The INDIA ALLIANCE

SAVIOUR
SANCTIFIER
HEALER
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1956 Summer
Holding the Ropes for National Evangelism
— J. F. D. —

You will find that all of the articles you will be reading in this issue deal with missionary-sparked evangelism. That is good. It is what you expect from those you so sincerely support, in prayer and material things, as Christ’s messengers in a foreign land. But if the initiative for evangelism stops there, there is something wrong. There is one mark of healthy, effective missions that is missing. That mark is evangelism by the national church, and it is conspicuous by its absence.

God is awakening both missionaries and national church leaders to face this unhappy situation. At this point we praise God. However, we hasten, in the very next breath, to say, this is a prayer request. The New Testament says that the national church, the local group of believers, must bear the burden for witness to the salvation in Jesus Christ. But at present it is not doing so. Decades of seeing the missionary shoulder all responsibility for evangelism has left the majority of the Indian church unaware of its undeniable responsibility under the Word of God. Now, it is always true, that what the church needs most urgently, the Devil fights most energetically. Here is the greatest opportunity for prayer you have ever had. God is giving the vision to a few Indian church leaders. We are seeing the cloud the size of a man’s hand. You can, by intercession and faith, make it into the deluge that proves the presence of God.
It is worthwhile to note an excerpt from a letter of Mr. Andrew Fuller, one of the four men who encouraged and backed William Carey in his following of the call of God to India. This letter was written describing the farewell at Carey's first sailing.

“Our undertaking really appeared at its beginning to me somewhat like a few men, who were deliberating about the importance of penetrating a deep mine, which had never before been explored. We had no one to guide us; and whilst we were thus deliberating, Carey, as it were, said, 'Well, I will go down, if you will hold the rope.' But before he descended, he, as it seemed to me, took an oath from each of us at the mouth of the pit, to this effect that whilst we lived, we should never let go the rope.”

The next time you pray for your missionary friends in India spend an equal effort in prayer for the Indian church leaders and laymen. Ask for them a vision of opportunity and responsibility for presenting the Gospel of salvation through Jesus Christ to their countrymen. And keep on holding the ropes in this same manner. If you are in the habit of asking God for burdens of prayer in special matters, and it is an excellent habit, then ask for this particular ministry. It will be the greatest help you can give India in prayer as they prepare to descend into a mine they have not hither-to explored.

To Everyone That Believeth

So long as there are those who do not believe on Jesus Christ, the Church has the responsibility of taking the Gospel of Salvation to them. Touring, which means camping in strategic places and witnessing in all the surrounding areas, provides the most efficient means of doing this. To share with you what is a major part of every district missionary's life and that of his Indian fellow-workers we bring these cameos from all over the Alliance field in India.

Enlarging

Our first camp of our missionary career in India was at Phulamla, in the Badnera zone. Many Christians in this village had drifted away from the Lord and were living in a backslidden condition, but the Word of God which is quick and powerful stirred up their hearts afresh. Backsliders were reclaimed, sinners were saved, and at the close of this two-week stay, fourteen souls were baptized, thus extending and enlarging the heavenly kingdom of God.

Laird and Mary Ann Stengele

What must I do to be saved? Acts 16:30
Religious Fair

Gospel witness at the Rin Mochin religious fair which is an annual feature of the work in this district, was more successful this year than last, thanks to Rev. L. R. Carner's excellent P. A. system, and his help with bhajan and kirtan (singing) bands. A heavy rain on the final night of the fair proved to be a blessing in disguise as it filled our Gospel tent to more than overflowing. Many with hungry hearts listened attentively to the presentation of the Gospel, and many Gospels were sold.

Hill Tribes

Interest continues among the hill tribes people north of Akot. Two very intelligent young men who can read and write well (most hill people are illiterate) are convinced of the truth of salvation through Jesus Christ and are carefully weighing the matter before asking for baptism. Please pray for these young men that they may have the courage of their convictions, and by a bold stand for Christ become the means of access to that largely unreached hill tribes area.

Bert and Artimese Eicher

Magic Or Miracle

We have had our portion of interesting incidents on tour. A circle master was preaching one day to a group of Lavanis, thinking he was really giving them the Gospel. An illiterate Christian in the village realized the people were not comprehending the message. He therefore translated all that had been said into their dialect, and as a result 70 Gospels were sold due to their awakened interest.

