

ANNUAL REPORT

March, 1929

No. 1

TIDINGS

FROM

A. B. F. M. SOCIETY

IN

BENGAL-ORISSA, INDIA.



Members of Conference and visiting delegates at Annual
Conference, 2nd. Jan. 1929, Balasore

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1929

BENGAL-ORISSA FIELD DIRECTORY

Bhimpore, via Midnapore, Bengal.

Rev. L. C. Kitchen.

Mrs. Kitchen.

Rev. A. A. Berg.

Mrs. Berg.

Midnapore, Bengal.

Rev. H. C. Long.

Mrs. Long.

Miss Ruth Daniels.

Dr. Mary W. Bachelor.

Khargpur, B. N. Ry.

Rev. E. C. Brush.

Mrs. Brush.

Dr. J. H. Oxrieder.

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Rev. C. C. Roadarmel.

Mrs. Roadarmel.

Contai, Bengal.

Vaccant.

Hatigarh, via Jellasore.

Mr. George Ager.

Mrs. Ager.

Balasore, Orissa, B. N. Ry.

Rev. H. I. Frost.

Mrs. Frost.

Miss M. I. Laughlin.

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Mrs. Gilson.

Mr. W. S. Dunn.

Mrs. Dunn.

Hatigarh.

Mr. Wm. Osgood.

Mrs. Wm. Osgood.

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Bengal-Orissa Tidings

Dr. and Mrs. Robbins, Mr. Aldrich and Prof. Robins visited our field from January 3-11. 1926

After visiting the various stations in the Bengal field, they in company with the Bengal missionaries, boarded the, "missionary special," car kindly provided by the B. N. R., Traffic Supt. for our convenience, and all went to Balasore for the Annual Conference.

There we were met by the missionaries and a band of musicians from the church.

While the missionaries were arranging and packing the *luggage* (trunks, boxes, beds, bedding, lunch boxes, etc., etc.) into motor trucks, and the delegates into cars, the band entertained us.

Conference assembled in the Girls' High School building on the morning of January 9.

Owing to Mr. Kitchen's severe illness, he and his wife, also Dr. Mary Bachelor and Mrs. Berg were unable to be present.

Dr. Robbins brought greetings from the Board of Managers. Our missionaries expressed themselves as ready for 100 per cent co-operation with the Judson Fund.

The devotional addresses given by Prof. Robins each morning were very helpful and inspiring.

These helps are keenly appreciated by our missionaries. Opportunities for receiving inspiration are few and far between, in a missionary's life; but we are always expected to have our hearts and minds full of inspiration to give to others.

We have no special problems, except the ever present one of trying to make one man do the work of two men, and one rupee do the work of two rupees.

The decision to reopen the Bible School at Balasore, under Mr. Frost's charge was the most important action taken.

Whatever else fails, we must have preachers and evangelists. Many of those we have will soon be past the age of usefulness. There are very few under 40 years, and our chief concern must be to find and train young men who are consecrated to their purpose to serve the Master.

We are glad of this visit of our Secretary and the Board members. It helps to bind us closer to the home churches and is valuable in bringing about more complete understanding between us and the Board of Managers.

It is hoped that during the year a joint Conference for missionaries and Indian leaders may be held. The purpose of these Conferences will be fellowship and better understanding among all the groups.

BALASORE DISTRICT EVANGELISTIC WORK

REV. NATABAR SINGH.

First, I thank God that I have got time to relate the evangelistic work of our field. I am also thankful to our American friends that we have received our kind Saviour by their kind help.

Our field is all of Balasore district, Nilgiri State and western part of Mayurbhunj State. The population of our field is twelve lacs (12,000,00). Among them are many Santals and other lower caste people, specially live in the States of Nilgiri and Mayurbhunj. In the district of Balasore are found Oriya Hindus, Muslims and some Bengali people.

Among these people, only twenty-four preachers and eleven Bible-women are working for our Saviour. Only two Santal preachers are working among the Santals. Among the twenty-four preachers, twelve are working as pastors of churches.

I am glad to say that now there are thirteen churches in our field. Only one self-supporting church, that is Balasore, other twelve churches are helping a part to their pastor's salary, but the other part of their salary they are paid by our Mission. I hope that two more churches will be established within a short time.

Besides these churches, there are six out-stations. Our preachers are working in the out-stations. We cannot keep more preachers in the out-stations for want of money and want of preachers. I am sorry to say that last year we were bound to deduct six preachers from our staff for want of money.

Except Balasore and Hatigarh the other churches are very poor and few in number of members.

I am glad to say that we have found five missionaries, and three local committees to lead the evangelistic work.

You will be glad to hear that there is a village, Charadiha by name in the south of the Balasore district. A preacher is working there for our Home Mission. The people of Balasore district pay him his salary. A small house has been built there by the subscription of our Annual Meeting.

Our mofussil work begins in the 1st of November, and continues to the end of February. We divide our preachers into three parties. One party works around Hatigarh, and other two parties work in the Balasore district, Nilgiri and Mayurbhunj. Within this time we have visited 200 villages and some markets, and we sold many books (worth Rs. 100) and distributed many tracts.

I am sorry to say that the spiritual condition of the Hindus and Muslims is very sorrowful. They are living in the deep darkness of superstition and ignorance. They believe many things, but one thing is this, they say that God causes us to do evil and good, so we should not try to be good.

The tendency of the lower caste people is toward dancing and drinking, they never think of God. They have lost their minds and their souls. However, I am glad to say that every year some Hindus and

Santals are becoming Christians, and there are some inquirers too. I am glad to say that there is a Librarian named Hrudananda Sahu, who has got a special gift for Muslims, so I hope we will find Muslim converts in a short time.

I think more than forty have been baptized this year, more than twenty have come from Hindus.

Now I am sorry to say that there are many villages which are not yet visited, and the people thereof have not yet heard the Gospel, so I think we need some more honest evangelistic preachers, and some more evangelistic missionaries in our field.

We also need the Bible School to educate our young people to preach the Gospel.

I understand that in our country the preaching of the Gospel depends upon the churches, but I regret to say that our churches are not yet fully capable to carry such burden.

I am very sorry to say that 95 per cent persons in this district take opium. Its sale is far greater than all the rest of India.

Please pray for these people. May God save my native land.

SALGODIA

We thank our Heavenly Father for sparing us another year to work in His vineyard.

Though small-pox and cholera were very bad in the surrounding villages, and we heard of numerous deaths, the Angel of the Lord was with His little flock and guarded it from all harm. They have experienced as never before His precious words, "Lo, I am with you always."

The members of the church are trying to live clean and honorable lives. Two have been punished for misconduct. They have confessed their sins, and seem to be very penitent. We are praying that the Holy Spirit may make these very ones useful in His service, to be the means of bringing a number of their companions into His glorious Kingdom.

Our new church building, we hope, will be finished before another rainy season sets in. This house will be a better place of worship than the old mud-wall house in which we have had to hold our service for years. We shall have plenty of room to have all our Sunday School classes in one place, and not crowded.

We cannot thank Him and our friends enough for the help we are receiving to carry on this work to a finish.

The Sunday School, and the day schools are showing real progress. We have a great opportunity in lending out religious books and tracts to read; so with the seed sown mingled with our prayers, we hope it won't be long before we shall witness many people renouncing their idol worship to serve the only true and living God.

The women's meetings are kept up regularly. We are glad to see signs of improvement among the women. Their clothes are clean, character clean, so is their conversation. All these good qualities must make a real good impression on their Hindu and Santal associates.

A number of them went to the Women's Conference at Balasore, and have been blessed, especially those who were baptized not very long ago. They have not had an opportunity of attending any large gathering, and meeting so many earnest Christian women, they have truly seen a vision, which we hope will strengthen them in their daily lives, with the Holy Spirit's help and guidance.

Domsahi Church.

This is a growing church, numerically and spiritually. Three persons were baptized during the rains, and last month a day after Christmas, we were there with our brother Rev. Gangadhar Rath, who baptized seven people, four men and three women, Santals. They were examined thoroughly, and we have no doubt that they were earnest. They are not poor, but well-to-do. They have lands, cattle, good large houses, so they did not expect help from us. They were really desiring to cast off their old ways and to serve Him, Who alone can give pardon, peace and joy.

Two more men were baptized a month ago in Mohonpore, and

many more are receiving instructions. We are hoping and praying that a good many in this village will come out on the Lord's side before the end of the year.

One of the men who was baptized, wishes to study in the Bible School. I do thank our Lord and Master for blessing us in His work here.

I remember the time when I came here some years ago. These people were frightened and would run away from me. Now, they are friendly and come to me for advice when they are in trouble. I want you all to remember this work in your prayers. We are hoping that we shall see hundreds coming in to serve Him, before we are called away to be with Him in Glory.

In closing, I want to mention the preachers and Gangadhar Rath, who have been most faithful and earnest in this work. Especially Gangadhar Rath, who has come to my aid without any excuse, though he was very busy in his own station.

GEORGE AGER.

MIDNAPORE ANNUAL REPORT

There is not a great deal to say about the general work in Midnapore, as the missionary-in-charge was resident in Bhimpur practically the whole year. It goes without saying that no evangelistic work was done. One piece of work in connection with the church was completed, namely, the acceptance of a new constitution. It is hoped that this will make for smoother running of the church, but what the church really needs is not so much a new constitution as a new birth. For years there has been a large proportion of worldly minded members in the church, and these people overturn almost every good thing which is begun.

As the Bible School was not in session, Mr. Biswas has been engaged in evangelistic work, and has spent a good deal of time with the Mohammedans in the town. He has also been looking after the churches in the area formerly covered by Mr. Howard, working in this territory,

for the Home Mission Board. He also looked after the two schools which were added to Midnapore station work, when Mr. Howard went away.

