Ganesh, the recreational secretary, served as chairman of the platform committee. Four MVEes, consisting of a different group each time, were associated with the speaker for every service. These youth announced the hymns, introduced those taking special parts, offered prayer, pronounced the benediction and on five evenings one of their number related an experience which, it was felt, would be an inspiration to the other youth. The story told by Elsie Joseph, of Sikh parentage, illustrated the power of the gospel to draw souls to Christ despite persecution and the influence of age-old traditions. The conversion of Amirtha Ganesh furnished an interesting and vivid picture of the reactions of the Hindu to the efforts made to bring him to Christ. Ganesh told us that at first the Hindu is often drawn through curiosity, and that in his case the patience, love, kindness and perseverance of the workers in presenting the appealing love of God eventually led him with his father and brother from Brahminism to Christianity. The experiences of Douglas Montgomery and his family through the dark days of World War II in Burma

and later through the terrors of Burma's civil war gave evidence of the Lord's leading in individual lives. Like Martin Luther of old, Y. John Wilson, when urged by his professors to sit for his university examinations "just this once" on Sabbath, declared, "I must remain true to my convictions. The blessings of God are more precious to me than these examinations. Here I stand. I can do no other." As a climax to these thrilling experiences, Alexander Job gave a clear, convincing testimony of the power and influence on his life of his well-ordered, well-disciplined Christian home.

The music committee, under the able chairmanship of Emil Fernando, worked early and late to provide inspiring and appropriate music for every meeting. A lively song service accompanied by instrumental music provided a favourable atmosphere for Pastor Wolfe's timely messages. The special numbers, given by a sextette of ladies' voices and a male quartet, together with duets and a few chosen solos, were varied and appealing. One incident serves to illustrate the direction of the Lord in the details of the programme. When Pastor Wolfe arrived in Poona a day early he inquired about a theme song and when told that one had been chosen his face clouded. He said, "I had a song which I particularly desired to use, but we shall go ahead with the one you have already prepared." At that juncture he was handed a mimeographed copy of the one which had been selected. What was his joy and amazement to find that it was the one he had planned to use, "I Choose Christ"!

Douglas Montgomery, the devotional secretary, with his associates, made the prayer band arrangements. Due to the various institutions and departments located at headquarters this MV society draws its members from many language areas. So in addition to the prayer bands whose members

used the medium of English there were bands representing several of the Indian languages. The older people attending the meetings formed themselves into two prayer bands. All of the bands met in appointed places at the close of the service each evening. Once each day Pastor Wolfe met for special prayer with the following prayer band leaders: D. C. Christophaul, Merry Crussiah, Yuimi D. Luikham, Douglas Montgomery, R. N. Singh, I. D. Solomon, Gloria Thomas, A. D. Wilson, George Zachariah and Sosamma Zachariah. Some very definite answers to prayer encouraged the hearts of the participants. They saw some who had at first refused to attend the meetings yield to the Spirit's pleadings and begin attending and then heard them publicly express their determination to follow all the way.

Pastor Wolfe followed the order of subjects as outlined in the MV Week special of *The Kit*, enriching his talks with illustrations from his own experiences in soul winning. As evening by evening he presented Christ in all His beauty and purity conviction gripped the hearts of his hearers and when Friday came, the consecration of the youth, who were joined by their elders, was full and complete. This service, marked by the dedication of youthful lives, was followed on Sabbath by an appeal to the church to continue its interest in the young people and to the youth leaders to plan SYF activities not only to win others but to help the MVEes to hold the victories gained. After the church service a baptismal class was organized.

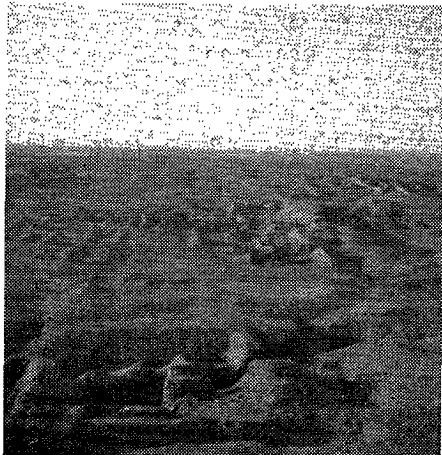
On Sabbath afternoon the SYF secretary and the MV society officers put into action the MV Community Service programme which included every member of the senior society as well as the children from the local school JMV societies. Literature bands called at the homes of Hindu, Moslem, Parsee and Christian neighbours, making friendly visits and wherever possible leaving truth filled literature or enrolling persons in the VOP Bible courses. Sunshine bands brought happiness

(Continued on p. 11.)

