TIDINGS

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

Annual Report Number

MARCH, 1935

No. 1
BENGAL-ORISSA FIELD DIRECTORY

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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.

Local subscriptions from—
Mrs. E. C. Brush, Khargpur, Bengal—6 As. each.
This Annual Report Number contains the following suggestive statements.

Where are they found?

1. "Our first Santal girl passed the H.S. Matriculation Examination last spring and is now in college."
2. "It always ends up with Jesus."
3. "It was a joy to find that those poor souls counted the Thursdays and told the newcomers not to be so discouraged and lonely...."
4. "...then divided into groups—hygiene, health, sewing, Bible stories, and reading classes."
5. "...it is not surprising that many boys have little idea as to what an education is for, and are working chiefly for a 'pass' which will help them to 'get a job'."
6. "I had the most unique experience of having telephone service in mofussil."
7. "During most of the year I have been the only ordained man in active service in this part of the field."
8. "So it was decided during the year to reopen the artisan courses in village work.... the first students being 'harijan' boys sent by the Anti-Untouchability Society sponsored by Mr. Gandhi."
9. "The highest enrolment of the year was 189.... 110 were Christians and the rest Hindus."
10. "...I go back 25 years to the time of the durbar in India when the only women to take part were school girls and it was an advent for them. At that time the missionaries were praying that all doors might be open."
11. "We look forward to improvement of the school in the near future with its attractive curricula for students of all tastes and aptitudes."
12. "Every workman has learned the importance of standing ready for emergency calls of crying need."
13. "...we trust that the plan for co-operation in this type of training has been advanced on its way to becoming a permanent arrangement."
14. "...we are now residing in the 'Pittsburgh of India'."
15. "We are glad to take up the work again here where we can build upon the friendships of the past."
16. "Perhaps the greatest advance has been in the Sunday-school. The Keystone Graded Lessons have proved a great blessing both to teachers and pupils."

SANTIPORE

REV. W. C. OSGOOD AND MRS. OSGOOD

8,660 hours passing as swiftly as migrating wild geese have swept by, bringing again the opportunity and duty of reporting to you of the experiences these winged hours have brought. A backward look has always in it elements of regret as well as satisfactions. Attainments fall short of the ideal.

In evangelism and Christian nurture we deal largely with intangibles which do not lend themselves readily to measurement. Touring work was limited in January and February because six men who had been working in the Santipore Salgodia Local Committee area were sent to Bible School at Cuttack, aside from our senior evangelist who went there as teacher. During the month of January three other men came to help fill the vacant places. One of these is a college-trained young man who has been working at the task of getting a more satisfactory system of religious education across in the schools of this area. A second man has been working in four primary, one upper primary, and one middle school trying to put over in the lower grades the course prepared by Mr. Biswas in collaboration with two of our missionaries while in the higher classes the Charterhouse Course with adaptations is being introduced. A disappointing feature in the work has been the lack of enthusiasm and out-of-class preparation of Sunday School teachers in several of our churches. The training of a group of consecrated and devoted young people for efficient service in the church and kingdom is of the utmost importance. There has been a little "in-service-training" but no
adequately planned and consistently followed up program of work. A couple of Hindu Sunday Schools intermittently conducted by Christian Endeavor boys, three or four trips with the stereopticon to nearby villages with the young people talking on the pictures of the Life of Christ, occasional group witness in bazaar or festival, some cottage prayer-meetings, attendance at some conference or quarterly meeting and participation in the production of religious dramas at mela time; these aside from the regular services of the church and some pastoral work are the extent of the leadership training.

Two areas have been particularly responsive among aboriginal and low caste people and we have tried to concentrate work there with the result that six have been baptized in the one and twelve from the other during the twelve months and a considerable number of inquirers are receiving instruction. I baptized recently seven young people in Salgodia; all from Christian homes and the result of the faithful work of Mr. and Mrs. Ager and the Indian Christians there. Three others have been baptized at other places one added to each twelve of the church membership of the area. The nurture of the nineteen added from non-Christian homes will require considerable care as they are illiterate and very scattered.

We were examining inquirers for baptism in one of these places and we turned down two men on the ground that they had not brought their wives with them, as it has seemed wisest to wait until the whole family was ready to come together. One of these men ran two miles to the place where his wife was cutting paddy and brought her back with him before we were through baptizing the others and the other entered the stream where the rite was being performed and demanded to be baptized also. Another was all ready to come but his brother died and his mother and grandmother insisted that he wait and perform the ceremonies for the peace of his brother's soul which are performed according to Santal custom about the 15th of January. Without these ceremonies they believe that the soul will not enter heaven (a heaven of plural wives and delightful and abundant food and clothing—largely a heaven of physical rather than spiritual satisfactions).

During most of the year I have been the only ordained man in active service in this part of the field with seven churches depending on me for the administration of the ordinances. Another one of our senior evangelists
was retired in May and six Biblewomen of this area retired or dropped. The return to this area after having completed Bible School of four of the six young men who were sent for additional training, the other two having been stationed elsewhere, makes it possible for us to anticipate an even more fruitful year next year.

Committee work and various meetings and conferences occupied an unusually large amount of time as many far-reaching changes were made. Service on the Home Mission Board, Evangelistic Policies Committee, Reference Committee, Educational Survey Committee, Rural Survey, and Centenary Committee required this year a very considerable amount of time and work aside from the many other committees involved in carrying on mission work. We also had the privilege of organizing and attending a School for Missionary Workers among Hindus, in Darjeeling.

The Educational Survey recommended a unified control of village primary schools in our section of the field as well as in Bengal and I was asked to take the Oriya schools. While a number of visits to the various schools have been made so far our contribution has not been very great but we have been learning the problems, establishing contacts, trying to get a little better religious education started, to prepare helps for harassed teachers of very limited training who have to manage four classes of very small children at once with meager equipment, and beginning the preparation of a handwork syllabus which will introduce progression, and life relatedness and integrate the whole with the other subjects in the curriculum. Perhaps the outstandingly hopeful feature of the year has been the introduction of a new curriculum for classes one to five by the government which is at least twenty years ahead of the old one. The Jaleswar mission school has received additional grants and is on a more satisfactory financial basis.

Santipore schools have made real progress towards educational efficiency culminating in the recognition of the school as amalgamated, as a Middle English School with a Rural bias. Agriculture was added to the carpentry already on the curriculum and additional equipment for the teaching and demonstration of that subject added. Two boys passed the middle school here and four more passed the equivalent examination elsewhere, far the largest group of Santipore boys who have passed such a standard at any one time, in recent years at least.
The irrigation dam was once more repaired and we believe put in shape so that it will stand the wear and tear of a good many rainy seasons. The Hatigarh Leper Clinic and Dispensary building has been completed and a resident doctor secured. This has required a good deal of time and attention and will require more before it can be brought to a satisfactory financial basis and its permanency guaranteed against the vicissitudes of varied government support and public subscriptions. 14,215 treatments were given and among the lepers the improvement in physical condition is very marked.

When the record of a missionary year is made up the strain of months of family separation on account of the children's schooling; an average of day and night maximum and minimum temperatures for six months of 91 plus and for nine months of over 85; the poor economy, forced by restricted budgets, of having to travel 20, 30, 40, even 50 miles on foot or bicycle day after day in all sorts of weather over rice embankments, jungle trails through sand, mud, water in tropical rains or sun; hours of routine work pouring over reports and accounts; work as overseer of property repairs; preparation of addresses and literature in a foreign language and all the infinite variety of cares and responsibilities that fall to a missionary's lot as Father Confessor, employer, judge, teacher, pastor, and friend must go into the accounting.

So we give back to Him the year that was His and your gift to us, filled as it was with opportunities and rich fellowships, with a prayer that the mistakes and failures may be overruled and forgiven and that lessons learned may make of the one to come one more fruitful and more in accordance with the pattern He weaves through the years. 8,660 hours returned but not emptiness to the Maker of hours.

