

INDIA UNION TIDINGS

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Hapur Mission Station

Most of our people know that we are living at Hapur, and that we have been working here for over two years now; but it is quite possible that all do not know that we have secured land here and have built a bungalow. In this issue of the *Tidings* you will see a picture of our bungalow which will give you some idea of what our missionaries here now have to call "home". The bungalow was finished about six months ago, but I have been unable to get a picture of the place till recently.

We came here in the latter part of 1916, and at that time lived in a place belonging to a baniya, which we were able to rent for a reasonable sum. Finally it was decid-

trouble getting him back again. All these things I could write about for hours, still no one can comprehend what land buying in India means till he has been through it.

Our bungalow was started in February 1918, and was put up in a hurry—finished in November. It was to have been a three-month's job. If a man wants to become a martyr in trying to hustle the East, let him take one building contract and really rush it.

But I am glad to say that we have a good building here in Hapur, and though it has been some trouble, we have forgotten all the trouble we had.

First of all we thank the Lord for this Mission Home. It is a thing to be very



THE BUNGALOW AT HAPUR.

ed to locate the Girl's School here, and in connection with this to build a bungalow for the workers in charge of the station.

Brother A. H. Williams and myself spent about ten days looking for land, and finally purchased this property in September 1917. It is not my purpose to tell you of the many difficulties that are involved in buying land in India. I might write many pages on how we worked to get the Patawari after the job; of the difficulty in getting the owners ready and willing to sell to us, and to sign the deed; of how we would get right to the point of signing up when suddenly some one would revolt and run off, and of the

grateful for that He has supplied us or whoever comes here in the future, a place to live quite comfortably in. Then, we feel very grateful to our brethren and sisters in the home lands for the money they have given that such homes may be built, in different parts of the heathen fields. While it is not a very large place, it is quite comfortable for one family to live in and also to have a guest room. This means that any of our people passing by on their way to the hills are expected to occupy it. Hapur is on the road to Delhi and Agra for all who come through Lucknow to see such places.

The girls' school is nearly completed. I shall send a photo of it as soon as I can get some taken. We have eleven girls now reading, and living in the servants quarters.

Our work is going well around Hapur, and I believe we have as good a location for work here as anywhere in India. The Lord is very good to us, in giving us some faithful Indian workers; and daily experiences give us faith and courage that we shall soon have some members from among our villagers.

Pray for the work here.

M. M. MATTISON.

Malayalam Annual Meeting.

Our annual meeting for the Malayalam people, was held again this year at Neyyattinkara. The meeting lasted for four days, and was well attended by our people in the Malayalam country. The largest attendance was on the Sabbath when over one hundred and fifty were present. The four days that we were together were spent in studying the teaching of the Word regarding the soon coming of Christ, and the preparation that must be made before we are ready to meet him.

We expected Pastors Fletcher and Williams to be with us but on account of the sickness of Brother Williams they could not come. We were all much disappointed and trust that they may be able to visit the station at some other time. Pastor Flaiz was with us one day and his message of courage and hope, his report of the progress and growth of our work throughout the world, and his unshaken confidence in the message, and speedy finishing up of the work, cheered us greatly. We were sorry that he could not be with us longer.

Brother H. G. Woodward, with whom most of our workers are acquainted, and who has been in the Malayalam field for over a year studying the language, has been asked by the committee to take charge of the work at Neyyattinkara, relieving Brother Ed. Joshua for some other line of work. We were successful in finding a fairly comfortable little house for Brother Woodward, and he with his family will shortly move from Quilon to take over the work of the station. Brother and Sister Woodward have made splendid progress in the study of the language, which is very

gratifying, and we wish them every success as they enter more actively into mission work.

The colporteurs who have done well during the past year, report a number of places in the Malayalam field where interests have been aroused among the people through reading our literature. There are several places in which we ought to open up work, but as we do not have any trained we cannot do so at present. The harvest truly is great but the labourers are few. Pray for the work in Travancore.