From one camp we were called to the home of some Christians who had a very sick girl and boy. They told us that they had not called a doctor, nor did they intend to do so. They prayed that the Lord would take the children if that were His will, but they would not resort to medicine. A doctor was brought by someone else and he said the children had malaria or typhoid with broncho-pneumonia. A few days later both children made a rapid improvement and some police officials came to learn what kind of magic the saheb had performed. Instead he received a clear testimony that we had merely prayed and the Lord had worked the miracle.

Al and Bernice Shaw

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved. Acts 16:31
Almost at the beginning of the year's touring season a camp was made in the southern section of the district (Jalgaon). With a splendid batch of eager young students from the Nargaon Bible Training School to assist, together with Pastor N. A. Hivale and evangelist Stephen Aghamkar, we carried the Gospel to the surrounding villages each day. In one village, much to the amazement and appreciation of the villagers, our party organized a clean-up day. Drains were dug, streets swept, and piles of dirt removed, and a whole section of the village made to take on a new look. That night in the village the Gospel was brought to a large audience of men and women.

Donald and Faith Capps

Bare Walls

Within the past few months we have been visiting a small settlement of railway workers. They are the first who were receptive to the Gospel and as the days went by continued to show signs of real hunger for the Lord. Just a few weeks ago the head man of the settlement called me into his house and simply pointed to the walls. How our hearts went up with praise when we saw the walls that were once lined with pictures of their gods were now completely bare. These people are extremely hungry to this day, and we are praying that not too many days may pass before they find our Lord as their Lord too.

Edgar Lewellen

Slides and Gospels

In January and February we toured in Balapur and Patur circles, then finished the season with a fifteen day tour in Sangvi circle. Nearly every night we used the public address system along with colored slides on the life of Christ. These proved quite effective in drawing goodly numbers of people to listen to the Gospel. In some places more than a thousand were counted in a single meeting. Meetings were held at several religious fairs, the largest of which was at Malsur, 20 miles beyond Patur. We pitched camp near the yatra (Fair), holding week-end meetings there. The rest of the time was spent in surrounding villages. On three yatra days more than three thousand people attended the meetings and six hundred Gospels were sold. In some of these areas many have professed a real interest in the Gospel and some have come for instruction, but none are really willing to step out for the Lord. This year has been one especially of seed sow-

God be merciful to me a sinner. Luke 18:13
Pray with us that the coming year may be one of reaping.

Gillette and Mary Vandegrift

To Help You Pray

One of the significant signs of the building of indigenous backbone in the India Mission of the C. and M. A. grew out of the South East Asia Conference at Bangkok in 1955. Pastor R. P. Chavan, President of the Marathi Synod, as a delegate to the Conference, received an impelling vision of a self-propagating church. In that vision, as a foremost feature, was the need for self-support. He saw, as many have seen, that any attempts to stand the national church body on its own feet without reference to financial vertebrae are doomed to failure.

A skeleton is not an inviting spectacle. So finances alone are not spiritually attractive. But as a body without the bone framework is very ineffectual, so the church without its own means of support is equally hopeless. Paul the Apostle wrote frequently of the believers' obligation to provide for their spiritual instructors. It is an inescapable necessity to spiritual growth. The group unwilling to support its own spiritual leaders will not be interested in supporting a program for the evangelization of others.

Pastor Chavan came back from Bangkok to make a startling request to the Mission Conference. It was, in brief, that the Mission subsidies be cut 20 per cent each year, beginning in 1956, resulting in a total cessation of foreign financial aid by 1960. It was a daring proposal, born either of human desperation or divine inspiration. Such plans had been thought of in the past, but they had met with no enthusiasm. This time, coming from national leadership and out of a vision clearly marked of God, it was accepted and acted upon.

With this in mind: PRAY for Pastor Chavan, that God's leading may be maintained in him, and that he may be sustained in God's work of carrying forward a vision so vitally necessary but which all his Indian brethren have not yet seen.

PRAY that God will catch hold of the hearts of all the Indian pastors and evangelists to enthuse them from within for the promotion of indigenous self-support and evangelization.

PRAY especially for the scattered, isolated village believers, who have not the opportunities of systematic instruction and encouragement, that they too may learn to give

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. I Tim. 1:15
their tithes even in their poverty, and to witness to their neighbors.