BHADRAK

REV. W. S. DUNN AND MRS. DUNN

As usual we began the work of the new year in the Chandbali area. The preachers and I first camped at Dhamara, where we spent several days;
but there our work was somewhat hindered on account of an epidemic of cholera in some of the villages which we wished to visit. However, we visited some of the people in the unaffected areas. Although Dhamara is a mofussil place on the river several miles from Chandbali, there I had the most unique experience of having telephone service in the mofussil (country villages). Since Dhamara is near the mouth of the river, a telephone line had been made to connect with the Port Commissioner's office in Chandbali; so from my camp in the mofussil I talked with my family in Chandbali. This is the only mofussil camp which I have ever known where telephone service was available. From Dhamara I wished to go to Chordia, which is a Home Mission station, where there are some Christians all of whom are converts from Hinduism. But since we had reports that there were cases of both cholera and smallpox in that locality we thought that it would not be wise to camp there. So we moved to Kandgordia. We went up the river in a country boat and on our arrival we could find neither carts nor men to help us with our tents and other baggage. Our camping ground by the preacher's house was a mile away. We finally began to carry the things ourselves. Going across the rice fields with half a double tent on my back was not the most desirable way of travel, but I finally reached our camping ground with my load. At last a few men of the village came to assist us and we succeeded in making the new camp. Here Rev. P. C. Nayak, the Travelling Secretary for Balasore District, joined us and rendered valuable service in helping settle some difficulties and quarrels which had arisen in the village. Of course there was also preaching in the villages. There have been some baptisms in this place and I hope to camp there again after Christmas.

From Kandgordia we returned to Chandbali and started out in another direction through a section of the country which had not been visited by either a missionary or an Indian preacher for several years. We made several camps, preached at markets, visited people in the villages, and by the use of the stereopticon we gave the illustrated lectures on the life of Christ.

I had to return to Bhadrak with my family in time for my wife to pack up to go to Darjeeling where Helen entered school again. After their departure I returned to Chandbali again where I spent some time. With some of the members of the Educational Survey Committee I visited Chordia where
we hoped that we might devise some ways and means of establishing a primary school. There a man was pretending to carry on a school with a few children but he had no qualifications as a teacher and there was no school worthy to be called one. Chordia is such an inaccessible place and there is so much difficulty on account of a lack of a supply of water fit for use that teachers do not wish to go to the place. The problem of a school there has not yet been solved but I hope that the need will not be lost sight of. There are not so many Christian children there, but the ones who are there should have the advantage of at least a primary school.

After the rains began I spent most of the summer in Bhadrak and vicinity. I also visited Chandbali again, making the trip by steamer for the first time. During the rainy season the road to Chandbali is so filled with mud and water that it is very difficult to go that way. I secured deck passage on the steamer from Calcutta for Rs. 2-8-0 each way. On the return voyage I certainly had Rs. 2-8-0 worth of rocking. It was a small steamer and the sea was somewhat "choppy". I don't think that I had ever had quite such a rocking "in the cradle of the deep".

During my summer vacation in Darjeeling I attended the "School of Hinduism" for one month. For the recent Training Class for workers I was requested to give some talks on Hinduism which I attempted to do. Some understanding of the religious thought and background of the people among whom we work is helpful.

There have been two baptisms from Hinduism in the field during the past year. I wish that the number had been greater but I trust that through the work which we have tried to do many more have learned something of the Saviour. One of the most interesting inquirers whom I have seen I met only last week. One of the preachers and I were going through a village when we met a man on the path who stopped us and asked us if we could tell him the right Way. We sat down under a tree and told him about the Saviour. He seemed to be impressed with what he heard. He bought a copy of John's Gospel and went on. Next day the preacher and I went to his village to see him. In the evening he came to see us. This has been my first contact with this man. He is a man of some education and seems to be a rather outstanding man in his village. Pray for him that he may really come to know the Way and become a follower of the Master.
During the year attending meetings of various kinds, committees, and carrying on correspondence as Mission Secretary have taken some time. Meetings with the Indian brethren are necessary and a certain amount of routine work also seems necessary. But as I live in India and attempt to do various kinds of work among the people, may I show a Christlike life before them from day to day.

BALASORE

MR. AND MRS. J. G. GILSON

One of the first impressions in connection with this year's work is that a great deal of time has been spent in committee meetings and work connected therewith. That impression is perhaps not altogether justified, as there seems to be a tendency among us to exaggerate the importance of the time thus taken from our station work. I am not one of those, however, who consider such time wasted for I believe that we may well spend more time in making objective studies of our procedures and planning our work in co-operation so as to make it more effective and united. I hope that the time that I have spent on the Educational Survey, the Property and Reference Committees may have contributed something to these ends.

I have also had more of the general station work than in former years partly due to Mr. Frost's absence from the station during most of the year. The care of property including rents and taxes has taken a great deal of time because the complicated systems of holdings was new to me and there were a number of disputes to be settled as well as some plots for which sales are to be arranged.

Even so, probably half of my time has been spent in the Technical School and it is there that I feel that I have accomplished most during the year, though I do not pretend to take the credit for all the progress which I have to report. But I do feel that some real progress has been made in the development of the instructional work of the school.

This year new courses were introduced into the curriculum in civics, elementary electricity, vocational guidance and shop problems. For the last-mentioned subject the students are divided according to the work which
they are doing in the shop and the class work closely correlated with the shop work.

The change from the half-day to the week-in-and-week-out system of holding classes and workshop practice has also been a considerable advantage in continuity of work and of study and has allowed the students to complete bigger projects in the shop as well as to do more work outside the shop.

The improvement in the use of the library and reading room during the year has been one of the features of the school work. Nearly 200 volumes of books and pamphlets, besides catalogs and periodicals, have been added to the library, and the time schedule of the classes has been so arranged that every student has on the average about two periods a day for study and reading as he pleases. No text-books are used in most of the classes, and students are asked to find much of their information from the library. It is interesting to note how much interest the students, most of whom have had to quit the traditional schools because "they had no mind to read", develop in books when they have free access to them and can use them for finding solutions to their problems instead of just reading lessons or cramming for examinations. The boys have really been known to fight over books which were used for references to shop problems.

Due to the decreased appropriations for the work the amount of help to students has had to be reduced considerably. This has resulted in some students having to leave the school and in a smaller enrollment of new students for the new year, so that the enrollment for January, 1935, is the lowest for some years.

Another reason for the decreasing enrollment is the fact that so many students have completed courses in the school in the past two years and gone to work. During 1934 ten boys have completed courses. All but two of them have work for at least part time so that they can earn their own living. As the railway and other large shops are taking on no new hands they are all forced to find work in local shops or to set up their own business at home.

This change in the employment of past students is leading to a changed emphasis in the shop work of the school as well, much less work than formerly being done on the power-driven machinery and more by methods which may be used in the villages.
The scholastic standing of the school has been raised to that of a high school and only boys of middle school pass are to be accepted for admission to technical classes in 1935. This leaves a very needy class of boys without a chance. So it was decided during the year to reopen artisan courses in village work for boys without the literary qualifications. These classes were started in July, the first students being "harijan" boys sent by the Anti-untouchability Society which is sponsored by Mr. Gandhi.

A very significant development during the year which will greatly affect the work of the school in the future is the proposal which has been under consideration for some time, but which took on definite form and life in the Educational Survey Committee, for combining the Technical School with the High School which is on the same compound. The proposal as a whole has not yet been formally approved by the Government, but has received sufficient official approval to insure that it can be put into effect, at least in part, during the coming year. This should greatly improve the efficiency of both schools and offer a more suitable education for the boys of this community.

No report on the work of the school could be complete without including some reference to the rapid development in tube well and septic tank work, but this will be reported by Mr. Eller so I need only mention it here.

Not as much advance has been made in the religious activities and religious education in the school as one could hope for. Bible courses are conducted as usual and an attempt has been made to make the discussions touch the practical affairs of every-day life as much as possible. One significant step is that the boys now plan and conduct themselves the morning worship which was formerly led entirely by the chaplain. Thus they are developing the ability to take active part and lead in public worship. We hope that larger developments may come during the next year.

