# INDIA UNION TIDINGS

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No. 22

### Where Will the Conference be Held?

This is a question in which there is naturally a great deal of interest. As we stated in the "TIDINGS" some time ago, we were given permission by the Deputy Commissioner at Meerut to use the buildings in the Free Ganj at Hapur. Some difficulties have arisen since, however, that have caused us to relinquish the idea of holding the meeting there. An Indian boarding school that started some time ago in the Gani has been gradually occupying more and more of the buildings. More recently another school also has taken up quarters there, with the result that altogether about twenty-three of the buildings are occupied. This make a very different situation from that which we comtemplated when we thought of holding our meeting there, the Gani at that time being practically empty.

We have thought for some time that it might now be best to hold the meeting at Calcutta again, or perhaps at Lucknow. At either of these places, however, it is not very easy to find accommodation for so many families as we expect will come together for this meeting. While the matter was still under consideration we received the following very interesting information from Pastor L. J. Burgess, from Ranchi.

"The government of Bihar and Orissa will be leaving here this month for Patna, which leaves nearly all of their buildings vacant for the present. Their European staff quarters and a large number of houses will be left fully furnished, but unoccupied.

"Sister Burgess came up here last week to see Ranchi, as you know, to see how the place would suit for our Boys' school. While she was here she received information which led her to think that we might be able to arrange for the meeting here, so she sent an urgent letter asking me to come up. I will not go into details, but to make a long story short, the Lord gave us favour with the ones in authority here and we have definite sanction from the governor

of Bihar and Orissa, through the Secretary of Roads and Buildings, that we may have the use of the quarters that we need. The amount of rent has not been definitely fixed, but the Secretary thought it would not be much over Rs. 400/- for the whole, including a place for meeting, and it may be less. Beside, this includes about all the furniture that will will be needed.

"I am enclosing a rough plan of the quarters which have been promised us, which I estimated would accommodate all who will probably attend. The meeting hall I figure will hold 200 people without too much crowding, although it will be well filled. It seemed to be the largest hall we could find in that part of the city, except the church belonging to the S. P. G. It is possible that the church might be secured, but on the whole we thought that the hall might be more satisfactory if it will be large enough. I have marked the size of the hall 40 x 45. This is not including the curve in the wall at the front end.

"We shall also be able to get the use of the Indian staff quarters for our Indian brethren, which will provide comfortably for them. If the accommodation which has been reserved should not be sufficient I think we can secure more without any difficulty.

"One of the best features of this arrangement is that the quarters are not far apart and are situated in a quiet spot, where there will be nothing to distract the attention. We feel that in every way "the good hand of our God is upon us" and that the circumstances are going to be favourable for the best meeting we have had in India.

Brother Burgess wrote again the next day with regard to the meeting room as follows.

"The place I mentioned as a place for the meetings, the large room on the second floor, I learned afterwards would probably not answer the purpose, but the executive Engineer is quite certain that we can get the use of a large shamiana or tent from the deputy magistrate, which would probably be better in some ways than a hall. If the shamiana should not be available, the Executive Engineer would help us put up a temporary structure for the meetings, with a tile roof probaby so there would not be any difficulty in that respect. The S. P. G. church room is not nearly large enough, so I didn't try to get it."

Ranchi stands at an elevation of about 2300 feet, and is the summer station of the Government of Bihar and Orissa. The plans of the buildings offered for our use show that there are ten bungalows, each of which would accommodate four families. There is also a large two-storied building,

on the ground floor of which is the hall Brother Burgess speaks of, and five other rooms. Upstairs there is sufficient accommodation for another six families.

The writer is expecting to leave Lucknow on the 16th of November to meet Brother Burgess at Ranchi, so that we can study the situation together, and see what arrangements will be necessary to ensure the success of the meeting if it should be held there. It certainly seems that the Lord's hand is to be seen in this very exceptional opportunity for the gathering of our conference delegates into one quiet place, where we can give undivided attention to seeking the Lord together, studying his Word, and planning for the advancement of his work.

W. W. FLETCHER.

### The Future of Our English School

In our plans for the re-establishment of our English school we thought for some time of purchasing a property that had already been developed for school purposes, if we could find something suitable. One or two school properties were offered us at Mussoorie, for either of which a big price was being asked. In both instances, however, the buildings were very old and poorly lighted.