PRAY that God will help each missionary toward the decrease of administrative authority and the increase of spiritual ministry. Habits of authority are hard to break, but the Indian brethren must be encouraged to take over even if they make mistakes at the outset.

PRAY for the all India elections to be held in 1957 that God may overrule and the doors for the preaching of the Gospel may be kept open.

What Joy in Thy Word
— Marthena Ransom —

Three tents stood under some neem trees on the bank of a river between two villages. Three or four families in one of those villages came daily at eight A. M. to the camp. For what? For their daily feast on the Bread of Life. They are Christians and are so appreciative of the fact that the missionary has come to spend time especially with them. One dear old soul, who never missed a class, was such an inspiration. One day in prayer she said, "O, Lord, what joy we have in Thy Word!" When the camp was breaking up and the good-byes were being said, this dear one said, "These days have been like heaven to us. What joy to break the Bread of Life to those who have an appetite.

Yes, there were also grand opportunities at night to proclaim the Message of Salvation to those who are sitting in darkness, and to tell the children, in afternoon classes, the Story of Jesus and His love. We saw hunger and deep desire written on many faces.

Three tents now stood under one huge banyan tree at the edge of the village. This tree was a shelter for the evangelistic party, a play-ground for the village children, a lodge for dozens of huge, grey monkeys, a resting place for men and women coming from the fields, a starting place for carts leaving for other villages, a camping place for worshippers who came from distant villages to worship at three or four nearby shrines. There was no chance to be lonely here.

Again there were Bible classes with the wee Christian group. Let me introduce you to Tom. What a character! Formerly a sadhu, he now gives an enthusiastic witness for

O. that I knew where I might find Him! Job 23:3
Christ, but still bears some marks of the former life. Tall and thin, face unshaven, hair long and uncombed, a constant talker with a different request each day. Most of the folks here were so unkempt that I preceded the Bible study one day with a little lecture on outward cleanliness for the Lord’s sake. The next day they all came scrubbed and shaved and combed, so we took their picture for their encouragement.

One day four cartloads of people came to our banyan tree, built fires, and made a huge feast. They then took some of their feast and a new baby boy to present to the gods on the hill just above our tents. How we longed that they might know Him, Who said, “Suffer the little children to come unto me.”

A broken wrist and a plaster cast made the touring season short, but we praise God for blessed opportunities to sow the Seed, and for many open hearts. Pray that God may give the increase.

Prepared of God
— Edgar and Ruth Lewellen —

Truly He has revealed His power and strength to us during this touring season. We have toured two sections of our district that, due to the size of the district, have not been visited by a missionary in sixteen years. People’s hearts have been open and receptive. It has been a joy to minister to them and to have them understand us. We are not yet fluent in Marathi, but the people are patient and have said that love was shown which speaks more clearly than words.

Especially on our most recent tour, people seemed previously prepared to hear the Gospel message. Before starting out we had been much in prayer that our listeners might be ready for the message, but we are ashamed to say that when God answered our prayers and brought people to us ready to accept His Word, we were amazed and couldn’t understand it. We were brought low before Him and once again made to realize what He can do in spite of us and our weaknesses.

Here is an example of what I mean. One afternoon while we were holding a children’s meeting a leper stood nearby. When the children left, he remained. There were no men folk

Ye shall seek Me and find Me when ye shall search for Me with all your heart. Jer. 29:13
around at the time, so he talked with us women. He said he had read the Gospel of John which his boy had brought home, and now he wanted the New Birth. We were almost tongue-tied because people don't usually have such understanding without being instructed. He explained that he had learned all about it in the Scripture he had been reading.

We talked with him and then told him to come back that night. He did so and after my husband had talked with him for only a short time, we had the joy of seeing him bow his head and pray for the Lord to come into his heart. After that his face just glowed. The next morning his wife and another woman came, and they too accepted the Lord. Later other young men came and said they had been reading the Gospels in the fields and that there they had accepted the Lord.

Due to all that happened we were compelled to extend our tour for another few days. These people came early and stayed until midnight every day, just waiting to hear more, and to sing Christian songs. At the end we were exhausted, but it was a kind of weariness that makes one's soul feel good.

God is still on the throne and as His Word goes forth we can be sure that He will see that it is watered and nurtured and that it will spring up into life everlasting. "O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His Name together". Psalm 34:3.
His Urge for the Neglected

— Tilman and Esther Amstutz —

"And it came to pass afterwards that He went throughout every city and village preaching and showing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God; and the twelve were with Him." Luke 8:1.

