The Winnower
Ahmedabad—Headquarters  
Rev. and Mrs. K. H. Kose  
Miss R. E. Blews

Dholka—Primary School and Hostel  
Rev. and Mrs. J. L. Evans

Dhandhuka—District  
Rev. and Mrs. E. J. Entz

On furlough: Miss L. C. Burley

Mehmedabad—Bible School  
Rev. and Mrs. P. C. Haagen

Palanpur—District  
Rev. and Mrs. P. L. Morris

Radhanpur—District  
Rev. and Mrs. E. G. Jacober
Song of India

This booklet is issued by the Gujarat Mission of the C. & M.A. in India. You may receive it free by writing to the Editor, Rev. J. L. Evans, Mission School, Dholka, Gujarat, or to the Field Chairman, Rev. K. H. Kose, No. 20, Camp, Ahmedabad 3, Gujarat. Those interested in helping defray the costs of publication may send gifts through the Treasurer of the Society.

September 1960 No. 4

FROM THE CHRISTAYAN

NARAYAN VAMAN TILAK

Ah! with a tide I cannot stem
   Break forth my tears, when I behold
   My country, e'en as Christ ('tis told)
Gazed weeping on Jerusalem.

When shall these longings be sufficed
   That stir my spirit night and day?
   When shall I see my country lay
Her homage at the feet of Christ?

How thirst I for that blessed day
   When India’s spiritual power
   And all her ancient wisdom’s dower
Shall own His consummating sway!

Now soul and body, mind and will
   Honour and name, my wealth, my all,
   Brethren and kindred, great and small,
I yield, Thy purpose to fulfil.

Of all I have, O Saviour sweet,
   All gifts, all skill, all thoughts of mind,
   A living garland I entwine
And offer at thy lotus feet.

(Reproduced by permission of the author’s son, Mr. D. N. Tilak)
HOW A BRAHMIN FOUND CHRIST
'A Redeemed Sinner'

If we go to the Lord Jesus, the Redeemer of the world, and confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive our sins. The world laughs at this simple yet great truth. But I want to tell you how I had a vital experience of this great truth in my own life.

I was born in a Brahmin Hindu family, but I grew up a sinful young man. I spent my days in idol worship. As long as I can remember I never spoke the truth. I was also a slave of bad habits. Daily I chewed twenty or more tobacco 'pan' and was very fond of seeing dancing and going to the cinema. Unbecoming language came out of my mouth. In spite of this, I was 'religious' and was making a deep study of my religion. I regularly attended lectures on the Ramayan. I was fond of Sanskrit and was studying music. Still, I understood that spiritually I was truly blind.

God did a wonderful work in the heart of such a sinful man. I was blind and He—yes, only Jesus—caused me to see.

In the year 1955-56, the Christians established the Green Cross Society outside Jamalpur Gate, Ahmedabad. There being not
enough Christians, they took other castes into their housing society. My father built a house for us there. Living in that Society, I was taken for a Christian. I soon realized that I had not received forgiveness for my sins. I was going deeper into sin. There was no Holy Spirit dwelling in me who could forgive my sins or keep me from sinning. I was only practicing the outward forms of religion and knew of religion only what I had inherited.

Turning from this condition, I examined eleven different religions. Still I found no satisfactory answer as to how to receive forgiveness for my terrible sins. By God’s mercy I was made conscious of the fact that I was dead in sin and guilt. I was certain that religion teaches rules but it doesn’t save a man from his sins. Man, being sinful from birth, cannot keep the rules by his own efforts. The great spirits of the world—holy men, poets, writers, great leaders, and religious teachers—all are sinners. Only the Lord Jesus Christ, who was born of the Holy Spirit, was without sin.

During this time of religious meditation, I heard God’s voice through one of His servants. Also, one of my neighbours, fearlessly and not caring whether he offended or not, would come to my house every morning at 7 o’clock and instruct me from the Bible about sin, how to be set free from sin, the New Birth, the Gospel and everlasting life, and other subjects. God did a work in the depths of my heart and I was convinced that I was a sinner.

If sins are not forgiven, there is no peace. I began to try to get forgiveness and peace by going to the temples more often, hoping I could get this outside of the Christian religion. One time I went to the Mahadev Ganganath Temple in the Jamalpur area. I sat quietly and prayed humbly to the god Shankar with much pleading that he would show me the way to have my sins forgiven and find peace. But I left disappointed. I began to study the Gita. As I read Krishna’s words, ‘When religion declines and sinful men increase in the world, then I will ascend into this earth to establish religion and destroy the sinners’. (Karma Brhamarapan, Yog. 4:7, 8), I recalled the words of the Lord Jesus: ‘Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest’. ‘I have come not to condemn the world but that the world through me might be saved’.
It was right that I would prefer a saviour rather than a destroyer. Accepting the invitation of the Lord Jesus, I fell to my knees and at that very moment—7:45 p.m., January 22, 1959—I received the New Birth. Coming to the loving Father, the Lord Jesus, with tears and a broken heart, I confessed my sins and He forgave them. At that moment the assurance of forgiveness came. My heart danced with joy and I experienced His wonderful power. I was on my knees for a long time and He filled me with everlasting joy.

