



The Chapel at Khamgaon

**"SO MANY CHILDREN SHE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO"**

Indeed I felt like "the old woman who lived in a shoe" when I came out of the Women's Bible Training School last March to work in the Girl's Boarding School as manager of the hostel and principal of the school.

This year we have one hundred and thirty girls in our boarding school. Among them are nine high school girls who live in the hostel and go out to the private and government high schools here in Khamagaon to attend classes. There are also two girls who live in our hostel and who attend the local Arts and Science College. Both passed their high school studies with honours and plan to become teachers.

Typhoid fever was brought into the school by some of the students who had contracted it during the vacation period in their villages. We had three cases. We thank the Lord He has kept the disease from spreading.

We also thank the Lord for dealing with the disease of sin among our girls. One of our Christian men, Joseph Dhoke, held special meetings for the children at the opening of school. A large group of the new girls accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as their own personal Saviour. It was all new to little Shanta who had not been reared in a Christian home. She was not among those who accepted the Lord during the special meetings. Satan took advantage of her and she stole a pen from one of the high school girls. When faced with the matter she declared firmly that the pen was her very own—that her grandmother had given it to her the previous Sunday. We knew that the grandmother had not visited her that day. Finally she confessed that she had stolen the pen from the study hall. She admitted that she had never given her heart to the Lord Jesus and that she did not know how to pray. That evening, however, she prayed the prayer of the penitent and made her public confession of Christ the next afternoon at the children's meeting. Shanta needs your prayers. Please do not forget her and the other girls in the Boarding School here in Khamgaon.

"Is the Boarding School worthwhile?" Little Shanta might never have come to the Lord Jesus had she not come to Khamgaon Boarding School. When the physical, mental, temporal, and spiritual needs of the one hundred and thirty girls in the hostel weigh heavily upon me and when I know that my strength and resources and wisdom are not sufficient to meet the daily demand, I stop and tell Him that I do not know what to do. He answers me and tells me that this is not my work, but His work. He is sufficient for it. He reminds me of how precious one little soul is in His sight and then my heart is filled with praise for the privilege of this year of ministry in the Boarding School.

Winifred S. Senford

**PREACHERS SUMMER SCHOOL**

The refresher course for the preachers and evangelists convened at Nargaon in August with only partial enrolment due to forced lay service in the scheme for self-support. Rev. E. Jacober gave an exposition of the typology of the Tabernacle as it portrayed God's plan of salvation in the Old Testament. Rev. F. Schelander completed the picture from the New Testament with an exposition of Hebrews. These anointed teachers fed all who attended on Heavenly Manna.

Meal times were occasions for exchanging testimonies to God's faithfulness in the isolated villages during the past year. Plans for advancement in the face of grave odds were discussed and analyzed in a spirit of cooperation and prayer.

**ADULT LITERACY CLASSES**

During the interim between winter, harvest and summer sowing twenty adult literacy classes were held in remote villages. Over a hundred adults learned to read and were awarded a Marathi Bible for their success. Devotional programmes for the edification of the Christians and their neighbours were carried out. Only twelve per cent of India's people can read and, by the withdrawal of all but nine pastors from full time witnessing, Christians must learn to read the Word or starve spiritually. Women's teams from the Bible Training School faithfully and cheerfully rendered noble service in this effort. Assist our village Christians by your prayers each day!

**CASTE DISTINCTION ELIMINATED IN SCHOOLS**

The Government of India's Education Conference convened in New Delhi in August to examine the problems in the academic field of the country. Since Independence, India has steadily pressed towards the goal of free education without caste distinction. The problem of over-population has complicated things in this field as well as in the economic field. The conference adjourned with recommendations for higher standards of learning and many other proposals to enroll India's thirty-five million children in school.

The inspiration for the present programme had its origin in the vision and work of William Carey, "The Father of Modern Missions", and one of the greatest scholars of the eighteenth century. Carey arrived in India 166 years ago at a time when the country was only beginning to feel the first impact of Christian education. "The self-supporting village schools, with their Brahman or Moslem teachers, could not deal with the overwhelming number of boys, while education for girls practically did not exist. There were hardly any printed books either in the classical or the vernacular languages." Low caste boys were excluded from all forms of instruction. It was against this melancholy background that William Carey began his great Christian educational endeavour and to which he responded with all his talents and abilities.