We often think of the Intensive ministry of our Lord while on earth, but we fail to think of how Extensive His ministry was and what great concern He had for the Other villages and the Other lost sheep He really sought and cared for. He had the urge to go to those who otherwise would have been neglected.

During the months of the cool season, missionaries in the past, and up to the present, have found much blessing in reaching out to the furthestmost part of their territory. This accomplishes three things. It reveals the great need of the population that lies hidden behind the barriers of hills and valleys or mere unoccupied territory. It brings people into direct contact with the messengers of Christ and their message, sometimes clearing up misconceptions which have crept in because of false testimony frequently given by opposers. It brings one into direct contact with seekers who want to find a better life, a real peace of soul and of heart. This is all possible because we go to live in tents near the villages from which come the callers to inquire the Way or Life.

"Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?" This is what we feel about some villages where sin and darkness seem to rule supremely. Bodies are diseased, full of itch. Not a few are leprous, both physically and morally. Caste fears, fears of evil spirits and of witchcraft, besides the uncertainty as to what the future holds for them in the shape of unemployment and boycott, should they become Christians. These are the fetters that bind these people.

"And he said unto him, Behold, now, there is in this city a man of God . . . peradventure He can show us our way that we should go." 2 Sam. 9:6. A bullock was lost. This brought to the village near our camp a man seeking his animal. It brought also the son seeking both the father and the animal. By chance we had the news to say that the bullock was found. The father was a Christian, with only one eye. It was very similar to his Christian life. The son had a big festering sore from a thorn in his finger. Kindness

Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow. Isa.1:18
won the confidence of both, and on Sunday we had a class of two illiterate Christian brethren and our workers. While narrating the story of the prodigal son, we saw in these two the one great need. That is, the great need of teaching the Bible to our village lay Christians.

It was a pleasure to see that father return to his village with a new responsibility to witness. The son speedily recovered from his festering wound. But best of all, he promised he and his wife would be baptized this year. For us it brought also a happy couple of inquirers, one of whom was the daughter of this father; a daughter of a Christian man, hidden as it were from all influence of good, but now in earnest to become a real Christian.

Despite all the disturbances in the country, we have had wonderful opportunities to preach in all our surrounding villages. Come with me into the inner square of one of the places where in former years they had stoned the missionary. Now the people listen with rapt attention, and we come to grips by proclaiming that they should worship the Christ of God Who was raised from the dead and Who will be their Judge. Their moral philosophies help them but little when the fear of God is absent. This village is an important center with a large establishment of schools, dispensary, and cottage industries. Yet we cope here with spiritual darkness in spite of much social and economic improvement.

Arvi taluka, or county, has much virgin territory. Many have never heard a Christian lecture. Hence when we camped there, we found many of the people quite open and willing to listen, saying “May we know what this new doctrine whereof thou speakest is? For thou bringest certain strange things to our ears; we would know therefore what these things mean.” Acts 17:19, 20. It was a pleasure the second evening to have a crowd several rows deep that stretched as far as our tent ropes reached. We spoke and sang and showed them the glad tidings of the Gospel. Night after night in town they gathered in goodly numbers.

One night Mrs. Amstutz had already retired when some women came calling at the tent door. Mrs. Amstutz said, “I have retired for the night. How can I get up?” However, they would not go, for they said, “We have no opportunity to hear during the day so we have come to you tonight. Please tell us a few stories about Christ.” Well, she did get up, and the women had just left when we men returned later from preaching in the town. I felt this was the time to press the

What shall I do then with Jesus? Matt. 27:22
claims of Christ, the Son of God. We “preach unto you that you should turn from these vanities (graven images) unto the living God . . . Who hath not left Himself without a witness.” Here we quote many of their own proverbs, such as “If the thread of God’s providence is broken, all the gods below are of little avail.” Many came to us privately to inquire concerning the Way of Life. Thus our days were spent in a most blessed ministry indeed. Will you not pray that the seed sown will bring forth much fruit in days to come?

Beware of Your Adversary
— Marthena Ransom —

If God’s hand is evident, you can be sure the Devil is working overtime.

