Annual Report

The India Alliance

1953 Spring
Wave the Gospel Banner

Wave the gospel banner over India's plains;
Thrice a thousand million lie in heathen chains;
Thrice ten thousand daily die in Christless woe;
Is there none to pity, is there none to go?

Who can tell thy sorrow, who can paint thy shame?
Rites of naemless horror in religion's name,
Woman's deep dishonor, childhood's awful blight,
Souls immortal sinking into endless night.

Land of many martyr, many a holy grave,
Let the blood-stained Banner wide o'er India wave;
What if it be crimsoned by thy heart's rich blood?
Is thy blood too precious for the Son of God?

Weak are all our efforts, vain our tears and blood;
India naught can save thee, nothing less than God;
Oh, Thou Great Jehovah, speak the word divine,
Then, with all her myriads, India shall be Thine.
The temple that is builded for the Lord must be exceedingly magnificial. For the palace is not for man but for the Lord. I Chron. 22:5, 29:1

David the king uttered these words as he made preparation for the temple that Solomon was to build. As we read the account of all the material that David collected and that Solomon used, we see that it was indeed a magnificent structure. Some one has recently estimated the value of it at millions and millions of dollars. Gold, silver, precious stones, brass, iron, cedar, these things and many more went into the structure, with the toil and sweat of thousands of laborers and the blood of many sacrifices.

We too are building a temple for the Lord which must be exceedingly magnificial. Our temple is laid upon the foundation which is Christ Jesus, for other foundation can no man lay, and He also is the chief corner stone which completes the fair edifice, in whom we are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit. Our temple is not made with hands and hands cannot destroy it, it is eternal in the heavens. It is not made of material things, although their use is essential for the building, but of spiritual values and spiritual beings.

Solomon's temple was built of stones made ready before they were brought thither; so that there was neither hammer nor axe nor any tool of iron heard in the house while it was building (I Kings 6:7). The structure grew, silent and symmetrical. There is a great cave in the bowels of Jerusalem, its entrance under the north wall that looks toward Gordon's Calvary. Its length is about 750 feet, and in places it is 350 feet wide, and proportionately high. Here are the beds from which the stones for walls of the temple were hewn. It was in this spot that there was the sound of hammer and chisel on stone, all the dust and confusion of a quarry. The stone is said to be soft to cut and easily quarried, while it hardens on exposure to air and sun and so is ideal for building.

How unlike the stones we handle in building our spiritual temple. They are only with the greatest difficulty hewn from the dead rock in which they lie and then some of them disintegrate and disappear. When the mission bungalow in Malkapur was under construction some stones blasted from the well were put into the verandah foundations. Although it had taken powder to
loosen them, exposure to the elements soon caused them to soften and turn to dust, just like the stones from Nargaon well which once blasted out turn to dirt inside the year. No, our temple is not like that ancient fane. Missionary work is not, in this land at least, preaching to people eager to embrace our message, it is not shaking a tree full of over-ripe fruit ready to be put into baskets. It is a desperate warfare with the powers of darkness entranced against us, it is deep-diving for pearls amidst the horrid monsters of the deep, it is daily banging our heads against the rock of heathenism in the heat and dust, chiseling stones for the temple with our sensitive hearts as tools. I was comforted recently in noting the derivation of the Greek word translated deacon, literally, through the dust. Robertson says, “The etymology suggests raising a dust by hastening.” Who could not be a deacon in India! Once while changing steamers in Liverpool I visited the Cathedral. It was then only about half completed, transept and choir and altar being boarded in so services could be held while aisles and nave were under construction. No one was in the place when I visited it of a morning, and I paced up and down in the solitude holding communion with the Lord. Outside it was rainy and foggy, but into the cloistered stillness came the chip, chip, chip of stonemasons’ chisels as they prepared for the structure that was to be. Through rain and frost and heat and dust the work went on unto the day of completion. This is a true picture of our labor and of our temple building. Nor ours as yet the joy of finished work, the well done of the Master Architect. But we are content, for the temple that is builded for the Lord is only made magnificil by toil and tears.

Ritualistic churches have the baptismal font near the front door, the symbolism being that baptism is the gateway to the church. While we do not believe in baptismal regeneration, yet in India where it is so easy for people to say they believe without doing anything about it, baptism is a most important step. Secret believers there may be, especially among women and young people who could not break family ties and take this outward rite, but secret believers will never build the visible church which God must have in this land as something to be seen and touched and heard in witness to the truth. We do not want baptisms just so we can make a show in numbers but we do long for more to turn to the Lord and become real living stones built into His temple.

In 1951, 105 Sunday Schools were conducted with 3230 scholars enrolled, while the figures for 1952 are 111 and 3812. A Daily Vacation Bible School was conducted in the Khampaon church this hot season. Similar instruction was given the 35 children who attended Short Term Bible Schools with their parents. The enrolment in these, held in Akola, Anjangaon and Amraoti was
118 adults. Boys and girls studying in our boarding schools number 101 day scholars and 348 in residence as of October 1st, 1952. Counting our town schools' enrolment, we have nearly 800 children entrusted to our care for secular and spiritual training. Week day classes held for children in Khangaon, Bhusawal and Ahmedabad have an attendance of about 200 children. During the rainy season when cholera was raging in Khangaon, a girl who attended the class was stricken with the terrible disease. She was taken to the isolation hospital and treatment given her, but to no avail. But as long as she could she kept singing hymns she had learned in class and quoting Bible verses. So another little lamb went to be with the Good Shepherd. But what if she had not been told about Him?

Adult Literacy work has gone on unabated. 22 classes were held in the hot season with 218 becoming literate in Marathi. Mr. Gerald Carner has put out a second book for newly literates, and the Khristie Jivan Prakash continues its useful ministry with 2000 copies being printed monthly. A great fillip was given Adult Literacy work in this area when in March Dr. Frank Laubach visited Akola for a day. He had a crowded program with two lectures to mission workers, a visit to a government center in an outside village, and a public meeting at night attended by officials and educationalists as well.

An interesting development in the religious world in India is the reception that is being given Bible Correspondence Courses. I do not recall how many the Seventh Day Adventists claim have taken their course, not the Lutherans, but Don Hillis' Light of Life Courses on the gospel of John now have the following enrolment:

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<th>Language</th>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>17,000</td>
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<td>in Caylon</td>
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<td>Gujarati</td>
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<td>Tamil</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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The Bible Training School students in Mehmadabad handle the Gujarati course and the Nargaon students do the same for the Marathi studies. There is a definite call for follow-up courses of further Bible study and our Literature Committees are working on the matter, hoping to find the most acceptable ones.

Miss Wing has been working on the second volume of Dr. Simpson's work on the Holy Spirit and it is about to be printed. Miss Derr has seen to the translation and printing of Dr. Simpson's "In the School of Christ." The Marathi Catechism as revised by Miss Rassom has been printed. Mr. Lauren Carner has revised
his very popular hymn book "Gajarsanghra" and 5,000 copies are just off the press. The second volume of missionary stories for use in Sunday Schools, written by Mrs. Cartmel and sponsored by the Marathi Synod came out in June.

42 men and 47 women have been enrolled in the Bible Training Schools at Nargaon, Mehmadabad and Khamgaon. The weekly Bible classes in Ahmedabad continue to hold the interest of an inter-denominational group. 20 to 30 attend the Bethel Church and between 100 and 150 the class at the Irish Presbyterian Church. Following the Marathi Synod convention in March another S.S. Institute was conducted under Mrs. Capps' leadership, and the North Berar Church Council group recently held an interesting one-day institute. The Adult Literacy Training School held at Nargaon in April had an attendance of 45 students, representing several missions.

Touring work among the multitude of villages has gone on again with the seed this year sown in many hearts which had never before had the opportunity of receiving it. The Morries spent several weeks in Radhanpur where the people had no idea as to what sort of an animal a Christian might be. The opening of the new rail line from Deesa to Khandla port will make Radhanpur accessible from Palanpur. The possibility of invading virgin territory farther along the line to the sea should be investigated. A volunteer group from Ahmedabad, mostly school teachers, made another evangelistic foray into Palanpur and surrounding towns in the hot season.

A new venture this year was the holding of retreats just for wives of workers. The husbands were instructed to stay at home and take care of the children, which gave the husbands good discipline and allowed the wives to gather free of family cares for a few days. Five such gatherings were held, at Mehmadabad, Malkapur, Akola, Anjangaon and Amraoti. Special women's meetings were also held at the Katepurna convention. The Christian Home Festival again proved a blessing and met with a hearty response where it was really carried out. It was my privilege to be present at the final meeting of the Festival in Wihigaon, a few miles from Anjangaon, site of an active church. The Christians there with those of three nearby villages had a love fest at which about 175, big and little, sat down together. The Christian homes were spick and span, the outside walls plastered with white earth with decorations in color, and always the Cross. Some of the S.S. children who came from non-Christian homes had at least a few lights to mark their houses. We prayed in one home where there was sickness, and rejoiced at another house where a little girl had been near death's door was lively and healthy. The Home Festival is one of the finest things imaginable
to influence people right where they live. In Akola an ambitious program was carried out every day for eight days, closing with the showing in the church of the films, God of Creation and Dust or Destiny, which was attended by many non-Christian friends.

The annual meeting of the Evangelical Fellowship of India was held in Akola in January and was a time of much blessing. In many minds, Akola has become synonymous with revival. Showers of blessing fell under the ministry of Dr. Paul Rees of Minneapolis and Mr. Burns of Dohnavur. Revival in all of our churches is our greatest need.

There are enemies that always try to hinder any material or spiritual building for the Lord, as it was in the days of Nehemiah. Dholka seems to have been singled out recently for the enemy’s attacks, with thieves robbing the pastor of Synod money he held, and making attempts to break into the bungalows and do other depredations. Nargaon has also been visited in the same way by a man who grew up from a tiny baby in mission institutions. He never really yielded his heart to the Lord and now seems possessed of a kleptomaniac spirit. We are thankful however in these uncertain days for the internal peace that this land enjoys under its new government, and for the continued privilege of telling of the Saviour. While for a time it seemed that missionaries would be restricted in their entering India, no such ban has been imposed and now the flow is continuing, for which we render thanks.

Turning to family matters, we note the arrival this fall of E. F. Eicher and family and Miss Ransom before Conference, our new recruits, the Lewellens and Stengeles during Conference, the Haagen family (and how!) at the end of November, and the sailing of the Shaw family for India in December. Mr. and Mrs. Jacober and Virginia arrived in India in January, so they have had many months of Gujarati study. Merrill Roland Perret, John McKee Evans and Kevin Harper Kose are attending their first conference. I predict they will all be talking the language before two years are up. Those who sailed on furlough in the spring were Misses Blews, Droppa and Jasper, the Cartmels and the Morrises. The Vandegrifts left in August and the Gerald Carners in September.

Two hundred and fifty odd years ago Sir Christopher Wren was building churches in London, his most famous one being St. Paul’s Cathedral. The story is that one day while visiting the construction work he asked three workmen what they were doing. One replied, “I am working for four shillings a day.” Another said, “I am carrying mortar.” The third said, “I am building a cathedral.” He had caught the vision. There may be
times when we are all too conscious of those few rupees, but surely money is not our aim in this work. Are we carrying mortar? There are a multitude of things in missionary work that seem to have no connection with preaching the gospel or building the church, but somebody has to do these things. There are times when we are more conscious of the bricks and mortar, the heavy burdens and the tiring labor, than we are of the finished building. But let us offer ourselves afresh to God as workmen to build His temple which will be so exceedingly magnifical. It will be composed of living stones gathered from every kindred and tongue and tribe and nation. And let us remember in the dull and dusty days ahead, that we are building a cathedral.