Mr. Sircar has faithfully carried on the work for the students and educated men of the town in the Y. M. C. A. Hall. Besides games and Bible classes, there have been addresses and lectures at frequent intervals, and these have, as a rule, been well attended.

Too much emphasis cannot be laid upon the fact that the Midnapore work has for years been sacrificed to the work of the Mission at large. As the churches in America do not seem willing to support any increase in Mission work, the only solution seems to be to unite with some other Missions in the training of our preachers. We wish that the great needs and opportunities of India might be laid upon the hearts of the people in the Home churches in a new and real way, and that the work might again go forward.

H. C. LONG.

ANNUAL REPORT, BHIMPORE

Girls' School and Lace and Sewing Class.

We have had varied fortunes in Bhimpore, so far as the Girl's M. V. School is concerned. When Miss Knapp left on furlough in April, the Secretaryship fell to me, as there was no one else to take it. But when the children and I left for school in July, the English Baptist Mission graciously loaned Miss P. K. Mandal to us for four months, and she was a missionary in the truest sense of the word, supervising the school and lace class, and entering into the life of the community. When the Kitchens returned from furlough in October, they were sorry that Miss Mandal could not stay on to help with the women's work another year. We are pleased to have so many of our own girls come back to us from training class to teach in the school. With one exception this year our staff has been composed of our own school alumnae. On Easter Sunday, the day before Miss Knapp left for America, she had the joy of seeing a group of our older school girls follow our Lord in baptism. I

wish the Home friends might have seen the lines of young and old, marching out to the tank, singing hymns of praise as they went along.

The lace class has done faithful work all through the year. Of the twenty-one on the roll, two have been school girls working after school hours, and the others on full-time making lace or sewing to earn an honest living. In this land where there are so few kinds of work that a young woman can safely do outside the home, the lace and sewing work serves a purpose that is most worthwhile and necessary.

M. R. LONG.

General Work.

In Bhimpore station the routine work has gone on practically as usual.

In the new boys' high school the upper classes are of necessity small at present. Out of the six who went up for the Government Matriculation Examination, three passed, two Bengalis and one a Santal, and the latter, we were pleased to hear, passed in the first division. Mr. Kitchen on his return from furlough this autumn is considering the matter of discontinuing the upper classes and carrying the school on as a junior high school. Personally I feel that we should not abandon the senior high school till we have something adequate to take its place. (1). The Santals are, I believe, happy about it, and it helps to remove the inferiority complex. (2). It is fitting leaders for the work. At present they may not be as obtrusive as we would like, but some will in time be real leaders. (3). The high school is a means of reaching some Bengalis. This year we have had the joy of baptizing two such young men. On the other hand, I appreciate that more vocational training, especially suited to village life, would better meet the needs of the majority.

Our work done in the 78 village schools for Santals is surely appreciated by Government, as is evidenced by the special increase of Rs. 1,402/- for the present year which will probably be repeated the coming year. There is also a promise of Rs. 4,000/- from Government for Santal education in Midnapore district, so as new schools are

organized, very little Mission expenditure will need to be made except for inspection.

With the sweet comes the bitter. In Bhimpore station we find a number of our prominent men engaged in law suits, so there is occasion for anxiety and great need of prayer. The crux of the matter seems to be that neither side is willing to confess a fault. As a by-product the local Co-operative Society was nearly wrecked, but now adjustments have been made so that it will continue. All this, together with poor attendance at church, calls for serious thought and prayer.

My chief joy throughout the year has been the class of inquirers which met one evening a week in my office to study the word and to engage in prayer. We have spent many rich hours together, and as a result four young men have confessed Jesus as Saviour and followed Him in baptism. There are others, who are seriously considering the step for whom we should daily pray. We feel that this personal work is the most vital part of the school and station work.

H. C. LONG.

ANNUAL REPORT OF H. I. FROST, BALASORE, ORISSA, 1928

The Church. Together with our District Evangelist, Rev. Natobar Singh, I have shared, or tried to share, the responsibility for the seven churches, and one out-station where there is no church, scattered over the district from Jellasore in the north to Chandbali in the south. One of these, that at Bhudrak, was newly organized in April with thirteen charter members, thus fulfilling the hope expressed in our last annual report. It was a great joy to participate in the services held at that time. We had a church there formerly, but in the town, and made up almost entirely of the Mission workers. This new church has a strong nucleus of railway employees earning fair wages, and promises to be permanent. Later in the year a man was baptized from Hinduism and added to the church. Four older girls from Christian families were also baptized bringing the membership up to eighteen.

Although I was able to visit the several churches, but seldom, and some not at all, yet I tried to help by Conferences with the pastors when they came in on the first of each month for their salaries. We had several fine meetings together. In addition the little handful of preachers here at head-quarters met every Thursday morning for prayer and Bible study during a good part of the year.

As usual I have tried to support our Balasore Pastor, Rev. Probooth Nayak, in his faithful ministry in this large church of over 300 members. There has been a large measure of harmony in the church during the year. A feature of great promise is the increased interest and leadership on the part of several well-educated young men. As the year closed, there was a manifest spirit on the part of many to consider their responsibility to the church more seriously, and a longing for spiritual revival which should bear fruit during the coming year. The number of baptisms was twenty-nine. Of these several were from Hinduism or born in Hinduism. The majority were students in our schools. Increasing participation in Christian work by our young people has been a feature of the year. Some of the C. E. Societies have maintained Sunday Schools, other young men have helped in bazaar and market preaching.

The Christian endeavor movement is strong in the district. There are twenty Societies and about 400 members. The Balasore C. E. Union and S. S. entertained the Orissa C. E. Union and S. S. Union for their annual meetings which were held here in December.

Much good work is being done in our Sunday Schools. The Cradle Roll Department, a good-sized one, with frequent additions, is looked after by Mrs. Gilson. The Beginners' and Girls' Primary and Junior Departments are held in the Girls' Middle School and supervised by Miss Garnett. A Boys' Primary Department is held on the veranda of our bungalow while the remaining higher classes meet in the High School building. On a recent Promotion Day over 200 children gathered at the church. A number were from the Hindu Sunday Schools of which there are five, two conducted by C. E. Societies, and three by individuals. The Sunday School teachers and workers meet about once in two months to talk over their problems. These meetings are proving very valuable.

The High School. The High School has maintained an average of 185 on the rolls. One of the classes in the Middle Department had to be duplicated. Six of the staff besides myself are Christian, out of a total of thirteen. Two Christian teachers are away for study, so the proportion of Christians will be higher when they return. The Matriculation results were fair. Ten boys passed. A manual training class was started during the year and was supervised by Mr. Gilson, and taught by two Industrial School teachers. Morning worship and regular Bible instruction in every class were maintained. One teacher took Scoutmaster's training and something was done with the Scouts. The Government grant was Rs. 355/- per month. In addition a grant to cover the amount of taxes on the school buildings was received. The Government Inspector's remarks were very complimentary.

The Franklin Eesley Memorial Hostel was in use for the second full year. It does not give room for all who would like to remain there. Hindu and Christian boys lived and studied together under one roof, only having separate cooking. The most encouraging feature of the school work is the increase in the number of Christian boys. There were 52 of them in the High School alone, besides over thirty full-time boys in the Industrial School. Fifteen years ago, there were about 50 in the two schools together. The number of boys from the local Christian community as well as the number of boarders who are paying in whole, or in part, has greatly increased.

General. We were privileged to spend about three weeks of November in camp with our preachers. The daily program was quite strenuous. Every morning and afternoon we went to some village and together, or by twos, talked and preached to any who would listen—and most did listen, although some were too busy with their harvesting. Some afternoons there were markets three, five or six miles away. We walked to these. Nearly every evening we went to some village, taking our baby, talking-machine and a violin. We had groups of from twenty to fifty who sat for an hour or two and listened while we played and sang Christian songs, and explained the message. Such systematic work in

place after place cannot fail of result. I must pay tribute to the leader, Rev. Natabar Singh. This brother has a cataract in the left eye making it nearly useless, while the right eye was operated on for cataract in November, 1927. His years of strenuous work for his Master have told much on his physical powers, yet he went every time, even stumbling along at night through jungle paths, or over the embankments of the rice fields, and through the streamlets that were still running, by the pale moonlight or dim light of a lantern. The burden of his unsaved countrymen is upon him. He is one, who cannot be held back from the work of preaching the Gospel. On January 2nd, when it came time to start out again after the Christmas recess, it was found that all the rest but he and one other preacher were detained for one cause or another. He had been suffering terribly from a boil in the armpit all through the Christmas week, yet he went along to the first stop, in that condition helped to raise the tents and start the work. The boil burst and yet he stayed. Only when after a week or more another boil developed on his knee, making walking impossible, did he come home for treatment. But he was off again before he had got over the effects of this. There are other faithful evangelists, but none so worthy to lead as he. The need of giving the Gospel to the multitudes of this district is overwhelming, and yet so many of the preachers are now located with churches that the only way we can get together two preaching parties is to take some away from their church for a while. Three young men finished another year of Bible School, but of these two have still one year, and one, two years more. Other young men are willing. The churches can take an increasing share of responsibility for their pastor's salaries, but so many are made up of poor cultivators that they cannot carry it all. God invites you, Baptist friends of America, to make it possible to appoint additional workers to evangelize the unreached masses of this densely populated district. Please do not forget that *no other* work is being done for this million people than that which we do.

H. I. FROST.

ANNUAL REPORT

Although I consider the work of my home most important, and was detained in the hills on account of Robert's severe illness, I have tried to do my little bit besides. I fear it is but little.

The Bible-women come to me each morning before going to their work for just a short message from God's Word and for prayer. They take turns in bringing only a verse or two which they can carry with them. I want to say that I have been most pleased and myself spiritually helped by their selection and appreciation of verses. When I first took over the work and suggested the plan, I thought it would be followed for only a short time, but we are still finding such worthwhile verses ourselves that no one wishes to give up this plan for any set list of Bible readings. These four Bible-women visit an average of 400 people monthly. They find Hindu women, who are secretly accepting Christ.

