

THE 91ST  
ANNUAL REPORT  
OF  
THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE  
NORTHERN CHURCHES  
FOR THE YEAR 1957

AND

THE EIGHTH YEAR  
OF  
THE EBENEZER EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Bdn  
Sa5  
v. 91

DUMKA

PUBLISHED BY THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES  
PRINTED AT THE MISSION PRESS, BENAGARIA.  
1958.

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THE NINETY—FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

of

THE SANTAL MISSION

of

THE NORTHERN CHURCHES

( THE INDIAN HOME MISSION TO THE SANTALS )

For the Year 1957

and

The Eighth Year

of

THE EBENEZER EVANGELI-  
CAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

CHURCH OFFICE, BENAGARIA

DUMKA

PUBLISHED BY THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES

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# THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES

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3/5/59

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## Missionaries :

### From America :

AXELSON, MISS ALICE, (Nov. 1946) Mohulpahari, *furlough*.

BJERKESTRAND REV. & MRS. O. S., (April, 1925) Benagaria.

FRIKSON, MISS LUCILE, (Dec. 1952) Santipara.

GJERDE, MISS HILMA, (Jan. 1946) Mohulpahari.

JORGENSEN, MISS ANNE E. (Jan. 1957) Santipara.

LANDSVÆRK, REV. & MRS. O. J., (Jan. 1952) Kaerabani, *furl.*

NIELSEN, MISS MURIEL,	( Nov. 1950 )	<i>furlough.</i>
RIBBE, REV. & MRS. H. N.,	( Oct. 1947 )	Grahampur.
SCOTT, DR. & MRS W. R.,	( Jan. 1955 )	Mohulpahari.
TORKELSON, MISS NAOMI,	( Dec. 1952 )	Dumka.

*From Denmark :*

ANDERSEN, DR. & MRS. JOHS.,	( Feb. 1953 )	Sevapur.
BINDERUP, MISS ELLY JENSEN,	( Nov. 1951 )	Bongaegaon, <i>furl.</i>
EIE, REV. & MRS. O.,	( Oct. 1920 )	Mornai, <i>furlough.</i>
GJERMAN, MISS ELLA,	( Dec. 1953 )	Gaorang.
HOLLUND, DR. ELSE,	( Nov. 1946 )	Rajadighi,
JENSEN, REV. & MRS. AA.,	( Dec. 1947 )	Benagaria.
KROGH, REV. & MRS. THOFT,	( Jan. 1947 )	Benagaria.
KROHN, MISS ELISABETH,	( Oct. 1933 )	Haraputa.
LAURSEN, MISS ELLEN,	( Jan. 1947 )	Narainpur.
NIELSEN, MISS INGER KROGH,	( Mar. 1946 )	Narainpur, <i>furl.</i>
OLSEN, REV & MRS. JENS V.,	( Nov. 1957 )	Narainpur,
PETERSEN, MR. & MRS. KURT,	( Nov. 1949 & Dec. 1947 )	Mornai, Santipara.
PETERSEN, MISS LILLY,	( Dec. 1947 )	Eklakhi.
ROMER, MISS HELENE,	( Nov. 1950 )	<i>furl.</i> Benagaria.

*From Norway :*

AUSTAD, MISS BORGNY,	( April, 1946 )	Haraputa, <i>furl.</i>
CLAUSEN, MISS GUNVOB,	( Nov. 1948 )	Chondorpura.
CLAUSEN, REV. & MRS. KJELL,	( Jan. 1952 )	Bagsarai, <i>furl.</i>
DORDAL, REV. & MRS. O.,	( Nov. 1950 )	<i>furl.</i> Bagsarai.
DRAGOY, MISS ELISE,	( Feb. 1953 )	Maharo.
FOSSLAND, REV. & MRS. G.,	( Nov. 1937 )	Santipara.
FISKE, MISS ASBJORG,	( Oct. 1947 )	Sevapur.
GLAD, REV. & MRS. W.,	( Nov. 1931 )	Dumka.
GULBRANDSEN, MISS E.,	( Nov. 1946 )	Eklakhi.

HALVORSRUD, REV. & MRS. H.,	( Oct. 1938 & Nov. 1937 )	Bongaegaon.
HANNEVIK, MISS MARGIT,	( Jan. 1947 )	Saldoha.
HAUGSTAD, REV. & MRS. M.,	( Nov. 1949 )	Parkijuli.
HOYLAND, REV. & MRS. I.,	( Jan. 1947 )	Basetkundi.
JOHANSEN, REV. & MRS. S.,	( Nov. 1935 )	Kaerabani.
KJOLBERG, REV. & MRS. P.,	( Mar. 1947 )	Nimasarai.
KVAM, REV. & MRS. H.,	( Nov. 1946 )	Kaerabani, Suri.
LANDE, REV. & MRS. P.,	( April, 1946 )	Suri, <i>furlough</i> .
MALTEBUD, MISS ELLA,	( April, 1946 )	Sevapur, <i>furl.</i>
NORDBY, MISS BETZY,	( Nov. 1946 )	Rajadighi.
PEDERSEN, REV. & MRS. P.,	( Jan. 1934 & Nov. 1935 )	Joema.
RINGHEIM, MISS KARI,	( Nov. 1946 )	Saldoha.
SIGURDSEN, MISS EDLE,	( Nov. 1934 )	Maharo.
SOMMING, MISS SOLVEIG,	( Feb. 1933 )	Gaorang.
STRONSTAD, REV. A. E.,	( Nov. 1934 )	Dumka.
STURE, REV. & MRS. JENS,	( Nov. 1946 )	Saldoha.
TORKILDSEN, REV. & MRS. KJELL,	( Oct. 1947 )	Koroya.
WESTBERG, REV. & MRS. DAVID,	( Jan. 1943 )	Gaorang.

*The Swedish Cooch Behar Mission :*

HODNE, REV. & MRS. OLAV,	( Jan. 1948 )	Cooch Behar.
PIHLQUIST, MISS ELSA,	( Dec. 1938 )	Dinhata.
WITTANDER, MISS ADA,	( Nov. 1947 )	Dinhata.

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# NINETY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1957

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## *SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1957*

"As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. And when he had said this he breathed on them, and said unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost."

St. John 20:21, 22.

Mission means sending. There are those who send and those who are sent. In the Word from Scripture quoted above, it is the Risen Lord who sends His disciples out on the greatest commission.

They were perplexed and full of fear, but he quiets down their hearts to receive His command with confidence and points at the same time to the source of courage and power, enabling them to obey His orders. The task before them was new and overwhelming, but from now on their hearts were set on this mission on which they were to be sent.

I send you, even as the Father hath sent me, so he said. Their work was to be of the same kind as He had been doing, yes, it was actually His work but they were to carry on. He had established the Kingdom of God, on earth and now their mission was to bring it out to all men. He had opened the way to

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God by His atoning death and victorious resurrection and now they were to proclaim the way of salvation. They were to bear witness to the truth as He had done. He was sent to seek and to save that which was lost and so were they. He was sent by His Heavenly Father and now they were being sent by Him. He was sent not to be ministered to but to minister, not to do His own will, but the will of Him, who sent Him, and so were they.

He breathed on them and said, Receive ye the Holy Ghost. They not only received the command to go but by receiving the Holy Ghost they would be adequately qualified for the task before them, and not long after they actually embarked on their mission. It certainly was not easy, but through difficulties and trials they received ample proof that He was able to sustain them. He, who had sent them, was with them. They did receive the power that He had promised, and we read in the Acts of the Apostles that they were filled with the Holy Ghost and preached the Word of God with boldness.

We believe that we—as a Mission and as individuals—fall in line with this original sending of Christ's disciples. The great hosts of supporters and friends of the Santal Mission, under the leadership of our Home Boards are doing their part because it has been entrusted to them by God Himself. And we as missionaries believe that we are sent not only by our Home Boards but by our Lord and Heavenly Father. And we do want to testify to the fact that He has been with us. He has not only called us and sent us, but He has strengthened us and guided us and helped us through also this year.

The year 1867 saw the beginning of the Santal Mission, but the actual "birthday" is not so easily

fixed. Our pioneers spent the three first days of that year in prayer for the new undertaking to which God had called them. Later in the year they made several visits to Benagaria—the place God had shown them—buying land, erecting huts and making preparations to build the first mission station. But it was only on September 26th that the ground was broken for the foundation of the first bungalow, and this date has thus become the Santal Mission Day.

The occasion of our ninetieth birthday was marked by special gatherings and services throughout our fields as well as in the homelands. We thank God for what He has done during these years. Many thousands have been won for Christ, services have been rendered to millions of sick and suffering and a great number of young people have received their education.

Nobody knows the whole impact of these ninety years of work, but looking ahead on the task still before us of effectively presenting the Gospel to the millions of Santals and others living within our own fields, we must admit that we have made only a very small beginning. The need for continued mission work is still very great and the opportunities are many.

During the year the work of collecting funds at home has been carried on very faithfully as before. But even so, the year has been a very difficult one financially speaking. The Boards in Norway and Denmark found it hard to cover their share of the budget. During the first three quarters of the year only approximately one-third of the promised budget had actually been received from these two boards. All possibilities of loans were exhausted and the prospects of coming through were very dark. But fortunately the situation improved considerably during the last quarter so that at the end of the year about ninety per cent of the

budget was covered. The American Board has been better off and has been able to send its contribution regularly.

In April the sad message arrived from Norway that the Chairman of the Norwegian Board, Rektor Hans Hoeg had suddenly passed away. He had been our leader in Norway for a number of years. He was a good friend of the Santal Mission all his life. A good counsellor and a wise leader he was and a man of prayer, deep rooted in the Scriptures. Later in the year it was learned that one of our former missionaries, Miss Anna Pedersen, from Norway had gone to her Eternal Rest. We thank God for these our faithful friends and what they did for their Lord. Blessed be their memory!

We welcome the Rev. H. E. Wisloff as the new Chairman of the Norwegian Board for a period of three years. He is not new to the Santal Mission as he was our Chairman in Norway during the war years. Unfortunately, our General Secretary in Norway, Rev. Hallen, has been suffering from ill health for some time. He had to be granted sick leave, and one of our former missionaries, Rev. K. Tromborg, has been acting General Secretary in the meantime. A few new board members have been elected in the home boards, but the leaders of the work in Denmark and America have remained the same.

At the tri-annual meeting in Norway the matter of opening a new mission field was discussed. The reason for bringing up this question is the recent refusals of visas for new missionaries to India. A full report is to be presented to the next tri-annual meeting in 1960. The view of the field in this matter must be that there should be no need to look for another field as long as we have more to do in India (and East

Pakistan) than we can adequately cope with. Any such new project must not be undertaken at the expense of the already established work in India which it is our obligation to support as long as needed and circumstances permit.

We are thankful to the Government of India for finally granting visas to the Rev. and Mrs. Jens Verner Olsen from Denmark. Their visa applications had earlier been refused twice. They arrived in November and were welcomed into the missionary family.

The new visa application for the Norwegian nurse, Miss Anne Marie Sulen, was postponed a few months and we are now at the close of the year expecting a favourable reply.

Dr. and Mrs. E. Ofstad from Norway were accepted by our Executive Committee, but their visa applications were withheld for the time being because of the difficult financial situation.

The following have during the year gone on furlough: Miss E. Binderup, Miss Inger Krogh Nielsen, and the Eies to Denmark. Rev. Eie returned in October and Mrs. Eie is expected to arrive in January next. Miss E. Malterud, Miss B. Austad, Rev. and Mrs. Kjell Clausen and Rev. and Mrs. P. L. Lande left for Norway. It was at the annual conference decided to ask these to postpone their return to the field in view of the present financial difficulty. It will now be seen whether or not the funds will permit them to come back to India within the time limit of their "No-objection to Return." Miss Alice Axelson and Rev. and Mrs. Landsverk left for America and are expected to return after normal furlough. Rev. and Mrs. Dordal and Mrs. R. Glad arrived during the year from Norway, and Miss Helene Romer from Denmark.

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It may also be mentioned that Miss Karen Sindal left India in April and has settled in Copenhagen as Mrs. Herlufsen. She had for reasons of health left our field some time ago and was working at the Kotagiri Medical Fellowship.

The personal contact with the mother churches has been kept up by several Indians visiting America, Denmark and Norway. This means a lot to our friends at home and I am sure to those who have been chosen to go abroad. They have brought back to their own people a new inspiration, new ideas and a broader outlook that is bound to be of lasting benefit to the Church. Mr. Gora C. Tudu arrived in October after studies in America and a much too short visit to Norway and Denmark. He has now taken up his teaching position at the Kaerabani High School.

In March the Rev. K. R. Ghose left for Denmark. He also travelled very much in Norway during the summer. Both he and Gora Tudu were our Church's delegates to the Lutheran World Federation meetings at Staten Island and in Minneapolis. Dr. Chatterjee of Mohulpahari was granted one year's study leave. He left in September and is now Resident Surgeon at Deaconess Hospital in Minneapolis. The headmaster of the Middle School section in Kaerabani, Mr. Benjamin Pauria, left India in the beginning of October on an invitation from the Norwegian and Danish Boards. After deputation work in Scandinavia he may proceed to America for further studies in education.

The attention of all missionaries, the home boards, and our Indian leaders has this year been focused on the pressing question of transfer of administration and responsibility to the Church. The Joint Transfer Committee appointed by the Synod and the Conference had two meetings during the year at which the present

and future relationship between the Mission and the Church was fully discussed. A number of proposals were formulated and presented to the Conference and the Synod for further discussion and final approval.

I shall here only mention the main lines of action decided upon jointly by the Church and the Mission. The evangelistic and congregational work is naturally already under the Church. The primary schools, middle school and Bible training schools have also for some time been incorporated in the Church under the Circles, Church Councils, or directly under the Synod as the case may be. The remaining institutions are now to be transferred to the administration of the Church from January, 1959. In order not to hamper the other Church activities an Institutional Board is to be established in 1958 under the authority of the Synod. It will mainly be concerned with the finances and general principles as each of the institutions already are governed by individual Managing Committees.

As the work of the Synod will be considerably greater by its accepting responsibility of administering all our work, the Synod has decided to invite two missionaries as advisors with voting rights for an interim period.

The placing of missionary personnel is to be done by the Mission authorities as here to, but from now on upon request from and in consultation with the Synod and its Executive. There is to be a direct contact between the Church and the Home Boards in Church matters.

Special attention is being paid to the vital question of stewardship. The aim has now been set for the ministerial and congregational work to be entirely self-supporting by 1965. To relieve the the Church budget



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primary schools are to be turned over to the Government where ever possible.

A committee of five members from the Synod and five members from the missionary conference is to continue the work of the Joint Transfer Committee, and formulate further details of the relationship between Church and Mission.

The missionary conference was this time held in Dumka again after five years. We had five busy days with a heavy program and did enjoy the blessings and encouragement of fine Christian fellowship.

During the year the Rev. O. S. Bjerkestrand resigned as trustee and the Rev. Riber was elected in his place.

The health of the missionary family has been good with the exception of one or two who have had to cope with prolonged illness. We especially remember Mrs. Solveig Johansen and pray that she may be restored to full health if it so pleases God.

Regarding details of the evangelistic and institutional work, the reader is referred to the individual reports from missionaries and Circle Chairmen on the following pages. Attention is also invited to the Annual Report for the Church to be found at the end of this report.

The Mornai Tea Estate has been having a difficult year. The out-put of tea was much below last year's and the prices not very encouraging, while the cost of production is running very high. There has also been unrest and dissatisfaction among the labourers to cope with and also this year large amounts of bonus have had to be paid to permanent and temporary workers. The contribution from Mornai to the Mission was consequently much less than expected, but even

so it is a satisfaction to know that work has been provided for so many and that Mornai always has been and still is a great influence for good in that area. Messrs. Norinco (Private) Limited have continued as Managing Agents for another year and the actual running of the big concern that Mornai really is, has been done very efficiently by Mr. Kurt Petersen and his staff during the absence of Rev. Eie.

We have been privileged to have several visitors this year. We are glad to have the two twin sisters of Rev. Johansen with us for the greater part of the year. Short visits were paid by two Danish deaconesses, and at the end of the year by three Norwegians from the Indo-Norwegian Project in Kerala. In November we were greatly honored by an official visit of the Danish Ambassador to India, His Excellency Mr. Theis-Nielsen. Unfortunately time did not permit him to visit our stations in West Bengal and Assam, but he had a crowded program during the three days he spent in Santal Parganas and we were greatly encouraged by the favourable report he gave of the work he had seen here. Close relatives of some of our missionaries, a sister of Miss Krohn and the parents of Mrs. Scott visited during the beginning of the year.

It is a great pleasure to put on record that the attitude of local Government officials has been very favourable to our work and personnel—foreigners and nationals alike. We express our heartfelt gratitude to the Governments of Bihar, West Bengal and Assam for the grants received for our educational and medical institutions.

Thanks are due to our home boards and all friends of the Santal Mission in Scandinavia and America and elsewhere for their great interest and faithful support. Their continued intercession is earnestly solicited.

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May we all at all times have the assurance of God's gracious guidance and may His blessing be manifested on all our work.

Respectfully submitted,

A. E. Stronstad

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# WORK IN SANTAL PARGANAS.

## BENAGARIA DISTRICT.

During the year two of our pastors were transferred to other circles. Our pastor in Benagaria, Nikodim Marndi, was transferred to Mohulpahari, and in his place Pastor Karan Soren, Chondorpura, came to Benagaria. Pastor Peter Murmu, Itor, moved to Maharo, and Pastor Bhogon Murmu, Haripur, was placed in Murshidabad with residence in Beldanga.

Our elder, Dukhu Marndi, who worked out here from Benagaria for two years, was transferred to Dhitpur, Burdwan Dist. with the hope that he should be ordained for pastor's work over there. Grants have been allotted for building of residential quarter for a pastor in Dhitpur, and the intention is to make this place a centre for the congregational work in Burdwan district. Khela Kisku, our elder in Belbuni, was asked to retire from his work, as he is suffering from an incurable disease and thus unable to carry on the work.

Besides these changes our workers in the congregational work remained the same during 1957.

Also in the past year the staff and the students from the theological seminary helped us in carrying out the church services in Benagaria and the surrounding five congregations and thus enabled us to perform regular church-services and communion-services in all these places.

Our five pastors in Benagaria circle have been very faithful in their work, and in almost every congrega-

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tion the work is going forward. A group of responsible Christians have also taken part in the congregational work where ever help was needed.

During the year 47 non-christians were baptized, and several non-christians are under instruction for baptism.

Four churches were dedicated in 1957. Itor church in February, Buruameua church in May, Dimbadoha church in November and Gamhar church in December. Due to some local difficulties in Belbuni we have not yet been able to dedicate the new church there, but hope for dedication first in the new year. It has been a joy to work with the building of these five churches and encouraging to see that the local congregations felt a need of a place to worship and by their own means did a great part of the building work.

The women's work has gone on as usual with weekly meetings here at Benagaria. We had the yearly women's meeting in November here in Benagaria, where about 300 women gathered around God's Word for three days.

Around in the district we try to organize the women's work. In some places it is difficult; because we can't find a leader who can read and write. We look forward to get three new pastors in the district next year. That means three well-trained pastor's wives also to work among the women.

Weekly meetings have been held for young people, and we feel that work among the youth is one of the most important tasks within the church. It is encouraging to see that the work through The Luther League is growing all over. The third Sunday in March we had the "Youth Day" and in November the annual picnic took place. We went to Kistipura to visit the

congregation there, and together with 60 young ones from Benagaria we had about 40 along from Narainpur Girls' School.

The Sunday School in Benagaria has an enrollment of 125 children. A new Sunday School was started in Asanbani under the leadership of the women from the theological seminary. In Kendpahar, Sapadoha and Itor we also have regular Sunday School services, and it is our hope that every congregation may come to have its own Sunday School.

In the M. E. School about 250 children are enlisted, and the average attendance is about 70%.

Several children got government grant or scholarship, which will enable them to continue their studies in school.

Eight teachers are in charge of the daily work in the classrooms. During the year a new school managing committee was elected, comprising of at least one member from each community in the surrounding area of Benagaria.

In our boarding we have a few boys who carry all the expences themselves, as no grants for boarding are available.

#### INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

In January 8 new students were accepted. Six in the carpentry and two in the weaving section. Two students in the carpentry finished their three year course. The total number of students is now 18.

Along with practical work daily school hours have been held in order to give the students some theoretical instructions. Some of the boys coming for training

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have never attended school and are unable to read and to write. It was not possible for us to accept all the boys who sent applications and asked to be admitted. This year we had to turn some of the applications down, not on account of lack of accommodation but due to lack of funds. Application for government grant-in-aid has been sent, but they have neither refused nor sanctioned anything so far.

During the year much useful work and repairs both outside and inside our mission has been done, and in the weaving section we got many orders and delivered supplies to several of our institutions,

### BENAGARIA MISSION PRESS.

It has been a busy year in our printing press and much work has been accomplished by our staff of sixteen under the leadership of the assistant manager, Mr. Mongol Murmu. We have not always been able to give 100% service to our customers, and the main reason for this is that we have too few types, as many of the types available are worn out and need to be replaced. During the year we got a new set of 12pt. types at a cost of a little more than three thousand rupees, and in order to get sufficient types to cover the daily work we will have to get at least two new sets of types. All too often our composing work is at a standstill while the compositors are waiting for the proofs to be returned, as there are not sufficient types to continue composing new forms while waiting for the proof-reading to be finished. Taking these difficulties into consideration the work accomplished by the press staff in 1957 has been very efficient.

Another big problem delayed our work in 1957. Due to import restrictions it was very difficult to purchase all the paper we needed, and the prices of paper went

up considerably. Sometimes we were not able to purchase all the paper required for the printing of one book. We have had to send orders two or three times and every time we got the answer that they did not have the same quality at present but that they would be able to supply something else. Naturally we can not use two or three different qualities of paper for the printing of one book. Somehow or other we got our requirements for the year.

“Pera Hor” has been issued as usual in a weekly edition. From January we started to use a better quality of paper, and we hope to be able to continue to print on this paper. The work with “Pera Hor” has gone on without any difficulties, with two men working daily to get it ready in time for distribution. Finally we have one big wish, that we in the near future some way or other may be able to get a grant of Rs 15,000 in order to purchase new types and some machinery needed.