# UR TO BABYLON

D. K. DOWN

**F**OUR thousand years ago, one of God's greatest men lived in a place called Ur of the Chaldees. But Ur was a stronghold of idolatry, so God called His servant to leave Ur. "And Terah took Abraham his son and Lot . . . and Sarai . . . and they went forth with them from Ur of the Chaldees to go into the land of Canaan." Genesis 11:31. But the idolators of Ur continued on in their round of heathen ceremonies and licentious living and God withdrew His prospering hand from this once fertile valley, turning it into a desolate wilderness. The hot sands of the desert swept across this dreary plain and Ur sank into oblivion. Less than 40 years ago the exact site of Ur was unknown and skeptics of the Bible even questioned that such a place ever existed. But God foretold that "truth shall spring out of the earth." Psalm 85:11. And when archæologists began excavating some mysterious mounds 120 miles north of Basra they were startled to find the buried ruins of Ur of the Chaldees.



The excavated ruins of Ur photographed from the top of the Ziggurat.

After crossing the Iraq border near Basra we turned our car and caravan northward. Ten miles out of Basra we photographed a huge oil fire burning fiercely. Oil was

apparently sweeping out of the ground and fire had turned it into a seemingly unquenchable blazing inferno with black smoke rolling upwards into the blue heavens. I had often wondered how "the flame of the fire" slew those men who took up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and flung them into the fiery furnace for not worshipping Nebuchadnezzar's golden image, but the answer is quite obvious. Nebuchadnezzar used just such a fire for his furnace and a sudden change of wind at the crucial moment could easily cause the flame to turn and lick up the soldiers like a molten tongue, snuffing out their lives.

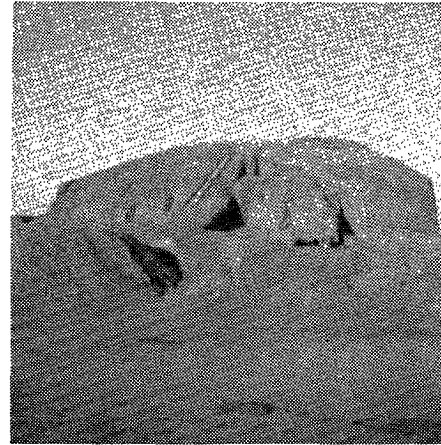
The drive to Ur was tedious. After a few miles the road ceased to exist and the wind blown track wound across the arid plains with only an occasional 44 gallon drum to mark its direction. We battled for nearly 8 hours against a hurricane of a headwind which drove sand and dust against the windscreen like a miniature meteoric shower. We arrived at Ur Railway Junction about noon next day, but the dust storm made sightseeing impossible so we had to close all the doors and windows and batten ourselves inside the trailer with a temperature of 110 F. and sweat out the rest of the afternoon in the hope that a new morning would bring better conditions. Ur Junction is a small railway station and its only inhabitants a few Arab railway employees, so we fervently prayed for the wind and heat to subside so that we could proceed.

Next morning the wind was still buffeting the trailer but strange to say there was not so much dust, so at 5:30 a.m. we drove to Ur and parked our car a short distance from the huge ziggurat. This was once an immense brick temple devoted to the worship of the moon, and as we mounted the remarkably well preserved stairs we marvelled at the diligence with

which men will worship the objects of God's creation while those who worship the Creator of all, often seem too indolent to give their neighbours a Bible tract.

The walls of some of the houses were still in quite good condition, due no doubt to their thickness of eight or nine feet, probably to insulate the inmates against the burning heat. The excavations went very deep in places and the walls were infested with nesting owls at which the Arab boys trailing us delighted to throw ancient bricks and pieces of pottery.

