

THE 81ST
ANNUAL REPORT
OF
THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE
NORTHERN CHURCHES
FOR THE YEAR 1947



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DUMKA

PUBLISHED BY THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES

PRINTED AT THE MISSION PRESS, BENAGARIA.

1948.

For private circulation

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New Haven, Conn.

The
EIGHTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT
OF
THE SANTAL MISSION
OF THE
NORTHERN CHURCHES

(THE INDIAN HOME MISSION TO THE SANTALS)

FOR THE YEAR 1947



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 Mōṅḱol Hembrom 1933, Jithia (*Benagaria P. O.*)
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 Tarani Iswary 1942, Gaorang (*P. O.*)
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 Upendro Moshahari 1945, Goladangi (*Gossaingaon P. O.*)
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THE
EIGHTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR 1947.



*"But let each man take heed how he buildeth thereon.
For other foundation can no man lay than that which
is laid, which is Jesus Christ." I Cor. 3: 10 11.*

There is always a crisis in missions. Time is precious. Tremendous work always remains to be done. God's command is urgent. Time steals away unrepentant souls. The harvest is ever plenteous.

The year 1947 will forever be the greatest in India's history. In this vast sub-continent time will be reckoned from this eventful year—the year of Independence, just as it is in our home countries. We can thank God that such a tremendous event has taken place with so little trouble and misery, so far as our field is concerned. Our hearts go out in sympathy to people of those parts of India which are suffering under civil strife and bloodshed. May God soon grant "peace on earth, and goodwill among men." Surely we have been fortunate that our people have been spared the suffering of their brothers.

The division of the country into the Indian Union and Pakistan touched our mission field only slightly. Hardly two percent of our work lies in Pakistan. However, we have felt keenly the disruption of mail and other services, due to the fact that Pakistan separates our Assam field from the remainder of the work. Long delays and frequent losses of mail have worked hardship in the administration of mission. We look for progressive improvement in this respect.

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The spirit of freedom has naturally entered hearts of our Christians. It is true they have viewed the change with mixed feelings. During this transition period we need to help them with the wise counsel of peace. Their leader is the Prince of Peace.

The year 1947 will be historical in our mission as the year in which the three secretaries representing the home countries visited the field. It is our sincere hope that this visit may lead to a broad understanding of the work and of the character and aspiration of the people. They visited practically every district and corner of the work, though it meant strenuous journeying. The bond of fellowship which already exists between the home work and field will be strengthened by this visit. We want to thank all of them, Hallen, Dixen, Thorman, for their valuable visit.

The year 1947 brought us a deep sense of sorrow and loss. With a suddenness that left us stunned, came the news from Assam that Anders Malme had gone to his reward. Just as he was about to enter in upon a new phase of mission work, a work toward which he looked forward with a high sense of expectation, he was called home to his Lord. Our sympathy goes out to Else and the children, so suddenly left alone. May God strengthen them and keep them. Blessed be the memory of Anders Malme.

The year 1947 saw the return of several of the older missionaries and the arrival of many new ones. They are all welcome to the field. Each in his own way and in his own place will contribute to the spreading of the Gospel and the growth of the Kingdom of God among the people.

With the return of the old forces and the coming of the new, we feel that soon we can give emphasis to certain phases of the work which need strengthening. There is no doubt that the training of Christian leaders stands as one of our greatest objectives. The restarting of our

Divinity School at Chondorpura is the first step in the working out of this program. Candidates have been chosen and Kalu Pastor has made all ready for commencing the work.

Plans are also being made for starting more evangelist training among our Bengali workers. We are all happy to see this expansion. The time will soon be here when we must consider such a school for Assam too, both in Santali and in Boroni.

The development of the constitutional advance has been held up temporarily, to give the home countries opportunity to review the proposals, as well as to await the return of certain older missionaries who have been with the development from the beginning. It is evident that the present proposals will need some re-editing.

Emphasis is being laid on training the local Pastors in the administration of the practical and financial side of their work. All good administration rests upon the proper handling of details. The efficient working of the church constitution will depend upon the sense of responsibility of the local Pastors and evangelists.

I believe I can say that we are beginning to see a change in the "post-war reaction" among the people. The problem of returned soldier is still with us, and some sad experiences have been noticed. But on the whole there seems to be a quickening of the spirit among the people in several places. Especially do I feel that the Pastors are aware of the danger of letting the barriers down to the younger generation. It is a new age, with a new spirit. God help us all that we may guide this new spirit into His channels.

Our mission has now increased to over 100 missionaries, perhaps one of the very largest in India. We are grateful to the home countries for their very fine support of the work. We depend upon the prayers of the thousands of mission friends at home.

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Again our thanks are due to the Provincial governments of Bihar, Bengal and Assam for their support of our educational and charitable work. We hope and trust that in the New India we can be of service to the government in taking care of the unfortunates in Leper colonies and hospitals, as well as in bringing enlightenment to the village children.

Our thanks are certainly due to two men who have done an efficient and helpful work this year as usual. I refer to Mr. S. Gylseth of Calcutta and O. Eie of Mornai. These two have cooperated in making the Mornai Tea Estate the great help it is to our work in general. Our relationship with Mr. Gylseth as Consul General for Norway in Calcutta is also valuable.

As I sit here and contemplate the vast expanse of our mission field and mission work, I pray for faithfulness in the little things. I pray that the village teachers may love their children. I pray that the evangelists may be filled with Christ's zeal. I pray that the Biblewomen may calm many an anxious heart. I pray that the compounders and nurses may sooth many a feverish brow. I pray that the Pastors may lead their flocks Christward and heavenward. I pray that the missionaries may receive spiritual strength for each day.

May God bless us all in our work as we enter this eighty--second year.

BERNHARD A. HELLAND.

WORK IN BIHAR.

KAERABANI DISTRICT.

Kaerabani mission area, in old reports called "The West", might in comparison with other areas in our mission seem to be in sore need of some more missionaries. We have got houses for missionaries in Kaerabani itself only. While Haegert was working over here he intended to build a missionary station in Babhondiha, which plan never materialised. The working field over here seems to be predestined and well suited for the development of mission work by the Christian congregation itself. The Santals over here seem to be more "independent-minded" than people elsewhere (except in Dinajpur - Malda and Assam). But there is one drawback, the soil over here is poorer, and consequently the people are less well-to-do than in other areas, which is a great hindrance to the development of self-support. However, the placing of more missionaries would not tend to the furtherance of self-support.

Kaerabani has always been and will continue to be the "centre station" with Babhondiha, Jambua, Dhobona and some other places as "out-stations". In older times we had only one Santal Pastor for this whole area, while the work on and around the out-stations was being carried out by "Elders". The work was chiefly "laymen's work". However, as those elders were all so poor that we had to pay them salaries, such elders were just as well as the pastor the "servants of the mission".

Occasionally some work was done by "independent people" but never much, and only in a casual way. The need for pastors in the out stations was felt more and more. At present we have pastors placed at Babhondiha, Jambua and Domkata and we need two more (in Dhobona and Dighari) in order to satisfy the local congregations.

During the year 1947 Pastor Naran Soren (Kaerabani) and Pastor Karan Soren (Babhondiha) were transferred to other places outside the Kaerabani area. And we got Pastor Suphol Hembrom (from Dinajpur Dist.) And Pastor Johon Murmu (from Maharo) over here. It takes some time for the Santals to get themselves accustomed to a new pastor. But as Suphol has his home, and Johon has family connections over here, they are not considered "new men" Suphol was first placed in DIGHARI (to the South-East) and then in KAERABANI when Naran left. Johon was placed in BABHONDIHA (to the North-West). In the same place Somae Murmu is school-master, and Sukhi Marndi is Bible woman in JAMBUA we have Pastor Mongol Besra and Karan Murmu and his wife, Ruth, as school teachers. That is our Western outpost. Mongol is also conducting services in Domboria, the home of the late Palu Pastor, well known from previous reports. Palu's eldest son Kistu Hasdak is working as elder, besides him without salary Jugla Hembrom. In Sagra, North-East from Jambua--Domboria Kistu is holding service. Once a month the Pastor in Babhondiha will go there and administer Holy Communion. In that part of the country some people want to be baptized, which is very encouraging, as we have during the year had no baptisms of heathen Santals.

Further East in DHOBONA Munki Marndi is leader of the congregation. He has gone through our Divinity School. His wife is a trained teacher and conducts the school work.

His uncle Daniel Marndi in MONHOR our most Eastern outpost goes there now and then to help him, and Pastor Joseph Hasdak' (Palu Pastor's son) in DOMKATA administers Holy Communion also in Dhobona. In Demkata Jehon Kisku is school teacher.

DIGHARI AND RAK need a Pastor. As it is, those places are visited by the Kaerabani Pastor, who owing to the circumstances, becomes what we in our homeland call a "dean"

An encouragement during the year should here be recorded. The Christian families in RAMPUR about 6 miles from here on the South bank of the Sila river want a church and are prepared to do something in order to get it. We hope to be able to start building in Dec. It is extremely difficult to get timber for the roof at present.

Another encouragement has been to notice our Congregational Council starting to move into real work, each member taking charge of one or more villages visiting people and helping them to settle quarrels etc. Besides that they have been helping the pastors to get hold of young people for instruction for confirmation.

We are as yet backward as regards small village schools. There is at present a scarcity of teachers.

A special and a very great encouragement came to us during the year namely the visit to the mission field of the 3 Home Secretaries of our mission. Of course their visit gave us missionaries great joy and encouragement. But we have also noticed that the Santals are very thankful for the visit, which for them means chiefly this: That the friends in the Homelands are not only sending them money, but want also to get in personal touch with them.

R. ROSENLUND.

KAERABANI MISSION HIGH SCHOOLS.

Rom, 8, 35-59

This is our first report in India, as we arrived from Denmark in January this year and from the 1st of February we had to take over Kaerabani School from Rev. and Mrs. Krohn, who went home to Denmark on furlough after six and half years work here in Kaerabani.

It is not an easy work for new missionaries to take over at once a work with great responsibility, nevertheless Rev. and Mrs. Krohn were a good help for us before their departure. But when we look back upon this first year in India, it seems to us, that the words of St. Paul in this epistle to the Romans may be a fitting preface to what we have experienced out here. We understand more and more that the love of God is the only power, which is able to conquer the world. How hard we need to be conquered ourselves. Also our Christian boys need the love of God, but before all it is our fervent prayer, that all our non-Christian boys in this school may see the love of God and find His son as their Saviour. I am happy to say, that this year 2 non-Christian Santal scholars have been baptized in their respective home-village. Also 23 young men were confirmed and together with the other boys are constant participants of the Lord's Supper. It is a most wonderful sight for me, when I assist Rev. Rosenlund with the Lord's Supper, to see a large number of young men come forward to the table.

As all our boys should be regarded as coming leaders amongst their own people our prayer is, that they may be led by the Lord Himself, and that they may be good Christians inside their church.

The total number of students in Kaerabani in 1947 was 449, divided in three schools: High School, Guru Training School and Lower Primary School.

THE HIGH SCHOOL.

The High School (High and Middle classes) had 296 students of whom 109 were in the four High School classes and 187 in the Middle section. Divided according to religion in each class, the following statistic shows the proportion between Christians and non-Christians, and Santals and non-Santals.

	Santal Chr.	Santal non-Chr.	Other Chr.	Hindus	Moham.	Total 1947	Total 1946
XI	12	0	1	1	0	14	22
X	12	3	0	6	0	21	15
IX	17	4	0	9	0	32	25
VIII	30	3	2	7	0	42	37
VIIA	15	3	1	5	1	25	31
VIIB	15	6	0	5	1	27	26
VIA	15	10	2	2	0	29	34
VIB	12	4	0	10	1	27	30
V	9	5	0	21	0	35	45
IV	16	9	1	17	1	44	42
TOTAL	153	47	9	83	4	296	307

Compared with the statistics for 1946 it shows, that there is a decrease in number of Christian Santals. The reasons may be several. It is my hope, that it may have a quickening effect on the rest.