Ahmedabad Station
Louis L. King

After a year and a half spent in opening the Palanpur District to the Gospel, we were moved back to Ahmedabad. On January 1, 1952, our work in this great metropolis was resumed. Since then Mrs. King and her two Bible Women have daily left the house at 7:15 A. M. to conduct their various activities. Four mornings each week children's Bible classes have been conducted. The attendance has been large and the results no doubt have caused great joy in heaven. In the Asarva class 14 of the 65 students have taken Christ as their Saviour. On Sundays 3 more classes are conducted. After the class is over the trio has engaged in street preaching. Many and varied are the experiences in this type of work. Some reactions are violent and malignant and call for tact and grace. Again there are those who receive the word with deep interest. One day a Hindu came forward to talk about Christ and to contribute some money, which, of course, was refused. A few minutes later, as he was on his way to his work he was instantly killed as he was struck by a motor bus. What a demonstration of the urgency of rescuing men now - without delay.

In the district outside of Ahmedabad 2 touring camps were set up and good work done by the Evangelists in spreading the Good News.

The sale of literature has gone on at a phenomenal rate until we now hold the record for sales in Gujerat. The following is the account in figures: 4 Bibles, 50 New Testaments, 1,758 Gospels, 8,155 other books and tracts all sold to non-Christians. Approximately 54,000 people have heard the preaching of the Word during this past year.
Near our mission house is a community of 7,000 Sindhi refugee families who have been rehabilitated by the government. Though we cannot speak their language, we have been diligent to give them the written Word. Tracts and Gospels worth Rs. 150 have been sold to them. There are also 22 Marathi speaking families to whom we have ministered in a limited way.

Before returning to Ahmedabad, the City Ministerial Association had requested that I come each week and deliver Bible lectures in the churches. This work was started in January and has continued with ever increasing interest and attendance. Each week three union classes have been held in 2 centrally located churches, i.e. Bethel Alliance Church and the Irish Presbyterian Church. The Bethel classes are held at 8:00 A. M. and 6:00 P. M. on Thursday with 25 and 60 people present respectively. The attendance in the Presbyterian church at 8:00 P. M. fluctuates between 100-150. The audience is made up of all the city pastors, missionaries, evangelists, Bible women, most of the S. S. teachers and an encouraging number of high school and college young people besides the ordinary laymen. This ministry of the Word has had a telling effect upon the spiritual life of the churches. The following N. T. books have been taught - Hebrews, I Corinthians, Philippians, Jude, III John and Philemon.

During the year I preached 155 times in special meetings and have travelled extensively. Easter week, however, deserves special mention. It was spent in the Irish Presbyterian mission in Surat. Here I resided in the same room that Dr. David Livingston, the famous African missionary, lived in for 2 months while on a visit to India. The interest of the people was keen from the start but increased with every meeting until seating space was at a premium even before the meeting began.

On Saturday evening the attendance was limited to young people between the ages of 14 and 35. Some 300 came. I preached a most solemn message from Isa. 55:6, “Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near.” When the invitation was given, amid jeers and scoffings of friends, about 80 deliberately walked to the inquiry room. Among them was a Hindu young man of wealth. The Easter morning service was scheduled to begin at 8:30. At 7:15, however, the church was crowded to capacity and people were sitting outside. Until the meeting began they sang, with utmost devotion of the victory of Jesus and His power to save. In the afternoon the thermometer registering 114 degrees in the shade, yet 600 Christians paraded through the streets of Surat. They sang, preached and sold tracts and Gospels as they marched in orderly fashion with great banners unfurled and Gospel posters held high. What a fitting way to celebrate the triumph of Jesus.
Dhandhuka District

Karl Kose

“What hath God wrought?” The past year has been one of shattered hopes and plans, of disappointments and heartaches; and yet, one of the greatest years of spiritual blessing we have ever experienced. A year of shattered hopes and plans in that district touring was cut short by motor trouble; a year of disappointment in that we have not yet been able to build the servant’s line so sorely needed. A year of heartache in that one member was called home to be with the Lord, and another member has refused to attend services. But “what hath God wrought?” We praise God for the new worker who is to be sent as soon as a place is found for him and his large family, for the promise of a line upon completing language study, for the opportunity of helping with the Kedeshpur Youth Camp, for the new teacher and his family, and for the seven new members who have been added to the church.

We started our touring season last December by having first the week of witness. Natalalbhai, pastor of Dholka and Dhandhuka churches, co-operated in these services. Daudbhai faithfully preached once a day and Lutherbhai, the caretaker, helped distribute tracts and books; Chandrakhant, a Hindu boy, accompanied us each day. We continued district touring in January but motor trouble made it impossible to continue in February. A complete overhaul was necessary. However, during the rest of the year Daudbhai continued his ministry of walking to nearby villages to preach the Gospel and distribute literature. During the year there were 200 different visits made to various villages, 2474 people were contacted, 184 tracts, 58 Gospels, 4 New Testaments, 3 Bibles, 3 song books, and 2 of Dr. Simpson’s books “The Holy Spirit or Power from on High” were sold.

The new teacher for our primary school, Purushottum Jethalalbhai, has proved to be a blessing not only to the school, but to our Sunday School and Church as well. He and his family are living in two small rooms about a quarter of a mile from the mission compound, and are anxious to get a room here when we build. His youngest daughter was afflicted with polio two years ago and still finds walking great distances to be quite tiring.

The Sunday School attendance has decreased somewhat, possibly because the school teacher does not compel them to come; he invites them but does not make it compulsory. The church services have been well attended and Daudbhai has faithfully carried on his duties from Sunday to Sunday, as well as taking charge of prayer meetings each Wednesday night.
Last year we wrote "of the death of our cook’s wife just five days before we arrived from the hills. . . . In mid-August we found it necessary to dismiss the cook because of tuberculosis in both lungs." We were later notified that he died on February 14th. In the meantime, we hired another man to cook and his wife became the ayah. Much of Mrs. Kose’s time has been spent in teaching these two servants their respective duties. However, in April of this year it was discovered the ayah has advanced tuberculosis, and we had to dismiss her. The cook begged to remain with us while he sent his wife to another village. We hope to bring his wife and family back on the compound after the workers’ quarters are built. In the meantime another lady, a widow, has been hired as ayah and has learned her work quite efficiently.

Just before coming to conference I was privileged to help with the Youth Camp at Kedeshpur. In the three and a half days of services we are pleased to report that nine boys were brought back into fellowship with the Lord. These all came from Christian homes and we have reason to believe that this is possibly the first real experience of salvation they have received. Another boy, not from a Christian home, stepped from Hinduism and accepted the Lord as his Saviour. In another service two boys responded to the call of God in giving themselves to Him for His service. There were sixty boys in attendance and the Spirit of God fell upon the meeting under the preaching of Mr. Ringenberg, Mr. King, and John Lakshmanbhai. Obedbhai B. Christian, Christian layman from Ahmedabad, took leave from his job to assist in all the meetings. One of the boys who met the Lord is from Dhandhuka; he desires to be baptized at Christmas time.

Lastly, we praise God for His blessing and watchcare upon us during the past year, and for good health in spite of extremely hot weather. We especially praise Him for the fine new son He has given us and for ministering to Eloise during the time of her recuperation.

As we look forward we realize we do not know what lies ahead. But we are thankful that “He goeth before” and “We follow after.” As we again go into district touring, as we have opportunities to speak to individuals and to groups, as we are permitted to tell the good news of salvation, we trust, and earnestly desire that God shall have the pre-eminence and souls shall be brought into the Kingdom.

In the early Christian era there were few supported missionaries, but there were many Spirit-filled witnesses who effectively accomplished the missionary task. —P. C. H.
We praise God for all the goodness which He has shown unto us during the past year; for His help, for His protection and for all His blessings.

This has been a year of changes and adjustments and of varied ministries.

The second volume of the book written by Dr. Simpson, “Power from on High”, has been translated into Gujarati and is ready for publication. Mr. R. B. Desai is working on Romans but has not completed the translation as yet. We pray that these books translated into the vernacular may be a means of blessing to the Christians of Bombay State.

The United Missions Language Board asked me again this year to organize a Plains Language School for new missionaries of the different Missions working in this Language area who are studying Gujarati. The School was conducted in Baroda for six weeks. Mr. and Mrs. Jacober, Mr. and Mrs. John Garrison and Miss Betty Dyke of our Mission were students in it. Each missionary student worked very hard and co-operated well.

Miss Blews sailed for furlough the first of April and I was appointed to take over the work until Mr. and Mrs. Haagan return from furlough.

The girls have fixed up one of the two Hospital rooms as a prayer room; they whitewashed it themselves. What blessing we have experienced during the year has come as a result of the prayer that has gone up from that room. Since they set that room apart for prayer and dedicated it for that purpose, it hasn’t been necessary to use the other half for sickness. God has kept sickness away. God has kept our children well during the year. In the prayer room they confess their faults and seek to keep right with God. They have testified that God saves them from temptation. They are happy in the Lord; they are satisfied with what they have to eat. They rise early and read God’s Word and pray. They take care of their clothes and keep them clean and keep their compound clean; they are obedient and don’t have to be scolded very much; such is the testimony of their matron, Lukkibai. When they are afraid, they immediately cry out to
the Lord. One night at about eleven o'clock, Lukkibai heard one of the girls calling out loudly, "If you frighten me, I will tell Jesus. Go away from me immediately. If you don't I will run to Lukkibai right away." Lukkibai went to see what the trouble was. This girl said, "I was afraid; something black stood in front of me and I called out to Satan to go away and leave me alone." Lukkibai's heart rejoiced to hear the testimony of this girl.

There has been the minimum of sickness among the boys also and for this blessing, we praise God. For a place as large as this, it is a miracle of God's grace.

The children learn Scripture verses and chapters in the Boarding and in the Sunday School, and are hiding God's Word away in their hearts. It rejoices my heart to hear the girls chant in unison in the evening before they go to rest, the Scripture verses they have learned. Six girls learned the three chapters of the Sermon on the Mount for the Sunday School. They got a prize for each chapter they learned.

We thank the Lord that the iron sheeting has been put on the roof of the Boys' Auditorium and two school rooms, and that the roofs of the other rooms have been repaired. While cleaning up after tearing down a wall, the boys came upon a nest of scorpions; they tied strings to the tails of the eleven scorpions and brought them to the Mission House. They were all barefooted, to, and they testified that the scorpions were very close to their feet but the Lord took care of them and did not let them be stung.

One of our orphans was married the last of April. Another one of our orphans was married to one of our young evangelists who also had been an orphan in our School here. They are in evangelistic work in Radhanpur.

Fifteen out of twenty of our boys and girls who went up for their P. S. C. Examination passed.

One of our senior young men, Edwin Nathalal, won the medal in the Sunday School examination. Several of our boys and girls and teachers passed the examination of their division with honors.

By appointment from the Church, Miss Burley has had charge of the Junior Sunday School and I have had charge of the Junior Church. By means of object lessons and the flannelgraph, we are trying to lead the children to accept the Lord Jesus as their Saviour and to grow in Him; to teach the children the knowledge of the Lord and to instruct them by precept upon precept and by line upon line, a little admonition here and a little instruction
there, a little at a time, a little of one thing at one time and a little of another at another, that God's Word shall be in their hearts. The same precept and the same line are often repeated in one form or another, that they may better understand them. Impressions are made upon them by the frequent repetitions.