The following is a list of books printed during 1957:

Baebeltet' Reak' Jarur do Cet' Kana,		
by Rev. W. Glad	1000	copies
Patiau Siknat, by Rev. R. Rosenlund	1000	„
Santal Paharia Itihas (Reprint)	2000	„
Akil Duar 1 (Reprint)	2000	„
Chatka Puthi „	2000	„
Kristan Patiau do Cet' Kana?		
by Rev. H. Kvam	1000	„
Bible Biboron (Reprint)	2000	„
Cand Mala by Mr. Gora Tudu	1000	„
Maran Din Puthi by Mrs. O. Bjerke-		
strand and Mrs. Magda Krogh	1000	„
Juankoak' Magazine	1000	„
Panji 1958	2000	„
Santali News letter (Scotch Mission)	500	„



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Katekiism ( Bengali )	300	„
Annual Report	300	„
Phunni Hathorkhi	500	„
Hospital Sunday Leaflets	300	„
Sereñ Puthi ( Under Printing )	5000	„
Girja Itihas by Rev R. Rosenlund ( Under Printing )	1000	„
Hormo Niropon ( Under Printing )	1000	„

### THE SANTAL LITERATURE COMMITTEE AND BOOK SALES' DEPARTMENT.

The literature committee has had two meetings during 1957. At each meeting the need for more literature for our Christians was stressed. Several new manuscripts were presented and accepted for printing. A collection of poems, Cand Mala written by Mr. Gora Tudu, Kaerabani High School, and a booklet "Cet' In Mena", written by Rev. William Glad were accepted. Further more two manuscripts containing the Bible-lessons held by Rev. William Glad and Rev. Hjalmar Kvam during the Bible Course sponsored by the Santal Parganas Church Council, were accepted on a special request from the Church Council. Several dramas were presented, but it was decided to circulate them among the members, before final decision is taken with regard to the printing of the same.

A proposal for the printing of a Christmas book was accepted and Mrs. O. Bjerkestrand and Mrs. Magda Krogh were asked to prepare the manuscript. Taking into consideration that this is something new for our Christians we feel that it was a success and hope that in coming years this kind of literature may become an integral part of the literature in Christian homes.

A "Youth Magazine" was published. The intention is that if sufficient support is obtained a half-yearly issue should be published. It was decided that before anything more is done a definite proposal should be presented by the sponsors. Furthermore a subsidy will most probably be needed to cover the cost of the publication of such a magazine, as it will not be possible to obtain a sufficient number of subscribers to reach a level where subscriptions will cover the whole cost of printing. We hope it may be made possible to get grant from some source or other, as a youth magazine will be of great value in the work among our young Christians.

The gross income in the book sales department was Rs. 10.330.21 and total expenses Rs. 7416.93 leaving a balance of Rs. 2.913.28.

We close with greetings and cordial thanks to our friends in the home countries who have been with us in prayers and supplications.

Hanne and Aage K. Jensen

## CHONDORPURA

When one looks back on the working year which has passed the thoughts automatically recall the many opportunities which one had and did not utilize, and of all that one had desired to do but did not accomplish. But, nevertheless, the strongest tone is thanks to God who in spite of our weakness and shortcomings, added His blessing also this year and showed His longsuffering and faithfulness.

Around in the district the work has for the greater part continued as usual. In the course of the year

we have received two new workers as replacement of two who were moved elsewhere. Here in Chondorpura congregation in place of Pastor Karan Soren who was moved to Benagaria we received Naran Soren and wife as the pastor. These two are known by a great number of mission friends from their stay in Denmark and Norway. The evangelist at Gadiapani out-station, Amdi Murmu, was ordained and has his pastoral charge in Sultanabad Circle. In his place came Lukhirām Murmu. Otherwise, it has been the same staff of workers as in earlier years.

Also this year we have been able to rejoice over visible fruits in the work. At nearly all the out-stations there have been baptisms of non-christians. But the most of them have been won here in Chondorpura congregation where fifty individuals have been baptized. These have been instructed by the pastor who still has a class of ten or twelve under instruction for baptism. The fact that so many have been won here must certainly be seen as a fruits of Naran Pastor's work. He has the gift of an evangelist and is never in such a happy mood as when he can proclaim the Good Tidings to non-christians and lead new Christians on the Way.

We thank God for the two warm-hearted and faithful pastors we have here in the district, Naran Pastor and Abraham Pastor in Ranga. Also in the last mentioned pastorate of Abraham Pastor, it sprouts and grows in his foot prints.

In the month of March the congregational convention for Sultanabad and Jubdi Circle was held at Gadiapani out-station. It was a good meeting and many people gathered.

The monthly women's meetings have been held regularly around on the out-stations and villages. It

is always good as long as time permits to visit these groups of Christian women who gather to share God's Word with one another and bring their gifts.

The yearly women's meeting for Saldoha and Chondorpura Districts was held here on the station in October. It lasted for three days and a real big flock of women found their way here. It was a blessed fellowship. Most of the speakers at the meeting were Santal women and it was an inspiration to sit and listen to the message they had to bring and the ability a number of them had to express their thoughts. Yes, they certainly had a gift of grace.

At the end of the year three yearly "mela"s were held. All had good attendance and economically speaking the proceeds were about Rs. 200/- that is Kr, 300.00 more than last year. Taking into consideration that the rice harvest has failed so that it is a year of crisis for the Santals, one must rejoice more than ever over the progress in Christian giving.

The work among the Mahles has also continued as before. Their workers have gathered for their monthly workers' meetings with the Santal workers here in the district. The fact that they have a separate working branch has more and more shown itself as a difficulty for the work. It would be desirable if one could come to an agreement and find a more suitable working arrangement. Taking the future into consideration, the natural would perhaps be that they join the Santals in those branches and divisions of their different congregations which are within their parishes geographically speaking. They need the help and support they thereby could receive.

Concerning the Martha Maria Bible and Domestic School, the year has brought changes since Esther

Hembrom who has worked at the school from the beginning on leave of absence from Maharo returned to Maharo and took up her work there. There is a marked vacancy left by her leaving. We would express a word of thanks to her for the work she laid down here and for the conscientiousness which she showed for the work and these young girls. In her place we have obtained two new co-workers. Mrs. Raode Hasdak' (the pastor's wife) has been appointed as teacher, and Mariam Murmu, a previous student at the school works as matron. The latter lives together with the girls in boarding and is responsible for the practical side of their work.

A class of fifteen left the school in April at the end of the course. In July fifteen new girls were welcomed. These have come from all sections of our field. In addition to the Santal girls there are two Boro girls and one Deshi girl. This course has also been conducted according to the usual schedule with Bible subjects and practical work.

This year also they have continued their four Sunday Schools. This work has given them much joy and satisfaction.

We have also this year experienced and sensed that the school has many intercessors in the homelands. The girls are few, but we sense that there are two powers which are fighting to capture them. We are permitted to see that there is fighting in the stillness of the heart and we also are permitted to see and believe that victories are won in these young hearts and minds. We do not have big and sensational things to report, but we experience open hearts which yearn for more of knowledge, love and faith.

At the same time as we thank for intercession in the year which has gone, we hope that you also in the year which comes will stand together with us in the work.

Gunvor Clausen

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## DHOROMPUR

Dhorompur area is a nice hilly tract to the west and south of the big lake formed by the Mayurakshi Dam Project or Masanjor as it is also called. There is a great number of villages along the lake, in between the hills and on the slopes and plains to the south, mostly populated with Santals. There are many possibilities for spreading the Gospel and serving the people, but our Mission has not been able this year either to meet the challenges as we should have done.

On my camping tours I was repeatedly asked this question: "When are missionaries coming to stay again?" The plan was to place a new missionary family in Dhorompur, but unfortunately their visas were refused. As it now seems doubtful that we shall ever have any missionaries staying in Dhorompur again, a request has come from the people of the area that an Indian couple with medical training be placed there. It is hoped that the Church will find it possible to grant this request.

The area is isolated with practically no good roads and great distances to obtain medical help from Government dispensaries. There are only a few primary schools far apart and not even one middle English school within the whole of Dhorompur District.

After repeated requests the primary school at Dhorompur was raised to Upper Primary standard from January, 1957. Unfortunately, three of the teachers had to be dismissed because of unsatisfactory conduct. Durga Marandi is now the Headmaster and from May the following three teachers were appointed: Hiskiel Hasdak' and his wife, Hanna Murmu, and Babulal Marandi.

The need of raising the school at Dhorompur to Middle English standard has been repeatedly put forward. The missionary bungalow might well be turned into a very suitable school building and could also give room for a small dispensary in one of the side rooms. But can the Church afford it? That is the big question which is so difficult to answer whenever we are faced with new possibilities for expanding the work.

It may, of course, be said that it is not the duty of the Church to provide schools for the general public, but there is no doubt that Mission schools have formed an important part in presenting the Gospel to the people, building the Church and creating a general favourable attitude

The possibility of turning school on Mission stations over to Government for further development has been recommended to relieve the financial burden of the Church. But that is very problematic from a Mission point of view. The school would then be secularized and lose its character of a Christian school. The original aim and purpose for which the Mission station was established would not be fulfilled.

The Church will have to decide how to utilize the Dhorompur bungalow in the best way, and I can only wish that the Dhorompur Mission Station will always remain what its name indicates; a place of righteousness.

There were formerly four local congregations in Dhorompur District, now only three remain. Kolha has been closed. The greater part of the village was undated including the church building. Two Christian families of twelve members have moved away and two other families, I am sorry to say, are reported to have fallen back. The remaining few Christians have been advised to attend the Sunday services at Dhorompur.

A church-building was erected some years ago in Amgachi, but when the owner of the land on which the church was built came under church discipline for offenses he would not make right, the congregation decided to move over to another village, Nijhor Jetke, where Sunday services are now being held in a school house.

Pastor Nitanondo Marndi moved from Honja in March, leaving the small congregation there without any trained preacher. The work in that area, which is otherwise very promising, has suffered because of this. We are, however, hoping to get a trained man from the Santal Theological Seminary to Honja in May next year.

The greater part of the year Baijun Murmu has been the only pastor in the whole district. In spite of his high age he has to travel much in addition to looking after the work in Dhorompur itself.

In December a "mela" was held, the net proceeds of which amounted to Rs. 52.59 for the congregation.

Women's meetings have been occasionally held and the amount of the handful of rice given at these meetings was Rs. 15.66.

The Sunday School with an average attendance of fourteen children has been conducted by the teacher, Babulal Marandi.



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The local income has gone down from last year. The annual report shows that in Dhorompur a number of 111 Christians gave total of Rs. 148.50, in Nijhor Jetke 81 Christians gave Rs. 35.83, and in Honja 44 Christians gave Rs. 26.39, making a total for the whole district of Rs. 263.94. It has to be admitted that self-support is slow process, when we consider that the total budget for Dhorompur District runs up above Rs. 4,000.00. We hope to get some income for the congregation next year from cultivation of the land at Dhorompur, which is now being turned over to the local congregation to look after.

The Dhorompur area has always been considered a hard field. No baptisms from the non-christian community took place during the year, but I found great willingness to listen to the Gospel where ever I went with the pastor.

Here I feel that the Word of Jesus applies in a special way: "The harvest truly is plenteous but the labourers are few." May we be more faithful in praying the God will send forth labourers into His harvest.

A. E. Stronstad

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## DUMKA

The evangelistic work has been carried on as in previous years. Regular Sunday services have been held, the Gospel has been proclaimed through various means here on the station and in the villages, and instruction given in the primary schools and in baptismal and confirmation classes.

Although the number of baptisms is less than last year, we have during the year been privileged to perform baptisms in all five congregations. In Dum only, a total of 21 converts have accepted the Christian faith and joined the Church. In the whole district the total of baptisms for the year is sixty-five, out of which twenty-eight were children of Christian parents. Twenty-eight young people were confirmed.

According to congregational returns the local income amounted to about two-thirds of last year. It is very regrettable that the contributions to the church have decreased instead of what it should have done, been on the increase, but the slump is not entirely due to less giving on the part of the local church members. The picture is not actually as dark as it looks. In last year's account several items of extra income were included, such as dues and debts from earlier years paid in, sale of trees blown down in a storm, proceeds from fruit trees, fish from the tank and so forth, and this amounted to several hundred rupees. Moreover the annual "mela" held in Dumka in December yielded only about half of last year's net income. The actual decrease therefore is only one or two hundred rupees, and that may be explained by the crop failure in this part of the country. Fortunately a balance from last year covered the deficit, otherwise we would not have been able to come through.

According to instructions from the Synod every effort is being made to reduce the Church budget. At the Circle Conference it was decided to ask the Government to take over all village Lower Primary schools not situated on Mission land. Application was submitted for the one such school in this district (Kathijuria), but no reply has been received up to the end of the year.

The Lower Primary schools at Kathijuria, Chukapani and Ranga have been going on as usual with the same teachers as last year. The staff has been the same also in the two Upper Primary Schools, at Dum and Dumka, and the number of students have increased during the year.

In February a series of meetings were held here by Mr. S. Pandit of the Children's Special Service Mission. The attendance was very good both from the surrounding villages and from Dumka town and the message was brought forth clearly in word and pictures.

Rev. Glad has very kindly taken Sunday Services whenever he could and Mrs. Glad has since her arrival in October devoted much of her time to evangelistic work.

As decided by the Santal Parganas Church Council Pastor Naran Soren was transferred to Jubdi Circle and Pastor Bhikulal Hasdak' came from Mohulpahari to Dumka. This transfer took effect from the 1st of April. A trained evangelist is greatly needed to assist the pastor here. The growing number of students—Santals and others—attending the high school and college in Dumka town is a constant call to us. So are the villages round about, but it seems that the finances do not permit appointing any more paid workers. The pensioned elder, Raska Murmu, has continued to help in the work as before. He has occasionally conducted Sunday services in Dumka and is very active taking part in committee meetings and village visits.

The Sunday School, Youth Work and the women's weekly meetings have been carried on regularly under the efficient leadership of Miss Naomi Torkelson. In addition to her many duties in the Mission office she has also found time to visit Christian homes in the

vicinity and take part in village preaching. She has been assisted by Elisabeth Murmu, who very faithfully has continued as voluntary Bible woman.

The handful of rice offerings at the women's meetings amounted to Rs. 332.55 which has been paid in to the Circle Treasurer.

Dumka town and the surrounding area is growing and being developed in so many ways. How we wish that the Christian community may grow and develop proportionally.

I know that so many friends have been praying for Dumka and the work here. We have felt it and I want to thank you all for your constant prayers and faithful support.

A. E. Stronstad

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## MAHARO

Maharo District is a big pastorate with four local congregations. In the year of 1957 the work in this district has gone on well by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and His help.

In accordance with the decision of the Santal Parganas Church Council there was a moving of pastors in February. On the 28th of February Pastor Chaitan Soren and family moved to Simoldohi and Pastor Peter Murmu and his wife arrived in Maharo on the 3rd of April to take their place.

Since the new pastor came to a new place he began the work in the congregation by visiting the Chris-

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tians and going in the villages preaching to the non-christians the message of salvation through Jesus Christ. Now the congregational members are coming well to church, nevertheless, there are some that are cold.

In the year of 1957 during the months of June and July, influenza effected the congregational members as well as the workers. In Maharo District there are two pastors, three elders, two teachers and two lady teachers as district workers.

The total number of Christians in the district is 698. Twenty-six children of Christians have been baptized and three were accepted into the church from the non-christian community. Confirmation was held in Maharo only where twenty-five young people were confirmed. All together seven couples were married during the year.

In this district there are Sunday Schools conducted in two villages, Babupur and Haripur. The leader of the Sunday School work is Miss Elise Dragoy. The teachers are the girls from the Training Class and the High School.

In addition to the Christian children in the Sunday School, the majority of those being taught are non-christian. The total number of 42 children are regularly attending Sunday School.

The total number of enrollment in the village schools was 140.

Concerning the work in the district, here in Maharo there was baptism of children of Christian parents, but there is also one family being instructed for baptism from among the non-christian community. In Nayadi congregation also there was only baptism of children of Christian parents. In Asonthar congregation

there was baptism of three non-Christians and in two villages where there have been no Christians before there are twelve people who are being instructed for baptism. In Dombria congregation there has been the baptism of three children of Christian parents. One young boy is preparing to be baptized. It is sad that the leader of this congregation has been in great difficulty due to a mental condition.

For the advantage of the work at Jalwae, according to the decision of the Circle Conference, that congregation was transferred from Maharo District to Koroya District.

Pastor Peter Murmu  
Pastor Joseph Hasdak'  
Miss Elise Dragoy

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## TILABANI DISTRICT

Last year when Rev. and Mrs. Glad were transferred to Dumka the station at Tilabani was again left without a missionary in charge. The F. U. accordingly decided to place its supervision in the hands of the Mohulpahari missionaries. Thus Tilabani in reality has become for us a special retreat from the hectic life at the hospital and has provided an outlet for district evangelism, and visitation which has been inspiring and fruitful.

In these times when the Church is assuming more and more responsibility for district work it is encouraging to note how well our national brethren carry on their tasks in the church, in the schools, and in

the villages. Fruit of their labors is seen in those who respond to the message and who come for instruction in the Word and to receive baptism. Our part as missionaries is becoming less and less important and we are thankful to the Lord to be witnesses of these things and to see the young Church take hold and with the help of our Lord bring forth fruit.

Each week as I drive over the dusty rocky Baramasia-Asanbani road from Mohulpahari to Tilabani, I experience the joy that Jesus must have known when He took His retreats to Bethany—Meeting the many who travel the same road to market their wares, offering a ride to the Muslim cloth dealer with his bundle on his back or to the Santal farmer laden with baskets full of produce or to the sweeper woman and her daughter from our congregation who go regularly to market to purchase supplies, gives us opportunity to witness to them and to encourage them in their daily routine. After a busy day in the temple at Jerusalem Jesus would travel the Jericho road, past Gethsemane around the foot of the Mount of Olives to the village of Bethany, the home of Martha and Mary. Bethany indeed was His abiding place and to Him a place to go for rest and fellowship with his dear friends. To us Tilabani has become such a retreat from the pressures of hospital work and gives us a chance to visit with our good friends Pastor and Mrs. Siblal Hasdak' and Pastor Ranglal Kisku and to share with them their wonderful hospitality. It has been a joy to go out in the district with them to visit the new homes of those Christians who have been resettled by Government after their lands were submerged by the Masanjore Dam Project. It has been a rich spiritual experience to fellowship with new Christians in these villages and to encourage them in their faith. Much has been added to our own lives in going to the heathen villages

to preach the message of Light to those who still prefer their heathen darkness.

Pray with us that as we turn over more and more of our work to the national leaders that God will raise up those of His own choosing who have the spiritual fortitude to accomplish for the Kingdom what must needs be done that our Saviour's name may be glorified in this great land of India. God has said "Whatsoever thy soul desireth, I will even do it for them." (I Sam. 20: 4) Have we failed to realize this promise of God? No matter what our needs may be God has given us some specific promise and He will honor the prayer of those who trust Him implicitly. It is not our work but His. It is not our worth, but Christ's which has secured for us this immediate access to the Throne. So let us claim the things God has given and prove these immutable promises of God.

William R. Scott M. D.

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## LITERATURE WORK

The year under review has been a very interesting year. The demand for Christian literature is steadily growing. We have not been able to write as many new books as last year, but during our touring of the three states in which we have our work, hundreds of the books written and printed last year were sold and distributed.

In some areas, we have the feeling that the ability to buy is not in proportion to the interest shown with regard to Christian books and magazines.

How we wish we could have some funds upon which to rely which would enable us to sell Christian literature cheaper, and sometimes even distribute it free. In this respect we are really handicapped. There can be no doubt that the lack of funds for this important work is a serious disadvantage and drawback for our young church.

Seldom have the peoples' interest been so great for literature and their minds so open for anything written touching upon the different aspects of human life as now.

In regard to many other things, we are speaking about "Golden Opportunities", but in this respect we really have a "GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY" which we cannot fully utilize, sad to say.

We realize that opportunities, in regard to this particular service as in almost everything else, are coming our way. They are pausing outside our door, but if not grasped they will pass by, some of them never to return.

This very fact ought to cause some grave concern for this all important task in these from so many quarters called "closing days".

People out here are expecting the Christian Church to give them real thought-provoking and character-building Christian literature. May God help us not to fail in this great service for the Kingdom of Christ.

During the year the following books have been written and published:

"What is Your Answer?"

"What Would Jesus do?"

"Youth Magazine."

Besides our literature work, or rather along with it, we have taken part in several of our Bible Conferences both in Bihar and Assam. In Cooch Behar we had a most blessed Bible Course for the Garo workers under the able leadership of Rev. Olav Hodne. During our stay in Cooch Behar we had the opportunity to visit Dinhatra Girls' School where our friends Misses Elsa Pihlquist and Ada Wittander so wholeheartedly are working. It was a real joy to speak to the students and staff there. A three days' Bible camp together with Hodne out among the Garos in the jungle was a thrilling experience, and so was the visit we made to a big Santal village in the same jungle. When the people understood that we could speak to them in their own language they just massed into the village street to hear our song, music and preaching. Early the next morning, about 5 o'clock, the village headman sent a messenger to our little log cabin and asked us to come back to them and tell them the same story as we told them the previous day. That day we should have had four meetings in four different places,

but we had to accept the call from the lonely Santal village in the jungle, and so we went. The result is that they now have Christian teachers among them instructing them in God's Word.

We also had the joy of taking part in a Bible Conference in Joema District together with Rev. and Mrs. P. Pedersen. It was a real inspiration to see so many people gathered around the Word of God, deep in the forest of Assam.

We also had the opportunity to visit our friends in Gaorang, Rev. and Mrs. David Westborg and the missionaries in Tajoubari, Misses Solveig Somming and Ella Gjerman. We had an evening meeting in the church there. We also visited Santipara and had a meeting in their church.

Coming back from our Assam tour we took part in the Ashram for Christian students in Kaerabani. Rev. and Mrs. Sigfred Johansen together with their faithful co-workers had arranged everything in a most perfect way. This Ashram was a new undertaking and experience in the history of Kaerabani High School. What can be more inspiring than to see a group of openminded students accepting the Word of God as their leading star through life. Our hearts were filled with thankfulness and also with great expectation for the future while we listened to their evening song: "I have taken Thee, O Saviour, as my Leader throughout life."

In order to fulfill another appointment we had to leave Kaerabani early one morning. It was 3 o'clock, but the students were all up. We were garlanded, and out in the silent, star and moonlit early morning hour this song was heard:

“Send the light, The Blessed Gospel Light  
Let it shine from shore to shore.  
Send the Light, the Blessed Gospel Light,  
Let it shine forever more.”

In September we had our annual Pastors' refresher course, which we do hope gave our pastors some help in their work for the Kingdom.

We humbly present this report for the year 1957, earnestly seeking God's guidance, asking HIS blessing and Divine Power upon this special task in Christ's service.

William Glad

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# EDUCATIONAL WORK IN SANTAL PARGANAS.

## SANTAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

“So then neither is he that planteth anything, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase”

I Cor. 3 : 7

When we plant and water, we always should remember something which has gone before, namely, the sowing of the seed which is the Word of God. And that is a living Word which abideth forever. We who plant and water in the Santal Theological Seminary do our work best when we fully realize that we are “unprofitable servants”. And if we are fully surrendered into God’s hand, our joy will be like that of a child who is permitted to help its father in the garden. Then only we shall rest assured that our labours are not in vain. And we dare hope for great things.

At present there are 23 students in the men’s classes and 19 in the women’s classes. Eleven families and 1 single man are studying in their 4th and last year. Two families are studying in their 3rd year. Five families and 1 single man are studying in their 2nd year. And 3 single students are studying in their 1st year. The last mentioned, admitted from 1st July, 1957, are as follows :

From Santal Parganas Church Council:  
Choron Marandi, Baniapasar Circle,

Shricand Murmu, Sultanabad Circle.

Assam Santal Church Council:

Ram Soren. Joema Circle.

In addition to these, one of the 3rd year's students was re-admitted to the Seminary. He and his wife, had two years' training at Chondorpura in 1944-1945. John Soren and family are from American Churches of God Mission, Bogra District, East Pakistan.

There has been some illness in our big family, especially in July and August, when we had our part of the Asian "flu". No cases proved fatal, but weakness prevailed for a long time. We are happy to have Miss Romer with us again (from the middle of November) to take care of health, and she will also give valuable instruction in the women's classes in Hygiene and Midwifery.

The staff has been the same as last year. We have many calls upon our time and attention to distract us from our essential duties, but we try our best to reach the goal of providing a well-trained ministry for our congregations. We can never have a healthy, vigorous Church without a ministry adequate both in number and quality to bring to the Lord's people His precious gifts of "Apostolic teaching" and "the breaking of bread". For many of the important Christian enterprises, started by Missions, help may be expected from Government and the general public. But the training of the Christian ministry will always be the task of the Church and the Church alone. We hope that the Church authorities will face their responsibility in this matter, and put the needs clearly and constantly before their congregations.

We had the joy this year to receive from Narayanpur Congregation in West Dinajpur District a small gift in

cash for the Seminary. This encouraged us to propose before the Santal Theological Seminary Committee, that an annual "Theological Education Sunday" we observed in all our churches, and a special collection be taken for Santal Theological Seminary or Bengal Divinity School. The Synod of Ebenezer Evangelical Lutheran Church selected Trinity Sunday for that purpose, as the students would be home on holiday and could themselves help present the needs before the congregations.

A handbook for Santal Theological Seminary has been prepared and accepted by the Santal Theological Seminary Committee and should be printed in Santali and English. We hope the printing can be done in the beginning of 1958. Also a new Diploma was prepared and accepted. We have had a busy but happy time printing books in Santali for the Seminary. In 1957 the following were printed:

R. Rosenlund : Christian Ethics

R. Rosenlund : Christian Doctrine, Vol. IV

R. Rosenlund : Church History, Vol. I is in good progress of being printed.

The class work becomes so much easier when we have books. We can discuss the problems and come to a much deeper understanding of the Christian truths. Previously the time was mostly taken up by dictation. We are so grateful to the Synod and the home countries for making this printing program possible for us.

May God use also us to supply the needs for His Church, us and all who work with us, the Church Councils among the Santals in Santal Parganas, North Bengal, Assam and among the Boros, and our friends in America, Norway and Denmark. They work with us and for us in prayer and love.

On behalf of students and staff,

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 Johs. Thoft Krogh.

## MAHARO

### SANTAL GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL AND WOMEN'S TRAINING CLASS

The last part of the school year from January to April passed without any noticeable changes. At the beginning of the year we had the joy to have back again, Miss Esther Hembrom, who has been a faithful worker in the school for 22 years. At the time Miss Sorola Murmu, who is now matron, and Miss Rebecca Tudu completed 20 years of faithful service in the school. On the occasion we had a dinner party at our house with these three teachers as our special guests. It was a festive occasion with singing, and with witness of the goodness of the Lord and His guidance through these twenty years.

In the Matric Class three girls were preparing for their examination when one of them suddenly became seriously ill in the last part of February and had to leave us for sometime. In September she was able to participate in the supplementary examination. All three girls were successful and could leave for further training. In the middle school one girl was awarded scholarship which means a financial help of Rs. 15/- per month from Government through high school. It was also a great encouragement that so many in the high school received Scheduled Tribes Stipends from July. This covers nearly all of their expenses here in the school and means a great help for these girls. We feel there also implies a certain obligation in accepting so much help. May each one do her best and be profitable citizens as it becomes to be a Christians. Sometimes, unfortunately, one experiences the opposite. Youth with high education become self-willed and dissatisfied. There is something lacking in the molding of the character in some. Thus, such people can be an easy



prey for bad influence. God give us wisdom and strength to lead the youth on His Ways which are perfect.

Our Training Class had their final examination in some very warm days the last part of April. Of the 15 candidates, 14 passed in the examination. From July a new class of sixteen young girls was organized. They receive from Government Rs. 10/- per month in stipends, and can thereby cover most of their expenses with this amount. According to the present school arrangement this class should complete their study in April of 1959.

The new school year began from July. But just when most of the teaching staff and the girls had arrived here, there came a message from the school authorities that all schools should be closed until the 15th of July due to the "Asian flu" which had begun to spread itself in the land. We found it the best not to send the girls home again because many of them were from far away, and what kind of medical help could they receive in the villages. The 17th of July came a new order that school should be closed throughout July. Then already a number of the girls were in bed with influenza. It is not exaggerating to say that four-fifths of the girls in the hostel were affected, but we were spared from any casualties this time also. We are deeply thankful to our Heavenly Father that all the girls could return home well both at summer vacation time and at Christmas time. There is always sickness among so many, and for Sister Elise Dragoy especially the month of July was busy and trying. We are also thankful for the opportunity we have to send sick girls and co-workers to the hospital in Mohulpahari where they always receive the best treatment.

The only change we have had in our staff was in connection with Teacher Miss Rebecca Tudu who in February was loaned to the Nursing School at Mohulpahari to work as matron. In her place her sister, Mrs. Bh. Hasdak', is working. Her husband also gave us good help in the high school the entire year. We have a staff of faithful co-workers who do their work from year to year. Our new pastor Peter Murmu, came in April. His wife, a former Maharo teacher, has together with her husband been a great joy and help to us the time they have been here.

Perhaps the three outstanding events of the year were the convention for Kaerabani and Dumka Circles in March, and in October the women's meeting and the young people's gathering.

Progress has been made in singing during the year. Teacher Dhona Soren has been the leader and taken classes twice a week. The School Choir has added much to our joy on several occasions. Another group of our girls, the Guide Girls have during the year been very helpful in many ways.

On the last Sunday of November, 16 girls were confirmed in our church. Rev. A. E. Stronstad and Rev. P. Murmu conducted the service. We also this year had a good and blessed day together with the girls and their relatives.

Also this year we bring our thanks to God for His help in the work, for giving strength and courage to keep the work going and for all blessing and progress. And to our mission friends at home we extend a word of thanks for their constant prayers and their contribution. Likewise we also certainly would like to express our gratitude to the Government of this state

for the financial help received during the year. Without that it would have been very difficult to come through.

Edle Sigurdson

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## KAERABANI SANTAL HIGH SCHOOL, MIDDLE SCHOOL, AND TRAINING SCHOOL

When Rev. and Mrs. Obert Landsverk went on furlough in the beginning of 1957, after a term of fruitful service at Kaerabani we entered into their labors.

We have felt it a privilege to live and work among all the young people in this old and well established educational center. In the midst of the activities we have felt both the pressure of work and seen some of the fruits of Christian education.

In front of the Principal's bungalow there is an old "terel" tree, and we have heard the fruits falling and seen the children come running to pick up the fruits, from before dawn until after sunset. The terel fruits are namely so delicious, and nourishing and the harvest so plenteous. This tree has been bearing fruit for many years gone by and will continue to bear fruit for many more years to come.

When I walked between the "terel bungalow" and the school, I couldn't but notice that there is an amazing likeness between the tree and the school.

It was really encouraging to see how the school attracted students from the whole area, yes, from all

parts of Santal Parganas, even from Assam and Bengal. They came with expectations and soon enjoyed the fruits of Christian education.

In 1957 there was a marked rise in the number of new admissions. A new section was opened in Class XI, and the two sections in all the classes were filled with students. Several classes had fifty students in each section. The total number of students in the high school increased to 282. The distribution according to communities is as follows:

Hindus	126
Christian Aborigines	105
Non-christian Aborigines	27
Muslims	21
Christian non-aborigines	3

The total number of students in the middle school was 290.

The training school had 40 students and the lower primary school 140. Thus the grand total for all the schools at Kaerabani was about 750 students.

The number of students living in the boarding increased to 180, the largest number for years.

The Kaerabani school have a good reputation both among Government officials and Church members. This is due to the faithful and efficient work of the Headmasters, teachers, and other members of the staff.

The responsibility for the administration of the schools was to a great extent transferred from the missionary principal to the national headmasters who readily accepted their additional duties and did an excellent work.

During the year the following changes took place in the staff. Sri Benjamin Pauria was granted leave for further studies and deputation work in Norway and Denmark, and Sri Jonas Herenz appointed acting headmaster in his place. Sri Gora Tudu returned to his post in October with increased experiences acquired by studies in United States of America, Norway and Denmark. The following teachers have also improved their qualifications: Sri Sonathan Jha by passing B. T., Sri-kant Jha by passing S. T. C., and Sri Barnabas Soren by passing I. A., Sri Nathaniel Hasdak' took leave from July for his Physical Training. Sri Baijun Marn-di, I. A., was temporarily appointed in place of Sri Subodh Dutta who was granted medical leave. Sri Motinath Roy, B. Sc., was added to the staff as Science teacher from July.

The development of Agriculture and Horticulture has continued. Boys have taken part in the rice cultivation and a fair harvest was obtained in spite of drought. Irrigation by the help of motor pump proved to be of great value. The cultivation of sugar cane was taken up by the agricultural students of Class X with exceptionally good results. Improved varieties thrived very well in the poor, dry soil of Kaerabani. The fine harvest was admired by many and sugar cane sets for seed ordered by both Kundahit Block and private agencies.

Papaya cultivation in connection with petha and papcin production may also prove successful and a source of income for the institutions in future. Further developments have been greatly hampered due to lack of funds. We are sorry that the Lutheran World Federation did not find it possible to sanction the grant recommended by its Indian committee for developing our program of agriculture at Kaerabani.

As three courses of study, namely, Arts, Science and Agriculture have been introduced in the high school, it should soon be possible to raise the standard of the school to a Multilateral Higher Secondary School in accordance with the new plans of the educational department.

The examination results are encouraging. Out of 28 regular students who appeared in the Matriculation Examination three passed in First Division a few more in Second Division and the rest in Third Division. But still further improvement of the results should be aimed for.

The management of the school has been readjusted in accordance with Government instructions. The Lower classes IV to VII have been separated from the high school and organized as the Kaerabani Santal Middle School. An application for a separate grant-in-aid has been submitted and is now under favourable consideration by the educational department.

The work of the Junior Training School has been appreciated by the authorities and by the public. Permission to issue certificates under the signature of the headmaster, the sub-divisional inspector of schools and the district inspector of schools has been obtained. But even if the school may be considered to be recognized for all practical purposes, our application for formal recognition and grant-in-aid is still under consideration by the educational department.

The Lower Primary School under the able leadership of Mrs. Priscilla Tudu, Headmistress, has continued its work as a model Lower Primary School and a practicing school for the training school students.

On the whole my impression is that the headmasters and the teachers of the schools at Kaerabani are doing

maximum of work with minimum of equipment. If provided with some more urgently needed teaching appliances as maps, charts, library books, tools and apparatus for science, agriculture and other subjects, they would surely reach a higher standard of teaching. Installation of electrical power and light would also be a great improvement.

There are separate managing committees for all the four schools at Kaerabani.

The Governing Body of the high school was reconstituted in accordance with Government instructions. We were happy to welcome the Sub-divisional Officer, Jamtara, the Project Executive Officer, Kundahit, and the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Jamtara, as Government representatives on the Governing Body, and they have made very valuable contributions to the deliberations of the Body. We are grateful for this opportunity for even closer co-operation with the Government.

The following representatives of the Mission were formally approved by the Department: Rev. A. E. Stronstad as Chairman of the Governing Body, Miss E. Sigurdson, as member, and Rev. S. J. Johansen as Principal and Secretary.

During the year we have more and more felt the need of a central co-ordinating body for all the educational institutions at Kaerabani. That would without doubt facilitate the administration of the schools, and planning of progressive courses of studies from the lower to the higher classes and the running of a model school farm, a craft center, a music center etc., serving all the institutions. This pulling together of man power and finances would make it possible to do more with less expences and the unity would be strengthened. This matter has been discussed in principle

by the Governing Bodies and the Director of Public Instruction has been approached for recognition for such a central body and for guidance in its framing.

We thank the Government of Bihar for grant-in-aid received during the year and also express our sincere gratitude for the very valuable services rendered by inspectors and other Government officials.

The grants received in the name of the high school plus the school fees realized covered about 75% of the expenses. The remaining 25% was met by the Mission. By a cautious management aiming at increased self-support it should be possible to transfer to the Church an institution that may be carried on in future.

In my opinion it is important for the Church to retain as many schools as possible. By reading in Christian institutions the future leaders will be established in Christian faith and Christian living. It was therefore, encouraging to notice how our Church members realized the value of Christian education more and more. They appreciate the religious instruction given in the Bible classes and the character molding influence of Christian fellowship, and they regard Kaerabani as their own school.

The boys soon feel at home. They like the opportunity to get secondary education and enjoy to take part in extra curricular activities as sports, choir, bands and various kinds of hobbies. They just love song and music and it is a great experience to hear them sing their own tunes and play bamboo flutes.

In the hot season a Christian Youth Ashram was arranged for ex-matric students. The hard pressure of work before and under the examination was over and while waiting for the results they had a golden oppor-



tunity for quiet thinking and planning for their future life in Church and college. They were also confronted with the personal claims of Christ and some of them decided to follow Him and to witness for Him where ever they would get their place of work in future. The Ashram created a refreshing spiritual atmosphere at Kaerabani and brought new inspiration to all of us. We, therefore hope it will be continued as a permanent part of the work.

As the inner secret of the fruitful "terel" tree is the deep roots and the life given to it by the Creator, so the secret of the Christian Education imparted in the schools of Kaerabani is the life poured into it by the Lord, Jesus Christ, who has come not only to help old people to die, but to give young people life and life abundant.

We have felt some of His life-giving influence when gathered for daily prayers on the verandah under the "terel" tree. Now and then we heard the fruits falling while the reading of the Word of God, prayers and the singing of this faithful group of believers brought us nearer to Him who is the Life.

We extend our thanks to the staff, the students and the compound people for good-will and helpfulness, sympathy and fellowship in Christ during our short but happy stay at Kaerabani.

But our thanks go further to all the friends of Kaerabani in the home lands for their continuous support and constant intercessions.

Most of all we thank God for His never failing faithfulness. To Him be the glory.

Solveig and Sigfred Johansen

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# MEDICAL WORK IN SANTAL PARGANAS

## MOHULPAHARI CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL

Looking forward into 1958 at our plans for the future of the hospital necessitates an evaluation of the past year to determine what foundations have been laid to enable us to build further. It is of interest to us particularly since this past year is the first year that we have been fully engaged in this work of the Lord. It is good to see developments taking place which give indication of progress. Certainly it is through His leadership in all these areas that advancement has been possible. Our principle concern during the past year has been the training and development of national workers to undertake the tasks formerly held by the missionaries. This report is made with this in view.

**PERSONNEL.** Early in the year we advertised for a national sister tutor to take over when Miss Alice Axelson left for America on furlough. We had no success. The shortage of such highly trained nursing personnel in India leaves many vacancies in the national program of nursing education. However, with the permission of the Missionary Conference we were able to obtain the services of Miss Grace Crow of the Dipti Mission who served faithfully with us for four months during the busiest season. She was a fine Christian witness and untiringly gave of herself in the care of patient's needs, both physical and spiritual. She is now home in England on furlough.

The decision by the Hospital Managing Committee to assume responsibility for the general medical and surgical problems at Saldoha Leper Colony required a doctor from Mohulpahari to make regular visits. Dr. Paul Murmu who had just joined us after returning from America gladly accepted the appointment to work there while coming two days a week to Mohulpahari to gain further experience in surgery and general patient care. He continued this program until the rains made travel difficult. Dr. Chatterjee in the meantime decided to go to America for further study in surgery. He was granted a year's leave and Dr. Paul moved to Mohulpahari to work full time in Chatterjee's place. Now we make our Saldoha visits every other week to see and advise on the problem cases.

Dr. Mukherjee continues with us and both he and Dr. Paul have made a good contribution to the work. Each has their own ward assignments for which they are responsible. I have been encouraging them to assume more of the burden of the immediate patient care and thereby give them opportunity to develop confidence in their work. The more difficult cases we discuss together on grand rounds and the major surgical operations are done as a team so that they may learn by observation as well as by doing.

Miss Hilma Gjerde and Mrs. Jeanne Scott have both been very busy with the Nursing School in addition to their other duties. The students are learning much about patient care and are a tremendous help to the team of staff nurses on the wards.

**ADMINISTRATION.** This past year has seen the rapid growth of a much needed administrative staff. Mr. Gopal Prasad, the old hospital dhobie's son, has shown great promise and ability to cope with more and more of the work in the office. He now handles all the

accounts, supervises the maintenance department, prepares the payroll and does all the filing and arrangements for the hospital records. He is assisted by Mr. S. K. Dutta who is trained as a stenographer and typist in addition to being the Bengali preacher in our church. His experience with the Bible Society in Calcutta qualifies him to tend to the growing library and bookroom in which the printed Word is offered to all who will come to read and to buy. Other members of the outdoor staff have been doing the many varied statistics required by Government thus relieving the missionary from this burdensome and time consuming task. The pharmacy staff have been preparing a complete hospital pharmacopeia.

The outpatient facilities have been greatly improved with the addition of a new large waiting room in which patients and their relatives find a comfortable place to stay while undergoing treatment in the outdoor department. Two new doctor's offices have given us adequate examining rooms and formal office space for the administrative staff. A new system for issuing tickets and collecting fees has been found to be very helpful.

**MEDICAL AND SURGICAL DEPARTMENT.** It has long been the desire to have our institutions running in the nationals' hands and this dream now is becoming a reality. In the medical institutions the turn over may not be so easy. However, we at Mohulpahari are working toward that end. We are encouraging the national doctors to undertake all the medical and surgical problems within their scope and we are seeing less dependence on the missionary. Patient's care is now their immediate responsibility and the patients are accepting the new role of the national doctors as the ones who can meet their needs and who provide the best possible medical and surgical care. The missionary

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doctor's role now is more that of a consultant and adviser. Each morning in the operating room we continue to increase our scope of surgery. The national doctors are encouraged to do the minor and less difficult major cases under supervision and to improve their techniques and learn while assisting at the major operations. Good reports are being heard concerning the impression of their work in the surrounding community. This in turn makes them want to maintain the high standards which have been the basis of care in Christian hospitals throughout the years.

Increasing costs have required a revision of hospital charges. This has been met with considerable success and is a very necessary step if the church is to administer our institutions. It is unlikely however, that major repairs and improvements can be met in the local budget. We will have to depend on our mission friends in the home countries for some years to come and we trust that their hearts may continue to feel the pull that would draw them into this vital work of the Lord in their giving regularly and often as He leads.

**EVANGELICAL DEPARTMENT.** Another big advance this year has been in Christian literature. The printed word is now available in all the major languages of our patients. The "Way of Salvation" course in Hindi has been studied by our staff compounders and nurses and is being distributed to patients who are showing increasing interest. Through the medium of the Hindi language on Sunday afternoons, Mr. Abraham our Hindi Pandit, is able to reach upwards of sixty people, who otherwise perhaps would never hear the Gospel preached. Many patients have been touched by the Message in this way and the Bible study courses enable the light of God's Word to continue its penetration into the darkness enshrouding their minds and hearts. Bible posters in the outdoor

waiting room, our Christian bookstall and the regular Gospel messages through our Bible women and the pastors have given a sound and consistent witness to the One who came to give us Life and to give it more abundantly.

We praise Him for those that respond: The Hindi boy who memorized Scripture passages from the posters while sitting in the waiting room; the Hindu man who desired to study more about the Bible and who has now completed the last lesson in the Way of Salvation course; the young Hindu woman in our T. B. ward who has regularly attended the Hindi services and who seriously studies the Word; the boy who last spring decided to go all out for Christ and who carries on an active correspondence with the Bible Institute in Landour where the pastor gives continuing instruction through the correspondence Bible courses offered. These are just a few who have come under the influence of the wonderful plan of Salvation through this means and who are being prepared for a new life in Christ when at last they see in His Word men's desperate state and need of a Saviour.

For the spiritual nurture of our staff different groups meet regularly for Bible study in Hindi three times each week and learn to use the Hindi language in expressing spiritual truths and witnessing of their faith to others. This is a new work which will bear fruit in due season as we wait on Him. We need your prayers that this phase of our labours will grow to His honor and glory and that God will raise up leaders in this new Church to carry on. Jesus said "Feed my lambs" and our national brethren are responding. As the responsibility becomes theirs they meet it in a wonderful way.

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At the time of writing this report the Way of Salvation correspondence course is being printed in Santali at the Benagaria Mission Press. Two thousand copies have been ordered at the first printing and we are praying that this simple means of spreading God's Word will now enable it to enter the hearts and homes of our Santal people. Then they too who yet live in darkness will see the Great Light. This course will be available free of cost to all who enroll. We are grateful to the family and friends of Mr. and Mrs. Jorgen Olsen who have given the means as a memorial gift that the Gospel message might go forth like this and bear fruit. We at Mohulpahari have been granted the privilege of being the Santali center for this course which is the property of the Landour Bible Institute, Mussoorie, U. P. This course already is in many of the major languages of India and is being studied by many throughout this great land. We are thankful for the privilege of being a partner with Him in this vital outreach to the unsaved.

**FUTURE PLANS.** Much of the future work and progress depends on the success of our program to become self-supporting. God has provided the means for our past growth and we are trusting in Him for the future. The basic plant needs to be enlarged to accommodate more national staff workers. A new doctor's house and an enlarged T. B. section is urgently needed. Government has not yet responded to our request for grant-in-aid in this regard but the need is great and we are in the position to fulfill that need in the near future if the grant is forthcoming. A new well is being built to cover the ever increasing demands for water. Government electricity is at our doorstep and we will be able to switch over to 220 volt A. C. power by April 1st. This opens up a whole new vista for improving our plant here. We again will trust Him for these special needs.

