

INDIA UNION TIDINGS

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A Visit to the Malayalam Country

The Malayalam country is a narrow strip of territory lying along the western coast of the extreme southern part of India. It is not a very large country, but very fertile and thickly populated. There are about 6,000,000 people living in the country and are divided up into different castes as Hindu communities usually are. The southern part of the country is ruled by a native prince called the Maharaja of Travancore. It is a most beautiful country, very much unlike the rest of India in many respects.

Christian missions entered this country nearly a hundred years ago and have made considerable progress in civilising and uplifting the people. In some places nearly the whole population is Christian, at least in name. Many well-equipped hospitals, good schools and churches are in evidence all through the country. The Roman Catholic, London Mission, and the Salvation Army seem to be the strongest missions working here.

Although so much work has been done here, yet there is still a great amount of superstition, ignorance, and insincerity on the part of even those who have formally accepted Christianity. So, there is still much room for Christian effort, and much work to be done before the people are ready for the Lord to come.

We have been publishing some literature in the Malayalam language which has been sold all through the country by our colporteurs, and has stirred up an interest in the truth in different places. About a year ago we sent a young man and his wife down to the southern part of Travancore to develop, if possible, an interest that had been thus aroused. They were gladly received. Many began

to study the truth with them and they soon found that the work was more than they could handle alone. So they began to call for help, with the result that Brother Edward Joshua and wife, promising young people brought into the truth by



SEASHORE, SOUTH INDIA

Brother P. C. Poley in Madras, were sent down to take the oversight of the work. These four labourers have been working hard in teaching the people, and the Lord has blessed them and their efforts.

Last week Pastor E. D. Thomas and I went down to visit them. We spent four days planning and counselling with the brethren and visiting among inquirers. We held several meetings, further instructing some and preparing others for baptism.

We found that there were four places within a radius of ten miles where interests had sprung up. In each of these places the people themselves had built houses of worship and were assembled ready for us when we came. We were gladly received and royally entertained at all these places. After holding a meeting or two in each of these towns we invited all who could do so to come to the central station for an all-day meeting on Sabbath. The Sabbath-school, with an attendance of over one hundred, was held at nine in the morning. Then at ten o'clock our preaching service began and lasted until after 2 P. M. During this four-hour meeting Brother Thomas and I took turn about in giving instruction and questioning the candidates for baptism. There were nearly two hundred present, sixty of whom came forward for baptism when the call was made. We carefully questioned them individually and found that most of them had a fair knowledge of the truth; but many admitted that so far they had not been living up to all that they knew. After very thorough questioning, twelve out of the sixty were chosen for baptism. These twelve, according to their own confession, the testimony of the brethren

who have watched them for a year, and of all who were there, are good, honest, clean people, who will be good representatives of the truth in that country. The rest were advised to wait until some future time for baptism. Many were very much disappointed, but promised to, by the Lord's help, live cleaner lives, study the Bible more, and be prepared for baptism the next time we visit them. Just before the close of the Sabbath we went to a nearby tank where the twelve were buried with their Lord in baptism.

There are two day-schools being conducted for the young people and children of those who are interested and studying the truth. The attendance of these two schools together is about one hundred. They are calling loudly for another school, but we felt that it would not be advisable to go further along that line just now.

Sunday morning we left them happy and of good courage. I feel that this is a very promising field, and that with the Lord's blessing and careful work on the part of the brethren there in charge, a good strong church can be built up.

G. G. LOWRY.

What One Paper Did

Some years ago a young man was passing through the country from——— to——— in pursuit of employment. While walking along the railway line he picked up a paper entitled SIGNS OF THE TIMES. That night he read the paper, and became convinced of the Sabbath truth. Instead of going to——— he made his way to our college seeking further light.