When his ship drew alongside the small boats in the Hooghly River, he and his companion asked the fisher folk if they could



"Go and teach all nations." (Schools)

**CHURCH LEADERS OF TOMORROW**

"Because of economic difficulties in my home, my education was interrupted three times. Then I received scholarships from the Lean Sheep Fund and was able to graduate from high school while living in the hostel at the boys' boarding school in Akola. I look forward to a couple of years here before going on to seminary and to becoming a teacher or preacher."

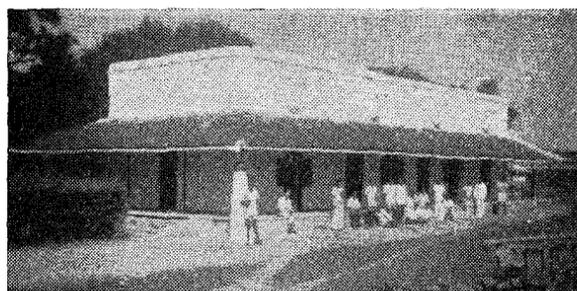
"In making my plans to attend college, my Christian brother who also attended here, always encouraged me to believe that one year of Bible Training was essential to any Christian's education. So I came to Nargaon. I like it so well that I'm sure I am not going to be satisfied to stay just one year. I hope I can come back next year."

"I was reared in a Christian home. My father was a pastor so I have known about Christ from my childhood. Last April while attending a camp meeting my intellectual knowledge about Jesus changed to a personal acquaintance with Jesus. I repented of my sins and have the joy of His forgiveness in my heart. From that time forward I had just one plan in my mind. I wanted to attend the B.T.S. at Nargaon."

These are a few of the testimonies revealing how God has led some of our students to the Bible Training School this year. There are twelve married men with their wives and 16 single men. Six missions are represented in our student body. Five of our young men are here as a result of Lean Sheep Scholarships granted to them to finish their secondary education. Those of you who invested in this fund are reaping your dividends this year.

Modern India is calmouring for all the benefits of Christianity. To train leaders who can acquaint her with the Divine Donor is the task set before us. Our method of preparing the students to take responsibility is to divide the student body into teams of six men upon arrival. These respective groups undertake to carry on the school routine in turn, every week, and are challenged to employ every quality of Christian leadership in the accomplishment of these tasks. School discipline is left entirely up to their wisdom and discretion. The work on the school farm, on the campus, and in the dispensary for outside patients is organized and performed under and by them. Their week-ends are busy ones. Ten or more Sunday Schools operate under their instruction in the surrounding villages. At least one team is out every week end with the loud speaker in special evangelistic efforts when the weather permits. By the functioning here on the campus of all the teams during the academic year, our young men are placed in the crucible of discipline and practical training prior to their assuming the duties of full time service. Pray that when this school year comes to a close that each one enrolled may be able to testify with David in Psalms 94:12, "Blessed is the man whom Thou, O Lord — teachest."

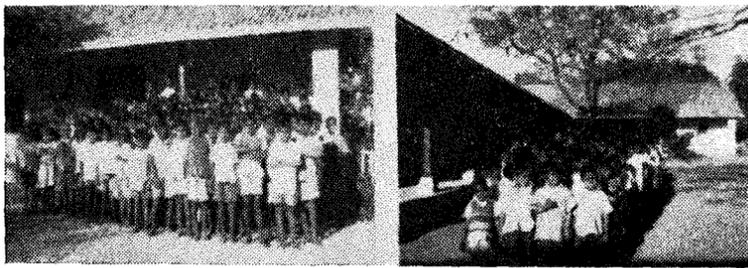
Lauren and Lacy Lee Carner



Class Rooms at Nargaon

read the Shastras (the holy books of the Hindus). They were surprised at such a question and answered in the negative. Carey's reaction to this early experience in India was evidenced in his ambition "to bring God's Shastra (The Bible) within the reach of India's humblest, and so to promote their education, that they would be able and eager to read them." With this end in view he accomplished one of his greatest tasks as a Christian educator in India. He mastered and gave the Word of God "in thirty-four languages to a very empire of mixed peoples, till multitudes of ploughboys learned more of God than the Moulvies and Brahmins." In this mighty intellectual effort Carey made available to the people of India the riches of a Book the influence of which has beneficially enlightened both the minds and spirits of men around the world. As a result of this true educator's vision prejudice against education of girls and the low castes has been overcome. Boys and girls are going to school in New India. Every village of any size has its school house and its school teachers. Every caste has the right to attend school and study. There are text-books in all the vernaculars. The opportunity for free education through high school is gradually but surely being realized.

