A CHURCH BUILDING IN BOMBAY?

Yes, it finally became a reality. Granted, it was a temporary chapel provided by the W. M. P. F. groups in the United States and Canada. Yet it is a promise of a permanent structure soon to be started in "New Bombay".

July 14, 1974, saw the beginning of this multi-lingual but English speaking congregation when two couples and Rev. and Mrs. E. H. Lewellen met for the first service in a home. The church has grown rapidly. Within a few months it was evident that ground would have to be purchased and a church built to accommodate the worshipers. Applications for a 2000 square metre (about 22,000 square feet) plot was made in October of the same year. After much delay but with gratefulness to the Lord, the temporary chapel was opened and dedicated by Rev. and Mrs. T. Grady Mangham on February 19, 1978.

New Bombay is well named, for it is a new industrial city still being built on the mainland, separated from the old and overpopulated city of Bombay by a narrow body of water. It provides tremendous opportunities among the young, progressive employees of the many new industries in this area.

(Continued on page 3)
AN APOLOGY

Much water has passed under the bridge since the last INDIA NEWS was published in October 1973. Lack of missionaries, the consequent pressure of work and heavy inflation were just a few of the reasons why no new issues have been printed since then. Realizing the importance of keeping our prayer constituency at home informed, we apologize for having deprived you of news from our field and therefore valuable fuel for prayer. We shall now endeavor to send out at least a four page bulletin twice a year. Your faithful prayer for this effort will be deeply appreciated.

--The editor

BRINGING YOU UP-TO-DATE

* RE-UNITING THE TWO INDIA FIELDS
The Gujarat and Maharashtra fields were officially re-united as one India Field on May 1, 1974, after they had been functioning as two separate fields for 19 years. The main reason for this step was the dwindling numbers of missionaries on both fields.

* STATE OF EMERGENCY
On June 25, 1975, the former Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, proclaimed a state of emergency for all India which denied basic rights to all members of opposition parties. The emergency was revoked in late January, 1977, and most of the political prisoners released. Fresh elections were held in March, 1977, in which the Janata or People’s Party came to power with a landslide victory. While we rejoice over the victory of the democratic system, we also miss the strictly enforced discipline of those 19 months when all strikes, demonstrations and riots were banned.

* A SECOND CHURCH IN AKOLA
Bethel Alliance Church in the Khadan area of Akola is the result of an agreement reached between two factions of the First Alliance Church in early 1976. Some main parts of the agreement still remain to be put into effect.

* SECOND CHURCH-MISSION AGREEMENT
A new Church-Mission agreement for three years was drawn up in April, 1976. This was, however, only initialed rather than signed because of some lack of mutual trust both between the Synod and the Mission and also within the three Church Councils of the Synod. A Monitoring Committee, consisting of three members each of the Synod and the Mission, was appointed to review the situation annually. After two meetings of this committee it is still not felt that the relationships have sufficiently improved to warrant the signing and putting the agreement into effect.

THE INDIA ALLIANCE
NEWS MAGAZINE OF THE INDIA C. & M. A. FIELD

HOT SEASON NUMBER 1
This news bulletin is published twice a year to encourage Christians everywhere to pray and to give for the unfinished task in India. It is sent to you free of charge by some missionary (if initials appear on mailing label or mailed in private envelope) or the Mission.

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Cover Picture: The new Portable Chapel in New Bombay

THE INDIA ALLIANCE
From the day Christ arose from the tomb, the Christian's only theme can be, "victory, victory all the time." If we have any other theme we are belittling the victory of Calvary and the deity of the Victor, the Lord Jesus Christ. There are discouragements, setbacks, waiting periods, unanswered questions, but He is still in control. He is gathering together His Bride and preparing her for His coming. The gates of hell shall not prevail against her.