Sometime ago Sister Keelan offered to sell us her property on the Vincent Hill Road, Mussoorie. After some months careful consideration our Union Mission Committee decided to accept Sister Keelan's offer, and the purchase has now been made.

The land purchased consists of more than 46 acres, contains a number of very fine building sites, and offers exceptional possibilities for the development of gardens and exercise grounds. There are no buildings The property is approached by on the site. a good rickshaw road, which reaches the Mall just opposite the library, a distance of about two miles. Along this road only bungalows of the better class are seen, and very few even of these. It is rather an isolated locality, which will be a great advantage for a school such as the brethren have in mind. There will be no bazaars or crowded quarters to pass through, such as have proved a handicap to the school in its present location.

The new property is delightfully situatey for beauty of view, and all the sites that can be used for buildings or grounds get the benefit of the sunshine both morning and The municipal water and elecafternoon. tricity services will be available. The new motor road under construction from Rajpur to Mussoorie skirts the lower boundaries of the estate. So far as the writer knows all of our people who have seen this property are highly pleased with it, and are thankful that the Lord has made it possible for it to be secured. It will certainly be a valuable asset in the future development of our school work.

The Union Mission Committee has very definite plans for the provision of buildings, and other needed facilities. Of these plans I cannot now speak in detail; but will hope to set them before our people more fully at a later date. The brethren see a very large and successful future before this school work, and are planning accordingly. We know that the school has had many a struggle in the past, and some may be a little sceptical as to the outcome of the present move for its re-establishment. But those who know the history of our schools and colleges in other countries are aware that most of them had for many years to struggle for an existence, with meagre facilities, and many many difficulties with which to contend. Our people nevertheless held on to the great purpose of developing institutions where our young people could be trained for service in the Message; they persevered in spite of the difficulties and disappointments, and now in many lands our training schools have become a great and invaluable source of strength to the cause. The same will be our experience in India.

The young people from our English churches must play a great part in the future history of the work in this country, and we must persevere in our efforts to make our school an efficient factor in training them for service.

We have confidence that it is God's purpose that this school work should succeed, and believe we have reached the time when the larger future of the institution is going to open up much more rapidly than many expect.

The making of roads into the new estate, the preparation of building sites, etc., is to be proceeded with immediately. We hope that buildings will be erected so that the school will be able to move into its new quarters some time during 1920.

The question of the provision of an increased faculty for the next school year has been given much consideration. Sister O'Connor has carried on the work this year under great difficulties because we have not been able to obtain the full number of experienced teachers needed. We appreciate Sister O'Connor's loyal and self-denying efforts for the welfare of the school under these perplexing conditions.

In planning for an increased teaching staff for the next school year, the committee has becided on the appointment of Brother L. A. Semmens as principal. Brother and Sister Semmens have had experience in our school work in America, and are deeply interested in the work that has been assigned them. Brother Semmens has the interest of our young people greatly at heart, and we believe that his labours among them in the school will be very fruitful. We are also planning for the addition of other teachers of experience.

We ask for the sympathetic co-operation of all our people in the effort to place the school work on greater vantage ground, and for the prayers of all for its true success.

W. W. FLETCHER.

#### Notes from the Mail Bag C. W. Flaiz

"I have been looking over the correspondence that you forwarded to me, and assure you that I will be glad to do everything that I can for India. I have visited practically all of the Orient, and my observation leads me to believe that India is a neglected field. Far more should be done for India than has been done, and I will be glad to urge this upon the General Conference. I feel a deeper interest than ever before, and I hope that we can round up some good material for the missions.

As soon as I can get caught up with my work I shall be glad to write you of my tripafter leaving India, and also the prospects for men and means."

#### H. A. Skinner

"Am glad to be able to tell you that Brother Pu Nyu and I are getting along nicely here. Of course our work up to the present time has been chiefly for the educated natives, and among these we have six persons whom we have reason to believe are really interested. Three Burmans, two Indians and one Karen. Two of these men are school teachers. I seem to be making a little headway with the language and hope to be able to preach soon. I long for the time to come when I shall be able to converse with the Burmese people just like one of themselves."

#### Sister E. E. Bruce

"Last Sabbath one of my readers was baptized. She is a very substantial person, and has accepted the Spirit of Prophecy with a great deal of joy. I shall have another lady for baptism when Pastor Hubley gets home. I am working on my outlines for the Young Peoples' work at the meeting. If you have any suggestions I should be glad to have them."