**STATISTICAL REPORT.** 1957 has been a good year and the record shows steady. New Government dispensaries and hospitals have been opening all over India for which we give thanks. But we still fill an important role in the total medical and surgical care of the district. We have perhaps the finest plant in this area of Bihar. But figures and modern facilities do not tell the whole story. Here we try to give the patients something more. Fewer patients in the outdoor has enabled undertaking more extensive investigation of their complaints, more diagnostic tests and thus arrive at more accurate results in their treatment. It provides more time to speak with them and to give a positive witness.

“For we are labourers together with God.” (1 Cor. 3: 9) It is not our work, but His. He is the responsibility for the results, ours is only to do His will. “The saving power of Christ waits to heal and bless, but He needs the co-operation of the human hand and life as the medium through which His virtue passes. Those whom God calls into fellowship in serving others may count on Him for the supply of all their needs.”  
F. B. Meyer.

William R. Scott M. D.

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# 56 THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES

## A. OUT-PATIENT DEPARTMENT

New Patients	11,248
Repeat Visits	10,364
Total	<u>21,612</u>

Christians	3,393	Laboratory Tests	10,858
Santals	4,436	Injections	4,394
Hindus	10,692	Abscesses	204
Muslims	2,749	Tooth Extractions	136
		Plaster Paris Casts	67
Men	12,157	Others	164
Boys	1,986	Flouroscopies	1,743
Women	5,924	X-ray Plates	92
Girls	1,203		

## B. IN-PATIENT DEPARTMENT

Admitted during 1957	1,614
Number of Deaths	62

Christians	328	Men	682
Santals	409	Boys	192
Hindus	686	Women	622
Muslims	191	Girls	118

## C. SURGERY AND OBSTETRICS

Total Operative Procedures	742
Major Operations	435
Minor Operations	287

General Abdominal	80
Gynecological	77
Genito-urinary	177
Rectal	14

Plastic Repairs	23
Orthopedic	23
Ophthalmic	54
Radical Massectomy	1
Simple Mastectomy	4
Lumbar Sympathectomy	3
Thyroidectomy	2
Tonsillectomy	2
Miscellaneous	128
Obstetrical Normal	86
Cesarian & Forceps	12

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## MOHULPAHARI NURSING SCHOOL

"And the Lord shall guide thee continually"

Isa. 58: 11

"He abideth faithful"

II Tim. 2: 13

A school, as new as the Mohulpahari Auxiliary Nurse cum Midwifery School, really needs a full time director to lead and develop it through its formative years. However, this year, due to Alice Axelson's furlough beginning in February, the school, now in only its second year following recognition by the Bihar Nursing Council, has not had the leadership it should have had. Even while she was here, we each felt we had a full time work—she, as Director of the Nursing School and I, in charge of nursing service—so when she left, with no permanent replacement available, I must admit that with her work in addition to my own, I often felt my days a little more than full, and was sorry that I could not give each department the supervision it needed. But the fact that she had so ably organized the work of the School and planned for the year ahead with a plentiful supply of teaching materials, was a great help and made it possible for me to step in and somehow carry on the work. I'm thankful for the Lord's faithfulness in providing us with an adequate Indian nursing staff in the hospital, thus releasing me from much of the supervision of ward work I had formerly done, and giving me some extra hours per day for classroom teaching and administrative work.

February 1st, a class of 11 Christian girls were admitted for training, 7 being from our Mission and the remaining 4 from neighboring Missions. Before the year was up, 2 of them left because their parents accepted offers of marriage for them, and 2 had to be discharged because they weren't able to pass the preliminary examination.

An impressive "Capping program" was held in June, with Mrs. Raode Hasdak', Nursing School Committee member, as the main speaker, and members of the hospital nursing staff participating in the capping ceremony.

The enrollment, during most of the year, was 16, which is a little more than capacity in the hostel. Of the 6 who went up for the State Examination covering the first year of their training, 5 passed. Three of them, plus 2 from the previous year's class, are now at Hazaribagh taking the second, or midwifery, year of their training.

Besides the regular class and ward work, Pastor N. Marndi and his wife have each conducted a weekly Bible class in Santali which the students are usually able to attend. We are glad for the week of evangelistic meeting in October conducted by Mr. Pandit of the Childrens' Special Service Mission and believe that some of the girls received definite help from his Bible centered messages. Extra curricular activities included participation in the Sunday School teaching program, choir groups, and various kinds of recreation besides occasional social gatherings for fun and fellowship.

This year, too, we have had assistance in the teaching department. Mrs. Scott has had the class in Nursing Arts, both lectures and demonstrations, thus helping the students through one of their most important subjects. Though we missed Dr. Chatterjee's willing help in the teaching program when he left for the United States of America, we have had the able assistance of Dr. Mukherjee and Dr. Murmu who were responsible for teaching Anatomy, Hygiene, and First Aid. Mr. Raska Murmu, a very versatile farmer, who is also the headman of his village and one of the pillars of the Dumka congregation, besides being Pre-

sident of the Santal Christian Council and a member of the Nursing School Committee, came in by lorry to give lectures on "The Growing and Preservation of Food", one of the required subjects on the nursing syllabus.

Another invaluable helper in the Nursing School has been Rebeka Tudu, the hostel matron who was a teacher in Maharo for many years before beginning her work here in February. She has been a good spiritual influence on the girls, and has been available at all times for counselling, for accompanying the girls on village visitation, and for helping out in many ways. The management of the hostel was turned over to her, and though the year has not passed without difficulties in that department, it has been a relief not to have had the responsibility of that work.

Naomi Torkelson has also come over many times from Dumka and cheerfully helped out with correspondence, accounts, mimeographing, etc.

To each of these, who has had such an important part in the Nursing School Program, and not least to Dr. Scott for his interest and encouragement, I am extremely grateful.

Assistance was also given by 2 missionary nurses outside of Mohulpahari. Grace Crowe, of a neighboring mission, was here for four months thus making it possible for me to get away for a vacation and in the end of July, Lilly Petersen arrived to help here during the rainy season months when she wasn't able to get out in the district in Malda for her regular work there. Though our hospital routine was strange to both of them, they caught on very quickly and were of great help both in supervising work in the wards and in giving teaching assistance in the Nursing School.

Perhaps the year's greatest cause for thanksgiving as far as the future of the school and hospital is concerned is the very encouraging report of the inspection made in October by 2 representatives of the Bihar Nursing Council. They pointed out that, because of our location in Santal Parganas where there are no other nursing schools, and the great need for Santal girls to be trained as nurses, there was no reason why we should not very soon be qualified to give also the midwifery part of this Auxiliary Nurse cum Midwifery training. They recommended that we designate 4 more hospital beds for maternity patients, thus bringing our number up to the required 10, and that we do our utmost to increase the number of deliveries per year from the 125 we've had, to the 200 required. They felt we could accomplish this fairly easily by encouraging more women to make use of our Ante Natal Clinic and by adding Home Delivery Service.

Later in the year, we had a visit by Dr. Gemmel, Director of World Health Organization in Bihar, who has a special interest in the Auxiliary Nurse cum Midwifery training program. She agreed with the previous inspectors that we should, in the near future, be able to qualify also for the 2nd year of this 2-year training course, and urged us to expand our midwifery services as rapidly as possible.

Dr. Gemmel also arranged for a meeting, during the Christmas holidays, of directors and Sister Tutors of all Auxiliary Nurse-cum Midwifery centers in Bihar which I was privileged to attend. At this World Health Organization expense paid 2 day conference in Patna, problems of teaching, syllabus, entrance requirements, discipline, etc. were discussed, and many helpful suggestions made for the future of the work.

These encouraging reports of inspectors and visitors must be indications that God is leading us forward in our nursing school program. We trust Him, therefore, to go before us and show us the way as we seek to fulfill the requirements to qualify for the complete Auxiliary Nurse cum Midwifery training.

Though I must admit that both times Alice has gone on furlough, I have rather reluctantly taken on the work of the nursing school, nevertheless, after getting used to it, I have enjoyed it and only wish I had more time to devote to it. I know that this "enabling" both in being supplied with strength for the daily tasks, and with joy for the work, is of the Lord, and He is to have the thanks for leading us through another year.

Hilma Gjerde

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## SALDOHA LEPROSY COLONY

With thanks to God we look back upon the past year. It was not always so easy to come through it, but God helped us. We were permitted to experience His strength for each day and especially when it was difficult.

The total number of patients has been held as near to 350 as possible. The Government has given a grant of Rs. 10/- per month for 350 patients. There was room for more, but the high cost of living which we here in Saldoha certainly feel the result of, has not permitted us to admit more patients. Many asked to be admitted but unfortunately, we had to say "no" all too often.

Five hundred and four came last year for examination for the first time. We could only admit a few into the colony, that is the most contagious and by preference the young people who had contacted leprosy. The greater majority we could refer to the many dispensaries, some of them under government and some of them under our mission. The patients are permitted to go home once a year to keep in contact with their families, receive clothes, and make arrangement for farming of their land if they have any. Then they often return together with members of their families or people from the same village that are leprous. Perhaps they have hidden their disease for a long time, but then they heard that there was hope with the new medicine,

Four hundred and fourteen patients have been treated in the colony this past year. Those who take their residence here seriously often make good progress. Some were also last year declared as non-contagious. Some more could have been sent home, but due to the conditions at home we decided it best to keep them here a while longer.

The statistics are as follows:

	Old p.	New p.	Symp Free	Much Better	Slightly Better	Same
Saldoha L. C.	346	68	51	6	242	99
Saldoha out- door	114	29	12	-	59	55
Baromasia	264	66	5	-	171	148
Tarni	260	80	3	-	194	118

At the out-door dispensaries the number of visits increases from year to year. But the results have been better in the colony where they have been under steady treatment and come regularly for medicine. From February, 1958, the government took over the



Baromasia Dispensary. They have begun a leprosy center in the vicinity under the leadership of a Santal doctor.

Dr. Roy has been the doctor in the colony also this past year. The first six months we had also Dr. Paul Murmu here. Since he was transferred to Mohulpahari we have had the arrangement that either he or Dr. Scott came here one day every second week. Those that needed surgery we were permitted to send to Mohulpahari as well as those needing X-Ray and special treatment. One of the leprous carpenter apprentices was attacked by two bears when out gathering wood. With little hope for his life he was carried by his colleagues over the rivers to Mohulpahari after receiving First-Aid treatment here. He lost his one eye, but otherwise he improved so that it is a big astonishment for us all. The greatest part is that he also was renewed in his spiritual life.

Six compounders are working here as well as one dresser who is himself leprous. Sister Kari Ringheim had responsibility for the hospital and with her work six leprous nurses' aides. They have the responsibility of dressing all the sores of the women. On such a place where patients come and go it is often necessary to train entirely new and inexperienced people as helpers. The hospital has thirty beds, but often place must be found for many more and many of them must lie sick out in villages in the colony.

In the industrial department we have thirty men and boys, divided into weaving and carpentry. In addition each one received a piece of cloth for Christmas woven by the patients.

The carpenters repaired all the houses in the colony; that is windows, doors, new roofs and as well as built a new house for patients.

The greater majority of the patients have their work out in the fields, cultivating rice, maize, potatoes, vegetables, fruit and cotton. All departments have healthy supervisors. Three of the patients have learned to sew and have full time work in sewing for the hospital and patients. They also patch the cloth of the hospital, for the children, the older and blind ones. Those who cannot work must sit and clean cotton which is used for dressing of sores.

Approximately fifty children attended school divided into four classes. In the hot season there was held evening school for the adults and many were eager to learn to read and to write.

In the colony we have two congregations of 130 Christians, one Bengali congregation with the office man and caretaker, Mr. D. P. Lal, as the leader, and the Santal congregation with Salhae Marandi as the leader. The last mentioned has also the responsibility of the work in the district, but also takes part in the work in the colony together with the missionaries. Last year 17 non-christians were baptized after having been instructed for baptism 9 months. Here there is a big flock with open hearts for the Gospel. All in the Colony come to hear so the opportunities are great. Several missionaries have taken part in meetings and worship services. Rev. W. Glad had a Bible week which was also well attended. Likewise Mr. Pandit from Children's Special Service Mission worked here one week. In November we had the visit one day of Mr. Theiss-Nielsen, the Danish Ambassador from New Delhi. And the first part of December we had the visit of two Danish deaconesses, Sister Maja Boning and Sister Johanne Kjær. New Year's Eve three Norwegians from the Norwegian Colony in Travancore were here.

Out from Saldoha a big work among non-leprous patients is also carried on. There is a dispensary and hospital with seven beds for such patients. Sister M. Hannevik leads this work. Visits have been many. Last year there was over 8,000 consultations.

Last year also we received grants from the Government of Bihar, and we are very thankful for this help. Likewise, we would thank the Mission to Lepers, and all friends in America, Denmark and Norway who have been with us in offerings and intercession.

Aslaug and Jens Sture

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## BASETKUNDI CIRCLE

Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one; and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour. I Cor. 3: 8.

Another working year has passed. Many opportunities and many responsibilities were given to us to work, and now, trying to sum it all up in an annual report, it is felt like having to give an account of how the opportunities were used to serve the spreading of the Gospel. We did want to do the right thing, but did we always reach the right decisions? Looking at the results it seems as if one came too far short. It is easy to get down-hearted and discouraged, but then it is well to remember that one plants and another waters. It is God who gives the increase. It is an encouraging thought that he that planteth and he that watereth are one. As we planted there were some-one, somewhere who persevered in intercession, and prayed down the heavenly dew on the seed.

There were a few changes in the staff, as we received two new pastors to Sultanabad circle during the year, one to Simoldohi and the other to Kakjol. At the last place we have never had a pastor before, but the local Christians gave voluntary work on the new pastor's house, so it was erected at a very reasonable cost. The congregation is very happy to have its own pastor, and it is a growing congregation, where several have been added during the year.

The evangelists throughout the circle have done a faithful work, even if it has to be reported that they have not all shown the same interest and diligence in the work. Four paid Bible women have been doing regular work among the women. It would be well if

their work could be speeded up and they could get more volunteer helpers.

We had several big gatherings during the year, and one of the best attended meeting was the Youth convention we had at Basetkundi during Easter time. Many of the young Christians were revived and refreshed in their spiritual life, and it was clearly to be noticed that many of them returned to their village with greater urge to witness for Christ among their own people.

We have tried to push on with the Sunday School work, but few have discovered the great obligation this is for every Christian to do something for the children in this way. May God call forth voluntary workers for this very great task.

The local congregations have this year also given their collections and offerings, but it is very difficult to raise the church income from year to year. May God warm the hearts, then the gifts will pour in freely.

In closing this short report we do want to express our warm thanks to all mission friends and co-workers at home as well as here in India.

Rakel & Ingolf Hoyland.

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## BENGALI WORK IN SANTAL PARGANAS

I am happy to report that many good works have been done at several places. A few young people have:

accepted confirmation, Christian children were baptized and have joined the congregation. A few non-Christians were baptized and they too have joined the congregation. Sunday Schools are held at almost every place of worship. Attempts are being made to get more Sunday Schools started.

There are eight Bengali congregations in the Santal Parganas Bengali Circle, namely, Dumka, (Dangalpara) Saldoha, Mohulpahari, Benagaria, Tilabani, Baniapasar, Maharo and Chaporia. There are full-time or part-time preachers in every congregation.

There are altogether seventy-one Christian families in these congregations, with 331 Christians in twenty-seven villages. The number of communicant members is 114, and there is only one pastor. Sixteen children of Christians and 10 from the non-Christians community have been baptized. Four have accepted confirmation and two couples have been married.

There are a total of forty-four pupils in the Sunday Schools.

The total church collections amount to Rs. 945.83.

There are a few honorary preachers and Bible women. It will be for the good if the number of such honorary preachers could be increased, so let us pray to God that we may get many such honorary preachers and that the work of God may be fruitful and progress to His praise.

Pastor Daniel Jha, Chairman  
Santal Parganas Bengali Circle.  
Dumka.

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# WORK IN BENGAL

## BAGSARAI

When the Clausens left for Norway last spring, we took over here at Bagsarai from the beginning of June. Bagsarai is a well built mission station, centrally situated for the work among the Santals in North Bengal. When it will be finished, it will become a suitable station for all kinds of meetings and courses. For the time being we have to use the school as boarding for Council meetings and Bible Courses, and until Rev Jonas Hasdak' moved over from Rajadighi we are using the pastor's quarters for kitchen and dining-room. This is a temporary arrangement only, and we hope there will be a change to the better soon.

With Munshi Hembrom as a teacher, the school here at Bagsarai has made progress, and there are now 35 pupils. From next year an assistant lady teacher will help two days every week. The other schools in this district have already been given over to the Government, except the school at Narayanpur in West Dinajpur; but we hope the school authorities soon will take over the responsibility for this school also.

The district work has gone on steadily in both circles, as the church statistics also indicate. Rev. Jaeram Hasdak' has been leading the work within the Malda circle together with Rev. Jonas Hasdak' who is also the president of North Bengal Santal Church Council. In West Dinajpur circle Rev. John Marndi and Rev. Munshi Murmu have shared the responsibility. As to selfgovernment in the Church, the Santals seem to have made good progress, and circles and committees are functioning well. More and more are waking

up to see the responsibility of full selfsupport. This matter is being discussed in the councils. May be the work must be rearranged some if they are to manage the economic side of it themselves.

The Santals are also hoping for the work in Malda and West Dinajpur, that it could be under one district council. As it is now, it is cumbrous and difficult—with one administration for the work among the Santals and another administration for the work among the other races. It is especially difficult where there are mixed congregations. The unity has to suffer when the two halves of a congregation belong to each their own circle.

The evangelistic task here has not yet been fulfilled—we are still at the beginning. Many are now aware of the missionary obligation to preach the Gospel to everybody. There has been shown great interest in the plans of the E. E. L. C. with regard to mission work in Nepal. The Santals here are next neighbours to the emigrants in Nepal, and have some contact with them.

Women's meetings are being held weekly in some congregations, and a committee has been appointed to take care of the youth work.

In October two weekly Bible Courses were held here at Bagsarai. The first one was for teachers and students with 39 partakers, and the second one—with 44—was for elders, pastors and candidates for the Theological Seminary. Next year we hope to have four courses: 2 for pastors and elders, 1 for voluntary leaders in the congregations, and 1 for teachers and students. We believe that the fellowship during the Bible Courses is important for the growth of an independent and spiritually alert church.



We want to thank all of you mission friends for support and intercession for the work here in the "Middle Land".

Elisabeth and Ole Dordal

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## BIRBHUM AND MURSHIDABAD CIRCLE

This Circle is one of the four Circles under the Bengali District Church Council, and consists of 10 congregations scattered over the two adjoining districts of Birbhum & Murshidabad in West Bengal and covers an area of roughly 800 to 1,000 square miles. Of these 10 congregations, Suri congregation is about the largest with a total of nearly 170 Christians.

As I have been away from the Country for the most part of the year 1957 my report would have to be limited to the general situation and based upon what information I have been able to gather from others.

Congregational activities have been carried on during the year as before, and mostly confined to the regular and irregular ministrations to the congregations. We have a total of 20 workers, including 2 Indian and one Missionary Pastor, of whom over half are unpaid or lay workers who look after their respective areas without any regular salary from the Circle. Communion services have been held at regular intervals in the 10 congregations with an yearly average attendance by about 200 communicant members. The total of the number of Christians in the Circle was registered at 622 from the year 1957.

Compared with the Statistics of last year it would seem that the congregations have not grown in strength. This is because a stricter control has been exercised to get at the accurate figures. The year 1957 has been a very difficult year for the people in many ways, and the poorer ones of our congregations, who from the larger number of our membership, have had to move from place to place being driven by want and distress to find the necessities of life. In the more progressive towns a fraction of the community in employ of the Government in the various departments, have been shifted around to other parts of West Bengal. All this account for a certain percentage of the community to be regarded as "floating members".

Sad as it may appear from the Statistics, there has apparently been no in-gathering to the Church from the non-Christian communities during the year, but the baptisms which quickly followed early in 1958 would prove that the work had not suffered any set-back, but that the needed instructions to prospective candidates for baptism were not completed in time to warrant their baptisms earlier. And yet the fact must be borne in mind that the work among the Bengali-speaking races in West Bengal is fraught with numerous difficulties from within and without. People are still in the grips of the political, social and nationalistic forces which have a strong tendency to deflect the impressions and advances which Christianity is able to make upon the people. But this is only one side of the picture. There is a brighter side which has encouraged us to go on with faith and hope.

We might say that these post-independence years with a low figure of in-gatherings do not necessarily signify a static period in the history of Christianity in India. These years may be deemed as a period of

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preparation during which a great deal of misunderstanding associated with the Christian campaign in India is being removed. There has been observed a more realistic and genuine listening to the Gospel message as the true way of life and salvation in Jesus Christ. A deeper reverence for and faith in Jesus and His life and work has been evinced among the more socially and intellectually developed races in our area. It needs only patience and toilsome labour on our part to go forward in faith and hope for a larger harvest in the not-very-distant future!

The high light of our activities in the year was a rally of young people, boys and girls, for a 3-days fellowship meeting held in Narainpur in the first days of September. A very fruitful time was spent, and we were persuaded to believe that Christ was really speaking to the hearts of the young people who gave expressions of their inner joy which they had experienced. If we had the necessary means, there would be more and frequenter meetings held of this nature.

The Narainpur Girls' School, which is the only major Institution situated in our area, has had a successful year both as regards enrollment and instructions. A number of girls from socially well-placed non-Christian homes are students in the school, and they have brought much joy to the authorities. They have most willingly and gladly shared life with the Christian girls, and we hope and pray that the seed which is being sown in these young hearts will bear fruits in due season.

Congregational contribution amounted to Rs. 1733.- in 1957.

The rural congregation at Dumurgram (Murarai) were able to build a new church building of their own

with part assistance for the roof from the Church Budget. This was dedicated on the 15th of December which turned out to be a great day for that congregation. A few from the depressed classes living in adjacent villages have shown a desire to become Christians, and are under instruction.

And so, in closing, we like to thank all our friends and supporters everywhere for upholding our work in their prayers and for all the helpful support given us. We believe in the promises of God, and we are working in faith and hope. Outwardly it may often seem difficult or impossible, but we know that we can do all things through Christ Who is our Strength and Tower. Whatever may happen or come on our way, we know and believe that He is always leading us in triumph in Christ.

Yours in humble service,

Sd/. K. R. Ghose,  
Chairman, Birbhum and Murshidabad  
Circle, B. C. C.

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## COOCH BEHAR CIRCLE

When we study the 1957 statistics for Cooch Behar, we notice at once that the numerical growth is not very large. The majority of our Christians are Garos, and about them it can be said that they have received the Word of God with joy and understanding—“which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty”. (Math. 13: 23)

Their nomadic habits create problems in our work, however. This year six Christian families left the

district and went to Assam where they hope for a better economical future. Here the most of them are non-land owners, and to get the daily necessities for life is always a serious problem. There are only a few non-christian Garo families left in the district now, and the same can be said about the Boros, among whom we have about one hundred Christians.

