TIDINGS

From A.B.F.M. Society
in Bengal-Orissa,
India

JUNE, 1931 No. 2
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Rev.</th>
<th>Mrs.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bhimpore, Midnapore Dist., Bengal</td>
<td>L. C. Kitchen</td>
<td>Kitchen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A. A. Berg</td>
<td>Berg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>G. I. Hill</td>
<td>N. Knapp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midnapore, Bengal</td>
<td>H. C. Long</td>
<td>Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>J. A. Howard</td>
<td>Howard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R. Daniels</td>
<td>Daniels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M. W. Bachelor, M.D.</td>
<td>M. Bachelor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A. Stearns</td>
<td>Stearns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>G. B. Harris</td>
<td>Harris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khargpur, B.N. Ry</td>
<td>C. C. Roadarmel</td>
<td>Roadarmel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamshedpur, B.N. Ry</td>
<td>L. F. Marsh</td>
<td>Marsh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contai, Bengal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hatigarh, via Jellasore, Orissa</td>
<td>George Ager</td>
<td>Ager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>H. I. Frost</td>
<td>Frost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E. Cronkite</td>
<td>Cronkite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>G. Garnett</td>
<td>Garnett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>J. G. Gilson</td>
<td>Gilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lloyd Eller</td>
<td>Eller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>S. B. Gowen</td>
<td>Gowen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balasore, Orissa, B.N. Ry</td>
<td>W. S. Dunn</td>
<td>Dunn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santipore, Hatigarh P.O., Orissa</td>
<td>Wm. C. Osgood</td>
<td>Osgood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On Furlough</td>
<td>E. C. Brush</td>
<td>Brush</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mary Laughlin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

U. S. subscriptions to "Tidings" may be secured from—
Dr. P. H. J. Lerrigo, 152, Madison Ave., N.Y.
Single subscriptions $0.30 each.
Four subscriptions $1.00 each.

Local subscriptions from—
Mrs. C. C. Roadarmel, Khargpur, Bengal—6 As. each.
The attention of the editor has been called to the fact that 1931 marks the tenth anniversary of the publication of "Tidings". The first issue appeared in January, 1921. Miss Lavinia Coombs and Mrs. Howard Murphy were appointed by the mission conference to plan and arrange for the publication of a mission paper. Mrs. Murphy gave the paper the name it still bears and planned its size and arrangement. Miss Coombs edited "Tidings" and financed its publication for one year, while Mrs. Murphy took care of getting the material to the printer.

The purpose of "Tidings" is still the same as when it was first issued and it may be of interest to quote what Mrs. Murphy said concerning this in the first copy.

"What?

A means of teaching directly many friends of individual missionaries, as well as friends of Bengal-Orissa Mission as a whole, who never see a letter or perhaps a printed article from a missionary whom they know personally.

Why?

Pastors and churches realize the need as well as the benefit of the local church bulletin, which makes the work of the church known to all its members, and the personal items within the church circle all tend to create interest and sympathy. It, in truth, becomes the church family news letter. In a similar way our missionaries have seen the need of a medium, other than letter writing, in order that a larger number of our constituency might feel the personal relation a little closer. Since the passing of the 'Missionary Helper', one year ago, the need is greater than ever before. To fill these needs therefore the Bengal-Orissa 'Tidings' is sent forth."
The Publicity Committee of our Mission, of which the editor is chairman, feels that “Tidings” will be improved and serve its purpose more fully if it contains some contribution from each missionary in every issue. This is our ideal for this little paper, but whether or not it is fulfilled depends upon each individual missionary.

Readers of “Tidings” may be interested to know that 500 copies are now printed of each issue. Of this number 100 copies are sent to Dr. Lerrigo at the New York office to be used for publicity purposes; 150 copies are sent to Miss Jeanette Coombs in the U.S. to be sent out to subscribers in America. Any copies that are not subscribed for of those sent to her Miss Coombs uses for publicity work. The remaining 250 copies are for the subscriptions of missionaries on the field. I wish here to express our appreciation for the service Miss Coombs, sister of the late Miss Lavinia Coombs, is rendering the Mission in mailing U.S. subscriptions at her own expense from the post office in West Bowdoin, Maine, where she is post-mistress. U.S. subscriptions are made through Dr. Lerrigo and he then sends the names of subscribers to Miss Coombs.

The cost of the paper is not covered by the subscription, but, thus far, donations made by friends through the A.B.F.M.S., together with Rs. 100 from the Reserve Fund of the Mission towards the cost of the Annual Report Number have met the expense.

We should be happy to have a larger number of subscribers and will welcome any suggestions for increasing subscription, or for making the paper more useful.

FAREWELL PROGRAMS.