At Talegaon-Thakuri in Chandur District, we again had daily classes for five or six enquirers, and some of the Christians also attended. Some of these enquirers prayed for salvation and seemingly were in earnest, but the opposition of the enemy became too great for them to bear. The Hindu relatives made things very uncomfortable for them, and the townspeople were saying, “The Christians are increasing and now they are going to build in our town. We must not allow them to settle here.” One Hindu young man attended our classes regularly, and even the night meetings. One morning I spoke to him about becoming a Christian. He said, “I want to become a Christian. I am convinced, and I am truly a sinner, but I want to wait until I get my wife, or her parents will not send her to me if they know I am a Christian.” One lovely, earnest little woman was frightened away by the outrageous threats of her brother. Our hearts ached over the seeming victory of Satan in this place.

The majority of villages covered on tour were very receptive and anxious to hear the story we had to proclaim. Of course there were those who encouraged us to leave by throwing stones, mud, and cow manure. How our hearts were made heavy, yet challenged, when we realized that of the 288 villages that are our responsibility, we could only reach 85 per cent once every two years. We believe the only answer is some Spirit-filled workers who will be ready to carry the full burden for some outstations.

— Edgar Lewellen —

Repent and be baptized . . . in the name of Jesus Christ. Acts 2:38
Today's Wisdom From the Past

Restrictions on preaching by foreigners in the early days of missions in India led to the following statement by William Ward, one of William Carey’s early associates. Substituting for the word ‘England’ any foreign missionary group, we can well say the same for the sake of the spiritual well-being of God’s indigenous army in India today. And may we add, it is now time for the officers as well to be of Indian origin. The missionary should fill in the ranks as long as he is present.

“Towards the army of laborours to be employed in assaulting the bulwarks of Hinduism, we ought to look to England for only a few superior officers. The non-commissioned officers and the rank and file we must raise in this country.”

William Ward

Light for India

Hail, precious Book divine!
Illumined by thy rays,
We rise from death and sin,
And tune a Saviour’s praise:
The shades of error, dark as night,
Vanish before thy radiant light!

Now shall the Hindus learn
The glories of our King:
Nor to blind gurus turn,
Nor idol praises sing;
Diffusing heavenly light around,
This Book their Shastras shall confound.

Deign, gracious Saviour, deign
To smile upon Thy Word;
Let millions now obtain
Salvation from the Lord:
Nor let its growing conquests stay,
Till earth exult to own Thy sway.

These lines were written by Joshus Marshman, who with William Ward and William Carey formed the now famous Serampore Triad, that trio of early missionaries to India who labored so prodigiously in the translation and printing of the Scriptures into many Indian languages.

Create in me a clean heart, O God. Ps. 51:10
Have you ever seen a tiger in the zoo? He is handsome as he walks back and forth, with his long tail twitching, and his strong muscles rippling under the beautiful black and orange-yellow stripes. In India the tigers are not in zoos. There are still many in the jungles.

Every year many hunters spend days in the jungles in the hopes of a chance to shoot a tiger because they want a lovely big tiger skin rug to show off in their living rooms. The striped skin makes an excellent rug, with the great yellow eyes staring out of the large head, and the long, stiff white whiskers bristling over the open mouth with the huge, shiny white teeth.

But every now and then there comes a call for help from some frightened village people because one of these great animals of the forest becomes a cattle killer, or worse still, a man eater. When the tiger is healthy he hunts other wild animals for his food. He only hunts tame animals if he gets old or injured so that he cannot run fast enough to catch wild game. Sometimes his teeth get broken or decayed so that he cannot hold onto or drag down a fast running animal. Then he begins to prowl near some village and wait for a chance to get a goat or a buffalo or cow as the herder is taking his animals home in the evening. Then the people begin to talk in frightened, excited voices as they sit about their fires in the night darkness. They wonder how long it will be before the tiger tries to kill the herder himself. When that comes, all the village mothers warn their children to be in the village and away from the jungles and fields before dusk. Then a government officer, or often a missionary hunter, is called upon to find and kill the man-eater.

Last year we lived in Chikalda, Berar, caring for our missionaries' children who were attending a small mission school there. Chikalda is up in the hills and surrounded by jungle area. All about through the hills were small villages, and in the forests lived many kinds of wild life. There were peacocks and deer and wild boars. Also, bears and panthers and tigers. It was while we were living there that we heard of the man-eater of which I will tell you.