MISS SARA B. GOWEN

The family at Sinclair Orphanage and Boarding has varied. At times it has numbered fifty, other times forty-five, at present there are forty-six.
Our Head Matron who has been here for twenty years frequently calls it a Life-Saving Station, quoting Mrs. Burkholder of beloved memory, who liked to consider it as that sort of a place. I wish we were more worthy the name. Recently a widowed mother made a long trip to visit her only daughter just previous to her engagement. She had to leave two days before the engagement party but there was a lot of joy packed into that week for mother and daughter. Old girls stay here while waiting for work appointments if they have no relatives and occasionally some married girl comes who is ill or over-weary, to rest and recuperate for a while.

During the past year nine girls have been baptized and joined the church in Balasore. Four girls have married, and three engagements took place in the month of January, 1935. We cannot keep up this rate until the end of the year. Two of these girls are marrying twin brothers of a teacher in the school here. Those brothers are so much alike that it would be very easy to start a comedy of errors in the family. In fact after the engagement when the respective couples were about to enjoy their first conversation together, Gunoda Dede, the twin’s older sister, looked carefully to see if I had distributed the brides as intended. I had, but the only mark of differentiation was a shirt collar. What shall I do next time?

Another S.O. girl who had two years in H.S. and one year of teachers’ training had the rather unusual experience of having three desirable positions for life offered her at almost the same time. One was to learn Compounding in a Mission Hospital which would lead to a Government certificate, another to teach in a Government School with almost as good a salary as if she had passed Training, but the third she accepted and had her engagement party last week. Our house was so full of people that it was difficult to serve the refreshments that the groom’s party had brought.

Wednesday night a girl of about seventeen years who had never stepped foot before on a railway train left at midnight to make an eight-hour trip alone to the Hospital where she has gone to enter Nurse’s Training. I have not yet had time to hear of her arrival. She makes the fifth of our S.O. girls to be working in the same Hospital at the present time. This is in the Baptist Mission at Berhampore.

At present there are twenty-three girls in the Orphanage dependent upon the Mission. Of this number seventeen are in school. One is teaching
the Industrial class and four are cooking. The other is a semi-invalid. All the remaining children pay some board, from Rs. 2 to Rs. 5 per month. Most of these go home for vacations, three are supported by specifics.

The Industrial Classes were started to give S.O. girls who failed in school some useful employment at home. A Government grant of Rs. 25 continues to be given us, and a large number of women have learned many practical things in these classes. We have no difficulty in disposing of all the work we make.

There are eight women living in the Home for Widows. Only three of these are dependent on the Mission. Two of these are very old and the third is necessary to care for these two. As a Hostel for workers the Home serves a very useful purpose. Living there, but earning their own living are two Zenana teachers, one Biblewoman and two women in domestic service. None of these have any homes of their own.

ZENANA WORK

An energetic young Hindu nurse said to me recently that she could never have taken and passed her training had it not been for the Big Sister who came to teach her reading at home. I did not know that she had taken any kind of training but she was quite ready for the work of a District Nurse except that her years are not quite enough for so public a task. Then I remembered that the Government Inspectress had once wanted to help her prepare for school teaching and had told her what she must do for preparation. She is now about to take Teachers' Training but in the meantime she has passed Nurse's Training and learned some good hand-work with our Zenana teacher. I asked her what she would like for a prize and she promptly replied that a Bible would help her most. Another pupil rather good in hand-work has called several neighbors together and begun teaching them what she has learned.

There is a remarkable stirring among Indian women of all classes. I am sometimes reminded of a cocoon. For so long they have been concealed and tied by the customs of creed and caste, that now when they are ready to come outside and enjoy their surroundings there are many difficulties to be overcome in order to be quite at ease.

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To celebrate the 25th anniversary of the King-Emperor's reign which occurs this year early in May, a Working Committee was formed last week to make plans for Balasore to celebrate. This Committee consists of the leading Government officials, lawyers and business men of the town. I was the only woman present on two occasions. The District Inspectress of Schools, a Christian, was appointed but only one of perhaps fifty Indian gentlemen present was quite willing that his wife should serve. At the second meeting however the attitude had changed or perhaps the arrangements suited better, quite a large Committee of women was formed of which I am to be the Convener, and this Committee will arrange for an Exhibition of hand-work done by any women in Balasore, also entertainments and refreshments for all. Among this group are some very conservative and orthodox Hindus.

And then I go back 25 years to the time of the durbar in India, when the only women to take any part were school girls and it was an adventure for them. At that time missionaries in Balasore were praying that all doors might be open. They are open and soon the number of Hindu graduates may outnumber the Christians. They are opening slowly to medical aid and Child Welfare of a scientific type I believe that more than in many nations they are truly open to the “True Light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world”.

MISS ETHEL M. CRONKITE

Balasore Girls’ High School

The staff of the Girls' School in January of 1934 consisted of fourteen Indian teachers, thirteen Christian women and one Hindu Pundit. The Head Mistress, Miss Mahanty, is a trained graduate, four are Matriculates of which three were trained and the remaining three passed grammar school and Junior Training. In July, Miss Komolini Chatterjee, one of the Junior trained teachers, had completed 25 years of service in the school, so this anniversary was celebrated by the staff giving her a party and a pair of gold ear-rings. Only one change was made in the staff during the year, and that was in July when Miss Mary George, a graduate of the Women’s Christian
College of Madras, took the place of one of the Matriculate trained teachers. At the close of the year one teacher resigned to get married, and her place has been filled by another teacher of the same qualifications. This staff has been most loyal to the school in every way during the past. Even though their scale of pay was reduced a year ago, and again it has been necessary for each one to be assessed a small amount to make up Rs. 20 a month to meet that much of a deficit a month, hoping that this will only be a temporary arrangement until either the Municipality increases its grant or money is available from some other source; still every teacher worked just as hard or harder and the results were good for the year.

Nine girls took the Middle School Certificate Examination which is a Government examination for passing grammar school, eight passed and one with distinction in arithmetic. One girl took the Upper Primary Scholarship Examination and was successful, getting 88% in Literature and 100% in arithmetic, and will receive the Scholarship of Rs. 4 a month for two years.

The highest enrolment was in March which was 189, fourteen more than at any time during the previous year. Of this number, 110 were Christians and the rest Hindus. 46 were studying in the Bengali section. Before the year closed, one Mohammedan girl joined the school. There has been a satisfactory bus arrangement during the past two years, which is helping to increase the numbers and giving an opportunity for the town girls, who live at some distance, to attend school.

The Educational Committee of the Mission and Miss Van Doren, Educational Secretary of the National Council, made a survey of all of the schools of the Mission, and recommended that the necessary changes be made, so that the hostel can be located on the school compound, after which as soon as funds are available that the two classes be added again to complete the high school course.

The Beginner and Primary Sunday School classes are held in the Girls' High School building. Besides the special days of Easter and promotion day, two other Sundays were of special interest, one was a time when the children spent their money. On Saturday before, I took the children to the bazaar and let the girls pick out some saries for little girls and the boys some dhotis for boys, and they figured up their accounts to the amount of Rs. 2 for each group. Sunday morning the Pastor of the Church, Mr. Frost,
the Superintendent of the Sunday School and Miss Komolini Chatterjee, who teaches a Sunday School class in a Hindu village, met with them. The children gave the Pastor Rs. 3 toward his salary, Mr. Frost the new clothes to take to some poor Christian children in some distant village, the Superintendent Rs. 2 to buy prizes for them on Promotion Sunday for those who had done good work during the year, and Rs. 2 to Miss Chatterjee to get some Christmas presents for the Hindu children. Some weeks later, Miss Chatterjee invited these Christian children to go in the school bus with her Hindu children to some pretty little place beside the river for the purpose of giving the Hindu children their Christmas presents. Both the Christian and Hindu children were very happy.