Many civilizations have lived at Ur, for many layers of broken pottery and other utensils can be seen up the sides of the excavated



The large brick moon temple at Ur of the Chaldees, Abraham's old city.

walls. The inhabitants had the custom of burying the dead inside their houses and I found one pit that contained many old bones. I picked up a chalky looking bone and found it quite fascinating to imagine that perhaps I was holding a shin bone of Haran, Abraham's brother, who died in Ur (Genesis 11:28).

We finished our sightseeing and photography within a couple of hours, and after breakfasting on what might easily have been the site of Abraham's dining room when he dwelt at Ur, we had no regrets about leaving Ur, for by 9 a.m. the wind was again whipping the sand into our faces and it was only with difficulty that we could walk against its furious onslaught.



Again we chugged across desert tracks for another 50 miles before anything like a road materialized, though the headwind had not abated. Another 80 miles and we drove into Hilla, a large city 5 miles from ancient Babylon. We purchased some food supplies and procured some dirty water for drinking (all that was available) and drove into Babylon just as night was falling. The prophet Jeremiah had foretold that "Babylon shall become heaps, a dwelling place for dragons (jackals), an astonishment and an hissing, without an inhabitant." Jeremiah 51:37. Babylon is right near the main road and the track into the ruins led us to a small house and compound where Arab caretakers live. We parked between two big "heaps" and settled down for the night. Before I dropped off

to sleep I heard the mournful wail of jackals answered by the yelping of dogs from a small Arab village which has grown up outside the western limits of the Babylonian ruins. Two neat white tents were pitched on top of one of the high mounds where modern Arab workmen temporarily live. But Isaiah said "Neither shall the Arabian pitch his tent there." Isaiah 13:20. And of the nomadic bedouins to which Isaiah refers, we could see no sign. I understand that they never pitch their hand woven tents in or around Babylon's ruins and while there are the few people already mentioned living among Babylon's heaps, certainly no man, woman or domestic beast ever inhabits the streets or buildings which once constituted mighty Babylon.

## LAKPAHANA TRAINING INSTITUTE PIANO FUND

DESMOND KRAUSE

THE need for a good piano in our chapel has been felt for a long time. In view of this need we launched a piano-fund campaign.

The students and the staff were divided into three groups. The goal for each group was Rs. 300. The progress of each group was indicated on three charts showing three pianos with no keyboards to start with, but every time a group collected Rs. 5 one key appeared on their piano. Long before the closing date all the groups had reached their goals. We were told at the outset that every rupee we collected would be matched by the Division by another rupee. At the close of the campaign we had collected a total of Rs. 1435.85. When this is matched we hope it will be adequate to secure a good piano. We are happy with the success of the campaign and are looking forward to good music in our chapel.

## LET'S SUPPORT THEM

KENNETH H. WOOD JR.

**A**T THE recent General Conference session [and in our Southern Asia Division and in our Union and in our local sections and in our churches] members of the nominating committee worked faithfully to select men and women whom they felt would give strong leadership to the church during the coming four-year period. The leaders chosen were then voted into office by the delegates. Since that moment the heavy responsibility of directing the various phases of the denomination's world programme has rested on these servants of God.

Perhaps they will make mistakes as they seek to carry out the commission entrusted to them. No doubt certain human faults may be observable in their lives. Notwithstanding, these leaders deserve the whole hearted support and earnest prayers of God's people everywhere. Even Elijah—that noble and faithful servant of God—was somewhat less than perfect as he fled into the wilderness from the wrath of Jezebel!

What shall we do then when we see our brethren make mistakes? Snipe at them? Criticize them? Withdraw our support from them? A thousand times No! It is Satan's work to accuse the brethren. And when we engage in this activity we are lending our support to the enemy.

Note this statement: "As men lose their first love, they begin to criticize one another. This spirit will constantly be striving for the mastery to the close of time. Satan is seeking to foster it, in order that brethren in their ignorance may seek to devour one another. God is not glorified, but greatly dishonoured; the Spirit of God is grieved."—*Testimonies to Ministers*, p. 189.