A couple of small boys were brought one day to the office for having fought one with the other. To have justice and to know who started the fight, I sent one boy to call a witness. The other boy then became very uneasy. He looked anxiously towards me and then pausing a moment said, "Let's let the matter drop this time." Then another pause and he added, "Are you going to give me a whipping?" Without my answering, after another pause, he said, "You are not going to give me a whipping are you? I fear a whipping very much." Dealing with the children from day to day, correcting them, admonishing them, punishing them, praying with them, leading them to the Saviour against Whom they have sinned and Whom they have offended, will, we trust, make our boys and girls grow in Christian character.

Viramgam District
Ruth G. Brabazon

Sitting amidst trunks, furniture and household goods, we were on the last moving van, riding thru the noonday heat over white glaring roads to Viramgam. Three previous months in which the Dr. had ordered "complete rest" had proven most strenuous ones, full of unexpected tasks as well as moving preparations. But thru it all our glorious Lord, who had said some years ago so plainly to me, "He maketh thy way perfect", had not failed, had daily given new life, new strength and overflowing joy as we kept looking to Him. Now the road seemed hotter than ever, the miles stretched longer, and the Enemy said, "Such a waste of time and energy for only one short year, but immediately came the reassuring whisper of covenant promises when He had "Commanded His loving kindesses" and His blessings which had been innumerable, far more than the mile-stones which we passed by. Yes, surely, "Farther on the way grows brighter, Count the milestones one by one Jesus will forsake you never, It is better farther on."

Surely, this past year in Viramgam has proved that literally true. It has been better farther on.
Evangelistically, we believe we have never experienced greater opportunities. One of these was the entering of Radhenpur State, for which we have earnestly prayed for so long that it might be opened to the Gospel. God had given to our Brother and Sister Morris the privilege of buying land for our first lighthouse there. They baptized the first two converts and now it is our privilege to enter into their labours. The desire of these converts to bring in their own families, their evangelistic efforts in these villages, their earnest prayers and pleadings for them have brought many relatives to the bungalow. It has been a joy to minister to them.

Our bungalow is situated next door to the High School and the Hindu boys Hostel. Many students have called upon us. The Indian is very fond of music. Until late years he has not appreciated western music. Radios are cultivating his taste for the same. These High School boys hearing the piano and four part harmony in the bungalow have come in large groups to ascertain the source. This has proved a blessing as in song and thru the Word the Lord has enabled us to minister to them.

One Guru with his family of five brothers and their wives offer a challenge to prayer. He came first bringing Hindu devotees from neighboring towns desiring Mantras and blessings. One day he brought about 20 women and girls, all members of his household. They came in the noon day heat and stayed until late in the afternoon as the two Bible women and I sang Bhagans and then opened unto them the way of Life. On another occasion he brought six women from neighboring villages for our help and instruction. Yet another time he brought an influential group from far cities to our Church, giving our Pastor and the Worker chances to answer many of their puzzling questions. Before they left, an aged Hindu hotel keeper whose heart had been softened by friendliness asked for prayer and remarked: “We have been in the dark so long, it is hard for us to see in order to walk in the Light.”

The evangelistic efforts in Radhenpur have been most encouraging, although often we have felt Satan’s opposition in trying to hinder an eager listener or to break up a meeting. His attempts were not successful. We found many hungry hearts amongst high and low. Quite a number said, “If you could only teach us every day!” Do pray earnestly for these and for our two young workers and their wives that the Lord may give unction to their ministries and that the Word sown in hearts will not return void.

Often Satan’s master strokes are hurled at those in the Bride of Christ. For long months this was apparent in Viramgam and the small church seemed so hopelessly broken that we were
tempted to wonder if many would not move away in defeat before God could work a reunion. Again prayer prevailed and the two opposing forces have recently asked mutual forgiveness. Reunited they are seeking to go forward in His name. Reconciliation taking place late Saturday night, the children swarmed into Sunday School the next morning till we had not sufficient teachers. For the first time in many months we have seen the beautiful little church filled with worshippers. How wonderful are God's ways!

Aside from the evangelistic work of our faithful Bible women, the Church has been very slow to recognize Women's work as a part of their ministry. Now we are seeing a cloud the size of a man's hand which we hope will bring showers of blessing. This year, for the first time, our Women's Committee was able to get the Women's work linked up with the Synod so that two retreats for the wives of pastors were held under Church Council auspices. The train distances were long and expensive. Rationing of food grains made entertainment a great problem. Some had little babies they did not want to bring so far in the heat. Others were indisposed. Some husbands were still on tour so that the wives could not leave home. We had no conveyance to go out and bring them, thus we prayed the more earnestly that God would put it in the husbands' hearts to send them. There were some eighteen who gathered. God's hand of blessing rested noticeably on our coworkers and we felt His presence as we gave out the Word and sought thru the aid of large posters, pictures, flannelboard and health talks to give new inspiration and help along practical lines. The women's tears, prayers and testimonies showed how God had been dealing with them. Songs of victory and praise spontaneously broke forth. Many said to me afterward, "Why cannot we have these every year?"

Some time has been given to the oversight of the Women's Home Committee for all the Churches in Gujarat. We printed a series of twelve studies entitled "Christian Yardstick" a booklet for young married couples, entitled, "Our life together". Arrangements have been made for the "Christian Home Festival" and "Christian Home Week" to be observed in all our churches. Our Committee is putting 1000 copies of "Is Our Home a Christian Home?" into print for Christian Home Week. We are trying to put out some new mottoes but are finding difficulty in getting the art cardboard needed.

Altogether the year has been filled with varied opportunities. Great joy has been our portion. We have proven again:

"His love has no limits, His grace has no measure,
His power no boundary known unto man:
And out of His infinite riches in Jesus
He giveth, and giveth, and giveth again."
"Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation." Psa. 68:19.

Praise to God for His unfailing nearness and provision wells up in our hearts as we consider the year which has so quickly passed. The variety of ministries for the Master has left no time for monotony or dullness. “The joy of the Lord is the strength of His people” and we can truly say that the “Old time religion” gets better as the years go by.

We have been favoured in having several of the young missionary couples living with us for a while at different times. Brother John Garrison, wife and David entertained us with their first endeavors in speaking Gujerati and with their reactions to life in India. Later we conducted a receiving home prior to the arrival of John McKee Evans and Kevin Harper Kose. These experiences refreshed in our minds those of our early years in this country and we have been tempted to wish they might be lived over again.

It has been a delight to teach the present group of students in the Bible School. The lack in numbers is made up in quality. The Short Term Summer School students who met here to study the Fourth Year Evangelist’s course in the months of July and August added a great deal of interest. The daily Chapel services of the two schools were combined, as well as afternoon classes in Village Uplift and Adult Literacy. Between terms the students spent two weeks in camp with the evangelists, preaching in a number of villages.

The high cost of weddings creates a perturbing problem for our single Bible students, as they look forward to having homes of their own. The temptation to seek remunerative employment to procure money for wedding expenses is a very real one. Samuel Jellaji, one of the student workers who is in the pioneer area of Rhadanpur for practical experience before returning for his third year's course, was favoured in getting an orphan girl from the Dholka Mission School. Missionaries kindly and freely gave a hand, meeting all expenses, for the wedding of two orphans is a special and joyous occasion.

The three senior evangelists reached many of the more remote villages of our area from the six camps which were made during
the cold season. In some villages they were well received and their message accepted as the Truth. On one occasion, however, the group of listeners was broken up by a loud-speaking antagonist, shouting, “You are of this country and have embraced a foreign religion. You must denounce that and again become Hindus!” Another day a man became incensed by the evangelist’s giving Gospels directly into the hands of caste men and yelled, “Bring an axe and chop them to pieces!” He considered that the evangelist’s touch defiled caste Hindus and that he should have tossed the Gospel instead of handing it to them. Many become moved by the story of the Saviour’s love and though being convinced that they ought to accept this Saviour, go away sorrowing because they are not prepared to sever the ties of Hinduism and pay the price that such a step would involve.

There seems to be a lessening of organization consciousness which to us is a good indication. Apart from irregularities in one church of the Synod, administration has been carried on quietly and effectively. In all the committees of the churches, councils and Synod there has been only one missionary. Offerings increased by 13 per cent over the previous year. A 20 per cent raise in pay was given to the pastors supported by the Synod. The amount contributed to the Central Pastors’ Fund by one of the churches was sufficient for the support of four pastors. It is most encouraging to observe the initiative and efficiency with which the younger generation is serving in responsible positions entrusted to them. In this Church Council where four pastors are serving, there were twenty-two who followed the Lord in baptism. Of the nine Sunday Schools in progress, thirty-four children took the Gujerat Sunday School Union examinations, a number of whom won New Testaments as prizes.

The attack made by Satan in the matter of finances has been a deep concern to us. In several cases laymen entrusted with the Lord’s money have proven unworthy of such trust. When a personal need arises the temptation becomes great to use these funds. Usually intentions to return these amounts are good, but to produce them when required, or when their term as treasurer expires, becomes a problem. Through such experiences the members become distrustful and discouraged in giving to the Lord. Also a friction and disunity in the church sometimes result. We are praying that God will rebuke the devil and give His people a hatred for unworthy conduct in the trust committed to them.

Then, along with these defaulters some professionals have been making havoc too. Three pastors and one evangelist were robbed. In each case the house was broken into. One of those robbed was the Synod Treasurer. Another was the youngest pastor who was
cruelly beaten when twenty-five men with guns and lathis surrounded him and the family while they were sleeping. Undoubtedly all these experiences have a place in training of the infant church in the matter of self-government.

In April Mrs. Ringenberg held a three-day spiritual retreat for the wives of the pastors, evangelists and elders of the church council. Mrs. Brabazon and Mrs. King came to assist her in these meetings. Each morning there was a period of Bible teaching, followed by a message on some phase of woman's influence in the home, church and community. In the afternoon periods, charts on India's most common diseases were presented, giving some methods of prevention and cure of the same. Then a daily message with the aid of flannel-graph pictures was given along the line of consecration and service for the Master, closing with an open season of prayer. The evenings were spent singing under the beautiful moonlit sky. It was truly a happy and profitable time of fellowship which was greatly appreciated by our Indian sisters. Just a few weeks ago the elder's wife from Akalacha, who had been richly blessed during the retreat, inquired if it was not about time to meet again in this way. We had quite a time getting her here last April due to her susceptibility to car-sickness, but after stopping the car nine times for her relief, we finally got her here! She now says she will walk the next time, which shows her eagerness when willing to walk ten miles.

Another cause for rejoicing is that the observance of the Christian Home Festival has gotten under way during the past month. It took a bit of "talking up" with the pastors but they were quite willing to have us lead the way and said they would follow our suggestions. The young pastor at Akalacha, together with his church panch (board), went about it in a very systematic way, deciding which day they would go to visit the families of each of the villages where church members are living. Folks were notified a week previously to give their homes a good housecleaning and decorating. The pastor reported later that they co-operated nicely.