One morning our milk man, bringing our buffalo milk in the big brass vessel on his head, told us that just the evening before a man had been attacked and carried away by a tiger. He claimed to have seen the great paw marks in the ground.

A new heart also will I give you. Ezek. 36:26
where the herder had disappeared as he was driving his buffaloes home. It had happened just four miles from our bungalow. Then a few days later the tiger tried to get another herder. The frightened man ran in among his buffaloes and cows. The tiger then killed a cow near the edge of the herd and dragged it down into a ravine.

About that time, in answer to a telegram, a missionary friend came bringing his rifle. Taking a guide from the village where the man had been attacked, he went out to look over the jungle where the tiger had been seen. After a search he found the cow the tiger had dragged away. Then for several days he sat on a rope bed tied up in a tree and waited to see if the tiger would come back to get the cow. One evening, about dusk, when the tired hunter was about to come down from his cramped position, he heard a sound in the bushes below. Watching tensely he saw the tiger come into the small clearing to get the carcass of the cow. Taking aim carefully he pressed the trigger, but just at that moment the tiger moved suddenly and the wound was not mortal. The tiger disappeared into the brush again.

For two days after that the hunter with his rifle, and villagers with old muzzle-loaders and spears searched for the wounded tiger. Carefully they followed the trail of blood-drops and crushed bushes. They knew they had to get him, for a wounded tiger is a very dangerous animal and they dared not leave him in the jungle to take revenge for his wound.

Late the second afternoon, the missionary, weary from struggling over rocks and under bushes for so long, heard a scrabbling sound. He turned sideways to see the tired, wounded tiger trying to crawl over a bank nearby. This time the aim was deliberate and cautious, and a moment later the huge beast lay still on the forest floor.

That night our missionary friend put the dead tiger in the rear of his jeep station wagon and brought him to show us. We and the children in the hostel all crowded about to see the animal that had frightened all the people in the area. It was the biggest tiger I have ever seen, measuring nine feet from the tip of his nose to the tip of his tail. Looking at the massive head and the terrible appearing jaws and teeth, we were glad he would soon be a soft, safe tiger rug.

The Bible tells us that the Devil is like that tiger, out to see whom he can catch. He isn't called a tiger, but a lion. I am weary with my groaning. Ps. 6:6
The verse is in I Peter 5:8 and says, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour." You are safe from him if you stay close to Jesus, trusting and obeying Him. He will protect you from the devil's tricks, and when He comes again, He will cast the devil into the place of eternal death where he can never endanger people again.

The Open Door for Children's Work
— Marian E. Dyke —

The decisions reached at the Bangkok Conference last fall are having their effects in every phase of our work. The desire to see the church take hold in a new way and carry the responsibility of evangelization in church areas is a goal for which we are now constantly striving. The possibilities are great and our daily prayer is that the Indian Church will catch the full vision of her part in helping to spread the Gospel in this land.

The work among the children has been a much neglected field of service on the part of the national church as a whole. Except for the Church Sunday Schools very little has been done in past years to reach boys and girls for Christ in any of our areas other than our Boarding School in Dholka. The eyes of the church have been directed to the older folks with a feeling that the children will soon grow up and fit naturally into the pattern of the church without any difficulty.

Keeping this in mind it has been of no little interest to us to see the changes that are taking place in the ideas and attitudes formerly held by some. With the starting of neighborhood classes for children in various sections of the city and in interested villages in some of our districts the spark of interest for work among children has now started to spread. The burden of our hearts has been to see our laymen become interested in giving a little of their spare time to the Lord in helping to reach their own neighborhood children for Him.

The answer to this came in quite an unexpected way just this May after Simpson Church had the first Daily Vacation Bible School ever to be held in Gujarat. Miss Blews felt led to start this work of which she has had experience in the States and she received such an interested response on the part of some that we were both amazed and very

Cast thy burden upon the Lord. Ps. 55:22
pleased. The help given by our Sunday School Superintendent was invaluable and a joy to see. She helped work out details, get materials, organize and carry the burden of the school. She secured sixteen interested people to help us and with the exception of two or three all of them were qualified teachers in some Government school. One was a Head Master who showed great interest. There was an average of 135 children each day to enjoy every minute of this new thing. The teachers helped in the memory work, the lesson period, the handwork and singing as well as watching the children from the time school started until it ended. They were privileged to see what the Bible can mean to little hearts and to understand in a better way that salvation is for boys and girls as well as grown ups.