Through the years we have observed certain brethren and sisters who have made it their life-work to criticize the endeavours of church leaders. They have fed themselves on the faults and failings of others. And what an impoverished diet it has been! It has resulted in leanness of soul.

The church has made progress in spite of their negative attitude, but they themselves have lost ground spiritually.

Inspiration tells us that "we should love and respect one another, notwithstanding the faults and imperfections that we cannot help seeing."—*Steps to Christ* (pocket ed.), p. 126. This is not difficult when we keep our eyes on Christ.

The coming four years before the next General Conference session—if time should last that long—will be years of great progress for God's work. We can help assure such progress by faithfully supporting God's appointed leaders. "When there is harmonious action among the individual members of the church, when there is love and confidence manifested by brother to brother, there will be proportionate force and power in our work for the salvation of men."—*Testimonies to Ministers*, p. 188.

—*Review and Herald*

# NEW DISTRICT ENTERED THROUGH VOICE OF PROPHECY

B. NOWRANGI

**F**OR the last few years the Northeast Union has been entering into a new district almost every year through the Voice of Prophecy. This year we decided to hold an effort in Hazaribagh Town, the headquarters of the district of Hazaribagh, which is one of the many districts in our Union where the message has never been preached in a direct way. We knew very few people of the town except for a few Voice of Prophecy graduates whom the writer had visited a few times in the past.

When the writer, together with two assistants, Pastor H. Lakra and Brother Jyotish Barla, went to make arrangements for holding an effort there, we had some difficulty in finding a suitable location, but we finally procured a nice plot of land which was centrally located where we erected our pandal.

On April 7, at our first meeting, we were overjoyed to welcome a big crowd—more than could be accommodated in the pandal. These people were from a very fine class of people, well dressed and well educated, and by the grace of God, throughout the meetings we had a steady and fairly large audience who were eager to hear the message of the hour.

From the beginning we took the following word of God to be our motto: "I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." We had a very simple pandal; our handbills, too, simply announced the meetings giving the subjects and the dates. No pictures of any kind were used on the handbills. We showed no moving pictures during the series of lectures, but an S. V. E. film-strip was shown to the audience at the close of each meeting.

Before starting our meetings we had sent invitations to our Voice of Prophecy students. These responded in good numbers and

formed the nucleus of our interested group. So far we have baptized four people, all of whom were Voice of Prophecy graduates. Besides the baptisms we have sent three boys to Falakata, and one to our school at Khunti. At present we have about six families who are definitely interested and are preparing for baptism.

Special mention should be made of Mr. G. P. Hembrom who was baptized with his eldest daughter on the 7th of July. Mr. Hembrom finished the Voice of Prophecy course several years ago, but because he was in Government service he felt that he could not keep the Sabbath and was not baptized. His eldest daughter, Aruna, was a student at the St. Columbia's College here. She attended the meetings without missing a single one. Each night she accepted the doctrines as they were presented in the meetings. When the message of health reform was presented, she at once determined to give up harmful things. From that day she made it a rule that no more tea

was to be served in her home. From the day the jewellery question was presented, she has not worn her bangles and earrings and necklaces. When she learned of the Sabbath and baptism she at once declared that she could not continue her studies in the Government College and that she must join the remnant church without delay.

When her father saw the bold stand she had taken he felt it keenly, that though he had known the truth for several years and had not accepted it openly, now his daughter was going ahead of him in this all-important step. He determined to follow Christ openly, made arrangements with his officers to keep the Sabbath properly, and came requesting baptism. Father and daughter were baptised together, Aruna had been sent to Nuzvid for nurses's training to prepare herself for the Lord's service.

There are other precious souls in the valley of decision—those who will have questions of home and work and studies to be answered in their hearts before they make their decision. Pastor Lakra is staying on to continue the work here. We solicit the prayers of our believers throughout the field that a strong church may be established in the town of Hazaribagh.



Sabbath School in Hazaribagh town.

