And soon we see an hour is gone,
And so a teen an day.
As weeks they pass along,
And months make up a year;
No sooner come, than it has flown,
There's nothing lasting here.

So let us set our heart
On everlasting things,
For all that's earthly will depart,
And fly on time's fast wing.

'Tis time to seek the Lord,
And at His feet to bow;
Obey the counsel of His Word,
'Tis time to seek Him NOW.

Render Him service true,
And build upon the Rock;
Live with eternity in view—
The message of the clock.

ANON.
TIME OF REFRESHING

by the Editor

"... times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord."
Acts 3:19

It is with hearts full of gratitude that we look back to a time of rich fellowship in a joint Spiritual Life Conference with the missionaries of the Gujarat Alliance Field. These meetings were held in the city of Ahmedabad September 20-24. Rev. D. T. Anderson, pastor of the Beulah Alliance Church, Edmonton, Canada, who is visiting several Mission fields in Asia this fall, brought very timely, heart-stirring, as well as challenging messages from the Word of God. We shall long remember his Spirit-filled ministry, and also the carefully planned and very warm hospitality of our Gujarat hosts. Of particular interest was a tour around the Gujarat metropolis, which afforded us glimpses into radio, literature, and church ministries carried on in that city.

In spite of the intense heat—caused by a severe shortage of rain for over six weeks—we returned to our respective spheres of service spiritually refreshed, and with a renewed determination to press the battle for precious souls until we are caught up to be forever in the presence of the Lord.
It happened one day when everything else seemed to bring only frustration and discouragement. And that is what also made it so much more a wonder of God’s love and power.

I was alone except for my little girl when into the house rushed our housewoman, calling excitedly. A woman, she said, was being lifted off a tonga and carried toward our house. “Come and see, Auntie. These people will want to see you,” she said.

Leaving the work at hand, I went to the door, arriving just in time to see an older woman spreading out a blanket onto the stone floor of the verandah. And then came the young husband, carrying his wife and gently putting her down upon the blanket.

I was dismayed! Surely these new Christians (for I recognized them as a couple who had taken baptism only two months before) did not expect me to be able to treat and cure this case. But what were they doing here with this case of paralysis if that wasn’t what they expected?

With such thoughts whirling about in my mind I approached the trio, gently reminding them that though I did have simple medicines on hand and tried to help those whom it was in my power to treat, this case clearly appeared to be a job for a full-fledged doctor—not a mere nurse.

“Oh no,” answered the husband, “we haven’t come for medicine at all. After my wife had convulsions in the night, followed by paralysis from her waist on down, we made up our minds to get her to a doctor somehow. We rented a bullock cart to take her to the doctor. But she refuses to go to a doctor until she has been anointed and prayed for. Won’t you do it for her, please?”

I felt ashamed and at the same time extremely exultant, for here was an instance of simple faith which accepts God at His Word!

By this time the pastor’s wife was by my side, and upon hearing the request of the husband on behalf of his wife we both looked at each other with brimming eyes. “Oh ye of little faith” could have been said of me just then; but not of this simple village woman resting on the frayed blanket before me.

I regretfully replied that neither the pastor nor my husband was home. We could not anoint her, but we would surely and gladly pray for her. “According to her faith, Lord,” we prayed, “heal this Thy child.”

Then they left. As we watched them, the invalid turned around slightly, smiled and waved. That was all, we thought! But God had further blessing awaiting us. That very evening the pastor called at the home of relatives of the couple, and found our village Christian friends putting up there for the night. It wasn’t long before he heard a glowing testimony from the lips of the sick woman, that even as she left the yard of our home on her way to the doctor that afternoon she began to sense warmth and feeling returning slowly but progressively to her legs. By evening she could stand a bit on both feet.

“Lord, I believe, help Thou my unbelief.”

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

* You cannot kill time without injuring eternity.
  —M. R. De Haan
* Where you go hereafter depends a lot on what you go after here.
  —Anon
* Learn to root your soul in timeless things.
  —Selected.
An article in the 1963 Hot Season issue of this magazine told of how the Lord had prepared the way for the Maharashtra Synod of the C. & M.A. to send forth its first foreign missionary couple. After a prolonged wait for the needed visa from Thailand, and later Cambodia—which were ultimately refused by both countries—the Lord clearly led them to the Andamans. Although Indian territory, this group of 205 islands in the Bay of Bengal is over 600 miles—or six days by steamer—from the shores of the mainland. In this article Brother Palaspagar writes about their work:

“I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever: with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness.” Psalm 89:1.