In November, I spent ten days in mofussil near Kursudhia and Rangiam. Two of the Bible-women, my little daughter and I visited as many Hindu houses as possible, going out morning and afternoon. I was impressed more than ever with the need of Christianity in such homes.

Both the Bible-women and zenana teachers came to me twice weekly for Bible Study class during March and April, and after I returned from the hills in October, until they were ready for their Bible examination which I gave in November. Two or three other missionaries helped out by taking the class several times while I was away. I found this class of twenty women much interested and they did very well in the examination, one getting 97 and one 93 for their grades.

May we look into one of the homes visited by our Bible-women? Here are a Hindu mother and father. Their oldest son became a Christian six years ago. Being persecuted, he was obliged to leave home. He married a Christian girl. Last week, Gangadhar took his wife home for the first time. One of our Christian woman, Mr. Frost and I accompanied them. At first sight the mother-in-law cried, saying, "I'll not receive her," and went into the house. The young wife wept,

too. We followed the mother-in-law into the house, and after some time brought the two together. The mother-in-law asked the daughter-in-law "Why have you come?" We told her to say, "To try to make one family." She and her friends said, "That is impossible." However, they urged her to stay for a few days, but the husband did not consent. I said that they might come with her as far as the motor car, although one old woman objected, thinking I was asking them to leave their Hindu home and become Christian. But this they did—walked with the daughter-in-law quarter of a mile to the place where we had left the car. In doing this, I believe, they took one step nearer Christianity. Ganga says that he is going to bring the two sisters to stay with them next month. We pray that the whole family will accept Christ.

The Y. W. C. A., is still doing active work in Balasore..

They raised twenty-three rupees by their own efforts, for the poor last year. We have just had a social and re-election of officers. My assistant and Vice-President were such strong leaders that they kept the society alive while I was away. I consider the Y. W. C. A., a strong force in our Christian community.

Great credit should be given to our educated young women, who planned and made successful the Women's Conference of Bengal and Orissa held in Balasore in October. A large number of delegates were entertained at the school building, where cooking arrangements were carried on by the women themselves, as well as the unusually good program which they arranged and in which they participated.

Pray for the work of our Balasore women.

MABEL S. FROST.

SINCLAIR ORPHANAGE

Since Miss Gowen left for furlough last February, I have had charge of Sinclair Orphanage and the Widows' Home. From the first I enjoyed assuming these responsibilities, but now I know I am more satisfied and happy in my work than at first. This is due to the fact that

the girls know me better and I have a clearer understanding of them as well as of the language and Indian ways, so I feel more able to meet difficulties and solve problems, than I was previously able to do.

In the Orphanage and Boarding combined I have some sixty-five girls of whom about eighteen pay either full or part board. All these girls have had a chance in school, and most of them at present attend school. They begin each day with a half-hour devotion period, then after their light meal of page-bhat, they have two hours for study before they bathe, and eat their morning meal of rice and curry, ready to go to school at ten o'clock. Again in the evening a study class is conducted from 6-30 to 8-00 o'clock.

One valuable addition that has been made to the Orphanage during this past year is a new 600 candle-power, kerosene power lamp. Due to a great deal of eye trouble among the girls, I keenly felt the need of a better light for study class. The girls much appreciate this new lamp and are able to study without eye-strain.

The school girls are given every encouragement to utilize their opportunities for a Christian education. But it seems that each year a few of the girls fail either from disinclination or incapacity. This year five are having to quit school. These girls and others who have previously failed, we call our house girls. Some of them attend the sewing class, and some are given definite duties about the Orphanage to do. I try to keep them busy for I know they are better off if their hands are not idle.

The girls do all their own house-work and cooking. They do this work in turn, and because of the large number of girls, the turn of each does not come very often. I feel that this part of their home-life is very valuable to them, because all their work is carefully supervised by the matron and her assistant, and in this way the girls are taught to be clean and thorough in their house-keeping. If a girl slights her work she is required to do it the next time out of her turn.

I am very happy to have Sister at present as my matron, although I have not been able to have her for nearly six months of the time since last February. During the time she could not be here, the burden of things fell quite heavily upon me, because the new assistant matron to

whom I temporarily gave the matron's work, proved very disappointing, especially in her discipline abilities. But there is always a right way out when the crucial hour arrives. So after much thought and prayer it seemed best that Chundri, a capable woman, who lives in the Orphanage and who is the head zanana teacher, should temporarily serve as matron, and still continue her zanana work two days a week. This arrangement was made, and Chundri did good work for ten weeks, or until Sister's return on October 13th. Sarala is my new assistant matron and she, too, is quite efficient; so the routine of the Orphanage and Boarding is running very smoothly now, and has been for some time.

Another Orphanage improvement is that one long room where twenty girls sleep, has been screened in mosquito proof. I felt almost compelled to do this, for a Government Medical Inspector, through blood tests, found eight girls with philarial germs. To make it safe for the other girls, we were requested to sleep these girls in a screened room or under nets. I am quite delighted with this improvement, for I know it has already saved us from some malaria sickness and will save us from much more.

Pulla is my practical nurse, and has charge of the sick-room day and night. I visit the sick girls and give the nurse all necessary instructions regarding their medicine, food and treatment, and she very carefully carries out all these instructions. There have been some weeks during this past year when our sick-room has been empty, yet one or two people are usually there with fever. Once during the year, there were thirty girls down with fever at one time, but in no case was it very severe.

We have been saddened by only one death from the compound since I have had charge, and that was Harmonie, a school teacher, who died at the Government Hospital from pernicious ænemia.

Since last February, two of my girls have professed Christ and followed Him in baptism. I am hoping and praying for others to do likewise *this* year. At all times the girls here are living and mingling together in a Christian atmosphere. They open and close the day with prayer, as well as having grace-prayers at meal time, and their individual

worship alone with God, which I know many of them have. The school teachers together with the zanana and Bible teachers, who live in the Orphanage make use of their opportunities, at the morning devotions, by giving most helpful Christian teaching to the girls. It is my prayer and aim to help these girls to grow into true Christian womanhood. Then at the beginning of this new year I have some more aims for them, chief among which is that each girl will think of the Orphanage as her home and will do her utmost to make it a place where there is love, kindness, and mutual helpfulness.

January 12, 1929.

GLADYS GARNETT,
Superintendent.

THE WIDOWS' HOME

During the past eleven months there have been five people living in the Widows' Home, but only one of these is a widow. This widow is Jhori. She has been there for many years and is very faithful. Two zanana teachers have been there, one of whom is acting matron. One girl lived there, who attended the sewing class, but since the Christmas vacation she has not returned. Also one of my orphan girls has a room there. Her mind is very unbalanced since a severe attack of malignant malaria, more than a year ago; so for this reason I feel it necessary to keep her apart from the other girls.

The people at the Widows' Home vary in number from time to time. Just now they number four,—*two* of whom are widows. A widow is given a room and fourteen annas a week. With this she is able to get enough to eat, and she does all her own cooking and buying.

The Widows' Home was established in the first place as a home for Hindu child widows, and I hope that in the future it may be more useful in this respect than it seems to have been in recent years.

January 12, 1929.

GLADYS GARNETT,
Superintendent.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1928

MARY I. LAUGHLIN, BALASORE.

The year 1928 opened with a rush, and has kept me rushing most of the time since. The first two weeks of the new year saw the Mission Girls' M. E. School opened, and a new headmistress installed, the Annual Mission Conference held in Balasore, the Jubilee Girls' High School building opened and dedicated, and the Prize-giving Exercises for the M. E. School over. The opportune visit of H. E. Sir Hugh Stephenson and Lady Stephenson to Balasore during the last days of the Conference enabled us to have Lady Stephenson open the new building for us. Rev. Witter of South India, our Conference guest, gave the dedicatory prayer, and I, as Secretary of the school, gave a brief history of the High School from its inception. Always, in speaking of this occasion, I pay tribute to the helpfulness of the teaching staff, for they were unceasing in their efforts to make it a success. The prize-giving, also, at which Lady Stephenson gave away the prizes, could never have been done without their help.

Miss Gowen left for America in February, and with her going a portion of her work devolved upon my shoulders. I found myself with the zanana work and the girls' industrial work in addition to the schools. I was never able to do as much with the zanana work as I wanted to do, for I was teaching three classes every day in the High School, and too many absences from class-work is not fair to the children. I had to content myself with meeting the teachers together occasionally, and discussions of their work with the head teacher, Mrs. Chundri Das. She went with them every day, first with one and then with another, checking up on teacher and pupils, and giving help or suggestions where needed. There were occasional difficulties to be settled, which might never have arisen had I been with them more, but on the whole the work seemed to progress about as usual.

The industrial class took more time and attention, but I was able to give that in the mornings, and before going down to the school. I have managed to keep all the girls who really needed work busy, but

have given very little attention to marketing the product. Mrs. Brush and Mrs. Roadarmel have given invaluable service in that direction, and have sent in numerous orders during the year. Several of the girls from the class were married just before Miss Gowen left, and the numbers have been reduced a time or two since for the same reason. But the end of the school year, with the inevitable failures, have brought the numbers up again, until I have to rack my brain to plan work for them all.

These are the regular, routine things which have had to have attention day by day. It is almost impossible to take account of the extras,—the unforeseen calls upon one's time and strength which, after all, make up a large part of our work, and take much of our energy. There have been several trips away from Balasore on Conference Committee business. There have been a great many problems concerning individuals to deal with. Some have brought disappointments. But one of the extra things which gave me only joy was the Teachers' Bible class, in Church History. I enjoyed my study with them, and their examination proved that it had been profitable for them as well.

