Every Christian is a postmaster for
God. His duty is to pass out Good
News from above. If the postmaster
kept all the mail and refused to give
it out, he would soon be in trouble.
No wonder some Christians are so
miserable. They keep God's blessings
within their own little lives, and soon
there is congestion. God does not
send us good things from the heavenly
headquarters merely for our personal
enjoyment. Some of them may be
addressed to us, but most of them
belong to our fellow-men, and we
must pass them on.

The Christian seriously misunder-
stands his work as God's postmaster
if he spends his time decorating his
place of business and neglects to
deliver God's messages to man. A
clean and tidy post office is desirable,
and so is a holy life; but keeping our
lives clean is only tidying up the
office so we may carry on God's
business.

How thrilling the plainest life can
be when it becomes a function in
God's great system and not a selfish
enterprise! The tiniest post office
can bear a letter that may wreck or
bless a nation. And the simplest life
can relay blessings that may rock a
continent toward God.

(From By The Still Waters, by permission
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WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU PRAY

Winnie Sanford (American)

In a recent issue of the India Alliance the Mission Girls' Boarding School and the Women's Bible Training School at Khamgaon were brought to your attention. From recent events we feel certain that you have interceded for these schools.

One day after Rev. Ed Lewellen had given a message to the girls in the Girls' Boarding School, they found it impossible to leave the chapel when they were dismissed. A real conviction of the Holy Spirit had come upon the children and the older girls. Conviction led to confession and confession led to restitution; and we knew that a very real work of the Holy Spirit had begun in our midst.

For a number of occasions in the Bible School the Lord had sent messengers who stressed the necessity of the infilling with the Holy Spirit for victorious life and service. When Rev. Antoine Deeb, an evangelist from Lebanon, spoke in a chapel service during the first term of the school year, there was manifest spiritual hunger, and the service that usually closed at 9 a.m. went on in prayer until about 10.30.

On February 27th Sugandhibai Chavan (Pastor R. P. Chavan's sister) told about the revival and outpouring of the Spirit of God in the Girls' Boarding School at Khamgaon in 1928. There was no Bible School as such at that time.

In prayer with the Bible School teachers on the afternoon of February 28th the infilling with the Holy Spirit was claimed for each of our thirty B.T.S. students. At about 1 a.m. the following morning I was awakened by the three Bible School teachers calling me from the front verandah. They told me that all the students were gathered in the second room in the hostel praying most earnestly. Truly the Holy Spirit had come upon the students as they had confessed their sins and made things right with one another. Prayer and praise continued until 3.45 a.m. and later, in testimony after testimony there was praise to God for the definite infilling with His Spirit. Only one student of the thirty had no real testimony to this work of God in her. She had stayed outside the room that night. We believe she too will yet fully surrender. Will you continue to pray—for her, and for the students who will come to the Girls' Boarding and Bible Schools this new school year?

POINTS TO PONDER

★ That land is henceforth my country which most needs the Gospel.
—Count Zinzendorf

★ We want missionaries who are 'God intoxicated' men.
—Bishop Odutola of Nigeria

★ Nothing is really mine until I share it.
—E. Stanley Jones

★ I dare not go up to judgment till I have done the utmost God enables me to diffuse His glory through the world.
—Asahel Grant, Persia
'When He putteth forth His sheep, He goeth before.' (John 19:4 a)

The Lay Workers' Institute in Chikalda, an inter-Mission project, was established ten years ago by the Rev. and Mrs. Root in fulfilment of a vision from God for the regular training of dedicated lay leaders; that they may be encouraged and equipped for more effective and consecrated Christian service among the small scattered Christian groups in the villages.

During the past ten years all the neighbouring Missions have wholeheartedly co-operated in the program, not only by regularly sending their students to attend both the Hot Season and Rainy Season courses each year, but also in providing the necessary funds and in maintaining an active interest in the school with their personnel and prayer support.

Rev. and Mrs. Root, having served the cause of Christ in India for over forty years and far beyond normal retiral age, were required to proceed on a well-earned furlough. Therefore it has been our privilege this Hot Season to try and fill the gap, knowing that when the Master putteth forth His sheep, He goeth before them. And truly this has been our experience even before the new school term began. Grain, the staple diet of the students was one of the first material considerations; and it was at the time either unavailable or sold at a prohibitive price. Daily a visit was made to the grain market, but each time we returned empty-handed. Finally, just two days prior to our going up to take over our new responsibilities, prayer was answered and the price of grain came right down, and we were able to purchase a fine quality at a price that has never been as low for months before or since that day. This was just the beginning of the hand of God in our special assignment.

The Hot Season (first year) Term commenced this year in record time, with a full complement of twenty-two couples and their children. It was a joy to witness the eager expectation on the faces of our new student body, as they attended school. Daily life at the school took on new interest and new meaning, as the program of Bible training and spiritual experience was opened up to the students by the members of the staff.