Pray for our Indian children both those who attend our Christian schools and those who attend Sunday Schools that more and more Jesus will become real to them, and they may accept Him as their best Friend.

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MR. R. K. SAHU

Quotations from the report given on Prize-Day to the assembly present.

Christian High School Report, 1934-35

PRESIDENT, LADIES, AND GENTLEMEN,

It gives me immense pleasure to welcome you this afternoon to encourage our pupils, and accord hearty thanks to you for your kind presence and your interest in the welfare of this school. It might be interesting to know, that we observed no such ceremony last year since our students, alive to the untold sufferings of the earthquake stricken people of North Bihar, voluntarily contributed their prize-money to the Viceroy's Fund, and also raised funds by a theatrical performance in the school. The total amount contributed by our students amounted to Rs. 251-8.

The total number of pupils in the roll this day is 190, out of whom 54 are Christians and 136 Hindus. Last year out of 96 students in the lower classes, 73 were promoted, and out of 69 in the top three classes, 42 were promoted. The promotion in the top two classes were rather stiff, with a view to raise the standard higher, in conformity with requirements of the
University Examination. Last year 14 candidates were sent up for the Matriculation Examination and 4 passed.

The school has, adjoining to it, the Easley Memorial Hostel which comfortably accommodates 39 boarders out of whom 13 are Hindus and 26 Christians. The Hindu boarders have their own mess, managed by themselves and an executive body to preserve discipline and order among the boarders. The hostel is under the supervision of Missionaries and its sanitary arrangements have been commended by the school medical officer.

The school library consists of 1,168 books, divided into three sections. Every class has its own library managed by the class Monitor. The common reading room is managed and supervised by the School Chatra Mongal Panchait, consisting of boys of different classes.

The pupils have a debating club managed by the students themselves under the supervision of selected teachers. There are 13 tenderfoot scouts in the school who have passed the tenderfoot tests held in the school in September last. The teachers have association meetings once a month, to discuss topics of educational interest and daily class room problems, and also have demonstration lessons given by trained and experienced teachers, for the benefit of the rest.

The manual training class is held in the school premises where the pupils of Classes VIII and IX learn carpentry. It is worth mentioning that Missionaries, the proprietors of the school, have realized the needs of the country and have attempted a unified and comprehensive system of education, since, mere provisions of cultural education do not adequately meet the increasing requirements of economic life. Their project is to broaden and enrich the curricula of the school, by the inclusion of studies or occupations that would lay a solid foundation of practical interests, develop resourcefulness and cultivate qualities, not only of head and heart, but also of the hand, so as to create a real continuity between general education course and specific vocational training and practical occupation of life. Since the Government have approved of the new curricula, we look forward for distinct improvements of the school in the near future with its attractive curricula for students of all tastes and aptitudes.
Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Eiler

Health Engineering

Five years of very interesting Health Engineering experimentation has become practical through the activities of the Engineering Research Department of the Balasore Technical School. From a humble beginning on money loaned from a missionary's meagre salary, and machinery gleaned from scrap-iron piles and second-hand shops, tube-well experiments have developed into an extensive business, economically sound and financially resourceful. Passing time has created four separate well-drilling machines which have supplied ever-increasing demand and been used to answer the call of the distressed and dying in plague-stricken areas of water-borne diseases. Over 160,000 square miles of India's vast plain, these machines have found cause for action in a God-given privilege of piercing the parched and contaminated crust to bring to the surface of the earth, uncontaminated water-of-life to those who thirst. Good water alone cannot rectify the water-borne disease infection process. This contamination and the carelessness everywhere, and sewage disposal methods must be improved before cholera, typhoid fever, and the ever-present dysentery menace can be brought under control.

For that reason, the over-worked Engineering Research Department was compelled to add to its sphere of activities experimentation with a simple, but effective method of sewage treatment. The outgrowth of this research quickly took form in the Balasore Sewage Treatment Plant which has established a popularity of its own in Railway settlements, municipalities, and government-controlled areas. These plants have already cleaned up the contamination menace in several towns and important settlements and the demand for their installation is daily increasing.

The office of the Balasore Technical School appears to have outgrown the realm of engineering and established itself as a dispenser of health over large areas. However, the surgical tools still in evidence are tube-well pumps, tongs, and pipes, together with the sewage-treatment-plant fittings. Every workman has learned the importance of standing ready for emergency calls of crying need. Like the family doctor, we are ready, not for calls during office hours only, but to give help when help is needed.
In the gruelling sun at noon time,
In the glow of closing day,
When the dew of night is falling,
And then on till break of day.
You will see the workmen toiling,
Toiling on the parched earth's crust,
You will hear the villagers calling
Quench our thirst, or die we must.
We must tap the earth's thick surface,
So that streams of life will flow,
From God's store of pure clear water,
To earth's sufferers bending low.

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REV. H. I. FROST

CHRISTIAN TRAINING COLLEGE, CUTTACK

Ten months of the year were spent in Cuttack where I acted as Principal of the Christian Training College in which we are co-operating with the English Baptist Mission. This is the only Bible School available for the young men of our Bengal-Orissa Mission, whether they be Bengali, Santal, or Oriya. The College re-opened for the 1934 session on January 6th. An opening service was held at the Baptist Church on that day. Mr. Prafulla Das, Vice-President of the Orissa Central Church Council, gave the address. Classes began on January 8th. The first semester ended on May 9th. We re-assembled after the holiday on June 22nd and spent the day in worship and meditation. September 13th was taken as a Mid-term Day of Retreat, and we were very helpfully led in our worship and meditation by Mr. Lalmohan Patnaik. The final examinations were held from October 25th to 31st.

Three of us made up the staff. Besides myself there was Rev. B. Pradhan, B.D., who has taught in the College some years, and Rev. Gangadhar Rath of our Bengal-Orissa Mission. I wish to record my deep appreciation of the cordial support and valuable help received from
Mr. Pradhan during the whole year. Reverend Rath also co-operated heartily and did very efficient work as a teacher.

We began the year with 19 students, 13 from the Bengal-Orissa Mission and 6 from the English Baptist Mission Field. The distribution by race was, Oriya, 12; Bengali, 3; Santal, 2; Khond, 2. There was a good spirit of comradeship among the students. The Bengali and Santal students were contented and said they were satisfied with the College. The distribution by classes was, Fourth Year, 2; Third, 7; Second, 4; and First, 6. The 2nd, 3rd and 4th Year students were in the same classes, except for Church History, in which subject the 2nd Year men had a separate course. Four students from the English Baptist Mission were in the 2nd Year class and two, the Khond students, were in the First Year. Unfortunately one B.-O. Mission student had to leave just a short while before the final examinations owing to illness in his family and has since been dropped from our evangelistic staff. All the rest finished the year's work. Everyone had an average mark for the year's work well above the pass mark. Several did superior work. Failures in the subjects were few, and only two, these not B.-O. men, failed in more than one subject. The First Year students took the India Sunday School Union examination on the book for teachers, 'The Child and His Religion'. Five of the six passed, one with Honors, and one in First Division, and they have received certificates from the Sunday School Union. The earnestness with which the 8 students from our Mission who came from active service as pastors and evangelists took up their study was most praiseworthy. The plan of having the students take up active work after two years of study, which was pursued by this Mission as long as we had our own Bible School, has been fully justified.

During the year the students carried on regularly the Sunday morning service at the Leper Asylum. For a good part of the year they did the preaching at the Church in Mandapara, a village 3 miles away, across the Mahanadi River. Three students were regular teachers in the Cuttack Sunday School. Successful trips were made with a group of older students for the purpose of preaching and selling Gospels and tracts, first, by houseboat on the Mahanadi in March, and, second, to Puri for the famous Jagannath Car Festival in July. Besides this, bazaar preaching was done a few times in Cuttack, and a visit was made to a local festival.
The results of this year's effort, as they concern our Bengal-Orissa Mission, are that four promising young men are successfully started on their training for evangelistic work, and six have completed their formal training for the Christian ministry, and are ready to enter into the places being left vacant by our older men as they retire. In addition we trust that the plan for co-operation in this type of training has been advanced on its way to becoming a permanent arrangement.