We have this year put much emphasis upon Bible teaching for our workers and also for the local Christians.

#### BIBLE COURSES :

We had several Bible courses during the year. In this report I shall only mention two of them. One was held in the beginning of the year from the 25th to the 31st of March, and the other from the 7th to 20th of October. At the first course we had Rev. Glad from our mission with us, and Mr. S. Sahu of The Evangelical Fellowship of India in October. Not only workers, but also many Christian youth from our congregations took part in these courses. We felt the Spirit of God work among us, and we have seen results from these courses out in our congregations.

#### WORKERS' MEETINGS :

The monthly workers' meetings have become somewhat of a regular part of our work in Cooch Behar. Salaried and voluntary workers and elders come together for a day or two. Together we discuss both encouraging and discouraging happenings in the congregations---together we try to solve the different problems---together we seek before the Throne of God the Almighty, for strength and new life. These workers' meetings mean much for our work.

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE :**

The annual conference of our Circle was held in Damanpur from 1st to 3rd February. We were fortunate to have our General Superintendent, the Rev. and Mrs. Bjerkestrand with us then. The Rev. and Mrs. Maclaren of the Church of Scotland Mission also attended the Conference one day. Besides the Bible lessons and other meetings we also heard reports from the different activities in all our congregations such as women's work, youth work, Sunday School, evangelistic activities, etc.

**YEARLY MELA :**

The yearly mela took place in Dinjata in the middle of December. It was a great success and gave a good income to the treasury. In this connection, I would like to mention that the church offerings have increased 25-30%, and this is indeed very encouraging.

**BUILDING WORK :**

Building and new construction have demanded both time and money. A family in Stockholm donated sufficient money to rebuild the church in Cooch Behar town. On the 17th of February the General Superintendent, Rev. Bjerkestrand, dedicated the Church. Representatives from all our congregations were present and also quite a few of our missionary colleagues from far and near.

We have also been able to build a new pastor's house which was badly needed. For Pastor Roy and family it was a great occasion when they could move into it in the month of May, just before the rainy season.

We must also mention the new boarding school for boys at Puthimari now under construction. A Jubilee

gift to mark the completion of sixty years' mission work in Cooch Behar in 1954 made this possible.

### STUDENTS :

Our Circle is helping three young students receive higher education, of whom all are Garos. Benjamin Howe has finished his first year in the Cherrapunjee Theological College. Kedar Nath Marak is a student in our Bengali Divinity School in Malda. A girl, Bilash Chisim, will appear for her I. A. examination at the College in Cooch Behar in the spring of 1958.

### EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM :

With the view of concentrating our educational program as far as possible at Dinhata Girls' Boarding School, and at the new boarding school for Boys' at Puthimari, we have during the year closed some of our small village schools.

### EXPANSION OF WORK :

As I mentioned in the first few lines of this report, there is practically no field for expansion of our work within its old methods. There is, however, no lack of opportunities and possibilities for new work on our field if we only can find means to go into them. We find on our field in Cooch Behar and Jalpaiguri a multitude of races, as for example (Besides the Garos and Boros) Rabhas, Nepalis, Mundas, Oraons and Santals. As we already have a few Rabha Christians, it seems natural that we try to do more for these very much neglected and backward people. It is our sincere hope that the Gospel may reach all of them.

Our eyes have also fallen upon the Santals, and we have actually started to work among them. This was made possible when we got a Christian couple from Assam through Assam Santal Church Council to

come here. In a village called Jidpur, near our Garo church in Damanpur they opened a new school for Santal children at the end of the year. The villagers themselves built the school house and a house for the teacher's family. Gopal Kisku does the work of an elder and his wife, Ruth, is serving as a teacher.

Our pastors, preachers, teachers and elders have all joined in the work for the Kingdom of God. We often wish to see more fruit, more burning zeal among our leaders, more evangelistic work done, but "if we believe not, yet He abideth faithful: He cannot deny himself." (II Timothy 2: 13)

The work is His. Without His blessing we can do nothing. "For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever, Amen." (Math. 6: 13)

Brit and Olav Hodne

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## DINHATA

"By terrible things in righteousness wilt thou answer us, O God. of our Salvation who art the confidence of all the ends of the world." Psalm 65: 5.

We will start our annual report for 1957 with the above wonderful words. Truly God has been our confidence in the past year and He has in a wonderful way answered all our prayers, not to enable us to speak about great success in the work, but to bear witness about His faithfulness and power. Day by Day He has been sustaining us and the work by His presence and blessing. Glory be to His Name!



The school which is a Primary School with Class V and Class VI added, has grown gradually and at the end of the year 84 students were enrolled. Fifty of these were from Christian homes and the rest from the Hindu and Mohammedan homes around here. In the Girls' Boarding there were 28 residents and in the Boys' Boarding 22. Six of the big boys went to a nearby high school. The staff was increased by one teacher, Binoj Biswas, who during many years has worked as an evangelist in this place.

The annual Prize day took place in April when the District Inspector of Schools visited us for the first time and acted as Chairman. He used the occasion to express his appreciation of the Schools and the Boardings.

During the year we have had the joy of having many visitors. In January we were much encouraged by a visit of Miss Knarvik from Norway. The Bible hours conducted by Rev. Glad in March were also very much appreciated by the young people and his appeal to them to decide for Christ was certainly not made in vain. We had a similar blessed time in October when Rev. Sahu from the Evangelical Fellowship came here to conduct some revival meetings. A few weeks later a visit was paid by Miss Sahu, who came from the Bible Society and gave us some talks on the work of the Society as well as some Bible hours. Besides this a Bible class has been held every Sunday and a young peoples' meeting on Saturdays. We believe that in this way the great purpose of our school that is to build up the Church of Christ is being fulfilled.

The building of a dispensary was started in October and is at the time of writing this report almost completed. The appreciation of the villagers for the medical help rendered to them has been shown by their increasing

willingness to pay the cost of the medicine. This is a step towards self-support of the Dispensary. We have also been able to keep a health program among the School children by giving them some lunch every day and among the poor, sick and needy ones out in the villages by distributing milk, cheese and wheat received from the National Christian Council Relief Fund. We convey our thanks to all the friends in America as well as to the National Christian Council Relief Committee for their generous gifts.

During several months of the year, Miss Betty Ann Jorgensen stayed here for language study. The deep spiritual fellowship we enjoyed with her meant much for us and the work here. At several occasions she helped us at open air-meetings by playing the accordion.

We also thank all our friends at home for their support given by prayer and money. Let us all, where ever God has placed us, join in the testimony found in Isaiah 63: 7 "I will mention the loving kindness of the Lord, according to all that the Lord hath bestowed on us."

Ada Wittander  
Elsa Pihlquist.

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## NIMASARAI CIRCLE AND MISSION STATION

I Cor. 1: 27 "God has chosen the weak things of the world"

It has been decided that the yearly reports from now on should try to show the condition in the Church, more than the situation at the mission stations. There-

fore, reports from circle chairman have also been welcomed. I am chairman of the Nimasarai Circle, as well as being in charge of Nimasarai Mission Station. This is, therefore, going to be a joint report. I want to start with the Church; and doing so, I will first have to give some sort of an introduction, because this is the first time our circle as such gives a report.

Nimasarai Circle consists of 11 Bengali congregations in Malda and Dinajpur districts. It is linked up with the Bengali District Church Council. Two pastors, 8 evangelists and 2 Biblewomen are working in our congregations. During the last 10 years the statistics have shown the total number of Bengali Christians in these congregations to be between 750 and 800. This year, however, we counted more carefully the families we actually have contact with through our congregations. We then found only 110 families with a total number of 448 members. This tells something of the condition in the Circle. In the course of time many Christians have moved out of our districts. Many have also fallen back to Hinduism. During the last years not very many have been baptized from the non-christian communities. Last year we baptized 4 Hindus.

The social condition in our congregations is pitiful. Most of our Christians belong to the following groups—Kamars, Muchis, Rajbongsis, and Desis. Most of them are very poor. Many work as day labourers. Because of lack of rain last year, the rice crops failed in many places. For this reason it was difficult for many of our people to get work. It is quite true that some of them had to starve many a day. And we are now afraid of what will happen during 1958. Then the scarcity of rice will be felt in the markets, and will force the prices up.

Because of the social and economical condition the spiritual life is also as a whole pitiful. Few of the adults Christians can read or write. Many of them are forced to work also on Sundays. In several congregations there are Christians who cannot be communicant members because of matrimonial questions. This condition paralyses most of the attempts of the workers and of the mission to raise the congregations to a higher spiritual level. And the sad fact is that such congregations cannot act as "leaven" in the heathen surroundings. We are sorry to notice that our pastors and evangelists have become somewhat apathetic because they see so little fruit of their work.

During last year we had 3 ordinary Circle Conferences and besides that some gatherings of only workers. Through Bible Study and conversation we sought inspiration and help to continue our service.

In the Ebenezer Church as a whole the year 1957 will be remembered for all the discussions concerning the fostering of independence and self-support in the Church. A certain number of years have been suggested during which the Church should get ready to carry the expenses for all the ministerial activities within the Church;—and from year to year receive less financial help from the Mission. This has forced us in Nimasarai Circle to also ask more realistically about our own position, and ask what chances our Bengali congregations in Malda and Dinajpur have of standing on their own in the future.

Certain changes seem to be necessary. During the last year the pastors, evangelists and Biblewomen in our circle were paid Rs. 460.00 per month in total salary. The total income from all the congregations during the entire year was Rs. 757.00. (Therein is

included the church offerings made by missionaries which will amount to about  $\frac{1}{3}$  of this total sum.) The evangelists are informed that their salaries will gradually have to be cut. It is going to be hard for most of them. They have been accustomed to rely on the Mission for the support of their families. Some of them are now trying to get land of their own, or are searching for other sources of income. We are encouraging such efforts. The growth of the Kingdom of God will apparently not be hindered very much if the salaries of most of the workers are cut. The statistical information above seems to indicate that the old method with the paid evangelists is not giving the expected results. Not in our area anyway. Our congregations will be living congregations in the future only if the individual Christians wake up to their responsibilities. Then, through them the Kingdom will come.

Thinking of the future, we have been forced to question our church organization here in Malda and Dinajpur. Our poor Bengali congregations are tied together with similar small Bengali groups in Birbhum, Santal Parganas, Murshidabad and Cooch Behar to the Bengali District Church Council. That means that they must send their representatives at least 150 miles to the south and 400 miles to the north in order to settle their most important church matters. They have to discuss them with people from a different area, who very often have difficulties in understanding their special problems. They have to share the cost of such expensive council meetings. When the financial support from the Mission stops, they will not be able to carry on all this expense. On the other hand most of the Bengali congregations in Malda and Dinajpur are locally tied together with the Santal congregations on that place. Again and again questions arise which concern both the Santal and the Bengali congregations.

But our church organization does not provide any possibility for them to meet and get such questions settled. Especially during the last year we have felt very much the need for such mutual consultation and re-organization. The need is likely to be still greater in the future.

The picture which has here been drawn about Nimasarai Circle is not a bright one. But it is true. If we want to built our church we must face the facts and then ask God's guidance for further steps to take. According to His own Word He does not despise what is weak in this world.

At Nimasarai Mission Station the different institutions continued their work as before. In the boy's hostel there were as an average 25 boys. At the end of the year the number decreased, because several parents could not manage to send the necessary rice and fees for the boys. The attempt to make the hostel more and more independent of Mission grant has continued. We have again come closer to the goal. Because of the rice situation we could not reach as far as we had hoped.

Our Primary School has had approximately 100 pupils with the same staff as before. During the year we tried to start a Junior High School here in Nimasarai. The main reason was that the Ram Krishna Mission has opened a high school in the neighbourhood. It is likely to draw also Christian students and fill them with Hindu propaganda. It turned out, however, to be impossible for us to fulfill all the conditions of the Government in order to get such a school recognized. We have had to drop the plans.

What took most of my own time and energy last year was the running of the Nimasarai Divinity School.

The school term is 9 months. During vacation the students took part in practical congregational work. Of the 9 students who started at opening of the school in September, 1956, there are now 8 left. One student transferred to business training. Except for one or two cases of indiscipline we have been happy to see the work and the conduct of the students. Two of them had to be absent for sometime because of sickness.

Our assistant teacher, L. C. Konai, has also this year helped with the teaching and the daily running of the school. We are thankful for all his assistance. Quite a good progress has been made. As we keep the students three months more than what was the rule before in Nimasarai, we have been able to introduce more subjects. The Junior Course was finished at the end of May. From September we started the Senior Course. We very much feel the need of more theological textbooks in Bengali. The wives of the students have also this year received regular training. Our Biblewoman, Mrs. Khan and Mrs. Kjolberg have taken the Bible classes for them.

Mrs. Kjolberg has also this year attended to the sick in and about our compound. Nearly every day there has been distribution of medicine, injections and nursing care. The distribution of milk from Red Cross has continued, but unfortunately the supply of this milk has been more irregular. Especially did we feel this difficult towards the end of the year as the distress was growing around us.

Also this year I have felt handicapped by being forced to try to keep a hand in too many activities. It did not simplify matters that I also had to act as President for our District Church Council while Rev. K. R. Ghose was abroad visiting the home countries.

We now want to thank all our co-workers for forbearance, understanding, and help. We will also thank all friends in the homelands for faithful work during another year. And last of all, we want to thank our God, who so miraculously, in spite of all our human weakness, is able to build His Kingdom on earth.

Solveig and Per Kjolberg.

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## SURI

The beginning of the year 1957 became for us the stirring and busy time of breaking up and moving with all our belongings to a new place. On the 7th of March we bid farewell to a big group of our Santal friends outside the district bungalow at Kaerabani and went to Suri. Here we found the Lande family busy packing for their journey to Norway. We are thankful for getting a week's time with them before they left, as we then had the opportunity of discussing ways of the work in Birbhum.

As Rev. K. R. Ghose also about the same time went to Europe, I had to undertake many pastoral duties in several congregations in Birbhum, especially Rampur Hat, Narainpur and Suri. The Vice-President of the Birbhum and Murshidabad Circle, Mr. Jadunath Das, gave much valuable advice and help until Rev. Ghose returned in the fall. Mr. Ratiranjana Nath helped a lot with the language study for the first few months. The Suri congregation felt sorry when he was transferred to another government office at Muraroi, because he took a keen interest in the congregational life, especially for the Sunday school and the youth work.



The monthly visits to Narainpur and Rampur Hat for communion services have been very encouraging. A special happy experience was the visit to Narainpur by the end of September when 19 young people were confirmed and also the fellowship meeting that started the day after the confirmation service. Many Christians from our Bengali congregations in Birbhum, Murshidabad and Santal Parganas came to the meeting which lasted for two days. We are especially thankful to the teachers and students at Narainpur Girl's school for the great work they had done both to accommodate all the guests so nicely and not the least for their share in the program.

The Hostel for Christian school boys at Suri has had only four boys also this year. Although the running expenses have been reduced considerably this last year, the missionary conference did not find it recommendable to grant another big sum for the coming year to run a hostel for just three or four students. The hostel building is now transferred to the Church from 1st April 1958.

In conformance with the wish of the conference we have tried, out from Suri, to do something for the Murshidabad and Burdwan districts, and we have made many trips over to those places during the year. Such a round trip covers 300-400 miles and last up to a week each time.

The Itor Mission compound which we left in 1951 to go on furlough, was now found in a miserable condition. The dispensary building had completely collapsed. The house that we lived in last term was also so much damaged that it could never be used for living quarter any more. We therefore used the materials from those two houses to build a new pastor's house for the Santal congregation. Besides there were

enough materials for a veranda roof all around the new Santal Church that was constructed the year before. The only house now left in the Mission compound has been nicely repaired to accommodate a Bengali worker.

Near our Santal congregations at Bidyanogor and Dhitpur we were lucky to buy some land with the purpose of building quarters for Indian workers. At each of the two places a nice little brick-house with asbestos roof is added to the scenery. But at Bidyanogor the house is still empty, because they have no worker. The Benagaria Circle and The Santal Parganas Church Council are now considering the matter. It is essential for the very survival of that congregation that they get a good worker who can both be a school teacher and conduct services. Because these two congregations have remained so long without proper leadership, The R. Catholics are doing strong attempts to split groups.

For land registration purpose and also on other camping trips our route went by Kalna, a town where the Scottish Mission worked for a long time. The Mission has now withdrawn, and all the buildings including a big hospital are transferred to the Government. Only the Church building is left for the little congregation that still exists. Just outside this town we met a group of Santal Christians who are backsliding due to lack of leadership. They begged us earnestly to stop and preach for them, which we also did. Thanks to God this seemed to give them new encouragement. After consultation with the secretary of The United Church of North India, Rev. F. Whyte, we have arranged that our workers at Bidyanogor and Dhitpur shall in future visit those lonely Christians to help them maintain the Christian fellowship.

When travelling in the district one is often drawn into conversation with hindus. Very often one gets glimpses showing that they are not satisfied in the religious mist in which they are circling. Even at some of their most holy places where they perform the most sincere rites to the idols, they are hungry to hear the Christian message of salvation by grace through faith in the Redeemer. Some day the light from the cross of Jesus shall break through this wall also. For this let us all keep steadfast together in prayer.

Gudrun and Hjalmar Kvam.

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## WOMEN'S WORK IN MALDA

It would have been a great joy if we who are in the Bengali work here in Malda could say the same about the year 1957 as is stated in Acts 11: 21 "and a great number believed and turned unto the Lord." Unfortunately, we cannot say that, even though a few have been added to the congregations but with sorrow we have also seen that a few from our Christian congregations have returned back to their old beliefs.

On my touring in the district the first part of the year I had a young Desi girl, Ruth Sircar, whose father is an evangelist here in Malda to help me. She was efficient and faithful to have along.

When I went to Mohulpahari Hospital in July to help for 3 months, Ruth was at that time sent to Martha Maria School. It was also later decided that she should complete the course. Therefore, Komola Mondol who in October completed a three years' Bible Course in Narainpur came in November to help in the work.

In the course of the year we have been around on the usual village trips in the District visiting the women in our congregations. Usually we try to be one week in each place. Unfortunately the cold season is so short that we can seldom come around more than one time to each place. Towards the end of April it is so warm that it is almost impossible to take long camping trips and since the trip to most of our congregations takes almost a day by train, bus and bullock cart, it is not possible to take many shorter visits either.

There are very few women in our congregations that have gone to school, so there is a scant amount of Bible instruction they have received. Therefore, our meetings are so planned so as to give them elementary Bible History, for which we use flannelgraph. We also try to teach them the Catechism, Bible Verses and some songs by memory. In the places where the congregations are near and where the women are interested we can arrange for two sessions of Women's meetings and up to 4 hour sewing classes in a day. But it is not so easy to work in all places. In many of our congregations the women cannot answer the simplest question and then it can be difficult to gain their interest in the meetings. It makes a big difference if in the congregation there is one or more women who have been to school and can read, because then there is something to build on and some can take the responsibility.

Therefore, on our camping trips we have talked to our Christian parents about sending their children to school, but most of our Christians are so poor they cannot see how to pay the monthly school expenses. In places where there have been opportunities we have tried to let them begin a weekly women's meeting

but the beginning is not the end and they need much help and encouragement.

It would be of great value if one were able to go around on shorter visits more often during the entire year, both to the congregations that need to be taught, and to the congregations that need to be helped and encouraged in the work they have begun.

The joint women's meeting for Malda and Dinajpur was not held in 1957. Our poor Christians were due to the poor rice harvest hardly able to obtain daily bread. Therefore, we could not gather them for a meeting where they would have to bring their own food.

In closing, I would express my thanks to all in the homelands who also stand beside this work in prayer.

Lilly Petersen.

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## NORTH BENGAL CHURCH COUNCIL

In the year of 1957, the work of the Lord has gone on well in this District. But because there was a crop failure the economical condition of the Christians is poor. The seed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ is sprouting forth in different places. People are being converted. The Light of God is recognizable in this district.

In this year from the non-christian community by repentance and having recognized God's abundant grace, 47 people entered into the Christian congregation by baptism. Fifty-six children of Christian parents were baptized. To help in the work of the Lord and to

carry forth the work there is to be seen a diligent spirit. In the district even though the economical condition is poor because of crop failure, a willing and sacrificial spirit is being seen. This year in both Circles, that is West Dinajpur and Malda, the total amount of offerings was Rs. 1902. 91 N. P.

With the help of Rev. and Mrs. Dordal, two different Bible Courses were held at Bagsarai Mission this year so that the workers and the young people studying in School could receive more knowledge of the Scriptures. The first course for youth was held in October and the second course for the workers was held in November. The workers felt great necessity for this and the youth also showed forth a very happy spirit to participate in the course. About 45 young people participated. Like this by God's grace there is hope that the work shall advance.

The Christians are understanding the necessity for secular education for their children. In that the non-christian children are also going along. Along with receiving knowledge in school their hearts are also opened to God, and thus recognizing Jesus Christ as their Saviour they are being baptized. This year through Eklakhi School one family was baptized. By the work of hospital also by coming for medical treatment to heal the body, among the patients some recognize God's grace. This year also one family through this work by repentance passed from eternal death to eternal life and were baptized. Many people's hearts are beginning to be drawn from the false beliefs. In this way in this district the work of the Lord goes forward.

May God help us so that in this district His work may be still more manifested.

Jonas Hasdak'

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# EDUCATIONAL WORK IN BENGAL.

## EKLAKHI GIRLS' MISSION SCHOOL

"My times are in thy hands." Psalms 31: 15

Here in Eklakhi 1957 was not a year of many or great events. It was an ordinary good year, with working peace and working joy. It was a year of building work both in the spiritual realm and in the material realm. Now what is built in soul is not so easily displayed as that which is built of wood or stone. Nevertheless, we hope that the spiritual construction shall continue more durable than that which has been constructed in stone and cement.

A good portion of the year we had carpenters working here. First it was to find room for Class VI which began this year. There was a room which was called "office" but was not used for very much. It could be used but it was too small. A wall was moved, new windows put in and we obtained two good well lighted classrooms for Class V and Class VI. A new teacher's house was granted so it was only to begin the construction. It took longer than anticipated because it was difficult to obtain cement, but in the middle of November the teachers could move into the new house with ample place for eight teachers. In between the new construction work we have had a good deal of repair work going on. Most of the houses here still have thatched roofs, but the danger of fire is all too big, and there is repair work without end. So it would be good if the boarding at least could have tile or asbestos on the roof. The school is as earlier mentioned

in a deplorable condition. We had hoped to be granted a sum for new construction at the Conference, but there could be no talk of that as the financial situation was. It appeared dark but we were permitted to place our difficulties before our friends at home, and when this is being written, we know that Lærerinnes Misjons Forening in Norway has granted Rs. 10,000.00 for a new school house. By that the school is saved and we can construct a solid building in 1958, which is something we are very happy and thankful for.