The school had been in progress a whole month, and daily much blessing was experienced both by the students and staff. There were problems to be met, of course, and spiritual solutions to be discovered. Within a few days a man decided to run away and leave his wife and children behind over a minor domestic misunderstanding. He, however, returned after a few days and is in victory today. Not many days later a woman planned to do the same thing, but she was discovered, prayerfully dealt with, and reconciled to her family. Now the arch enemy of men's souls directed his attacks at the physical health of the students.

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 Unless you have learned a foreign language in a foreign country, it would be difficult for you to imagine what a relief it is to be finished with Language School. I did not say finished learning the language, for do we ever fully know a language?

At our Annual Conference in November I was appointed to the Lay Leaders' Institute in Chikalda as school nurse. This appointment was not a surprise to me. The Lord had burdened me to pray for the Institute for many months before I was appointed. When I heard that the school nurse was going on furlough I knew why the Lord had given me that burden. He wanted me to be prepared to take her place. This is God—He always has a reason for everything He does. His ways are past our understanding.

As the families started to arrive in Chikalda on March 25—babies, toddlers, school age children, pregnant mothers—I began to feel insecure. Would I really be able to understand their complaints? Some did not even speak Marathi, but some tribal language. Even if I understood their complaints would I know how to treat them? I had forgotten that the Lord was in control. There are difficult problems to solve, but the Lord always gives wisdom and grace—just enough for each new situation.

Let me tell you about the mother who came with her sick baby girl. She just had an ordinary case of diarrhoea—very common in India. But why didn't the medicine help her? It helped all the other children. I visited the home and there found the answer. The mother had carefully placed all the medicine on the window sill. Why did she not give it to the baby? She did not have faith in the pills. She was waiting for me to give her some "village" medicine. That alone would cure her baby, so she reasoned.

Health and Hygiene is one of the subjects taught at the Institute. It is interesting to help the villagers practice various treatments on each other in class. For example they do bandaging, artificial respiration, snake bite treatment, and other things.

Even before I left Canada, I had a desire to work with village people. The Lord gave me that desire to prepare me for this my first assignment.

I GLADLY DO IT FOR CHRIST

A writer for a great newspaper visited India. One day he met a missionary nurse who lived among the lepers and helped them. How tender and loving she was to the poor lepers! The reporter looked upon her with amazement. He said, "I wouldn't wash the wounds of these lepers for a million dollars!" "Neither would I," said the missionary nurse, "but I gladly do it for Christ. I have no thought of any reward other than His smile of approval upon me!"
The following is a challenging testimony of Rev. M. Q. Castillo, a student from the Philippine Islands at the Union Biblical Seminary, Yeotmal, at the time of writing. Having completed a three year course in two years, he has now returned to the Philippines holding a first class B.D. degree.

I feel privileged to have been requested by the India Alliance editor to write my testimony. I do this with the sole desire that Jesus Christ Whom I serve be lifted up, so that those who read it may be drawn closer to Him.

As in Jeremiah's life, circumstances led to my call to full-time Christian ministry. Vagueness became clear guidance. It is about these circumstances that I would like to write, which are mainly three: Conversion, Involvement, and Vision. Through these I was fully convinced that God was separating me unto the Gospel of God.

Having been brought up in a nominally Roman Catholic background I knew very little about religion. But God is full of mercy in that He came, through Christ, 'to seek and to save that which was lost.' A faithful Filipino missionary, who later became my pastor, brought the Good News of salvation into our home through Bible study. God saved my parents through this series of faithful teaching of the Word of God, and they became faithful church members. I was only twelve then and the eldest of eight children. We were made to attend Sunday School and church in the morning, while Bible classes came to our home in the afternoon. God made my need of the Saviour plain at the age of fourteen. Realizing my lost condition and my need of Jesus Christ, Who alone could save me, I knelt beside my bed one night and accepted Christ as my personal Saviour.

Along with the joy and blessings that accompany salvation came to me a sense of purpose. The big question was, 'What am I to do now?' As a teen-ager I, too, had cherished ambitions, foremost of which was that of becoming a naval officer with a desire for adventure. But this question kept haunting me night and day. I needed an answer. The one that I received from the pulpit was involvement in the work of the church, with special emphasis on missions. Very soon I found myself involved in the Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, youth activities, Bible study groups, and other services of my home church. My pastor treated me like his 'Timothy', faithfully discipling me into full commitment to Christ and His work. I spent my summer months with him, doing pioneering work and campaigns in several places beyond the borders of my province. I did this voluntarily, without getting any monetary remuneration for four successive summer breaks.