## A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE

DURING the month of March, 1958 I went to Prakasapuram for a month's vacation. While there I was worrying as to how I would meet my expenses for that month and also keep up my sales standard. There was nothing I could do except pray to God to lead the way. After praying I was constantly impressed to go back to Salem immediately, and though my relatives at first refused to let me go, yet I went and all the way to Salem I kept praying to God to lead the way and show me what to do. When I arrived at Salem, my brother-in-law met me and handed me an express cover which had been waiting for me for more than three days. I tore it open and what do you think I found? It was an order for books from the District Educational Officer for Rs. 1700.00 and I was asked to supply the books within 10 days on receipt of the order. So I rushed to Bangalore and made arrangements with the Manager to despatch the books. In all I supplied books for Rs. 1245.50 since some books were not available. The District Educational officer immediately issued a cheque for this amount and I was indeed thrilled to send in the Book Depot's share and my tithe and still have more than enough for my expenses about which I had been greatly worried. Not only that, but to my astonishment I found my name in the Honour Roll for highest sales during that month. I praised the Lord for His mercy and I fully believe that it was not my ability in canvassing the District Educational Officer, but I feel that God answered my prayer.

Finally, I would say to my co-workers that if we pray earnestly and believe that our Lord will certainly hear our prayers, definitely we will have success. **'PRAYER IS A MIGHTY KEY THAT UNLOCKS HEAVEN'S STORE H O U S E.'**—Edward Daniel, S. India.

### MV WEEK

(Continued from p. 7.)

to patients in the hospitals and found new places where their

## He Prayed

MAY NICHOLS

My Saviour's retreat  
Was a place of prayer.  
He prayed much, and often,  
Everywhere.

He prayed in the evening.  
And at newborn day.  
Every occasion was  
A chance to pray.

He prayed for knowledge  
To teach God's truth,  
He prayed for the aged,  
The babes, and the youth.

He prayed for power  
To heal the blind  
And to cure sickness  
Of any kind.

To the end of time  
He saw our sorrows,  
He saw persecution  
Through many tomorrows.

He prayed, "Keep them, Father,  
Whom Thou hast given,  
That they may be one  
With us in heaven."

In the dew of the night  
See Him kneeling there,  
Pleading for us  
In humble prayer.

How thankful we are  
For our Saviour's prayers;  
They helped bring salvation  
That makes us heirs.

services are desired. Those conducting branch Sabbath Schools and Story Hours carried on their usual activities. In one Hindu home where a regular story hour is held the leader found the attendance improving and one little lad said, "Please, today, tell us the story about Jesus on the cross." At the next MV meeting opportunity will be given for the sharing of MV Community Service Day experiences. All are anxious to tell what the Lord has done.

It is the aim of the Salisbury Memorial Church MV society to follow the suggestion of Pastor Wolfe that the spirit of MV Week be carried throughout the entire year.

## LAYMAN'S CORNER

Brother Daniel Gnanaprakasam has been a loyal Seventh-day Adventist lay preacher ever since he accepted the message in 1950. He loves his Lord and has a burden for souls. As a result of sharing his faith in his village of Sivalingapuram three souls were baptized early this year. Because of the interest among the villagers, Pastor A. Selvanayagam, assisted by the lay preacher, conducted an evangelistic effort there. A good response resulted. This caused the priest of another denomination to try to stop his people from attending the meetings. When the priest saw that his attempts were futile, he finally told them that they could attend the meetings but that they should hear the message through one ear and let it go out through the other. One of the members in his congregation remarked: "Does this rule apply to our priest's sermons also?" Dissatisfied with her past life, this lady continued to attend our meetings along with her husband. At the close of the effort this couple, together with another person, were baptized.

## Calendar of Special Days and Offerings 1958

September 20	Tithe Covenant Day
October 4	Home Missionary Day and Offering
October 4-11	"Review and Herald" Campaign
October 18	Colporteur Rally Day
October 25	Temperance Day and Offering
November 1	Lay Witnessing Day, H. M. Offering
November 8	Voice of Prophecy
November 22-29	Evangelism Day and Offering Week of Prayer and Sacrifice
November 29	Week of Sacrifice Offering
December 6	Home Missionary Day and Offering

### THIRTEENTH SABBATH OFFERING

September 27	Inter-American Division
December 27	South American Division

## Miscellany

● Dr. and Mrs. L. H. Rhymes and their two sons report an interesting trip through Africa en-route to the U. S. A. Dr. Rhymes gave valuable service for a year in Southern Asia at Karachi, Surat and Ranchi.