Truly this is our heart song today as we stand and view the blessings and the opportunities that were granted to us. It is now more than two years since we began our work in the Andamans, which was a penal settlement. Life here was very cheap, and corruption and violence were steadily increasing. Natives, who are now called “Junglees” were hostile; but now the people of the Andamans are just in the making. Sleeping forests and valleys are slowly awakening, demand for social and economic justice is greatly increasing, and speedily developed communications present a great opportunity to move forward in the seed-sowing and harvesting of precious souls for the Lord.

From the very day we left our loved ones behind and set out for our destination we have been very conscious of the Lord’s presence in our midst. He was fitting the pieces together in His own wonderful way. Being sure of God’s will, we began to look for land, having at our disposal the generous donation from the Home Board. God showed His choice, and ten acres of land were purchased on the...
roadside of Weby, near the isolated rural pockets of these islands.

We praise God for enabling us to complete the building of our house in spite of severe difficulties along the way.

In the Andamans there are different kinds of people from many parts of India, Pakistan, and Burma. This complicates the work among them because they speak Bengali, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Burmese and Karen languages. They all have different tastes, practices and habits. They obviously do not make the best prospects for a local church roll. But they do constitute one of the nation's most needy mission fields.

Please pray for our library, reading room, and prayer hall project at Mayabandar. God has given us a plot, although the building is as yet unfinished. It needs to be big enough for about 100 people. We estimate the cost of the church building to be in the neighbourhood of Rs 10,000. This is our biggest project, but we have an omnipotent God, Who is able. Praise His name.

The work among the children is very encouraging. By the help of God we have started three new Sunday Schools in three different places. We also praise the Lord for enabling us to form two prayer groups in Tugapur and Mayabandar.

Recently the Lord has blessed the hearts of many young people in Weby, and a Bible quiz team was ready to go to the Youth Congress in Madras.

A small nucleus of people have been saved in a town four miles from Mayabandar, and another preaching center has been established there. I would covet your special prayers for Major J. H. Hall who was recently baptized, that he may be protected from all seen and unseen attacks of the enemy. Also for Mr. Docherty, a retired ranger, who has been searching the Word of God with all his knowledge. Only in recent days has the Lord definitely gained ground in his heart, and he has begun to give his tithe regularly. Please pray that he may be taught the secret of His abiding presence.

We rejoice and praise God for the Women’s Prayer Fellowship in Weby, which has been a means of great strength to the Lord's people here.

In the face of such blessings the Lord gives us much that requires our constant prayers. With steadily rising cost of living we are ever looking to the Lord for His supply. We have also suffered severe enemy attacks, but we thank God for His faithfulness and victory.

After much prayer we have decided to extend our efforts toward the middle and South Andamans. I shall be very grateful for your prayer, that the Lord may grant me His special anointing for the fulfilment of His ministry, and the ingathering of the ripened harvest in these parts.

The Church Under Construction

Major and Mrs. J. H. Hall
As far as India and the furtherance of the Gospel in this riotous and restless land is concerned, these are changing and independent times. One evidence of this fact is the need to change or turn over the ownership of the existing properties from the Mission, the foreign body, to the national Church body. It is a tedious and oft-times discouraging task to endeavor to complete this transferential action. There are more hindrances than helps. There are many obstacles and long lines of "red tape". One appears to be constantly bucking his head against a brick wall.

Just one example of the long lines of red tape is revealed in what should be a simple process of obtaining a certified copy of our properties in the Akola and Amravati Districts which are registered in the Assistant Charity Commissioners Office, Akola. After paying for and obtaining a court fee stamp to attach to the application for this verified copy, the application is given into the Asst. Charity Commissioner’s Office. After weeks of waiting for the preparation and delivery of the desired document, it is noted that only the Akola District properties are listed thereon and not the Amravati ones. Upon inquiring about that omission, I was told that I must give them a letter requesting them to look into their records concerning this. After waiting several days for them to complete this search I went back to their office only to learn that the Amravati District properties were registered under the old Trust Act, and therefore listed in an older book. He told me that he must get permission from his higher authorities to record the Amravati District properties from the old into the new book. When this is completed I will have to write out a new application, purchase and place another court fee stamp on it and hand it to him. Several weeks later I will be able to obtain—I hope!—the certified copy of all our properties in both districts.

