

ED  
ENT 5

2020 1972  
1972 First Part  
July

# The INDIA

## ALLIANCE

### MAHARASHTRA

#### RAINY SEASON 1972



# FAREWELL TO INDIA . . .

Our thoughts and prayers accompany Rev and Mrs. E.F. Eicher as they bid farewell – possibly for the last time – to the land of their adoption on August 7, 1972.

We praise the Lord for the almost 45 years of faithful and fruitful ministry He has given them in this needy Field. We will greatly miss them, but know that our loss will be others' gain. We wish them many hours of renewed fellowship with loved ones and friends in the homeland. We are sure that they will continue to pray for this corner of God's vineyard as long as they live, and as intelligently and effectively as few others can. Our prayer for them is that God may yet give them another opportunity to return and visit us in the future.

Their address in the U.S.A. is as follows:

c/o D & D Homes, 4020 58th Ave. No., ST. PETERSBURG, Florida 33714.



REV & MRS. E.F. EICHER

---

## THE INDIA ALLIANCE

NEWS MAGAZINE OF THE MAHARASHTRA FIELD  
CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

RAINY SEASON 1972

NUMBER 1

---

This news bulletin is issued twice a year to encourage Christians everywhere to pray and give for the unfinished task in India. It is sent to you free of charge by some missionary (if initials appear on address label, or mailed in private envelope) or the Mission. Any special gifts to make its publication possible will be gratefully accepted.

Editor: FRED ROTH

Chairman: REV R.F. PERRET

Assistant Editor: MRS. C.H. DYKE, JR.

Field Address: P.O. Box 5, AKOLA, Maharashtra, India.

Headquarters: 260 West 44th Street, NEW YORK, NY 10036, U.S.A.

Cover Picture: THE GATEWAY OF INDIA, BOMBAY.

*Welcoming to India :*

# THEOLOGICAL EXTENSION EDUCATION

Before most of the country has ever heard of it, TAFTEE has begun, has been growing, and the first ten week term has already ended.

The new acronym, TAFTEE, spelled out is the impressive "The Association For Theological Extension Education." This is a novel concept in theological education, but one which it now seems just had to be, for the days we are entering. The churches need trained men and women as never before, but many who most desire training and who best could benefit from it are not free to go away for a theological course. And their going would leave behind a vacuum.

The TAFTEE movement in India takes very seriously those who feel the call of God for theological studies and are already proving their call by their daily life and witness. The vision was gained through the example of churches in Latin America and crystallized through the visit of one of their theological leaders, Rev. Peter Wagner. But Christian leaders in India had long been aware that a large number of key laymen and full-time workers are prevented from getting a regular theological education by their various responsibilities or by financial considerations.

What can be done to train people in such situations?

First of all, they need basically a self-study method. This could be done simply by giving out textbooks for study, but textbooks very often require explanation. A teacher is needed alongside, to help. This "teacher alongside to help" is the

Programmed Instruction which asks the questions that will lead the student to understand his textbook. It gives the student at least 30 minutes per day per subject of "teacher explanation." By itself this programmed instruction method would be quite insufficient. The student can't talk back to the teacher — can't ask questions that are not in the programme — can't even disagree with the answers given in the programmed instruction! He needs to meet a teacher after each lesson for a time of discussion. Extension Education provides for this, and this is where it differs greatly from a correspondence course.

A course is broken into ten lessons, each with five units. The student spends up to one hour a day for five days on the five units. On the sixth day he meets his tutor, along with other students living in the vicinity. The tutor needs to be on his toes, for these are people who have

**SOME STUDENTS GATHERED FOR TUTORIAL IN BOMBAY.**



been studying during the week, their minds are full of questions, and they are ready for challenging discussions.

What about the organization of the extension courses?

Three things are involved. First, there needs to be a man on the spot to care for the students. In the TAFTEE movement he is called the Dean, and he may be either full-time in this job or do it along with other pastoral responsibilities. The students take two subjects every ten weeks (there are three sessions a year) and the arranging of their tutorials, the keeping of records, the provision of the workbooks and textbooks, is all in the hands of the Dean.

