Lead them in the paths of righteousness for Thy Name’s sake

RAMABAI MUKTI MISSION

Yale Divinity Library—February, 1932
New Haven, Conn.
LOOKING FORWARD TO THE FUTURE

By J. I. Craddock

When we come to the commencement of another year, we have the sense of having come to the end of a journey and of starting out on another. As at all such times there has to be preparation, through the past months life has resulted in much accumulation and additions. It all cannot be taken for this new journey, so much must be discarded and eliminated, often with regret, but what remains for the new is what is needed because of its lasting value. As all this is for a purpose, for we would not take journeys otherwise, what is our purpose, our goal for this year?

It is that of Ramabai when she started out on her life work, which was that each one of her women and girls might come to know Christ as her personal Saviour. That is our desire and prayer today, and as we travel forward, we wonder of how many this will be true in this new year. What is to be our part in bringing it to pass? We try to plan for the individual, but just as the needs of each vary for a journey, so it is in this journey of life, and in order to reach the needs of each one in our family, we try to plan accordingly.

With this in mind, our missionaries are each responsible for a family, but even so the numbers are large, so that as new buildings are erected or old ones rebuilt, we are planning on having smaller groups living together, but for their oversight more workers will be needed. We want Mukti women who have a mother heart who will be willing to share this responsibility with the missionaries on whom it will fall.

But this will only meet the surface needs by personal contacts. The fundamental problem is how to reach the real person underneath. All our planning must be for this end, and having reached it, to know how to bring the individual to the One who alone can meet the need and solve the problem by giving the new disposition which will fit into new surroundings.

This then is the purpose of our journey, as it was for Ramabai, yet not the end, for, having come to know for themselves, there needs to come the opportunity to give to others. This may be in going forth to form homes of their own or for training for service in church, hospital, or school, and in preparation for this, those who are faithful go to the villages or help in the Adult Literacy School.

(Continued on back cover)
FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

The missionaries were offered the opportunity to put their praises and requests before you. We record them here with the hope that those who read will pray.

MISS WOODWARD—

Praise for the supply of our daily needs.
Pray that the unsaved helpers in the cook room may be saved.
Pray that the water supply may be sufficient for the family, holding out until the next rainy season in June.

MISS MORRIS—

Pray for Hindu girls in the Rescue Home, and especially for Kamal, the beggar girl, that they might be saved.
Pray for our little boys who have been sent to schools in Shrigonda and Baramati.
Pray for little Joseph, who has been dedicated to the Lord, that he might early come to know Christ and be a witness for Him.

MISS SCHRAG—

Pray for God’s care of our drinking water and a sufficient supply for the Mission’s needs until the rains come in June.
Pray that those who hear the gospel in the villages may believe and be saved.
Pray for God’s blessing upon the Word of God as it is being given out by spoken and printed word.
Pray for Dhondiram and his brothers, that they may be saved. Dhondiram is reading the New Testament.
Pray for those who have recently been given New Testaments in response to their request for them.

MISS HARISHCHANDRA—

Praise that the Holy Spirit is creating in the hearts of our young teachers a desire to study the Word of God.
Pray for the guidance and help of the Holy Spirit in teaching His Word to these teachers and our other Mukti girls.

(Continued on page 6)
'You are asking too many questions. You would do well to put your mind to learning these Scriptures rather than bothering your mind with such questions' was the only answer Joshua received when he asked his Hebrew teacher when this King, of whom they were reading, was to come to earth.

But he could not put the King out of his mind, and when a few days later Joshua heard the shepherds talking about the Child that had been born in Bethlehem, he knew it must be the Christ. He found the Babe, loved and worshipped Him, and wanted to show Him his love. But he was only a poor village boy, and when he asked his mother what he could give this holy One, she answered, 'You have something to give Him, but you must find out for yourself what it is.' He would run eagerly to the stable and walk slowly home, troubled with a yearning to know what he could give this baby King. What did he have? What could he give? But every time he asked, he received the same answer, 'You have something to give, but you must find it for yourself.'

