SOWING
BESIDE
ALL WATERS

Annual Report Number of
THE INDIA ALLIANCE

PRAYER BELL
1924
The Christian and Missionary Alliance.

HEADQUARTERS—260 West 44th Street, New York.

Founder......................................Rev. A. B. Simpson.
President......................................Rev. F. H. Senft.
General Secretary......................................Mr. W. S. Poling.
Secretary, Foreign Department...........Rev. A. C. Sneed.

"The Christian and Missionary Alliance is an unsectarian Society carrying on Missionary work in nearly all the great heathen lands of the world. Its work includes much pioneering in new fields and is strongly evangelistic in character. Its 447 missionaries and over 800 native workers are supported at a very moderate rate by the free will offerings of Christian people.

HEADQUARTERS FOR INDIA—Alliance Mission, Akola, Berar, C. P. Chairman of the Executive Committee—Rev. K. D. Garrison.

"The work of the Alliance in India is administratively united into one mission, though linguistically it is divided into two separate sections. East of Bombay lies the Marathi language area where, stretched along a latitudinal line of over two hundred miles are twelve main stations located in two political divisions, viz., East Khandesh and Berar. North of Bombay lies the Gujarati language area in the political division of the same name, where seven main stations are found in a group, radiating in three directions from the great center of Ahmedabad."

There have recently been added the two new North India Border branches, at present under the same Administration. One is at Mardan on the Afghan Border, and one at Pedong, Darjeeling District, on the Tibetan Border.

There are 66 missionaries working in these various areas, with 152 Indian workers.

The India Prayer Bell is issued from time to time from the Headquarters in India, and is sent by the missionaries to their friends to stimulate prayer for India, and for the Alliance work in this land.

Special Day of Prayer the Last Friday of each month.
Sowing Beside All Waters

The Annual Conference of our India Mission is eagerly anticipated by all of the missionaries, who during the year are separated by hundreds of miles. There our hearts are encouraged as we hear each one tell of what God has wrought in the widely separated and lonely stations, and as we pray and confer together about the work.

To enable you in some measure to share with us the enjoyment of this goodly fellowship we are printing herewith brief extracts from the station reports. In this space not much can be told about the work, but you may catch a tiny glimpse into each station where God privileges us to labour for Him, and perhaps you will be moved to intercession for the work, which is His and yours, as well as ours.

The paragraphs are given in geographical order of the stations, beginning with the one farthest east, and ending with the two outposts in the far north.

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SOWING IN FAITH

"This year almost half of the villages were visited with the Gospel. The people are widely scattered and hear so seldom that there is little wonder that they do not accept a religion that is so contrary to their own superstitions. There are many who show interest, but there has been no visible fruit this year. We have sown in faith not knowing which shall prosper this or that.

"THEY SHALL LIVE"

"While not on tour, I made monthly or weekly trips to Marlegaon. One day on the way home, while riding on horseback over a stretch of road about five miles long, leading over hills which seemed to be nothing but a pile of loose, round stones, there came to my mind the vision of the valley of dry bones. The question came "Will these stones live?" These stony hearts that for so many centuries have bowed to wood and stone have become like unto them, but as we cried to God the answer came "They shall live."

MR. & MRS. B. H. HOSTETTER, Chandur.
THE FORD AT WORK

"The new Ford car which the Mission granted us in November has, we believe, been a great boon to the work. It has enabled us to travel probably over 1,500 miles over cart roads, visiting practically all of the 70 villages where we have Christians. The wear on the sides of the pneumatic tires in the cart ruts has been found considerable, and there has been considerable trouble with babool thorns. Semi-solid tires might solve most of these difficulties, for the cart roads. We have travelled perhaps a thousand miles in the district on metalled roads. There are at present no metalled roads in the Daryapur taluka with the exception of a seven mile stretch to the south of Daryapur and eleven miles stretch at Anjangaon. The latter has just been completed and continues westward into the Akot taluka by way of Akot to Akola. This new road brings us within 18 miles of Akot. The roads in Akot taluka being better than those in Daryapur, by making a journey of about 50 miles from Anjangaon I can reach by "Sadak" road a large town in the western part of Akot near the Jalgaon border where there are candidates for baptism. The car moving at greater speed than the tonga has not only enabled us to cover the territory much more rapidly and comfortably than before, but has made it possible to tour even in the midst of the hot season without great discomfort. It is at that time of the year that we have found the people most free from work and able to give much more undivided attention to Word.