Apart from the town church of Balasore which is self-governing, there are four churches under the care of the Balasore Local Committee, Metrapore, Kundupur, Kusudhia, and Ujurda. The responsibility for the District work rested upon our Indian brethren. The leadership in this was furnished by Rev. Natobar Singh, our Senior evangelist, who, although he was retired from active service on May 1st, served as Chairman and Treasurer of the Local Committee, and by Rev. Probodh Nayak, who is the District Travelling Evangelist. Great credit is due to these faithful and consecrated brethren. The Kundupur and Kusudhia churches, both with a small membership have had accessions by baptisms from the Hindu community. A preaching party spent nearly two months in the villages at the beginning of the year, and again at the end of the year a party was organized and at work. Owing to reduced income this type of work has had to be curtailed somewhat, and the three preachers not attached to churches have worked in the vicinity of a church. Little antagonism is shown towards the preaching of the Gospel. In many places the Hindus listen willingly. There are inquirers, but it takes time to win them to full surrender.

Mention should be made of the work of our faithful brother, Hrudananda Sahu, who is called Librarian of the Balasore Reading Room, but who has got out each month a paper, called "Nur", which is definitely a Gospel newspaper for non-Christians. While articles and discussions intended primarily for Muslims have been featured, yet there have been articles of interest to Hindus, and some are subscribers, as well as a number of Muslims. The latter come by ones and twos almost daily to the Library and read and discuss. The influence of this effort extends to distant places in Orissa. In Cuttack I had as frequent visitors two Muslim young men whose home village is 7 or 8 miles from that city, that is, 120 miles from Balasore. One of these young men boldly declares himself to be a Christian, and testifies
to his faith, in his home, and wherever he goes. He seems to be a true believer and we hope soon to baptize him. He came to Balasore and spent some days with Hrudananda Babu, and we hear from him often. Their interest began through literature sent from the Balasore Library.

The few weeks of the year which remained after our return from Cuttack were taken up with Annual Conference, held here, with getting hold of our duties here again, and short trips into the District. Mrs. Frost has told of some of these activities in her report which accompanies this.

REPORT OF MRS. FROST

This past year I have spent six months in Cuttack, four months in Landour, Mussoorie, making a home for our little daughter, and two in Balasore.

At Cuttack I enjoyed opening our home to the students of the Christian Training College. I entertained them all together once, and also in small groups, as well as taking an interest in the health of the families of two or three of the students who are married and had their families with them. I enjoyed helping in the Anglo-Indian Sunday School by playing the piano and teaching a class of junior boys. I took some part in the meeting for Indian women, and also took my turn at leading the weekly English prayer-meeting. I had the pleasure of helping entertain guests at the English Baptist Conference in October, and again during our own Conference in November.

After Conference in November we had a most interesting time in taking one of the students, who was two years ago converted from Brahminism, and his wife and two children, to the wife's Brahmin home, in the village of Balabhudrapur, about 25 miles away in Mayurbhanj State. His father-in-law a Brahmin priest, met us with a smile, his mother-in-law, with tears of gladness, as she saw her daughter again after a two years' absence. She said to me, almost in a whisper, "Let the saheb go back to Balasore and look after your house and you stay here with her" (the daughter, Anandini). Her thought was that, if I went back, the daughter would have to go with me, but she wanted to keep her for a while. This we had intended and so told her that her daughter could stay and we would come again after a week to camp there and to preach there and in nearby villages.
Think of that home-coming and welcome, with no kissing, no embracing, not even touching one another, because daughter and husband were Christians. They were Brahmins. Yet the feelings were there. The two Christians could eat from their hands, but not they from the hands of the Christians. And after each meal the Christians had to take up the left-overs and throw them away, for food once touched by a non-Brahmin is particularly defiling.

Ana had brought a new frock for her little 4-year old sister. She put it on but, alas, it was "miles too short" as she had not allowed sufficiently for the two years' growth of the child. Many relatives were introduced and then I introduced some of ours by showing small snapshots, and soon we felt acquainted. We were invited to eat dinner at the house of a neighbor, a widow, whose son had just applied for a teaching position in our High School. Several neighbors had taken a part in helping cook the delicious meal of luchees (flour cakes fried in deep ghee), vegetable curry, fried egg-plant, plantains, etc. After dinner we made several calls. One mother called out her "bo" (daughter-in-law) to show her off, expecting comments as one would on a newly made frock. A grannie standing in the court-yard said, "She will be like your 'bo', will she not?" We talked to them about our Gospel and at 2 o'clock were about to leave for home, but Ana's father insisted that we must eat in their house also. So Ana's mother and friends made some rice flour, while we sat and watched it being pounded fine, and from it cakes, which were very good, cooked in ghee and eaten hot, along with a cup of tea.

Ana's husband, Banmali Mishra, the student, was formerly a school teacher and was well-known in those parts. The news of his conversion has spread far and wide. He stayed with the preachers in the tent after they came, and gave a splendid witness to his faith in Christ. Many people came to the tent, especially at evening, to ask questions and discuss religion. One evening Ana's father came and stayed a long time. He walks two miles twice daily to conduct the worship of Siva in the house of a well-to-do merchant of good caste in another village. He acknowledged that he did "for his stomach only", and that there was nothing in the worship he conducted. Yet he takes the responsibility of encouraging many people in error! If he would only repent and turn to Christ. Wherever we went,
not only in Banmali’s own village, 5 miles from there, but in other villages people inquired about him and about the Christian religion. It is most significant that this Christian man and his wife are welcomed, and can eat, in their own homes, even if they cannot stay long. It has not been so in the past.

We have been to Metrapore twice. While there I succeeded in getting the Christian women (it is a Christian village of 12 houses) to feel somewhat their responsibility for their Hindu neighbors in nearby villages, and four of them volunteered, and, later, made friendly calls in a Hindu village to tell women of Christ. On our second visit two Balasore women, whom I took with me, and I called in one village where a young married man who was formerly a pupil in the Metrapore school is “almost persuaded” to become a Christian. He came to church on Sunday afternoon. We went to Kundupur one Sunday and witnessed the baptism of three converts, a man (who unfortunately has since died), his wife and mother. They were Hindus before and his father an arch-enemy of the Gospel. I have had two quite satisfactory meetings with our Balasore Christian Women’s Society which had not met for six months. The first was a testimony and praise service and all 14 present took part. At the second meeting, 27 present, I spoke on “Why and How Share Christ”. Pray for me that I may help the Indian women to feel their responsibility, and for them that “they may become witnesses”.

JAMSHEDPUR

REV. AND MRS. G. B. HARRIS

Events entirely outside the scope of our reckoning a year ago forced the drastic alteration of such plans as we had made for the year 1934. Conditions in Midnapore continued discouraging, and since it seemed there would be little possibility of renewing on any large scale the station activities of several years ago, we purposed to try to develop the mofussil (rural) projects with which we were already dabbling. Mrs. Harris was able to engage herself with some degree of regularity in the work of the Midnapore
Biblewomen, walking to nearby villages to give Bible instruction, and she found the labor fascinating. The physical and intellectual needs, as well as the spiritual, impressed her greatly, so that she was beginning to talk of plans for their alleviation. I was meanwhile spending considerable time out in the country with some of our Bengali preachers.

But the transfer of Mr. and Mrs. Marsh to the Burma Mission for English work in Rangoon created a vacancy in Jamshedpur which required the immediate attention of Conference. Mr. and Mrs. Roadarmel, at home on furlough, were taking certain courses which would peculiarly fit them for work in an industrial center, and it was decided to ask them to come to Jamshedpur. But since they would not be returning until November a temporary arrangement was necessary, and I was asked to become acting pastor of the Church of Christ and acting Station Missionary at Jamshedpur. From the first of May I made regular weekly trips between Midnapore and Jamshedpur. Things in Midnapore became even less inviting than theretofore. Before Mr. and Mrs. Roadarmel arrived a change was decided upon, subject to their approval, whereby they would be assigned to Khargpur, their former station, and one providing opportunities for the use of their special training, and the Harrises would be transferred to Jamshedpur. This arrangement became effective December 1st, and we are now residing in "the Pittsburgh of India".