#### H. C. Menkel

"You will recall my telling you of a young man, who had begun to observe Sabbath and was to begin work with Grace Bros. of Calcutta, when demobilized. We have just received a telegram from him stating that his request for Sabbath has been granted by the head of his firm. This is another very interesting evidence of providential leading in our Simla experience, and gives added courage."

#### W. H. Stevens

"I felt very much concerned and sad at the thought, that among the 40 villages where we have work (in East Bengal), there was not, as far as I could ascertain, one of our people's houses left. All of the churches were damaged, and two absolutely The ones that were not very destroyed. much damaged are to be repaired as best the brethren can do, while the Gopalgani church and one of the other buildings will have to wait until our Committee meets to decide what we can do. We are very thank ful, however, that none of our people lost their lives, and none were seriously injured. This experience should certainly serve as a warning, and prepare the people for the greater and more dreadful catastrophes which are soon to be seen in the earth. I walked through the broken and scattered houses in Gopalganj I thought of Sister White's words, "The Judgments of God are already in the land."

I went over to Borashi to see the people there, and the old leper Brother (healed in answer to prayer many years ago), had a very interesting story to relate. His house was blown away: but he sat upon his bed and prayed that God might save him. Timber fell all around him; but he was not even scratched. Although he sat there all night drenched to the skin he was not cold, not did he suffer from any after effects, while others suffered much from the cold. It did me a great deal of good to listen to the old saint's testimony to the keeping power of his God."

#### H. J. Jewell

Brother Jewell, who intends to engage in self-supporting work along medical missionary lines, writes from Ootacamund as follows:-"For several reasons I have decided to go on to Colombo. I was not decided as to which place I would go when I left Simla, but I know what Colombo and Ceylon are, and since I have now seen Ootacamund I am sure I can do a better work in Colombo. There has been little or no work done in Cevlon and I am sure in that great island of four million souls, and especially as it is a great commercial centre, a bright prospect lies before us. understand Brother Comer is going there, and I will be glad to help him in any way I can."

#### W. H. Smith

"At present I am canvassing Yorkshire with "Daniel and Revelation", a pretty hard book, and by God's gracious blessing am doing fairly well. My health is sple ndid now and I am gaining some real good experiences. I took the Sunday night service here (Leeds) yesterday, and we had a splendid meeting.

"The work is going very fast here in England. In Manchester 90 were baptized as the result of one single effort. Sister Smith is doing well and wishes to be remembered to all."

#### G. A. Hamilton

"After church last night a group of young men from the Presbyterian Church came and asked me to conduct a little class each Sunday evening following the preaching service for them, and to give them the privilege of asking questions. You can imagine I was very glad to consent. They wanted a study at once, and got their Bibles and kept me two hours before letting me go home. They are South Indians; but speak English very well. Our Sunday evening attendance is building up again.

"We were so pleased to meet in church last night a fine young man who is just home from England. He went there with the Rangoon Brigade. He and his brother are deeply interested in the Message. He has attended meetings regularly in the past and went away in July to England. It was good to see him back in our church as soon as he returned. So there is still another hopeful case. We have more than we can do. People are waiting for us to call on them. We are hoping to have a baptismal service soon. Twelve or fifteen are just on the border line."

#### R. A. Beckner

At Ngapyugale, near Thonze there are two persons who have been waiting some time for baptism, the wife and father of the man whom Brother Hamilton baptised there about six or seven months ago. A family of four about five miles from here are waiting now for baptism. They wanted to be baptised when Brother Fulton was here but had not fully brought the whole family into line on the tobacco question. Now they have had none of the weed in the house for about six

weeks. The father is a very earnest man. They will likely be baptised before we come to India. Others of their relatives and neighbours are much interested, so we may have more to report later.

"Two pastors of the Free Mission (Baptist) are keeping the Sabbath and teaching it to their people about fifteen miles south of here. I hope to get out to see them before coming to meeting. I wish I had five good Burmese and Karen men to work here now. There are several openings for each of them."

#### W. H. McHenry

"I have just purchased a small tent to use in our evangelistic work. I am planning to have my family with me more than formerly. I think that it will be better for them than staying here in the dusty native city. Too, it will afford Sister McHenry a better opportunity to present the message to the women. We want to make one trip out before the conference if we can."