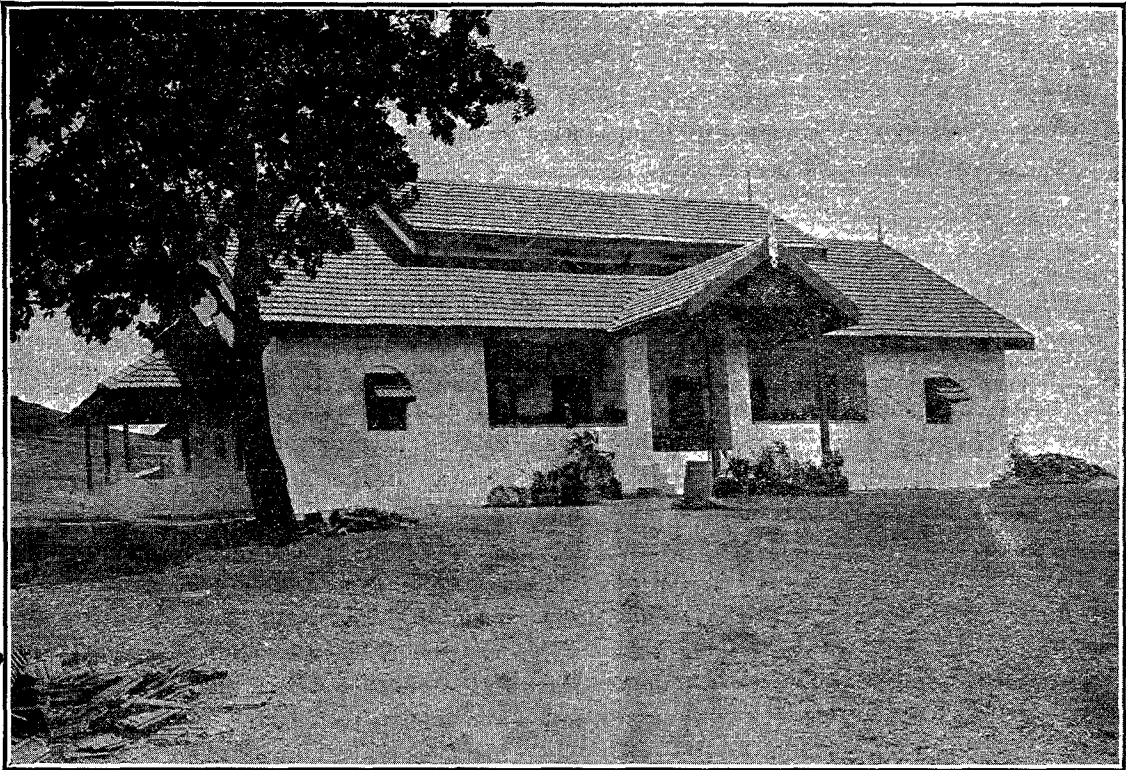
"If there is one work more important than another, it is that of getting our publications before the public, thus leading them to search the Scriptures."
—Testimonies, Vol. 4. A. W. KNIGHT.

Bombay Presidency General Meeting

The annual meeting of the Bombay Presidency Mission was held at Kalyan, July 26th to 31st. Although the attendance was not large, this proved to be a profitable gathering. The Bible study and general instruction were followed with good interest by the believers present.

W. Pettit, took the opportunity to hold a meeting of the Mission committee and some important matters were dealt with.

It was a source of encouragement to all that Brother R. E. Loasby was able to report the completion of his work on the second year course in the Marathi language. A district was selected where



MISSION STATION, KALYAN

All the foreign workers were present and took some active part in making the meeting a success. Brother A. H. Williams and the writer represented the Union Mission. The topics discussed in the meetings were very similar to those reported in connection with the Coimbatore and Calcutta meetings.

The local superintendent, Pastor G.

Brother Loasby could begin a definite evangelistic effort among the Marathi people. One of the students from the Lucknow school, Brother Peter, was appointed to join with him in the work. Readers of TIDINGS will no doubt hear later more in detail with regard to the location of this new centre, and the plans for the development of the work there.

It is encouraging to note that it was only about sixteen months from the time Brother Loasby began the study of Marathi to the time he passed the examination on the second year's work. The earnest efforts so many of our young missionaries are putting forth to master the language in which they are to labour will certainly prove fruitful in strengthening our work in this field.

The Kalyan station looked its best, and some recent improvements were much appreciated. Pastor Wood has laboured hard to bring the station to its present standing and is looking forward to being able to give more undivided attention to

the evangelistic work in the villages.

Sister Wood is again carrying the burden of the dispensary work, having been greatly benefitted by the much-needed rest and the change afforded by her stay in the hills. The hold Sister Wood has on the hearts of the people in the district is illustrated by the rapidly increasing patronage at the dispensary since her return.

We trust that all our brethren and sisters will remember in prayer the workers in the Bombay division, asking God to bless their efforts to forward the message in that great field.