Preceding the departure of Rev. and Mrs. J. H. Oxrieder from Khargpur many farewells were given in their honor. On February 10th nearly all of our missionaries from Bengal and Orissa put aside their work for the day and went to Midnapore to attend a farewell program for these friends who were our senior missionaries. The program to a large extent was carried on in a light vein, for we realized how
hard it was for Mr. and Mrs. Oxrieder and for the rest of us to know that they were going to leave India not to return. Tears were close to the surface when Dr. Mary Bachelor gave a serious touch to the day in expressing the love and appreciation of the missionaries as she presented the Oxrieders with a gift of money.

During the two weeks in March before they left Khargpur Mr. and Mrs. Oxrieder attended farewells given by the Union Baptist Church (including Bengali, Oriya, and Hindustani-speaking people), the Telegu Church, and the English Church.

**Appreciations.**

The farewell programs and gifts presented by churches and individuals represented only in a small way the appreciation of Khargpur people (Indians and Europeans), and the missionary staff for the splendid work carried on by the Oxrieders during 29 years of service in India. Their work in India has not ceased with their leaving the country, for their influence will continue in the lives of those to whom they made Christ real.

We who are attempting to carry on the work they have laid down often hear what they have meant to one individual or another. Recently when Mr. Roadarmel was calling on one of the men, who is an official of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway here, this man said to him: "I am not a church-goer, but I will say that Mr. Oxrieder has done more for Khargpur than any one else here."

Mr. and Mrs. Oxrieder have filled a large place in the work of our Mission and we are already missing them greatly. They had hoped to remain in Khargpur until the Brushes returned, but the state of their health was such that it would not have been advisable for them to stay through another hot season.

Our prayer for them is that they may find a large place of usefulness in the home-land and still have many years of service for the Master.

E. N. R.
FAREWELL ADDRESS.

The following is a copy of the farewell address presented to Mr. and Mrs. Oxrieder by the Khargpur Union Baptist Church. We thought it might be of interest to home friends to see the type of address given by Indian people at farewells. Often they are very elaborate, printed by hand in gilt on colored silk, or engraved on parchment with hand decorations and framed. This particular address was of a very simple nature.

"The Khargpur Union Baptist Church at the retirement of Rev. Dr. J. H. Oxrieder, D.D., and Mrs. Oxrieder.

Dear Friends,

We, the members of the Khargpur Baptist Church, address you with a heavy heart to-day, at the thought of your sad and untimely retirement from our midst. The situation to-day suggests a similar event in the life of the Apostle Paul when he took leave of the mourning members of the Ephesian Church, telling them that they would no more be able to see his face. We too, like them, are overwhelmed with the deepest sorrow at the same thought that we shall no more be able to see your faces.

You came to this foreign land of ours, far from your home, forsaking your near and dear ones, forsaking all, and have most patiently toiled here as long as 29 years, full of compassion for souls and ever enthusiastic to fulfill your great task in the great cause of the Kingdom. Several prospering churches, now in the field, stand as a glorious proof of this. When thinking of your deep love, your noble lives and your striking success, we cannot but bless the Lord wholeheartedly and feel ourselves greatly indebted to you.

Converted as we have been by you, we regard you as our parents. We feel specially sorry for Mrs. Oxrieder who has been physically incapacitated for some time. She has always been a mother to us. Her tender sympathies, her cheering words, her ready response to calls for help, have won the hearts of all alike and have established between her and us a delightful bond never to be broken by distance or decay.
Though heavy at heart, we wish you a prosperous journey home, length of days yet to be granted to you and crowns of glory from divine hands at the appointed time.

We beg you most humbly, at this final parting, to kindly forgive and forget the many faults which we may have committed against you in words, acts or attitudes. Needless to say that we will remember you as long as life endures. We shall always be greatly delighted in our hopes for meeting you again before the “throne of glory” in the great days to come.

We remain,

Yours in His service,

THE MEMBERS OF THE KHARGPUR UNION
BAPTIST CHURCH.’’

KHARGPUR,
March 15th, 1931.

NEWS FROM MIDNAPORE.

General.

During the past three months the pastor of the church at Midnapore resigned; but the technique of resignations is something new for Indians, and he was willing to stand for re-election again; however, the motion to re-elect him was withdrawn without objection, and the church is now without a pastor. It is encouraging, however, to note that the case of the treasurer who had “borrowed” the church’s permanent deposits is being handled in a much more reasonable way than the two previous cases of discipline.

The retiring pastor, Babu Lakshman Chandra Maity, is to be located at Contai, near his home, with Rev. Koilas Mohapatra. They will doubtless make a good team, and we may hope for results among Lakshman Babu’s friends and relatives.

Babu Reuben Chandra Giri, preacher-teacher at Sondapara, has gone to Chapra for teacher training, which should make him much
more effective in his work, and Babu Chintamoni Mahata, who has just passed the three-year course in teacher training at Hoogly, is carrying on the work. We are hoping to get a Government Grant of Rs. 6/- per month in view of his training, which will enable us to open another class. On February 1st, there were three baptisms at Sondapara, probably the first in its history. One was the brother of a Santal Christian, who had slipped back, but recovered his interest after we began work at Sondapara; one was the leader of the Santal reform movement from a village about three miles away; and one was the wife of a near-by villager whom Mr. Berg had baptized about two weeks previous. There are other inquirers in the region. A District Board well has been sanctioned for Sondapara; the site was selected in March, but the work has been held up till now, because the contractor "being an only son is quite unable to go outside leaving his father on death-bed." This, however, does not explain why the chairman of the local board did not appoint the other bidder, who is a Belpahari man, living only a mile or two from Sondapara. Now, however, as the result of letters from myself and the District Engineer, he has done so, and although it is late, we hope the well will be done this year.