The work here has innumerable problems. Mrs. Harris at first felt that Midnapore needed her more. However, we feel that there is really greater hope of effective service in this station. Since our arrival here one man, an educated Bengali, has professed faith in Christ and has been baptized, and several other young men of comparable status have manifested considerable interest. One of the latter has asked for baptism, but we have felt it well to postpone acceptance for a while. He comes regularly every week for Bible discussion. Attendance at the English services is fair. Our Sunday Schools flourish while the children are home from school. Prayer meeting in our Anglo-Indian quarter commands interest and fairly good attendance. The Indian churches (two in number) manage their affairs with but little help from us and do it well. On the whole, we are happy and well in our new work.
KHARGPUR

REV. AND MRS. C. C. ROADARMEL,

Around the World and Back to Work

As the new year begins we have just started again on our work among the Indian people in Khargpur, which we left when we went for furlough. We had expected to take up the work at Jamshedpur on our return, but it has seemed best for the Harris family, who carried on that work temporarily, to continue in it. We are glad to take up the work again here where we can build upon the friendships of the past.

We feel that our furlough was exceedingly profitable, and we have come back refreshed physically, mentally and spiritually. We left Khargpur on May 2, 1933. The rail trip to Bombay was extremely hot, but the voyage on the "President Monroe" from there to New York via Port Said, Alexandria, Naples, Genoa and Marseilles was refreshing and as restful as could be expected with three small children.

The opportunity to renew old friendships and to visit our relatives again was naturally a great joy to us. On October 7, 1933, we were saddened by the passing on of Father Roadarmel at Haskins, O., but we were grateful for having had two months with him and Mother Roadarmel that summer. His keen interest in our work and his steady faith through years of weakness and suffering remain a source of inspiration to us.

Our studies at the Kennedy School of Missions at Hartford, Conn., through the school year proved stimulating and helpful. At the invitation of the Richmond Hill Baptist Church on Long Island, we became their representatives in India and so since March have found a church home with them and a special fellowship in service for Christ.

After a month at Lakeside on Lake Erie during the summer of 1934, we drove our Ford to Chicago to see something of the Century of Progress Exposition and then took the train for Los Angeles. Our journey back to India on three different ships brought us a variety of new experiences as we visited San Francisco, Honolulu, Yokohama, Tokyo, Himeji, Kobe, Shanghai, Hongkong, Singapore, Penang, Rangoon, and finally landed at Calcutta on November 6th.
We have entered upon our work with enthusiasm and we face the new year with a prayer that God may be able to use us with our Indian fellow-Christians more effectively. Please join with us in prayer: 1st, that the spiritual lives of the Christian people may be deepened; 2nd, that they may be guided in following Christ’s example of service for the community, and 3rd, that many others may be led to find the joy, the peace and the power which can come through a dedication of life to Christ.

Rev. and Mrs. L. C. Kitchen left no report of their year’s activities with the editor, but their sketches in the December, 1934, Tidings has given our readers a comprehensive idea of their recent activities in the field.

Mr. Kitchen acted as Chairman of the Committee which conducted a Survey of the Educational work of the Mission. The other members of the Committee were Miss Cronkite, Miss Hill, Miss Stearns, Mr. Long, Mr. Osgood, Mr. Sahu, and Mr. Gilson, Secretary. Miss Van Doren of the National Christian Council in the foreword of the published report says, “The American Baptists in Bengal and Orissa have allied themselves with all forward-looking missions in the thorough work they have put into their Educational Survey. . . . . It is hoped that this report will help not only in guiding the educational development of this Mission, but will furnish suggestions and stimulus to other Missions facing similar problems.”

Rev. and Mrs. E. C. Brush
English-Khargpur

The Union Church closes another year with a feeling of gratitude for Christian progress. Five young people have united with the church by baptism. The services of worship have been well attended throughout the year, with special services at Easter and Christmas. The Christmas feature was a “Candle Light” service attended by 120, which proved so beneficial that we plan to repeat it next year. The Thursday evening Praise and Bible study meeting has been especially helpful, and a number of the younger
boys and girls have been attending. We are happy to report that the church continues to meet all local expenses and contribute Rs. 1,200 per year to the Mission.

Perhaps the greatest advance has been in the Sunday School. The Graded (Keystone) Lessons have proved a great blessing both to the pupils and the teachers. We have found it necessary to add a Nursery Class to care for the little tots who appear each Sunday morning. One mother had been trying for several weeks to understand a song which her little girl was singing. Then one evening she called at the Mission House and heard some of the children sing. "Oh", said she, "Now I know what my little girl has been singing". It was a song she had learned in the Nursery Class. We are introducing the Graded Lessons in the Intermediate Classes this year. These Lessons with Sunday School Papers cost us about Rs. 400 a year, all of which is given by the pupils. This Sunday School Literature is the only Christian Litérature, aside from Father Russel's and the Burning Bush, which enters the homes of Khargpur. Little tots come asking for a paper for mother.

Father Christmas, as he is called here in India, again visited our Sunday School with toys from the First Baptist Sunday School of Camden N. J. and distributed them to the 250 boys and girls, once more reminding us of the strong tie of Christian fellowship which binds together the old and the new, not to have been forgotten. Then to crown the year we had that Annual Christmas Picnic on the bank of the river. We tried to give you a picture of this last year.

The W.C.T.U., Tennis and Badminton Clubs continue to maintain our Christian contacts, as in the past. At present the W.C.T.U. is working on creating sentiment for cleaner motion pictures in our local picture house.

At present we are engaged in making preparation for another of those Annual Dinners, where Church, Sunday School, W.C.T.U., Tennis and Badminton Club folks gather, 60 strong, to eat, and entertain each other at the Mission House. Several have sent in their request for another of those "American Dinners" which the "Memsheb" tries to provide for 35 cents per plate from various and sundry Indian foods and vegetables.
MIDNAPORE

Rev. and Mrs. A. A. Berg, having recently returned from furlough, submit no report.

MISS ADA STEARNS

1934 in the Mission Girls' High School has been an eventful year, not especially in point of accomplishments peculiar to this year, but in events just as events.

The annual visit of the Government Inspectress, Prize Distribution, and the final rush of work on the new hostel occupied most of January. The dedication of the latter and enough feasts to ruin Miss Daniels' perfectly amazing digestion saw us at the station, waving good-byes to her and returning to a strangely empty house. She had scarcely reached Egypt before one of our boarding girls, in a fit of bravado, set fire to her hair after it had been generously treated with kerosene to discourage inhabitants. The nights and days following for about at least a month and a half can well be left to the imagination. Her screams are with us yet. She has not only lived but lived to look respectable and is a cheerful, fat girl once more.

Our annual Government examinations coincided with the worst of the above event and out of three girls who appeared, two got college scholarships, one of these receiving honours in four subjects, and all three are now reading in Calcutta Colleges, one studying medicine. Both of our contestants in sewing won medals from Calcutta.

Government grants and University affiliation had all lapsed, but now are all renewed satisfactorily, a fact very conducive to peace of mind.

In the fall one of our Girl Guide members tied for first place in an all-Bengal contest in First-Aid, the first girl outside of Calcutta who has ever gotten the beautiful pure gold Sir Francis Stewart brooch. It was awarded to her at a special ceremony by the District Commissioner of Guides.

This year instead of a school picnic we had Sports Day and it went over big. The Guides had a perfect day in December at the river. The play given for the aid of poor students netted more than ever before and the school sale gave us a hundred rupees for our thriving deficit.
The weekly visits of girls from the Bible classes, Hindus as well as Christians, to the Government hospital have brought help to all who shared in the project. It was a joy to find that those poor souls counted the Thursdays and told the new-comers not to be so discouraged and lonely, that on Thursday they would have songs, a "Jesus story" and flowers.