● U Pein Gyi, Secretary-Treasurer of the East Pakistan Section, writes of the many calls for workers coming into the office. Brother P. K. Rema has just returned from the Mymensingh District and reports excellent interests in that area. Pray for our workers and the work in this interesting and populous area of Southern Asia.

● Regular evangelistic meetings will be conducted during the last quarter at Pyapon, Bassein, and Kyaukpya in the Delta Section of Burma. Schoolhouse evangelism will be carried on during August and September in 12 places in the Delta Section. Pastor Ba Nyein and his fellow workers are of good courage and expect a rich harvest during the last half of 1958.

● Five of our representatives from the Burma Union attended the Prime Ministers' National Seminar on July 25 in Rangoon. U Kyaw Din spoke of the work of the Seventh-day Adventist organization and presented some of the needs of the Hospital.

● Saya Hla Pe reports an enrolment of 44 students in the Tahan school not far from Kalemyo. Enrolment of 18 is reported in our little school at Tiddim in the Chin Hills.

● The Publishing Department of the Southern Asia Division report that sales are Rs. 30,738 ahead of 1957. Study is being given to special plans to promote the circulation of literature during 1959, the Golden Jubilee Year of the "Oriental Watchman and Herald of Health."

● The Western India Union reports 98 baptisms during the first half of 1958. Brother B. K. Athavale reports the baptism of 39 in his district. This is indeed an encouraging report.

● The comparative report of paid-up magazine subscriptions sent out by the Oriental Watchman Publishing House on August 1, 1958 shows that the trend is in the right direction for the "Oriental Watchman and Herald of Health," the "Good Way," "Swasthya Aur Jiwan," and "Marga Darsi." All showed a gain in the subscription list over the report on July 1, 1958 as well as over the report on August 1, 1957.

● From August 15-17 a Home Missionary and Sabbath School Secretaries' Council was held in Bangalore. This council was attended by all the local section departmental secretaries, as well as the union and Division Sabbath School and Home Missionary Secretaries. Strong plans were laid for developing local talent in the churches of the South India Union.

● A new tract is being prepared by the Home Missionary Department for the laymen to use in their contacts on Lay Witnessing Day, November 1.

● Constituency meetings were held during the latter part of August and early September in the South India Union. Pastor Kemmerer was in the field from the 19th to the 30th of August, attending the meetings at Kollegal from the 21st to the 23rd and the Kerala meetings at Kottarakara on the 26th and 27th of August. From Kottarakara he went on to the Board Meeting at Vellore which was also attended by Pastor Duane S. Johnson and Dr. A. J. Patt.

● The Golden Jubilee Celebration and the North and South Tamil Constituency meeting was held at Prakasapuram from September 2 to 6. Pastor L. C. Shepard and Brother J. S. Dasan from the Oriental Watchman Publishing House and Pastor Johnson from the Division were in attendance at these meetings.

● The North and South Telugu Sections held their Constituency meetings in Nuzvid from the 7th to the 13th of September, with Pastors L. C. Shepard and D. S. Johnson attending as the Division representatives.

● Pastor O. W. Lange was in

Shillong from the 4th to the 17th of September attending the Workers' Meeting and Departmental Council of the Assam Section.

● Dr. & Mrs. Clifford Anderson, Your Radio Doctor, arrived in India on the first of September and with Pastor Rawson visited Bombay, Madras, Vellore, Nuzvid, Ranchi, and Calcutta before leaving the field on the 11th of September.

● At the present time the Bangalore Middle School has the highest enrolment it has ever had, with 182 students in attendance.

● The Kottarakara High School has an enrolment of 390 students this year with 200 in the high school section and 190 in the elementary grades.

● The Falakata School was the only school in the Division to have 100% passes in the Division Examinations this year. One student from Falakata, J. C. Tirkee received a first class pass with distinction.

## Southern Asia Tidings

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