G. G. LOWRY.

Working among the Women, East Bengal

From time to time reports have appeared in *Tidings*, giving interesting items regarding work for women in different parts of India. Up to the present we have not written anything from East Bengal in regard to this line of work.

My greatest burden has been to work first for our own church members and prospective members. Our own people are so scattered that it has been a puzzle to know how to work efficiently for them. Many of the women cannot read, so their only opportunity for instruction has been to learn from their husbands.

As we have toured in the villages from time to time, I have endeavoured to do what I could to instruct the women, while my husband has worked for the men. Some plans were formed which I hoped would result in benefitting our sisters, and giving them an inspiration to work for their neighbours. But until recently all plans came to naught. Now the tide has turned, and I am glad to report that we have been able to make some definite plans for work.

About three months ago, a sister who is competent to do efficient work was added to our small band of workers. As we expected to spend a few weeks in Gopalganj, we requested her to make this her first field of labour, as there were several sisters preparing for baptism. I did some visiting with her in the village, and planned for her work with interested people. After being a week here, this sister had several readers, and a class daily with the women preparing for baptism.

We have planned that her work during the months I am away on furlough will be divided between our churches; her chief work will be to help our sisters, and to arouse an interest in them to work for their neighbours, and as time permits to interest other women with whom she comes in contact.

After spending almost three months in Gopalganj much to the regret of all her readers it seemed best to send her for a few months to a more needy field. Last week we bade her good-bye and God-speed as she left to take up work with our Sareng-katee church in the district of Barisal.

Thus we thank God that a small beginning has been made, and we pray it will not be long before other sisters will be added to our list who will deem it a privilege to engage in active service for those in darkness.

The more I visit the women in their homes, the more I am convinced that it is the woman who exerts the greatest influence for good or bad in the home; and if we desire the best results for our labours, more effort must be put forth for the women of India. If we can win the women, the hardest part of the battle is won as they certainly control the religious affairs of the family. The men will then more readily take their stand on the side of truth.

Recently an educated Indian visited us, who accepted Christianity a few years ago with his wife. He is greatly burdened for the conversion to Christianity of his parents, brothers, and sisters. To my enquiry as to what attitude his mother and sisters manifested towards Christianity, he sadly replied, "They refuse to listen to Christian teachings, and under their influence my father and brothers are kept from accepting Christ." The women must be won first, and India's greatest need is for consecrated women to devote their lives to winning non-Christian women to Christ.

As I am writing, my husband is conversing with two young Hindu men who have long expressed their keen desire to become Christians, but their wives refuse to accept Christianity with them, and refuse to live with them if they accept Christianity alone. These are facts that we have to face daily, so let us constantly remember before the Throne of Grace our burden for the conversion of our Indian sisters, to the end

that the work of carrying the message to all parts of India may be hastened.

As I hope to leave India in June after ten years of labour in different parts of this country I wish to take this opportunity of bidding farewell to the workers with whom it has been my privilege to be associated from time to time in this needy field.

MRS. L. G. MOOKERJEE.

Letting the Light Shine

We are always encouraged to learn that our lay members when away from their home churches are letting their light shine. Brother T. B. Pandian, who was baptized last November, and who was afterwards transferred from this Presidency to Mesopotamia in his capacity as a Government servant, writes from Bushire, Persian Gulf, as follows:—

"The truth, and the kind instruction you put before me brings a daily remembrance of you. I stayed nearly a month in Bombay waiting for my embarkation, during which time I paid regular visits to Pastor Pettit and also attended his Sabbath meetings, taking with me many of my friends, (Christians and Hindus), to give them a fair opportunity to know about our truth.

I took with me many of our pamphlets and distributed them among the passengers on the ship. After leaving Bombay I worked in Basra for one month, at which place I held regular prayer meetings with Brother Bashir. He is a true Christian brother.

By the 10th of January I was asked to go to Bushire in the Persian Gulf, as there were a lot of papers pending and arrears to be cleared. So at present I am at Bushire. Here too I am holding Sabbath meetings. God is wonderfully helping me. I shall let you know in my next letter about other particulars."