He went to the Babe's home again the day the wise men came, and when he saw them giving Him their costly gifts, his heart nearly broke with yearning to give something, too. Then suddenly his heart filled with adoration and love. He whispered desperately, 'I must give Him something. I will give Him myself.' And as he did so, his heart fairly sang for he knew he had found the answer and he heard a wise man whisper brokenly, 'The boy has given more than we all.'

Here at Mukti we asked ourselves, as Christmas time drew near, 'What can we give our family for Christmas this year?' The boxes of Christmas toys and clothes that always make Christmas such a happy time had not come from the homeland. Even the Christmas cards and ribbons which the girls looked forward to so much were not arriving on time. Yet our answer seemed to come, saying, 'I will do something. But what I will do, you must find out for yourself.'

Lovely cotton materials began brightening up the sewing room, and all day long the sewing machines sang and new Christmas dresses were carried to the missionaries'
rooms to be tucked away and out of sight, later to gladden
the eyes of the children. Then one morning there was an
exciting buzzing in the sitting room where the missionaries
were gathered. The Christmas committee announced that
a roomful of beautifully painted toys had come. There
were hanging cradles that the Buds would love; there were
lovely doll carriages that Miss Rohrer knew would make
the Blossoms dance for joy; for the boys there were buses
that looked so real you could nearly hear the engines
whirring. The tigers, horses, elephants and camels standing
lined up on their platforms of wheels looked ready to
parade right into the Krupa Sadan compound to surprise
the children there. There was joy not only that the gifts
had come just in time for Christmas, but it was even
more wonderful that these gifts had all been made by the
people of the Leprosarium at Nasik. They were exquisitely
made, beautifully painted and thoroughly disinfected. Some
of the Christmas money sent by friends at home was used
to purchase these toys, thus the money brought double
joy—joy to our children at Christmas and joy to the lepers.
'This is the best gift I've ever received.' 'I asked Jesus
to send me just this.' 'This is just what I wanted.' When
on Christmas morning these bits of excited conversation
reached our ears, as the girls hugged their toys, our hearts
rejoiced at what God had done. 'You must find out for
yourself what God will give.'

And when Christmas day was over and the girls, so
happy with what they had received, were wondering what
to give the Lord in return for His love and goodness, some
came with radiant eyes, saying, 'I know what I'll give as
my gift to the Saviour. I have something besides the
grain I've saved.' And some said, 'What Jesus wants most
is my heart, isn't it, Moushie?' But some came to their
missionary and asked, 'What do you think I should give as
my thanksgiving gift to the Saviour?' and they received
the same answer, 'You must find out for yourself.'

At the thanksgiving service following Christmas, the
altar was filled with the gifts of those who had found for
themselves what they had to give to the Lord. And we
knew we had found for ourselves what He would have
us do with those gifts, for, when we sent them to the
Leprosarium from which had come the wooden toys, we
received the following letter:

(Continued on back cover)
Miss Terry—
Praise for evidence of the Lord's working in the hearts of some of the teen-agers in Anand Sadan.
Pray for the Saturday night chapel services, that the Holy Spirit may be able to work in the girls' hearts.
Pray for the work of the Bible Revision Committee, as the work continues slowly. Wisdom and accuracy are essential.

Miss McGregor—
Please pray that the helpers in Sections B and C of the Buds Compounds may have a deeper understanding of all the Lord is asking them to do in the training of babies and pre-schoolers.
Outside children who graduate from Seventh Standard this year will be given New Testaments. Each will be called individually to receive their Testaments, and at that time we want to find out their real relationship to the Lord. Remember these interviews, please.