To confess, not the Christian religion but the Lord Jesus Christ, Saviour of sinners, as my personal Saviour, I took baptism on March 1, 1959. ‘When my father and mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up’ (Ps. 27:10). That has happened in my own life. A one-time idol-worshipping Brahmin youth was able to find joy through Jesus Christ. There is no power on earth which can take away this joy. I was blinded by sin, worthy of being thrown into the fire; still, He had mercy on me and saved me with His precious blood and forgave my sins. Moreover, He set me free from the slavery of all my old habits and wrote my name in the Book of Life to experience the pleasures of everlasting life. Such an eternal hope was born in me.

This is my testimony. The reason for publishing it is only that others, like myself, who are seeking peace and are eager to receive forgiveness of sin may come to Jesus, Who has saved me and many others, and receive forgiveness of sin and eternal life. This is my prayer.

A redeemed sinner, the servant of Christ, and your brother

Manubhai Ambalal Joshi Christian
Ahmedabad

(Translated)
KITE DAY

MISS L. C. BURLEY

Kite day in India—there is nothing like it anywhere! That day, and for weeks before and after, the windy skies are dotted with thousands of square tissue paper kites of every color and design. Nor is the pleasure solely for men and boys; the normally encumbering ‘sari’ cannot keep the women from joining in the thrill of cutting down another’s kite with one’s own kite string, knife-sharp with starch and powdered glass.

The excitement ends only when the pell-mell dash over roofs, through yards and vacant lots nets one more drifting kite added to one’s total. The possibility of ending up a crippled casualty does not seem to dampen anyone’s enthusiasm.

This year Kite Day held another joy for the Patrawalli children’s class. For two years the children from these poorly-educated Christian and Hindu families were taught the Scriptures. Every week they came—eager, restless, noisy. To seek the Saviour, or even remember the story and golden text? No, not till just before Christmas. Then the pile of Scripture calendar and Sunday School picture awards suddenly began to dwindle.

One happy day in January their faces told me that they realized their need to repent and receive the Saviour. Nine girls and one boy remained for prayer at the end of the class. And pray they did!

Few homes have more than a New Testament. Parents must spend long days in the cotton mills. One family has no one to read to them the whole school year while the eldest lad is away at our Dholka Boarding School.

But ask those ten children now and watch their happy faces as they answer, ‘Yes, we were saved that day’, or, ‘Sure, we are trying to live for Jesus’.
These three have a vital part in bringing the Gospel to the villages of our Palanpur District. The Jeep gets us there, the 'jeeb' (tongue) articulates the message, and the 'cheetra' (picture) helps gain and hold the interest of the villagers.

Would you like to join us for a day of witnessing? Our group usually consists of Esudas ('Servant of Jesus'), pastor of the Palanpur church. Then there is Kushaldas, the station caretaker and graduate of the Bible School in Mehmedabad, who doubles as caretaker and evangelist. Estherben and Muriel make up the ladies’ section of the team. Estherben is usually busy with Adult Literacy work but would not miss an opportunity for village evangelism, so adjusts her teaching schedule. The invitation you have received to join us is also given to the church people in Palanpur and occasionally some of them come along and help.

Now that you have been introduced it is time to have a word of prayer and be on our way. We have divided the district into four quarters of the map and are at present concentrating on the southwest section. We have planned the trip for the day so that
we will be able to reach five or six villages within twenty-five miles of Palanpur. A half-hour's drive brings us to the first village. On the outskirts of the village we inquire where the 'chowk' (village square) is. At the 'chowk' everyone gets out and takes a good supply of literature. Someone gets the heart charts out on display. These are a series of four large coloured pictures, the first depicting the heart of the unregenerate man filled with pride, jealousy, theft, etc. The second shows the man on his death bed with an inset depicting him being dragged into hell fire. The third reveals the heart of the man in whom the Spirit of God reigns. The fourth closes the message with this man on his death bed, the inset shows him being taken up to be with the Lord. We begin singing and quickly a crowd gathers. One of the group explains who we are and why we have come, then gives a message. Most listen attentively, occasionally nodding their assent. Others seem indifferent and several may stand in the background scoffing.