Another enjoyable "extra" has been my work with the Girl Guides. We have not accomplished quite as much Guide work as I could have wished, but we have had good fellowship together, and I have felt that it has been my best method of becoming well-acquainted with them. I am sure that many of the girls have developed greater strength of character during the year, and at least part of it may be traceable to their Association with the Guides.

It is with a feeling of real relief that I look forward to a year of fewer responsibilities. I have enjoyed keenly the visits which I have made with the zanana teachers since Miss Cronkite's return. I hope to strengthen the evangelistic side of their work, and perhaps find other ways of helping them too.

REPORT FOR JANUARY, 1929

By ETHEL CRONKITE.

After having had a most happy and profitable furlough in America, I arrived on the field, October, 28th. Soon following, the Girls' School at Balasore was given over into my hands. Even though I have met many discouraging things about the school work, still I am glad to be here trying to raise the standard of the institution.

Several changes have been made in the staff. A Bengali teacher, whose home is in our Mission field near Bhimpore, has been secured for the Bengali section of the school. She has passed a Vernacular High School in Calcutta and is also Senior Trained. Reducing the number of the staff by two of the Junior Trained Teachers, it is making it possible to meet all the increments and still have a little left to help make up part of the deficit which occurs every month. An English teacher, who has passed at least I.A. (Intermediate Arts) is badly needed; because it means that both the Headmistress and I have to teach too many periods, and thus neglect helping and supervising the rest of the school.

One of the interesting things I have done in connection with school work has been calling in the homes. Besides calling on most of the Christian families,—I have been in many Hindu homes, both Bengali and Oriya, looking for new pupils for this year. Now the new school year has started, I am hoping and praying that it will be a most prosperous one, not only in a secular way; but that we all, teachers and children, may grow in a spiritual way.

BOYS' INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, BALASORE

Annual Report to Mission Conference, January, 1929.

The year 1928 has been one of considerable improvement in the class work of the school. The sixth standard class which was started at the first of the year was continued throughout the year with an average attendance of five students. With the beginning of the new year we are starting a seventh standard class with six boys. The greatest improve-

ment shown in any one class or subject is that of the drawing classes which have been in charge of Babu Pranaballav Singh during the year.

There have been numerous changes in the staff during the year, four teachers having resigned or been dismissed and three new ones having been appointed in their places. The average scholastic standing of the instructors and the efficiency of instruction have thus been much improved. The present staff consists of eleven teachers besides the principal, of whom eight are Christian and three non-Christian. The most important addition to the staff during the year was that of Babu Amarendra Jana, I.Sc., who was appointed to the post of mathematics teacher in September. He is the first teacher with qualifications above the matriculation standard to be appointed to the Industrial School staff.

There has also been some progress in the systematizing of the class work in the shop and in separating it so far as possible from the purely commercial work, while still making a commercially saleable product in all classes.

The religious atmosphere of the school has continued to be good and the number of Christian students has increased at each new time of registration. The present registration showing 35 Christian and 30 Hindus, making the Christian students in the majority for the first time. Four boys were baptized at last Easter time, and others are desiring to be baptized, but have not yet been accepted by the Church Committee. Some of the Hindu boys and mistrys seem to be almost on the point of breaking away from the many ties that bind and being baptized and one of them has actually made the decision, but his baptism has been delayed because he is trying to win over the rest of his family to come with him rather than making an open break with them and being driven out from his home and inheritance.

The financial situation has not improved any during the year, although there seemed to be some gain in the first and last quarters. There was heavy loss in the two summer quarters because of very dull business conditions and unusual heavy expenses for repairs and replacements of machinery and tools. It now seems apparent to us that the shop production cannot be expected to bear the full costs of maintenance,

and that if we are to continue operation of the plant as at present it will be necessary to increase the Mission's appropriation to the school.

JOHN G. GILSON,
Principal.

REPORT TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

(Jan. 9-12, 1929).

DEAR FELLOW-WORKERS,

On November 8th the Reference Committee committed to the undersigned the charge of evangelistic work among our Santal churches, and this was to be in effect from November 1st. Ever since, I have been trying my best to make up for this eight days, and on the last day of the year I made a thirty mile trip on my bike, but even so I have not yet been able to make up for the time the Reference Committee put me in arrears.

Though not officially appointed to do any definite work before that date, except the Boarding charge, I tried to do some other little things in connection with language study.

During the early part of the year I tried to get some of the big Christian boys from the Boarding interested in conducting a Sunday School in a heathen Santal village, two miles west of Bhimpore. We made several successful visits, and the people welcomed us gladly. During the rains, however, these visits were discontinued, and since, owing to our stay in Khargpur, school vacations etc., have not been resumed. I had hopes of interesting our boys in this important work, and that they would once get the thrill and joy of Christian service, then they would gladly carry on whether the missionary goes with or not.

During the first three months of the year, Gobinda Murmu was stationed at Bhimpore, and with him I visited quite a few neighboring villages, distributing tracts, offering Scriptures and practising Santali in conversation with ignorant villages. Together with the Bhimpore pastor, Champai Murmu and Gobinda, while he was with us, I tried to visit as

many market places as possible in the neighborhood of Bhimpore. The demand for God's Word at these various places has been encouraging. Once while at the Lalgarh market I offered a whole Bible to an intelligent and interested looking Bengali gentleman. He asked the price and disappeared. Shortly afterwards he returned with the price, took the book and said he was buying it for the Raja's library. While camping at Chitrapator we visited several markets. One morning we were going to a morning market. The preachers insisted on having their noon meal before we went, for, said Champai, "It is hard work at the market." As a result it was about 2 o'clock before we got off. The pastor's wife said that we would not now find any people there, as it was a morning market. Consequently, I took only twenty Gospels along. But though we met crowds of people who were leaving the market, we were pleasantly surprised to find multitudes still there. After preaching and singing we offered the Scriptures, and in less than five minutes all our Gospels were sold. We promised to return the following week with more books, and that time we sold 69 Gospels in four languages, including Hindi, Bengali, Oriya and Santali. It has been my privilege during the year, together with native helpers, to sell 436 Gospels, thirteen New Testaments and five Bibles. About 2,500 tracts have been distributed. I have also given away Scriptures to some worthy people, especially poor students from our schools, meeting these expenditures from a small fund given by friends at Home.

After being placed in charge of the work I have made two visits to the Dampara field. The second time two believers were baptized, man and wife. These came from heathenism, and are the first fruits of a new section in that field, where much interest is evidenced.

Because of that interest, our Committee has decided to place a preacher among them, and Gobinda Murmu was transferred from Chukripara to Bodi. There are several inquirers, and though the people have not yet definitely decided nor been baptized, they are working for the kingdom. Some of them asked me to leave some tracts and Gospels with them which they might distribute among their friends until our next visit, then, they said, "Perhaps others will also be ready."

We also camped at Chitrapator from Dec. 4 to Dec. 16. At that time I had Champai Murmu along and two Bible-women from Bhimpore. Mrs. Berg and the babies also enjoyed camp with us for nine days. While there we visited many neighboring villages and markets. A couple encouraging features of the work in that place are, that two non-Christian village schools, one Hindu and one Santal, have asked the pastor to come over and give some Christian instruction. The Santal school, at least, should offer some excellent opportunities, and we hope before long to hold regular services there. It is about two miles away from the church. The last Sunday in camp two believers were baptized.

I also have made one visit to Ulda, where we have a small church. And the last Sunday of the year I visited Chainasole, where a young woman trained for teaching, asked for baptism, was baptized and added to the band of believers in that place.

As near as I can ascertain, the total number of baptisms on the Santal field, not counting Bhimpore and Manikura, is 33. At Bhimpore only, twenty-one have been baptized. The former number does not seem large, among five organized churches, but when we realize that at the beginning of the year the total membership was only in the neighborhood of 130, then it is apparent that the increase has been nearly 25%. The success of the work during the year is due, next to God's power and guidance, to the untiring efforts of Dr. Oxrieder, who has spent a lot of time in camp among these people, encouraging and inspiring the Christians, and especially the preachers.

There are many encouraging features for the future, one of them being the Reform Movement among the Santals in Midnapore and other districts. We hope that it will continue to draw into it the masses of Santal people and turn them in the direction from which they shall be able to see that their only hope of deliverance is in Jesus Christ, the Son of God and the Saviour of mankind.

At the meeting of the Jhargram Committee held in December, several decisions were made in regard to the work, which might be of interest to the Conference. Among them were the following:—

- (1) Every Sunday at the preaching service, an offering will be received, whether in money or kind, in order that the people may realize that giving is a part of the worship.
- (2) Every preacher will be required to begin his sermon preparation on Monday, and during the week notes and comments should be written; the final sermon outline should be written on Saturday; these are to be kept in a book, which the missionary or Chairman of the Committee may examine from time to time.
- (3) Two delegates will be appointed by the churches from among the preachers to attend the All-Santal Christian Convention to be held in Bamdah in March.
- (4) All the preachers are encouraged to subscribe to the religious Santal monthly "Pera Hor," and practically all have done so.

We are very happy to think of the possibility to be more "among the churches" as the Jhargram rest-house is completed. It should increase the possibilities of the Santal missionary about 50%. We hope, with the strength God will give us, to utilize all these opportunities for the Kingdom of God.

We greatly rejoiced at the thought of the return of Rev. Kitchen and family to Bhimpore and our midst. For his work is such that he may justly be called Santal missionary as well. This joy and hope has been somewhat overcast with gloom since their arrival, as Mr. Kitchen has already had two attacks of serious illness and fever, the second from which he has not yet recovered. Regarding his present condition, it seems that some arrangements need to be made to relieve him of as many burdens and duties as possible.