The command of William Carey's "Teacher, come from God," still compels us to "go and teach all nations." Some of the humble efforts of those complying with this last injunction of our Lord are given in this issue for you to support by prayer and gifts.



Santa Barbara School Boys

#### TRAINING YOUNG HARVESTERS

Sixty seven years ago the Boys' Boarding School was opened in Akola for the purpose of educating Christian boys. In those days there were no schools in the villages for Christian boys to attend. Christian parents were concerned about the future of their children's training. This vision gave birth to Christian boarding schools throughout India. The great famine years between 1897 and 1900 rendered many children orphans. In response to this emergency the compassion of our Lord motivated further provision for hostel and educational arrangements for orphans. All the famine orphans have matured and made Christian homes of their own but the value of Christian education in the formative years of childhood is so highly esteemed by Christian parents that our boys' boarding school continues to grow and function as an organ of present Christian society and the church.

Our 1959 school session opened in June. Boys came from all corners of the Marathi language area in such numbers that we had to inform parents that accommodations in our class rooms were limited. This year we have 127 day scholars and seventeen high school boys (eleven of which are seniors) who live in our hostel and attend the government high schools in Akola, two miles away.

We devote the first period of each day to Bible study. This investment of time in instruction from the greatest of all Books has yielded a harvest of Christian labourers, both clergymen and laymen, down through the years. The following challenge was printed in an issue of this paper several years ago. "If this school fails to fulfill the supreme mission, of producing well trained labourers for the harvest of souls, no matter how successful it may be otherwise there ceases to be any excuse for its existence as an integral part of a mission wholly committed to evangelism and salvation of souls".

Keeping this supreme aim in view we have educated our boys and sent them on to the Bible School at Nargaon and to the Union Biblical Seminary at Yeotmal.

Please remember to pray for our students and for those of us on the staff. Our wonderful opportunity imposes a big responsibility in training these young people to be labourers in His vast harvest field. We thank God for His "great faithfulness, mercy, and love" to us.

Barnabus A. Kulkarni, Manager.

#### MISSION AREAS INUNDATED

One of the biggest floods in the history of our mission took place between September thirteenth and fifteenth. From fourteen to seventeen inches of monsoon rain fell within forty-eight hours. The rivers throughout our entire area left their beds and spread out over the standing crops, washing many completely out and damaging the rest. Fifty six persons were drowned in Vidarbha, fifteen of which were from Akola and three of which were from Amravati. The Lord in His mercy spared all our Christians from death. "The Commissioner announced that 9,362 houses either collapsed or washed away, 51,410 houses were damaged and 4,365 head of cattle either perished or were washed away. In all 1,497 villages were affected."

In our Khandesh area 4,800 families are destitute. Twenty-two people and 2,500 head of cattle were drowned. Damage to roads and bridges in Khandesh was estimated at six hundred and fifty-five thousand dollars. The extent of damage to property was estimated to be over five million dollars. Three villages within nine miles of our mission station at Nargaon were "completely washed away" rendering 1,325 homeless and penniless.

Due to panic caused by the floods one mother sought safety in a tree and gave birth to her child there. While neighbours crowded into the one elevated room of one of our mission outstations for safety, our pastor's wife gave premature birth to her sixth child. One infant, in a plastic crib floated ninety miles on the roaring current from Akola to Bhusawal before it was rescued and placed in a hospital for treatment. Several Christian evangelists, endeavouring to support themselves by operating grain and supply shops (in cooperation with the new scheme of self-support) lost everything in the floods. The only railroad connecting three of our mission stations has been completely dislocated by washed out bridges and road beds.

Along with the tragedies are remarkable accounts of God's mercy in protecting many of His children. In two villages Christians with no recourse to climb nearby trees or to higher summits prayed and courageously faced the on-coming floods. One lone Christian man watched the waters rise above all the houses of his neighbours, take away one of his mud fences and stop only when they had covered the floor of his hut. Every granary in the village was inundated except his own. Another evangelist with his six children defied the floods with humble faith and prayer and were saved from destruction, only when the waters stopped at their door.