After the message the people are invited to purchase gospels and other literature. The gospels sell for one anna each (about one and a half cents). People have more respect for the content if they have to pay for it. With each gospel we give as a bonus the booklet called 'The Heart of Dinu'. This is a translation of 'The Heart of Pak', financed by the Bible Meditation League. The message of this booklet supplements that of the heart charts and leaves in the hands of the people the simple truths of salvation. Many of the villagers say, 'We cannot read'. But when we ask if their children can they generally say 'yes' and purchase a gospel for their children to read to them. After this meeting we move on to another section of the village for a second meeting. Two to four services are held in each village depending on its size.

As we press on from place to place, noon often comes and goes before we realize it, but finding a shady tree we stop for our Indian picnic lunch. This time of relaxation is also one of fellowship with our friends on the team. The work of the morning is discussed and frequently someone offers a helpful suggestion.

The afternoon hours take us deeper into the rural area. The ox-cart trials, hedged in by cactus bushes serving as fences for the farmers fields, slash the jeep viciously as we push through. Frequently deep sand makes it necessary to shift into four-wheel
drive. But battering through thorns and sand brings a sense of reward and privilege—we are bringing the message of hope to another village that has seldom if ever heard the gospel before.

The sun is setting and the time has come to turn homeward. Someone says, ‘Let’s go to one more village’. But after that one another would beckon. It will take a group like ours four years to reach all the villages in the district. Reluctantly we turn back hoping and praying that before too many years we may come this way again. Won’t you pray with us that the Word which is left behind will raise up groups of believers who will carry the message on to the unreached?

RADIO WINS WIDER AUDIENCE

Bombay: India’s largest daily newspaper, the Times of India recently made a survey of its readers and came up with some very startling facts. Only 3 per cent of the Times readers own refrigerators, 12 per cent have access to telephones, but 52 per cent own their own radios! Of these radios, 94 per cent are ‘all wave’ (short as well as medium and long wave) sets.

Radio is overwhelmingly voted by all Times readers polled as the ‘preferred home entertainer’.

Lois Dungar, plucky little matron of the Girls’ Hostel, Dholka, recently dispatched a vicious cobra after the Hindu farmer refused to go near the snake. Hearing the cries of one of the girls, Lois ran to do battle. Foot for foot it was just about an even match—length of snake: 5 feet; height of matron $4'9\frac{1}{2}"$!
PRAYER AND PRAISE

Pray for our three pioneer evangelistic areas, Radhanpur, Palanpur and Dhandhuka. There are still no organized churches in any of these areas. Radhanpur and Palanpur each have a responsibility of almost 500,000 people. Church laymen from Ahmedabad are responding to the call to take the Gospel to these areas.

Two Indians have found the Saviour while studying in the U.S. One, a doctor, has returned and taken up residence work in a nearby hospital. The other, an engineering student, is now studying in the Missionary Training College, Nyack. Pray that both will be used of God to win others.

There is a need for personnel for the new radio ministry. Friends have given liberally for this work so that the studio is finished, semi-professional recording equipment has just arrived from England, and programmes are being prepared.

Pastors take note: Mr Haagen, with the help of the Bible School Students, has begun work on a Bible Concordance in the vernacular. To our knowledge this is the first concordance in the Gujarati language. Mr Haagen estimates the project will take about five years.

We thank God for the good health of our matron and missionary children in Landour during a season of sickness in which three children died. American TCM specialists from Delhi labelled the water unsafe for drinking without boiling and made several recommendations to the school concerning sewage disposal and sanitation.
After many salaams from her Gujarati friends, Miss Luella Burley got away to Bombay from where she sailed on furlough May 9th aboard the M.V.S. Victoria. Miss Burley has completed three terms of service in Gujarat.

Miss Ruth Blews arrived in Bombay August 18th from furlough for her third term. She will do literature work in Ahmedabad. Her mother passed away while she was home on furlough.

The P. L. Morrices returned from furlough in mid-June for their third term and proceeded straight to Landour were Paul, Jr., Ruth, and Joy entered school. Paul and Virginia and little Margaret Ann (born in the States in February) will be living in Palanpur. Paul and Virginia will do district evangelism and Jivan Prakash follow-up, and Paul has already turned his nimble brain to writing radio scripts.

'Rev. G. H. Johnson with his former Nyack Students.'

*Front Row:* 1 to r. Mrs Grace Paine (nee McKinney, Wesleyan Methodist), Mrs Kose, Mrs Ralph Seafeldt (T.E.A.M.)

*Second Row:* Mrs Evans, Miss Gladys Jasper, Mrs Jacober, Mr Seafeldt.

*Back Row:* Mr Evans, Mr Johnson, Mr Kose.
Beth Ann Jacober arrived on July 7th in Landour, making glad her parents, Ed and Virginia, and her older sister, Ruth, and brothers Danny and Jimmy.