Midnapore Christians were saddened on Sunday by the death of our little table boy, who seemed to be universally liked. He had measles followed by pneumonia.

The Bible School is now in session with four students.

Many people are feeling the drop in the price of rice, which is about 2/5ths of its usual price. This means trade depression, and less work in town. The low price is due partly to world-wide trade depression, and partly to conditions created by boycott of British goods in the recent struggle for political autonomy.

H. C. Long.

April 23, 1931.

8
MIDNAPORE H.S. GIRLS TAKE MATRICULATION EXAMINATION.

Last month there were 20 girls in our four High School classes, which is the most we have ever had. In March we sent three candidates for the Matriculation Examination given by the University of Calcutta. This is the first year our School has had recognition from the University, so that we could enter girls in the name of our School. The results will not be known for another month. Those three girls were so sweet the last day at school before their examination. That afternoon when nearly everyone had left, I started to go home and went to speak to these three girls who were still walking about on the lawn. They said so bashfully, “Are you too busy, or too tired to stay a little longer? We wish you would go back with us and have prayer before you go.” I was so glad to do it. Two of the girls are Christians and the other is a Hindu widow who is all but a Christian in her faith and prayers.

Change in Headmistress.

Miss Roy, who was our Headmistress and took a year’s leave for a Teacher Training Course, called “B.T.”, is coming back soon, to our great joy. I hate to lose Miss Das who is now acting in her place, however, for she has been so thoroughly sincere and earnest in every part of her work. She said recently in our Teachers’ Bible Class what I know to be absolutely true of her, “I have learned to put duty before any personal pleasure.”

School Girls visit Hospital.

Our girls go every week, two each time, to the Hospital to sing and tell Bible stories. One day in Bible Class a lovely, tall Hindu girl, Renu, said, “I think it would be a good thing to tell briefly the whole life of Christ, for most of those patients have never heard and do not know about whom we are talking.” So I asked her to prepare to do that when she went. As she stood there telling this story to the
sick women, omitting all the unnecessary parts and telling with emphasis just the ones that needed to be emphasized, doing it as well as I have ever heard or could imagine it to be done, the tears came to my eyes. How can she admire and love Christ so much without taking Him for her own and only Saviour? I think she does claim Him as her own, but not only Saviour.

One day when we went to the Hospital we found there a young wife of 12 or 14, whose husband had burned her in spots all over her body with a red hot iron, because she was asleep when he came home late at night and didn't get up to feed him as promptly as he wanted. It seemed even worse when they said it was his women relatives who helped to bind and hold her for his cruel deed.

Prize Distribution.

Our Prize Distribution (the giving out of honors) took place in February. There were about 700 present and there was quite a write-up of it in a Calcutta Hindu paper. The expense, however, was heavy because we had to build stage out of doors, get canopy, etc. I do not think we can attempt such a thing again until we have an auditorium of our own in the new High School building, for which the plans have been sent to the Board.

Mrs. Howard helps in H.S.

Mrs. Howard helped in H.S. in January and February by teaching several English classes every day. One day she was trying to give the girls an understanding of the meaning of the word "utter". After using the word as a verb a number of times in such sentences as "He could not utter a single word", they got the idea quite clearly that it meant speak. Then she took it up as an adjective and wrote on the board, "He is an utter fool," and asked them to tell what it meant. After considering a minute one bright girl said, "That must be a person who lectures."

Ruth Daniels.

April, 1931.
"CAST THY BREAD UPON THE WATERS."

Years ago the Mission aided several Lower Primary Schools and, in return, required the teachers to teach the Catechism (a book of religious instruction prepared by the mission), and to bring the pupils once or twice a year for examination. Each pupil answering all the questions correctly received a small prize and at Christmas time each pupil received a schoolbook bag with an orange, a handful of peanuts, and sweets.

When the teachers came for their pay the first of each month they were expected to take written examinations in the Bible Lessons, Teachers' Manual, and Mental Arithmetic. And besides, I generally put in some practical questions requiring some original thinking. The Mission School Inspector saw all the schools regularly, sometimes visiting in the homes of the pupils and distributing Christian literature.

Coming from Bhimpore to Midnapore on the motor 'bus recently, I got into conversation with the chauffeur, a young man of a good family. He told me he had passed his Entrance Examination. He said that when he was a lad he was a pupil in a Mission-aided school and had there learned the Catechism.

"Where", I asked.

"Kornelgola", he answered.

"Oh," I said, "Mohendra was your teacher."