On the Sunday of September 29th we spent all day celebrating the home festival at Akalacha with the Christians there and from the surrounding five villages, who came for the occasion. The church was beautifully decorated with the typical brightly coloured paper streamers criss-crossed overhead. We added several large Scripture mottoes to the side walls and a bouquet of flowers for the pulpit. Our suggestion was that Sunday be observed as Family Day and we had hoped that in the morning service the members might sit together as families and each family be given a small part in the opening exercises. But after consultation with the pastor we abandoned this idea as he re-
revealed that, as villagers, they would be quite aghast at this plan; in fact, he thought some of the women might not even turn up if they knew they would have to sit with the husband before the eyes of all, including the non-Christians who always crowd about the door and windows on such occasions; however Yohanbhai did succeed with a little coaxing in having each family stand wherever they happened to be sitting, as the roll was called and one or two members of the family quoted some Scripture verse or sang a stanza of a hymn precious to them. Mrs. Ringerberg brought a message, with the aid of flannel board pictures on "The Christian Home Yardstick." In conclusion the parents were reminded that having heard what the requisites of an ideal Christian home are, they will now be able to measure the progress that has been made in their own homes toward the attainment of this goal. The morning service was brought to a close after partaking together of the Lord’s Supper.

The noon meal was furnished by the church to all who had come from other points. Though the heat was unusually oppressive over the noon hours we managed to visit a number of the homes, commending the women’s efforts as we noticed the beautifully polished brass vessels arranged on the shelves, and a new picture or motto on the walls. In the afternoon we brought a message based on II Kings 6:11, on the subject “The Home God blesses,” stressing the daily family altar and private devotions as means of bringing Christ and His blessings into the home. At the close of the service the majority of the fathers indicated by the uplifted hand that family prayers were held in their homes. However four or five fathers promised God to establish the family altar in their homes from this date. One of the students, who with his parents are members of this church, sang a solo the ten verses of which he had memorized. We sensed the presence of the Lord in these services and in the fellowship of the day and believe that this first Christian home festival was not only a happy occasion for all but that the eyes of the parents were opened as never before to see their responsibilities before God and their families.

Since then we have had similar meetings at Kaira Camp, Kadeshpur and Vansar churches, but we have only begun as upon our return from convention, we expect to continue conducting the home festival in the remaining eight churches. In each place we are selling family altar devotional booklets, Scripture mottoes and pictures for the home. The elder in one church after listening to the message on the Christian home Yardstick, remarked, “This teaching is very necessary for our people. It touches us just where we need it, in our daily living where we fall so short.”

The “Jivan Prakash” (Light of Life) Bible Correspondence
Course based on St John's Gospel, which we began sending out last February, is reaching out into a steadily widening circle with its message of life. Timothybhai, one of the student-evangelists, gives much of his time to this ministry and Saphan, a Bible student, devotes his spare time in assisting him. On the margin of a recently returned lesson sheet a Hindu student had drawn a stork, writing underneath it, "As this 'buglo' eagerly looks for a frog so I await the post man for each new lesson of 'Jivan Prakash.'"

We thank God for the conversion of Champa Beecharbhai from the Carpenter caste in Ahmedabad as a result of studying this course. As he read John's Gospel he became convinced of the fact that Christ alone, is the Saviour of the world. He wrote to us and we directed him to Rev. Samuelbhai Govindbhai, pastor of the Simpson Memorial church in Ahmedabad, for further instruction about the Christian way of life. After going frequently to visit him and attending all the services of the church, he was baptized on August 17th at the above church. He was dismissed from employment by his Hindu Sheth as a result of becoming a Christian. Let us pray that he may be kept true to his newly found Saviour.

A few statistics in connection with the "Jivan Prakash" course may be of interest. Those who have received the course in Gujarati number 2,000. Of these 228 have been sent certificates upon completing the studies and 882 are pursuing the course at the present time. What we are concerned about now is that another course to follow this one be prepared shortly so that the many inquirers after further studies may not be disappointed. Please pray with us about this need. We praise God for the hunger that is evident on the part of many young Hindus for a knowledge of the Word of God. May we claim the promise in Isa. 55:11, "My Word shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

A most profitable and enjoyable Youth's Rally was held at Kadeshpur just before our departure for conference. It was very ably planned and carried through by the Youth President, who is the youngest pastor of the Synod. Aspiring to make it self-supporting Yohanbhai solicited gifts from some of his friends who contributed Rs. 130-10. Together with other income there was a Rs 29-6 balance after all expenses were met. Sixty young men were present representing eleven churches. God used the Word which was ministered in fervency and power. Nine youths were reclaimed, two consecrated their lives for service, and one Hindu studying in the Metric class was converted, and testified that he wants to serve the Lord when he finishes his school work.
We thank God for the glorious privilege of living another year as His witnesses, however unworthy, in this land.

We are happy to report that the outstation in the town of Varangaon (population 10,000) ten miles from Bhusawal, was reopened just after Conference last year. It had been closed for about eight years. Varangaon is in East Khandesh, where food rationing is strict. It has a large Moslem quarter and our Mission house borders on it. Previous workers had experienced trouble from these neighbors. Several times the house had been broken into and robbed, and often stones were thrown on the roof at night. For these reasons none of our preachers (all of whom are from Berar, where no rationing prevails) were willing to move there. The first and only person we approached with a request to accept a transfer there for a year or two gave us to understand that he would retire from service rather than do so. (He had lived there before.) While we were praying over this matter we received a letter from a young preacher in Satara District, offering us his services. We felt it was the Lord's provision. Madhukar Damle and his wife have done a good piece of work. Within a few weeks of his arrival this brother contacted a young Brahman man, who, a few months later, was baptized. Still later he was married to a Christian girl, daughter of a pastor in the Presbyterian Mission. The couple are now in Bible School. Several others have shown real interest. One young man of the goldsmith caste who had run away from his home in the Nagpur area, two hundred miles away, was asking to be baptized. The law forbids us to baptize anyone under twenty-one years of age, and he was only twenty. Hence Damle wrote a letter to the young man's parents to effect a reconciliation. His father came at once and with feigned kindness, promised permission for the boy to be baptized after he had made a short visit to his family. A card arrived a few days later in which the boy said he was coming soon. That was the last we have heard of him. Several Mahar villagers requested baptism and we held a series of meetings with them. They are still friendly, but threats of persecution dampened their desire. We sent one young caste man to attend a Short Term Bible School in Anjangaon. He seems ready for baptism, but we are waiting. Being a native of Varangaon, his baptism would create a stir, and there may be complications. We want to be sure he is really saved. A reading room has been opened in Varangaon and stocked with about two hundred and fifty Marathi books. Two daily newspapers help to draw many daily visitors, and most of them peruse some of the Christian litera-
ture as well. The reading room receives the full time attention of a young man, Madhukar Mande, who spent two years in our Bible School. A few days ago another worker arrived in Varangaon. His name is Abraham Moon. He was employed for some years by the Free Methodist Mission, and also studied in our Bible School. Moon is an expert drummer and musician. He and Damle and some local help plan to form an active team for evangelism this coming cool season.

We thank God for our elderly pastor, Bro. R. K. Cutler, and his wife, for student workers Othniel Khatre and James Patre, and for Bible-woman Agnes Sloder, all of whom have ministered in Bhusawal. Regular services have been held in Marathi (or Hindi) and English every Sunday. The English service is poorly attended, for many Anglo-Indians have left the country, and there are besides two other Protestant churches in Bhusawal with regular services. To meet the needs of the Hindi speaking members of the congregation, the vernacular service is in Hindi two Sundays out of every month. Unfortunately there is often serious friction between Marathi speaking and Hindi speaking members. We wonder if much of this could not be eliminated by having a separate Hindi congregation, with its own Hindi speaking pastor. We had at least three series of special meetings during the year with Brothers Satralkar, Malappa and Patole as Evangelists. Mrs. Schelander has been active in Sunday School and Young Peoples' and women's classes. She has also had a ministry with a number of High School students who regularly visit the bungalow. Her efforts helped to make the annual Christian Home week a real success. Miss Sanford and her Bible woman have ministered in Christian and non-Christian homes, as well as in Sunday School work. We are planning a leaflet campaign in Bhusawal city in the near future and are looking forward to having Brother Klinepeter with us for revival meetings.

Shortly after our July term of Bible School opened a wandering would-be preacher turned up in Bhusawal. He was born a high caste Hindu but had been baptized fourteen years ago through Dr. Stanley Jones. He knew almost nothing of the Bible, and knew that he knew nothing. He said he wanted to learn. We took a chance on him and sent him to Bible School where he was kindly admitted on trial. We verified the facts he gave us concerning his life by correspondence with some of the people concerned. He has proved an acceptable student in every way and when the new term begins he will be entered as a regular student. His name is Christianana (Joy of Christ) Rahate. He carries a great burden for his unsaved Hindu relatives.

We are responsible to evangelize the villages about Bhusawal
and some of these have been visited. We are happy to have a team from the Bible school help in this work last winter, and expect one again this year. The reception we have received is varied. Sometimes we have had stones thrown at us. One night as we were leaving a village in our jeep, a shower of stones was directed our way, one of which injured our evangelist's hand. We know all this is due to the blindness of ignorance. We have known other years when the people were generally far more antagonistic than now, but there seems to have been a slight hardening of opposition in the last two years. Mr. Schelander was taken ill with typhoid in March, through contaminated food or water at a large Hindu fair; however God has graciously restored him to health again.

We have operated a primary day-school in the Railway Augwalla (Firemen's) Quarters since 1919. The building we use is owned by the Railway. A small grant from the Railway and one from the Government cover most of the cost of this school. The Mission is not committed to finance this school but has occasionally lent us money to carry on. We owe the mission fifteen hundred rupees at present. We thank God for donors who have helped to maintain this project during the past year. There are four teachers and about 215 pupils at present. Our school had the best results last year of all primary schools in Bhusawal town. A number of the children attend weekday Bible classes (held out of school hours to comply with Government regulations) and the Sunday School usually has 100 in attendance. Miss Sanford is the Missionary Supervisor of this school, ably assisted by the Manager, Mrs. Lokhande. Weekly prayer meetings, and occasional open air meetings with the stereoptican lantern are held at school. A new feature is a reading room operated after school hours in one of the class rooms by Mr. Lokhande and one of our retired preachers, David Jagdhane. Miss Sanford and her Bible woman have visited many of the homes of the pupils and have found some responsive hearts. Throughout the years this school has been a source of Christian enlightenment to the ever changing community around. A Fireman who became an enquirer while stationed here was transferred to Murtizapur, and was baptized in our church there six months ago. At the time of his baptism he sent for his mother and younger brother, who lived at Nargaon, and persuaded them to accept the Lord and be baptized also. We believe this school is a real aid in the work of the Lord.

"If to be a Christian is to be like Jesus Christ, I hope that we will all be Christians in our lives." — A Prominent Hindu Judge.

Do you belong to the Mission, or the Omission Band?—Selected.
"For every thing there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven: . . . a time to build up." Ecclesiastes 3:1, 3.

The work of the missionary year at the Nargaon Bible Training School has included, in addition to the routine duties of administration, teaching, care of the sick, supervision of extracurricular activities, the responsibility of an extensive building program.

A dream of many years has come true in the virtual completion, just prior to Conference, of the Eicher Memorial Chapel. The funds for the erection of this chapel were mostly given by the World-Wide Prayer and Missionary Union in grateful acknowledgment of the labours of Christian L. Eicher as an outstanding builder of the Church in India and founder of the Bible School.

So firmly and wisely did Christian Eicher build the foundations of this Bible School, that plans and principles formulated in 1909, and carried forward during the intervening years, have proved so practical and enduring that the School today shows an ever-increasing popularity among the churches of Maharashtra.