The well in the boarding has been in a bad condition for a long time, and we have often said that one day it will cave in. This year it happened with a big crash, but fortunately, no one was hurt.

In January the school received two new teachers. Maloti Barla and Suniti Sen. Now we have obtained 7 trained teachers. We only lack one to take the responsibility for Class VI. She should have come but first had to take her examination. Until that time we had to help each other with Class VI. In July, Porimal Hembrom, a former student came after having taken her B. A. examination. Thus we have for the first time for a long time all the teaching staff we need. Unfortunately, one of our faithful and efficient teachers, Sneholata Sircar, became sick and had to have leave of absence from May until the end of the year. We hope that she may become well and strong again and can continue her work in the school here.

There were 130 students in the school which is about 30 more than the previous year. Forty-four students were new and the rest former students. Ten students quit during the year for various reasons. The examination has been changed from December to April and thus we could not have any up for the examination in the past year. The yearly examination was for



the most of them satisfactory but there were some who were not promoted.

There is continuously very few children from the neighbouring villages. Only about 20 girls live outside of the boarding. It was in return not only full, but over crowded. One hundred and ten children where there is only figured to be place for 80. children is a little bit too much. But it is difficult to say no as one never knows whether they will come back another year. We had, nevertheless, in the end to say no. Next year there will be more room because we shall have the old teachers' house used as a boarding.

There has been much sickness among the students this past year. Shortly after the vacation they contacted influenza. Nearly all became sick, but fortunately, most of them had a mild case. Then we have had measles, whooping cough, chicken pox, besides the usual malaria and dysentery. We also had a case of typhus and one of rheumatic fever. Palm Sunday was a day of sorrow here. A small girl became ill in the morning with malaria and in the afternoon she died. It cango so fast. It was a reminder to us to be ready.

The health inspector from Pandua has been here several times. We have all been vaccinated for small-pox, cholera and typhus and have received chloride in the well and all houses have been sprayed with D. D. T. Sister Lilly Petersen has taken care of the sick when she has been here and we are thankful for her help. All children and adults have been examined by Dr. E Hoiland. There were many cases of "hook" and other intestinal worms, but that can be eradicated, fortunately, for a time at least. The dust storms here bring a little bit of everything with them, and even though we now have also septic tank for the boarding, none of our neighbours in the villages

have anything like that so the danger of exposure is not over.

The 5th of February we had a fine trip to the old ruins at Gaur for the oldest students, teachers and our two guests, Miss Knarvik and Miss Signe Sigurdson. It was a pleasant and educational trip and it was a great joy to have a visit from Norway. In March we had Naran and Raode here on a few days' visit. That was a great joy for small and big. In December we had another outing. This time it was to Adina and Pandua. All that were big enough to walk so far were permitted to go along and there was a group of about 80 students. Both 26th January and 15th August were observed by flag raising, sports and tea party.

We have received the same help from Government this year as last year and for that we are thankful.

Also this year the children and young people have been gathered for Sunday School, Bible classes and daily devotions and Thursday meetings. The women have their Wednesday meetings and the teachers together with the nurses from Rajadighi have gathered for L. M. F. God's Word has been read and shared and that does not return void. The work has not been entirely without visible fruit. Christmas Day, Kapu and her father were baptized in the name of the Triune God.

Then we would bring a hearty thanks to all out here and at home who have made it possible for us not only to keep the work going, but also to expand.

"Let your hands be strong." Zechariah 8:9

Eldbjorg Gulbrandsen.

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NARAINPUR GIRLS' JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

The year 1957 has been a very happy year working together in one spirit. There have not been any problems with teachers or helpers. According to the examination results and Government Scholarships fine work has been done in the school.

The regular meetings, Bible studies and L. M. F. meetings have strengthened the fellowship in school and compound. It has been the general feeling after return of a holiday that we have been longing back to our "oasis" here where our daily work and fellowship is a daily source for joy and spiritual help.

Naturally, Narainpur Mission station becomes a center for the women's work and naturally all problems with regard to this work are sent to us. This year also we have had a few women with a sad history. It is not always easy to help them, but it is a joy when they leave having received a new and better start in life.

For many Narainpur is their only home. This kind of rescue work cannot be done without money, but even so it is a service which we as Christians cannot avoid to give.

There are many problems in the Bengali work, and we try to do what we can to solve them. As we have no boarding school or Christian school for Bengali boys in our Mission, most of our Christian boys attend Hindu schools with the result that they are leaving school greatly influenced by Hindu morale and way of thinking. Many Christian boys are not attending school at all. In order to do something for our Christian boys we have started a boarding for smaller boys here in connection with the girls' school. It is in the

hope to give them the foundation of Christianity and in order to help the better ones to continue in other mission schools.

Our poor Christians in Murarai and Itore are also a problem. Some of the children are here on half fees, but many we have had to refuse because they cannot pay. The parents are working as dayworkers in the bigger farms. They never receive money in hand, but at the end of a day's work, they get rice for their family. The children have to pluck the vegetables for curry at the roadside. Soap and clothes they can practically do without in the villages. How can they pay for food, oil, soap, clothes, books, etc., in a boarding school? The result is that such children grow up without being able to read and to write. The question arises in one's mind: Is it right to baptize such poor people, when we cannot afford to give them proper training?

Quite another way of doing mission work has opened through the school. People from Government Circles and Brahmin families have discovered our school. This year we have had 9 such children, and for next year we have many letters asking for admission. A remark like the following is quite common in these letters: "I have attended a mission school myself, and want my child to have the same chance. I have no objection to attending Christian teaching classes, meetings and services." Three Brahmin children came back this year after the Christmas holiday saying that they had celebrated Christmas at home. They had decorated, had candles, gifts, etc., and the three children had been singing all the Christmas hymns.

Another clever Hindu girl had succeeded in getting both an English and Bengali New Testament as a prize. After holiday she wanted to buy another copy for

herself as her father had taken the English New Testament and her mother the Bengali New Testament. They read it every day, and did not want to give it back, when the girl returned to school.

It is our prayer that we may receive wisdom to solve the problems facing us in the right way, and it is our hope that we will never be so short of money that we have to close our eyes for the need of our poor Indian brethren who have so little compared with us.

May God bless each one who is helping in His work.

Ellen Laursen.

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# MEDICAL WORK IN BENGAL.

## RAJADIGHI CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL

"To the Honour and Glory of God."

During the year under review, the work has gone on much the same as the previous year. The staff has been the same as the previous year and now consists of 2 trained nurses who both are midwives as well, Miss Sujon Hasdak' and Miss Renuka Sarcar; one compounder, Miss Rahel Soren; and 5 nurses' aides. They have all worked well and cheerfully. In August, Rahel Soren was sent to Clara Swain Hospital Bareilly, to get compounder's training. So far she has had only local training. Unfortunately, she had to return as she had not had science as a subject in her matriculation examination. We hope to send her away for laboratory training in 1958 and so gradually build up a good and well-trained staff of Indian Christian women.

New quarters have been build for a new' doctor and the staff nurses. During the latter part of the year the work on this building almost came to a standstill, as cement was not available. At the time of writing this report we have received the necessary cement, and the building will soon be finished and make very good quarters for the 3 senior staff members and the new doctor we hope to obtain.

The outstanding event of the year has been a visit of the Tribal Minister of West Bengal who with his wife and the District Magistrate paid us a surprise

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visit on October the 22nd. A gate of welcome was raised, garlands made and cakes for tea prepared in no time. The children from the school came across to sing and to welcome the Minister and his party, who were all very interested in all they saw and were finally seen off to the train by all the children. It was a very happy occasion.

Again this year we have received a grant from the Government of West Bengal of Rs. 4,000.00 for equipment and treatment of Tribal patients. We very much appreciate this help, most of which has been used for treatment of tuberculosis patients.

Daily devotions have been held morning and evening in the hospital waiting-room. Women's meetings have been held every week on our verandah. The women take turns in leading these meetings.

The hospital statistics for 1957 are as follows :

DISPENSARY: Total visits :	15,804
New Patients :	7,596
Re-visits :	8,208

Of these :

Mohammedans :	42 per cent.
Hindus :	31 per cent.
Tribals :	25 per cent.
Non-Tribal Christians :	2 per cent.

IN-PATIENTS : 528 patients admitted.

Of these :

Tribals :	57 per cent.
Hindus :	22 per cent.
Mohammedans :	15 per cent.
Non-tribal Christians :	6 per cent.

Forty-seven cases were admitted for delivery during the year. Most cases are delivered in the homes with or without the assistance of the village dai, and as a rule cases are only admitted after the latter had had to admit defeat. We still run an antenatal clinic on Thursdays, but the attendance is very poor indeed. This year the supply of milk and ghee from the Red Cross has been very irregular. Most of the supply has been given to tuberculosis patients, and there has not been enough to go around to antenatal patients.

Eighty-eight new cases of tuberculosis were diagnosed during the year. A number of them did not report back for treatment, but quite a few, that is at the 31. 12, 1957, forty-six are under regular treatment. Five were discharged from treatment as clinically and roentgenologically cured.

Four hundred and seventy-six cases of malaria were recorded against last year's 1229, a very considerable decrease which is due without doubt to Government's energetic anti-malaria campaign. Every house in the villages round about has been regularly sprayed with D. D. T.

Twenty-three cases of leprosy were recorded and are under treatment.

On their own initiative a small group of tuberculosis patients have built houses on an isolated spot outside the village in order to get regular treatment. It was a great joy on Christmas Day to see one of these patients being baptized together with his daughter and a nephew, who are both studying in Eklakhi School.



It is indeed our hope and prayer, that all the work that is done here may be done to the honour and glory of God.

We heartily thank the friends in the homelands who support this work with their prayers and means.

Else Hoiland.

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# WORK IN ASSAM.

## BONGAIGAON

In the beginning of the year Miss Elly Binderup left for home on a well earned furlough.

As we had to spend most of our time in Shillong to take care of duties in the Norwegian School as well as for translation of the Old Testament, the work in Bongaigaon has been some-what neglected. Rev. Malsing Mosahary has had to shoulder a heavy burden, administering to the many congregations and looking after the school and compound as well.

In the basic school in Bongaigaon, teaching was done up to class six, but the number of students continues to be rather small and the educational standard has not been satisfactory because of the difficulty of getting sufficient qualified staff. As the circle budget for 1958 will have to be cut quite substantially, the question of retaining the Middle School classes or not will have to come up for consideration.

Upon instructions from the Boro C. C. President and the Council one of the pastors went out of active service from 1. Jan. 1957. Even with some assistance from outside it is impossible for one pastor to take proper care of all the congregations in this big circle, but we hope that additional pastoral help will be available in 1958.

The congregations now number 26, as two new ones have been added during the year. One of them, Sindabari, is located not far from the Bhuthan border.

The other one, Lankar Pastabari, is in the forest area near Gandabil.

Samthaibari is at present only a group of Christians without church and preacher, but we hope that a new leader may be found before long.

Church collections show an increase as far as ordinary contributions are concerned. It is difficult to get complete returns for collections for village school salaries. At present the congregations pay about half of these. The work of constructing more permanent church buildings in the bigger congregations is continuing, and the Supply Office in Shillong granted a permit for corrugated iron sufficient for two such buildings. It is a great joy to a congregation when a task like this is completed.

The Boros were happy that translation of the Old Testament could be started during the year. The Psalms have been taken up as the first step, and will probably be published as a separate publication, in a format that will make it possible also to join it to the New Testament. Regarding the rest of O. T. the situation is still uncertain. The co-operation of all the Christian Boro groups is necessary for this big venture, in order that they may accept the translation as their own, and to ensure a circulation that will justify the big expense involved. One of the big questions in this connection is the choice of script. It has been the policy of our Mission to use the Roman script, but now, of course, it is for the Boros themselves to decide. And this ought to be a decision by all the Boros. Many influential Boros have favoured adoption of the Assamese characters, but lately the opinion seems to have changed, and consequently a joint comm. of Christian Boros at a meeting in October decided to

urge The Bible Society to publish The O. T. in Boroni in Roman Characters, with the Psalms as the first step. It is likely that the question of script will be finally settled during the coming year, for the whole Boro group, including all the communities. This would remove one of the obstacles to the publication of the complete O. T. in Boroni. Other aspects will be discussed at a meeting in the hot season.

We hope that the day will come when also the Boro will be able to read the whole Bible in their mother tongue.

Anna and Hakon Halvorsrud.

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## DINGDINGA CIRCLE

There are no outstanding events to report from the work under Dingdinga Circle in the year that passed. The circle has always been short of workers, and that keeps the work more or less within the existing boundaries.

One of the evangelists, Mr. Kamal Roy, left his service under the Circle in the beginning of 1957, and went to work in Mornai Tea Estate. But I am happy to state that though he is not a paid church worker anymore, still he serves as a voluntary worker and gives all the time he can spare for the evangelistic work. Nearly every Sunday he preaches in one of the congregations.

At present, Sonoram Mukdivar (Karmakar) is the only full time preacher. He was ordained as a pastor

in February 1957 at Mornai by our General Superintendent. He has been of great help for our work.

Our old honorary pastor, J. Biswas, who has served as a voluntary worker for years in the Bengali work in Assam, had an eye operation successfully performed on one of his eyes. His general health has also been a little better this year and he has faithfully stood by in advice and work. Besides visiting near-by places he has also made trips to Bongaigaon and Dhubri.

The Primary School at Sasugutu seems to have become more stabilized. Some children from the nearby Rabha community also attend the school. The Circle has also given some aid to a primary school in Dingdinga. This school, however, is facing difficulties, and we don't quite know if it will be kept going or not.

An Indian evangelist, Mr. S. Sahu of the Evangelical Fellowship of India, made a five days' visit to the Circle in October. His meetings were well attended and the message from God that he presented became a source of new strength for many. The 31st of December we had the annual meeting for all congregations at Sasugutu. Almost all the members from the five congregations were present. Paid and voluntary workers gave their testimony. We heard reports from the congregational work during the year and distributed Sunday School prizes, etc.

We feel very much the need of more evangelistic work among non-Christians. In our monthly "workers' meetings" we often hear about opportunities at different places, but it so often comes to this after our discussion: "We have no one to send."

Many times these words of our Lord Jesus comes to mind: "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labour-

ners are few! Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.”  
(Math. 9:37-38)

Brit and Olav Hodne.

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## GAORANG MISSION

According to the new rules reports are to be written by the Presidents of the Church Councils and the chairmen of the Circles. Hence I shall write mainly about our own activities here at Gaorang and in the District.

The Boro Church Council executive committee met here in January. In addition the Boro Church Council had two regular meetings, one in May and another in October. I presume that the President of the Boro Church Council, Rev. Maguram Mosahary, will write about those matters that he thinks important. I shall only mention that as heretofore an untold number of matters were brought to the Council for decision, the Circles now apparently are in a position to decide in a higher degree than before so that the Council is less burdened with trivial matters that rightly belong to the Congregation or Circle.

During the year we have held two Bible Courses for elders which were well attended, one in March with 24 participants and another in November with 28 elders and some young men present. The Bible Courses represent, I think, the highlights of the year. We realize more and more the necessity of giving our elders and preachers Biblical knowledge, and it is a pleasure to find that they prefer Biblical subjects and song les-

sons to other subjects we also taught a year or two ago. Hence, we have concentrated on Bible study and subjects directly concerned with the church this year, apparently to the benefit of all concerned. One of our elders who a couple of years ago found the courses superfluous is now a regular and appreciative attendant. This has given us much cause for joy. We also hope the courses will bear fruit for a richer spiritual life among our elders and their congregations, that they may be able to share their own knowledge with their fellow men.

We conducted a course for Teachers in April. Although Biblical subjects represent the main topics there has of necessity to be a wider variety of subjects here than at the regular Bible Courses, as the teachers have to be taught lessons that will help them in their work in village schools. We are grateful for all the help the Teachers at the Gaorang Girls' School have given us regarding programmes as well as actual teaching of subjects. But I think the most important thing with these courses would be to foster a spirit of dedication and whole-hearted service in the way of education, in order that more and more of the Boros may be able to read the New Testament and make use of their Hymn Book at services and meetings.

In the month of February we took part in a Women's Convention that was held at Mothambil and well attended. At times 1200 people were present. The women came by bus, by oxcart and on foot, cooked their food on open fires and slept in small straw huts with three walls and a slanting roof. In the middle of the day, when women from adjacent villages could attend the hall was packed to capacity.

We attended a very interesting Circle Conference at Boshguri in April. What attracted our attention

more than anything else was a lively discussion about how far a Christian ought to co-operate in different communal projects and undertakings.

The Circle Conferences are held in Boro villages and all expenses paid by two or three congregations whose members contribute meat, rice, vegetables and money. These expenses, which at times are considerable, does not appear in our statistics, as the Council or Circle as such does not contribute anything from their treasuries.

Parsonages among the Boros are built by the pastors themselves. All they get is Rs. 50 each for annual upkeep. Hence, the Council and Circle are not burdened with building expenses. Church and School buildings are also built by the congregations themselves. A Church or School building may cost thousands of rupees. Still these sums are not entered in Circle or Council accounts. Hence, contributions to the Church are considerable higher than what appears from reports of annual returns. Here in Gaorang Circle alone they built a new church with a roof of corrugated iron at Jambuguri and a big, spacious school building at Gendeguri.

The Boro christian community has its weaknesses, but we believe that it is built on a firm foundation and should be able to weather a storm in case it should arise. It is not fully self supporting but has made great strides in the right direction. Village schools are a heavy liability and count for nearly one third of our total budget. We hope Local Boards by and by will be able to take over these schools. That will make a great difference.

Miss Somming is conducting a Confirmation Class for Santals and Mrs. Westborg for Boros. There are



five students in the latter, the smallest Class we ever had. As all our children are away at school, Mrs. Westborg has been able to go along and take part in village work, especially among women. Here at Gaorang she has taken her share at the different courses.

In addition to our daily devotions here at Gaorang there is a Sunday School, meetings in the church every Wednesday evening and Women's meetings every Friday as well as regular Sunday Services.

The most glorious event of the year took place in October when we had a family reunion in Shillong with our oldest son Per who was then working aboard the M. s. "Farifa." We spent five unforgettable days together before his ship proceeded on its way to Pakistan.

Apart from visitations, Bible Classes, Services etc. here in Gaorang Circle, we also once visited Kamrup District and twice Darrang District. In the latter we held a Bible Course in March with 24 participants, some of them teachers, eager young people with whom it was a pleasure to deal. All Boros are hospitable, but in Darrang they are especially warm hearted and thirsty for the Water of Life.

The most interesting experience during the year we also had in Darrang District. As the pastor had been busy with the translation work and not been there for some time, he had asked me among other things to solemnize a marriage. It took place at Shantipur (the place of peace). The bridegroom, Mr. Mondol Bosumatory, came from Jerusalem and there were a lot of wedding guests from Edenbari (the garden of Eden). Before the bridegroom and the guests were allowed into the court yard to have a look at the bride, Miss Kophathi Mosahari, they were stopped outside the

village and had to prove themselves Christians by singing a hymn. The leader of the party, a lanky, elderly Boro with a pack on his back and a lantern in one hand who reminded us of Abraham Lincoln, protested vigorously. But there was no other way to receive admittance. So they had a try and at last triumphantly entered the court yard where we were waiting. This was a custom that was entirely new to us and hence the more interesting.

Our earnest hope as we enter into another year of Grace is that we and the Boros may learn to sing the New Song that some day will give us admittance into the Wedding Party at the New Jerusalem where we shall see the Bridegroom face to face.

Anne Helene and David Westborg.

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## GAORANG CIRCLE

The past year was a good year. There has been no great trouble anywhere. In different congregations a number have been baptized from the non-christian community and added to the Church. We thank God for that.

The congregation at Bharotnagar, which was excommunicated, has again been admitted to the Gaorang Circle by its Conference, and Mr. Bhubani Laikhungari from Karigaon has been appointed as elder and teacher for the congregation and the school.

Circle Conferences have been held twice during the year, The first one was held at Boshguri from the 4th

to the 5th of April and the second one at Shilghagri on the 5th of October.

At the last Circle Conference a new congregation, Dulagaon, consisting of six families, was admitted to our Church. They used to belong to the Roman Catholic Church, but they found it too troublesome to go all the way to Barpeta Road, which is situated 100 miles away, for marriages and other church matters. Hence they asked to be admitted into our Church. Mr. Probhat Chandra Mosahary has been appointed elder for this congregation and all is well there.

A women's sabha was held at Mothambil from the 21st to the 24th February. It was well attended.

Upendro Mosahary  
Chairman.

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## JOEMA

“Purge out therefore the old leaven.”

(I Corinthians 5: 7)

In some congregations in the Eastern part of the Circle I am sorry to say that all has not been as well as we would have wished it to be. Some old leaven has been doing the damage. In Sohorpur we have had to dismiss one elder. The elder in Amguri who had been dismissed continued nevertheless to gather the congregation for Sunday services. But he discontinued this all of his own accord because he was no longer able to hide his immoral living. We are glad to report that there is now peace in the congregation. They have now received a new pastor in the area, namely

Pastor Budhan Hembrom who previously was an elder in Kamrup District. May God make him to be a blessing for the congregations over there.

The Pastor Ratu Marandi in Kolabari was pensioned this year. He has during the last years been sick and had defective vision. In his place we received Pastor Chatur Soren. It is the plan that he shall live in Atiabari where we now have been able to arrange with plot for building the parsonage. The work has been hindered because the roads and bridges are under repair. Until the parsonage is erected he supervises these congregations from Joema. Also in one of the congregations in this area there is an elder who might need to be relieved of his duties because he has not yet purged out the old leaven. He has been a stumbling block by following the non-christian practices at the time when a member of his family was taken ill. There is, therefore, a great deal of work awaiting the new pastor not only in the congregation but also among those outside the Christian community.

In the neighbourhood of Joema we have had the joy to see a few families being added to the congregation. Pastor James Soren who was elected President of the Assam Santal Church Council and in addition to this is assisting with the Bible Courses here in Joema has his hands more than full. We have received good help from Kisun Marandi to give instruction to those desiring baptism. He lives for the time being in Kolabari but we do hope that he may in due time be placed in Joema where we have open doors for the Gospel.

Pastor Arjun Murmu has been privileged to see much fruit of his work. He seems to enjoy his work and he has been fortunate in having the two able co-workers Themka and Singre by his side. In his congregation there are always those that are added to the

Christian community. The church in Rollghutu has become too small so they have now decided to build it bigger. It was a great encouragement for the congregation when we had the joy of handing over to them a nice church bell which was given by friends in Norway. The bell was installed just before Christmas well in time to ring in the Christmas Season. It was originally planned to give the bell to Dhorompur congregation but nearly all members of that congregation were compelled to move away as the forest department acquired the place. Only a few families have remained and the school is closed.