Secondly, there are the local church leaders. These men as a committee meet with the Dean at intervals for discussion. In one sense the Dean is their representative, training laymen for the church. The local committee is there to encourage the right people to take the course and give local guidance to the Dean.

Thirdly, there is the seminary. The Dean is the representative also of the seminary that is involved with Extension Education. The seminary gives the academic

push and support to the courses.

The TAFTEE Executive Committee under whose guidance the Director works, co-ordinates these three facets of the Extension Programme. The Executive, with Rev. Sunder Clarke, M.A. B.D. of Madras as Chairman, is made up of twelve members representing seven seminaries and Bible training centers, and ten mission bodies.

During the first term a total of more than 100 students have been enrolled in Bangalore, Bombay, Delhi, Hyderabad, Madras and Shamshabad. These are working towards the degree Bachelor of Theological Studies (B.T.S.), with a curriculum the equivalent of a Bachelor of Theology course.

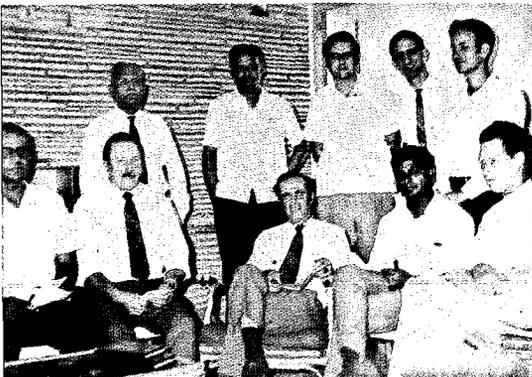
The TAFTEE Programme is being pioneered in English, but vernacular programmes are soon to follow. New centers plan to open in 1972.

*Editor's note:* This article and the two testimonies on page 5 are used by permission from the "Light of Life" magazine. Rev. G.F. Vandegrift, Dean of the Bombay Center, reports that the degree level course is now being taught in 12 centers, and that courses on the diploma level are scheduled to begin in January 1972.

#### BOMBAY TAFTEE ADVISORY COUNCIL

1st row L-R: J.N. Harris, G.F. Vandegrift (Dean), Ian McCleary (National Director), M. Luke, M. Welsh.

2nd row L-R: S.R. Pandit, L. Raine, V.K. Yangad, B.S. Ringrose, R. Eicher.



#### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

- \* It is an awful responsibility to own a Bible. — Anon.
- \* Great occasions for serving God come seldom, but little ones surround us daily. — Francis de Sales.
- \* The world at its worst demands a church at its best. — Selected.

## IS TAFTEE HELPFUL ? *Let students tell you. . . .*

"TAFTEE to me is the fulfillment of a long-cherished desire to undergo such theological training as would prepare me for the work with which we as ambassadors of Christ are challenged. I did not want to be one of the blind leading the blind. The course, though heavy for a fully employed person, is definitely worth pursuing if one is to have thorough knowledge, which is the basic requisite for work in the religious field. I have benefitted greatly by the studies. TAFTEE is really God-sent: 'Yeotmal' coming to my very doorstep. Missing this opportunity would have been an irreparable loss."

Theodore C.P. Aiman  
Post & Telegraph Dept., Bombay.

"Since joining the ministry of our Lord as an honorary presbyter, I have always felt a great hunger of mind and thirst of soul to know more of Christian truth. I therefore have endeavoured to find out from as many sources as are available what the Christian faith is to me. When I learned that the TAFTEE course, an outcome of modern theological scholarship and research, was available to non-technical students, I did not miss the opportunity of joining. The course is helping me to 'know Jesus Christ more clearly, to love Him more dearly and to follow Him more nearly.'"

Rev. P.B. Amolik, M.A., M. ED.  
Principal, Christ Church School,  
Bombay.

## UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

By Mrs. Fred Roth

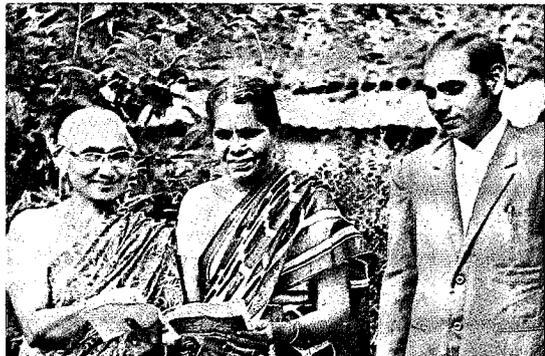
For many years the Boys' School with grades I-VII was situated as Santa Barbara near Akola. This school was first managed by the Mission, and later given over to the Marathi Synod. Last year their complete property at Santa Barbara was acquisitioned by the Government, making some other arrangement necessary. The Mission decided to give the Khamgaon District Bungalow to the Synod to be used as a boys' hostel. This bungalow is nearby, so the boys, grades I-V are able to attend the girls' school as day scholars while the older boys attend a nearby Government school. The new Boys' Hostel Manager is Mr. D. Tayde who seems to take a real interest in the boys under his care. Obviously, we now have a co-educational school.

For some years it has been felt that the Synod should also take over the management of the girls' school. July 1st, 1972, was then set as the date on which

the combined Alliance School in Khamgaon should be placed in the hands of the National Church leaders. On that day Rev. Y.T. Aghamkar, Synod President, came to Khamgaon, and together with Mrs. S. Bansod, School Head Mistress, and Mrs. R. George, the newly appointed Girls' Hostel manager, signed for all monies and funds which were turned over to them in connection with the school.

*Cont'd on page 7*

*L-R: Mrs. Bansod, Mrs. George and Mr. D. Tayde.*



# MORE FUEL FOR PRAISE & PRAYER

## BAPTISMS

We commend to your faithful prayer 76 persons who identified themselves with Christ in baptism during Hot Season. Short Term Bible Schools were conducted at Akot and Murtizapur in April, and daily Bible study classes were held at Khamgaon in May and June, where 16 young people were baptized.

## OPERATION SUCCESSFUL

We rejoice with Rev. and Mrs. D.W. Capps and praise the Lord for successful cataract operations on Donald's eyes earlier this year, and also for a healing touch to Faith in June.

## LEAVING FOR FURLOUGH

The G.L. Carners and the J.L. Amstutz family left India for regular furlough in June. May the Lord refresh them, and greatly bless and use them to challenge many in touring ministries at home.

## BIBLE SCHOOL GRADUATION

Eight students (2 couples, 1 young man and 3 ladies) graduated from the three-year course at Nargaon in March. Prayer is asked for them that the Lord may lead them into paths of useful and effective Christian service.

## PROCESSIONAL TO COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES AT NARGAON BIBLE SCHOOL



## RETURNING TO INDIA

We are glad to welcome back seven missionaries who returned in June, and ask the Lord's abundant blessing on the E.H. Lewellens, the A.B. Shaws, and Misses Sanford, Droppa and Gerrie as they begin a new term of service.

## M.K. NEWS

Sherri Perret and Esther Roth graduated from Kodaikanal High School on May 16th. Esther entered Union Biblical Seminary, Yeotmal, Maharashtra, on July 2nd, while Sherri plans to attend Canadian Bible College, Regina, Sask., for the second semester.



ESTHER ROTH (left) AND SHERRI PERRET

\* Bruce Dyke is enjoying a visit with his folks here in India this summer, and plans to attend Nyack Missionary College in the fall.

\* Tom Lewellen will be in his second year at Toccoa Falls Bible College, and his brother Bart plans to attend Robert's Wesleyan College at Rochester, New York, this fall. We greatly value your faithful and continued prayer for these M.K.'s (missionary kids).

## ANDAMAN ISLANDS

The Moses Palaspar family is presently on a six-month furlough here in Maharashtra. Please include them and their ministry in

your prayer as they plan to return to the Andamans in October. They need more workers.