"Yes", he replied, "we used to go to your house to be examined in the Catechism and I still have the schoolbook bags and other things you used to give the pupils."

I asked if he remembered the Catechism. He was not sure, but his thinking had evidently been influenced by the teachings of those early years, and he listened attentively as I talked to him of the Master.

MARY W. BACHELOR, M.D.
NEW KINDS OF S.S. PROGRESS.

Perhaps there are other Sunday Schools like mine, but I'll take mine. It is the only work I am doing that has anything of a missionary flavor, so it has no competition in my affections. Miss Daniels began the work in this outcaste village last July. The children came with very dirty clothes if any, and with slight capacity for thought, comprehension or remembering, but they came, and she knew how to interest them and trained two of our boarding girls to do the teaching. All I do is take my white face along for a chaperone and, now that I can understand a bit of what goes on, give the girls a bit of help about procedure. The children come in such numbers we wonder where we'll go next for more room. Some of them are becoming conspicuously clean and strenuously object to sitting next to their old time buddie who hasn't decided to follow the girls' instructions. Some of the itch improves. They are remembering even the lesson of a Sunday or two before. Four of them are consistently coming to Miss Daniels' school. At first they were very shy of me, because, as our servant explained one day, "You are something new to see," but last Sunday a baby in a fond father's arms held out her arms to me, and a chubby little boy decided I would make a good playmate. The children who go through our compound to school always give me a special greeting. During these very hot days we go out at six o'clock in the morning but they are up and ready for us. Easter Sunday one of the boys had gathered beautiful flowers and tied them to the posts of the verandah and at the close gave me a huge bouquet. He is able to give, but instead of giving it all himself, he passes his flowers and fruits to some who can't give and lets them give to me too. He is as much of a little gentleman as an American boy of about eight years might be. The parents are coming in increasing numbers to hear all they can around the edges of the crowd of youngsters. We must be satisfied for a while I suppose with no definite conversions until we have laid the foundation, but we are earnestly hoping for some Christians of the "true blue" in the not too distant future. I love it.

ADA STEARNS.
TESTIMONIES FOR MISSIONS.

A young English chap on the S.S. Mulbera asked me quite frankly and sincerely why anyone should go as a Christian missionary to a land already top-heavy with religions. I do not know whether or not my answer satisfied him. But some weeks ago he and I had lunch together in Calcutta, and I learned that his personal observation of the situation had brought him to a recognition of the failure of the Indian religions. That they have much good to their credit is beyond question; that at the vital points of personal regeneration and social progress they have failed tragically is our firm conviction.

On the other hand, we are impressed with the work of the redemptive agencies. One hesitates to make too sweeping claims as to the amount of credit due to a work in whose favor he is decidedly prejudiced. But Professor Mukerji of Midnapore College, a Hindu gentleman of admirable character, only a few days ago in a public address paid high tribute to the work of Christian Missions in his country. He said that no matter what turn India’s political affairs might take in the future, the enterprise which bears Christ’s name need have no fears as to its life or safety.

On a train not long since a Hindu fellow-passenger told me that his people ought indeed to be grateful to those who have sponsored the constructive work of Christian missions. He went on to say, however, that the surface of the needs and possibilities had just been scratched.

G. B. HARRIS.
THE SANTAL RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL.

In spite of all the political restlessness throughout the country the masses have listened with greater interest than ever to the preaching of the message of Christ in villages, market places, and homes during this past cold season. We have found so many earnest inquirers among the different classes of people. The first week in January on tour we sold 120 gospels. And during one-and-a-half months we sold over 280. This is encouraging when we remember that only about 10 per cent. of the people among whom we work are literates. Since New Year we have had 10 baptismal services when 25 people have been baptized and added to the number of believers.

Early in January we baptized a young man, whose wife ran away from him because he accepted Christ. But only a couple of days afterwards she returned of her own accord, and three weeks later she was baptized. Both of them are now very happy. I have just returned from a visit to their home. Before they became Christians, they enjoyed everything in common with the husband's people. His parents' house faced the same yard as theirs, so that they came and went, mixed and fellowshipped together as one family. On this my last visit I noticed that the old folks had closed up their door with mud, and cut a hole in the wall on the opposite side, so that they would be separated from their outcaste son and daughter-in-law.

In another place a fine couple had decided to accept baptism together, so they sent word for us. We got word on a Friday, and went there the following Sunday for their baptism. Upon our arrival Sunday morning we found that the wife's people had come on Saturday night and by force taken her away to her home, and away from her husband, because they had somehow found out what was about to happen. But when we had been there a little while the young wife came back herself, and they both happily confessed Christ publicly in baptism before a great crowd of relatives and friends, some who mumbled threatening words about how they would like to see the blood flow of these despised Christians.