Also in Matiapara the school has been closed because our good teacher there, Isahak Tudu, died. For the elder, Sagram Baskey, the year has been full of trials. His wife was for some time very ill and we doubted that she would survive, but God was graceful to them. Sometime before Christmas they had the joy of receiving several families in the congregation.

As a whole it has to be said that it has not been a very good year as far as the village schools are concerned. Only in a few places the work seems to bear fruit. A new teacher has been appointed in Sohorpur but the local authorities are establishing schools round about. From those villages where the schools are not working satisfactorily the children are being sent to our boarding school in Joema. The local board has approved of a new teacher so that now three of the teachers in the lower primary school are getting their support from the local authorities. All together we have five teachers here in Joema School which goes up to Class VI. May God help our Christian teachers to feel their responsibilities so that the students may get the right foundation in life when they leave the school.

We have this year had four Bible Courses, one for elders and others interested, one for teachers, one for pastors and one out in Siripur village in the Eastern part for all the Christians in the surrounding villages. It is our hope that these courses have been a help to spiritual growth for some. It is our plan to have more such Bible Courses out in the congregations.

In seventeen different places the women have gathered for Friday meetings and collected their contributions.

In spite of scarcity of rain and disease among the cattle more has been paid in to the Circle Treasury this year than before and in addition to that the Christians have in some places all of their own collected money to rebuild their churches. This is a good sign for the future.

Let us pray to the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth labourers into His harvest. May He renew us by His Spirit and help us to purge out the old leaven. From our hearts go out a deepfelt thanks to all faithful friends in the homelands for their faithful work and intercession.

Asta and Petter R. Pedersen.

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## MORNAI

The year 1957 will be remembered as one of the most difficult years our Tea garden has ever experienced. In the spring everything promised to be well, but later on our output of tea was greatly reduced due to altogether insufficient rain. At the same time prices

of tea in the market came down to a very low level and we have had to dispose of our tea at prices well below the cost of production. Our expenditures for wages, taxes and other items are all fixed, and only in very few places can there be any possibilities of cuts. We, therefore, have to report that 1957 has been a year of crisis for the Tea garden, and at the end of the year prospects are far from bright.

At the time we went on furlough to America and Denmark none could foresee that so difficult times were ahead and it became the responsibility of Mr. and Mrs. Kurt Petersen to face the ordeals and the many complications that such a time of crisis naturally brought in. A new development also took place; our labourers organized themselves and became members of one of the big Trade Unions established for Plantation labourers. Almost all Tea garden labourers in India are now members of this or other Trade Unions (Assam alone has nearly 1000 tea-gardens, which are employing about 1 million workers). Naturally, we in Mornai always try to be up to the situation and try to follow all the new rules that are the result of modern labour legislation now being inaugurated in India.

It is of course, very natural that we are especially interested in labour welfare and all the new measures that are enforced for the benefit of the workers.

The only consideration in the present situation is in connection with the economical side of the matter, and one can only sincerely hope that the tea market may stabilize itself before too long in order that we may be able to continue without too great anxiety for the economical demands of the days to come.

New developments are quickly taking place in India, but we do hope that the happy relationship which has

always existed between Management and labourers in our tea-garden also will continue to remain unshaken during the years to come. The feeling of confidence between Management and employees is, of course, of principal importance in order to secure a peaceful development in all practical matters and also in order to secure the continuance of the Christian atmosphere among us. Only if that spirit can be preserved is there a possibility for mission work here.

Also with regard to better housing for our labourers are our ideals identical with the orders and rules adopted by Government. The erection of more and better houses for workers has continued during 1957 and little by little our villages inside the tea-garden are changing in appearance. Many of the old thatched houses are being replaced by more permanent quarters, houses with windows and other facilities giving more light and air into the houses than was possible in the old earth and straw houses. By and by the Santals and others are becoming used to and appreciate all these new arrangements.

The population of the Tea-Garden has now by and by become almost permanent. Previously we had a yearly influx of new workers from Bihar and other places. Yearly some left the garden to go out into the Santal Colony or to places outside the Colony to take up cultivation of land as independent farmers. Now all new land in this locality is about to be fully occupied and in most cases land has to be bought. Formerly one could have waste land free of charge. Under these circumstances people decide rather to remain and become permanent labourers who intend to stay on and have their homes of the future on the plantation. For many years past the tea-garden was only considered as a convenient station on the way to the goal of an



independent farmer's life somewhere in the Colony or outside this. Every Santal's natural desire is to become the owner of a piece of land; only by having his own land does he feel the future safe for him and his children. Now to change over and become satisfied as a permanent wage-earner requires quite a change in the mind of a Santal. The same is, of course, the case with the Mundas and other people here. But the change must now unavoidably take place.

The fact that the population does not change much any more has its influence on the Church and the Mission work. As there is no more a large influx of non-Christians, the number of people that are being baptized is becoming smaller. Some are, however, still being baptized. The new circumstances do, no doubt, offer a good opportunity for building up the congregation and consolidate the Church. Our Santal Pastor, Lokhon Hembrom, is much liked and respected among the Santals. He is now an old worker, who is well known in this locality. He is quite popular among the labourers.

For the Munda congregation Nehimias Topno is still the leader and our Bengali Church is looked after by Pastor Jacob Biswas, as before. After having had a cataract operation Jacob Biswas is again able to look after the work here and in the neighbouring Bengali speaking congregations.

Our school with 220 children and 8 teachers is still a great asset in the cultural and religious work. The Sunday schools with about 250 children enrolled is very encouraging.

Special meetings for women have had a good attendance and the weekly Friday gatherings for women are of great importance to the work.

Many meetings and gatherings have been regularly held in our Community Hall. Alternately we have had educational, entertaining and religious programmes and large crowds of Christians as well as non-Christians have attended.

As regards the health of the population of the tea-garden there has as usual been a great deal of sickness, especially during the hot and rainy season. There has mainly been Malaria and Dysentery and this year also an epidemic of Asiatic influenza. The treatment of T. B. patients has been continued on the same lines as previously and has given very encouraging and satisfactory results. Our Indian Doctor, Dr. Goldsmith, has had 29,127 consultations with 7,698 new cases. 311 patients have been admitted to our hospital. Mrs. Solveig Petersen has been doing a lot of work for the patients in the hospital and the villages.

Looking back on the past year there is much that we were not able to achieve, but the work has been done and at numerous occasions the Gospel has been proclaimed in speech, in song and also by pictures. We must believe that the Gospel has done its work in the hearts and minds of people here in Mornai.

We send our hearty thanks to all who have been remembering us and the work here at Mornai also during 1957.

Ingeborg and Oluf Eie.

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## SANTAL COLONY

Village and congregational work in the Colony during 1957 was both interesting and inspirational. The

annual gathering at Grahampur on the first day of the year was, as is customary, attended by several thousands of people from the various congregations. Rev. Eie, Nehemia Topno, and Sadhu D. N. Mitra were the main speakers at the open air meeting, and the theme developed by them set the key-note for our year's work. Emphasis was put on the need of personal faith and witness. It is all too easy for our people here to fall into the habit of "group thinking" --to think of faith in God and need of witness as matters concerning the community as a whole rather than individuals consciously dedicated to Christ.

To help bring about an awakening of our responsibilities along this line, Miss H. Milde kindly consented to come and spend 5 weeks with us during the rains. She conducted a series of meetings in each congregation which were well attended. Inspired by her methods of teaching and anxious to learn more about the same, we organized a special course for people interested in witnessing in villages and homes not yet reached by the Gospel. This too was well attended by pastors, preachers and laymen, and from the fellowship experienced there the need of organizing an evangelistic campaign was strongly felt. This was followed up a few months later when we invited Mr. Subodh Pandit to hold meetings and help us to organize an evangelistic committee. Representatives from all corners of the Assam Santal Church Council came to the meeting held in Joema. Pastors and laymen from Joema, Kamrup-Darrang, and Santipara Circles spoke with much enthusiasm about the changing of hearts of the Non-Christian Santals in their areas. So many were the enquiries and invitations to visit them that it is quite impossible for the present working staff there to take care of all the work. Hearing about this, we people from the Colony were much stirred, and several laymen

present offered their services (without pay) to help win these people for Christ. Colony Pastors also suggested that they themselves be used to teach the newcomers,—temporary relief from local congregational work could be managed. It was decided to send out a general call to lay men and women in the Colony, asking for volunteer teachers and preachers. To support this evangelistic drive we have asked our Colony congregations to hold special meetings to gain the prayer-backing that it must have, and to raise necessary funds outside the regular budget. We are going forward with this organized attempt to carry the Gospel of Light into an ever-increasing number of heathen homes, and pray that God may fill our Colony peoples' hearts with a zeal which in itself could be the beginning of a true revival here. We solicit the prayers of all readers, knowing full well that God will not fail or forsake those who call upon His blessed and holy Name.

With the increase in giving experienced during 1956, our Colony Circle raised its 1957 congregational budgets by approximately 25%. Working in faith that God would provide the increase, it is not surprising perhaps that we received far more than the hoped for increase. The final tally shows that 25% over and above the already increased budget was again realized in 1957! We are only sorry that this was not taken as a sign of God's desire for us to go on to even greater tasks for Him in 1958. Our leaders didn't have faith enough to ask in 1958 for the amount over-subscribed during this year. It will be interesting to see the effect this has on the work in 1958. I fear a season of apathy in giving, but pray that the evangelistic campaign may give us the necessary momentum to move steadily forward in every respect.

My predecessors in the office of Colony Superintendent would hardly recognize the local self-government

arrangement now in force. Divided under the Dindinga Rural Panchayat into 3 Primary Panchayats (Haraputa Ransupur, Grahampur), all problems and disputes of people relating to the legal are first sent to the Primary Panchayat for settlement. If not resolved there, the matter is forwarded to the Rural Panchayat. Though they lack actual judicial power to enforce decisions, the weight of public opinion is usually strong enough to bring the parties concerned into final agreement. Many still seek advice or help, and some difficult cases have to be dealt with through the Superintendent's office, but with much of the secular work now taken care of by the Panchayats we have been able to shift the main emphasis of our work to the affairs of Church. Government officials are watching the developments here with interest. On several occasions it has been suggested that the Colony Superintendent be given legal power to settle categories of disputes according to Santal custom. This arrangement existed a number of years ago, I understand. If we were able to appoint a Santal qualified to carry the responsibilities of such a position I would recommend that this be done. It would benefit the Santals much if they didn't have to waste large sums of money and much time carrying their cases to Dhubri and Kokrajhar, but the day is past, I feel, for a missionary to take up this work again.

Harold N. Riber.

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## PARKIJULI

Housebuilding and increase of medical work were the outstanding features in Parkijuli the past year. All

old grass and mudhuts for our workers, although miraculously saved from gutting junglefire in early spring, they collapsed later even upon the heads of our people during heavy winds and rains. So along with the erection of the medical unit, we had to construct permanent houses for our helpers. In spite of heavy rains, bad roads and many other difficulties arising when building so far off the main road, we are very thankful that a nice medical unit complex, two duplexes for four families and one little house for our gardener were completed within the year.

Great was our joy when two families with several children could move inside a nice tinroofed house before the onset of the monsoons. Even greater was the gladness of all people here on the 90 years' anniversary day of our Mission on September 26th, when the medical work could move into the new site with ample rooms for compounder, dressing, laboratory work, office and four rooms with eleven beds for bedridden patients, and even one separate room for small operations and delivery cases. People were coming with their diverse ailments. The number of in-door patients came to 193, and out-door treatments to 5,833. In this group were 3,930 Santals, 740 Boros, 1,043 Nepalis, 70 Bhutanese, and 50 Tibetans. These figures show the need for this kind of medical work here. We extend our thanks to the friends at Elk Horn, Iowa, who took the initiative and to all other friends in our homelands for support in prayers and offerings. We now have got the house and patients are coming, and we are aiming at self-support for this work. Our Boro compounder, Komolkanto, and his helper, the Bhutanese boy, Dodjee are both very faithful and interested in the medical work and this opportunity for further training. They also shoulder their equal responsibility every day in

devotions for the patients which are held in Santali, Hindi and Assamese alternately.

#### CONGREGATIONAL WORK:

Also in this sphere we saw some encouraging signs during last year. Our knowledge in Boroni is little, although we tried even forcibly to sit down for a couple of morning hours for Boroni studies most of the year—preparing our-selves for the first examination. As Maguram Pastor is tied up with travelling as President of the Boro Church Council, trying to visit all other Boro congregations and helping in translation of the Old Testament, I was asked by the Boro Church Council to give a helping hand in ministerial work to the three Boro congregations here. This also helps for the concentration on the language, but my share in this work is rather meager. In the spring the church in West Parkijuli was gutted in a junglfire. But on 19th December we were able to dedicate their nice, new church twice the size of the old one. So even a junglfire can do some good, and we hope that the inner life of the congregation also will prosper.

Christmas Day gave us great joy when Maguram Pastor baptized six Boro children and also the Bhutanese boy, Kotscha. This year he has been suffering very much as he in January got a third degree burns, when he fell unconscious on the open fireplace during an attack of brain malaria when helping us at Darranga Hat mela. After nine to ten months in bed here and in Gauhati Mission Hospital, he was able to start attending school here in the end of November. He is a fine smiling youth, who may be of a help for his countrymen in the future, along with Soonam Paul and Dodjee. Soonam is studying in Dr. Graham's School in Kalimpong and he has expressed interest for compounder work and will like to start training for this next year.

He is working hard and is doing quite well in his class, but we are afraid he is not bright enough for studies beyond Middle School, which he hopes to read up to in 1958.

In the Santal field we also noticed a greater interest for spiritual life. Parkijuli Mission may never get a Santal congregation, as it is rather far off from their villages. But the solution may be small scattered village congregations. Every Sunday morning we have conducted a short service in Santali, mostly held on the dispensary verandah, thus giving best opportunity for in-patients and their relatives to attend.

On November 25th we were happy to welcome a new Santal congregation some 15 miles to the east in Kalajhar or Behongopur village, when 2 families of 13 members were baptized by our young Santal pastor for Kamrup and Darrang, Mongol Besra, and P. Pedersen from Joema. One elderly Santal, Joseph, of that village, who was baptized long ago by Jalpa Pastor in Dinajpur, was received back into the fold on his humble confession of being a lost sheep. This small, new congregation of 14 members we hope will soon increase, as another couple of families are considering to join them. They have also promised to build a new church in the midst of their village by their own means, which most probably will be ready for dedication at Easter.

Great was our joy on Christmas morning when about 80 Santali speaking people entered our nicely decorated church for Santal services. Only a few of them were Christians. The rest were fallen ones and from among the heathens. Still it was very encouraging for us and promising for the future, as we also now have obtained a full time elder here as instructor and preacher for the villagers.



We are also planning for the Santali Bible Course in the middle of February, 1958, the very first of its kind in this area. We hope the Santals will come for staying together here for one week, and the Glads and P. Pedersens will be helping us along with Mongol Pastor. More knowledge of Bible and the main teaching of our Christian faith is felt badly needed.

#### SCHOOL WORK :

In this field the work is progressing. Part of the year we had one trained teacher, and the roll of pupils in Parkijuli is raised to above 50. Now it has been decided to raise the standard to Middle English School and the lack of trained teachers will be somewhat removed when a Christian headmaster from Gaorang will arrive in the beginning of 1958. Private contributions are being collected for a permanent school house of 60' + 22'. Also a new headmaster's house will be erected on the school ground, and the old school house will be converted into a boarding, which is felt to be much needed. Then there also may be a better opportunity for the Santals to send their children, when boarders can be accepted.

#### DEWANGIRI AND DARRANG HAT MELA :

In Dewangiri the school has been going on with Mr. N. J. Dann as teacher and a little above 20 pupils. The roof of our house there was badly damaged by storm last spring, so we had to pay a bill of more than Rs. 100.00 for banana leaves for the new roof. From the 1st of January, 1958, the Dewangiri school is directly under the Boro Church Council, which may prove to be good for the future. During January and February, when so many hill people are coming down to Darranga Hat marketing, Mr. Dann and helpers were there for speaking to them, distributing leaflets

and parts of the Bible and other Scriptures in several languages, among others in Bhutanese and Tibetan. May God's blessing rest upon this work also, which is exceptional in our Mission.

As the Missionary Conference in 1957 asked us to move to Sevapur when Dr. Andersens are going on furlough in April, we are glad to know that the Landsverks being our successors, are very interested in the Parkijuli work. We already now extend a hearty welcome to them from us all here, hoping they will be able to reach here after the rains.

Thanks are due to all friends of this place in our homelands and in India, for their year long faithful prayer and support, without which we should not have been able to do our work.

Edel and Magnus Haugstad.

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# EDUCATIONAL WORK IN ASSAM.

## GRAHAMPUR HIGH SCHOOL

Results were as follows: 4 out of 11 passed the matriculation exam., and a 5th student qualified for the supplementary in one subject. Middle School results were better with 21 out of 23 passing. We were happy to welcome Anil Jha back to the teaching staff at the beginning of the year. He had been away for about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years on study leave in America, and has returned after completing his B. A.. Another important event in the life of the school (and the community) was the election of our Headmaster, Mathias Tudù to the State Legislative Assembly. This will occupy much of the Headmaster's time no doubt, but we have been able to work out an arrangement which to date has been quite satisfactory. The student body increased to 205, and the Government continued to grant us financial help for which we are indeed grateful.

We are thankful to God for the manifold blessings received throughout the year. We here in the Colony and the High School wish to thank all friends, near and far, for the faithful support and all help received.

Harold N. Riber.

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## HARAPUTA MIDDLE ENGLISH SCHOOL

Looking back on the year 1957 I am reminded of the blessing, which Moses gave to Asher: "As thy days

so shall thy strength be". Those words have been proved true again this year, the Lord has given strength as it was needed, He has been with us in His work also in the School.

By the end of April Miss B. Austad left for furlough in Norway and I had to take her place as Principal of the School. I have not taken any part in the actual teaching, as there has been no time for that, but I am very thankful to report, that the work has gone on as usual, thanks to the very good co-operation of all the teaching staff. Without their help and goodwill it would have been impossible for me to take the responsibility of the School. Miss Kusum Murmu has been a good help as Assistant Headmistress and been responsible for the daily running of the school and Miss Louise Hasdak' has gradually taken over all the work in the boarding, that is looking after the supply, giving out of food etc. etc., and receiving new students in the boarding.

During the year 60 new children were admitted into the school either as day scholars or boarding students, the average number of children in the school during the year was 169.

Some changes in the teaching staff took place during the year. Miss Emily Soren was released from her services for 10 months, in order to attend the Martha Maria School at Chondorpura, In August Miss Susilla Hembrom came back from Teachers' Training School to take up her work with us again.

According to the Second Five-years-plan many of Government's rules for Education have been changed; one of them being higher salaries for all the teachers and another higher standard of education for the teaching staff. These rules are now being enforced and

that has of course started some speculations and it will require some changes in the future, we hope for the betterment for our school too.

In November 10 students were sent up for their Middle-School-examination, but the results are not yet known.

We had the last couple of years been looking forward to the day when we could rebuild one of the old boarding houses, which was unusable as it was. The material was gathered and when we saw how new students came in, we understood, that it had to be now. We could not crowd them into the three boarding houses, as we had been doing the last years. It was, therefore, a great joy to us all when we on the 4th of April could open and dedicate a nice new boarding house, which can house about 25 students. The 4th April was also our Prize- and Sports day. During the year we had an average of 85 boarding students, more than we have had for quite a number of years. Another celebration was the annual School-picnic which was on Republic day. This year we went to the Sankosh river.

The health of the students has been good. We have had no serious illness, but one girl had to return home 2 weeks after she came from her Christmas vacation. She had T. B.. We are glad to hear that she has improved and is well again.

As in former years we have received Gran-in-Aid from Government of Rs. 80 per month, and besides this also Rs. 200- for Equipment for School and Boarding. For these we are thankful.

During the Easter vacation two School girls were baptized, the one a daughter of christian parents, was baptized at Sevapur where she belongs and the other, an older girl, was baptized together with her family

in her home village. It is always an inspiration for us here, when some of our girls become Christians. We thank Our Lord for each one who enters into His Kingdom and ask Him to keep them and us all as His, that we may live and work to His Glory.

In closing this report I want to thank all our friends for their support both in means and prayer, We have felt that we are not alone in the work. We have supporters at home too, and above all, we have Him who gives the strength and the wisdom "as the day is"; Glory be to His name.

Elsabeth Krohn.

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## BORO CHURCH COUNCIL

First of all, I am glad to report that a Bhutanese boy named Kotcha Lama became Christian and was baptized on the 25th December, 1957, at the East Par-kijuli Church in Kamrup District. He had passed his class III Examination from the Dewangiri Bhutanese Lower Primary School in the year 1956. Now he would like to proceed his studies further in any Hindi Middle English School provided he gets a financial help from the Mission.

It is to rejoice in the Lord that the Boro Church Council's field of work is gradually extending through the length and breadth of Assam, even reaching the region of Bhutan. But the workers are few, quite inadequate to meet the urgent need of the church. I, therefore, appeal to all my consecrated colleagues to please remember the Boros and the growing work in your prayers to the Lord so that God may grant to

the Boros the blessing of obtaining a Bible School in their own language.

I am also aware of the fact that the Boros, living in the districts of Nowgong and Cachar are eager to have some Boro missionaries to bring the Gospel to them. But there is no Boro missionary nor any preacher being sent out to those areas for the aforesaid purpose until now.

Problems and difficulties are always present in the Boro congregations from the beginning until now. However, even in the midst of difficulties, the church did not fail; but rather increased day by day and we, as workers have been able to win the joy, peace and strength in the Lord, and thus we dare go ahead in the service of the Lord. For the Lord, from the beginning has watched and looked after the infant Boro congregations with His infinite mercy and strength, and has saved us all from temptations and sins.

I hope and trust that this year also the Almighty Father will guide us through with His spirit as He did in the past years.

Maguram Mosahari  
President.

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## GAORANG SCHOOL

The school at Gaorang has been suffering for several years from lack of qualified staff for the upper classes. Consequently the enrollment decreased through the years. The New Year 1957 had a very bad start. Pupils were slow in returning from vacation, only a

few new students were admitted, and we were badly in need of graduate teachers.

But we saw great changes during the year. In April Mr. Uttam Ch. Brahma, B. Sc., joined the staff as Headmaster of the High School Venture, and on departure of Mr. Naba Das, Undergraduate, Mr. Brahma was appointed Headmaster of the Government-aided Middle English school also. He has shown very great interest in the progress of the different departments.