REV. & MRS. A. I. GARRISON, Anjangaon.

A DROP IN THE BUCKET

"My heart is burdened for this big city of 50,000 people. I have visited the King Edward College here and quite a number of students are reading God's Word. I have visited also the high schools and given away hundreds of New Testaments. I have walked its streets and its bazaars and there given away the Word of life. At times it has been hard and rough and I have been insulted but it is all worth while. A young man came to church lately who told me that he and his family believed through the reading of a Bible. Several others
have declared their faith in Jesus and come to church. I have distributed Scripture portions in this city totalling 8,344.

"There is a great demand for these. Men, both old and young, come to the bungalow or send notes asking for Bibles. They call it the "Blessed book of our Lord." Mr. Salve and I had the pole of our tonga broken by the boys climbing up for books. There is a moving of the Spirit here. Will you please pray for this city that thousands more may be able to get the Precious Word of God and that a great revival may break out here. I need 1,000 Bibles more and that would be but a drop in a bucket."

REV. WM. FLETCHER, Amraoti.

ANSWERED PRAYER

"Our Mission property valued at Rs. 15,000 was about to be taken from us because we had no deed. Upon the expiration of the thirty year lease the taxes were raised from Rs. 9-8 per acre per annum to a much higher figure. In answer to prayer the European official did what no Government officer has ever been known to do before. He allowed deeds to be written out and reduced the taxes to about one-tenth of the present rate of taxation. It was the young missionary students in Akola who took the matter up in prayer, while Mrs. Cutler at the home end was also praying.

"The church site is also a direct answer to prayer. For four years we prayed for this but the high caste people set themselves against our obtaining it. But God did,' the exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think.' Instead of receiving the 100 x 50 feet asked for we received almost double that amount."

REV. & MRS. L. J. CUTLER, Murtizapur.

NEED OF UNDER-SHEPHERDS

"The district has an area of 1,640 sq. miles with over 300,000 people in 700 villages and towns. There are about 50 Christians living in 12 of these villages and inquirers coming from many more. We hesitate to baptize them until we can put a mission worker out among the people to instruct and help them in the faith. For this outstations are needed."

REV. & MRS. O. H. LAPP, Akola.
DORMANT POSSIBILITIES

"Lest any one might think that the boys who pray become models of propriety let me assure you that plenty of mischief abounds on our compound. But when you suddenly appear at Santa Barbara in a motor car, don't think that you have seen the real boys. You will often find them, a lot of odds and ends as it were, with dirty clothes or uncombed hair or perhaps not measuring up to the standard you set for a boy, but if you will look beyond the brown exterior and see the possibilities that lie dormant there; if you can just see by faith ONE Paul or ONE Peter, you too, will become enthusiastic in pleading for a chance to be given to India's boys. Some of our Boys are asking for baptism but some have been praying that God would help them to win one soul for Jesus before they take this step. We join them in this prayer."

MISS H. BEARDSLEE, Boys' Boarding School, Akola.

WIDOWS ARE WIDOWS

"The widows are—well they are just widows and we take them as they are. They have their ups and downs and we have our downs and ups with them. Two, who had been in the habit of practicing the art of sorcery, when they came to us set up their whole paraphernalia to cast out demons which they thought had taken possession of one of the women when she was ill. They are now saved and have become women of prayer and are seeking the Lord earnestly for a deeper experience.

"Six widows left us during the year. Three went off in a rage because school rules were not changed to suit their temperament. Two of these have returned repentant. One widow went back to her village to live with her parents. She opened a little shop and is selling oil, spices, flour and so on. Every effort is being made to get her back into Hinduism but the last we heard of her she was living true to her testimony and standing out as a Christian, the only Christian in that village."