About the teachers I can only say, that most of them have worked hard and honestly, therefore the class-work has also been carried on satisfactorily. Some teachers have left during the year, but some of our old teachers have also come back after finished study-leave. One of them Mr. Bhadu Hasdak' passed his B. A. this year. Another B. A., Mr. Profulla Dutta, was newly appointed. Our staff is complete except one teacher, but some of the permanent staff have taken many extra burdens on them for which we are very grateful.

In the ordinary Matriculation examination under Patna University only 5 out of 20 candidates passed, 2 in

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second division and 3. third division, but when 8 of the failed candidates passed the Supplementary examination, all in third division, we got 13 passed Matrics, which is 65% and not a poor result. In class VII 40 boys passed, which is 75.5%.

The annual prize distribution took place on the 12th March 1947, The President of the mission, Rev. B. A. Helland, former Principal of this school, was so kind to preside and Mrs. Helland gave away the prizes.

The District-School-Inspector from Dumka, Mr. Deokinandan Sahai, visited the school on the 4th and 5th Dec.

We are thankful to the Government of Bihar for the Grant-in-aid we have received for the High School, without which we should not have been able to come through.

THE GURU TRAINING SCHOOL :

A new batch of 16 boys started this year, but only 13 have finished the first year. One of the boys who left showed such a lack of discipline, that our L. P. Schools have not lost very much in this case; the other two candidates were not satisfactory too. We have 3 boys from the Scottish mission and 1 from C. M. S. and the remaining 9 are from our own mission. Some of them are working very promisingly. We feel that the Lower Primary Schools are most needed work in our mission, and therefore we should be very particular in choosing the future teachers. As we feel the need so hard for elementary teachers, we have been very much pondering, whether we should begin another class in 1948, but because of lack of teachers we had to give up this thought.

We are expecting a Grant-in-aid from the Government of Bihar for the Training school, but we have not yet received it.

THE LOWER PRIMARY SCHOOL :

The number of students in the Lower Primary School was 140, all being dayscholars. In this number I have counted only those, who have finished this year's course ; many started in January, but have since left. The attendance is not quite satisfactory, but it seems as if the work is improving a little.

Mrs. Krogh has been in charge of this school and has tried to make the teachers co-operate better. Miss Naomi Murmu has been appointed a teacher this year and is working very satisfactorily.

The school has been visited by the Sub-Inspector of Schools, Jamtara.

We are very thankful for Grant-in-aid received from the local Government, but for the Grant-in-aid for 1947-48 we are still waiting.

THE HOSTEL :

Approximately 185 boys were living in the Hostel. We are very happy to have Mr. Bhonde Soren with us as the Warden. Even if the boys mostly themselves conduct the morning prayer and evening prayer, he will always be present and lead all their devotional hours. Really we have got a fine spiritual leader in him and he is working earnestly. His supervision of study hours is also resulting in better school-work, and puts a great weight on the games and gymnastics. He is also indefatigable, where singing and music are concerned.

Economically we have felt this year a hard time because of the increased prices demanded for all foodstuffs. On this score the year has been abnormal, but unfortunately 1948 seems to be much worse.

It is lucky that we have a very competent House-father in Mr. Ram Murmu who can solve nearly all problems concerning food, but I am afraid that 1948 will be a very costly year for the hostel.

THE DISPENSARY :

We have two compounders. Mr. Budhrae Soren has done the outside work. The patients have mostly been recruited amongst the non-Christians and non-Santals from the surroundings. Mr. Borot Kisku has done the medical work in the hostel. There have been some cases of cold, dysentery, malaria and a little epidemic of chicken-pox. Fortunately we had no serious illnesses. Of course there are many cases of scabies and mouth-sores but we try to help these with vitamin tablets.

We are thankful to the Doctor in Benagaria for his always kind willingness to receive our boys for more treatment in the hospital, and we are especially thankful, that Dr. Hagen in November got time to visit us 4 days for examining the whole school.

In looking back upon this first year we feel, that our first thanks are due to our Heavenly Father for His wonderful guidance and loving care for us. We want to express our hearty thanks to our many friends in the homelands for all that they have done for us and especially for their prayers for us and God's work out here. God bless and keep us all till the day is done.

MAGDA AND JOHANNES THOFT KROGH.

DHOROMPUR DISTRICT

At the Missionary Conference in January 1947 it was voted that I should move to Dhorompur and enter into district work there as soon as I was able to leave Maharo. As I had to stay on at Maharo to the close of the year I didn't come to Dhorompur before the 1st of January this year. During the past year I didn't get very much time to visit Dhorompur either, and during the rainy season it was difficult to cross the river. Anyhow, from the few visits there in October & December I got some contact with the workers and the Congregation. I had a very happy surprise on Christmas day to see so many of the people in church. I had been told that very few used to come to the ordinary Sunday services. They had whitewashed the church and decorated it with fresh green leaves and coloured papers, so we spent a very happy Christmas together.

The two pastors in the district have been Joh. B. Hasdak, and Bajun Murmu. The first one at Dhorompur Church, and the other one was placed at the outstation *AMGACHI* on the west side of the hills. As Johon pastor had not been feeling too well for a while he was sent to Benagaria Hospital at the end of the year. Because of his illness he was not able to go very much out in the district. So he left Dhorompur before Christmas.

Bajun Pastor has had good help in old Coron one of those who always is willing to help. He is a good soul and kind to every body, and he has had the great joy of seeing people take a stand for Christ during the recent years. This year also one family was brought to Christ through him, and they were baptised.

The workers in the district are beside the two pastors 6 Elders and 2 teachers, but we have no Biblewomen.

We have two village schools, but there has been no Sunday school in recent years. The women's meetings also used to be dropped out, as the pastor's wife was not

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strong enough to carry on. Six children from Christian homes, and 4 from the non-Christians have been baptised. Twelve young girls and boys were confirmed.

From the olden time Dhorompur has been known as a hard field to work in our mission field, and my prayer is that God may fill me with His Holy Spirit, and that He may give me wisdom and love in the work. His promise is: I shall never leave thee, nor forsake thee. Heb. 13: 5.

Therefore I fear not. I know that you, our faithful friends of the mission will continue to pray for us here at Dhorompur.

M. BUTTEDAHL

DUMKA DISTRICT.

A review of the year brings many thoughts to our minds. Where could we have done more? Where could we have reached farther? How could the Gospel have entered the hearts of more people? All these questions confront every missionary as he looks back upon the work of the year.

There is a faithfulness among our workers which we value very highly. In their quiet way they seem to be able to reach into the villages with the Gospel of salvation. And also this year there has been a goodly number of baptisms.

Our two pastors, Jujhar Soren here at Dumka and Simon Baske at Dum, are both valued and respected men. Simon is getting old, and will retire in a couple of years. But, together with his wife Aeno, he not only guides the congregational work out at Dum, but he goes faithfully to the non-Christian villages with the Word. His faithful partners, Nicodem and his wife Cura, will be a great loss to them, but they will eventually be a gain to the work, for Nicodem has been accepted for the new class at the Divinity School.

Baghrae is plodding along at Ranga, across the Mor River. And Boela is doing good work at Chukapani. We were very glad to hear that Jujhar pastor had interested the people at Kaearbani to build their own school building.

Ranglal Kisku has been stationed temporarily here at Dumka, to work as evangelist. He is proficient not only in Santali but also in Hindi, and is a great help in the work. He visits the sick untiringly.

With all the coming and going there is here at headquarters in Dumka, Jujhar pastor has been a great help. He manages to take many burdens off my shoulders, while still taking care of his own work. May God give him a long ministry!

Our time is well taken up with everything connected with the administration of the mission, so it was a very welcome help we have received from Miss Milde. She has faithfully done village and school work among the women and children. Her work in the bazar will be mentioned in another connection.

We were happy to have Hoylands here in the compound during the year, while he was busy as Treasurer of the mission. Toward the end of the year Torkildsens arrived, and are now settled in their work. As they learn the language, they will happily enter more and more into the work of the congregation.

May God continue to bless the work to the honour of His name and the growth of His Kingdom.

B. A. H.

DUMKA DANGALPARA WORK.

This is perhaps the most cosmopolitan church we have in the Mission. In this large town people from many parts of India can be found. They speak many languages, especially Hindi. Many of the people work either in the court or the bazar.

Miss Milde has started a Sunday School at Dangalpara. About 30 are now in attendance. It is a very interesting work and we hope it will win good results. There are two Bengali families, several Hindi speaking Santal families, several Hindi speaking families who have moved in from other aboriginal areas. Good old Dhononjoy pastor has been very faithful in his work.

Here is a field in which we look for new advances.

B. A. H.

MAHARO GIRL'S M. E. SCHOOL & WOMEN'S TRAINING CLASS.

At the beginning of the year the enrolled numbers of pupils in the M. E. School was 250. In the Training Class 14 students were taken in for a new 2 years' course. One student left after a few weeks on account of illness.

On the whole the class-work has been very good. The fine result of the M. E. Certificate Examination proves that the school has been able to hold its high standard regarding teaching. 17 girls sat for this Exam. All except one passed. Strange to say, but this one who didn't pass was the only girl in her class who has Hindi as her mother tongue, and she failed in Hindi.

Four girls passed with distinction in Arithmetic, 2 with distinction and honour. 9 girls from this class are continuing their education. Some of them at C. M. S. Girl's High School, some at Pakaur M. E. School, where they have started an 8th & 9th class for those who have passed the M. E. Exam. From class 5 one girl got U. P. scholarship.

But in the spite of these things the year was a rather heavy one. Three of our dear girls died, and all of them after but a short time of sickness. It was a heavy blow to their far away parents who were not able to arrive in time to meet their dear ones in life.

In times like this we are tempted to feel the responsibility for so many children and young lives like a burden too heavy to carry on. But it does one good to experience that the Lord is always the same, a God nearby in sorrow and trouble, and that we get the strength and grace needed for each day. Then to have the blessed hope that they have entered into the glory of Jesus softens the sting of the sorrow.

After the summer vacation we had a hard and troublesome time in many different ways. At times we felt that we could not bear any more, but again we had the blessed experience that 'as Thy day, so also Thy strength.' And God Himself carried us through those heavy-laden days and weeks. I am very much obliged to Miss Haukaa for all the help she rendered me at that time. It meant very much to me indeed.

After the rainy season we had a teachers' convention which proved to be a time of real blessing to us. God drew close to us all and we experienced answer to prayers in the most wonderful way. We were assured that He will never leave us nor forsake us, Heb. 13: 5.

In February we had a great day as our Pandit N. L. Thakur celebrated his 25th anniversary as Pandit at Maharo School. On the same day we had the school mela and the annual prize-giving day.

Like all other places in India, the 15th of August India's Independence day became a real festival-day also in Maharo School. Early in the morning we gathered both from the school and congregation for a prayer and thanksgiving meeting in the church, and later on we had a very nice program.

The 7th of December 14 of our girls were confirmed. On that day we had the privilege of having the Secretaries from the three Homelands, Denmark, America and Norway with us. It was a great joy to us to have them with us that day. Some of the relatives of the girls had also come in order to be with the girls that day. May they be kept from evil, O Lord!

In spite of responsibilities, anxiety and worries, we are very thankful for having the opportunity of having all these young lives with us, and our constant prayers are that their character may be moulded so that they may grow into womanhood as happy, strong and devoted Christians in their homes and in their villages.

I close with the heartiest thanks to all you dear friends for your faithfulness in prayer and love.

M. BUTTEDAHL.

KOROYA MISSION AND ORPHANAGE.

From the beginning of the year till June Miss A Pedersen had charge of the work here. Together with her was Miss Kari Ringheim, one of the new nurses from Norway. When the war was finished, and so many of the older missionaries prepared for going home on furlough Miss Pedersen's offer to help out for a short time was most heartily accepted, and it happened so that it was Koroya that got her help until she left for Norway again in June 1947. We are grateful indeed for the service she gave in a very difficult time.