With deep gratitude to God for health and strength, and for the glorious privilege of being in partnership with God and co-workers with Christ and one another in the proclamation of His Gospel, His love and His will, we are entering this new year with faith and confidence that God will bless all our consecrated and united efforts.

Yours in Christ,
AUGUST A. BERG.

Bhimpore, Jan. 9, 1929.

BHIMPORE CHRISTIAN BOARDINGS

Whoever has the boardings at Bhimpore, be it Missahib or sahib and memsahib, need never feel lonely as fifty-five to sixty girls and boys will keep any one busy. Their needs vary from an application of Iodine to the more difficult problems of discipline and the worries connected with severe illnesses. To do justice to the work, a missionary's time could be devoted entirely to the boardings, but this has never been possible at Bhimpore.

Ours was the privilege of having charge from the time of Miss Knapp's departure in April until November, when the Kitchens again took over the work.

An epidemic of measles swept over our community the first of the year and the boarding children did not escape. Some of them were very ill. A sick-room is needed in the girls home as it is a big risk to have sick folks and well in one room, even if that room is large and airy.

In the boy's boarding this year there will be one boy who last year took *derje* training at Midnapore. For his board he will work with the boy's sewing class. Living with the girls we have two girls who support themselves by sewing, one teacher and one Bible-woman. One of our boarding girls leaves this year to take teachers training in Calcutta. Two of our number were married in January last year.

Easter Sunday there was joy when two of the girls were baptized, and now at Christmas time six girls and three boys followed Christ in baptism. May the Lord bless these young lives.

Christmas time was a very happy occasion. We divided up, the Kitchens planning for the boys and we for the girls. Several boxes had arrived from churches in the homeland, which added to the joy. I noticed especially a little Dompara girl, who comes from a home, the poorest of the poor. How her eyes did shine! Her necklace and doll had been bought in Woolworths but to her they were treasures, and she beamed with happiness.

Our Santal people are beginning to reach out for education. Now

at the beginning of the year there are thirty-two in the boy's boarding which is the capacity number. Including the four elder girls, who make the boarding their home, the girls number thirty. Others have asked for admission. Let us thank God for these young Santals, who are learning to read and write. Our Scripture is a mystery to many of our Santal people as so few of them are able to read, but these boys and girls can go back to their homes and teach others the way of life.

Let us pray for Mr. and Mrs. Kitchen a blessed year of service. There will always be problems and discouragements in all lines of work but there is also the joys and encouragements which we find in the Master's work.

RUTH BERG.

REPORT FOR 1928

Girls' High School, Midnapore.

Last year I gave quite a detailed report for our school, but this year I shall mention chiefly the points of difference from last year. Our monthly expenditures have averaged Rs. 796, as against Rs. 637 for 1927; Our income has been Govt. Grant Rs. 250, District Board Rs. 50, Fees Rs. 217, Subscriptions locally, Rs. 50, and Mission Rs. 135 besides the income from the Phillips Fund, which I have added at the rate of Rs. 40 a month since August. This makes the total income average Rs. 742 or Rs. 54 less than the expenditure. At the beginning of the year there was a balance but now a deficit of Rs. 120.

We have had ten teachers on the staff, one more than in 1927. Of these one is the Sanskrit Master, an M.A., and two are B.A.'s., one an I.A., two Senior Trained, three Junior Trained and one untrained. Miss Sircar, Headmistress, who left to take training in July, expects to return to the school in May. Her absence has been a loss, but we believe it will be a gain in the end. Miss Roy, who came to fill in the ten months of her absence, has proven more than satisfactory so we are pleased that she now wishes to become a permanent member of our staff as second

mistress. As only three of our staff are from Midnapore and the seven others from other places, our situation is different from many other institutions and evidence of loyalty and of a desire to be permanently on the staff is an important asset for us.

Dr. Bachelor has continued as medical examiner of our students, and one examination was conducted in February. Our teachers' monthly prayer-meetings have been held regularly and have been attended by a deeper spiritual atmosphere than ever before.

We have moved from the Phillips Bungalow to the Bible School which is a more satisfactory building, but not adequate. Of course, we expect this to be only temporary till we move into a new Girls' High School building. The addition to our teachers' quarters which was proposed a year ago has been built, though the funds were insufficient. Further additions are planned in order to put all our teachers in one building and leave room enough for other Mission workers in the other quarters.

The School Managing Committee is the same with the exception of one member. Mr. S. K. Sen, the representative of Christian guardians died in April, and in June the guardians elected Rev. J. A. L. Sing to take his place. This makes three Hindus and six Christians including the Headmistress on the Committee.

The number of students has slightly increased, reaching 110, which, however, is not more than the number in 1926. The number in H. S. increased from 8 to 12. One candidate appeared last March in the Matriculation examination, but failed. One will appear this year. More than half our students are Hindu, and I believe such contacts are stimulating to the Christian girls. We are glad to have this opportunity of preaching Christ among the Hindu girls. The loyalty of the girls to our school is a joy. They said to one of the teachers in speaking of some resigning, "You teachers must be very hard hearted, how can you bear to leave this school? We can't." The fact that nearly every girl in school enters entirely by choice and has the opportunity to go elsewhere, if she chooses, very few being sent or paid for by the Mission, contributes to this loyalty.

In August the Provincial Commissioner of Girl Guides visited our Company and enrolled them as Tenderfoots. They are enthusiastically going on with the work. Our cooking class work has been improved. We by moving, have acquired a "cook-house." For annual examination each girl cooked separately, and the teachers all had the task of judging the results. They needed no dinner that night after eating some of each lot. Even the poorest was not bad. This year for the first time, the girls made a garden. The friendly competition between classes in this was very enthusiastic, but when we moved we were compelled to leave the garden behind. For handwork sent last January to the Mahila Samiti in Calcutta, the school received a prize of Rs. 5-0-0. Two girls took the M. E. Scholarship examination. Two essays were sent in for the competition under the Darjeeling Himalayan Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, in which our High School was allowed to enter. The results of neither of these are known yet.

Monthly programs have been given again this year. In July the mothers were invited to the program and about 35 came. We hoped this would result in some regular mothers-teachers meetings, but so far we have not succeeded. In our Bible classes we have introduced Clayton's Graded Bible Lessons up to sixth class and in High School the Bible Course by the Annett's. The C. E. of the Christian girls under Miss Mahanty's supervision was held on Saturdays. Hindu girls often stay and take part in prayer and other ways. My visits to the homes of the pupils has brought me great satisfaction. One busy mother to whom I have the book "Jesu Charit," said on a later visit, "That book you gave me I've read all through. I never knew about your Jesus before. Ask me anything about the book, I will tell it. I have gathered that the main idea is that Christ came to the world to save sinners and died for us." In September "Tidings" I have told a few incidents regarding the girls' interest in Bible and Christ. I will recount one more. In February, a Hindu girl in High School took first prize in Bible at the prize distribution. A Hindu teacher from the school, where she had been a student before coming to our school, was present and said to her at the close, "How is this? last year you took little interest in studying the

Ramayan, but this year you get a prize in Bible!" The girl replied, "But I like the Bible much better."

I hope that the statement of one Midnapore Christian man is true—that this Girls' School is a real influence for Christ in the town and should never be allowed to go down, but we are not satisfied. We want greater and surer results than we have yet had.

May the year 1929 be a more fruitful one for our Master's cause.

R. DANIELS.

M. W. BACHELER, M.D.

Bhimpore, 6th January, 1929.

DEAR HELAN,

I am up early this morning to write the report you asked for.

I am nominally, at least, in charge of the evangelistic work, though I am sorry to say I have not done nearly as much at it as I wished and intended.

Mrs. Bose has charge of the Girls' schools in the bazaar and as she has prayers with the teachers every morning before they go to work, I have asked her to include the Bible-women and zenana teachers in her roll-call, so she has looked after that for me every day. The time of dismissal comes just when I am busiest in the dispensary, and so after trying for sometime to meet the women myself, I gave it up and since then Mrs. Bose has attended to it for me.

When zenana work was first started in Midnapore, it was the only means of education for the women and girls. Since then Girl's Schools have sprung up, and the people have come to realize that it is an advantage for a girl to have some education. So much more attention has been paid to the girls and as those girls have grown up and had families they have been even more anxious for the daughters to get all possible advantages before they are married. And somewhat automatically perhaps the age of married has been advanced, till now it is not at all uncommon to see an unmarried girl of fifteen or sixteen. These and other

changes have tended to make zenana work less necessary than in the old days, and the names on the roll have decreased until sometimes, there are hardly more than fifty. The money available for the pay of the teachers is so small that we have not been able to have teachers with much training. Also, the trained teachers are all so young that they would have to have an older companion with them. In spite of all this the teachers are beloved by their pupils and the families, and are a good influence in the communities where they go.

There is a suggestion just now for closing the zenana work and sending the teachers out into the near villages to start Girl's Schools and go with the Bible-women. This is still undecided.

The Bible-women have gone out as in former years, visiting the near villages, and occasionally going farther afield.

At Satbankura, twenty-two miles away we have Mission premises and a house, and the Bible-women have gone there in turn to work with the Bible-woman stationed there permanently. There are a few Santals in the neighborhood, and so we have sent out the Santal Bible-woman, and sometimes made changes so that the Santal zenana teacher might go for a time. The Bible women have been well received. It is impossible to say whether any real impression has been made.

I went out every two weeks to Bhimpore to teach the Bible-women the prescribed Bible course. This was very pleasant work. The women were responsive and interested, and it was one of the delightful items in the year's work. There were generally sick to see and always the missionary children to look over, and sometimes a very sick child in one or other of the boardings. Mrs. Bose had the Midnapore women as I could not find a time that suited the women and me, and she could arrange her work so as to take this in.