MISS E. KRATER, Girls' Boarding School and Widows' Home, Khamgaon.
IN THE VILLAGES

"The work in both the Marathi and English Churches in Bhusawal city has gone steadily on. We are sorry not to be able to report any conversions during the fiscal year, but twelve new members have been taken in—seven in the Marathi and five in the English Church. These were Christians who came from other places, but had been living here for some time without having united themselves with the church. However, we may anticipate next year's report a bit and say that during the first half of October, 1924 we had a series of special meetings in both churches in which the LORD worked mightily in saving souls, healing several sick bodies, reclaiming backsliders, straightening out tangles, and in blessing the Christians generally. The workers who helped us in the special meetings were Bro. A. I. Garrison, two of our ordained Indian evangelists, Ratmakker Dhivar and Shahu Bower, and Rev. Ottison of the Scandinavian Alliance Mission. We praise God for the faithfulness and sacrificial devotion of these brethren who were a great blessing to us. During the year eleven little lives were dedicated to the LORD. Pray that they may grow up to be young men and women after the Master's heart."

REV. & MRS. L. E. HARTMAN, Bhusawal.

MARATHI DAY SCHOOL

"Although our chief object and concern is for the spiritual welfare of these boys and girls it has been gratifying to see them making progress in their studies and receiving good reports and words of commendation from the Government Educational Inspector. In the Scripture examination given recently, a number in the higher classes were awarded prizes for good work both in the Old and New Testaments. In the beginners classes out of thirty-three who took the examination, twenty-three passed one hundred per cent. in memorizing Scripture portions."

MISS K. P. WILLIAMS, Bhusawal.

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY

"We organized a Women's Missionary Society with one of the Christian nurses as president and all the
officers Indian women. Our work has been to pray for the work, visit the sick and bring in newcomers. At the beginning every one, except the master's wife, with one accord began to make excuses and no one had ever led a meeting nor would they be able to do so, but I prepared a topic card and simply gave them their subjects and date of their meetings. I held on in prayer for them and in some cases gave them a few hints as to preparing or developing their subjects, and to my gratification they, almost without exception, took their turn at leading the meeting. Afterwards they declared that they had received a blessing. We take a collection every meeting and an offering at the first meeting of each month with a view to raising funds to finish the church. In this way we have collected Rs. 88-12-3 and by subscription Rs. 88, thus making it possible to put a stone floor into the church and leave a little for nest egg towards a fund for seats and strips of matting to sit on. You see I was not mistaken in the conviction that Indian Christian women will rise to the occasion and be a real help in the church, the same as in America or England."

REV. & MRS. C.W. SCHELANDER, Jalgaon.

WORK AMONG THE MOSLEMS

"The work among the Moslems has opened to us in a new way. In the providence of God we have workers who can converse with them in their own language and we have been led to put forth new efforts to reach this much neglected people. The Moslems in our district number about 19 per cent. of the population. They seem to be making quite a few converts to Mohammedanism among the Bhil people. We find too that the Moslems are hungry. We have felt a great burden for this people and are glad to have at least one Moslem who takes joy in searching what the Law and the Prophets say concerning Christ. We have had several blessed times together."

REV. & MRS. T. AMSTUTZ, Pachora.

BLACK LOOKS

"The work among the women has been quite difficult this past year. They themselves seemed ready to hear us, but many a time have we just seated ourselves
at their invitation when we would be asked to leave again because a woman had received a black look or a signal from her husband or some other influential person who happened along. Nevertheless the Lord did undertake and many heard the story and not a few heard it for the first time. In Pachora the work among the women has also been much closed up on account of the siege of plague there last winter. People were afraid to listen to us for fear the plague would visit them too as their gurus or religious teachers had told them.

Rev. & Mrs. T. Amstutz, Pachora.

"MY WORD SHALL NOT RETURN UNTO ME VOID."