From July till November Miss Buttedahl supervised the work from Maharo. We will also express our thanks to her for the help she rendered to Koroya besides all the work she had in Maharo.

The work in the congregation has been carried on as usual. One of the two Biblewomen here, Sohagini Murmu, died from cholera in August, and no one has filled her place as yet. By her going the women's work here has suffered a great loss. But we are very thankful for the time she stayed here, and because that dreadful disease didn't take more lives. In the villages close by many people died from the same disease.

During the year, here and in Rajband there have been baptised 10 from the non-Christians. May these new Christians be kept.

THE ORPHANAGE.

In the Orphans' Home we have 19 children. One of the girls, Punta Baske, passed her Middle Vern Examination at the end of the year. Likewise did one of the boys in Kaerabani School. One has finished the school here, and will be sent to Kaerabani in order to read on. The rest of the children, except 2 years old Mosey, are attending school here.

Except for some malaria and colds the health condition has been very good.

THE U. P. DAY SCHOOL.

I think that the attendance ought to have been better, and we will try to work for that in this coming year. At the close of the year 69 children sat for their examinations. Instead of the teacher, Esther Hembrom, who left in May, because of marriage we got Elisabeth Hasdak. Seven boys and two girls passed the U. P. examination. We do wish that more girls could come to school.

RAJBAND.

That small congregation has increased by 6 members. They are all young people, so we do hope that they may come to mean something for the spiritual growth of the congregation, as they themselves are growing in grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

MAJDIHA.

As pastor Bhikulal Hasdak' was transferred to Saldoha in the middle of the year, the congregation is without a pastor at present. The pastor here in Koroya visits Majdiha one Sunday each month in order to administer the Holy Communion. But we do hope that Majdiha may have their own pastor before too long. The 3 elders over there have been busy visiting the villages and Sunday gatherings.

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The school is in charge of Ruben Kisku, and beside him there are 2 more teachers. We highly appreciate the teacher's work in the school, and quite a number of the big school boys have asked for baptism.

As we enter into a new year, we do feel the need of a revival in our congregations out here, a spiritual renewal that would make the individual Christians more zealous, and on fire for Christ's cause.

I close with hearty greetings to all who are standing by us in the work by prayers and gifts. But most of all we thank our heavenly Father for His kind mercies which he did bestowe upon us during the past year. To him the glory and praise for ever and ever.

EDLE SIGURDSEN.

CHONDORPURA DISTRICT

Chondorpura has had no resident missionary during the year.

Rev. Kippenes was in charge of the work for the first few months till he left on long leave in March. Since then the district had to be supervised together with that of Basetkundi from Saldoba Mission, I being the only missionary resident in Jubdi and Sultanabad during the year.

Naturally there was time for only occasional visits besides conducting the monthly meetings attended by the preachers and teachers. But the pastors and elders have shepherded their respective congregations, and Kalu Pastor, with the Bible School closed for a year, gave his valuable help at church services as well as with Bible sources and village-visiting. The seed of the living word has been sown and also born fruits. The church attendance in most places has been good. It is still time of harvest in this district, whose jungle population remains fairly unaffected

by disturbing influences from world at large and receptive to the gospel of Truth. During the year 62 were baptized into the fellowship of the church, out of whom 29 from heathendom. With a resident missionary in church and some re-inforcement of the staff of preachers still more fruit may be seen in coming years. Some of the congregations might show greater concern for the upkeep and cleanliness of their church-houses and thereby prove their love for "the house of God".

An interesting meeting was held just after the rains and attended by preachers and teachers of all Jubdi and Sultanabad districts. Besides Bible-hours conducted by Kalu Pastor and undersigned, Rev. Helland gave talks on the subject of the new church constitution. Discussion-hours centered around the problems of a self-supporting and indigenous church. As a means to attain to a greater measure of influence on the church management it was decided to sponsor a movement for increased church-collections.

The schools have functioned fairly well. But here as in most of our L. P. schools on the mission field a comparatively small number reach to the third class. Also the attempt to raise the Chetorchua school to U. P. standard has so far proved disappointing. It is to be hoped that the newly inaugurated District School committee may help to interest the population for and to improve the standard of these schools.

It has been a privilege for me to have enjoyed the fellowship of all the workers in one of our finest districts of "the old country" if only for a short time.

V. BAGGER.

SALDOHA LEPER COLONY AND
CONGREGATION.

"Preach...heal the sick...cleanse the lepers...Math. 10. 7-8"

We thank God, that during the past year 25th jubilee -year of this leper home, founded on the motto quoted above, we were able to carry on our work peacefully according to the same motto.

In spite of unrest in many parts of the world, as well as of this country, only reports and rumours of such reached our district. And thus we were privileged to take time for two great occasions of thanksgiving. The jubilee was celebrated on March 22nd with a 2-days programme in which many former patients and a number of missionary friends took part. An outstanding feature of the festival was a pageant of the history of the colony performed by the patients themselves. The second great day was the 15th of August, when we rejoiced with our Indian brethren at a thanksgiving service over the freedom restored to their beloved country.

In the medical work Dr. Ghose resumed his good work after a break of three years' army-service. The interval had only partly been filled with assistance of temporary visiting doctors. The systematic procedure of treatment carried out by a trained leprologist is a great asset to a leper home, and Dr. Ghose's skill and enthusiasm give great confidence and hope to the patients. More than 600 lepers were treated during the year as in-door as well as out-door patients. Though experience has taught us to be cautious in discharging patients "symptom-free," most of the treated improved in condition and seven were restored to their homes.

During the year a small dispensary for treatment of non-leper patients from the near district was constructed, so that in the future the several thousand consultations of such patients will not interfere with the special work for the lepers.

The medical staff have also faithfully carried out their weekly services at the Baromasia leper clinic 12 miles away from the colony.

In the field of occupational therapy we made an effort to expand and improve the facilities for work at the weaving and carpentry workshop so that more young men may receive useful training in handicraft during their stay with us. In this time of cloth-scarcity weaving is popular. Our trained weavers were able to supply a piece of cloth for each patient at the end of the year. We also had encouraging reports from ex-patients now carrying on at their looms at home. Also the agriculture department directed by a former leper patient was improved in several ways. Sugarcane, wheat and foddergrass were successfully grown, as well as cotton and vegetables, rice and maize.

The general spirit of the life and work of our community of leper patients and their helpers has as usual been inspired by the Word of God ministered through our very active Christian congregation, which received 13 patients into its fellowship. Surai, a leper preacher, was responsible for their teaching and preparation for Holy Baptism. and among them were ex-service men, who seem to have had contracted the disease in the army. But also their souls had been stirred through war experiences, and they were anxious to know Him who is willing and able to carry our burden of sin and disease. And we are happy to have a great many among us who will gladly witness to the fact that our Lord and Master never failed us and is the same today as when He walked on Earth and preached the Kingdom and healed the sick and cleansed the lepers. Our thanks for another successful year of service are due first to Him, and also to Government of Bihar, The Mission to Lepers and other friends who have given us of their support and encouragement in the work during the year.

V. BAGGER.

MOHULPAHARI AND TILABANI.

As far as Mohulpahari and Tilabani are concerned it was decided by the last Missionary Conference and agreed to by The Santal Church Council in Santal Parganas that the whole field in S. P. should be divided into three "Pargana-districts".

1. BENAGARIA PARGANA DISTRICT, including Mohulpahari, Tilabani and Benagaria.
2. KAERABANI PARGANA DISTRICT, including Dhorompur, Maharo, Dumka, and Kaerabani.
3. BASETKUNDI PARGANA DISTRICT, including Chondorpura, Saldoha and Basetkundi.

The underlying idea of this division is to give to our pastors and Christian leaders more and more responsibility for the leadership of the church, and deepen the understanding of the necessity and value of a self-propagating and self-supporting church.

The missionary superintendents of the above mentioned Benagaria, Kaerabani and Basetkundi should for the time being serve as pargana district superintendents with a pargana-pastor at their side and a pargana district council.

Here in Benagaria Pargana District we have tried to follow as closely as we can the fundamental principle of the pargana district idea with special heavy responsibility placed on the shoulders of the Mohulpahari and Tilabani pastors.

As this is more or less experimental it is too early to report about eventual success or failure, but the pargana-scheme or system should be given a fair and real trial.

From the past year one thing is obvious and that is: Since the pargana-system was put in to action it has brought the three districts concerned much closer to each other in common understanding of church problems and hearty co-operation. Common Bible-courses, and pastors, and elders refreshing courses, teachers convention and so on.

May God bless this new undertaking to the honour of His own name.

WILLIAM GLAD.

BENAGARIA DISTRICT

After returning from Norway after a rather prolonged furlough because of the war, we took charge of the work here in Benagaria from the first of January 1947.

As it takes more than one year even for an experienced missionary to get acquainted with all the different types of work in this large place we do not have very much to report from this our first year here in Benagaria.

Because of the war the buildings here were in a very miserable condition, Living-quarters and school buildings had to be attended to and some of them completely rebuilt. It will take at least two years more before all is in proper order again. Materials are hard to get and everything takes time.

CONGREGATIONAL WORK

Pastors.—	5.
Elders.—	12.
Biblewomen—	5.

VILLAGE SCHOOLS:—	12.
Number of pupils:—	174.
Teachers.—	16.

BENAGARIA U. P. SCHOOL :	
Number of Pupils—	226.
Staff.—	8.

BENAGARIA INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.	
Number of pupils; Weaving section—	15.
Number of pupils in Carpentry section—	13.
Staff.—	4.

THE PRINTING PRESS.	
Staff:—	9.

THE ZEMINDARY.	
The zemindary accounts are shown under the heading in the account appendices.	
Staff.—	4.

Looking around in the field we have been placed in, the condition and state of everything here we are convinced about one thing and that is that we need very much indeed a deep, genuine, spiritual revival.

Without that spiritual revival our every effort will fall flat to the ground and our joint work towards a self supporting and self propagating church never come through.

May God in his mercy grant this revival to his church in India and all over the world.

Yours in the Master's Service
RANGNA AND WILLIAM GLAD.

BENAGARIA CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL.

This has been a year more of preparation than of work in our hospital. Extended absences of key personnel for study have curtailed our medical work somewhat. During August, for example, the hospital was virtually closed since both Dr. Chatterjee and I were away. However, such study will no doubt prove advantageous in the future for both our medical and evangelistic work. It is fortunate that disease in the area has been lighter than usual this year, although kala azar seems to be increasing among the Santals and tuberculosis continues unabated. Medical work has been rendered a bit more difficult by shortage of certain drugs and other requisites due to the new government's import restrictions.

PERSONNEL.

I spent three and a half weeks at Bamdah with Dr. R. M. Macphail of the Scots Mission and almost six months in Landour studying Santali and Hindi. Miss Axelson, who remained in charge of the hospital most of those months got away for a few weeks of language study at Saldoha. Dr. B. B. Chatterjee, our Indian staff physician, spent three months at the Minto Hospital in Bangalore, Mysore state, studying eye surgery so that our service to eye cases

promises to improve greatly. Miss Hilma Gjerde came from Assam in September to give much needed and welcome help in the nursing work in out-patient clinic and surgery. Our compounder and nursing staff has continued loyally and faithfully. A threatened "Strike" in January was amicably settled with a reasonable raise in salary scale for workers to follow the marked rise in cost of living.

EVANGELISTIC WORK :

In June Daniel Murmu, our Santal pastor, was forced to retire on pension due to tuberculosis so the only evangelistic work in Santali now is what our busy staff finds time to do aside from their medical duties. Biren Dass has conducted verandah preaching in Bengali and has sold over 500 Gospel portions in Bengali, Hindi, Urdu and Santali. A compounder chorus has brightened the verandah services with singing. People have been quite interested in the Christian message, one old Mohammedan so much so that he lay on the verandah floor with his grandson reading the Gospel by lamplight far into the night. In general, though, one has to admit the conversions directly through medical work are so few that we can only hope the indirect results are greater. So often one sees that ignorance, fear, and superstition hinder even the medical work itself and that these people desperately need the Gospel's enlightenment also for that reason. So we are glad that the older, more experienced Atul Babu is being returned to his former work as Bengali hospital preacher and evangelist with the beginning of the new year.