Just before this past hot season and immediately following it Mr Eicher visited the Head Office of the Charity Commissioner in Bombay. Evidently there is a new person in charge of handling these properties. In the course of conversation Mr Eicher was given a mimeographed sheet which listed fourteen conditions to be met concerning each property. He told Mr Eicher that if upon meeting those conditions his questionnaire is completed satisfactorily concerning each property and sent into his office, he will see the transfer through to fruition. There are about fifty church-related properties to be transferred. I have completed this information and will submit it to our Chairman for his perusal, correction, and approval. After that I will type it on a Ten-Rupee Court Fee documental paper and send it to the Charity Commissioner’s Office in Bombay. Then we will learn if there are any more delaying machinations possible. Let us hope and pray that there will be no more.

Yes, these are changing times, and in view of the uncertainty of how long the missionary will be allowed in India, or to return to India after furlough, it is imperative that this property transfer be consummated in the shortest possible time.

We must seek God’s guidance and wisdom from above. Prayer must continue for this mundane task. Prayer changes things as well as people’s attitudes, hearts, and lives.

Changing times? Yes. Changing God? No. He is “the same yesterday, today, and forever.” Praise His Name!
TIME FOR REVIVAL
EDGAR H. LEWELLEN

If there ever was a time that the Church of Jesus Christ was in need of a Holy Ghost revival, is it not today? On the Mission Fields the battle is becoming crucial. Pressures are mounting, doors closing, and objectives are being reviewed and revised. Financial stability is slowly becoming a reality, but not without much opposition from the enemy of our souls and the Church. However, in this hour it is the burden for a spiritual stability that presses upon the servant of the Lord. For days of testing and trial ahead, or for His soon coming, will His children be found unprepared, with soiled garments and flickering lamps, and a faith that cannot endure pressures, persecution, and fire? God forbid! As servants of God will we have to stand in shame with broken hearts as lost people go out before us? Rather, cannot we leave the Church of our generation with a pure, undefiled heritage, upon which rests the unction of the Holy Spirit? God says Yes!

Again we are reminded of the truth, "As the shepherd, so the sheep." Unless the missionary, pastor, teacher or layman experiences a revival in the soul, which will change habits, ways of life, and burdens the heart, we will never see a baptism and cleansing of the Holy Spirit sweep over our people. Oh, is it not time for revival? Is it not time for His under-shepherds to be broken, cleansed, and filled with the awful, yet wonderful presence of the Holy Ghost? Yes, brethren, it is time, and past time for a mighty outpouring on His Church.

The method is found in 2 Chronicles 7:14, namely, a genuine brokenness of spirit, earnest prayer, and complete obedience. Then we can expect to "hear from heaven". What a wonderful promise from an anxious God! Let us stop "being busy", and prepare for the "promise of the Father". It IS time!

TIME FOR SPECIFIC PRAYER

★ We heartily welcome the G. L. Carners back to India after an extended and very busy furlough, and pray that the Lord's rich anointing shall be on them for another term of service.
★ Please pray for a newly organized church in Telhara, where Satan has gained a foothold in one member to disrupt the good spirit and unity prevailing until recently.
★ Twenty-seven adults and fourteen children attended the 10 day Short Term Bible School held in Amravati in September. At the close thirteen new converts and four young people from the city church Sunday School were baptized. Please pray for these new converts.
★ The Pastors' and Workers' Retreat announced for August 1968, had to be postponed until February 18-25, 1969. Rev. Theodore Williams will be the speaker. The emphasis will be on the Deeper Life, and seminars on pastoral, youth, and children's work will also be held. Do pray for a spiritual awakening among pastors and missionaries.
★ Begin praying now for a month of special conferences and meetings with Rev. Duncan Campbell, of Edinburgh, Scotland, whom God used in the Hebrides revival some years ago. We covet importunate praying for revival in India.
★ It is ALWAYS timely to pray for a smooth relationship of missionaries with each other and with our National brethren.
The following are special projects approved by the New York Board of Managers. They cannot be paid for from the regular budget, but clearly designated gifts toward any of these projects will be gladly accepted and forwarded by the Treasurer of the Society (Headquarters' address on page 2).

Vehicle for Miss W. S. Sanford $1,800
Vehicle for Rev. and Mrs. F. L. Thomas $1,000
Good News Magazine $100
Christian Light of Life Magazine for new literates $500
Lay Workers' Institute grain storage equipment $500
Colportage Work $500
Living quarters (4th unit) for library personnel $1,000
Printing of Marathi Bible School text books $2,000
Gospel Tent for Camp Meetings $1,000
Amalgamation of Men's and Women's Bible Schools $15,000

Free literature, tracts, magazine subscriptions, children's books for use in reading rooms and libraries in amounts of $5 and $10 are gratefully received.