No less than 42 couples and 22 single men applied for entrance at the beginning of the current school year, July 1952. Of these 42 couples only 17 could be accommodated in the living quarters then available. So as to meet the growing demands for enrollment in our School new suites of rooms for 4 additional couples have been built in the rains in addition to new quarters for an Indian staff of two teachers and their families. The new staff quarters releases the old rooms for two married couples. The missionary bungalow has been partitioned so as to accommodate two missionary families. The chapel building provides two new class rooms, a prophet’s chamber complete with bathroom for commuting teachers and guests as well as an office. Special funds have been received for the building of the new line of students’ rooms from the Central India Baptist Mission, the Kothara Leper Church and Mr. Arthur Mouw, missionary to Indonesia now on furlough. The new buildings now make possible a capacity enrollment of 24 married couples and about 25 single men with a resident teaching staff of 2 Indian couples and 2 missionary couples.
While the campus has echoed the sound of falling hammer and scraping trowel, within the classrooms students have been diligently engaged in another kind of construction job—that of acquiring disciplined habits of study in a thoroughgoing Bibliocentric system of education which, we trust, will definitely contribute to the making of a competent lay leadership and able pastoral ministry for India's church of the future. Our students in the class in homiletics have shown real zest for sermon building, and in noting their progress in this and other subjects, we have dreamed of brown-skinned Spurgeons, G. Campbell Morgans and A. W. Tozers.

In the past there have been two separate departments of study in our School: The Prep Department for students educated to the 7th standard or lower and the Bible Study Department for students who are 7th standard pass or higher. A third department for college men, matrics and failed matrics with the English medium has been added in the current year. The aim of this department is to give more highly educated young men at least one year of training in the atmosphere of our Alliance School before sending them to the Union Seminary in Yeotmal, and is therefore called the Pre-Seminary Department.

The teaching staff has been comprised of the commuting teachers Messrs. Fred Schelander, Ainar Berthelsen (of TEAM), Jack Derr and Miss Sanford. Resident teachers have been Mr. and Mrs. Yesvantrao Aghamkar and the two Carner couples. Their labours as foremen guiding the efforts of apprentices learning the job of building the Church in India has not always been easy, but the presence of the Mighty Architect, the Holy Spirit, has imparted skill, understanding and patience for the demands of every structural problem.

In keeping with our Alliance principles of Christian education, our students have learned that there must be practice as well as theory in studying to become Church-builders. It is not enough to sit in a study or classroom and build sermons. If they would have a part in building a House for the Name of the Lord, they must go out and actively search for the lively stones that must go into this magnificent edifice. During the cold season, touring intermission evangelistic teams from the School worked in various parts of Bombay State and Berar, students also conducted village Sunday Schools, and evangelistic teams preached the Gospel and sold portions in villages and religious fairs every week-end of the dry season.

While this School prepares men and women to build the Church it also trains on the principle that pillars for this Church are formed in the Christian home. To build secure Christian homes
where family worship hallows each new day, where the love of
a Christian man for a Christian woman makes a sanctuary out
of a mud hut, where little children lisping the name of Jesus give
this sad world a little glimpse of heaven, where cleanliness and
health and order speak of a Day when King Jesus will reign—
this too has been the purpose of the School in its class room in-
struction and in the contacts of day-to-day living together on the
campus. To take the light of Christian homes into the darkness
and dirt of village hovels teams of student wives have gone with
their missionary sisters.

In this time of building at the Nargaon Bible Training School
we have tried not to forget that to be at our best for our part in
God's Church-building program we ourselves, students and teach-
ers alike, must build ourselves up on our most holy faith, must
pray in the Holy Spirit, must keep ourselves in the love of God,
must wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal
life. We confess that in the kind of building thus described in the
epistle of Jude we have often failed, but God's mercy has been
greater than our failure and the past year has not been without
its spiritual blessings. In the special meetings conducted at two
different times by Brother Don Hillis and Brother Patoli our
hearts were humbled before God, and our lives were touched by
the miracle-working hand of the Master Builder.

In these perilous times there are dangers confronting God's
edifice in Nargaon. These days require the watchful methods
of the day when Nehemiah and his comrades built the walls of
Jerusalem. Acute grain shortage caused by famine conditions in
Khandesh threaten grave difficulties in the future. With the
large furlough exodus this year shortage of missionary personnel
for our teaching staff limits our program at a time when our
building room would otherwise allow us to expand. We ask our
friends to watch and pray with us that we may not in any way
lose our part in hastening the day when God's temple in India
will be completed. In the center of our Nargaon campus the
Eicher Memorial Chapel stands completed — a simple but lovely
cross-shaped building, its white walls glistening in the October
sunlight. Only a few yards away is the threatening spire of
Bairoba's temple. This symbolic scene reminds us in this critical
hour of our Saviour's never-dying words, "I shall build my
Church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

We must be a missionary people, anything less is a breach of
Christ's trust. —P. C. H.

A MISSION is a personal responsibility to act on behalf of
another.
Malkapur District
Jack Derr

Touring last season was conducted in three consecutive camps, all being joint ventures with the Khamgaon District missionaries and workers. The first was in Nandura, on the Khamgaon, Malkapur border. Two consecutive years camps have been concentrated on that area in the hopes that fruit would appear. As yet we can see nothing definite, except for the young sonar caste man who has expressed a willingness to take baptism, but his father, though amiable, sees no need, and his wife will not leave the care of the father, who is a widower. The young man reads his New Testament regularly. We are praying that the father will also decide for Christ.

The second camp was in Shegaon, where considerable witnessing has been done. With a jeep and six men we were able to reach a number of the outlying villages as well. These areas need prayer, and more prayer. The women’s work here and in the Nandura camp was very thoroughly and consistently carried on, and many women listened well and some expressed belief, and asked prayer for sickness. Who knows what goes on in their hearts, in this land where woman’s expression is so muffled.

The third camp was in Jalgaon District, in the South-East corner, where no one has gone for a great many years. The people have a faint recollection of Mr. and Mrs. Hartman. For some reason we experienced more opposition in this area than in any of the others. Pathurda, where we were camped, seemed a touchy town, and resentful of our witnessing. We were forced to leave a night meeting in a nearby village because of showers of Shane. The next day a young man came from that same place and inquired definitely about becoming a Christian. He went home with a New Testament. Women from that village also expressed their surprise that we left with no sign of resentment or ill-feeling when mistreated. Many women came to that camp and listened each day. God alone can measure the results.

After closing the last camp we returned to Malkapur and continued our work from there with morning preaching and personal work, and night sessions of preaching with pictures. They can never say they have not heard.

Witnessing was carried on during the hot season, and attempts at adult literacy classes were made, but no interest could be found.

Since the beginning of the rains, my time has gone into preparation and teaching at Bodwad. I only hope it has been as much help to the students as to me.
At the time of the Worker’s Summer School, Ruth held a ten day school for the women. There were six present. Not a large number, but sufficient to prove the value of such a project, where women, apart from men, express their questions, and learn on their own level, and have subjects particularly suited to their needs. Their own expressions of gratitude afterward were the biggest reward for the attempt.

In Jalgaon-Jamod, Rev. Chintaman Gavai has been witnessing and conducting a Reading Room. He says that a great many of the high class people as well as others, come of their own accord to sit and inquire. A Government Agricultural regional inspector seems very interested. Also a young patil has been reading his Bible, and has attended Katepurna Camp. He seems ready for baptism.

Small, very small clouds these are, but it is not the cloud, but God who gives the final rain. We pray that it shall come.

Khamgaon Preparatory School

B. E. Steed

“Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it.” Psalm 127:1.

Adam Clark in “Treasury of David” is quoted as saying, “It is a fact that ‘ben’ a son, and ‘bath’ a daughter, and ‘beith’, a house, come from the same root—‘banah’, to build; because sons and daughters build up a household, or constitute a family as much and as really as stones and timber constitutes a building. Now it is true, that unless the good hand of God be upon us, we cannot prosperously build a house of worship for His Name. And if His blessing be not upon our children, the house (the family) may be built up; but instead of being the house of God, it will be the synogogue of Satan……..Trowel and hammer, saw and plane are instruments of vanity unless the Lord be the Master-builder.”

We are indeed conscious of our need of the Master-builder’s help as we endeavour to build this household for Him. One of our helpers, a mason by caste, and now many years a mason for the Lord, has taught me many things as I have seen him again and again check his work by level and plumb line. The Master-builder has given us His Word and the Holy Spirit to check our lives that they may be straight and true. A stone out of line will cause little feet to stumble. Lord, help us to keep straight lines.

We thank God for each of the 135 children in our household.
They come to us from far and wide — 260 miles between the farthermost homes. There are more than thirty new students who have come this year, several from homes which have been only a short time Christian. Little Ruth’s story brought encouragement for the days when labor seems to be vain. Twenty years ago a missionary employed a Hindu cartman who sent his little boy to our Akola School along with some Christian children. He was in school only one year and then returned with his father to his native village. Years passed and nothing more was heard of him. Last touring season God led the missionaries to make a camp near that remote village. The songs in camp aroused memories in the boy of long ago and an irresistible power drew him to Christ. He brought a neighbour with him to the camp meetings who also accepted the Saviour. Ruth is the child of this neighbour.

Can you imagine a crowd of girls without a doll? We have a doll far better than even Wanamaker’s Store can produce. We have a real live baby boy eight months old. We picked him up off a pile of stones! His young widowed mother was cutting stones to earn her living. We needed help and she responded to our call. Our doll’s name is “Delight” and he surely is the delight of the compound. He is tied up in an improvised hammock while his mother works. When classes are dismissed many hands are held out to him.

One big event of the year has been the installation of a new water system. Rev. A. C. Eicher very kindly gave freely of his time and strength to accomplish this engineering feat. The operators of the old system were quite overawed at the wonder of the new. The old bullocks which had drawn the mote faithfully for many years, on the day the new was inaugurated stood at the foot of the incline waiting for the yoke to be put upon them as usual. A puzzled look came into their faces as though they were saying, “Has everyone forgotten that this is bath day and there is much water to be drawn?” The mali so marveled at the automatic aspect of the new system that he seemed to expect all his former duties to happen automatically and seemed quite amazed when we reminded him that there was no water in the drinking vessels. The water system has greatly facilitated the operation of the two schools. We trust that there may be an unfailing water supply in our well even though rains have failed.

The teachers have shown a spirit of cooperation and helpfulness and we thank God for them. The girls have done well scholastically. There has been a low percentage of failures in each class. We are gratified at the remarks written in the guest book by the Inspectress who recently examined our school. This is the way she began her report: “Class one. The girls have quickly become homely (in the English sense) with the school atmosphere under a loving teacher.”
A number of the girls have found Christ as their Saviour during the year and eleven were baptized at Easter time. Miss Sanford was with us for a week of meetings which bore fruit in many lives. There was keen interest in the Home Festival. The girls worked hard to decorate their rooms and even the little ones memorized well the ten reasons for "Worship in the Home," put out by the Christian Home Committee. We are glad that eight of our former students are now in Bible Training School.

When the girls go home for vacation they have many opportunities to witness for Christ. Two girls from the primary school brought back the amazing report that they had been teaching during the summer and had earned a goodly sum to help with their fees. We would like to see them all as "arrows in the hand of God" scattering the good news of His redeeming love.

As we work among our young people we would pray as George Swinnock: "Lord let Thy blessing so accompany our endeavours, that all our sons may be Benaias, the Lord's building, and then all will be Abners, their father's light; and that all our daughters may be Bethias, the Lord's daughters, and then all will be Abigail, their father's joy."