EQUIPMENT.

Our greatest improvement during the year was to institute under Miss Gjerde's direction our own distilling and sterilizing apparatus for preparing intravenous solutions with the Fenwall system. This has been a great help, especially in handling surgical cases. Many new instruments have also arrived from America with our luggage and have been put into use. Our electrical generator has arrived and our new small portable

X-ray is reported to have arrived in Calcutta, but until our hospital's location is more definitely settled they are not being installed. Shortage of petrol in India also threatens to curtail the usefulness of generator and x-ray. Our worst shortage, however, has been cloth for hospital sheets and gowns.

FINANCES.

Patients' fees have more than doubled in the past year, but so have the drug bills. The newer drugs cost more and until and unless we can adjust our medical practice to make use of the older, cheaper drugs we shall have to rely on mission support for operating expenses. The Government grant given to the hospital during the war has ceased and there is no promise of any further grants. Although applications for grants for new equipment have been made, no answer has been forthcoming.

STATISTICS.

Out-patients	16,010	Hindu	38.5%
Repeat visits	5,444	Mohamedans	21.5%
Leper Clinic visits ...	2,025	Santals	27.03%
	<hr/>	Christians ...	12.97%
Total consultations ...	23,472		
In-patients	872	Males	62.5%
		Females ...	37.5%
Laboratory tests done	4,648	Adults	75.6%
Minor operations (approx.)	810	Children ...	24.4%
Major operations ...	155		
Eye	63		
Abdominal	10		
Gen-Urinary	52		
Gyn & Obst.	12		
Bone	6		
Other	12		

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We wish to thank all who are interested in our work for their support and prayers and express a hope that God will bless our labors to a fruitful end.

KRISTOFER HAGEN.

WORK IN BENGAL.

NIMASARAI BENGALI WORK.

1947 marks a turning point in India. It may be so in our Bengali work too. In a mission like ours with now more than a hundred missionaries it is inevitable that divergent views must be held. Some of us maintain that the pioneer work of openly proclaiming the Gospel in the various mother tongues of the people is and ought to remain the purpose for which the means of the mission and the strength of the missionaries primarily should be spent as opposed to all sorts of institutions and social undertakings.

We claim that more of the new men coming out as missionaries ought to be placed in pioneer work among our Bengalis. The total population on the whole of our mission field must now be between 5 and 6 millions,—namely approximately: In our part of Santal Parganas some 800. 000; Birbhum 1. 000. 000; Malda with adjoining parts of Dinajpur and Purnea 1.500.000; our northern part of Goalpara ca. 500.000; Cooch Behar 650.000; our new part of Murshidabad 500. 000; elsewhere such as Darrang etc. Perhaps 600.000 ??? Of these about $\frac{1}{2}$ million are Santals and about 5 millions other races, mostly Bengali speaking. In India as a whole the present number of missionaries corresponds roughly to one for every hundred thousand. On that proportion we should in our mission have about fifty missionaries among the Bengalis and about five among the Santals.

It is well known that actually the very opposite is the case. That means a misproportion which again means that we neglect most of our five million Bengalis and on the other hand that there are too many missionaries concentrated on the Santali work.

During the last 30 years the increase in number of our SANTAL congregation has been from 18,000 to 20,000. Compared to the natural increase of the rest of the population they ought to have grown to at least 24,000 during these years without any addition by conversions from outside. During the same period the average increase of all mission churches of the whole world is supposed to have been 250%. On our mission field the actual increase has been in the Boro and the Bengali section of the work. Some say that work among Bengalis is difficult and does not bear much fruit. That may be true. But it is not hopeless. On the basis of the annual reports of our mission for the last 20 years a comparison has been calculated between the average of baptisms of new converts per worker among the Santals and among those using the Bengali language.

The comparison shows that during these years the average number of baptisms per congregational worker among the Santals has been 1.99, while among the Bengalis, Mahles, and other non-Santals the average has been 3.98. The comparison for 1945 was 1.01 to 1.6. The accession among the Mahles showed a sharp increase about the time of the beginning of the war. The war years have had an adverse effect, but we hope that the future will open new opportunities for all.

Many of our Bengalis come from classes with a standard not much higher than the Santals. Our Bengali congregation thus represents mostly the poor and the little educated ones of the Bengali speaking community. That is a difference from the Santal congregation, where the best educated and comparatively well-to-do Santals are among the Christians. But this only shows how badly we need extension and strengthening of our Bengali work, which is really still in its infancy.

Nevertheless our church roll shows that already about fifty different Hindu castes and various communities are represented in the Bengali congregations of our mission

field, from the most "untouchable" ones to the highest brahmins. For that reason the upbuilding of the church can not run quite as smoothly as among the Santals, where none are tolerated except their own tribe or cast.

Our Bengali Christians are living extremely scattered. In our church roll for Malda alone we have some 80 villages mentioned; and in the "old country" and Cooch Behar combined they have a similar number. That does not make it easier for them all to become one in Christ.

In 1947 we had no new male missionary who had learned Bengali, and S. Johansen was in his homeland on furlough. So I had to spend some of my time in "supervising" the work in Santal Parganas and Birbhum too. At the same time the doctors tell me, I can not expect to become fit again for touring in a district with as bad roads as Malda. But I see no prospect of having successor, so we have better stay on here. It was planned, I should begin a school for training Bengali evangelists. All we could do this year was holding a course first for the Bengali pastors, afterwards for our "student preachers" at the end of the rainy season for 5-6 weeks.

The partition of India and transition to self-government caused some unrest here. This was combined with defective rains and resulted in famine time prices in the district. As we could not give our Indian workers any increase in dearness allowance, most of them had to undertake other work in addition to their service in the mission. So actually very little work has been done during 1947. Several of the workers have given notice that if the mission can not raise their salary, so they can live by it, they have no choice but to seek employment elsewhere. That will mean a stand still for much of our work. Still we had 20 baptisms of new converts during the year plus 16 children of Christians.

Calculation based on the last published Annual Report of our Mission, that for 1946, shows concerning the church collections of the various groups in our congregations,

that the Boros stand first, having contributed on the average Rs. 1/3/- per head during this year. The Bengalis come second with 12 As only per head. Then the Santals in Assam with about 10 As. Next come the Santals of the Old Country with As 9 each and lastly the Santals of the Middle Field with 5 As only. The amount collected in 1947 in this district is given as Rs. 516/4/- of which some Rs. 80/8/- was raised extra by the " Mohila Somiti " or Women's Union at Nimasarai, part of this through a " mela " or sale in November.

For want of paper no Bengali Bibles or Hymnbooks have been available throughout the year. Nor have we been able to print a new edition of our Lutheran hymns or other literature planned for printing. Only our monthly " Bongo Bondhu," Rules for Pastors work, A Bible Reading List and the like we have been able publish in Bengali this year.

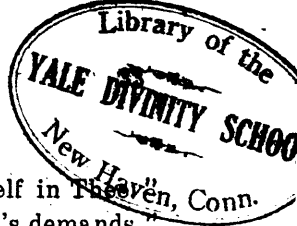
A new house as living quarters for our pastor at English Bazar was constructed, and dedicated on the 30/12/47. Also a hostel building was constructed at Nimasarai for the boys reading at Old Malda High School; most of them at present are Santals.

Some workers were transferred. Thus Ruel R. R. Das. came back to Potra, and Silas Banjuria became his successor at Bolrampur in Purnea District.

At the beginning of the year we welcomed Miss Ellen Laursen as a new Bengali missionary in this District. Attendance at the language school, Darjeeling, and afterwards a long spell of illness, however, kept her away from the district for the greater part of this year.

H. P. H. KAMPP.

EKLAKHI MISSION.



- "Rock of Ages cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee."
"Not the labour of my hands, Can fulfil Thy law's demands."
"Nothing in my hands I bring, Simply to Thy Cross I cling."
"Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee."

With the inspired lines of this famous sacred hymn I want to remind myself and my co-workers at the closing of this year where to go with all our sins and shortcomings in the great work out here on the mission-fields. There is still so much work undone, places round about not visited, people you didn't take the opportunity to speak to. You HAVE to pray: "O, Lord have mercy upon me. If Thou wilt, Thou canst" And there Jesus put forth his hand saying: "I will"

Thus trusting Him we will give our report for 1947.

We started the year with Final Primary Examination for 10 candidates, of whom all passed, and one got 1st grade Scholarship. Then we received old and new pupils and boarders, so that class-rooms and boarding-houses became full up. What a task it was for the new house-mother to manage all the cooking in the proper times for meals. But the old "mother" who was about to go back to her own family assisted her as long as she could, and the same did the teachers. We want to give our best compliments to the staff, 5 trained teachers, for very well done work both in school and boarding. Headmistress Miss Sara Murmu has all the time given her colleagues the very best example. The staff has been in complete charge of the school. When Ass. Insp. of Schools, Miss A. Bose, visited us at the end of April she gave a very good report, which both made the teachers happy and encouraged them to go on in their work.

It is this keen co-operation we constantly need and earnestly pray for in order to successfully being able to run a boarding-school. Rumrs of another difficult year with very high prices of all kinds of foodstuffs made us,

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buy up rice when the market prices were at the lowest. We wish you could have seen how all the compound-people from pastors and elders, the sordar and his people helped along. Food for the whole year was bought and stored away in large earthenware containers, and bamboo & straw baskets. It was a risk, but we can only say that it proved to be a success. We still have a large quantity of good quality rice to meet the new years boarders with. From our own farm we got dal, beans and some potatoes.

When reporting all these material things we want to thank the Government Authorities for clothes as sarees, blankets, garments at half price, free malaria and vitamin tablets. We also thank The Red Cross for the regular monthly quota of powdered milk. The District Magistrate, when visiting Eklakhi and neighborhood in April saw our milk canteen in practise. It has always been a pleasure to deal with the Malda Officials. They have been most willing to advise and to help, and are very interested in the prosperity of our school. Grant-in-aid of Rs. 60/ and Distr. Board Dearness Allow. of Rs. 30/8,- both pr. month, have come regularly.

First Sunday of the new school year we were happy to perform baptism from the Heathens. It was one of our big school girls and her parents. They belong to Khoribari congregation where they a for long time have been instructed. Baptism from Heathens was also performed in September, when our cartman's old mother was baptised, and in the December when two families were baptised. Confirmation was held in December, 7 girls and 2 boys.

As in previous years we have been happy for our Thursday devotional meetings and Sunday School classes. In the compound the women's meetings have been carried on as usual. For some of the money, collected they bought a baptism basin for the church.

There have been 84 pupils on the roll, of whom 17 were day-scholars. During the year the average attendance has been 72.

Health condition: We have had the usual malaria, itches and some cases of dysentery. We have had 2 sad cases of deaths amongst the pupils. A little Heathen girl Bhutan Kisku got some unknown disease. Instead of taking her to the hospital, her relatives took her home, where she died. But as a whole the health condition has been very good.

When Miss E. Malterud in January was transferred to Santipara, Leper Colony Miss Nordby came to take charge of the dispensary. We wish to thank them both for all the help they have given both to school and compound people.

On the last school day in December we were very glad to receive Miss Sofie Nettet back to Eklakhi school. May she too be blessed and be a blessing to the work here.

To all the friends in the Homelands we send our thanks for support and prayers during the year. God bless you.

MARIE AASLAND.

SANTAL WORK IN NORTH BENGAL.

Malda is the only district in North Bengal that belongs wholly to our mission field. But in agreement with other missions we have work among Santals going on in places scattered over five more districts besides Malda, namely Dinajpur, Rajshahi, Purnea in Bihar province, Rongpur and Bogra. These areas combined are larger in extent than all other areas taken together, where our mission else has work going on. As long as all this is counted as the district of one missionary, he will have enormous distances to travel and move about in. In numbers it is already one third of all Santal congregations under our whole mission that are found in this area. It will be readily understood, when I have had the supervision of all this for now 10-12 years as an addition to what is supposed to be my work proper, that among the Bengali-speaking people, I have to feel a charge of this arrangement as an urgent necessity.