W. W. FLETCHER.

From Colombo to Shanghai

After waiting for two long weeks in Colombo, our boat, the P. & O. S. S. Khyber, came into port on the 25th of March, and two days later the connecting boat, the Kaiser-i-Hind, arrived, so that we were able to sail the same day, the 28th, at evening. Brother James and Miss Boose had arrived the previous Friday, and accompanied us. We were all much disappointed, however, when the days passed without bringing Brethren Fletcher and Williams to complete the party.

Leaving Colombo we had an exceedingly pleasant voyage to Penang, where we arrived early Monday morning, April 2nd. As the ship stopped here only two or three hours, we did not go ashore, but about a half hour before the ship sailed, Brother Matthews of Singapore, who was then doing colporteur work in Penang, came aboard, and we learned from him that the brethren in Singapore were looking for the full party to arrive there by the Khyber.

We left Penang at noon and were again favoured with delightful weather, though a bit warm, to Singapore, arriving in that port at 7 P. M., Tuesday, April 3rd. We were unable to go ashore that evening but got away on the morning of the 4th and made pleasant visits to the school, conference office, and through the city. Brethren Detamore, Adams, and Thompson were in Shanghai, but Brother Fletcher, the treasurer, and brother of Pastor Fletcher of India, met us with autos and piloted us about. We found at the school Sisters Adams and Mead, who made us acquainted with the school work. We had opportunity for seeing the school in session; and a bright, intelligent appearing body of students, Chinese, Malay and Europeans they proved to be. Miss Mead was carrying the full burden of the school in the absence of Brother Adams. Brother Rowland, who has the local evangelical work in charge, was absent, getting some young men started in a new district in the country, and we were un-

able to meet either himself or his family.

We left Singapore April 4th at 1 P. M., and after another four days of pleasant sailing reached Hongkong Monday April 9th. It grew cold the last day and a half so that we had to don our heavy wraps while on deck, and the nights in Hongkong were chilly enough even inside to demand blanket covers. In Hongkong all the workers were absent; but during the day, Brother Meeker, who with his wife was stopping with Sister Ham in Canton during Brother Ham's absence at Shanghai, came down, and we all spent a very pleasant evening together in their home. The work here in Hongkong has been largely with literature, and no permanent results are evident, the large work for this section being in Canton and the interior of the Chinese southern provinces.

During our brief stay in Hongkong we were able to arrange the passage of Miss Boose from the S. S. Monteaule to the S. S. China; and she, together with Misses Gibbs and Reid, eventually sailed

in company on this vessel from Shanghai on April 18th. Brother Kelsey and family sailed from the same port three days later, May 21st, by the Persia Maru.

From Hongkong to Shanghai was cold but pleasant till the last day, when we ran into the tail end of a storm, which continued till we were well up the Yangtsikiang.

Our good boat docked at Pooling at about 4 o'clock Friday afternoon, April 13th, and the smiling faces of Brethren Towne and Weeks greeted us as our launch landed us on the Shanghai side of the Woosang river an hour later, so that by sunset we were safely settled in the home of Brother and Sister Weeks, Brother James being assigned to the home of Brother Allum, and Sister Boose in the girl's dormitory at the training school.

The succeeding days at the Asiatic Division meeting form a separate chapter which we shall try to send from the next port, San Francisco. S. A. WELLMAN.

The Garhwal School

The Open View Mission School at Chelusain, Garhwal, opened its new school term, July 10. Owing to the decision of the Union Committee to cut down the standards taught from eight to six, there are now a few less than thirty boys in attendance, and we have been obliged to dismiss two of the teachers.

The boys who remain, however, are taking hold of their work in a good manner, and the Bible classes with the boys are proving interesting. The conducting of school work at the out station at Bhagrukhal has been dropped in accord-

ance with the new educational policy, but we are still trusting to obtain a foothold in that district, which at least affords more opportunity for evangelistic effort than Chelusain, which is too far from the villages and people for efforts in that line.

The future of the work in Garhwal District is at present somewhat uncertain and we need the prayers of God's people that the work here may be conducted aright and that our plans for the future may be laid in such a way as to bring glory to God's cause.

T. W. SMITH.

A Visit to Burma

Generally the crossing from Calcutta to Rangoon in the monsoon season is none too pleasant, but I was fortunate in having a very smooth passage on the occasion of my recent visit to Burma.