The Religious Education program in the school has taken on some new features and if a break come in the usual routine, it is interesting to hear, "Why?" and it is a challenge to make it better. The Missionary plans the devotionals, but the teachers conduct all our worship periods themselves a week in turn. The teachers' weekly Bible class and the bi-weekly prayer meetings have held every one's interest. Our special Christmas program at the school was honored with a visit from a member of the British Parliament, whom we enjoyed immensely.

The two village Sunday Schools carried on entirely by girls in the hostel had a good year, brought to a close by a Christmas festival in the boarding. The coolee children had their program first, had their frolic and food and scampered home. Then the outcasts came. The coolee children prayed with their teacher but the sweetest event of the evening was to see little outcaste Gopal kneel before his playmates and lead off in a sweet little prayer himself.

If our school may mean no more in Midnapore, I pray that it may mean opportunity for right living for every little Gopal we can reach.

One father wrote this year in substance: "I left my daughter in your hostel, a convalescent from typhoid and necessarily retarded in her studies. Now I get her back well and strong, advanced one class in school, and, best of all, with many spiritual gains. I want to give her to you until she finishes high school". She has since won the beautiful singing medal which will be given this very week, but she, poor dear! has lost this father who was so precious to her. She will need her spiritual gains as she sits sorrowing in her home.

We believe there is a reason for our existence and for the hope we have of an ever-increasing Christian service to Indian girls.
The work of the Dispensary has been considerably curtailed, by my absences and by the urgent suggestions of colleagues who wished me to close up altogether. During the year I registered 1,449 cases. Return visits brought up the whole number to 3,272. A large proportion of the patients were suffering from malaria, sometimes complicated with rheumatism, bowel trouble, etc. Almost every morning there were women patients with their peculiar complaints. I was always specially glad to help them, and for the most part have succeeded in relieving their distresses.

Rickets is rather unusual, so I was surprised when a rachitic child came to me with a history of much unsuccessful treatment. With suitable remedies he made a good recovery.

The Biblewomen's work has been curtailed as they have not had any regular conveyance, so have gone to only the nearer villages within walking distance. They report 184 visits in homes, where they had opportunity to tell the Story to about 3,166 listeners. They do not have any opposition, and many assent to the truth of the Gospel story. We heard of a family who wanted to come in, but we were not sure of the real motives at the back of their assent. They have been visited several times, and always have welcomed the visitors.

The younger Biblewoman, Gyanoda Mishra, has attended Dispensary and talked to the patients and given them the leaflets of which I always have a good supply. She has been a good "mixer" and has made friendly contacts. When I asked these women if they ever heard anything from the leaflets given out in the Dispensary, they said yes, often.

One afternoon we went to a weaver village twelve miles away and were invited into a large house, where we were given seats on the inner veranda, and within five minutes fifty or more men, women and children collected and listened attentively to the Message. We sold a good number of Gospels, and were sorry we had not taken more.

Another day the party went without me to a Santal village about six miles away, and had very encouraging work among the villagers, who begged for a weekly visit.
Several times Mrs. Bose and I have gone to the Railway Station to meet one of the most popular trains, and distributed literature and sold Gospels. Once when I was giving out leaflets the man I was giving to turned to the last page and remarked, "It always ends up with Jesus".

Weekly visits to Bhimpore have been kept up as former years. I am often stopped on the way to see some patient and arrange for medicine. At the Bhimpore bungalow the number of patients has varied a good deal. One day I had twenty, but that was unusual, the average being I think about eight. In one village I had such a cordial invitation to hold a regular clinic that I loaded up with the usual medicines and stopped there on the way out to Bhimpore. Men, women, and children gathered and I talked to them and then looked at their sick. But there were so few on other days that I did not continue the calls.

I have had some activities connected with the church and community. Sunday mornings the little ones gather on the sunny veranda and I have a little service with them. Just now am trying to store their minds with Bible stories, illustrated with pictures when I can get suitable ones.

I have tried to hold the Sunday School together, not any too successfully I fear; however, it is still alive, and I hope under new Superintendent may be thoroughly worth while.

REV. JOHN A. HOWARD

_Belda Field_

Everywhere in the Kora field the Christians seem faithful. During 1934 twenty-one souls followed the Lord in Baptism, widening fields daily are opening. Pray for a mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the _Koras._

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BHIMPORE

MISS NAOMI KNAPP

During the past year we spent more time in the village schools teaching the Bible lessons than we had previously. With the help of Babu Jotish Kisku and Miss Molina Marndi we were able to visit all our Santal schools
north of the Coyese river at least once each week until May. During the
time we were away on vacation and during the rains the teachers were eager
to continue the lessons so we arranged to work out each month's lessons
with them and visited them as we were able. They have carried them on
very well continuing to be very enthusiastic about the work.

Jotish Babu has returned to Bible school to finish his course this year.
He fully appreciates the value of work with the school children and before
he left expressed a wish to come back for Religious Education work. It has
been a pleasure to help Molina work out other course which she taught in
the Bhimpore Boys' Primary Schools and in the lower class of the High
School.

Dr. Mary Bacheler's weekly visit and Dr. Maguire's monthly visit has
meant sick people to be attended on other days. Although many were sent
to the Doctor Babu it has meant from one to twenty daily. Most of the
work with the school children has been cared for by the Doctor Babu.

Guides and Bluebirds have continued under Miss Bhoba Sundari Murmu
and Miss Sneho Kisku. Since they were able to attend the recent camp
for Trainers they will be able to carry on the work more efficiently this coming
year.

Some of the Biblewomen, Babu Jotish Kisku, and Babu Madhob Murmu
visited in some of the more distant villages nearly all of January and part of
February. Besides going to the villages near the tents during the day,
each evening was spent in talking to the people who gathered near the tent
and school house. It was interesting to watch them as they came along
the path in the moonlight, wrapped in shawls or sheets (for it was cool).
The women brought their babies along with them remaining until ten or
later, listening to the things of the Kingdom.

The women of the Bhimpore church have worked well this year,
especially the first part of it. Through April they had short periods for
devotional meetings and then divided into groups—hygiene and health,
sewing, Bible stories, and reading class. In the reading class two women
learned to read and several learned the simple stitches so that they could
darn their clothes and were able to make blouses for themselves. During
the latter part of the year Mrs. Bryce's book 'The Child in the Midst' was
used for some of the meetings.
The Girls and Women’s Sunday School has kept up attendance well. Recently they voted Rs. 12 for fees for some of the needy children of the Girls’ school, to pay Rs. 25 toward famine relief, and to buy a new cloth for the table in the church. We are very proud of the way in which the women have been giving in these times of depression.

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MISS GRACE HILL

It seems as if every one in the world must know by this time that our Bengal-Orissa Mission had an educational survey last year. Although it seemed at the time that I was having to neglect school a great deal, the survey did do some things for me. I should never otherwise have seen the work of other schools which I did see, and to know what others are doing in one’s own line is sure to be helpful. Then it gave me a critical attitude toward our own school. Even though our visitors were generally kind, I knew where the weak spots were, realized them more than I had before, and have set myself to a more careful supervision of the work. The committee made two important recommendations for our school, one that the school be made co-educational in the lower primary classes from 1935, the other that school fees be collected from July, 1934. Santals, on account of their poor economic status, have been exempt from fees, and as practically all our school is made up of Santals, we had made no effort to collect any fees. The fees were made very low, and freeships given for scholarship, and in a few cases of real need. Fees range from two annas to five annas per month, that is from about four to ten cents. When six cents is a day’s wage for a coolie it is not hard to see that even so little is a real hardship for some people. However, the school at least kept its numbers up to those of the previous year. Next year we shall be able to report on the workings of co-education.

We had all the classes in Religious Education following Charterhouse Courses last year except the Infant Class, which is following the new course worked out by Mr. Biswas. It would seem that the Religious Education would now go on without much more work aside from that of the teacher.
of the class, but it seems one is never satisfied so we are working out a new
course this year with the sixth class.