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Meanwhile we began building a mission station during the year at RAJADIGHI, near Eklakhi Railway Station and not far from DHAMUA, where the lady missionaries and the girls boarding school of our mission are located. The fund earmarked for this purpose was, however, exhausted during the rainy season, so building operations had to stand still for the rest of the year.

At the beginning of the year we had no pastors to take charge of four out of the seven pastorates of this area. During the year furthermore the leading pastor among the last three of them, Suphol Hembrom at Narayanpur, was taken away from the district in spite of the District Church Council recording objection emphatically. On the other hand two new Santal Pastors were ordained, namely- JAERAM HASDAK' for work in KHORIBARI Pastorate and MUNSHI MURMU for work in PHORIDPUR Pastorate. Both have been through the Bible School at Chondorpura. The ordination took place at convention meeting at Narayanpur on the 15th March 1947. Towards the end of the year the Church Council of the Santals here resolved that two more former Bible School students shall be ordained pastors for the posts vacant at ROUTNOGOR and at ROTONPUR, some time in 1948.

The separation of PAKISTAN from INDIA was of great importance to this area, since the new boundary cut right through these tracts in a most irregular line, so that the two halves of our work in this area are now to be found one in each of the new dominions. The entire Badhar Pastorate in Rajshahi District and the southern part of Malda is all inside Pakistan. Likewise PHORIDPUR in Dinajpur Dist. As well as all that part of ROUTNOGOR pastorate, which is inside Dinajpur Dist. while that part, which is inside Purnea Dist. remained in India, but is at present supervised by the pastor at Eklakhi-Dhamua. Also one half of Narayanpur Pastorate in Dinajpur Dist. is inside Pakistan.

In 1938 the report of the Survey of Evangelistic Opportunities Committee for Bengal was published with

a suggestion that the southern part of Dinajpur Dist. become entirely part of the field of our mission. The final decision was deferred till the end of the war. Now, however, the Baptist Mission and Church seem unwilling to agree to this rearrangement, so for the present our mission will have no possibility for carrying out its hope of having a missionary stationed at Narayanpur for Santali work combined with Bengali work. The Baptist themselves now plan Santali work in this part of the District. So the future of the Lutheran congregations there seems somewhat obscure.

By the end of the year we had at least 58 centres of work for the Santals in this whole area. The number of Christians was supposed to be 2198 living in 144 different villages. There were some 69 congregational workers in addition to some 32 teachers. The collection of contributions amounted to Rs. 718/- in 1947.

The number of baptisms during 1947 was 53 children of Christians and 72 in all coming as new converts from outside.

H. P. H. KAMPP.

COOCH-BEHAR.

The year under review has been in many respects a year of search for souls, faithful workers; congregation spiritual, moral and social welfare and a search after land for a new Missionstation.

None of the above can be had without much thought, prayer and hard work. It may be said that the workers and some of the Christians have to a certain extent awakened to realize their responsibility as lighthouses in this dark age and circumstances, but the self propagation of the gospel seems still to be far off.

We have had several days of spiritual meetings and Biblestudies which have been an inspiration to all and were much appreciated.

It has been painful to see the poverty of the people all over the State, specially because our help resources have been so limited. We have far overspent our Relief Budget, which we hope the Conference and the Home Board will help us to put right. I think that we may say that it has been one of the most difficult years in the history of this part of the country.

The work in general has been carried on as previously so far as we have been able with the limited workers and teachers.

One of our best Biblewomen has retired after many years of faithful service. We would have liked to keep her longer, but as she had already given 2 years of her pensionage in the active service and is not so strong, we had to part with her at the end of the year, which we very much regret, as we have a great need of Biblewomen. We thank her for her valuable service and wish her God's blessing wherever she may be. It is however a great relief to us to know that her son was in a position to take her and give her the comfort she deserves.

Some work has been opened amongst a group of Garos in Devanhat, seven miles from C. B. town. A few families have been baptized and some more are receiving teaching for baptism. A teacher of their own people has been appointed there and is doing well in the Primary School and a night school for adults as well as preaching. We hope that the Forest land shall give them fair return for their labour.

We are sorry to report that the High School is still a disappointment to us.

Lack of suitable text books has been a handicap in the work, but for those who understand English well enough the New Testament has been used and in the lower classes oral teaching and some of the boys have shown a great ability in memorising the stories from the Bible of both the old and the New Testament.

The Head Master Mr. Adhikari had to be dismissed during the summer on account of immoral conduct, which was a great set back to our Christian influence over the

School. As we are very few Christians in the Managing Committee and only a few Christian boys in the School the majority takes the lead. We look forward to the possibility of withdrawing our connection with the School.

We wish to thank our Home Board and all friends all over Sweden, that have been praying for the work and us during the year and so generously supported us in all respects, though they have had so little encouraging news from the field.

We hope that they shall not be weary in their well doings for the Lord and the people of this great country.

During the year Miss Ada Wittander, the new Missionary for C. B. has arrived in India and we welcome her to the land where her service will be much appreciated.

We hope in the near future to be able to get some land and houses to accommodate her, so that she may get a scope for her knowledge of nursing and midwifery.

We have not yet had the opportunity to meet her, but hope to do so at the conference in Jan. 48.

We conclude this report by thanking all who will continue to pray for us and help us with their support for the coming year.

The Statistics are as follows—

Congregations 9, villages and towns with Christians 11, Christian families 69, Total of Christians 313, Workers—Pastor 1, Elders 8; Unpaid Elders 7, Biblewomen 4, Total workers 20.

Ministration, Baptised children of Christian parents 7, heathens 26, confirmed 10, Married couples 4, S. School 3, children in these 40.

Education, 1 H. E. School and 9 Primary Schools with 767 children. Church collections Rs. 242-1-0 only.

LINDA & A. W. BRANDT.

WORK IN ASSAM.

SANTAL COLONY.

When I look back on the year that has passed, there is much that makes me happy and thankful. But one cannot hide the fact that there are things that make one unhappy too. There are many here who live a good Christian life; but there are also those who have come away from their first zeal. There are about 6000 Christians here in the Colony, and here, as everywhere, the tempter tries to win some over to his side, and destroy Christian life. Unfortunately, there are some of the Christians who cannot resist temptations, and fall into sin. But there are also many who overcome temptation and are drawn closer to God through the tribulations. It is from among these that we get the pillars of the church.

When I look at the congregations separately, then I will begin at HARAPUTA. This is the largest congregation, with 2179 Christians. It has been one of the best here in the Colony. Pastor Ratia has been faithful in his service, and he has done very good work. But now he is old, and not the powerful man he once was. He asked to be put on pension. He sent his application to the Church Council and it was accepted. Kanhu pastor, from Grahampur, was moved to Haraputa. Certain misgivings with regard to Ratia were found to be groundless.

The church attendance at Haraputa is good. The large school has good influence upon the congregation. Several have been baptised from among the heathen.

The next largest congregation is RANTZAÜPUR. There seems to be growth of the inner life of the people of this congregation. Peter Pastor, who was there before James Pastor began, was sick and feeble, so that he was not

able to do effective work. The result was therefore disappointing. But after new Pastor took over, there seems to have been some better progress. I am also happy to visit them. The church can seat about 700 people, and at ordinary services it is well filled. The whole congregation has 1700 members. Two new teachers have entered the work, and the school work is going well. The Headman of Tilabani village is a good help in the work. He is old now, but when there is really something at stake, in the congregation, they can always turn to him for help and advice. He is a good, faithful Christian. There have been attempts made to win over our people to the Catholics and the Adventists, but so far these have not met with success.

The third largest congregation is GRAHAMPUR, with about 1200 members. The fight between light and darkness is very bitter. If you judge by the church attendance, there is progress, because this has increased much.

The services here are really blessed. Here are many young people. The school choir gives a festal touch to the Sunday service. Since Kanhu pastor was transferred, it was necessary to have a new pastor here. The Church Council selected Chatur Soren. He is a brother of James pastor in Rantzaupur. He is very young, only 27 years old. He has passed his M. E. examination here in Gramhampur School, and later was a village school teacher. He read the course at the Divinty School, and was regarded as one of the best students. We hope he will be a good worker in the Kingdom of God. He should be a good man for the young people here.

The smallest congregation in the Colony is BILANPUR, which earlier was called Manjadhabri. There is progress in the congregational life. Lokhon pastor has a good grip on the work. A new work has been started there, as the pastor has started a class in Adult Education, for both men and women. And it has really born fruit. Now they can read their Bibles and can take part in congregational singing. The church at Bilanpur is in need of

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repair, in fact it is in such condition that they are beginning to collect money for a new church. The Christians there are poor, with only small farms. But comparatively they give most of all to congregational work. They also have a good school.

On the whole, however, I feel that our school work needs to be strengthened. The School here at Grahampur needs much attention. And now we have hope that we shall have a missionary for that school. It was a hard blow that Anders Malme died, just as he had been assigned to take over Grahampur School.

Six of our village schools in the Colony receive Government aid. For this we are very thankful. And we are happy to see that in several villages they are beginning to take a new interest in school work.

Within the Colony we also have one Boro congregation and one Bengali. The first is supervised by the Boro missionaries, and the other is in the care of the Bengalis in the Tea Garden.

Let us then remember also this work in the Colony in our prayers. In spite of the many weaknesses, there is much to be thankful for. God has blessed the work, and we give thanks to Him for all.

KRISTIAN OFSTAD.

MORNAL.

Great changes have taken place in India during the year under review and a new time has come to free India. As in most other places the changed circumstances have brought along with them numerous problems, both material and spiritual ones.

When looking at the practical side of this institution there have been quite a good deal of difficulties to overcome. The materials we need in order to run the tea garden have not been easily obtainable. For instance chests for packing the tea were at one time not to be had anywhere, and for a long period no railway wagons

were available, just to mention a few of the major obstacles. So at the end of the year one looks back with gratitude because we got through, and after-all the result of the year proved very satisfactory in spite of all.

New problems have arisen with regard to labour welfare. It has always been the policy of the Mission to make the tea garden a good home for those who dwell here. Much has been done, but with the swift changes now taking place in India many problems have cropped up, which have to be tackled in order that we should in no way lag behind in the planning and care for those who labour here. Not only have salaries been increased but plans have been made for improving houses etc. In order to bring such matters up to the standard which the new India Government are trying to have introduced for Industrial concerns.

The new times are also felt in the spiritual sphere. At times it manifests itself in less respect for authority in the church. This has its dangers, but on the other hand it may also be taken for a sign of development of individual thinking which people like the Santals, who are collectively minded, may in the long run benefit from. We hope that out of it all will come the spiritual leaders of the church which we have so long been longing for.

In the Santal congregation we have as usual only had one paid worker, Pastor Jatu Murmu; but he has been assisted in various ways by many unpaid ones, men and women. In each village there is usually an Elder and a Bible-woman. The Elder will conduct the evening devotions of the village, visit the sick and report any matter of importance to the pastor. The Bible-woman's job is to care for the women and children of the village and to conduct the special Friday meetings for women. At these gatherings the rice offerings are collected which are a substantial part of our Church offerings.

It is not always an easy job to be an Elder or a Bible woman and keep things moving in the village. At our monthly congregational meetings we have tried to give

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encouragement to these fellow workers, whose work we always consider most important.

The Munda congregation was somewhat enlarged as many new workers came here from Ranchi during the year. Johon Topno is still working as a Preacher and leader of the Munda congregation.

With regard to our Bengali work we have been looking for a suitable site for a Bengali Station, from which work could be carried out more extensively amongst Bengali speaking people of the District. No final decision has been taken, and the fact that a new railway line is now to be built from Fakiragram Station via Gossaigaon to Haraputa Sankos River may influence our decision, as it may be considered an advantage to have such a Bengali station close to a centrally situated railway station.

Our Sunday Schools have again been one of our most promising activities, with more than 200 children regularly attending.