We are sure that Brother Pandian will accomplish much good in that country where there are so few of our people. We have repeatedly seen church members leave Madras to reside in other places, and have felt at the time some regret, but we rejoice that we can now take an unselfish view of their going, as it is evident they can do much useful work in more needy fields.

P. C. POLEY.

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Notes

In addition to the report published in our last issue, we are glad to hear from Brother Loasby that our mission buildings at Chuharkana and Chichoki are still intact, and everything seems to be quiet in the district. It is interesting to note that in the case of our Chichoki Mullian Station, the villagers nearby protected the buildings from the mob. Should we not make the work in this sector of the field a matter of earnest prayer, that confidence in the mission may be restored and the work move forward again.

Pastor Williams has very much improved in health during his stay at Mussooree, and expects to be at the office again immediately following the committee meeting at that place.

Dr. O. Smith is at present in Calcutta awaiting suitable booking to the State for Loreta. It is possible arrangements will be made for her to accompany Brother & Sister W. S. Mead.

With pleasure also we hear that Brother & Sister Furnival had a good voyage to Hongkong. They were fortunate in securing early booking to Seattle, at which Port they expected to arrive April 24th.

We have heard from Dr. & Mrs. Mann on their way to America that they have had a very pleasant trip to Shanghai. Calling at Singapore they were able to visit the headquarters of the work there, and to look over the city by auto; while from Hongkong they went out to Canton and visited the workers there.

Pastor & Mrs. Blue left Lucknow for Mussooree during the last week of April. During the week previous to their departure, they appeared for their first year Hindi examination. Brother McWhinney also paid Lucknow a flying visit, in order to complete his first year Hindi examination. We wish the candidates good success.

On May 2nd, Brother & Sister O. W. Nolda left Madras, having secured passage as far as Singapore by the S. S. Tara. From that Port they hope for early booking to the States.

While full figures for the quarter ended March 31, 1919, are not yet to hand, we are glad to notice some encouraging increases. Bombay church reports an increase of Rs. 712/- over the receipts of the corresponding quarter of last year.

Two new members were recently baptized at our Henzada Station, Burma; while some with whom Brother Beckner has been studying, have taken a new interest.

After almost six years of faithful effort, Brother & Sister Morris left Calcutta for America on the 20th April. The following telegram sent to them immediately prior to their departure, expresses our wishes for them: "We wish you God's blessing, prosperous voyage, beneficial furlough, and safe return to India when cordial welcome back will await you."

South India Notes

The schools in South India have closed for the mid-summer vacation. Several applications have come in for admittance into the Boys' school at Bangalore.

The Bungalow, school and other buildings at Nazareth are undergoing their annual repairs and receiving a fresh coat of white-wash.

The European missionaries of the South India mission are nearly all in the hills just now. Their address is "Springhead" Coonoor. The weather is fine and most all feel better for having come up.

A baptismal service was held recently in Madras by Brother P. C. Poley.

Smallpox is raging in the Malayalam country and some of our people have been taken away.

Brother & Sister H. L. Peden are appearing for the 1st year Telugu examination this month, and Brother Poley is appearing for the 1st year Tamil examination at the same time. We hope they will all pass.

Brother H. G. Woodward preached his first sermon in Malayalam a few Sabbaths ago.

The Nazareth Church reports that they have almost raised their half of the Rs. 5000 with which to build their new house of worship. They hope to have all the money in hand and the building work started by the end of this year.

Our S. S. goal for 1919 is Rs. 900/- The offerings for the first quarter were Rs. 211-5-2.

A report of the North India meeting held at Lucknow recently has already appeared in *Tidings*. We are glad to hear that about sixty of our native brethren from the Punjab were in attendance at the later meeting held at Brother F. H. Loasby's station, Chichoki Mullian. A splendid meeting is reported, followed by a baptismal service when fourteen new members went forward in this ordinance.