Khamgaon District
Julia Derr — Esther Karner

As we review the work of the year in this huge district with its 200,000 lost souls, we are reminded of Paul's word, "A great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries." Everywhere we find hungry hearts and open doors; but also very real opposition. However we wish to take courage and go forward. The constant burden on our hearts sounding a perpetual knell in our ears is, "200,000 lost souls! Lord give us power to win them to Thee."

After Conference last year we sought to make a camp in Jalamb, a town of 3,000 people still unreached by the Gospel. Those in possession of the only two camp sites in the town, refused us possession so that we had to abandon the project. However, the Lord has laid Jalamb on our hearts. We are praying for an opening there.

Our first camp at Nandura was made in conjunction with the Malkapur party since Nandura is on the border of both districts. We found open hearts and interest. One woman openly urged us to have meetings in her home, and invited in her neighbors to listen.
During the Christmas holidays, Rev. Timothy came for special meetings in the church. There was a spirit of brokenness. Several were saved.

The first of the year we made another joint camp, this one in Shegaon. God has given us a promise that there shall be a little group of saved ones there, cleansed and ready for His return. The enemy did all he could to hinder. The man whose truck we had engaged to take our tents and equipment failed to turn up; so Jack Derr made several trips taking it all in his jeep and trailer. Many trees in the beautiful grove where we usually camped had died. It was hard to find shade for all the tents. Eventually camp was set and we started work. Here Miss Karner joined our ranks. She organized children's classes near a grade school. Much to our joy some of the children remembered the songs and stories taught the year before. About forty children came with great enthusiasm until the classes were noticed by one of the teachers. He openly ridiculed them. The number dropped considerably, however some earnest students among the older boys came to our camp where they repeated Scripture verses and received picture cards, which they so much love as prizes. Two women were deeply interested in the Gospel, and came to the camp to make further inquiry. Gunga, the younger of the two, told with tears of having had a vision of Jesus. We hope to seek them out again and lead them to full salvation. While we were busy setting camp the first day, our Bible women dealt with a Hindu widow whose sad heart longed for comfort. During our stay, faithful old Sagunabai went to her home, but she had gone away. On the day we moved camp, this same woman came back and sitting down beside Miss Karner, asked how she could find peace. She was shown the Way, after which she prayed in Jesus' Name. Later efforts to contact her failed. Thus Satan seeks to steal away the seed sown in hearts.

Our third and last camp was at Paturde, a town of 5,000 inhabitants, 15 miles beyond Shegaon. Mr. Derr's jeep plowed thru terrible roads to take us there. No-one had been to this section for 14 years, so we were the main topic of conversation. Someone said we had come to kidnap the children. At first the women fled before us when we went into the town. We found only closed doors and antagonism. The children hooted us down the streets. We felt as though we were a spectacle to men and angels! We went to the main town, while Miss Karner and her Bible woman went to the smaller one. They received a similar welcome. One man told them to sit in the gutter and preach. In another place, a woman seated them, only to rise and dismiss them coldly, when they started telling the Gospel. In a near-by village, Mr. Derr and the men were driven out with stones and cow manure.
We felt all this was an indirect attack of the enemy, so we counter-attacked with a morning of definite prayer. Then we appointed some to stay home and pray, while the others went into town. The answer was immediate and wonderful. That evening two of us had a lovely time in a potter caste courtyard where we received great courtesy. People began to invite us elsewhere, even urge us to enter their homes. The next evening, while passing near the place where the potter people live, a woman told us, "The baby you held yesterday has been very ill all day." Fear gripped us for often if a foreigner fondles a Hindu child, they think he is casting an evil spell upon it. We went at once to the home. The mother greeted us with tears, and said, "All my children die. I've lost four. Only one boy has lived to grow, as you saw yesterday. Now this babe will die too! But I've taken only the Name of Jesus for her all day." The child was tossing with fever, and had refused milk. We told her again of the love and power of the Lord Jesus. After we prayed, Sagunabai said, "I think she will nurse now. Try her." The mother took the tiny babe into her arms. She nursed normally and went to sleep. After that the question was not where to go, but whose urgent invitation to refuse. After special prayer, Miss Karner and her Biblewoman also went back to those who had turned them out. The man who had lead in opposing them took them to his own courtyard, and courteously left so the women might listen undisturbed. The large group was very attentive. One of the women said, "All you teach is true. But what can I do!" In another part of Paturda, one man, impressed by the preacher's testimony, said that he was going to lay aside idols and prove Jesus Christ for three months. We were only able to remain in this camp two weekks, as much sickness hindered the work. We feel that we only got started there, and plan to go back again with the Word of Life. Pray for us as we seek to return there.

On our return to Khamgaon, work was started among the women in the city. In Chanmari, as a result of the Sunday School for Hindu children conducted by the Bible School, many homes were open. In Dashmukpur, a high caste quarter, the women received them gladly. A Brahman lad from there came to the bungalow to seek further teaching about Christ, and for a time even attended the Sunday church service. Pray for him. The Biblewomen and evangelists, both here and in Shegaon, have carried on faithfully. In Shegaon, the man who for some years has been saved, though unable to be baptized because of syste-
matic opposition from the rich man he works for, stands true. His wife, who was stubbornly against him, is now softening. Pray definitely that they may be baptized, and thus openly become Christians. Others in Shegaon are inquiring, and we are reminding the Lord of His promise to us for that city of 21,000.

Children's classes were a feature of the rainy season work. The girl I wrote of last year who started a class among Hindu children in the village where her father (Silas-rao), was saved as a Hindu boy, is still carrying on. When opposition came, and naughty boys hooted and stoned them, we asked Molly what she wanted to do. She replied calmly, "I'm not giving up. The Lord will take care of it." Though some young men are keeping little brothers and sisters away, the few interested ones beg them not to give up the class. We are still seeking for the little "Silases" who when saved will become faithful steady Christians like Molly's father.

Our younger Bible woman was burdened for children in another area, and started a class. It grew to such proportions we asked help from the Bible School. Now they have 50 to 90 children weekly in several classes. Of course Satan started trouble, but after a battle with discouragement, Gayabai went back. The class is now established with a good, steady attendance as a result, with many parents listening in on the edge of the groups.

Our pastor and evangelist are working in the city and surrounding villages, and bring encouraging word of interest, especially among English-speaking educated men. The high school and college here present a great opportunity.

During the rains, Miss Karner had a ministry of teaching in the Bible School; and much of Miss Derr's time has gone to building and literature work. Thank the Lord for another Bible study book almost ready to put on sale.

Early in October, the Christian community spent a week celebrating the Christian Home Festival. Prayer was held in every home, and a real spirit of Christian fellowship was manifest.

As we look out over our vast district with its 150 towns and villages and realize that parts of it have not had the Gospel for many years, we feel there remains yet very much land to be possessed for the Lord Jesus. As we think of the sad, the sick, and the sinful without Christ, and without hope in this life or the next, our hearts cry out to the Lord that His love and power may win them to Him. Our forces are so utterly inadequate for such a task. It is physically impossible to even reach them all. We are praying for a way out. The solution to the problem is to get our local church cleansed, purified and set on fire to witness for the Lord, as the Thessalonians did. Pray to this end.
Women's Bible Training
School, Khamgaon
H. J. Davies

"Whose heart the Lord caused to blossom . . . in giving heed to the Words which were said." Acts 16:14

No one thinks much of dark brown earth—it is about everywhere underfoot, trodden down and ordinarily not counted of much value; but gather some of that earth into a flowerpot, drop a seed into it, and that earth suddenly changes its value. As the tiny green shoot pushes through the soil toward the light, hearts are gladdened and refreshed by its growth. Delight and enjoyment at the appearance of the flowers give way to the wonder of God's creation and His creative power.

No one thinks much of the women of India. They too are everywhere, trodden down and counted of little value; however their value too, like that of the soil, changes when they are gathered together in the Women's Bible School and God's Word is dropped into their hearts. Little by little after the seed is planted and the ground worked and watered, new life begins to develop. After the tiny green shoots have been encouraged, suddenly, sometimes almost without warning, the Word blossoms into life that is really dedicated to God and is eager and anxious for His best. Water is necessary for growth and often tears of repentance and confession are evident, but these only serve to make the seed blossom into a more sturdy plant.

As the plant blossoms, it in turn sheds other seeds. This is the process which we seek to employ. Last December the whole school was out in practical work in the city and district. We are looking forward to a similar ministry this cool season, with the work geared to teaching in Christian communities through Short Term Bible Schools.

The Hindu Sunday Schools and Children's Meetings continue to be a source of joy and inspiration. Two of the boys are present for every service held in the church in spite of beatings and threatenings at home. They come secretly after being forbidden. One little girl who died of cholera during the siege in Khamgaon sat up until eleven o'clock singing choruses and repeating the verses which she had learned. When her father tried to stop her she said, "I'll go outside and sing if it is bothering you, but I must sing." She fell ill about eleven o'clock that night and was dead the next morning.
Sunday morning five of our girls work with Gayabai, The Bible-woman, in a nearby village where she has a Sunday School of over 70 children and 20 or more women. Gaya was an illiterate herself when she came to us over five years ago. It was a delightful experience to go along to visit the Sunday School, at her invitation, and to find your presence was absolutely unnecessary — in fact it was a distinct handicap since the children were frightened by a white face. In all this practical work we seek to develop leadership and confidence which is dependent on the presence of the Lord and not on the presence of the missionary or the teacher.

During the Christian Home week children from the Hindu Sunday School gave a very creditable performance on Children's Night under the leadership of the teacher and girls with whom they had been learning.

Of the nine who came for the first year class three were not Christians. Two are the child-wives of boys who are now student workers — one in our mission and one in the Baptist Mission. They had not been with us very long before they were praying in the Name of the Lord Jesus, asking Him to save their Hindu relatives. All three are asking for baptism. One girl literally danced out of the office clapping her hands after she had prayed for salvation. As she read John 3:16, putting her own name in the appropriate places, a transfiguring smile of delight spread over her face as she realized what had happened. A few days later at a testimony meeting she stood and said, "The Lord Jesus has saved me, and I thank Him.''

We have heard of people falling asleep in Church, but this year to our consternation, we had a girl who fell asleep in all the classes, so we knew it wasn't the dry erudition of one pedagog. The doctor ordered vitamins and she seemed to pick up a bit, but she was entirely allergic to learning of any kind. There being no pill for that we almost gave up in despair. Finally the girls in her class began to pray in earnest, and she herself prayed desperately. Her missionary's statement that she wasn't exactly bright seemed a gross understatement. Hivrarle's opinion was that she would only learn by sheer memory — and she couldn't keep two things straight in a lesson. In answer to prayer she began slowly to concentrate and to tell simple stories which she has been taught. The whole class more or less waits breathlessly while she laboriously recites the lesson. When she does it correctly the whole class breaks out in a spontaneous handclapping "shabash". Her missionary recently visited us and told us she had been found wandering the streets of Morsi naked. She had followed their girls home from school. They took her in, taught
her of His love and she was baptized by them. Knowing this, we can only marvel and wonder that she has made what progress she has. Only the power of an Almighty God could reach down to plant His Seed in such soil and make it blossom for Him.

The first year group is alert and bright. Most of this group will be with us for a year as they will go on to training for nurses and teachers. Pray with us that the seed which is being sown in their hearts will take such firm root that it will bring forth fruit in the most adverse situation, and that the winds and cold blasts of the world will not be able to wither the plant.