In Gujarat we see many things happening for which we can praise God. The response from individuals desiring to enroll in Bible Correspondence courses has been overwhelming. The twenty conferences and retreats held at the Conference Center in Mehmadabad is proof that this ministry is bringing blessing to many. The missionaries are once again being asked to assist the Church in co-operative efforts in Evangelism and Church Planting. We pray that there may not only be increased co-operation between Church and Mission, but also unity and fellowship among the churches.

In Akola (Maharastra), there soon will be a new church in the Telugu language, following 13 baptisms of these people, and within the last few weeks others have expressed their faith in Christ. This has been an outreach of the Akola Library.

We have reviewed with mixed feelings the decline in the numbers of our missionary personnel. It has been only too clear that priorities must be set, and the service years yet remaining to those on the field utilized to the best advantage to produce the best results. The average age of our missionaries on the field now is 54 years. Of the total of 31 missionaries on the field and on furlough, only 5 are under the age of 50.

God has called us here to build a Church--His Church ready for His coming. God has called us to India to win souls into the Kingdom. I suggest we set goals for souls saved and also for new churches established. I feel sure that the fervor of our zeal will be transmitted to the Church.

(Continued from page 1)

The Alliance Church was not only the first organized church in Bombay, but also the first one to have its own place of worship. The spirit of anticipation and excitement are a real part of this young church which continues to grow in numbers as well as in the faith and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. (Cover photo and article by Rev. E. H. Lewellen)

* The Kingdom of God is significance; all else is insignificance. --Stanley Jones
* Consecration to God pays rich dividends. --Watchman Nee
There are

VARIETIES OF MINISTRIES

but the same Lord

GLEANINGS FROM MISSIONARIES' ANNUAL REPORTS

1 Cor. 12:5

We have now completed four full years in Bombay, and in mid-December we complete two years in our two church centers, Malad and Secretariat area. Progress in church planting has not been fantastic, but a very solid base has been established, and growth and interest are encouraging. Services were conducted every Sunday morning at Malad and every Sunday evening at Advent. A home weekly Bible Study was started in October at Dadar where average attendance has been just about twelve.

PAUL MORRIS, SR., BOMBAY (GUJARATI)

From March 27 to April 3, 1977 we had an evangelistic campaign with Ravi Zacharias. The attendance was very good, and the response to altar calls encouraging. A total of 87 persons were counselled, and 46 of them made first-time decisions for Christ. Most of these were members of other churches, while about 12 young men were from either Hindu or Buddhist families.

FRED ROTH, NAGPUR

Our most inspiring series of meetings was conducted at Borsad while ministering in the Non-Believer' Camp held there in November. There was an eager, expectant spirit from the very beginning of the first service. As I gave the invitation that night, three young people responded. Well over 90 attended the camp. By actual check-off of names, all but a few who could be reckoned on the fingers of your hands accepted Christ before the four-day camp came to an end. Most of these young people came from Christian homes. The Lord also brought a few Hindu young people to Himself. My heart yearns to see a similar moving of God's Spirit among adults.

PAUL HAAGEN, MEHMEDABAD

RECONCILIATION is a long word, and often the process is long and painful because hope is often injured by strange turns of events, when the people involved seem ready to accept each other when, bang!, something is said that undoes all the hours of bringing them together. We do thank the Lord that He helped us get two estranged couples back to each other. We pray that our presence in Akola will also be a link in the chain that will bring total reconciliation between the two groups that worship in this city. We have not forgotten that we are called to help sinful man get reconciled to God.

HERBERT DYKE, JR., AKOLA

THE INDIA ALLIANCE
My major duties have been in the Bible School, in the Bible Translation work and in making myself available to churches as needed. The Jonathan Amstutzes left us after the Spring term. This made a great gap in the School staff. Since then I have taken twice as many hours of class teaching. We thank God for approximately 40 students, men and women, who have taken the regular courses. The School has problems and we need prayer. The Principal, Rev. Y. T. Aghamker, has done much to keep the School going, and provide scholarships for Alliance students through his improvements on the School farm.

