



RAMABAI MUKTI MISSION



PRAYER BELL

KEDGAON, POONA DISTRICT,

March—April, 1943.

DEAR FRIENDS,

Another Christmas has come and gone, and it was a happy time for our crowd of young people. They realised God's goodness to them in these hard days and how grateful they were for the gifts given—mostly clothing, though they all had sweets too. The 'Blossoms' had sticky masses in their hands and had a generous fit on. They were offering to share the sticky stuff with us; but all we could say was, 'Oh you eat it'.

The church was a picture with its dress of green and other decorations, and the girls and children all dressed in the gayest of colours. Why, of course, all were tuned because it was Christmas day and it only comes once a year! Then their dinner was extra nice, for there was mutton. What a treat in these difficult war times!

For the New Year we look to the Lord, knowing that 'He faileth not'. School has begun again and all were so happy to get back to lessons. Mrs. Phillips and Bhimabai have instituted birthday parties the last Saturday morning of each month. As you can imagine they are a great event. All who have a birthday during the month are invited.

Lately two or three cases of chickenpox have developed, and we hope it won't spread. Nurse Callan is doing her best to keep it within bounds.

Miss Morris, though not a doctor, gets many strange cases in the outside dispensary as well as continual maternity cases. She writes the following:

THE HEALER

That healing gift He gives to thee
 Who use it in His name:
 The power that filled His garment's hem
 Is evermore the same.
 The paths of pain are thine. Go forth
 With patience, trust and hope;
 The suffering of a sin-sick earth
 Shall give thee ample scope.

So shalt thou be with power endued,
From Him who went about
The Syrian hillside doing good,
And casting demons out.

That Good Physician liveth yet,
Thy Friend and Guide to be:
The Healer by Gennesaret,
Shall walk thy rounds with thee.

WHITTIER.

Village Dispensary

We praise God for the help given to us in our village dispensary. The need of the village people is great, and one's heart goes out to them as they come sick in body, and sick in soul—and so ignorant, some of them, of their need of salvation.

A few weeks ago a little boy was brought with his face so swollen up that he was unable to open his eyes. He had somehow hurt his gum, and it had been neglected and had become septic, and the flies had been allowed to settle on it, and therefore many maggots had been created. The teeth had receded from the gum; and the poor little boy was in agony. As I could not keep him in our hospital I asked the father to take him to the nearest hospital, and gave him a note for the Doctor.

After about three weeks I saw the father, and the little boy, the swelling all gone, but the inner side of his nose all eaten away. I asked the father if he had taken the boy to the hospital. He replied, 'No'. I said to the father, 'You are not a good father, and you have no love for your child to allow him to get into that state'. Praise God, our Heavenly Father does not neglect His children.

'For we have not an high Priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities.' 'Himself took our infirmities and bare our sickness.' Praise God for that.

Ramabai, a Brahman woman, the wife of a nearby Station Master, who had been in our Maternity Home to have one of her babies, and is very interested in the Christian religion, and often comes to see us, came a few days ago to say she was going into a Christian hospital to take up nursing, and wanted a recommendation.

After sitting talking a little while, she asked, 'What does the Bible say about this war?' "Wars and rumours of wars; see that ye be not troubled: for these things must come to pass", and we who are His know that we are safe in His keeping if we trust Him,' was the reply. Again she asked, 'How do you supply all your girls with food these days? I find it hard with my little

family to provide for them'. It was lovely to be able to tell her how God supplies our every need, especially in these days of war, and when things are so expensive. She marvelled at it. When she was leaving she said, 'I don't like to leave here. I feel I would like to live in the Mission and learn more of Jesus'.

Pray for this woman, that she may be led to know the Saviour. And for others too, who are almost persuaded. May the Lord in these days bring out many for His glory.

We have in our Village Hospital an old man of 75 years with malaria, his wife 70 years with pneumonia, the son and daughter-in-law to nurse them. We praise God that both are better now, and are ready to go home. It was nice to hear the son say this morning that 'It was Jesus who raised up my mother and father, with your help.' May the Lord help them to see that He is their Saviour and Friend.

Some of these village people are very, very poor, and have scarcely enough to eat and very little clothing, and do not know the Saviour Who is able to supply their need. We ask your prayers for them.

Yours in His Service,
E. A. MORRIS.

After many days comes a line from Miss Fletcher

Anandi Sadan

The past year has been rather an uneventful one, taking into consideration thirty odd teenage girls. The happiest event of the year was the day when we saw a number of them go through the waters of baptism. Now there are others who are attending the baptismal class. Pray that these girls may fully understand the step they are taking and be a testimony to others.

We have quite a number of boarders in the compound. One girl in particular shows a lot of promise. She comes from another language area and finds our Marathi language difficult, especially the genders; in her language they are the same as in English, but in Marathi there seems to be neither rhyme nor reason to them, as we can all testify. Every Sunday she comes with us to Dapodi, a village two miles away, and helps teach the children about Jesus. The other Sunday she surprised me by turning round to the women and preaching to them, and they listened well. May the Lord guide this young life into useful service for Himself!

We have another girl who goes out with Miss Callan on Sundays. She was very cruelly treated before she came here.

She too loves to go and tell others about Jesus. Now she is being tested along physical lines and needs your prayers.

Others of the girls help teach in our Sunday school. It helps them to grow in knowledge of the Word of God and to realise that they have a responsibility to others and that they are leaving childhood behind and growing up. It rather hurts sometimes!

GLADYS FLETCHER

The itinerating bands need special prayer; so many difficulties beset them. Satan is out to hinder of course; he knows his opportunities will soon end, so he is untiring in his efforts.

From Supa comes the news that they have to pay 8 annas a day for water, and fodder for the animals is a fearful price and hard to obtain even at that. The Lord will have laid these Gospel bands on your hearts for prayer, I'm sure. How we praise Him for all our prayer warriors! It is still true that 'Prayer changes things', and victory is promised through our Lord Jesus Christ.

May the days ahead be days of agonising in prayer for souls—days in which both the spoken and printed Word may be fruitful for His Kingdom.

Yours in blessed partnership,

J. WOODWARD

M. L. HASTIE

*Ramabai Mukti Mission,
Kedgaon, Poona Dist.,
India.*

Treasurer in America:

MISS J. PATTERSON,
P.O. Box 415,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Treasurer in Australia:

MR. H. P. SMITH,
315 Collins St.,
Melbourne.

Treasurer in New Zealand:

MR. D. W. KAYE,
43, Queen's Drive,
Musselburgh, Dunedin.

Treasurer in England:

MBS. M. BARRATT,
Chalfont, Carleton Ave.,
Pontefract, Yorks.