Notice of a gathering in Calcutta for Christian women workers came to me during the year, and I thought our women would get some inspiration out of it, so I offered to take any who would go. Only one responded, Kesori Baske. I went to some of the meetings, and saw at once that they were for the very highly educated only, still Kesori did get quite a little out of it and when I noted her shining face and how

friendly the Calcutta people were with her, and she with them, I felt it was quite worthwhile.

Medical work has been interesting and engrossing as always. My routine in the dispensary has been to see and examine the patients and record the details, write the name on a "ticket," and then call in good Mongli, and while she pastes the "tickets" and a dose strip of paper on each bottle, I give out leaflets and talk a little to the patients. Rarely I call some one in to do this for me, but it is a busy time of day with everyone, and so I plan to do it myself. Then I fill the bottles with medicine, and Mongli puts in the water and when all is done I sit down again, and give some general directions, always ending with the diet, about which the people want a special word. Giving out the bottles does not take long and then I am ready for the next batch of sick.

Sometimes I sell Gospels. The Gospel of Mark is most popular. It is small and only one pice, and there are two pictures and two hymns on the covers.

During the year I have seen 1,863 patients, and given 3,237 treatments. Of the number seen 502 were men and boys, 812 women and 549 children. These figures do not represent the total number of individuals coming to the dispensary, for there are apt to be several companions with each patient.

It has been a happy year, though at times full of regrets over the things I have wanted to do, and not done.

Though Sunday School work is not strictly missionary work it takes so much time and thought that perhaps it may be mentioned in a report. The numbers have kept up about to 65. Interested teachers are not easy to find and I have often wished that I knew how to inspire the present staff with a sense of the importance of their work, and what the Sunday School could accomplish if they would put more heart into it. I have tried to plan my absences during the week, so as to always be back for Sunday afternoon. Kind thoughtful friends at home have sent current S.S. picture rolls and cards.

"Band of Hope" Sunday afternoon has been fairly well attended, and the children have learned to sing several new hymns.

ANNUAL REPORT OF KHARGPUR UNION CHURCH, 1928

Another year of service has passed into history. The test of the following years will determine as to the faithfulness of the seed-sowing.

During the year the regular Sunday services have been maintained with the average attendance. Some of the people have left, but others have come to fill their places. There has been no baptisms. This does not look encouraging if we look merely at numbers. These people are already members of a church, and it does not seem to be necessary to have them break the old relationship, for if they are transferred they must again seek worship in the Church of England. Our purpose is to enrich their religious experience so that Jesus and Life may mean more to them. I wish to mention one Englishman, who for the last two years has been worshipping with us and has served as organist. He has now brought his letter and asked membership with us.

The social activities have continued as before. The tennis club and badminton bring many people to the bungalow and so make possible that personal contact which we believe is the foundation of our ministry.

The Sunday School is increasing in membership. Those who are brought to our school by the contest remain, so we feel that they must find benefit there. The Christmas season enabled us to show how much we value the children, and the parents show their appreciation of this interest in their children. Over two hundred attended our annual picnic at Midnapore.

EDWIN C. BRUSH.

YEARLY REPORT FOR KHARGPUR STATION

After many years of work in Bengal-Orissa, we find ourselves on the Khargpur field and unattached to other fields of labor. We are rather lost for the moment. Not for lack of work, because there is more of that than we can do, but because we do not have to be planning to see how much work we can do in outside stations and still make people in Khargpur, think we are helping them.

We closed our work on the Santal, November 1st. That at least is what the Reference Committee says. Mr. Berg and I are rather doubtful of their judgment, though but have decided not to call it into question, fearing that they would lose more time deciding the matter that we did in accepting their ruling.

The work on the whole in Khargpur, this year has been hard. We have passed through two riots, in which 38 people were killed, and many injured. This has caused great bitterness between the Hindus and Musselman. While just at present things are quiet, still we are never certain what may happen any day. The people are very nervous, and jumpy. It takes very little to arouse them. While this state of things has caused great suffering and sorrow, not only for those concerned, as well as our Christian people, yet in many ways it has helped our Christians to realize more and more what Christianity means to them, and has brought forcibly before the non-Christian people, the fact that their religions do not bring peace, love and happiness to mankind. In many ways, I believe it is helping to break down the opposition to Christian teaching and preaching. Many more people desire to listen to our message and admit that our people are better neighbors and better citizens.

Our people report that they have far more opportunities to talk to people about Christ, and that they will listen now, where they used to laugh and scoff at them. This gives Christianity a better hearing and that is a gain. Our prayer is that the seed sown may find root and grow, and we believe that it will.

The work on a whole has been far better this year than ever before. So far the past year we have baptized and taken into the church 38 people. I have not looked up the record, but if my memory serves me right, that is far the best record we have ever had.

The 1st or Ward Memorial Church has now 209 members, and the old Union or Hindi church twenty, making a total membership of 229. At the beginning of the year the Telugu people also belonged to this church, but 60 of these people left to form the new 2nd Indian church, or Telugu church.

The 1st church as you know is self-supporting, paying its pastor Rs. 72-8-0 and 35-8-0 for other expenses. Total per month of Rs. 108/- or Rs. 1,296/- a year. They also have some money in the bank. Raising the finances is one of our problems in Khargpur as it is in other cities and countries, but we hope to grow along that line.

The mother church has no mission paid workers now. We dropped the Bible-woman this year, as we felt that with only one Bible-woman, and she not very good, it was not money well spent.

The church has two regular preaching services each Sunday, Hindi and Bengali. They also have three prayer-meetings each week. One at Ninpora, one at the church and one in the homes of the members.

The Hindi service is not so well attended, but at the Bengali, we have had full houses most of the time. There is much more that I would like to say but time is limited and I must pass on.

The 2nd or Telugu church was organized, October, 7th with a membership of 60. These were members of the 1st church at the time. One young man was baptized that day, so the church has 61 members. This church is made up from the servant class mostly. There are a few shop people, but not many. For a number of years a prayer-meeting was held in one of the small rooms of the Phillips Memorial Church for Christians who worked on the south side. Later, preaching services were conducted in Hindi, and they moved into the prayer-room of the church. Last year we outgrew that room as well and received permission to move into the main room.

For two years we tried to find a Telugu preacher for this work, for gradually the Telugus had come in to take up the work as servants, and there had been many conversions among them. Money had been found and after much trouble we found a pastor. Oh, we had many people applying for the post, who felt that God had called them for that special work; but after looking up their record we were not convinced that they had proven their case regarding the call. So with much sadness, that it seemed necessary to disagree with them, we informed them that they would have to get a call elsewhere. Of course in a few instances, it

seemed hard to let men go who claimed that they knew far more about the teaching of the Bible, than the teachers in the schools they had attended for a time, or the missionaries they had known, and for that reason they had, had to leave school, and mission employment: but would be willing, and glad to lead this flock to the truth as they had found it.

Well as I stated we found a man that we believe is a true Christian, and a scholar. While we have to pay him rather a higher salary than we cared to for a beginning, yet I believe it is the best for the church and the Mission. He has taken right hold of the work. The people like him. The attendance has increased. We now have an attendance of from 60 to 100 at each service.

The church pay Rs. 15/- p.m., toward his salary as well as all other church expenses. Some people in America have sent personal gifts. These I have asked them to send through the Home Board, but as they would not I then asked if they would allow me to use the money toward the support of this work, thus releasing money that comes from regular Mission funds, this they did, thus it will cost the Mission very little extra for this work.

We hope to see this church grow to be a strong church some day, not only able to support its own work, but to help in the evangelizing of India.

In connection with this church we have a day school, with about 40 children. This school acts as a feeder to both the S. S. and church. Through these children and the teacher we reach the homes of the non-Christian. Most of those baptized have been thus reached. Mr. Andrew the teacher has accomplished a great work in the school, and through the scholars has preached the Gospel to many. A story of his life and work would be worth writing.

This school also costs the Mission very little. Rs. 9-10-0 is paid in fees each month, and money given from other sources leave only about Rs. 50-0-0 to be provided by the Mission during the year.

Mr. Andrew also holds a S. S. and has about 40 children who attend, these he brings to the church service. This church has one

regular prayer-meeting and from one to two extras each week. I'm not able to attend all these meetings for at times there are as many as 6 to 8 prayer-meetings, four preaching services, and two S. S. a week.

We also have one Bible-woman working among the Telugus, she also is not paid by the Mission. She holds a Bible study class once a week for the women, and gathers groups of women to go with her to the non-Christian homes to teach and preach, thus reaching the women as well as the men.

Ninpora. This is a railway settlement about four miles west of the Ward Memorial Church, and some two and one-half miles west of Khargpur proper. It is a village of some 2,000 people. They work in the B. N. Railway Wagon-shops and stores. We have about thirty Christians there. We found that these people either did not attend church at all or became careless about it, or found it impossible to come all that four miles especially in the rains, and bring their women and children. So we decided to put our only evangelistic preacher out there to carry on the work. At first only a few attended, but now there are thirty to forty who come to each service, and twenty to thirty to the midweek prayer-meeting, there are also several inquirers in the village. I just learned that two of those who went home were to be baptized before they returned. We have one great drawback here. No building in which to hold services. At present all services are held in the homes of the people, but as most of these homes have only two small rooms the people are generally packed into those rooms like sardines in a box.

This makes the work difficult, and few of the non-Christians will come, for at first they do not like to get so close to Christians as that. Then too the people might have a good deal to say. Still, five Hindus have been coming at times, and if we can secure a larger place we hope this work also may grow. Cretibas the pastor is doing a fine work there, and he needs your prayers.

These people belong to the 1st church, but we hope the day will soon come when we will be able to organize a church there. At present we do not care to separate these members from the 1st church, fearing

that if we take too many members away they will feel that they cannot carry on self-support. We have taken sixty members already this year to form the Telugu church, but as the church grows stronger, will then be able to let these go and thus be able to build up the third church in the city.