FRED SCHELANDER, BHUSAWAL

The great need is for capable personnel to prepare good programs. For the Trans World Radio programs we would need at least one full-time man...to prepare a daily message and do the follow-up. We believe a Spirit-annointed man with love and warmth in his delivery would generate considerable response, much of which he himself would have to answer...We do not have anyone in sight for Gujarati programs--someone who has the ability to produce a challenging message every day.

ELMER ENTZ, RETURNING TO AHMEDABAD

Our responsibility in the Literature field has greatly increased with the transfer of our colporteur from Akola to Nagpur in June 1977. At first he was far from enthusiastic about the proposed change. However, it did not take long for him to realize that he had virtually struck a gold mine after the move was made. His presence has been greatly welcomed by pastors and many Christians alike, and his sales have steadily increased until his basic salary and commission amount to double the pastor's salary. Already he feels that he can hardly do justice to all the demands for Christian literature in this city. He is presently in the process of training Premanand, one of his sons, to assist him in this important ministry, and to take it over from him once he reaches retirement age.

FRED ROTH, NAGPUR

Almost every mail brings correspondence that challenges us to pray. Let me share a few with you:
From Kamalaker: "By your course I saw Jesus in a vision and have gotten eternal peace."
From Ramesh..."With a hungry heart, I pray daily to Jesus. Only Jesus can give forgiveness of sins, healing, life and new birth. I have found Jesus to be the light of Life."
From Pravin..."I was wandering in darkness, but Jesus touched me and gave me light. I accept Him as my Saviour and give my life to Him."

PAUL HAAGEN, MEHMEDABAD
DEPARTURES...

Donald Capps went to be with the Lord on August 17, 1975. He had found the Lord through the ministry of Rev. & Mrs. Leonard Cutler, Alliance missionaries in Amravati city while serving as an officer in the British India Police there. After a period of Christian friendship Donald and Faith Cutler, the missionaries’ daughter, were married at Akola in 1947. After completing theological studies at Nyack College they returned to India in 1950, where they spent 24 years of faithful service together. They were fur-loughing in Toronto city, and about ready to go on retiral status when Donald died of a heart attack.

Mrs. Donald Capps, née Harriet Faith Cutler, went into the presence of her Lord less than one year later, on July 26, 1976 in Toronto at the age of 71. Faith was born in Bombay, India, and received her early education in this land. She then took further training in Canada and Nyack as nurse’s training in New York, and rejoined her parents in India in 1927. She worked with them first in Murtizapur and then in Amravati, where she got to know, and later married, the British India Police officer, Donald Capps. After his training at Nyack Missionary College they served the Lord together in Jalgaon, Amravati and Murtizapur Districts.

Mrs. W. F. Schelander departed for her heavenly home on May 17, 1977 at Achalpur, Amravati District, while traveling to Chikalda to escape from the intense heat of the plains. Having first come to India in 1927, she spent many years of fruitful service with her husband in Anjangaon and Bhusawal. Her training as a nurse stood her in good stead when she nursed her ailing father-in-law during the last years of his life. Edna Schelander had been retired on the field for a few years. Her body was laid to rest in the Christian cemetery at Akola.

Miss Agneta Hansen entered the presence of her Lord on October 13, 1977 at the age of 82. Born in Denmark, Agneta migrated to the U.S.A. with her family when she was 12. Miss Hansen first came to India in 1924, and became very efficient in the Marathi language. She served first in the Girls’ Boarding School at Khangaon, and later was in charge of the missionary children’s school. She retired after 37 years of faithful service in Staples, MN in 1962.

They climbed the steep ascent of heaven
Through peril, toil and pain.
O God, to us may grace be given
To follow in their train!

THE INDIA ALLIANCE
...AND NEW ARRIVALS

We are very thankful to the Lord of the harvest for bringing Dr. and Mrs. James Lewis and their children, Dan, Amy and Tim (children are not in picture to this land. They arrived safely on June 17, 1977. Having served one term in South Vietnam before the closure of that land, they are now on loan to the Union Biblical Seminary at Yavatmal for teaching ministries. We heartily welcome them into our midst.