Six girls from the school were baptized at Easter time. They were
all girls from Christian homes. A girl from a non-Christian home asked
for baptism at Christmas time, but as her mother would not give her consent,
we have asked her to wait. We know that she can be a Christian without
baptism, and we believe she is one, but we appreciate her desire and hope
that she may have it fulfilled before long. Another girl from the boarding
asked for baptism here, but consented to be baptized in her own village,
as it would mean so much to her father and mother and to the little church.
I consider that it was a real sacrifice on the girl's part, for the girls do count
on having their school friends present at that time. I was very happy to
be able to attend the baptism of this girl. Mr. and Mrs. Berg were going
to the village, and as I happened to be in Midnapore at the time, they asked
me to go with them.

We started cooking classes in the school. Weaving classes were quite
successful in point of view of the quality of the work done, but not from
a financial standpoint.

Mrs. Long and Miss Knapp each took an English class so our English
teaching was of a good quality. Even though our school is a Middle
Vernacular School, we must have English to prepare those girls who wish
to go to High School. Our first Santal girl passed the High School Matriculation examination last spring and is now in college. Two of our girls are
now in High School, one is taking a domestic science course, two are taking
the regular teacher's training course and one is in her third year of nurse's
training. I am very happy when the girls make good in these higher training
courses, but I am just as happy over the ones who marry and make good
homes, and many are doing that. I visited one of these homes recently in
a distant village and I was interested to see how a girl who had been used
to such a different life had fitted into the life of the community there.

Our boarding continues to be a busy and a happy home for the outside
village girls, and Bhimpore parents have been asking to have their girls
admitted and are willing to pay for them. But our quarters are limited, so,
much as I should like to take them, I have to save the room for the girls
who come from away. Financially we are having difficulties. With the
rice crop a failure in many places, many are finding it difficult to keep up their fees, and on the other hand rice is very expensive, just twice last year's price. Our Mission appropriation was cut this year, too. For the first time in my life I turned away a girl who really should be here, that is, I set the fees so high that her father took her back home. I didn't know their condition and hoped they would be able to pay what I asked. Now I feel badly every time I think of her and wonder whether I should still send for her. I did tell her father to bring her back next year, but she is now well above the age for beginning school.

Pray for me in my work with the girls, that they may have about them the conditions and influences that will fit them for useful Christian lives.

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REV. AND MRS. H. C. LONG

The Bhimpore Boys' H.E. School started the year with an unusually large attendance and with all boardings full. It was necessary to appoint a new boarding master, and we were very fortunate in finding a most suitable man already on the staff in the person of Mr. Bireendra Kumar Sinha. He served most acceptably in that capacity until May, when Mr. Samuel Christanga returned to us after a year's leave of absence to take training for B.T. Unfortunately Mr. Sinha's appointment was only temporary, so we had to let him go then, much as we should have liked to keep him, as a bachelor, on as boarding master. Mr. Christanga filled out the year for us, doing the best he could, although as a family man he could not live with the boys.

Personally I have enjoyed my work in the school in inspection and teaching Bible and English in some of the upper classes. Only when one meets a class day after day does he realize some of the difficulties our Santal boys have in acquiring an education in two languages not their own. Those from the mofussil places hear little of Bengali except in the classroom, as Santali is of course the language used in the homes and in the villages. When the boys come to the central school, they must take English as a secondary language and study it through the medium of Bengali. In the lower classes
I found on inspection that very little spoken English is used. In fact in a twenty minutes' visit in one class I did not hear the teacher speak a word of English. No wonder the high school students find it difficult to understand and obey simple directions from the teacher, as "You may be seated", etc. We are hoping to remedy things this next year by a more general use of the direct method of teaching English, and during the Christmas holidays had a series of lessons for the masters to prepare them for it. It has been noted that many of the Santals are slow thinkers, especially on their feet. This may be due in part to an inferiority complex which we are trying to remove by removing the causes of it. In view of the fact many of the boys' parents have little or no education, it is not surprising that many boys have little idea as to what an education is for, and are working chiefly for a "pass" which will help them to "get a job". However, whether they want it or not, we hope that they are learning far more than merely enough to get a certificate.

The industrial work has been revised so as to arrange for fewer boys in each class, and as a consequence we have instituted morning classes to relieve the congestion. As the carpentry work was going very slowly, a definite course was marked out. Weaving was thought by some not to be worth while; but a marked advance has been made. There are hopes that boys will be earning their full stipends by the end of the second year. Some improvement has been made in the sewing department by having two classes of boys taught elementary stitches, mending, button-holing, and the making of a bazar bag and a simple pullover shirt, all by hand. This year's work is a start in the right direction, and we are following it up by giving the classes a hand-sewing machine to carry on with. In India most of the sewing is done by men, derzies, so sewing is a practical industrial course for boys. The garden was not very successful, but we started our farm project, which was fairly successful, and our first crop of paddy is harvested and has been bought for the small boarding. A survey of ex-students showed that a good many do farming as a supplementary occupation, especially village school teachers who have been out since 1925; it therefore appears that the teaching of improved farming methods may be of practical value.

Owing to financial shortage we had to raise more money, so we put on small fees, 4 cents to 10 cents, per month in sub-high school classes,
classes III to VI. (Bengali boys have always had to pay Re. 1 and up.) There was very little complaint about this small fee, and apparently no one left school on this account. But earlier in the year a number dropped out of first year high school class owing to school fees which are Rs. 1-12-0, or about 49 cents per month. Most of those boys come from homes supported by a small farm of two or three acres, or by daily labor paid for largely in rice. Could they exchange their present income for a salary of three dollars a month, their condition would be greatly bettered.

Decreasing funds from America require a larger measure of self-support; so in spite of poverty, fees must be increased. There is an indigenous organization to raise additional funds, but as the November crop was largely a failure, both their difficulties and ours will be increased. We are thankful for the village Teachers' Educational Fund in which Rs. 13,000 are invested, and which brings in about Rs. 35 or 40 a month in scholarships.

Beside the lack of understanding as to what education is, we are confronted with difficulties arising from bi-lingualism, inferiority complex (Santals are looked down upon by Bengalis because of ignorance, lack of culture, and poverty for which last the Bengalis are in part responsible), mental inertia due in part to undernourishment, and lack of moral standards and religious concepts. These must be met by better educational methods; the acquisition by the students of such knowledge and skills as are likely to improve their economic condition; and the instilling of moral and religious ideals. To this latter end we have Bible classes three times a week, and daily worship at the opening of school. We ask the interest and prayers of the home friends in the meeting and solving of some of these problems. There are famine conditions all about us. Will you help us to make this a year of real blessing in Bhimpore?
NOTICE OF BIRTH

You will kindly regard this as my formal notice that one only male child was born on Sunday (as a padre’s child should be), February 17th, at 6 A.M. (in time for Sunday School). Actual weight, seven and three quarter pounds. Name unknown. Had selected Anna Blanche, but find it doesn’t fit. Child and parents fine.

Fraternally yours,

BARTOW HARRIS.

NEWS ITEMS

Mrs. A. A. Berg and Mrs. C. C. Roadarmel leave March 1st for Darjeeling where they will enroll their children in the Queen’s Hill School.

Dr. Bacherler who has been ill with an attack of high blood pressure since Christmas, is recuperating and enjoying the balmy breezes of Bhimpore.

Mrs. Howard, Mrs. Gilson, and Mrs. Brush will leave for Mussoorie about March 15 to enroll the children of their respective families in the Woodstack School for the term of 1935.

The Osgood family leave from Calcutta the latter part of March via the Pacific Ocean to spend their furlough in the U.S.A. They will live most of the time while there in the State of Oregon.

Published by Mrs. E. C. Brush, for the A.B.F.M. Society, Khargpur, and Printed by P. Knight, Baptist Mission Press, 41A, Lower Circular Road, Calcutta.