Sunday, February 1st, three young people were baptized. One of
these young men was formerly a leader in a reform movement among the Santals. He has now come to realize the futility of any reform which does not regenerate the human heart. He has, therefore, embraced Christ, been baptized, and will undoubtedly exert a great influence among his own people. The following Thursday two happy women were baptized. The same week on Saturday we moved to another place, only to find that a band of the believers from there had gone to a village 6 miles away, and when they returned in the evening they brought word that four had been baptized there that day. The next day, two old folks, who had been on probation for some time, were baptized, the old man about 68 years and the woman about 60 years of age.

In another place a released murderer, with his family, have turned to the Lord, and followed him in baptism. I enjoyed the hospitality of their home several days on one of my tours.

In this way has the Lord graciously revealed his power to save. May His name be praised! Let all who believe in prayer encircle the throne of grace and plead with God until He shall visit us with a mighty revival.

"Mercy drops round us are falling,
But for the showers we plead."  

AUGUST A. BERG.

G-TOWN CHAPEL CLUB.

Last night sixteen adults attended the mid-week service at G-town. My, but we felt encouraged. There are only twenty-two names on the roll of our G-town Chapel Club, and the other six were either sick or on duty at the Steel Works. The people seem to like this Club. The constitution calls for a meeting every Wednesday evening, with one "social" meeting and one business meeting each month. A week ago they had a social meeting and there were thirty folks there including the children.

This Club was formed to foster three things: the development of
the spiritual lives of its members; to encourage and build up a greater interest in the religious education of their children and young people; and to provide the right sort of social life for its members and their friends. We are hoping that it will accomplish, at least to some degree, these three things.

The Sunday School in G-town seems to be holding together well even since the hot weather has come. On Easter Sunday morning the children and young people gave a very fine program appropriate to the day. Many of the older folks were there to enjoy it. One father has been coming ever since.

The G-town people are also very faithful in attending the regular church service here in Beldih every Sunday night. This section of Jamshedpur, designated as G-town, is where Anglo-Indian people live and is about two miles from the section called Beldih where the majority of the homes are European and American. The Mission bungalow is located in Beldih.

Unavoidable decrease in English Church.

Folks going to America and England on leave or permanently, and to the hills for the hot season, have hit the European church pretty hard. As yet, we haven't noticed it so much in the church service, but there are only about twelve children in our Sunday School at present. No one can help this, so we are just trying to hold the interest of these few, and to make it as worth-while as possible.

Church Activities.

Two weeks ago we started having a mid-week service each week here in Beldih. In these services we are studying the Gospel of John and our folks seem to be much interested. Mr. Marsh is trying to make it an hour of prayer as well as an hour of study. Of course, every church needs this, but our church here seems to need it more than most do.

The badminton teas are being very well attended, in spite of the hot weather. Last Tuesday there were at least twenty ladies there. I
am afraid that we will have to admit that there wasn't much badminton played.

**Indian Church Services.**

The Easter season services held by Calvary Church (Indian) were an inspiration to us. There were services held each night during Passion Week, and on Good Friday there was a three-hour service, beginning at noon, besides the evening meeting. Easter morning they came to the church for a two-hour meeting, beginning at five-thirty. Mr. Marsh preached at this time, through an interpreter. At three-thirty there was a sermon by the pastor and a Communion service. This series closed with a prayer and praise service Monday night. The attendance during this whole season was splendid.

This church, as well as the other Indian church at Golmuri (about four miles from Jamshedpur), is always an inspiration to us. Some of the finest Christians that we have ever known anywhere are in these two Indian churches.

We feel so "new" and so inadequate for the great task here. Do give us the benefit of your prayers.

RUTH B. MARSH.

*Jamshedpur, April 23, 1931.*

---

**TOURING IN THE MOFUSSEL.**

Among other trips planned by our touring party this year there was one which I will describe for the readers of "Tidings." It may give some idea of what a party touring in the mofussel may expect to meet. There is no road by which the part of the country to which we went is accessible, so we started out from Chandbali in a country boat. Since we had to go with the tide, we had to make an early start. Our tents and baggage were carried from our house to the boat and we were finally ready to go by five o'clock a.m. We could not reach our destination in time to cook our food, so my breakfast consisted of a tin of Heinz's baked beans, a boiled sweet potato, and water from my water bottle.
At about one p.m. we reached Dhamara, about twelve or thirteen miles from Chandbali. After about eight hours on the river in a country boat we were tired enough, yet we had to select a camping place, get our things from the boat, and pitch our tents. No very suitable camping place was available. A visitor to the place had been shooting crocodiles and dragging the bodies to the shore. Many vultures were sitting here and there. However, we found a place where we could pitch our camp. After our tents were pitched I asked my cook to make a pot of tea. After I had finished the pot of tea and had eaten a light lunch I felt better. We rested, and in the evening went to a near-by village with our stereopticon, where we showed and explained the pictures of the life of Christ. We worked out from this camp for a few days. One evening we returned to camp to find that the wind had changed and was blowing from the river, and the "perfume" from the bodies of the alligators and other animals which had been shot was coming directly into our camp. Some of the members of our party were in favor of finding another place for our camp at once, but we had promised to go to a village that night with our stereopticon, so we did not take time to move our camp then. When we returned I found that by keeping the front part of my tent closed the scent was not so noticeable. Fortunately, the wind soon turned in the other direction which was greatly to our advantage. However, we soon moved our camp to another place a few miles farther away.