#### C. C. Crisler

Secretary, Far Eastern Division.

"We read with great interest the reports of progress in the India Union. Evidently you have turned the corner and are now on a road that promises more rapid progress. We rejoice in the large numbers of additions in your members from quarter to quarter. Surely the Lord is blessing richly.

#### Scottish Mission Industries Co., Ltd.

"As I am daily receiving numerous enquiries from Missionaries as to when a new edition of the Protestant Missionary Directory will be issued, I will thank you to intimate in your paper that one is now in course of preparation and will be ready in January, 1920."

#### G. S. Joseph. General Agent, Australasia,

"We are very pleased to know that you are planning to do something with English books in India. From what I know of the field, I feel confident that quite a large business could be done. I hope that it will be possible to send the three men you have asked for. At the Union Conferences Council next month this matter will receive attention. We will be very pleased at any time to send you the very best men we have available.

"If the brethren feel clear regarding the men that I have suggested, I think it would be possible for them to leave by the boat leaving for one of the Indian ports sometime in October.

"I note what you say regarding the change in the name of your Tract Society. I like the new name and think it is a real good plan to let the people know who we are."

#### A. H. Williams

Pastor Williams writes from Mussoorie that no time is being lost in starting work in the opening up of the new property that has been purchased as a site for our English school. It is necessary that the work of road making and the preparation of the building sites be taken in hard at once, for blasting operations are not allowed later than the first of March. The contractors estimate that they can finish the road from the public road down to the main building level in two and a half months.

It is said that the stone on the ground is suitable for lime burning, and as there is plenty of jungle wood available it is quite likely that lime can be burnt on the ground at considerable saving, seeing that a large quantity will be needed for the proposed buildings.

Two small cottages from our Annfield property will be removed to the new site at once, for use in connection with the work that is being done there.

#### The Morning Watch: A Testimony.

I was much interested in Brother Fulton's suggestion concerning the Morning Watch and want to bear my personal testimony as to the value of committing these verses to memory in the Vernacular. Ever since the first of last December when it was definitely decided that I was to return to India I have been learning these verses in Marathi. I write them in a little pocket memo-book morning by morning, and have them always with me. I have found it a wonderful help.

In the first place we are to teach the wonderful works of God in these various languages. Down here in Poona City I have attended many lectures, and have been impressed with the thought that it is a desirable thing in these Oriental languages to have the religious teacher quote from the Shastras from memory. In order not to interrupt the flow of thought it seems much more in harmony with the way it is done here not to have to stop and turn up chapter and verse.

We must further learn to think in these languages. Now the Bible thoughts are familiar to us. By fixing the idiomatic way in which these familiar subjects are

expressed it is surprising how soon the mind begins to adopt the Oriental way of thinking.

It is wonderful how many verses we can fix in the mind by forming this regular habit. It is no small satisfaction to be able to repeat entire chapters in Marathi, such as John 17; I Cor 13; Rom 12; as well as other precious portions such as Matt. 5;1-22; Eph. 6:10-18;3:14-2i, and many others that have already come in this year's Course.

Lastly, we must learn to commune with God in these languages which we must make our own familiar languages, if we are really to help these people. No better way to learn this can be found than the adoption of this habit of learning these verses in the Vernacular. When walking by the way, or sitting in the train, or resting by the wayside, if our minds are stored with these precious promises, we will never be alone.

GEO. F. ENOCH.

# Collector's Cards for the 1919-20 Harvest Ingathering Campaign.

A new plan has been laid in connection with this year's Harvest Ingathering Campaign in the matter of giving receipts for the amounts collected. That the plan may be clear, we explain that in place of "Collector's Cards" and a list of contributors on one card, Coupon Receipt Books in the following denominations have been issued: Rupees One, Five, Ten. Twenty-five, Fifty, and One Hundred. The first three, One, Five and Ten, are in separate books of ten coupons each; the last three in one book, containing two One Hundred, three Fifty, and five Twenty-five Rupee coupons. They are printed to read, No..... .....19..... Harvest Ingathering for Missions, 1919-20, Rupees Twenty-five. ......Collector for the I. U. M. of Seventh-day Adventists.