The soil— the hearts of India's women; the seed—the Word of God; “Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth laborers into His harvest.”

Akola District
Roland Perret

“For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not: I will help thee.” Isa. 41:13

One year ago we stood on the threshold of the work to which God had called us,....to which we had looked forward for so long. One does not face things so important without having some fears, the one most clearly before us was that of falling short of the high purpose which was God's when he called us. At such times God's Word comes to us clearly: “FEAR NOT * I WILL HELP THEE.”

With this encouragement in our hearts we began work in the Akola district. On our first tour we had with us Brother Jonathan Amstutz to help us get started. I don't imagine he realizes what a blessing he was to me at that time. He could tell you more about this first feeble effort at touring than I can. He could tell you of those first stammering attempts to speak to the people, and he could tell many things about that first tour!

For what has been accomplished in the Akola District during the year we humbly acknowledge God's help. True to His Word, He has helped us. He has enabled in so many ways. We still can’t speak Marathi.......but whatever it is we speak, Thank God some of the people can understand it! It is now possible to tell them the wonderful story so that they can grasp it. It has been a joy to see the way the people in the villages are willing to listen. It is only too true that few are pulled out of the fire, from among so very many ....but at least the seed is being sown in their hearts.
We were happy to have Betty and Herbert Dyke with us for a tour and Ann Droppa for some time during the touring season, as well as Miss Sanford for our Short term Bible school and Worker's Wives' Retreat. We thank each one of them for their help.

Among 7 candidates for Baptism in one village, one was a Hindu magician. A fine young man. It was a joy to hear his testimony that day. All his magic gadgets were burned; he was starting a new life. After he had been baptised he slipped from our hands and ducked himself again — backwards and forwards. He said, “I want this to be ‘pukka’!” (i. e. real or genuine). Now Anand has a fine Christian wife. Pray that their home will be a lighthouse in that needy village.

Another in that group had been a so-called Hindu holy man. He now is walking with the Lord in true holiness. Pray for them that they might grow in grace.

Then during our Short term Bible School we baptised Parvati-bai. The cost for her was high, still she rejoices in her new found Saviour. Her name is now Pritibai (i. e. Love). She loves the Lord. When relatives found out about her becoming a Christian, they took away everything she had. They sold her goat. They took the deed to her small plot of land. Finally they kidnapped her little son who was in Santa Barbara School. She hasn’t been allowed to see him since. Still she always wears a smile. The Lord has worked in her heart.

It was a great blessing to go into a pioneer area for a tour this year. We went on the suggestion of Bro. Lauren Carner who had made a trip into that area last October. It is an out of the way valley called “Chikalwal”, with about 20 villages in it. We found no one in any of the villages who had ever seen a missionary or Christian worker of any kind. We don’t say this as a reflection on any previous missionary of Akola District. There are some 5 to 600 other villages in the District. We simply cannot handle them all properly. The workers are too few! Adult literacy classes were held in this new area. People learned to read the Gospel that they had bought before they could read a single word. We have confidence in Him that the Word will bear fruit in the Chikalwal valley.

Pray for the Three Evangelists, the catechist, and the student worker who labour in the Akola District. Don’t forget the missionaries.... they need prayer too. There are other areas and key towns without a witness within a radius of ten miles! Akola is a large district. The Labourers are too few!
Amravati District

Earl Hartman

“His Mercy endureth forever.”

God has been gracious and merciful to us in sparing our lives and keeping us in health and has given us the privilege of another year of service for Him and we praise Him for it all.

TOURING SEASON:

The plan we followed in our touring work was to have more than one group of national workers camped in different parts of the district at the same time, with, at least one, missionary coming to them for a few days of meetings in the town or village by which they had their camp. An effort was always made by them to lead up to the coming of the missionaries as the climax of the camp in that place. We tried to have the last day of the missionaries’ visit fall on a Sunday, but that was not always possible. In some places the visit of the missionary turned into a little revival as the Word was ministered to the Christians, inquirers and others who gathered, it was with deep regret that we gave up our part in this ministry early in March to go to Katepurna fifty five miles from Amravati to prepare for the camp meeting there.

The attendance at Katepurna this year was estimated at about a thousand, a fourth more than the previous year. The response to the Word as it was ministered by Bro. King of Gujarat was gratifying indeed. On several occasions large numbers came forward to meet God for their needs as they had seen them in the light of the message just given. They were then divided into groups to be dealt with by leaders chosen from among the missionaries and national workers present. The change in the lives of some thus dealt with has been remarkable. We praise God that Katepurna Camp is rapidly taking its place as the big Christian event of the year in this part of the country. Many look forward to it eagerly throughout the year.

In conversation with Hindus in the Katepurna area we noted that they referred to the camp there as “Your Juga.” This means they had come to think of it as a place of pilgrimage for Christians. That is, they thought we made pilgrimages there each year in March the same as they make them to certain so-called holy places at appointed times of the year. This was the result of seeing a lot of Christians coming there at about the same time for the last three years.

Our co-worker, Jonathan Amstutz, spent part of his touring season helping in other districts. Before Christmas he was in Akola. After that he spent about a month and a half in Chandur District.
After our return from Katepurna we had a small camp meeting in a distant part of the district for the Christians and inquirers in that area. The Spirit of the Lord came upon several of the meetings, Christians were blessed and others saved. The last day of those meetings a woman prayed a long prayer in such a manner that if you had been listening in, you would have found it hard to believe that she was just emerging from Hinduism. She had never been in a series of Christian meetings before. Her prayer was quite different from what one would naturally expect from one in her state.

We were very late getting started with our adult literacy classes this year, but in spite of that the results were encouraging. The main purpose is to make it possible for all Christians to read their Bibles, but we also allow Hindus to attend the classes. We held three such classes in widely separated parts of the district. Several inquirers have come as the direct result of one of them.

One of the most encouraging of our varied Rainy Season activities was a retreat for the wives of our national workers. It was held for the women of Chandur and Amravati districts, and was arranged and managed by Mrs. Amstutz and Mrs. Hartman. Some of the sessions became seasons of revival in which many women opened their hearts to the Lord as never before. We praise God upon every remembrance of those days.

The Short-Term Bible School was held with forty four adults and eighteen children in attendance. We think it was the best school held for some years. A good spirit was manifested, not only in the students' readiness to pray and in their hunger for the Word, but also in the way they volunteered for the menial tasks which are a part of such a school. There was no need for listing names for such tasks. All the one in charge had to do was to ask for volunteers for the next day and they were always forthcoming: a man to draw water from the well and carry it where needed, and two women to assist the local Christian woman who was hired to do the cooking.

This spirit of helpfulness, prayer and joy led to a real revival. As far as I know, not one went away without a definite testimony of having met God. Some were inquirers who had never professed salvation while others were professed Christians without a real testimony. It was a great joy to see and hear them humble themselves in seeking the Lord.

In closing allow me to present a matter for prayer. There are thousands here in Amravati City who speak English and read English publications. Due to lack of time our contact with them is most inadequate. After a little time spent in getting acquainted a person knowing only English could find more opportunities for work among these people than he had time to embrace.
Anjangaon District
A. C. Eicher

But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. Eph. 2:13.

Very soon after last conference closed we were out touring in Akot Taluka. A number of sites for another desperately needed mission station were investigated but to date nothing satisfactory has been located. The one site ideally located with some buildings already on it, is still tied up in a law suit between the heirs. We request your earnest prayers that this may soon be freed for disposal, or that some other suitable site may be located.

From our first camp at Panori outstation we held evangelistic meetings in the surrounding villages and towns by night, using gas lanterns and our faithful S. V. E. kerosene operated projector, while our mornings were spent visiting each Christian home to have prayer, to encourage them in their witness for Christ and to find out about relatives and friends whose hearts were softened by their testimony that we might show them the way of salvation more clearly. Down the years it has been through the far reaching ramifications of family relationships that the Gospel vine has borne fruit in North Berar. Hence we feel the time and effort spent in encouraging our Christians to win their own relatives to Christ is a very effective means of evangelism.

After the first camp, we moved to the northern border of our Akot area at Kari in the foot hills of the Satpuras. Three years previously the L. R. Carners had toured this area and everywhere we found friendly openings. When Artimese went to the homes of the Moslem Bhil women of Kari and other villages surrounding it, she told the women not to fear and was surprised with their open, friendly reply, “We are not afraid of you people, you come to talk with us about Jesus. Come right in.” Thus we enter into the labors of those who in years gone by have faithfully sown the seed. There were little visible results of our ministry at Kari, other than pouring of spiritual water on two plants which took root in the Carners’ time. One openly professed to be a Christian, although we could wish for a better testimony. The other, a member of the headman’s family, had suffered much persecution. He said he did not participate in idolatrous practices, yet he did not wish to associate with Christians openly because of the ostracism.

It is a fifty-five mile jump from Kari to Rin Mochan—one corner of our district to the other. We stopped at our bungalow at Anjangaon for supplies and the large meeting tent needed at
the Rin Mochan Yatra. All was packed and ready to drive away when the telegraph boy arrived with a wire from Chikalda asking Artimese to come immediately to help Miss Hansen who had fallen ill. Artimese and Ann packed their suitcases and were off in an hour's time. Bert loaded the jeep and trailer kindly loaned to us by Miss Ransom while she was on furlough, and was off for Rin Mochan. There as usual, Mission workers and missionaries gathered in a united effort to reach the many thousands who attend this Hindus festival.

From Rin Mochan Bert moved camp to Kasbe Gavan where there is a flourishing Christian community. Five adults followed the Lord in baptism. Artimese returned from Chikalda after six weeks. She was glad for the opportunity to repay a small part of our love debt to Miss Hanson for caring for our baby Ann when Artimese had an attack of typhoid many years ago, and more latterly for her loving services as matron in our school for missionaries' children at Chikalda.

Our next camp was again in Akot Taluka at Asegaon, where twelve who believed were baptized. Following the baptismal service, we sat down to a Communion, prayer, and testimony meeting in the mango grove where we were camped. Tea was served, and we had a time of blessed fellowship, feeling sorry only at the people's disappointment that we could not have a love feast together. The benediction was pronounced and the Christians were ready to leave when the Lord sent a lovely black buck within a hundred and fifty yards of our tent. We had the love feast after all. The next day the Christians collected the necessary wheat and spices among themselves, organized and engineered the whole affair without grumbling or friction, and we sat down to our noon meal at 5:00 P. M. Would that we had many more groups as eager to cooperate, as willing to serve each other, and as on fire for the Lord! During the hot season a witnessing band of volunteers from Asigaon spent a number of weeks in surrounding towns and villages with much blessing.

In the heat of April a convention was held for our people, having in mind chiefly those who could not get to Katepurna. Tents and bamboo shelters were erected on our compound for living quarters. There were about 400 people in attendance. Brother Lauren Carner ministered the Word, and knowing North Berar's needs so well preached to the people right where they lived.

Our two day Laubach classes retreat for workers' wives was held with 19 in attendance. Miss Derr and Artimese taught the classes. God met the women's need and the hunger in their hearts. One said she felt like she had finished her meal. The time together was too short. Another one said they felt like children
of one mother. We tried to give these precious women a hunger for the word, a knowledge of how to lead a soul to the Lord, and a desire to serve others. Some have caught the vision and are beginning to share in their husband’s work. Others who never taught before are teaching Sunday School classes. Previously they thought they couldn’t. They are getting a joy out of it that is new to them. They all voted that next year’s retreat be a week in length.