Those spicy breezes which still blow soft o'er Ceylon's Isle welcomed Paul Haagen to a month's speaking and preaching ministry in the island during April and May. The evangelistic and Bible teaching ministry was sponsored by the Evangelical Fellowship of Ceylon and the 'Back to the Bible' Broadcast. Paul shared the programme with Rev. Theodore Epp, of 'Back to the Bible'.

Dr Don Falkenberg was in Ahmedabad for four days in August representing the Bible Meditation League. One of Dr Falkenberg's chief interests is the accelerated village evangelism programme which B.M.L. has a lion's share in supporting. Dr Falkenberg spoke in several Gujarati churches in and around Ahmedabad.

The Society's Education Secretary, Rev. Gilbert Johnson, stopped over in Landour last June for a four-day visit and rest from a strenuous speaking schedule. Mr Johnson was on his way from Hong Kong to Europe. Several of his former students were happy to meet him. (See picture). Mr Johnson ministered the Word to us and shared his own impressions of mission work in informal discussion meetings.

Rev. Ashirvad Laljibhai departed this life February 10, 1960, full of years and faithful service to his Lord: He was born March 16, 1885 in Ghodassar, a small village near Mehmedabad. Like many after him, Rev. Ashirvadibhai was a product of the Dholka School. He was born again there while a young student during revival meetings conducted by Rev. Fuller.

After passing the vernacular finals Ashirvadbhai was taken on as a teacher at Dholka and later became Headmaster. In 1932 he was called of God to the ministry and became a pastor under the Gujarat Synod. He served many churches and taught in the Bible Training School at Mehmedabad when Rev. J. S. Ringenberg was principal. His last pastorate was at Mehmedabad where he first came with his parents as a boy during the great famine in 1900. He died there at the age of seventy-five. His final
testimony was, 'There have been hard times, but with Jesus' help I was able to stay in His service. I praise and thank Him'.

Gulabbhai Sevabhai, a retired evangelist, proceeded Rev. Ashirvadbhai into the Kingdom by a few days. He died January 30, 1960 in Ahmedabad. The passing of these two men is the passing of an age and highlights a great need in the Gujarati church—that of young men with vision, humility, and dedication to lead the church in these times.

For Boys Only: The boys in this picture are learning to play cricket at Dholka school. Cricket, popular in all Commonwealth countries, is a somewhat sedate version of baseball, with some important differences. Runs are scored by running back and forth between two wickets, the distance being about the same as that between two bases. 'Fours' is about the equivalent of a triple, and 'sixes' would be an out-of-the-park home run. The ball is 'bowled' with an overhead motion so as to strike the ground in front of the batter and spin off to either side (Is that where we get the word 'english' for the spin put on a ball?) There are eleven players to a team and all eleven bat until the side is retired. As many as four hundred runs may be scored in a game which may go on for four days, with time out for tea of course. The game is played in a spirit of gentlemanly good will. Needless to say it isn’t cricket to razz the pitcher or throw pop bottles at the ump. India has some very good cricket teams. The funds for the equipment shown were given by a dentist in the States. That’s real 'cricket.'
LETTER FROM A MUSLIM YOUTH TO THE
EDITOR, LIGHT OF LIFE

DEAR SIR,

On completing the Light of Life course I received a copy of
the New Testament for which I am very thankful.

I wish to inform you gladly that I have accepted the Lord
Jesus as my Lord and personal Saviour through this study and
have been going to church regularly for the last three weeks.
I have written some songs in Urdu in praise of Him. I am
sending one of them along with this letter.

I know I will suffer in my way but I have seen my Lord in
His Word so I will consider the pain as blessing. He purchased
the lives of all of us with His precious blood. Praise the Lord.

I have not read any book about Christianity except the New
Testament but I can say boldly that this single study has
enlightened my dark heart with that eternal life which is given
to men by our Lord.

I have received a certificate also for which I am proud. Here
are the first five lessons of Acts. I am studying the New
Testament with a hungry heart.

I hope that you will advise me frequently as to how I should
live.

Sincerely yours in Christ Jesus,

(Name withheld)

As this issue goes to press word has come of the homegoing
of another retired evangelist, Ratnaji Galabhai. He suffered a
stroke on Wednesday, September 14th and died the following
Saturday without regaining consciousness. His wife, Nanibai,
passed on several years ago. He was faithful to the end in the
distribution of gospels and tracts and in witnessing for his Lord.
‘... it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.’
APPROVED SPECIALS

An Approved Special, or Extra-budget Special, as it is sometimes called, is a field project which has the sanction of the Board of Managers. Funds for such projects are not included in the regular field budgets, hence must be raised by special appeal.

If you are interested in contributing to one of the projects listed below, you may send your gift to the Treasurer, 260 West 44th Street, New York 36, N.Y., designated accordingly.

1. Pastor's house—Mehmedabad  $1,500.00
2. Mobile-van—for—book—store  $1,000.00