"The winter's work was carried on as usual without any opposition. Six camps were made in different parts of the district. Sixteen thousand, four hundred and twenty-four persons were reached with the Gospel message. Six hundred meetings were held in the villages. There was an increase in the sale of Gospel portions; 1,812 portions were sold this year and if every portion sold means a soul won for Christ there will be great rejoicing."

Miss C. Rutherford, Chalisgaon.

HAD NEVER HEARD

"Our next camp was at Viraj. Here they had never seen a missionary and had never heard the message of salvation before. Beside the visitation of villages, every day and evening there was a steady stream of men, women and children coming to the tent to discuss the Gospel. While we were off in the villages our cook at the camp was busy selling Gospels. In this camp there was one incident that happened which made a lasting impression upon our hearts. We hung our small lantern on the door of a native house and began our meeting by singing our Gujarati hymns. In a very little time the people were so eager to listen that we found ourselves jammed tight against the wall. We asked some of the village men to seat the people and just give us a small place to stand. While one of the evangelists was preaching, I looked out over the crowd and down the village roads, and could see nothing but brown faces which were crowded into the place where we were and in to the lanes that led from this general
gathering place. Over our heads was a balcony and it also was crowded with men. To the side of us men had climbed up the side of the wall and were holding on to small pieces of bricks. All were drinking in the Word of Life that is able to save both high and low and give freedom to those who will obey the 'still small voice!' We were reminded of the days of Jesus when the people came in large numbers to listen and of old Zaccheus who climbed that never to be forgotten sycamore tree to get a glimpse of the Living Way, Jesus Christ. Surely this narrative has been repeated again in needy Kadi Prant.

"From this camp we visited the large town of Kadi several times. The City has for its population nearly 12,000 Souls. Before having meetings we called upon the Government officials, who were very friendly and promised us any help that we would need. We held our meetings in the center of a large thriving bazaar. The crowds which came and went so quickly were enormous. One of us would preach and sell our Gospels and then the crowd would change and we, in this way reached many hundreds in one day. After we had finished, I walked into the bazaar and sat on the shop steps of an old spice merchant, and while in conversation with him, I asked him whether he had ever seen a missionary before and or had heard of the One who was able to save from sin. He answered with an expression on his face which I shall never forget: 'Sahib, I have never heard this message before nor even seen a missionary.' Let us pray that soon some in this town will say that Jesus is their Saviour."

REV. & MRS. WM. LEWELLEN, Mehmedabad.

JOYFUL GIVING

"The Sunday School has flourished under the superintendence of Miss King. The tide ran high as the girls prepared for the Indian Sunday School Union examination. One little girl had a perfect paper, but was not awarded the medal because she was not in the proper class. However, she as well as the others who passed first, received prizes in our own Sunday School.

"Have you ever wondered whether Kaira folk know how to give? The Sunday before the baptism services I made an announcement concerning the Bible Society and Gujarati Book and Tract Society, asking for an offering to be given to me later. An hour after the service
a delegation of girls waited on me asking permission to go without vegetables for a week to give that money. There was no sad face among them, but joy was expressed in every one. It shamed me to think of the joyfulness of their sacrifice. By the next Sunday Rs. 145 had come in from this source and free-will offerings.”

A RED-LETTER DAY

“September 28th was the crowning joy of the year, when fourteen of our girls with two boys from outside were buried in baptism. One little girl has patiently waited for two years because we felt she was too small. Only those who are in this work know what a joy it is in the very midst of heathenism to see these children publicly confessing Christ. Had it not been for Kaira Orphanage, some of these girls would have been in heathenism still. As I saw these children come up out of the water, and again as I stood by the coffin of one who would have been in the company but was caught away before the time, I praised God for this fruit. Who can say that this work isn’t evangelism in a real sense.”

MISS B. B. CONGER, Girls’ Boarding School, Kaira.