We desired this new venture to be fully self-supporting and it was simply marvelous how the money came in not only to pay for all the expenses but to provide eight long pieces of matting for the church to take the place of the ragged ones now there. The offering for the five days was a little over 100 rupees and all came in without once asking - just by passing the plates and then showing the children the results in bottles filled with red water. As the first bottle spilled over and we started on the next the children were really pleased. By the time we spilled the second one over and went over half way up the third in one offering they just couldn't contain themselves any more and broke out into loud clapping and exclamations. It was so thrilling it made the goose pimples come out all over my body in spite of the 114 temperature of mid-May. It was so unusual the teachers sat amazed at what was being accomplished. We give God all the praise and glory for what was done in those few days to help encourage our national brethren. Boys and girls came to the Lord and gave their hearts to Him for which we praise Him. The teachers were so blessed that we almost felt more was done in their hearts than in the hearts of the children. They caught a new vision of what can be done among the children of their own land.

The holding of this D. V. B. S. was a direct answer to prayer and so also was the outcome. The teachers have now asked for a teacher training class once a week so as to be able to have their own neighborhood classes. This has been a burden upon our hearts for a long time and it appears that now is the time when such a class can be started. How we praise the Lord for this opening and the fact that our laymen are interested in reaching the children around them. In this

My heart panteth, my strength faileth me. Ps. 38:10
way the work will spread out into areas that other wise would not be reached due to lack of time and strength. Pray much for these men and women who already have busy sched- ules but who are burdened for the lost children in their areas. This is a great step and one for which we have long prayed.

These same teachers not only want another D. V. B. S. next year but a longer one as well. They are quite willing to be in charge of the school themselves and are eager to prove themselves in this new work. Their eyes have been open- ed to the need right at hand and they desire to carry on that which was begun to help their children come to know Jesus as their personal Saviour. We are thankful for these few who have caught the vision and are praying that others in all our churches will be challenged and give of their time and talents too.

The future of the church rests in the children of today. If, while they are still young, the seed of the Word is sown in their hearts the church will reap a golden harvest of con- secrated, willing workers who in turn will be burdened for the children of a new generation. May the vision be bright and very clear. Above all, may the Church of India today reach out to gather in her little ones before it is too late.

**INDIAN NEWS**

"Holy Men" Fined

Two sadhus were fined two annas each in Surat recently for "rioting". The sadhus were enraged when a knowing hotel proprietor refused to serve them tea unless they paid in ad- vance. They retaliated by calling down curses upon the pro- prietor who was forced to seek the aid of the police.

**NEPAL**

For the first time in almost 200 years a limited number of foreign missionaries have entered the Kingdom of Nepal for a restricted ministry of the Word. Pray that this open door may prove to be an effectual one.

**A RELIGIOUS REMEDY**

Desperate printers chanted "mantras" (incantations from the Veda) and took holy dips to set right a local printing machine which had gone out of order. Believing that the stop- page was caused by evil spirits, the printers washed the machine with water purified by tulsi leaves, and recited ‘mantras’ to drive these spirits away.

Come unto me . . . and I will give you rest. Mt. 11:28
Of Such is the Kingdom of Heaven
— Hilda J. Davies —

To reach her village we had bounced and thudded over cart tracks which by no stretch of the imagination could be called a road. We had waded through a stream to find her house. At last we were sitting with her in the small place she called "home". The entrance was so low that one could enter only by stooping, and when the three of us were seated on the floor, there was not much room left in the small space she called "kitchen".

Their curiosity satisfied, the crowd had dispersed. A fretful wee boy whose stomach was badly distended by rickets and malnutrition was soon quieted with a large glass of powdered milk we had brought. His mother had tried to pacify him with a few grains of parched gram, the only food in the house.

We were visiting some of those who had attended the Women's Bible Training School in Khamgaon. We were concerned to know whether they had put to the test in their village and city homes that which they had learned of Him in the School.

Our mutual joy at seeing each other again, and her incredulous pleasure that we should seek her in such a remote place, warmed our hearts and soon we were deep in the things which speak of Him to Whom we three belong.