One book of each should be carried by the Collector, and a signed coupon placed in the hands of the donor, the stub opposite being filled out with the number and name of the person from whom the collection is made.

These Coupon Receipt Books have already been sent to the leaders in the various missions, and we trust that they will as quickly as possible see that their section is organized, the receipt books placed in the hands of responsible collectors, and the Harvest Ingathering pressed till the goals are reached, be that soon or late.

Collectors Cards of the usual form are also being prepared and will be sent out in the course of a few days so that those who prefer to use them will have them at hand.

S. A. WELLMAN.

#### Is It Possible.

Not long since the writer, in looking over a trade journal came upon the following quotation: "The only difference between the difficult and the impossible is that the impossible takes a little more time." It appealed to me that here is a lesson for all of us, and that it might be well applied to any doubts we might have in connection with the coming Harvest Ingathering Campaign.

To many of us the thought is sure to come that so large a goal as has been set is *impossible* of attainment in our field. But let us remember that, even though it takes "a little more time", the seemingly impossible is only a difficult problem to be solved, for so even the world regards it; and if we press forward, knowing that "with God all things are possible", nothing impossible, the battle is already won at the very beginning.

S. A. WELLMAN.

# Ways in Which You Can Help the Harvest Ingathering.

There are some among our workers and believers who will not be able to go out dersonally and solict, yet there is no reason why they too should not have a part in the Harvest Ingathering. This is suggested in a recent letter from one of the first to report results in this year's collection. Miss Manson reports, "I have collected Rs. 87/up here just writing to my various patients. Am hoping to get some more before I go down." She has done this by correspondence with patients whom she has treated this year. Why would it not be possible for others among our workers, and among our European Church members to take

this up with their friends, acquaintances, and tradesmen, and see if they too would not find in it a way to do their bit in the Campaign.

#### The General Meeting

Members of our English churches who wish to attend the Be-ennial Conference should not fail to send word promptly to the Union Mission office so that accomodation may be arranged for them. Such communications should be addressed to the union mission treasurer. The meeting is to be held from the 25th of December to the 4th of January.

Our English churches in India are at a great disadvantage in not having the benefits of the camp-meetings that are held in western countries. Many of the blessings of the campmeeting will be experienced, we hope, at the conference, and we shall be glad to see many of our Sabbath-keepers in attendance. It is a great privilege to come aside from the world for a time for special communion with the Lord, and for the contemplation of spritual things.

"Our campmeetings.....are to promote spiritual life among our own people. The world in its wisdom knows not God. The world cannot see the beauty, the loveliness, the goodness, the holiness of divine truth. And in order that men may understand this, there must be a channel through which it shall come to the world. The church has been constituted that channel. Christ reveals himse f to us, that we may reveal him to others." — Testimonies, Volume 6, Page 32.

Reports from the Union Conference Council recently held in Australia show that very large developments are taking place in connection with the health food work there. Brother G. S. Fisher, who has been in charge of that branch of the work for years, is returning from a visit to America and Great Britain, where he has been in quest of machinery and information, and is now to devote his whole time to the manufacture of the foods, in the endeavour to meet the demand being made for them. Several other men of experience are being called in to look after other phases of the food work, as it is found that only by a much stronger organisation can the growing business be efficiently cared for. The brethren are trying to make this work a real missionary agency in bringing the truth before others, a means of employment to many Sabbath-keepers, and a means of financial help to our schools and sanitariums. This line of work might be made the means of accomplishing the same ends in India.

Pastor G. G. Lowry has been visiting the Telugu field, and returned in Bangalore last week.

We regret to state that word has reached us of the death of Brother Tornblad, of Burma.

Pastors Fulton and Blue left Lucknow on the twelth for a visit to our stations at Najibabad, and Chelusain, (Garhwal).

Brother M. M. Mattison writes of his safe arrival with his family at Boston on the 23rd of September, all being well and having had a pleasant voyage.

Do you use a club of the American "Signs of the Times" for missionary work among your English speaking neighbours? The "Signs" is a wonderfully interesting paper and one of the most effectual agencies we have for spreading a knowledge of the truth. No Seventh day Adventist should neglect to do personal work for others The "Signs" will help you do something definitely and regularly for these with whom you come in contact. If taken in clubs of six or more the rate is one anna per copy per week, postage free. Order from the Lucknow office.