### **YOUTH CORPS TEAM**

This year we have been privileged to have three Alliance Youth Corps girls serving in various areas of our field. They are Carol Thomson from Canadian Bible College, Vickie Wilkie of Toccoa Falls Bible College and Carrie Matthewson from Simpson Bible College. Their youthful enthusiasm and joyful service is much appreciated wherever they go.



*L-R: Carol Thomson, Vickie Wilkie, and Carrie Matthewson.*

### **LIBRARY AND BOOK SHOP**

We covet your continued prayer for the Akola Library and Book Shop. The Acting Manager would also appreciate receiving used — up to one year old — magazines as e.g. LIFE, LOOK, OUTDOOR LIFE, POPULAR MECHANICS, POP. SCIENCE, POP. PHOTOGRAPHY, RADIO ELECTRONICS, e.t.c. for the Library to attract young people. News magazines like TIME or NEWSWEEK are not needed. Address: Alliance Library, P.O. Box 5, AKOLA, Maharashtra, India.

### **NEW MANAGEMENT, Cont'd from page 5**

Mrs. Bansod, Mrs. George and Mr. Tayde are busy with new tasks and responsibilities and will appreciate your prayer for guidance, wisdom and daily strength. Fred and I, who are presently loaned to the Synod as advisors, are appointed to Amravati as of October 15, 1972. Please pray that this school may continue to be a means of winning many boys and girls for Christ, and producing dedicated Christian leaders.

## **MORE INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

We whole-heartedly commend the following special projects to the prayerful consideration of all who are placed in positions of Christian stewardship:

- |                                    |                             |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Bombay Key City Project         | \$ 20,000                   |
| 2. Theological Extension Education | 3,000                       |
| 3. Bible School Text Books         | 2,000                       |
| 4. Movie Projector                 | 750                         |
| 5. Vehicle for Miss F.A. Gerrie    | 3,000                       |
| 6. New Books for Library           | \$5, \$10 and \$20 amounts. |

Donors are requested to send their clearly designated gifts to: Treasurer, The Christian & Missionary Alliance, 260 West 44th St., NEW YORK, NY 10036.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

EVERY	M	MISSIONARY
EVANGELISTS	A	ND PASTORS
BIBLE SC	H	OOB & SEMINARY
CHURCHES	A	ND CHRISTIANS
LAY WO	R	KERS
SPIRIT'S	A	NOINTING
GOVERNMENT	S	& AUTHORITIES
NATIONAL C	H	URCH LEADERS
TAF	T	EE
LITERATU	R	E MINISTRIES
MISSION	A	RIES' CHILDREN

YOUR CO-WORKERS IN INDIA

REV & MRS R.F. PERRET  
P.O. Box 5  
AKOLA, Maharashtra  
India.

REV & MRS D.W. CAPPS  
Alliance House  
MURTIZAPUR, Akola Dt.  
Maharashtra, India.

MISS W.S. SANFORD  
P.O. Box 5  
AKOLA, Maharashtra  
India.

REV & MRS C.H. DYKE, JR.  
Bible Training School  
NARGAON, Jalgaon Dist.  
Maharashtra, India.

REV & MRS L.F. STENGELE  
Longcroft Hostel  
KODAIKANAL - 1  
Tamil Nadu, S. India.

MISS ANN DROPPA  
P.O. Box 5  
AKOLA, Maharashtra  
India.

REV & MRS G.F. VANDEGRIFT  
21 Club Back Road  
BOMBAY - 8  
India.

REV & MRS A.B. SHAW  
c/o Kodaikanal School  
KODAIKANAL - 1  
Tamil Nadu, S. India.

MISS FERNE A. GERRIE  
U.B. Seminary  
YEOTMAL, Maharashtra  
India.

REV & MRS E.H. LEWELLEN  
Alliance House  
AKOT, Akola Dist.  
Maharashtra, India.

REV & MRS F.W. SCHELANDER\*  
Alliance House, Block 12  
BHUSAWAL, Maharashtra  
India.

REV & MRS FRED ROTH  
Alliance House  
AMRAVATI CAMP  
Maharashtra, India.

*\*Expected to return to India in Nov. 1972*