Koilas had another fall from his wheel sometime ago, and was laid up for about two months. Cretibas and I had to take over his work during that time, that kept us from doing any country work for the time being, but when it is possible we drive out to the markets and preach.

This next year the new hostel and out-buildings are to be built. This is likely to keep us pretty busy most of the year, and we shall have little time in which to do outside work.

We ask your prayers that with all this building we may not neglect the work for which we came to India. India needs Christ. In the trouble that we have had this year I have had these thoughts brought home to me more forcibly than ever before.

How may we reach these people? Who will take our place when we retire? When will the day come when the people of this country will be able and willing to bear the burden of the work? When I ride through the country and see the thousands of people who are not being touched, I wonder what the Master is thinking of His church? What will He say on that great day where He judges His church? Will we be satisfied with what we have done? Will we have finished the work He gave us to do? These questions ought to make us think, and take stock of the work to be accomplished. What is wrong? Does Christ only want the few to be saved, or is the fault the churches, or is it ours? On that day we shall know, but I believe, that many of us can give the answer now.

J. H. OXRIEDER.

JAMSHEDPUR

Another year has hurried by—time is one thing at least which hurries in the East. We feel it especially as we compare our accomplishments with the tremendous need about us. It is a joy, however, to work where our work is needed.

This has been a year of uncertainty in the Jamshedpur community life, because of the labor troubles in the Tata Iron and Steel Co., the company about which Jamshedpur has grown. Early in the year, there came certain departmental strikes, then general *hartals* on Fridays in May, until the company declared a lockout of all men who did not attend work on June first. This continued until July 9th, with only a small part of the staff working. The strike was not finally settled until the middle of September, and even then there remained enough discontentment to make the work difficult. None of the covenanted men from Europe and America, among whom most of the work in the English church is done, were out on strike, but the difficulties they had to face in the works meant even more than usual absorption of their time and attention.

In spite of the community problems, the work of the church has gone forward. An encouraging feature this year has been the increasing responsibility felt by the church for the financial support of the work. Last year, Nov. 1st, 1926 to Oct. 31st, 1927, in addition to the other expenditures of the church, Rs. 5,698-8-0 was contributed towards the pastor's salary. This meant that some Rs. 1,101 had to be supplied by the Mission to make up the pastor's salary and allowances. This year the people here have given in regular monthly subscriptions the sum of Rs. 6,340 for the pastor which covered the salary and paid up some of the previous year's deficit. Then at the close of the year, Oct. 1928, by special efforts, including a bake sale, a donation from the Badminton Club of the church, a donation from the Golmuri Sunday School, a year's subscription paid up, and contributions by certain individuals, the balance of the deficit was paid off, an amount of some 905 rupees. This made a total contribution of Rs. 7,245 towards the support of the pastor. This means that the church has paid the cost of the pastor's salary, and of evangelistic and care of property allowances since Nov. 1st, 1926. The Mission has continued to pay such expenses as furlough salary, travelling to and from the field, etc. The church has agreed to be responsible for Rs. 517 per month this next year, with the hope that some additional contribution may be possible at the end of the church year.

In a situation where the people are of such varied groups—varied in nationality, in denomination, etc., we feel that social life, which brings people together in wholesome fellowship, can make a valuable contribution. Several features of our church-life have helped toward this goal this year. The Badminton Teas on Tuesday afternoons have brought together from 15 to 40 ladies each week. The Christmas Tea and Tree for the boys and girls and the Sunday School picnic in January are annual events and this year was no exception. A young people's Valentine social in February, arranged and carried through by the young people's class in our S.S. furnished a jolly evening of fun to a large percentage of the European young people of the community. At the Annual Church Supper in November, over 100 were served, and in spite of the fact that an annual meeting of the Masonic Lodge for the election of officers conflicted, a larger number than in the previous year, remained to hear the reports of the work of the church and a splendid address by Dr. David Reid, of the United Free Church of Scotland in Calcutta.

We regard our Sunday School work as among the most important phases of our church-life. In our three Sunday Schools this year, we had a total enrolment of 102, and an average attendance of 53. The months of December to March are the busiest, for then all the children are at home, but even when practically all of those between the ages of seven and fourteen are away in boarding schools, our S.S. continues with the younger ones and with the young people and adults. Mrs. Roadarmel's class of young women has been growing this year. We hope to keep it growing and to extend the work to reach the young men.

Graded lessons have been introduced this year throughout the central Sunday School and in the children's class in the G-Town Sunday School.

In March, 1929, we shall face a situation which is an extreme example of what we must meet constantly in our church work here. Besides Mrs. Roadarmel and I, there are three teachers and a pianist on the staff of our central Sunday School. We must find replacements for all of them this spring. Our beginners' teacher is going home to England to stay. Our pianist is going home to Scotland to stay. Our

primary teacher is going to England' on six months' furlough. The third teacher who is also Secretary and Treasurer of the Sunday School, is planning to spend two or three months away in the hills. The constant shifting of the population here means that we must keep ever on the alert to keep our work going on.

At our Christmas service this year, part of the hour was given to recitations, songs, and dialogues, and the remainder was given to the presentation of the Christmas play, "A Japanese Madonna," in which tableau scenes from the nativity appeared.

At the Christmas service, special recognition was given to eight members of our Sunday School for regular attendance. Three of these, two children and one teacher, had attended our Sunday School every Sunday throughout the year. The two children were each given a Bible and the teacher, who already had several Bibles, was given a copy of Longfellow's poems. The other five, two children, two teachers, and our pianist, each received a Perry picture in recognition of their not having missed more than three Sundays in the year.

The general worship of the church centers in the Sunday evening services. The attendance has varied a great deal from Sunday to Sunday, averaging about the same as last year. On Wednesday evenings, preaching services in G-Town have brought the message of Christ within reach of a group of Anglo-Indian people who live so far from the church that it is difficult for them to attend the Sunday evening services. The Sunday morning service in Golmuri was discontinued for the hot weather period, when at the end of March most of those who had been attending, left the station. When I returned from my vacation, I started up the G-Town Sunday School, which had stopped for a time after the woman in charge had been called away suddenly to England by the illness of her daughter. After the hot weather was over, it seemed more important for me to continue with that Sunday School work than to leave it in order to start the service in Golmuri again. Rev. E. C. Brush exchanged pulpits with me one Sunday in September and Rev. John Reid of Calcutta in December gave a report of the Jerusalem meeting of the International Missionary Council.

"The Home Messenger," our church magazine, has continued to carry a religious message into some 200 homes each month. Mrs. Roadarmel has edited the cover pages, in which we print our local material. I was told by a woman who had come recently from England that the "Home Messenger" had attracted her attention soon after she came, and although she had not attended church for a number of years, she decided to take it up again.

We have found that one of the most vital elements in our work here is that of personal contacts. Even in a city group which is like a village in the number of Europeans, it is quite possible for people to feel alone when trouble or temptation comes. Our efforts to help to meet some of these needs have led us feel more than ever our need of God's help in being true friends.

I continued the study of "The Sermon on the Mount" with the young men who took up the discussion after Dr. E. Stanley Jones' visit last year. After we had worked through that, we took up the study of Mark's Gospel. The group has not been large but the young men have shown a real interest in trying to understand Jesus.

The Indian Church here, even more than the English Church, has had to face the attitude of uncertainty which came over the people during the strike period. Some people were put on reduction, some others resigned and went to their homes, and still others did not know what the next week would bring. In spite of these difficulties, however, some progress has been made. The pastor, Rev. A. L. Maity, although his physical strength has been somewhat weakened by his having had only two months of vacation during the last ten years, has worked with thorough devotion in visiting, serving the needy, conducting prayer services in various places about the city and holding preaching services in three places each Sunday. He has baptized four people this year.

The church has continued paying the pastor's full salary and current church expenses, has thoroughly repaired and whitewashed the pastor's house at a cost of Rs. 220, and made the usual gift of Rs. 60 to the work of the Home Mission Board at Dompara, in addition to a personal gift of Rs. 40 to that work by a member of our church. The contributions for

church work this year by the Indian people have totalled Rs. 823. The contributions this year, in spite of their advance over last year did not fully meet the expenditures, but sufficient had been in reserve to cover the deficit. We hope by another year to have sufficient regular contributions to cover the expenses.

The Indian Christians in Golmuri, the home of the Tinplate Co. of India, four miles from Jamshedpur, have been meeting for worship in a private home. For some time they have expressed a desire to have a separate building for church purposes. This year their desire has been keen enough to lead them to start making regular contributions toward a fund for such a building.

The pastor has been granted two months' vacation in January and February, and ought to come back rested and stronger. At present the pastor has more than he can do in ministering to the Christian people who come here from various parts of India. The pull of materialism and selfishness is tremendous in Jamshedpur. We are hoping that someone can be brought soon to share the work so that there will be some opportunity for the message of Christ to be given to more of the people who have not come into vital contact with Him before.

We need your prayers as we try to live and speak the Good News among the Indian and European and American people here.

CHAS. C. ROADARMEL.

REPORT FOR 1928

W. S. DUNN.

Since I returned to India from furlough last fall I do not have a very long report of work on the field. As, no doubt, you know most of my time at home was spent in study at the Kennedy School of Missions, Hartford, Conn. After the school had closed for the year we visited relatives and friends and also went to Detroit for the Northern Baptist Convention. The summer soon went by and we sailed from New York September 12 and reached Calcutta October 28.

By vote of the Reference Committee I was assigned work in the southern end of the field from Soro to Chandbali inclusive, a distance of more than 50 miles in length. This field includes the town of Bhadrak which is almost as large as Balasore and is the center of Bhadrak sub-division of Balasore District.