IN THE JUNGLES

“It is a joy to our hearts to be able to report a branch church organized in this taluka. Previous to the departure of Mr. Gustafson baptism was administered by him to twelve men of the village of Andari. These aboriginal folk settled in one of the thickest jungles in the taluka, and their life amidst poverty, enemies and drought has been difficult. This year, after three years of existence by making charcoal of the thorny jungle trees, their hopes have been raised by the prospects of good crop. Most all the Christian men have decided to give the tithe of all the Lord gives them. Fellowship with these simple, ignorant men has brought real blessing to our hearts. Their hindrances to progress in their Christian lives are many. Pray with us that this band of believers may know God in a real way and thereby enter into the joys of their salvation. Also for the wives of these men and others, some of whom have already expressed their desire for baptism.”

REV. & MRS. J. S. RINGENBERG, Dholka.
A GREAT DAY

"April sixth was a great day with us, when eight of our boys and girls, children of Christian parents, followed the Lord in baptism. Besides these two men and one woman, who have been saved out of heathendom, were baptized. They, too, were very happy in their newly found Saviour. The woman is a daughter-in-law of a dear old woman who herself was saved a few years ago. Two sons and one daughter-in-law have been saved and now she has brought her youngest son's wife. Since their village is some miles away they had to stay here over night and I let the woman sleep in the little room next to mine. Long before daylight I was awakened by hearing some one praying and I knew it was this old woman. How earnestly she besought God to bless her and her family! It was precious to hear her committing them one and all to the loving care of the Saviour. The next morning I said something to her about praying so early and she said that she always prayed early in the morning because later in the day she had so much work to do that she would not find time to pray then. How many Christians at home can learn from this dear old woman who has known the Lord Jesus as her Saviour for only a few years."

MISS C. HANSEN, Ahmedabad.

BLINDED EYES

"The task of winning souls, especially in a heathen country, is a stupendous one and an impossible one in itself. Never was I more convinced of the fact that India's people 'are hid in prison houses' than one day, when a man, whom I am sure is not far from the grave, having cancer on his back and side and under the arm, came to us seeking relief from his physical pain. We frankly told him we could do nothing for him, but if he desired we could tell him of one who could give him peace and rest and joy in his spirit. We talked for some time and as lovingly as we knew how we made effort to point him to the Lamb, the Sacrifice, who was slain for his salvation. After this he answered, 'What you say must be true but I will not leave my gods,' and then after a pause he added so emphatically, 'No, tho I die, I will never forsake them.' Who could open these
blinded eyes and the eyes of the many, many thousand who are just as blinded as he? Only Jesus. God has His program. He does not permit us to see the end from the beginning but asks us to be faithful in sowing the seed. Let us be faithful in preaching the Gospel for a witness 'Lest He require His flock at our hand.'

MISS J. WOODWARD, Sanand.

HUNGRY MEN AND WOMEN

"The high and low caste came and surely we had blessed times with these hungry men and women. Some were sick in body as well as in soul and they kept us busy. One old man, to whom we had talked of Jesus, being so deeply moved when he left us bowed his face to the ground five or six times, each time saying, 'Jesus is my Saviour and He forgives me.' A high caste woman who often came to see us, asked just how she could truly worship our Jesus, saying that she loved and believed on him. She asked if she should go into the temple and bow to the idol and pray to Jesus. We told her, that we need not bow before anything, for Jesus would hear her prayer anywhere. But she said, 'Must I not light a light in honor of Jesus?' We told her that Jesus is the Light of the World and fills our hearts with His light. Pray for these two. The workers and Bible-woman at different times remarked that they had never before known of so many people coming to the tent as this year."

MISS C. PETER, Viramgam.

OCCUPYING A STRATEGIC CENTER

"It is desirable to secure, if possible, a footing on this border. For months past negotiations have been going on with the Church of Scotland for permission to settle in the Kalimpong district. It is improbable that Church will consent to our making Kalimpong itself our headquarters, but may be willing to approve of our being in Pedong, a village 12 miles further on towards Tibet, on the main road. Pedong is only a small village and its inhabitants are not all Tibetan speaking. It has a small Buddhist monastery. It is, however, a strategic center for reaching traders, coolies, and pilgrims from Tibet, Bhutan and North Sikkim and, therefore, will admirably suit the purpose."