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## Harvest Ingathering Campaign, 1919-20.

Report of Progress.
Nov. 12, 1919.

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Amount Collected to Date,

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### India Union Tidings,

ORGAN OF THE

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Brother N. C. Burns left Lucknow on the 10th of November for Chichoki Mallian, to join Brother F. H. Loasby in the evangelistic work at that station.

Sister W. H. Stevens has been compelled through illness to take a rest in Darjeeling, but we are glad to learn she is daily improving in health and hopes soon to be able to resume school work.

The reports from America indicate that the Harvest Ingathering work in that country is going with great force this year. The early reports indicate that on September 3rd there had already been 850,177 copies of the magazine ordered for the fields, and that that early before the campaign had been opened some sections had passed their quota, and nearly four thousand dollars had been raised.

Brother E. B Hare requests that all who can help in the singing at the forthcoming conference begin to practise now, and come to the meeting prepared to devote the time to the practices that will be necessary in order to make the work of the choir a real success. All are requested to bring with them "Hymns and Tunes", "Christ in Song", and other books containing special pieces for quartettes, duets, or soles, suitable for the meeting.

A number of donations to the East Bengal Relief Fund have been received, for which the Union Mission officers wish to express appreciation. The donations received have as yet fallen far below the amount the Union Mission found necessary to provide for relief in this emergency; so that if others who have not yet given can help, we shall be glad to hear from them. An inquiry has been made as to the number of Sabbath keepers in East Bengal, We understand that the number exceeds 200.

The first reports of active work in the field for the 1919-20 Harvest Ingathering Campaign are from North India and Bengal. Sister Manson of Mussoorie reports Rs. 87 to the 11th of November, and Brother Stevens reports Rs. 100 from Darjeeling in a letter dated the 4th of the same month. This starts the campaign two weeks before the date. We believe that it is an indication of what will be done throughout the field, and we are wondering now who will be the first to reach the goals set.

In Brother Jacob Baroi's letter concerning the East Bengal cyclone published in our issue for the 15th of October, the death of his brother and family, eight persons in all, wa reported. A note from Brother W. H. Stevens appearing in this issue states that there were no deaths among our people there. This may seem to some of our readers to be contradictory. The explanation lies in the fact that Brothers Baroi's relatives who were lost were not Sabbath-keepers, although they lived in the same house or compound with him.

At the annual council of the Australasian Union Conference held recently at Wahroonga, N. S. W., Pastor Cecil K. Meyers, formerly of India, was elected vice-president of the Union Conference. The Australasian Union is made up of six conferences in Australia, two in New Zealand, and the mission fields in the South Pacific Islands. This widely distributed territory makes large demands on the leaders of the union, in their endeavours to visit and keep in touch with the various parts of the field. Pastor Meyers has therefore been released from all other responsibilities in order that he may be free to assist the president in the general field work.

Our treatment rooms in Simla and Mussooree have finished operations for the season, and the workers will be taking up other duties during the cool season. Doctor and Sister Menkel are to spend some time in Calcutta. Brother and Sister Melendy are coming to Lucknow, and we hope will be able to help in the Harvest Ingathering effort part of the time. Brother B. T. C. Burgess will assist in looking after the work being done in the preparation of the new school site at Mussooree. Brethren Lake and Moment will have the task of moving the equipment from "Grey Castle" to "Mar Lodge", the new premises, a work that will take considerable time and attention. Sister Manson will take up Harvest Ingathering work in Bombay.

Brother Cyril Palmer, formerly a teacher in our college in Australia, has been appointed to open school work among the Indians of Fiji. The brethren in Australia are endeavouring to find also another family to send to Fiji for work among the Indians there. We rejoice in the carrying of the message to the Indian people wherever they may be, and wish our fellow workers in Fiji every success in their mission.

The attendance at the Sunday evening English meetings at Lucknow continues to he good. Brother Scanlon is meeting with encouragement in his house to house work, having now openings for regular Bible readings in ten different homes.

#### Important

Some inconvenience and delay in the delivery of mail at our Hapur station has been occasioned recently by reason of letters being wrongly addressed. Will all concerned therefore please note that the correct spelling is HAPUR; and further, it seems inadvisable to add to this the words Meerut District. The notation O. & R. Ry, is to be preferred. The address is therefore Hapur, O. & R. Ry.