From our new camp we also visited the villages, and gave the illustrated lectures on the life of Christ in the evenings. For the most part, the people listened very well and our evening meetings were very well attended. At one place I heard a man announcing that the "Big Saheb" had come to show the pictures. I do not know on just what basis I became the "Big Saheb." Anyway it is interesting to be announced as some one of importance at least once in a life time. There was no water near any of our camps that was really fit for use. However, almost any kind of a well is better than a dirty tank where the people water their animals, take their baths, and wash their clothes. There was a country well at the home of one of the gentlemen of this place. He had told us we
could use water from it. My cook went to get some water, but he returned saying that some of the people of the place had objected to his drawing water from the well. Soon the man who owned the place came to our camp. He said he was asleep when the boy went for the water. When he awoke the servants had asked him if the Saheb's party could take water from the well. He said, Yes, we were his brothers; we could use water from his well. There was no further difficulty. This gentleman often visited our camp. He sent us things to eat, and twice he went with us to our evening meetings where the illustrated lectures on the life of Christ were given. There were no markets at which we could work, but by visiting the villages in the day time and going out with our stereopticon at night, we could keep busy and form contacts with the people. There was no post office nearer than Motto, nine or ten miles away. At Motto there is a market twice each week. We would find some one who was going to the market and for a few pice he would be willing to carry our mail for us. So we managed to send and get mail twice each week. In the last rainy season, the salt water from the sea spread over most of this section of the country, so the rice crop was ruined. Of course the people have much trouble when the rice crop fails. There are no Christian people in this part of the country, and it had been several years since it had been visited by either a party of preachers or a missionary.

From this camp we planned to go to Chordia. On the day on which we wished to move it was full moon so the people would not yoke their oxen on that day. We had to wait until the next day. Then we took our baggage to the river on ox carts and went up the river in a country boat. We landed on the side of the river about a mile from Chordia. Neither carts nor coolies were available, so we pitched our tents and spent the night there by the river. The next day we managed to get our things across the rice fields to Chordia. They had to be carried part way and carts took them the remainder of the distance to the village. Chordia is a Home Mission station, but I camped there with the party. There are a number of Christian people in this place who have come out from Hinduism within the last seven years. A church was organized there in February, 1930. There is a preacher's house
there, but the Pastor resigned last November. We are hoping that another preacher can go to Chordia at an early date. Chordia is a very difficult place in which to live. There is no well. The people use water from the tanks. We hired a man to carry some drinking water from Chandbali, nine miles away. It is difficult to go or come from the place. One must either go in a boat or walk over the rice fields and on foot paths to Chandbali. Sometimes one can go on a cycle most of the way by following cart tracks across rice fields; but since the rice crop was a failure this year, the cart track had not been made, so a cycle could not go. On account of this failure of the rice crop many of the people from Chordia and surrounding villages have gone to Calcutta and other places to find work. Two women, wives of the preachers in Chandbali, are Bible women. They, with one other Bible woman, came and worked among the women of the place. They lived in the Pastor’s house, which was vacant. There are some inquirers at Chordia. We certainly hope that the new Pastor can come to work with them and others soon.

While we were camping at Chordia, I had to make a trip to Chandbali. We were having a small boat built for our work. I had to have it brought down from Howrah station, Calcutta. Two small steamers now ply between Calcutta and Chandbali. I had written to the Agent of one of the steamers asking how much he would charge to bring the boat to Chandbali. He replied that it would cost Rs. 150. I did not intend to pay such a price until I saw whether or not I could do better. I decided I would talk with the Captain of the other steamer about it. I took a day and walked to Chandbali, even though in one place I did have to wade mud almost to my knees. I saw the Captain and he brought our boat to Chandbali for Rs. 43. I saved Rs. 107 by the transaction, so I felt very well repaid for my trip.

From Chordia our party came to Kandgodia, near which there are a few Christian people. There is a preacher’s house at Kandgodia which is also vacant. We spent a short time there and then returned to Chandbali. About eighteen days were spent on this trip. Besides visiting the villages, we gave the illustrated lectures on the life of Christ about fifteen times. It is not always easy to estimate the attendance at these evening meetings. The people sit on the ground, on
verandahs, and here and there, but I would estimate that about 2,500 people heard the Story of the Master in this way.

This was only one of our mofussel trips of the cold season, but it was made into a difficult and needy part of the country. We trust that it will result in good for the Master's Kingdom.

W. S. Dunn.

FILLING A VACANCY.

On March 10th we moved from the Kharida bungalow on the north side of Khargpur to the Union Church parsonage where Mr. and Mrs. Oxrieder have been living since Mr. Brush and family went on furlough. This is the fourth place in which we have lived since coming to India in the fall of 1926, and this is only temporary. When the Brush family returns in October we shall again move to the Kharida bungalow to continue work with the Indian people among whom we had been living for only eight months when we had to come here to carry on the English work left without a missionary by the departure of Mr. and Mrs. Oxrieder for the U.S. on account of poor health.