"Who is Jesus?"
"He is the Living God, my Saviour."
"What of His power?"
"He heals; He helps those in trouble. He does not love men more than women. His love is the same to all of us. Did I not learn that from His Word in School?"
"Whom will He save?"
"Anyone who will come to Him and believe Him."
"I can serve God right here in this village. He gives me opportunity when a group of women get together. Then I can tell them of Him."

In answer to a question as to how her home could witness to the fact that Christians lived there, she said, "By telling my neighbors what the Lord Jesus has done for me. By show-

Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. Ps. 51:2
ing a loving thoughtfulness between husband and wife. By not complaining when there isn't enough to eat but being thankful for what there is. By not fighting for place with the women at the well.”

Of many other things did we speak, and her face, cruelly marked by smallpox, warmed with eagerness as she told us of what His love and companionship meant to her. The walls of her home were made of mud and dried twigs. Earthly goods were so few as to be negligible. But what did those things matter? We who came to help and encourage, were cheered and helped by the steadfastness of her devotion to Him.

How does she fit into the national Church? She IS the National Church! For any church, in any country, is only as strong as its women. For when a man finds the Lord, an individual finds Him. But when a woman finds the Lord, a whole family often finds Him. In the hands of such as we met that day lies the training of the future members of the Church of Jesus Christ in India. Only as she is grounded and strengthened in the Lord, only as she has a certainty of Him in Whom she believes can she train her children to love and serve Him with their whole hearts. And only as the every day grind and poverty of the villages proves but a foil for the loveliness of the Lord Jesus, shining through the hearts and lives of His devoted ones, will the Church grow and increase in India.

Thank God, and pray for this family and others like them throughout the villages of India, who are members of that great Church invisible. They are often of the earth most earthy, but they carry within their hearts the most priceless treasure on earth, salvation to the uttermost.

Overheard in the Akola Church

Two Hindu boys were reading the large lettering of The Lord’s Prayer on the wall behind the pulpit of the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church in Akola.

“What does that last word – Amen – mean?” the one asked the other.

“Oh, don’t be so ignorant,” his companion remonstrated, “That’s the name of the man who wrote the prayer.”

Let us heed that our sacrifices conform with our prayers. — P. C. H.

I will; be thou clean. Matt. 8:3
HUMAN SACRIFICE

In the year of our Lord 1955, an Indian by the name of Ragaswami offered a fourteen-year-old cattleherder as a sacrifice in fulfillment of a vow. The victim was unsuspectingly grazing cattle at a village six miles distant from Coimbatore. Ragaswami called the boy to a nearby sugarcane field where he whipped out a knife and severed his head from his body with one stroke.

WHOLESALE DESTRUCTION

A big herd of elephants numbering over one hundred came down from the Cachar Hills recently and raided a fifty-acre tract of ripening paddy. The trumpeting pachyderms sent the refugee settlers scurrying for safety. The out-sized marauders devoured as much of the crop as they could and destroyed the remainder in their wild rampage over the land recently reclaimed from the jungle.

Srinivasapuram
Coimbatore
South India
Editor, "The India Alliance."

My cordial and warm greetings to you and all your colleagues in the work and witness for our Lord and Saviour, even Jesus Christ, in this great land of India. A copy of the "India Alliance" came to me whilst I was in Australia; and from an article therein, "The Christian Home Festival", I set forth the idea to some fellowships in Melbourne. Yes to make the family-unit Christ-centered is indeed a wonderful work.

Now for the past four months my own feet have been led into this great land, with its teeming millions. Even as an article by your own hand set out so clearly, "Under the Mosquito Net", surely we are called from ease and indifference.

As I am here in this city of new industrialization and some 200,000 souls, so I pray that the witness for my Risen Lord will be according to His will. Yes, praise the Lord, He still "saves, sanctifies, heals, and is our soon-coming King." Even, as in this morning hour, an elderly Hindu came into the Prayer Hall here, and accepted the Lord as his Saviour. Hallelujah to the Lamb; Glory to His worthy Name.

I would be glad to know of your own work and witness; just where you are; as in the near future, and as God wills, I am preparing for a tour of North India, via, Poona, Bombay, Nagpur and Calcutta. It would be a joy to meet you personally and hear of your experiences in the Lord's work here in this needy land. So I write in faith, believing that as the Holy Ghost witnesses between us, we will in God's own time meet, and share. I will be glad to have a copy of your magazine. We have a prayer-fellowship here. God bless you all.

I am, with you in our Master's service.

John Maxwell