The results of our Day School are very visible. Most of the Garden children are now literate in the sense that they have had elementary education. Some are studying further in our Mission M. E. Schools and a few in High Schools.

I would close this report with a heartfelt thanks to all friends who have remembered the work in their prayers during the past year.

O. EIE.

HARAPUTA DISPENSARY.

The work here at Haraputa Dispensary has gone on much as usual. When I came back in June, I found the same workers as before. Miss Gjerde had been doing the work while I was on furlough. Shortly after I came back I went out to Santipara Leper Colony to relieve there on account of Rev. Malme's death.

I returned to Haraputa in October when Fossland came back from Norway.

We have had much influenza and pneumonia and kala-azar. There have not been any epidemics. Of course malaria and dysentery are always with us. We can get most of the drugs we need, but they are very expensive. The number of patients is about the same as last year, 12500.

The health of the school girls has been good. The dispensary at Joema will soon be looked after by the missionary in charge there. The dispensary in Gothaibari is continuing, and the same compounder is there. He is doing a very good and much needed work.

Just as this year ended, one of our compounders, Gopal, died. He had kala-azar, than got influenza. He was sick about a month. He was such a faithful and conscientious worker. We feel his going very much.

The Bible women continue to meet once a month. Some are very faithful and do good work in their villages. Others could do much more.

The boy's Sunday School goes on as usual. This year we have an elder in the congregation who has taken charge of this class.

We are so thankful that one wing of the new hospital is finished. Now we can send our patients who need hospital treatment over there to be cared for. It is about 7 miles from Haraputa. It is such a relief to have such a place so near when it is needed.

We can now be able to give better medical service here in Assam to our Christians as well as others. We experience daily that the Lord answers prayer. It may not be just the way we thought it should be, but we find that he knows best.

We wish to thank you all for your prayers for us and your help that has caused our hopes for this work to be realized.

When I think of this I recall Psalm 37:5.

Commit thy way unto Jehoua, trust also in Him,
and He will bring it to pass.

DAGMAR PEDERSEN.

HARAPUTA M. E. SCHOOL.

The year which has run out, has in many aspects been a difficult year for Haraputa School, but in spite of all, the Lord has given us strength and grace to carry on, and we are able to start the new year full of hope and confidence in God.

We had to start the new year with three new teachers on the list. Mr. Barni left before Christmas 1947, and it was absolutely necessary to get a new headmaster. Finally we got one, and he has proved to be quite good in his schoolwork, even though we find his ability as a headmaster not quite up to the standard of a M. E. School. One of the two other teachers is leaving now for the new boarding school which the Boro Christians opened last year in Gothaibari, a village some 4-5 miles from Haraputa. The first half of the year Rahel Kisku, one of our older girls, who has taken her Matric in Gholaghat, taught in school. But she went to Lucknow to College in July, and one girl with M. E. passed was given work in the lower classes. She, as well as the other teachers, have been working conscientiously, and the progress, especially in the lower classes, is considerable.

We had as an average 165 children in School, but only ca. 100 have been in board...So many of the pupils are dayscholars, and we try also all the time to encourage the villagers in the nearby villages to send their children to us. There seems to be more interest for education now in our congregations, as some of the headmen have started their own schools. In due time this will also make our school grow as some of the bigger girls from these schools later on will come to us.

Last year 11 girls passed L. P. examination, but our three M. E. candidates all failed. We hope though that some of our candidates this year will pass. Four Girls took their M. E. Needlework Diplomas, and 11 took their L. P. Needlework Diplomas, several with honour.

The health of the girls has been good during the year. One girl from Bahre Hasa died last Christmas in Haraputa village. She was so ill that she could not be moved any further.

We have started reading schools for the illiterate confirmants from the villages, and I am in charge of the one for girls. It seemed rather hopeless at first, when they even had to be taught how to hold a pencil, but now some of them have really learned to read a little. So I hope they shall be able to read their Bibles before their confirmation.

Here really is work to be done. May God give courage and strength to carry on. In conclusion I wish to thank all friends who faithfully have remembered us in prayer.

BORGNY AUSTAD.

JOEMA DISTRICT.

It was with some anxiety that we arrived at Joema one of the last days of November. We were wondering how we should manage in our new place, but we were happy to find that God helped and worked with us.

Since we have been here at Joema only for a short time, it is not so easy to write an Annual Report. We know that it is not as complete as it ought to be, but however, we will try to give a little picture of the work.

The congregational work is divided into 3 pastorates. Here at Joema we have Ratu Pastor who looks after 8 congregations. Ruben Pastor is working in Gaorang District and he looks after seven. In Darrang we have Sirmat Pastor who has 6 congregations to look after.

Besides the Pastors there are 18 paid and 4 unpaid elders, one paid and 3 unpaid Bible women. I have to mention that most of the elders, get half payment.

The total number of Christians reported by the end of 1947 are 1722. During the year 49 were baptized from the heathens, and 61 children from Christian Homes. The church collectins during the year were 1355 Rupees.

The L. P. school at Joema is going on as it did in the previous year. There are 4 teachers and 92 boys have attended school. In government grant the school gets Rs 20/ —each month. The pastors reported that there is 5 village school, of which one is private.

The work in the dispensary has also continued as before with patients constantly coming for treatment. There have been 1803 outdoor patients besides the compound people.

In October they had a Bible Course arranged and conducted by themselves. Workers both from the Colony and Joema joined this course. We hope to have a similiar course every year. Our impression is that people have too little knowledge of the Bible. We are looking forward to setting a Bible School here in Assam.

In conclusion we extend our thanks to all who have supported the work in prayer and loving service. Above all we are thankful to the Lord who has kept His promises. In the new year we are looking to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ for help and guidance, praying to Him that He may increase our faith and revive our spirits.

ELDBJORG GULBRANDSEN

ASLAUG AND JENS STURE.

THE BORO WORK.

God is our refuge and strength,
A very present help in trouble. Ps. 46; 1.

This word from the holy scripture comes naturally to my mind when I remember the year 1947 It has been a year full of toil and hardship but the Lord has given his blessing and his strength. God has been our refuge and strength, we have found Him a very present help in trouble. His holy name be praised.

The workers have been too few. Far too much had to be left undone. One the 13th of May Rev. David Westborg signed the Bongaigaon cash Book and handed it over to me and he and his family went to Norway on furlough. I feel inclined to thank them for their help so willingly given in a critical and difficult time. May God bless them in Norway and where he may lead them. The Boro Christian Council has sent him a letter thanking him because he worked among the Boros when nobody else was there.

On the 25th the June Rev. Anders Malme died at Mornai Tea Estate and was buried at GRAHAMPUR on the following day. It was a severe loss to Mrs. Malme and her two children and to the Santal Mission as well. May God comfort them in their great sorrow. I had the opportunity on behalf of the Boros and myself to express my thanks to the country that sent Anders Malme. He will be remembered by the Boros for the work done among them.

For the greater part of the year Miss. B. Fischer, Miss. K. Sindal, Mrs. Kristiansen and I were the only missionaries left among the Boros. We had the great pleasure that

50 THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES.

Rev. & Mrs. Thoft Krogh in September offered their help in the Boro work and it was decided to place them at Gaorang, but it was impossible for them to leave their job at Kaerabani. We hope, however, to welcome them at Gaorangin the beginning of next year.

THE BORO CHURCH COUNCIL.

The Council met 4 times during the year. All the meetings except the first have been very peaceful, although we have discussed delicate problems. The Boro Church Council is working very well indeed and it is my hope it will be able to run the Boro Church when the missionaries have left.

The Council has decided the kind of spelling we are to use, that we are to have a periodical "The Morning Star", reprint of Hymn Book & Luther's Small Catechism, the Council has to pay the extra Dearn. Allowance to the preachers if possible, if not the workers will not get it. The Secretary & the Superintendent of the Colony have been asked to introduce Assamese in Grahampur School. If a village School is taken over by Local Board it will lose the mission support Bishnath has been placed at Santipara as part time preacher for the Boro lepers The Council has sent a letter to the Bible Society about the translation of The New Testament and in a letter to the Conference they have told that they want The Old Testament and whom they want to translate it. As Council meetings are very costly and take a lot of time for the missionaries and for the members as well it has been decided to try to meet only twice in the year, A Literature Committee, a Text Book Committee and a Committee for Village Schools have been elected. All these committees have to report to the Boro Church Council.

LITERARY WORK.

The New Testament, Hymn Book, Catechism & The First Reading Book are all out of print and there is a great need to get them as soon as possible. Without these

books the church will die and the mother tongue will be lost. When I returned Rev. Westborg told me that the most important job for me to start with was the revision of The New Testament, and I think he was right. It was, however, impossible to start printing books straight away. There was no paper available and certain important matters had to be discussed. I soon found that the Boros were very dissatisfied with the new kind of spelling introduced a couple of years ago and none of the teachers would use it. Before I could start writing books I had to ask, How to write? This question was asked in the Church Council and all the Boros but one were in favour of the old kind of spelling. For the sake of co-operation it was decided to elect 3 of our Boros and invite 7 Boros from the other missions working among the Boros. This committee should put their proposals before the Church Council. The annual convention agreed to this procedure. From the very beginning I stated that I was willing to use the kind of spelling chosen by the Boros.

The committee met at Gaorang on the 10th of April. Besides our 3 Boros, there came 2 Boros from the Scotch Mission, 1 from The Australian Baptist Mission and 2 from The Swedish Baptist Mission in Darrang. It was decided to use the old kind of spelling, but on the way from the church to the Girls' School it was decided on the suggestion of the Scotch pastor that we should use t' instead of r' (in the new spelling rt). Rev. McLarsen, Rev. A. Malme Rev. D. Westborg and I myself agreed to this.

Rev. L. O. Skrefsrud writes in his Grammar of the Boro language about Abrupt Semiconsonants (r', t' etc.), "These are exclusively met with at the end of words. When the abrupt lenis (') is followed by another letter (vowel or consonant) in the same (compound) word it is lost. When r' and t' is followed by a vowel they both change unto r".

This means that r' only is to be used in the imperative and at the end of nouns and adjectives, in all other forms r is to be used.

This is certainly the case in the languages of the Boros in Goalpara, Kamrup and Darang and most likely in Jalpauri too. The best for the Boros of the 3 districts east of Sankos would be to use r'. The Council wrote in a letter of 19th of April, "We prefer r' as it agrees better with our language and it is the same in Kamrup & Darrang, but we want to co-operate with the Boros from other missions, and therefore we will use the kind of spelling proposed on the 10th instant. But we think that if we use it all Boros ought to use it. If not, it is possible that we again will use the r'" Later on it was decided that in all cases where r' was used we are to use rt, then we have to teach that when rt is followed by another letter in the same word the t is dropped.

At the meeting on the 10th of April the Boros and the missionaries decided:

- I To publish a Joint Hymn Book for all the Boros.
 - II To initiate A Boro Christian Board. The board is to meet once or twice in a year, it is advisory. Rev. J. N. Narjari from the Scotch Mission is the secretary.
 - III To publish "The Morning Star"
 - IV To publish a Joint New Testament. In all the missions they are to read The Gospel according to St. Matthew and send their suggestions before the 10th of May.
- If all these plans can be materialized it might be a great blessing to the Boros.

The discussion of the spelling caused us to have a number of meetings and a good many letters had to be read and written. This question took six precious months.

THE NEW TESTAMENT.

In the meantime I also had to discuss the translation with The Bible Society of India & Ceylon. The Secretary was keen to get a joint edition for all the Boro Missions and so were the Boros themselves. I found the job difficult because the dialects of the 4 districts differ considerably. It is somewhat like to try to make a joint Scandinavian edition. The Boros in the other missions

have had their education in Hindi or Assamese and have heard the gospel in one of these languages and hence they do not know their mother tongue too well and they are aware of it. As I thought a job like that would take years I felt inclined to give it up and have The New Testament reprinted for the time being & leave the job to somebody else, but the Secretary of the Bible Society wanted me to do the job and so did the Boros. When our Boros heard that somebody had criticized the translation The Boro Church Council including our 6 pastors wrote to the Bible Society.