We are endeavouring to maintain the high standard of church activities and visiting in the homes set by Mr. Oxrieder, so that when Mr. Brush returns he will find the work progressing. This work, together with supervision of the Indian work and of the hostel for employees of the railway, allows Mr. Roadarmel but little time for Bengali study. He will have six weeks in Darjeeling for intensive study with the help of a tutor in preparation for his second Bengali examination in July.

Easter Program.

Our Easter services were well attended and the program by members of the Sunday School given at the evening service Easter Sunday we feel was very worth-while. Following songs and recitations by the younger children a dialogue was given by seven teen age girls and three little girls. This was called "Her Easter Choice" and was
written by Margaret Slattery. In it Louise, a girl of about 15 years, is offered several different paths in life. Pleasure, Beauty, Music, Power, and Fame each urge her to follow her way, but none of them can promise her happiness that will last forever, so she dare not follow. Finally, Christianity with Faith, Hope, and Love offers her a more abundant life through the risen Christ. Accepting the path revealed to her by Christianity Louise kneels at the Cross. Then Christianity calls all the other paths to consecrate themselves at the foot of the Cross, for Christ needs each one to make Louise’s life complete. The girls entered whole-heartedly into the spirit of this dialogue and it is our prayer that the time may soon come when each one will wholly surrender her life to the Saviour.

ETHEL N. ROADARMEL.

EXCERPTS FROM A HATIGARH LETTER.

Aside from fruits that are intangible this last four months have brought to realization some very definite things. One is an increased knowledge of the Oriya language which, while not sufficient to make preaching in the vernacular possible, is sufficient to make possible personal contacts that we hope will in time bear fruit. Then, too, there has come the inestimable benefit of being able to understand more of the spiritual life and thinking of the Indian Christian. This has brought in turn the conviction of the reality and depth of the spiritual experience of many, though there be Simons that follow afar off and others who, disciples in name, betray their Lord.

A local school committee has been organized and some progress has been made toward the development of a Christian school capable of meeting the needs of this part of rural India. We hope to open the carpentry shop in July and add agriculture and other village crafts to the available studies as time goes on.

A pastor has been called and is working in the local church after ten pastorless months. Evangelistic work has been actively carried on in many places, though the sowing has exceeded the reaping.
About twenty-two baptisms have occurred in the last two months in this section of the field. A new Santal church will be organized at Amdhia in May in a place where there wasn't a single Christian three years ago.

Many have been blessed through the dispensing of medicines by the Leper Clinic Doctor, but furnished by the Mission. Through a gift just received from a Hindu Young Men's Dramatic Club a number of lepers will find shelter during the rainy months just ahead, and may stay near the clinic, continuing their treatments.

There are other things that come into the picture. Recently three varieties of poisonous snakes have been killed in or near our bungalow: one a cobra in my office; another a krait (called by some a "minute snake", for one has about one minute to live before the deadly poison takes its effect); another a fascinatingly long thin green tree snake. The latter's habitat makes probable a bite on the face, very difficult to treat and rarely successfully treated. These experiences are rare enough not to have become commonplace, yet common enough to demand faith in His care for the children and for ourselves. Then again there is the enervating heat. An hour earlier this evening I might well have signed myself yours drippingly. A breeze has sprung up and the thermometer is below 90 degrees at last.

W. C. Osgood.

THE BALASORE DISTRICT MEETING.

The Balasore District meeting was held at Ujurda, March 26-29th. Ujurda is not very easily accessible since it is six or seven miles from Armada Road, the nearest railway station; and for about half the distance one must walk over rice fields to reach the village. However, the meeting was very well attended since there were not only delegates and visitors from various places, but there is also quite a large Christian community at Ujurda. The number of women of the place who were present was a matter of favorable comment. There is an or-
ganized church, and a very nice church building in which the meetings were held.

The days were busy ones. There were the usual devotional hours, discussions of various topics of interest, and business meetings. The Sunday morning devotional meeting was of special interest since it was led by a man from the mofussel who came out from Hinduism about seven years ago. It was interesting to see this man, who was a Hindu only a few years ago, lead a devotional meeting and give an understanding and helpful interpretation of the scripture lesson. One very important matter for consideration was the problem of the Home Mission work. Chordia is the Home Mission station. Almost all the members of the Christian community there have come out from Hinduism within the last seven years. The Pastor of the church there resigned about November 1st last year so the church was in great need of a resident Pastor. In response to the appeal and the great need a man has signified his readiness to go to this station. We certainly hope arrangements can be completed soon so he can go to Chordia to work with the people there.

There was an interesting discussion of "Vocational Guidance of Young Men and Women of the Community" by Mr. J. G. Gilson. So little has been done in India to help either young men or women to choose a vocation for which they are best suited. It is hoped that more instruction and work along the line of vocational guidance and training of young men and women can be done.