Since the time for mofussil work began soon after our arrival on the field I have been doing that work. We began our work in the town of Bhadrak itself. We worked at the markets and visited people of the town. For the most part we found the people ready and willing to listen and talk with us. It was interesting to note how readily some of the Hindu gentlemen would agree that there is one God. One Hindu lawyer defended idol worship by saying that it is only a means of teaching children and uneducated people although he himself believed in the one God who is above and over all.

From Bhadrak our party went out to other places to camp and work. We were at Barrackpore, Dhamnagar, Bhandari Pukuri and Akhuapada which took us up to the Cuttack District line on that side. This last camp was about 19 miles from Bhadrak. In some of these places no work has been done for several years. It has been five or six years since some of them have even been visited by an Indian preacher. After leaving Bhadrak itself we found no Christian people in any of these places which we visited.

There were no very outstanding events connected with this tour although there were interesting experiences in coming in contact with the people. In one village we visited a man who was a kind of religious leader among the Hindus. The place where he lived seemed to be a center for their worship. It was interesting to note that this man had heard the preaching in the village a day or two before we visited him and had been telling his wife about what he had heard. The wife came out and sat down with her husband and was much more free to talk than Hindu women usually are. We were pleased to know that they had been discussing what he had heard and had been favourably impressed. They bought a book or two from us. Dhamnagar was the largest of the

places we visited. There one Sunday morning some of the more prominent men of the town came to our camp to visit us. One was the Headmaster of the school, one was the zemindar, one was a police officer and there was one other gentleman in the party. Two of them were Hindus and the other two were Mohammedans. One of them especially who could speak very good English had many questions to ask and we had an interesting morning. Of course, we met different types of people. Some were ready to talk and listen. Some would say, "We are ignorant people. We can't read the books you have." The Brahmins were usually ready to argue rather than to listen. However, one Brahmin came to our tent to talk with us. He was interested and seemed to believe in Christianity, yet he said he could not come out openly on account of his wife and his children and his brothers. One man who was baptized a few months ago came to us from a village in another direction. He is the only Christian in his village and has suffered persecution from his neighbors as can be expected in such cases. The Evil One is always busy and ready to hold the people in bondage. He is not ready to give up even one without a struggle.

In the villages which we visited we found many people who were able to read and were willing to buy our books. From November 12 until Christmas we sold more than twenty-six rupees worth of books. Rupees twenty-six may not seem to be such a large sum, yet when most of the books are sold for only one or two pice this sum represents a considerable number of books. We can't sell many books which cost more than two pice each. The literature is of great help to us in our work in the villages and at the markets. It not only helps us form a contact with the people but it enables us to leave the Gospel message in their hands so they can read it for themselves. May these little books be a means of bringing many to know Christ as the Saviour.

HATIGARH LEPROSY CLINIC ANNUAL REPORT

The Hatigarh Leprosy Clinic was opened on the 15th of March, 1928. A few ounces of Sodium Hydnocarpate and Friclor Acetic Acid were kindly supplied by the Civil Surgeon of the District to begin with, as the indent had not been received.

A drum was beaten in the villages, where the weekly markets are held, to call attention to the announcement that a leprosy clinic had been opened in Hatigarh, and free treatment would be given to the lepers. This was arranged by Rev. G. D. Rath, missionary at Hatigarh. In spite of the announcement made to the beating of drums in the markets false rumors were circulated among the Santals. One tale had it that a doctor had been detailed by the Government to kill all the lepers by giving them injections. Another rumor of the same type circulated among them to the effect that the lepers are taken in and locked up in one of the rooms, of the Mission provided for the clinic. It was only after some patients had received benefit from the treatment that the rumors were rooted out and patients began to come in any number.

The patients are mostly Santals, who are generally poor and helpless. These Santals are habitual drinkers of "Handia" a sort of liquor which may be a factor in making them peculiarly susceptible to the disease. A few higher caste Hindus attending this clinic for treatment seem to get infection from the Santals who are kept as full-time servants in their houses.

There are many lepers left untreated as I am given to understand by those treated because they are unable to come for treatment. Their legs have been ulcerated, probably perforating ulcers have been developed. The patients living near-by come regularly for treatment. Patients attending from distant villages are very irregular. During the harvest season the daily attendance comes to 30 to 35. When they get a little relief they go to earn their daily wages and remain absent for one or two weeks. A few cases take treatment for one or two months and fail to continue the treatment until cured. A female leper, who was begging in the near-by villages is now able to earn her daily bread. She feels that she cannot

come regularly for treatment although I have told her many times that she must attend regularly if she is to be cured. A male leper of A1 Class who is also a banker came here regularly for treatment for four months. After that time he discontinued the treatment and says that he has been cured although I insisted on his taking further treatment. Many patients coming for treatment ask for shelter. This cannot be provided because our temporary quarters are inadequate. A few of the patients living the farthest off have found shelter near-by in huts or in near-by villages.

There are one or two cases who are considered cured, but could not be discharged as they could not be given full doses of Potassium Iodide on account of my being out of the drug. The treatment is carried out according to the latest method as approved by Dr. Muir.

The average daily attendance is 40 to 74.

A few ampules of Durotan Mite, and Durotan Fortius and a solution of Chalmugra Acid Eastar have been kindly supplied by H. E. Metzkes & Co., Calcutta, for experiment on leper patients. I have asked the doctor who is relieving me to try them on selected cases as I have no time to note the result.

N. MOHANTY,
Sub-Assistant Surgeon.

REPORT OF SANTIPORE WORK

We are thankful to God for the progress we are able to report in the work of the Kingdom at Santipore for it truly has been a good year. We are thankful also that after so many years we have new missionaries with us.

Santipore church was established in 1852 by Dr. Jeremiah Phillips. He bought a piece of land, cut the jungle and built a bund for the Christians, thus making possible the establishment of a Christian village.

The Santipore church has had a successful year. There are now 135 members; there were six baptisms during the year; two were dis-

missed; and four died. We have had good leadership from our pastor, Chintamani Behera. He receives twelve rupees from the church, and eleven from the Home Mission Board, monthly. The church has given three hundred rupees for current expenses and benevolence this year. On account of the broken bund the crops have not been good for two years so the people are poor.

There are four Sunday Schools in the church, one for young men and young women; one for the little children; and two for Hindu boys. There are 160 people enrolled in the Sunday Schools. Eighteen Santipore Sunday School scholars passed the oral examination on the first year village Sunday School book. Eight scholars passed the written division. The Hindu boys are learning the catechism and Satya Puran.

Aside from the regular church services on Sunday and Sunday School we have two Christian Endeavors, one for boys and one for girls, and a Y.W.C.A., which also meets once a week. Thursday evening we have a mens prayer-meeting.

There are three preachers and five Bible-women engaged in evangelistic work. The preachers have been busy in markets and jatras and have sold Gospels and distributed tracts. The Bible-women have visited many homes. They took Bible examination and all but one passed. While there have been no conversions directly resulting the general attitude toward Christians, and the Christian message is better. They do not seem to hate the Christians any more as they have in the past.

We have four schools in Santipore; a girls' upper primary with ten students; boys upper primary with forty students; and an Oriya Kindergarten and a Santal Kindergarten, which together have forty-five pupils. These schools are all opened with song, prayer and Bible-reading. We have four boys in boarding on the compound and for these we have a daily prayer-meeting. Two girls passed the upper primary and went to Balasore for higher education this year. Only one teacher in the two upper primary schools is not a Christian; that one is a Brahmin. We have arranged for Christian Shastras to be taught to Hindus in the lower primary school at Ribonia.

There are 640 lepers under treatment in a clinic on the Mission compound. They come mostly from Midnapore and Moubhanj State. Some have shown considerable improvement. The Mission has granted a place for the clinic and a house for the doctor. There has been some preaching to the lepers but we need a regular preacher for that work.

Bansboni church three miles away has also had a good year. The pastor, Surendranath Nayak, is doing good work there. There are thirty-six church members, all Santals; eight have been baptized this year. Though many are uneducated, these people take much interest in the church. Some go to market regularly to preach God, without pay from the Mission. There are more candidates who will be ready for baptism very soon. In this Santal village there is one Bible-woman working and also one Bible-student who came out from Bible school this year. They have a Sunday School with thirty-six students who are reading the Life of Christ. In the village is a lower primary school with twenty-eight girls and boys and one Christian teacher.

Rev. Gangadhar Rath has visited regularly four churches beside Santipore to baptize and serve the Lord's Supper. Recently he went to Mohonpore, eleven miles away, and baptized two Santals, one a wealthy man, educated at Bhimpore Santal Schools. Others are coming soon and we hope there will be a new church there before long. He has spent some time with Mr. Ager at Salgodia in order to help him with his work. On account of many responsibilities he could not give as much time to literary work as before. He has prepared the Junior, Senior and Teacher's Class Sunday School Lessons for Orissa and has written another one of the pice books called "A Garland of Verses," which the Hindus seem to like very much. It has had a good sale.

In looking to the future we have a great desire for the rebuilding of the bund that there may be water for the crops. We are anxious for the reopening of a workshop here with weaving, carpentry and blacksmithing and some agricultural training, either through the obtaining of a Government experiment farm or the establishment of something similar through the Mission. We are also desirous of a boys

Middle School here in Santipore, and we feel we ought to build a boarding place for the boys for many more pupils could be had if such a place were provided. As soon as the permanency of the leper clinic is assured we urge that a chaplain be appointed for it and we should like to secure a colporteur for this part of the field.

PERSONALS

Mr. L. C. Kitchen who has been very ill with enteric fever is convalescing. The family will go to Mussoorie early in March, hoping that a few months there will quite restore his health.

Miss Wright of Tura, Assam, visited Balasore, Khargpur and Jamshedpur early in February.

Mr. and Mrs. Roadarmel leave for four months language study in Darjeeling, February, 26.

Mr. and Mrs. Osgood of Santipore, will go to Jamshedpur for March and April.

Mrs. Long and children leave for Mussoorie early in March.