"The words of the holy scripture are and must be deep, therefore we can not understand all the words of the holy scripture very clearly but the teacher can and ought to instruct the village people and those who are unable to understand. In the Bible we are using there is not one word we cannot understand and till now all are using it and like it, and among the words in it there is not a single word we do not like and understand."

The Secretary asked me to prepare the whole manuscript in one year, as far as possible in co-operation with the other Boro Missions, then he would put it through the press in 3-4 months. He wrote that unless some time limit is made for receiving criticisms and suggestions to be considered the work is likely to be held up indefinitely. He left it in my hands to work out the details.

All the Boro missionaries and the Boros in the various missions were asked to send in their criticisms & suggestions before a certain date.

From Rev. H. Halvorsrud I have had copies of the gospels with his suggestions written between the lines, The Scotch Mission has gone through the greater part of the gospel according to St. Matthew and sent their suggestions, and some of our people have sent a few suggestions. None of the suggestions were very radical. A good many of them are due to dialectic difference. I asked the pastors Maguram and Bhabendro who were

mentioned (without name) in last year's annual report to go through the gospels sent by Rev. Halvorsrud and select what they thought to be improvements. As far as I remember I have in that case followed their advice and even used more than they recommended. I have myself carefully considered all the suggestions I have got, compared them with the Greek and discussed them with my helpers.

In May our pastors and delegates from the other Boro missions met at Gaorang to discuss the principles. We had a good and peaceful time together. Some were very keen to get as much as possible altered. I told them that if they liked it like that they could get it but later on they must not blame me for it. It cooled them down a bit. I tried to give them as much as possible but if they wanted something different from the Greek and even from the two recognized English translations I said, I should have to ask The Bible Society.

The Boros no doubt want a true translation. All of them could not get all they wanted but I think they were satisfied when they went home. The pastors stayed for some time till we had been through the suggestions sent by the Scots. Most of our pastors have helped me for some time but my chief helpers have been Bhubendro pastor, Dinesh and Thaneshor. All of them have been good and faithful helpers. Our co-operation has been very peaceful and pleasant indeed. The last portion we went through in 1947 was Romans chapter 8. We are typing the revised portion in 6 copies to be sent to Rev. Halvorsrud, The Scotch Mission and the 2 Baptist Missions and Maguram and the copies are meant to circulate as much as possible. Only the Scotch Mission has replied and the reply was that they had not had time to finish but there would be few amendments. It has to be typed once more all of it and it ought to be done before May. It would have been helpful if the other missions could have sent a man or two for some length of time but

they were unable to do so. We have to do the job and pay the bill.

THE HYMN BOOK is also badly needed. it is a great pity that our 4000 Christian Boros are unable to get a New Testament and a Hymn Book and it has been so for nearly 2 years. The Literature Committee has decided that the 1938 edition of The Hymn Book shall be reprinted with the new hymns in the 1943 edition, but it has been impossible to have it printed. We are doing our very best to get paper.

It is also a great pity that the Boro children at present are unable to learn their mother tongue. There is Text book Committee but they have as yet been unable to publish any book. Everybody is asking for Phoraijennai Bijap', our old primer and may be we shall have to reprint it for the time being.

THE MORNING STAR, Phuñi Hathorkhi is the name of a new periodical in Boroni. I have felt the need of such a paper for many years but it has been impossible to find the time. The MS. was sent to the press in April and we got it in November so it is far from being daily news. May it prosper and may it lead the Boros to Christ, to the morning star.

THE WAY OF SALVATION, a collection of passages from the Bible was prepared by Rev. H. Halvorsrud but as it was written in the new spelling now given up I had to rewrite it. I have done the proof reading and we expect to get 2000 copies of the booklet paid by The Scripture Gift Mission. I had the great encouragement to get Kr. 3000 from The Danish Bible Society. The Very Rev. Dean Skovgaard Petersen wrote in a very kind letter that it was to cover my personal expenses in the revision work.

- GAORANG DISTRICT.

I have been in charge of this district and I have been at Gaorang most of the time. As mentioned before

there have been a lot of meetings and official correspondence. The office work has rather grown in the years since I left Gaorang. Some time was spent in trying to build a new School at Thajoubari & a new dispensary between Gaorang and Thajoubari. It has been difficult to get the materials but the heaviest part of the job was done before the year was gone but it will take some time to complete it. Mr. Sahay, Kokrajhar has been very helpful to me.

We have tried to clear the jungle and plant & cultivate as much as possible. We have planted some Tung trees. We shall not be allowed in the future to have too much jungle. People have tried to get some of the mission land for a market place but I have told them that the land belongs to the Christian Boros.

We had the opportunity during the year to visit all the churches in Gaorang District and the brethren were happy to see us. There are now 18 churches, 3 Pastors, 17 elders, 6 unpaid elders and 11 Bible women, seven of these unpaid. The total number of Christians are 2271. 164 were baptixed, of those 73 were heathens. Besides the building & upkeep of churches & school houses and party pay of the teachers salary the Christians have paid Rs. 2981-12-6 to the Church. A considerable sum of money has been collected for Gaorang Girls' High School. The money are administered by the Church Council and used for Evangelistic work. There are 11 Village Schools, 12 teachers and 321 children.

A. KRISTIANSSEN.

BONGAIGAON DISTRICT.

Rev. D. Westborg was in charge of this district till he went on furlough in May. I have not been able to do much for Bongaigaon. We generally went there once a month and spent a day and a night, my wife went to visit them more frequently. As I was bound to Gaorang she had to go and see several officials on my account. In this district we only got the time to visit

one congregation. The annual convention was held at Gandabil in March. The Boros did all preparations themselves as usual and I think they are very good organizers. In the beginning of the year there were 2 pastors, Surendro and Bhubendro. At the council meeting in April Bhubendro was transferred to The Bhutan-Tibetan Work, but it was decided that he should help me as much as possible in the revision work. He went to Patkijuli in the beginning of May, but he has been with me in Shillong for one month and at Gaorang for about 3 months.

As the brethren in Bongaigaon did not want Surendro to be their pastor it was decided in June that Tarini Pastor should take care of them in the rainy season and that Malsing, whom they wanted, should be ordained some time in the autumn.

To understand this it must be known that we have two groups of Boros, the Boros born in Goalpara District and Boros who have moved in from Jalpaiguri District. The Boros of this district call them Bordonnari, the English call them Bodo, but they object to both names. They want to be called Boros, they call themselves Shonabari that means western (Boros). These western people live in the east. They feel that the Boros despise them on account of difference in dialect and manners. Five of our pastors are from Goalpara, only one (Tarini) is from their group. Three others of our pastors, Alicharan, Maguram and Bhubendro, have been more or less compelled to leave Bongaigaon. In June the leaders of the "western" Boros said that they would use none of our pastors but Tarini and even him they would only use in the rainy season. They did not want to have Surendro pastor dismissed, they only wanted to get rid of him. In a Council meeting on the 15th of November where the Secretary, Rev. Helland, the three Secretaries from the homelands and Rev. O. Eie were present it was decided to pay Suren pastor some money as a compensation. He shall have to support himself and is supposed to work without pay. He has been helping me for some time in the revision work.

On the following day Malsing was ordained in the Gaorang Church. He has got his education at Grahampur & in The Divinity School at Chandarpura. May God bless him. He is the only pastor in Bongaigaon District. There are 16 churches, 16 elders 22 unpaid elders, 3 Bible women, 2 of these are unpaid. 112 have been baptized of these 25 were heathens. & 7 Village Schools, 10 teachers and 180 children. The total number of Christians is 1674. The Church collection amount Rs. 1243-11-9.

In Kamrup District there are 2 churches, 1 pastor, 3 elders, of these 2 are unpaid and 1 unpaid Bible woman, 1 Village School, 2 Teachers and 35 children. None has been baptized. There are 245 Christians. The Church collection amounts to Rs. 172-2-0

In Darrang District there are 4 churches, 5 elders, 1 Village School, 1 teacher and 20 children. 1 heathen has been baptized. There are 213 Christians. The Church collection amounts to Rs 354-10-0. Maguram pastor who is looking after the work in Kamrup & Darrang has been very ill and had to stay in Gaorang for a couple of months. He had also to take care of The Bhutan-Tibetan Work. Our leaders need instruction in the Bible and they are keen to get it. We need more and better trained teachers. A Bible School and Teachers' Training School are the things most needed. If the Boros are not to have matriarchy we shall have to give the Boros a M. E. School for boys. They have a big M. E. School for girls and we are trying to develop it to a Girls' High School. At present there are fewer Boro boys at Grahampur than there used to be, none at Joema. In Kokrajhar there are some 12 Christian Boro boys. How can the girls get a suitable husband, how can the church & the school get able leaders & teachers? Something has to be done and to be done quickly.

Bongaigaon is going to be a big Railway center. The Assam Railway wants to acquire some of the land belonging to the Mission. We are protesting most vigourously and hope to succeed. Some missionaries have suggested that

we give up Bongaigaon but as a Boro put it lately in his clear and outspoken way, it would be very foolish indeed. I think that Bongaigaon is a beautiful place very conveniently situated. It can easily be made the most pretty station in the whole mission. When I used to visit Bongaigaon District from Joema and Gaorang I used to start from Bongaigaon. When one has lived at Joema and in a lonely jungly place for years one feels it a great blessing to live near the railway. The Boros from the district are frequently coming to Bongaigaon as it is their nearest town. The "western" Boros would feel it badly if Bongaigaon is given up as they consider it their mission station.

It has been a great pleasure to co-operate with the Boros. They have shown us great love and confidence. God has given us the strength during the year. In closing this report I want to thank our many friends for kind letters of encouragement and for their support in prayers and gifts. May God bless the Boros and all their friends.

A. KRISTIENSEN.

BHUTAN AND TIBETAN WORK.

I lift mine eyes to the mountains. Ps. 121, 1.

Often when I went to church at Gaorang about sunrise and saw the beautiful mountains of Bhutan I remembered these holy words and my thoughts went to the people living in the closed land among and behind the mountains. And when I in the dry season met crowds of the cheerful hill people my heart warmed to them. Again and again I have told the Boros that it was their job to preach the gospel to the Bhutanese, and a few of them have done so occasionally. It is therefore a great joy to me that a work among the hill people has been started in co-operation with the Boros. May God bless it abundantly.

Rev. D. Westborg was in charge of the work till he went on furlough in May then he gave it over to Rev. A. Malme. When he suddenly died in June Rev. O. Eie looked after it for a month or so and then handed it over to me. It has been impossible for me to do much. The accounts have given me some trouble. Bhubendro pastor was set apart for The Bhutan—Tibetan Work but he was needed in the revision work. Maguram pastor who was in charge of the Boro work in the districts of Kamrup & Darrang had to give his time to this job too but he has been seriously ill for a long time and thought he was going to die but God spared him.

In August our only Bhutanese Christian, Rin—chen Lama died. It was later on reported that he had been poisoned. He was of noble birth and skilled in Bhutanese medicine. He was baptized in The Finnish Mission and lived for years as a Christian Sadhu. It was reported that he had some trouble (women & money) but he was very keen to preach the gospel. He joined our mission early in 1943 and he has worked well and in many ways he has been used to open the doors for us. May be he is the first Christian martyr among the Bhutanese. May his untimely death be a blessing to his people. In September our Bhutanese Chaukidar died. May be he also was poisoned, it cannot be said for certain.

I have tried to get new workers but in vain. We must pray the Lord of the harvest to send forth workers. We have a teacher and some 12-15 children. We are giving a little support to some Bhutanese orphans. The Bhutanese authorities are said to be in favour of the work and want us to go on. May God help us to do so. May His kingdom come among the mountains of Bhutan.