Arrived in Rangoon on Sabbath, I found that Brother Lowry had called a meeting of the Burma Committee for Monday. One of the most important items discussed was the matter of how best to deal with the interest in the Myanaung section, at the head of the Irrawaddy delta; and in view of the very excellent opening at this place, Brother Beckner was asked to transfer from Mandalay and locate there. Already he has moved, and is now settled in his new home, and has been joined by Saya Chit Hla.

This is a thoroughly Burmese district, and a very great interest in the truth is being manifested. We trust that the name Myanaung ("speedy victory") may describe the experience of the workers there.

Leaving Rangoon, I accompanied Brother Hamilton to his station at Kammaung where I found all well and busy, Karen study being the order of the day. Time did not permit of a visit to the Pwo Karen believers in the Donyin area, amongst whom Saya Ba Tin has recently been located. This section has been calling for a worker for years past, and all will rejoice to know that at last the many there who are seeking after light have a teacher in their midst.

Meiktila was the next place visited, and here I spent a busy two days, auditing. The school was just opening for the new year's work and Brother and Sister Ludington have high hopes of this

being the most successful in the school's history. Among the improvements to the estate since my last visit is the completion of the front fence. This is a four strand wire fence, the wire being some untwisted steel drilling cables donated by friends in the oil fields, while the posts are of reinforced concrete made by the boys in the school.

Back again in Rangoon, I spent some days in the office there, helping to arrange things to meet the present circumstances. We hope soon to have a worker in charge of the office again.

Pastor Lowry is hard at work on Burmese and is making good progress, as is also Brother Denoyer. As for Brother Hare, his Karen books are his almost inseparable companions. Brother Carratt too is working hard at Burmese at his new station at Monywa. Under Saya Hpo Hla's care the Rangoon Burmese church company is growing steadily, and I much enjoyed attending the Sabbath-school.

The cause in Burma is prospering. Every worker is striving with might and main to master his particular vernacular; and whilst this means a partial slackening of actual field work, yet it is providing a good solid foundation for future activities. May God add His richest blessing to the efforts that are being put forth in Burma, that there may be a bountiful harvest, to His name's glory and honour.

A. H. WILLIAMS.

Notice

The Tract Society wishes to hear of any subscribers who are asked to pay surplus postage on their TIDINGS. The paper is registered and is therefore sent for 3 pies postage a copy. Evidently some postoffices are not yet aware of its registration.

Asiatic Division Conference Meeting

(Continued)

Conference Executive Committee: In addition to the names of the officers, presidents of union conferences, superintendents of union missions, and departmental secretaries, who by the provision of the constitution become *ex-officio* members of the executive committee, the following seven additional members were named to serve on the committee: J. S. Fisher, A. H. Williams, J. W. Rowland, J. P. Anderson, C. L. Butterfield, Dr. A. C. Selmon, J. E. Shultz.

Educational Department: S. L. Frost, Union educational secretaries, principals of intermediate schools, directors of normal departments, Dr. A. C. Selmon, R. F. Cottrell, F. A. Allum, J. P. Anderson.

Sabbath-school Department: R. F. Cottrell, secretaries of union conferences and union mission Sabbath-school departments, and Dr. A. C. Selmon, S. Miyake, Mrs. F. A. Detamore, Mrs. L. V. Finster, G. F. Furnival.

Publishing Department: C. E. Weeks, union field missionary secretaries, managers of publishing houses, editors of missionary papers, union conference presidents and union mission presidents, and J. S. James, C. C. Crisler.

Medical Department: Dr. C. C. Landis, Dr. A. C. Selmon, Dr. Riley Russell, Dr. Bertha Selmon, superintendents of Canton Treatment rooms and Dispensary, Dr. Carlos Fattbert, Dr. V. L. Mann, Dr. H. C. Menkel, Dr. T. A. Sherwin, Mr. M. Freeman. (Others to be nominated by various unions not as yet represented by two members.)

Literature Bureau: C. C. Crisler (chairman), Dr. A. C. Selmon, R. F.

Cottrell, J. E. Shultz, J. M. Johanson, J. S. James, C. E. Weeks, H. M. Blunden, W. W. Fletcher, F. A. Detamore, L. V. Finster, Miss Mimi Scharffenberg, T. H. Okahira. (The first four named, with any others who may be at Division headquarters from time to time, to constitute a working quorum.)