We are also very glad to report the safe arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Morris, Jr. on December 5, 1977. We extend a very warm welcome to them and their three sons Jonathan, Paul and Michael (not in picture) as new members of our missionary family. They are busily engaged in the study of the Gujarati language in preparation for service in that area. Being a son of a missionary to, Gujarat we are sure Paul will take this in his stride.

NEWS BITS FOR INTERCESSIONS

* INDIA FIELD HEADQUARTERS MOVED
On February 1, 1978 the India Field Headquarters was officially shifted from Akola to Bombay, because the latter is more centrally located for Gujarat and Maharashtra areas of service. Until now accommodation in Bombay has been rented and somewhat uncertain. As this is, going to Press property to purchase for Chairman’s residence cum Office has been found in a choice location in downtown Bombay. Praise the Lord!

* BIBLE COLLEGE TEACHER WITH THE LORD
Rev. Joseph Aghamkar, College faculty member for many years, went to be with the Lord on December 19, 1977. Please pray for the bereaved family, and also that the gap created may be filled soon with the person of God’s choice.

* PROPERTY NEEDED FOR CITY CHURCHES
Property to accommodate the growing congregations in Nagpur and Bombay remain an urgent need, as suitable halls for rent are very difficult to find. Property for sale with a clear title are also very rare.

* MAHARASHTRA SYNOD
A large volume of prayer is requested for victory among Maharashtra Synod leaders, and unity among the three Church Councils.

* TELUGU-SPEAKING PASTOR FOR ANDAMANS
Please pray for Mr. Sugbabam, a recent graduate of the Yavatmal Seminary who responded to an urgent call for a pastor by a newly organized Telugu-speaking church in Port Blair, Andaman Islands. Pray that his appointment will not be delayed for lack of concern of the Synod leaders.

* GOING ON FURLough
Dr. F. W. Schelander left the end of March for a seven-month furlough, and
the C. H. Dykes, Jr., Karl Koses and the Paul Morris, Sr., families are leaving for regular furloughs between May and August of this year. We wish all of them many hours of sweet fellowship with loved ones, and God's rich blessing on their furlough ministries.

* RETURNING TO INDIA

The G. L. Carners and E. J. Entzes are expected to return from furlough in August. May the Lord bless them richly as they adjust to this land once more, and give them a very fruitful term of service.

* M. K.'S LEAVING INDIA

John Evans, a former graduate from Woodstock School in Landour, North India, with his wife (also an M. K. from IndoChina) and children Jeremy and Rachel left India in June to pursue higher studies in the U.S., after having been on the Woodstock Staff for three years.

* M. K. WEDS IN INDIA

The wedding of Carol Evans with Tom Alter was solemnized at the St. Paul's Church in Landour on May 28, 1978, with both fathers officiating. Carol's husband is another M. K. (Presbyterian) with whom she grew up at the Woodstock School. They are now living in Bombay where he is working.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVESTORS

We whole-heartedly commend the following special projects of our India Field to the prayerful consideration of faithful Christian stewards everywhere:

1. Bombay/Pune/Nagpur Key City Outreach $ 10,000
2. Marathi Text Books 500
3. Theological Education by Extension 500
4. Marathi Magazine "Living Light" 500
5. For Radio Work - Gujarat 500
6. For one Overhead Projector - Gujarat 400
7. Relocation of Union Biblical Seminary 27,000
8. Chairman's Residence-cum-Office, Bombay 40,000
9. Colportage Work 800
10. For Radio Work - Maharashtra 1,000

Donors are kindly requested to send their clearly designated gifts to: Treasurer, The Christian & Missionary Alliance, Box C, Nyack, NY 10960, U.S.A.

MOVING?

Please be sure to indicate any address correction as early as possible to:

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c/o Calvary Alliance Church
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THE INDIA ALLIANCE