A. KRISTIANSEN

CONGREGATIONAL RETURNS FOR THE YEAR. 1947

STATIONS	COMMUNITY				WORKERS						MINISTRATIONS				SUNDAY SCHOOLS		EDUCATIONAL			CHURCH COLLECTIONS AND OTHER OFFERINGS		
	Congregations	Villages with Christians	Christian Families	Total number of Christians	Pastors	Elders	Unpaid Elders	Biblewomen	Unpaid B. women	Total workers	Baptized Children of Christians	Baptized Heathens	Confirmed	Married Couples	Teachers	Children	Schools	Teachers	Children	Rs.	A.	P.
Kaerabani	10	67	500	1460	4	4	3	3		14	27	1	47	26	4	54	4	5	121	1035		4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Dhorompur	2	15	39	177	2	3				5	7	4	12	5	2	22	2	2	48	43	4	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Dumka	4	38	119	586	2	4		3		9	24	35	4	11	2	50	4	7	200	780		7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Maharo	5	44	134	700	1	5	18	3		27	17	12	2	5	1	17	6	9	187	98	2	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Koroya	3	29	86	433	1	3	1	2			4	10		12	1	24	2	7	132	208	7	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Condorpura	8	84	276	1729	5	6				11	33	29	4	29			6	10	125	677	7	6
Saldoha	3	26	86	578	1	1	5	2		9	16	24		2	4	76	7	12	208	678	11	9
Basetkundi	12	100	349	1575	3	10	2	5	1	17	28	14	25	20	1	20	8	15	305	453	2	9
Mohulpahari	1	20	82	440	1	1	1	2		5	14	11	3	9	1	20	2	7	145	106	7	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tilabani	6	26	93	272	1	6		1		8	8	7	1		1	11	3	4	76	173	7	9
Benagaria	15	78	348	1890	5	12		5		22	82	24	11	12	4	100	12	24	400	1042	13	3
TOTAL FOR AREA	69	1427	2112	9840	25	55	30	25	1	133	260	171	109	131	18	294	56	95	1547			
Bklakhi	10	29	68	289	1	10		1		12	17	19	11	1	2	91	1	5	83	238	8	9
Bhoridpur	5	7	56	268	1	5				6	13	14	5	1	2	40	4	5	116	122	11	3
Narayanpur	16	34	129	648	1	15	1	3		20	12	4	8	16	1	35	5	12	163	128	6	
Botonpur	6	16	57	285		6	3			9	2	3	9	3	1	13	2	4	105	54	3	6
Badhair	11	24	57	297	1	6	3	1		11	3	13	2	3			2	3	85	66	10	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Rantnagar	3	4	21	95	1	3				4	1		5	1	1	13	1	2	54	49	1	
Khoribari	7	29	69	316	1	6				7	5	19	5	7	1	30	1	1	80	58	4	
TOTAL FOR AREA	58	143	457	3098	6	51	7	5		69	42	72	45	32	8	222	16	32	636			
Santal Colony	4	39	1176	5813	4	3	42		33	82	153	40	119	59	10	204	7	27	523	4802	13	9
Joema	21	66	380	1722	3	18	4	1	3	29	61	49	6	30	6	137	6	11	215	1355	5	3
Mornai	5	16	243	1025	1	3	14		15	33	29	12	27	20	7	211	1	5	171	1379	1	9
Santipara	8	18	134	644	1	6	3		4	14	24	17		8	2	30	2	3	64	833	6	3
TOTAL FOR AREA	38	139	1933	9204	9	30	63	1	55	158	267	118	152	117	25	672	16	46	973			
Gaorang Distr.	18	50	363	2271	3	17	6	4	7	37	91	73	27	29	6	137	11	12	321	2981	12	6
Bongaigaon	23	40	304	2132	1	22	221	1	3	49	88	26	1	20	10	168	10	11	242	1770	7	9
Darrang & Kamrup	7	10	74	458	1	6	2		1	9	1	1		4	2	45	3	4	62	526	12	
TOTAL FOR AREA	48	100	741	4861	5	45	229	5	11	95	180	100	28	53	18	350	24	27	625			
Dumka	1	7	15	63	1				1	2	1		1	3	3	30				58	4	3
Narainpur, Suri	17	45	186	879	4	13	3	1	1	22	15	8	3	4	4	77	4	9	121	772	8	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Nimasarai	16	71	156	758	2	11	2	4	1	20	16	20	7	9	2	24	1	3	46	516	4	3
TOTAL FOR AREA	34	123	357	1700	7	24	5	5	3	44	32	28	11	16	9	141	5	12	167			

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

Auditors' Certificate.

We beg to report that we have checked the books of the Mission for the year ended 31st December 1948 as follows:—

The entries appearing in the General Cash Book have been examined with the subsidiary books and vouchers and, with the exception of the transactions relative to the Saldoha Leper Colony and the Tea Garden accounts which, we are informed, will be separately audited, we have found it to be correct. The Bank Pass Book has been checked and agreed.

We have examined the Zamindari account and have ascertained that all remittances have been accounted for in the General Cash Book.

The Colony Cash Books have been checked as follows:—

Such vouchers as are available have been checked and all remittances from the Mission have been seen to be duly entered, all postings of the Loan Books have been checked and the total balances of loans and deposits outstanding have been agreed therewith.

The investments of the Indian Worker's Pension Fund as detailed in Cash Book Folio 195 and other Funds as described in the separate Fund Books were verified with certificates from Bankers, Government Securities, Fixed deposit Receipts etc. and found to agree therewith.

4, Lyon's Range,
Calcutta,
15th January, 1948,

[Sd.] Lovelock & Lewes
Chartered Accountants
Registered Accountants.

Statement of General Mission Account

RECEIPTS:		Rs.	A.	P.
To: Balace in hand 1/1/-47		52,014	1	1
" America Board	19,800	0	0
" " " paid on the field	20,163	2	0
" " " " out for Norway...	17,068	6	0
" Norwegian Board	578,331	12	2
" " " paid on the field	1,386	3	0
" Danish Board	278,733	6	0
" " " paid on the field	570	0	0
" Zemindary	3,900	0	0
" Norwegian Tibteten Mission	12,422	11	0
" Misses Gausted New Zealand	40	0	0
" " " " " "	5,065	4	0
" Bank Interest	115	0	0
" Cheques Cashed	150	7	0
" Passage and other money refunded	18,197	2	6
" Missionaries paid to pension fund	4,381	6	9
		Rs. 1012,338	13	6

The Rs. 17,068 6 0 on American Board are sent out from Norway, and the amount have been deducted from Norway's Rs. 595,400 2 2 and added to the American share, as American Boards contribution paid out for Norway.

Total carried over Rs.

1012,338 13 6

1st January—31st December, 1947.

EXPENDITURE.

	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
By. Missionaries on the field	126,248					
„ Secretary and other all.	1,700					
„ Hill allowances	14,450					
„ Childrens school travelling	959	5				
„ Medicine, Cycle & setting H.	10,516	9	9			
„ Income Tax.	557	3	0			
„ Passage Money	40,702	2	6	195,133	4	3
„ Mission Station Rent	1,584	0	7½			
„ Civil Surgeons Fee	900	0	0			
„ Committee, Conference etc,	7,245	8	0			
„ Office Audit, etc.	3,000	0	0			
„ Secretary's Travelling	2,100	0	0			
„ Logal Exps.	57	4	0			
„ Printing Annual Report	370	0	0			
„ Bank Charges	622	0	6	15,878	13	1½
„ Contrb. I. W. F. Fund	2,600	0	0			
„ Pera Hor	400	0	0			
„ Stipends for S. in S. P.	1,200	0	0			
„ „ „ „ Bengal	600	0	0			
„ „ „ „ Assam	3,000	0	0			
„ „ „ Collage Std.	2,500	0	0			
„ „ „ Bengalies	1,000	0	0			
„ Santal Literature Committee	1,000	0	0			
„ Lutheran Federation	250	0	0			
„ Santal Christian Council	180	0	0			
„ Bengal „ „	10	0	0			
„ „ „ „	130	0	0	12,870	0	0
„ Chondorpura Mission District	...			5,300	0	0
„ Kaerabani Mission District	...			5,676	0	0
„ „ Dispensary	...			1,028	0	0
Carried over Rs,				235,886	1	4½

1864 THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES.

RECEIPTS—*Concluded*

	Rs.	A.	P.
To : Brought forward	1012,338	13	6

Total Rs. 1012,338 13 6

EXPENDITURE—*Concluded*

	Rs.	A.	P.
By : Brought forward	235,886	1	4½
„ „ Santal High School	18,170	0	0
„ Dhorompur Mission District	1,541	0	0
„ Dumka Mission District	8,554	8	0
„ „ „ Bengali	800	0	0
„ Maharo „ District	2,939	0	0
„ „ Girls School	16,210	0	0
„ Koroya Mission District	1,794	8	0
„ „ School & Orphanage	5,966	0	0
„ Mohulpahari Mission District	3,350	0	0
„ Tilabani & Karikador District	2,600	0	0
„ Saldoha Mission District (1946-1947)	2,718	0	0
„ „ Leper Colony	24,090	0	0
„ Basetkundi Mission District	8,706	0	0
„ „ M. E. School	8,788	0	0
„ Benagaria Mission District	15,962	0	0
„ „ Industrial School	2,800	0	0
„ „ Chr. Hospital	38,190	0	0
„ Narainpur Bengali Work	8,180	0	0
„ „ Grils School	5,707	0	0
„ Nimasaray Bengali Work	10,037	0	0
„ Eklakhi Girls School	6,812	0	0
„ „ Dispensary	480	0	0
„ Dinajpur & Malda Santal Work	15,444	0	0
„ Santal Colony, Assam	10,000	0	0
„ Total for this page	Rs, 455,725	1	4½
„ Haraputa Mission Girls School	7,542	0	0
„ „ Medical Work	2,300	0	0
„ Joema Mission District	8,872	0	0
„ Gaorang Boro Mission	8,000	0	0
„ Bongaigaon Mission District	11,297	0	0
„ Tibet & Bhutan Mission	2,930	0	0
„ Cooch Behar Mission	6,454	0	0
„ U. P. School Competition	109	15	0
„ Dearness allowance	126,427	1	3
„ Gaorang Girls School	5,382	0	0
„ Santipara Leper Colony	19,580	9	6
Carried over Rs.	654,619	11	1½

66 THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES.

RECEIPTS—*Concluded*

	Rs.	A.	P.
To: Brought forward	1012,338	13	6

Total Rs. 1012,338 13 6

EXPENDITURE—*Concluded*

	Rs.	A.	P.
By. Brought forward	654,619	11	1½
NEW CONSTRUCTION.	Rs.	A.	P.
„ Bengal Station Suri	40,000	0	0
„ „ „ Assam	3,000	0	0
„ „ Bible School	2,000	0	0
„ English Bazar	2,500	0	0
„ Narainpur Girls School	2,400	0	0
„ Saldoha Teacher House	600	0	0
„ Eklakhi Girls School	700	0	0
„ Santal Station. Malda	29,000	0	0
„ Gaorang Girls School	26,000	0	0
„ „ Dispensary	2,500	0	0
„ Taijubari School House	1,200	0	0
„ Santal Colony	4,000	0	0
„ Santipara Leper Hospital	15,000	0	0
„ Assam Hospital	20,000	0	0
„ Mohulpahari Preacher House	1,500	0	0
	<hr/>		
	150,400	0	0
„ Norwegian School Account	...	12,659	8 0
„ Expenditure on Behalf of Homeland		4,946	3 0
„ Bilding Committe in Santal Parganas		1,375	0 0
„ Bible Course Kaerabani & Assam		754	2 0
„ Surpluss Supples	...	1,701	2 10
„ New Edition of Boroni New Testament		3,333	12 0
„ Nchicle for Assam Hospital	...	6,000	0 0
„ Language School & Examination	...	3,150	5 6
„ „ Teachers	...	2,345	3 0
„ Secretary Distor. Fund	...	265	0 0
„ Unforesoon Expenses	...	17,263	14 11
		<hr/>	
		Rs. 858,813	14 4½
• Balance in Hand		„ 153,524	15 1½
		<hr/>	
Total	...	Rs. 1012,338	13 6

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