We had a one day Sunday School Institute:
1. Was it worth while? YES
2. Did it cost something? YES
3. Is it worth the expense of time effort and money? A thousand times YES. Mrs. Capps left her busy post at headquarters and spent the day with us. She was an inspiration and gave a helpful message. Old S. S. pictures, Christmas cards, etc. were mounted and given out to be used as prizes for verses memorized, with the suggestion that no picture be given out without the memorized scripture verse written on it somewhere. Thus a witness will go INTO the Hindu homes. Four rolls of pictures on the life of Christ were reinforced with partial cloth backing and each pastor was presented with a roll for his circle. A Bible quiz from the Power magazine was interesting and stimulating. A picture of the head of Christ was awarded the winner.

The results of Kartapurna Sunday School Institute, and this one, have been gratifying. The workers in our section are putting Sunday Schools to the fore. These Bible classes are held on any day of the week. The cry now is, ‘More pictures!’

Three weeks before coming to conference we had the privilege of baptizing six adults at Shingnapur all former Hindus. Two of these were saved as a result of the preaching of the local worker, and four came to the Lord through the witness of relatives in Daryapur, three miles away. A day before we left Anjangaon another card from Sakaramji at Shingnapur says that ten more believers are ready to be baptized there, Praise God!

As much as we praise God for those who are coming to Him in Shingnapur, we praise Him even more for the restoration to fellowship of this worker Sakaramji, who for a number of years was dismissed for insubordination and was out of fellowship with the church, being possessed by a spirit of pride and of opposition to the brethren. God graciously worked in his hardened heart, humbled him, and made him again a useful servant in His vineyard. Since April 1st. he was placed on trial by the synod and is giving every evidence that he has truly met God in humility and brokenness.
"Upon them hath the Light shined." Isa. 42:9

"For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth." Acts 13:47.

We can enlighten men only because we give them the knowledge of the glory of God as we see it in the face of Jesus Christ. As God's ambassadors we say, "Be ye reconciled to God."

After last conference we rallied the help of our own workers and called in other evangelists to put on a gospel campaign at Kondanapur religious fair. A temporary tabernacle was put up to accommodate the crowds. Four days and most of the nights we sought to preach to the people using charts, pictures and posters to attract their attention. The crowds, however, were more taken up with the "things of darkness" than the "things of light." Gambling, carousing, cinemas and evil plays held their attention. Encouraging was the testimony of one old man as he looked upon the Heart Charts. He said, "That is the True Light from Heaven." It had shone upon his soul. Many others heard the Gospel over the loud speaker, coming nearer, they not only heard but saw.

Six camps were made in the two districts. From these centers we went out to the surrounding villages. In groups we worked among men and women but mostly at the public square where we had the largest crowds. People want to listen in the evening when they have time to hear without interruptions. The song and story method appeals to them most, because of its connected form. In this manner the Life and ministry of Christ is best presented and most readily understood.

We have still many villages where the story of Christ is new to the people. One camp in Arvi taluka was the first witness given to that particular town. After two meetings they invited us for tea and questioned us more closely, so eager were they for Light. After camping at three towns called Telegaon we coined the slogan, "Tell it again at Telegaon." Yea it is our privilege to tell it by word of mouth, over the phonograph, and over the radio. We are so thankful to God that some can hear and understand Gospel programs in English. May God help us to increase these Beams of Light which are turned toward India. Many are yet waiting for the True Light.

Easter Sunrise found a company of believers on the hill to the east worshiping the Risen Christ. Songs were sung and a sweet
time of meditation followed. During three day meetings Rev. S. D. Bower gave good messages on the "Light of the Cross." Many barriers such as self interest, worldly pride, and Satanic darkness had to be passed before reaching the heart. A goodly offering in grain and cash was collected to defray the expenses. Communion was observed, children were dedicated, and some older Christians were reclaimed. Ten were baptized this year. This was one of the bright spots of the year.

A day of prayer was held for the Indian workers in June. We presented our need for revival. We sought to encourage them to seek God for a great refreshing. In August the missionaries also met at Chandur for prayer. Many needs press upon us, and we seek God for power and for wisdom in this great undertaking of making Christ known. Fellowship with one another revives our spirits.

The observance of the Christian Home festival has brought blessing to all of the Christian community. A questionnaire to measure the observance of religious duties was placed in each home. We seem to be inching along the second step of advance. Homes were beautifully decorated, door steps were marked with designs of "welcome" and pictures and posters hung on the wall. The symbol of the cross placed near the door signifies that its inmates renewed their allegiance to Christ. A school master was much impressed in the first meeting. A Christian home workshop was exhibited to the visiting school boys. Protecting our children, as we would from open wells and pitfalls, and providing them adequate books and profitable past times, were the main points of this program. A picnic out in the open provided opportunity for recreation and for witnessing. A guru, never leaving his temple, saw new light as he listened to the story of the Feeding of the Five Thousand.

The pastors’ wives’ retreat was a profitable week. It was greatly appreciated by those who have to guide the home. Subjects on the Lord’s Coming, The Filling of the Spirit, and the Duty of a pastor’s wife in the home, as a wife, mother, and a church worker were presented. Through these leaders we hope to guide the future Church in the Faith.

During the rains a quite steady flow of visitors called at the bungalow. Some were young men from college on vacation, others school boys, and inquirers. While engaged in conversation with men in the office, the living room was oft times filled with women and young girls to whom Mrs. Amstutz ministered. Many families bring their children to this town school. One father entrusted his son to us saying, "See to it that you teach him the right way when he attends your Sunday School. Himmat (courage) is true to his name.
Calls from the district demand visitation and solution of new Christians' problems of boycott and persecution. Taking these emergencies to the Lord in prayer turns them into stepping stones. One man was in danger of not only loosing his employment but, of being bodily harmed because of being loyal to his Master. When the plot of his persecutors failed, they took the case before the town people. God gave him speech that confounded his opponents. He humbly said, “Have I stolen, committed wrong, distilled liquor, or been morally at fault? I seek to live a more faithful life since I am a Christian. Can any of you accuse me of such wrong doing?” They were silenced and the crowd turned on the accusers and said, “We have nothing to say to this man. Mind, this is not his fault, it is your own gainseeking.” The little group of Christians was much encouraged.

The evangelistic work goes on unabated. Our preachers have visited many villages. The two Bible women also have many opportunities to witness in homes. Many times they return late because of added invitations. Even our elderly Bible woman who has retired continues to sow the Seed of the Word faithfully. At the bungalow the lady missionary must be ready to receive rescue cases, dress wounds for a child fallen into the fire, give counsel to a run away daughter-in-law, and exemplify good Christian home training. It is not only preaching that is necessary but putting into practice the beautiful truth that is entrusted to us.

The Church, the Sunday School, and the Young Peoples' Society have held their meetings regularly. Additions have been made, transferes have taken place, but we hold forth the word of life. People in distress come to this light house. “Go to the Mission house; you will receive help there,” is a common phrase. The church must remain on the map for the wayfarers.

In the hospital, a dying man stretched both his hands to us in prayer. A visiting lawyer said: “Now it is only you that can give hope to this man.” How sacred the trust we have! How important our ministry! I had seen those hands reaching out in prayer when the voice was stronger, “Lord have mercy upon me a sinner; grant me peace and forgiveness in Thy sight.” This same man used to chide me, “How many Christians have you made this year?” Now he himself asked for mercy and peace, at the feet of Jesus.

In every section of our district souls are waiting for the true Light to shine on them. Unless each Christian in America and India lets the Light of Christ shine thru him, how will they be enlightened?
Excerpts from the Writings of William Carey

“He who is too proud to stoop to others, in order to draw them to him, though he may know that in many respects they are far inferior to himself, is ill-qualified to become a missionary. . .

“In preaching to the heathen, we must keep to the example of Paul, and make the great subject of our preaching Christ, the Crucified. It would be very easy for a missionary to preach nothing but truths, and that for many years together, without any well-grounded hope of becoming useful to one soul. The doctrine of Christ's expiatory death and all-sufficient merits has been, and must ever remain, the grand means of conversion. This doctrine and others immediately connected with it have constantly nourished and sanctified the Church. Oh, that these glorious truths may ever be the joy and strength of our own souls, and then they will not fail to become the matter of our conversation to others . . . .

“It is absolutely necessary that the native should have an entire confidence in us, and feel quite at home in our company. To gain this confidence we must, at all times, be willing to hear their complaints; we must give them the kindest advice, and we must decide everything brought before us in the most upright, open, and impartial manner. We ought to be easy of access, to them as much as possible, and on all occasions to treat them as our equals. All passionate behaviour will sink our characters exceedingly in their estimation. All force and everything haughty, reserved, and forbidding, it becomes us ever to shun with the greatest care. We can never make sacrifices too great, when the eternal salvation of souls is the object, except, indeed, we sacrifice the commands of Christ. . . .

“To bear the faults of our native brethren, so as to reprove them with tenderness, and set them right in the necessity of a holy conversation, is a very necessary duty. We should remember the gross darkness in which they were so lately involved, having never had any just and adequate ideas of the evil of sin, or its consequences. We should also recollect how backward human nature is in forming spiritual ideas, and entering upon a holy, self-denying, conversation. . . .

“Another part of our work is forming our native brethren to usefulness, fostering every kind of genius, and cherishing every gift and grace in them. In this respect we can scarcely be too lavish of our attention to their improvement. It is only by means
of native preachers that we can hope for the universal spread of the Gospel throughout this immense continent.

“It becomes us also to labour with all our might in forwarding translations of the sacred Scriptures in the languages of Hindoostan. The help which God has afforded us already in this work, is a loud call to us to ‘go forward’. So far, therefore, as God has qualified us to learn those languages which are necessary, we consider it our bounden duty to apply with unwearied assiduity in acquiring them.

“The establishment of native free schools is also an object highly important to the future conquests of the Gospel. Of this very pleasing and interesting part of our missionary labours, we should endeavour not to be unmindful.

“That which, as a means, is to fit us for the discharge of these laborious and unutterably important labours, is the being instant in prayer, and the cultivation of personal religion. Let us ever have in remembrance the examples of those who have been most eminent in the work of God. Let us often look at Brainerd, in the woods of America, pouring out his very soul before God for the perishing heathen, without whose salvation nothing could make him happy. Prayer, secret, fervent, believing prayer, lies at the root of all personal godliness. A competent knowledge of the languages where the missionary lives, a mild and winning temper, and a heart given up to God in closet religion, these are the attainments, which more than all knowledge, or all other gifts, will fit us to become the instruments of God in the great work of human Redemption. Let us then ever be united in prayer at stated seasons, whatever distance may separate us, and let each one of us lay it upon his heart that we will seek to be fervent in spirit wrestling with God, till He banish these idols and cause the heathen to experience the blessedness that is in Christ.

“On one of the last occasions on which he saw him—if not the very last—he spent some time talking chiefly about Carey’s missionary life, till at length the dying man whispered, ‘Pray’. Duff knelt down and prayed, and then said Good-by. As he passed from the room, he thought he heard a feeble voice pronouncing his name, and, turning, he found that he was recalled. He stepped back accordingly and this is what he heard, spoken with a gracious solemnity: ‘Mr. Duff, you have been speaking about Dr. Carey, Dr. Carey; when I am gone, say nothing about Dr. Carey—speak about Dr. Carey’s Saviour.’ Duff went away rebuked and awed, with a lesson in his heart that he never forgot.

A MISSIONARY is an AMBASSADOR sent on a MISSION for God.