MR. & MRS. WM. MANN, Tibetan Border.
THE AFGHAN OUTLOOK

"The outlook from the Indian border towards Afghanistan or any other closed country is not naturally speaking bright. The Government's policy on the border is uncompromising and all the officials there promise it will continue to be so. This policy is decidedly anti-missionary and since the war it is still more hostile than before. Places that in 1918 were open to missionary work are now closed by Government order. All around the N.W.F.P. is a ring of country that can be seen from any height and it is all closed to the messenger of Christ. In most places, bazaar preaching is not advisable and in many places not allowed, particularly near and in Baluchistan where the M.E. Mission works. That Afghanistan is to be evangelized is as certain as that God's Word is true. But it is not certain that it is to be from this side of the country, or that the door will open on the Indian border. We are purely an evangelical mission and will probably have to work outside for a long time unless we work with some Medical Mission. There is no opening for us anywhere on this border that we know of therefore pray with us the more that the way may be made clear and open."

MESSRS. CHRISTENSEN & WILEY, Afghan Border.
Alliance Missionaries in India.
AS STATIONED FOR YEAR 1924-25.

BERAR

Akola—Rev. & Mrs. E. D. Garrison.
      Rev. & Mrs. O. H. Lapp.
      Miss H. C. Bushfield.
      Miss H. Beardslee.
      Miss H. M. Doderlein.
      Miss B. E. Steed.
      Miss R. A. Taylor.
      Miss A. K. Hansen.

Amraoti—Rev Wm. Fletcher.
      Mr. & Mrs. E. A. Moroni.

Anjangaon—Rev. & Mrs. A. I. Garrison.
      Rev. & Mr. R. E. Conant.

Chandur—Rev. & Mrs. B. H. Hostetter.

      Miss E. Krater.
      Mrs. E. Auernheimer.
      Miss J. E. Derr.
      Rev. & Mrs. E. W. Crocker.

Malkapur—Mr. & Mrs. E. G. Glenn.

Murtizapur—Rev. & Mrs. L. J. Cutler.
      Mr. O. G. Schlatter.

EAST KHANDESH

Bhusawal—Rev. & Mrs. L. E. Hartman.
      Miss K. P. Williams.

Chalisgaon—Miss C. Rutherford.
      Miss M. Graham.

Julgaon—Rev. & Mrs. C. W. Schelander.
      Miss E. C. Karner.

Nargaon—Mr. B. B. Siegel.

Pachora—Rev. & Mrs. T. Amstutz.

GUJARAT

Ahmedabad—Rev. & Mrs. J. F. Brabazon.
      Miss J. G. Woodward.
      Miss E. Berchtold.

Dholka—Rev. & Mrs. J. S. Ringenberg.
      Mr. W. H. Gardner.
      Mr. A. Helfers.

Mehmedabad—Rev. & Mrs. Wm. Lewellen.
      Rev. & Mrs. G. P. Kliewer.

Kaira—Miss B. B. Conger.
      Miss T. E. Wright.
      Miss E. M. King.
      Miss M. B. Wing.

Sanand—Rev. & Mrs. S. Kerr.

Viramgam—Miss C. H. Hansen.
      Miss C. H. Peter.
Afghan Border—
MARDAN—
Mr. T. Wiley.
Mr. J. Christansen.

Tibetan Border—
PEDONG—
Mr. & Mrs. Mann.

OOTACAMUND, S. INDIA
Children's Home
Miss E. Lothian

ON FURLOUGH

Miss A. Backlund.
Miss R. M. Bowles.
Miss C. Bjorland.
Rev. & Mrs. E. R. Carner.
Miss L. B. Fuller.
Rev. & Mrs. C. A. Gustafson.

Mrs. P. E. Hagberg.
Miss E. F. Moore.
Rev. & Mrs. Wm. Moyser.
Mrs. Martha Ramsey.
Rev. R. H. Smith.
Rev. & Mrs. J. B. Turnbull.