All the crops of those residing along the many rivers are beyond salvaging for harvest this year. It will be sixteen months before another crop can be sown and harvested. This interim period of waiting will demand suffering and patience unequalled in our ranks since the great famine years from 1897 to 1900. The mettle of our village Christians and churches will be taxed with no crops to provide tithes and offerings for pastors' support.

"Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But whoso hath this world's goods, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth." 1 John 3: 16-18.

#### "OUR BOYS"

"Our Boys" are all ages and from all missions. Many of them are orphans. They come to live with us and to grow up with us. "The Master Teacher" is our head master and our teachers, "the servants of the Lord, — apt to teach."

For the school year ending April 1957 we had 345 students on the roll and an average attendance of 319. Thirty-seven day scholars and two of our hostel boys took the government examination. Twenty day scholars and two of our hostel boys passed. That year there was a lot of complaining about the severity of the grading of the papers. Some schools had no passes at all. Only twenty per cent of those in Dhond county, who took the exam, passed. The highest grade in the county was made by an adult who had been coached by our principal. The next highest grade was made by one of our boys.

June 1957 to April 1958 we had 430 on the roll and an average attendance of 376. Thirty-four day scholars and five of our hostel boys took the government exam. Nineteen of our day scholars passed and all five of our hostel boys passed. We demolished four old class rooms which were beyond repair, built seven new ones in their stead, and repaired three others, making a total of ten. We thought these accommodations would take care of the growth of the school for some years to come.

But to our surprise June 1958 to April 1959 the enrolment increased again to 551. The average attendance was 498. This was too many students for our ten class rooms and seven teachers. We had to divide some classes and hire four more teachers. One class had to convene in the church. Thirty-one day scholars and eight of our hostel boys took the exam. Twenty-eight and six respectively passed.

July 1, 1959 we started sort of a little kindergarten for our seven small boys under school age. The news spread and parents began coming and asking us to take their little tots into the school. Now there is an average attendance of about thirty-five eager little beavers who take great pride in showing us what they have learned.

Not counting the kindergarten, we now have 612 students on the roll and twelve teachers on the staff. Long after the school year opened parents were still bringing their children and pleading with the principal to admit them. When the Inspector visited us he complained that we had too many students for the number of teachers. Every room, except the dormitory rooms, has a class meeting in it. The school officials really want us to build more class rooms and take in a lot more students. Our programme of expansion is in the Lord's hands and we move forward in co-operation with His plan outlined in Isaiah 54:13. "All thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children."

Grace and Earl Hartman, Dhond.



Bible School Graduates

#### "TELL THEM HOW GREAT THINGS THE LORD HATH DONE FOR THEE."

She stood very quietly and poised as she told the simple village women a story from the Word. She told it graphically and well, and the women listened intently. When she finished, she closed her Bible and looked at the women for a moment. "Now," she said "I have told you a story from the Bible, now you tell me one!" Consternation, amazement and a quiet hubbub of exclamations were the first reactions to this new departure. "Surely," thought the missionary present, "this Biblewomen doesn't understand. These are village women. They have made no preparation. How can they get up before a group like this and tell a story?"

But they did. One by one the women stood up and in their own simple but graphic style told one story after another from the Word. They did it with joy, and a sense of achievement was evident on the face of each one as she finished her story and sat down again.

"Do you wonder why I asked you to tell me a story? You told me you couldn't witness for the Lord Jesus — that you couldn't go tell the Gospel to others. You said you didn't know how. But you do. You have just done it. When you tell God's Word you are telling the Gospel." They were incredulous and said, "Is that witnessing — is that telling the Gospel?" With a look of pleasure and satisfaction they added, "We can do THAT!"

And they are doing it. As they go out into the field to weed, to work the ground and sow seeds, they are sowing the Living Seed as they witness to the women with whom they work, by word of mouth and by Gospel portions which they sell.

Students from the Women's Bible Training School at Khamgaon have been working in this town teaching the women during the touring season and the hot season. The Biblewoman is a graduate of the School. So the Gospel spreads — from Nyack to India's Bible Schools, and through her students and graduates to the warm hearted Indian village women. Women's Marathi Bible Training School.

Hilda J. Davies