Miss Siemens—
Please pray for a young boy in Kedgaon village who attends our weekly Sunday School. Though he is very interested, he is afraid to take his stand for Christ. Pray that he may have conviction and courage.
Pray for the Junior Matron in the Fruit Garden B, who recently followed the Lord in the waters of baptism. She loves the work among the children and loves to teach them His Word. Pray that she may remain steadfast.

Miss Dongre—
For the Bethlehem girls, that they may become future leaders and cornerstones.
For the Club girls, and for those of us who lead them, that we may have guidance in building Christian character in each girl.
For the Literacy School, that Christ may enter the hearts of those learning to read and write.

Mr Chowdhari—
Pray for the Bethel families, that they might grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord.
Miss Rohrer—

Praise the Lord for the excellent health of the Blossoms for the past five months.

Pray that needed wisdom be given me in training the Bible class girls to reach children for the Lord. Pray that they will have a real burden for reaching these precious little ones.

Miss Nicholson—

Please pray for the Fruit Garden children. In Section A there are twenty-six of them, nine of eleven years of age. At present they need a good foundation of training in Christian living. The matrons, as always, need infinite patience and wisdom in caring for them.

In Bori, where we go once a week for Sunday School, there is a little girl who seems to be especially interested. Pray that she may be saved.

Miss Bollman—

'I will be with thee.' We plead this promise in the midst of great water shortage.

'Moushie, please, oh please, show us how to make a rose.' Fellowship at our Father's feet as five young women and I use crafts in presenting Jesus Christ.

'We understand you, but you do not speak our Marathi.' Oh that our Lord would remove this hindrance to my usefulness in the villages.

Miss Doerksen—

I do not ask to speak with the tongue of great men and of angels, but I only ask for your prayers for the months that lie ahead when I shall complete the required work of concentrated language study. Pray that God might teach me to speak in words so simple, yet so clear and understandable that the little child and the simplest peasant woman may understand, as I tell them of the Saviour's love and redemption.

Mrs Rebeiro—

The great need in Kalika Bhuvan A, where live our babies under one year of age, is for helpers in the real sense, those who have a love for little, helpless ones. Pray that from among our girls there may be those who will do faithful, loving work for those so in need of constant care.
Mr Rebeiro—

Pray for the supply of a suitable conveyance for hauling and carting.

(Continued from page 5)

Dear Miss Craddock,

Our children have asked me to convey their grateful thanks to the children who so lovingly sent their gifts for them. They were thrilled at receiving them, as they seldom get such nice things. The gift parcels which we receive generally contain articles suitable only for the adults.

I wish to add my own personal thanks for your kind thought in sending them. May the Lord’s richest blessing continuously rest on you and your great work for Him is my prayer.

Yours is His service,

Esther Andersen

(Continued from page 2)

As in school fresh lessons are learned and often new methods of instruction given and also in travelling we go from stage to stage into new scenes and spaces, so we proceed on life’s journey through this new year, taking into it and putting into it what we really are, but we do not go alone, for we have with us the One who said, ‘Lo, I am with you all the days.’

Secretary in America: Miss J. F. Patterson
P.O. Box 415
Philadelphia 5, Pa.

Treasurer in England: Miss E. B. Butler
Flat 4
6 Arundel Avenue
Liverpool 17

Secretary in Australia: Miss M. S. Jones
C/o Mr A. J. Thorp
623 Inkerman Rd.
Caulfield S.E. 7
Victoria

Treasurer in New Zealand: Miss Mary Pascoe
168 Victoria Avenue
Remuera, Auckland, S.E. 2

Treasurer in Scotland: Miss M. Laird
Lynton
Kilmacolm
Renfrewshire

Treasurer in Ireland: Miss M. Rea
‘Bethany’
Ormiston Crescent
Knock, Belfast

Secretary-Treasurer on the Field: Miss J. F. Craddock
Kedgaon, Poona District

PRINTED BY HUGH WARREN AT
THE WESLEY PRESS AND PUBLISHING HOUSE, MYSORE CITY