The subject, "Our Duty towards Seekers" was discussed by Rev. Rojani Mohapatra. This subject was also discussed at our last Annual Conference, but it is a matter of such importance that it ought to be considered more and more. There were other helpful discussions which I shall not attempt to mention.

On two evenings, by means of the stereopticon, illustrated lectures on the Life of Christ were given. One meeting was held on the church compound and the other was nearer the Hindu villages. These meetings were very well attended. These illustrated lectures always prove of interest to the people of the villages and are a means of presenting the story in vivid form.
On one afternoon a number of people visited the market and preached to the crowd assembled there. So there was the opportunity not only for instruction and the spiritual uplift of the Christian people, but there was an opportunity for others to hear the Gospel message. On Sunday morning after Sunday School and the devotional meeting ten were baptized.

The Pastor and the people of Ujurda are to be commended for their work and for the way in which they looked after the comfort and entertainment of guests and visitors. According to the program arranged by the Committee, visitors were to bear the expense of their entertainment, but the people of their own will prepared good food for all free of cost.

One matter of regret was the enforced absence of Rev. Notabar Singh who has been such an outstanding leader in the Lord’s work, not only in Balasore District but in the Mission. He has spent much time and labor for the people of Ujurda and the church there. On account of a recent operation on his eyes and his ill-health he was not able to be present at the meeting. His absence was a great loss to the meeting.

W. S. DUNN.

CHANDIPORE RETREAT.

Paul wrote to the Ephesians “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.” Truly a little group of us, 3 missionaries and about 30 men and women, have experienced this very blessing at Chandipore by the Bay of Bengal, ten miles from Balasore. The closing testimony and consecration service lasted 3 hours and no one seemed anxious to close it! Over 20 took part in words of praise, confession, aspiration and consecration. One woman who has been out of the church many years was present and in that closing meeting confessed her sin with tears.

I will not give the details of the program, but may say that the
principal themes were "The Humiliation and Exaltation of Jesus and their Meaning for Us" and "By Thy Spirit." The splendid fellowship between those present was a great thing in itself and the evident desire of all to be used in soul winning gives great promise of more usefulness in service. All agreed to pray each noon that the Holy Spirit shall come in person, and revival sweep over this field.

Thus God is preparing His servants for more fruitful service. At the same time we see on every hand in Balasore District a quickening of interest on the part of non-Christians. Many more people than ever before are wanting to know what the Christian Message is, more are taking Bibles, or Bible portions, and there are many earnest inquirers.

On Easter Sunday in Balasore 11 young men and boys, three girls, and one woman, who was from Hinduism, were baptized. Others are waiting. The previous Sunday on the closing day of our District Church Union Meetings 6 young men and 4 women, the latter all from Hinduism, were baptized at Ujurda. The spirit and fellowship of that meeting were fine. While there are still weaknesses among them, all present were greatly encouraged to see the progress made by these Ujurda people. They are the children or grandchildren of very humble people, some of whom lived by thieving and robbing. There has been a great change in them during the 40 years since the first people there were converted.

H. I. Frost.

PERSONALS

At the time this goes to Press Mrs. G. B. Harris is recovering from an operation for appendicitis at the Presidency General Hospital, Calcutta. We are thankful for answered prayer that she is getting along well and trust that by the time this word reaches her friends she will be gaining added strength in the hills of Darjeeling.

On March 1st Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Roadarmel were blessed by the arrival of a daughter, Carolyn Joyce.
Miss Mary Laughlin sailed for the United States in February.
Rev. H. I. Frost and Rev. H. C. Long with their families will leave for furlough period, early in August.
Rev. E. C. Brush and family expect to arrive in India, having completed their furlough, about October 17th.

When the hot days of May and June make work on the plains very trying many of our missionaries take their vacation, for part of these months at least, either in the hills or at Chandipur by the sea. At Chandipur the Mission owns three small houses and it is possible to rent others.

This season the following missionaries will be at Chandipur: Rev. W. C. Osgood, Rev. W. S. Dunn, Mr. John G. Gilson with their families, Rev. H. I. Frost, the Misses Ruth Daniels, Ada Stearns, Grace Hill, Naomi Knapp, Gladys Garnett, Dr. Mary Bachelor.

At Darjeeling: Rev. L. C. Kitchen, Mrs. Kitchen and Harold, Rev. A. A. Berg, Rev. C. C. Roadarmel with their families, Rev. G. B. Harris, Mrs. Harris, and Miss Ethel Cronkite.

At Landour: Mrs. Long, Frost, and Howard are keeping house for their children who are attending Woodstock School. Mr. Long and Mr. Howard will spend their vacation period with their families.

We extend our sincere sympathy to Rev. Kritibas Behara and his wife in the loss of their eldest son, Daniel, who passed away at the B.N. Ry. Hospital, Khargpur, on Sunday, May 10th, after a brief illness.