Advisory Board of the Signs of the Times Publishing House of Shanghai: J. E. Fulton (chairman), F. H. De Vinney, J. S. James, F. A. Allum, B. L. Anderson, J. M. Johanson, F. A. Detamore, H. M. Blunden, C. E. Weeks.

Voted, That Pastor J. S. James be advised to locate in the northern portion of the Division, with his headquarters at Shanghai; and that Pastor F. H. De Vinney be advised to locate in the southern portion, with headquarters at Singapore.

Voted, That H. W. Barrows serve as Auditor of the Asiatic Division Conference.

Voted, That Pastor R. F. Cottrell be invited to give special attention to the building up of evangelical work in the Division, through the preparation of literature adapted to the needs of workers and church-members, and also through the holding of ministerial institutes.

(Concluded next month)

Yeast

The following was clipped from an exchange. The recipe may be of use to those who make their own bread.

"Boil 1 pound of good flour, $\frac{1}{4}$ pound of brown sugar and a little salt in 2 gallons of water for one hour. When cooked, warm bottles and cork the mixture closely. It will be fit for use in 24 hours and 1 pint will make 18 pounds of bread."

India Union Tidings

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Here and There

The Bible in Mandarin Chinese is completed. It has been in preparation since 1888. Over 300,000,000 of China's population understand the Mandarin.

Pastor W. W. Fletcher spent the first week-end of August in Lucknow, leaving for Mussoorie August 5th. We are glad to see him still in good health in spite of the long stay on the plains during the entire hot season.

Am I working for the Mission as industriously as I would for a business firm where salaries are directly affected by the efficiency of the employee?

Word has been received that Brother Mookerjee has fever. Let us remember him and the work in E. Bengal where he is so much needed at the present.

Brother Mattison and family have returned from Mussoorie and are located again at Hapur.

The Signs Publishing House of Australia sends out on an average of forty pounds of literature every hour day and night.

Pastor M. N. Campbell, the new president of the British Union, has arrived safely in his new field of labour.

A very interesting letter was lately received from an earnest brother among the Territorials stationed here in India. Since coming to India three years ago he has been reading many of our books and papers and has been distributing quantities of literature monthly among his comrades and sending papers to his relatives at home.

Much interest is being manifested in Australia over the new missionary boat, "Melanesia," which was launched June 3rd of this year. The young people of that conference are raising the funds required for her construction. She is 60 feet long, of 15 feet beam, 7 feet deep, and is equipped with a 50 h. p. motor and sails; and will be used to carry the Message and its messengers to the many small islands of the Pacific. Pastor Gates, who offered the dedicatory prayer at the launching, was in charge of the first party of missionaries who came to the island fields on the "Pitcairn."

A Missionary Society was recently formed in West India among the Hindus, the principles of which are said to be:—

1. He who calls himself a Hindu is a Hindu.
2. Any person wishing to join Hinduism may be admitted into its fold.
3. The religious status of all Hindus is the same. But, they add, "matters of caste, food and dress, and other outer forms are not matters of religion." The *Dnyanodaya* of the American Marathi Mission comments:—"A more fluid, systemless religion, one less fitted to call out heroic virtues and intense devotion, could hardly be conceived. Its essence may be summed up in two short phrases—"Think and believe what you please; do what you please."

The latest attempt to copy Christian missions is the establishment of a National Prayer Union among the Hindus of South India. Hinduism is losing ground and to save herself is willing to adopt even the Western methods to which she is so averse.

The daily press is always keen to pick up anything against denominations which are not widely known. We recently saw an example of this regarding a Conscientious Objector. Let us take care to correct wrong impressions given. A letter of explanation will generally be accepted by any publisher. Seventh-day Adventists are "doing their bit" in France, England, Australia, New Zealand and America. They are willing and ready to do all that is asked of them by their respective governments, provided it is not contrary to the law of God. They are not to be classed with shirkers who refuse, under the cloak of religious scruples, to help Government in this time of perplexity.

The South India Missionary Association has decided to hold examinations in the knowledge of Hinduism. The three examinations offered will be based on Farquhar's "Primer of Hinduism," chapters 1-10; "The Crown of Hinduism" by the same author; and "The Bhagavad Gita," respectively.