I was very glad I could help in the missionary outreach of my church, out of which five other churches were established. But these churches presented a problem to me. Who then will shepherd them? I rationalized, 'I would not make a good pastor.' 'I am timid.' Nevertheless, the call to
full-time service kept ringing through the rooms of my soul. God gave me a vision—a retrospection of my past life, namely: my salvation from Japanese executioners and my salvation from the penalty and power of sin. Realizing how much God had done for me, I obeyed the divine imperative. I had no more alternative. I burned my bridges behind. I decided to serve Him as long as He gives me life.

Fifteen days after this submission to God’s will for my life, I made my way to Bible School in Manila. The first seven years after my graduation in 1956 were well spent in various phases of the ministry as pastor, pioneer missionary, and orphanage work in the Northern part of the Philippines.

In 1963 my pastor and I affiliated with the C. and M.A. of the Philippines. This action was prompted by a desire for a fuller meaning of the Gospel in my life and a concern for the evangelization of the Northern Philippines. After one year of orientation study in 1963 at the C. and M.A. Bible School in Zamboanga I was called to a pastorate in one of the C. and M.A. churches in the Southern Philippines. During that time I was privileged to serve also as District Treasurer, Zone Superintendent, and youth worker. My stay in this district was cut short by an invitation to share in the teaching ministry at the Ebenezer Bible College, a position I was in before our coming to Union Biblical Seminary in June 1966.

We came to Union with the definite purpose of getting more training for a teaching ministry at Ebenezer. I am satisfied with what Union can offer to meet this purpose. We find here an ideal combination of scholarship and spirituality. This, of course, means hard work and strict discipline. Notwithstanding, an awareness of God’s call and His enabling presence keep us going daily. Indeed, God is good to us!

‘Love so amazing, so divine
Demands my soul, my life, my all.’

(Continued from page 4)

and staff and their children. His worst attack came when my wife Faith had to be rushed to hospital with her life in danger. But the One Who had gone before and Who has fought the battle and won the victory was right there to deliver with a mighty hand.

While at the hospital we have had excellent reports of much spiritual blessing attending the school. But we have also heard that one of our fine couples has had to be returned home, suffering from acute T.B.

Please pray, but don’t forget that the Lord has said, ‘I am the good shepherd and the good shepherd giveth His life for the sheep.’ And He ever goeth before.

GOD, TOUCH MY LIFE

God, touch my ears that I may hear,
Above earth’s din, Thy voice ring clear;
God, touch my eyes that I may see
The tasks Thou’dst have me do for Thee;
God, touch my lips that I might say
Words that reveal the narrow way;
God, touch my hands that I might do
Deeds that inspire men to be true;
God, touch my feet that I might go
To do Thy errands here below;
God touch my life that I might be
A flame that ever glows for Thee.
INGATHERING

★ Twenty-six inquirers from villages of the Murtazapur District made public confession of their faith in Christ at the conclusion of a Short Term Bible School held specially for them. Most of these had been influenced by the faithful witness of relatives and neighbors.

★ Another S.T.B.S. was held at Akot, and thirteen persons were baptized from that district. Of these, four were young people from Christian homes, two of Roman Catholic, and seven of non-Christian background.

ELECTING SYNOD LEADERS

★ The Annual Synod Session was held at Murtazapur on April 2 and 3, in which the following National Church leaders were elected:

Rev. Chavan (left) and Dongre

President: Rev. R. P. Chavan (re-elected)
Vice-President: Rev. N. A. Dongre (new)
Secretary: Mr. Y. G. Ingle
Treasurer: Mr. S. B. Waghmare

We heartily commend these brethren to your faithful prayer.

MISSION MEMBERS LEAVING

★ The Herb Dyke family is leaving for furlough in June. We wish them many hours of blessed fellowship with loved ones and friends, and especially with their eldest daughter Nancy, who left India a year ago after graduating from High School.

★ Carole Stengele and Vivienne Shaw graduated this year and have left for the U.S.A. Carole plans to attend the Berean Bible College at Allentown, Pa., and Vivienne will go to Pasadena College in California. May the Lord by His own presence fill the moments of loneliness of both parents and children.

NEW SCHOOL YEAR BEGINNING

★ In the first week of July the doors of the Bible Schools at Nargaon and Khamgaon, the U.B. Seminary at Yeotmal, and the Boys’ and Girls’ Boarding Schools at Akola and Khamgaon will open for a new school year. Faculties and students will appreciate your prayer for the best school year yet.

NEEDING PERSEVERING PRAYER

★ Pray for an increased interest in prayer cells for the purpose of a mighty spiritual awakening and revival throughout the Maharashtra area.

★ Pray also for an effective application spiritually and practically in the work of the Church by pastors, evangelists, and missionaries attending a workers’ retreat at Akola in August.

★ Until you hear more about Laird Stengele’s unusual assignment, don’t forget to pray for his tedious, but very important task of transferring the registration of Mission property to the National Church.