In November another graduate teacher, Mr. Gohin Ch. Bosumathari, B. A. joined the staff. Two former teachers of the school, Miss Rupashri Borgwary, Matr. Sen. Tr., and Miss Thomsri Bosumathary M. E. Jun. Tr., returned during the year, and the staff was also strengthened by the arrival of Mr. Mojibur Rahman Sorker, who has studied upto I. A.

The results of the M. E. Examination came in March and showed 6 passed. All the candidates continued in High School. As the result of the Government Primary Scholarship Examination 2 students were granted Primary Scholarship. One student received special Scholarship from Government.

Of the 115 students on the roll only 35-40 resided in the hostel all through the year. The health of that group was very good. We had no serious illness among them except in a couple of cases during the great influenza epidemic, which arrived here just before summer vacation.

It has been a joy to see how the students conducted their morning and evening devotions in the boarding and Sunday afternoon meetings in the school hall. The teachers have taken full charge of the morning devotions in school and have also been faithful



in the work in Sunday School and weekly prayer meetings in the church. I am very thankful to my co-workers and students for the help they give in keeping the Christian standard in the school.

In closing I wish to express our thanks to the friends at home who have made it possible to build and run this institution. I pray and hope that it will be not only a centre of worldly knowledge for the communities here, but that the light of the Word of God may shine forth to the surrounding area.

I also want to thank the Government of Assam for help in the past year.

Will you all join with us in the prayer that the work here at Thajoubari may progress according to the will of God.

Solveig Somming.

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# MEDICAL WORK IN ASSAM.

## SANTIPARA LEPROSY COLONY

When one recalls this past year and previous years, one is filled with thankfulness for the privilege of having been permitted to work for and among the lepers. We could not have desired a more interesting, richer or satisfying task.

One of the reasons for our thankfulness is that we have had several good co-workers. We here extend a special sincere thanks to Pastor Nimbai Murmu who this year has been transferred from Santipara to Mokenaguri. He was the first who settled on the Santipara land before we really started to build here at the end of the year 1938. What he has done and been for the work as a whole, for patients, co-workers and for us personally is very much appreciated. Among the other co-workers to whom we would express a strong word of thanks is Sister Lucile Frickson. She has given herself unsparingly in the service and shown a real concern and care for the patients. Sister Lucil was replaced by Betty Ann Jorgensen when she left for America on furlough the 31st of December. It is a joy that Santipara again in Betty Ann Jorgensen received a nurse who feels a special call to work among the lepers.

This year we have had 273 patients for treatment in the colony and 397 in the out-door clinic. In addition to these we have treated 230 patients in our little hospital for nonlepers and 6580 patients in Santipara Out-Door Clinic.

The farming gave a fair crop this year also in spite of the fact that the low land rice crop failed. We obtained 1538 maunds of "asudhan" (High land rice). For the first time this year a fair share of jute was cultivated and we did not by far manage to harvest it all and wash it out before the year closed. We have also cultivated some "sesamum" seeds which yielded some income.

From the Ministry of Health, New Delhi, we received the amount of Rs. 11,000.- for a little X-Ray plant. This was put into use in April. Thanks to an allotment of Rs. 5,000.- from the Santal Mission we have this year been able to build a T. B. ward. The ward is situated near the dispensary building. We are happy to move the T. B. patients from the hospital and other patients from the dispensary by which a big room in the dispensary building was made available and has been made into a reading room for the patients. Here we have table tennis, other games and a few books and magazines. We have a slide projector but wish that we had many good books and a radio.

The Government of Assam, the Santal Mission and the Mission to Lepers have contributed the same financial support for the running of the colony this year as last year. Our appreciation for this is best expressed to those who visit the colony, but also in this report we do want to express our deepfelt thanks.

The new Deputy Commissioner of Goalpara District, Mr. Bhatnagar, and the new Superintendent of Police, Mr. Subramanian, visited the colony on the 20th and 25th October respectively. It was a great joy for us to notice that they both showed great interest in this institution and the work that is being done here. We thank them for the great concern they had for the patients and for their kindness to us all.

On the last day of the year we had to say good-bye to our patients and co-workers and set out for Norway. To leave that and those who one loves is never pleasant, but there came a little comforting atmosphere of thanks over the sadness of the departure and thanks which took its expression in praise to Him who promised to be with us all days and who so definitely has kept his promise to such a great extent.

It was a great relief to give over the leadership of Santipara to Rev. and Mrs. Kurt Petersen who know the work here from before. We wish them and their co-workers every success and God's richest blessing.

Bergljot and Gunnar Fosslund.

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## SEVAPUR HOSPITAL

Once again we have the privilege to report on a happy work with many opportunities, and many reasons for being thankful. This year also the work in the hospital has developed well, as will be shown in detail in the statistical appendix.

Just before Christmas 1956, we have had the joy of seeing the new block with the spacious, good rooms for the surgical work and for our newly repaired X-ray machine being finished. The whole year 1957 we have been able to work here under so much better conditions both for the staff and the patients. Now we can hardly understand how we managed to operate safely in the old, cramped theatre, and how we managed to keep clean and dirty clothes and instruments apart is a complete wonder to us. The X-ray work, although still only in the raw beginning, is an extremely valuable help in the work, especially in the growing tu-

berculosis clinic. From the very beginning this work was put on a self paying basis. And as soon as we had paid for the few, unfortunately rather expensive items we had to get before we could start working, it has been running on this basis.

Early in 1957, the Indian staff nurses' quarters were completed. We have now one Santal trained nurse here, but have room for one more, which, however, it is very difficult to get. Nurses are scarce in India, and offers from Government hospitals and other highly paying agencies are many. It is difficult for mission hospitals with limited funds to attract the right type of girls. We were lucky in securing the help of a trained nurse from Mohulpahari Hospital. Miss Grace Hembrom has now been on the staff for one year. She is the daughter of an influential member of our church in Santal Parganas. It is a real joy to accept a trained nurse from our own community. She has proved a good help for Miss Fiske in coping with the many duties in the nursing programme. The hospital has for a long time been staffed with two missionary nurses and a number of locally trained nurses' aides. This is in many ways a happy solution, although it must be admitted that it throws too much work on the senior nurses. Since Miss Ella Malterud went on furlough we have only had one missionary nurse. Although the number of trained nurses is the same as it was before, it is still too little. This is not only because it is not fair to expect an Indian nurse to look at her work in the same way as a missionary, who after all has left her home country and taken up this work under conditions that are vastly different from what she has been trained to and what she could have expected in her home country, but also because the work in the hospital is growing steadily, which not only is a call to extra work from the medical

officer, but also from the nursing staff. Early in 1957 one of our male nurse students, Peter Kisku, a young Santal, went to Arogyavaram for training in laboratory work at the Union Mission Tuberculosis Sanatorium. At the same time a new compounder joined the staff. He is a Christian Boro from our own church, and has for a number of years worked in Santipara Leprosy Colony.

The work in the hospital has grown steadily in all respects. May be the most noteworthy development has been the rapid growth of our ophthalmic work. We have now 2 full years of experience with this type of work here. It did take a few months for the public to realize the possibilities of this new service, and may be also to forget about their fear and anxiety for this rather terrifying procedure of having "your eyes cut open" as they say. What was started with the idea mainly of caring for the patients with cataracts developed into a regular ophthalmic work, where we are being called upon to treat a vast number of different eye diseases, including many surgical cases. The medical practitioners of this area, both the private practitioners and the government medical officers have been very interested in this work. A fairly large proportion of the cases who came for treatment of eye diseases, are being sent by their own local doctors. The hospital is now recognized as a regular eye hospital by the medical authorities.

The growth of the hospital work means a pressure on the staff, who have to carry the responsibility of both the senior staff, diagnosis, therapy and nursing care, and the junior staff, who also get their big share of the heavier work. It is more and more difficult for the nurses to care adequately for all the sick, when we have sick people not only in all the beds but down the verandas in

every available corner. Nursing care is more than just putting a patient to bed and recording temperature and B. M.. As it is now, we have too few beds, far too few beds. It is a daily experience to tell people who come often long distances with urgent cases for operation or serious diseases which it is virtually impossible to treat without hospitalization, that they will have to wait, may be several days under a tree in the hospital compound. And we have really too few nurses for the beds we do have. I want to take this opportunity to express my sincere admiration for our nurses, not only the senior nurses Miss Asbjorg Fiske and Miss Grace Hembrom, but also the nurses' aides for the untiring and good work they do. The many patients in the out patients' clinic, the crowded wards and the high number of operations is a heavy job for one medical officer to cope with. This is no complaint. For actually what can be a more happy situation in a mission hospital than being asked to do so much, but it is too much for the facilities available. But it must also be made quite clear that if a mission hospital is to keep the reputation of being a place where it is worth while going with your ailments, then we can not continue to staff these hospitals in such a way that you have to hurry through the work at a speed of a few minutes per patient. An adequate number of both nurses and doctors is an absolute necessity, both for the care of the sick, and also for the maintenance of the hospital. We are now in an age where an ever more persistent stress is being placed upon the undesirability of foreign money in the Christian enterprises in this country. You may or may not agree with the principle of a self-supporting mission hospital, but you can not get by the fact that we simply must provide a bigger and bigger share of our annual budget from Indian sources, which for all practical purposes will have to come from our patients. And unless they get really good service they

will not continue to come to the mission hospital and pay for services rendered.

The life of the Sevapur congregation has run smoothly on the same lines as the year before. We have no ordained people in the compound, so the leadership has naturally come into the hands of people elected from amongst the congregation. This is a very happy solution, and one that gives promise of an active and interested congregation. We have now for quite some time not had any appointed evangelist in the hospital. Our witness to the many non-Christian people who come here is one part of the hospital life which we really would like to strengthen, although we are not blind to the fact that our common prayer in the hospital in the morning, the Bible parts that are being sold here, and the quiet witness of happy Christians living and working together, is something we should be thankful for.

Let this be the greeting from Sevapur: "Rejoice into the Lord always."

Johs. G. Andersen.

#### STATISTICAL APPENDIX.

Total no. of consultations :	18438
No. of indoor patients :	1130
No. of men :	12258
No. of women :	5180
No. of Christians	4286
No. of Muslims	4959
No. of Hindus and tribal non-Christians	9293
No. of treated malaria cases :	1652
No. of cases of diagnosed tuberculosis	152



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No. of patt. in regular tbc. treatment per 31. 12. 57	57
Total no. of confinements :	114
No. of confinements, requiring major surgery	20
No. of cataract extractions :	144
No. of other ophthalmic operations	95
Other operations than those mentioned	222
No. of women in ante natal care :	104
No. of patt. sent for laboratory examinations	4193
No. of deaths in hospital :	28
No. of regular beds	28
Average length of hospitalization	8.3 day.

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### HARAPUTA MISSION DISPENSARY

The year 1957 proved a very busy year for the Dispensary, but it was busy right through the year with no set special busy season, so the work went on quietly and steadily. Last year we had talked about getting more help in the daily work, and when I was asked to take over the leadership of the Middle School here, we had to get more help in order to relieve me from some of the Dispensary work. In February we got a young man, Alphae Murmu to help us. He lives in a nearby village, and he has proved a good help during the year. But even so, the two older Compounders, Jotin Das and Sitol Soren have had more than ever to do in the Dispensary. But they have been willing and trustworthy and done a very good job.

The statistics for the year are as follows :

Leprosy treatments given 5,289 with 133 on roll.  
Other treatments „ 15,176  
among these 41,24 per cent were Mohammedans ..

25, 9 per cent	were	Hindus
20, 2 per cent	„	Christians
12, 66 per cent	„	Non-Christian Santals & Boros

village visits	33
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in-door patients	28
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normal confinements	14
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abnormal „	6
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5,964 patients was treated for malaria = 29,28 %

17 patients got regularly treatment for T. B.

As can be seen from the statistics the number of Leprosy patients are still on the increase. The year started with 104 on roll and ended with 133. The Government is doing quite a lot of work to round up untreated patients in villages and in trying to get these under treatment. Quite a number of these people then come to us for help. In the spring Clement Sangma from Santipara came and examined all the Leprosy patients. Also we have got all our medicines for these patients through Santipara Leprosy Colony.

We are still enjoying a very good co-operation with Sevapur Hospital with interchanging of patients for examination and treatment where it is most convenient for the patient. This has especially been the case with T. B. treatment. We send all T. B. patients to Dr. Andersen for examination and advice, and then we treat them here. Also if a patient who has to have this long treatment is nearer Haraputa, Dr. Andersen sends his patients here for treatment with occasional check up at Sevapur. This has been a very good help in our work here. We have had 17 patients for regular T. B. treatments here during the year.

During the summer we had the Asia flu here round about. Only one case proved fatal, and that was only

indirectly caused by the flu. The patient was one of our compound-workers who had been suffering from liver trouble for some time and this got so much worse during the flu, that he died in Sevapur Hospital. He had been with us for 8-9 years.

Regarding the work in this big congregation, it may be reported that it has gone on steadily during the year, led by our Pastor Kanhu Tudu. The women's meetings around in the small villages have been conducted as in former years. In some places they have gathered regularly, in other places they have not quite been so steady in the attendance.

The confirmation classes have been conducted as in former years, the boys taught by our Evangelist Josya Murmu, and the girls by the Pastor's wife, a teacher and myself. In May 55 were confirmed and 12 adults were baptized. The Sunday schools have gone on as before. In January we had over 300 children here for a Sunday school gathering.

In conclusion we want to thank our friends who have been with us in the work, and to say, that He who send us to "heal the sick cleanse the lepers—and to preach" He has been with us, and we believe that He has used and will use also our hands in healing and in making His Kingdom to come. May it be according to His good will.

Elisabeth Krohn.

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# EBENEZER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 1957.

GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT : O. S. BJERKESTRAND  
CHURCH OFFICE, P. O. BENAGARIA, SANTAL PARGANAS.

## SYNOD

President : General Superintendent  
Vice-President : Rev. Jonas Hasdak', P.O. Baingachi  
Atg. Secretary : Rev. K. R. Ghose.

Members :

*Santal Parganas Church Council :*

President, Rev. Bhikulal Hasdak', Rev. Suphol Hembrom, Mr. Raska Murmu (substitute for Mr. Benjamin Pauria ).

*From North Bengal Church Council :*

President, Rev. Jonas Hasdak', Pargana K. C. Tudu, Mr. Ruben Soren.

*From Assam Santal Church Council :*

President, Rev. James Soren, Mr. Daniel Soren, Mrs. R. Kisku.

*From Boro Church Council :*

President, Rev. Maguram Mosahary, Mr. Dinesh Narjary, Rev. Malsing Mosahary.

*From Bengali Church Council :*

President, Rev. K. R. Ghose, Rev. J. A. Roy, Mr. Prafulla K. Dutta.

TRUSTEES :

Rev. A. E. Stronstad, Rev. O. Eie, and Rev. H. Riber.

MISSIONARY CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVE :

Rev. G. Fosslund.

## SANTAL PARGANAS CHURCH COUNCIL

President : Rev. Bhikulal Hasdak', Dumka.

Secretary : Rev. W. Glad.

Members : (The first mentioned is Circle Chairman)

- Kaerabani Circle :** Rev. Suphol Hembrom, Mr. Ram Murmu, Mr. Bhonde Soren.
- Dumka Circle :** Rev. Bhikulal Hasdak', Rev. Joseph Hasdak', Rev. Bajun Murmu, Mr. Raska Murmu.
- Jubdi Circle :** Rev. Abraham Murmu, Mr. Philip Hembrom, G. Hasdak', Rev. Joseph Marndi.
- Baniapasar Circle :** Mr. Joseph Soren, Mr. Phagu Marndi.
- Sultanabad Circle :** Rev. Bhiku Tudu, Mr. Daniel Soren, Rev. I. Hoyland.
- Mohulpahari Circle :** Rev. Nicodim Marndi, Mr. Simon Soren, Rev. W. Glad.
- Benagaria Circle :** Rev. A. K. Jensen, Mr. Enos Hembrom, Mr. K. Kisku, Mr. B. Tudu.

## PASTORS UNDER THIS CHURCH COUNCIL

- Johon Hasdak', 1933, Koroya, P. O. Dumka.
- Karan Soren, 1934, Benagaria, P. O. Benagaria.
- Naran Soren 1934, Chondorpura, P. O. Katikund.
- Bhikulal Hasdak', Mission House, Dumka,
- Bhagon Murmu, 1938, Beldanga, Murshidabad.
- Bajun Murmu, 1939, Dhorompur, P. O. Kumrabad.
- Sibram Marndi, 1938, Dum, P. O. Gando.
- Joseph Hasdak' 1940, Ranga P. O. Lakrapahari.
- Suphol Hembrom, 1941, P. O. Kaerabani.
- Munshi Hembrom, 1941, Lukhipokhor, P. O. Pakuria.

John Jujhar Soren, 1941.  
 Ruben Soren, 1941, Jithia, P. O. Deocha, Birbhum.  
 Peter Murmu, 1943, Maharo, P. O. Dumka.  
 Mongol Besra, 1946, Jambua, P. O. Garsara.  
 Chaitan Soren, 1947, Simoldohi, P. O. Debinagar.  
 Bhiku Tudu, 1948, Haripur P. O. Pakuria.  
 Abraham Murmu, 1948, Ranga, P. O. Amrapara.  
 Salhae Marndi, 1948, Saldoha, P. O. Mohulpahari.  
 Munshi Marndi, 1951, Dhobona, P. O. Kaerabani.  
 Nitanondo Marndi, 1952 Honja, P. O. Baskuli.  
 Joseph Marndi, 1953, Tarni, P. O. Pakuria.  
 Nicodim Marndi, 1953, Mission House, Mohulpahari.  
 Lodo Hasdak' 1955, Sapadoha, P. O. Sarasdangal.  
 Munshi M. Tudu, Santal Divinity School.  
 Siblal Hasdak', Tilabani. P. O. Asanbani.  
 Ranglal Kisku       "       "       "  
 Amdi Murmu, Kakjol, P. O. Pakuria.

## NORTH BENGAL CHURCH COUNCIL

President : Jonas Hasdak', Rajadighi  
 Vice " : Rev. O. Dordal, Bagsarai Mission.  
 Secretary : Ruben Soren.  
 Members :

### *India Side :*

Malda-Purnea Circle : Rev. Jaeram Hasdak', Rev. Jonas Hasdak', Rev. O. Dordal, Mr. Davidson Hembrom.  
 W. Dinajpur Circle : Rev. Munki Murmu, Rev. John Marndi, Mr. Ruben Soren, Mr. Bamroy Tudu.

### *Pakistan Side :*

E. Dinajpur Circle : Rev. Budhrai Hasdak', Mr. Daniel Marndi, Mr. Paul Hasdak'.

Rajshahi Circle : Rev. Samson Tudu, Pargana K.  
C. Tudu, Mr. Seth Hembrom.

## PASTORS UNDER THIS CHURCH COUNCIL

Budhrai Hasdak', 1937, Jogdol, P. O. Dhamoirhat, Rajshahi, E. P.

Jonas Hasdak', 1947, Rajadighi, P. O. Bairgachi, Malda.

Munsi Murmu, 1947, Narayanpur, P. O. Teor, W. Dinajpur.

Jaeram Hasdak' 1947, Khoribari, P. O. Kendpukur, Malda.

John Marndi, 1955, Duba-Narayanpur, P. O. Gangarampur.

Samson Tudu, 1957, Badhair, P. O. Mundumalahat Rajshahi, E. P.

## ASSAM SANTAL CHURCH COUNCIL

President : James H. Soren, Joema Mission.

Vice-Pres : Rev. O. Eie, Mornai.

Secretary : Mr. Mathias Tudu, Grahampur.

### Members :

Colony-Mornai Circle: Mr. D. Soren, Mr. M. Tudu, Mr. & Mrs. L. Baske, Rev. H. N. Riber, Rev. L. Hembrom, Rev. O. Eie.

Joema Circle : Rev. J. H. Soren, Rev. P. Pedersen, Rev. C. Soren, Mr. Kanhu Marndi.

Santipara Circle : Rev. N. Murmu, Mr. Jetha Murmu, Mr. Samu Baske.

Kamrup-Darrang Cir.: Rev. Sirmath Marndi, Mr. Somae Soren, Rev. Budhon Hembrom.

Dingdinga Circle : Rev. J. Biswas, Mr. K. Roy, Rev. S. Mediar,

## PASTORS UNDER THIS CHURCH COUNCIL

Lokhon Hembrom, 1930, Mornai, P. O. Dingdinga.  
 Kanhu Tudu, 1939, Haraputa, P. O. Haraputa.  
 Nimbai Murmu, 1941, Moknaguri, P. O. Barabazar.  
 Ruben Murmu, 1942, Ransupur, P. O. Dingdinga.  
 Jatu Murmu, 1942, Bilanpur, P. O. Dingdinga.  
 James H. Soren, 1942, Joema, P. O. Gossaingaon.  
 Sirmath Marndi, 1944, Hingaon P. O. Udalguri.  
 Ratu Marndi, 1944, Kolabari vill. P. O. Serphanguri.  
 Chatur Soren, 1948, Dobragaon vill. P. O. Haltugaon.  
 Choto S. Murmu, 1948, Grahampur, P. O. Dingdinga.  
 Arjun Murmu, 1951, Janali Dhorompur, P. O. Kochugaon.  
 Jacob Biswas, 1952, Mornai, P. O. Dingdinga.  
 Gupinath Hembrom, 1954, Santipara, P. O. Bongaigaon.  
 Budhon Hembrom, 1957, Dobragaon, P. O. Haltugaon.  
 Mongol Besra, 1957, Hingaon, Udalguri.  
 Sonaram Mediar, 1957, Sosoghutu, Dingdinga.

## BORO CHURCH COUNCIL

President : Maguram Moshahari, Parkijuli.

Vice-Pres.: David Westborg, Gaorang.

Secretary : Dinesh Chandra Narjary.

Treasurer : Rev. H. Halvorsurd.

Members :

Gaorang Circle : Rev. Upendra Mosahari, Rev. Tarini  
 Iswari, Mr. Mukhiram Bosumatary,  
 Mr. Mohendra Borgawary, Mr.  
 Hejon Basumatary, Mr. Govind  
 Narjari, Mr. Norendra Basumatary,

Bongaigaon Circle : Rev. Malsing Mosahari,  
 Mr. Baisaram Narjari, Mr. Mohendra  
 Narjari, Mr. Rajeswar Basumatary,  
 Mr. Romesh Ch. Narjary.

Kamrup Circle : Rev. Maguram Mosahary, Mr.  
 Jogendra Narjari,



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Darrang & North

Lukhimpur Circle : Mr. Bangda Basumatary, Mr. Bahadur Goiary, Mr. Joseph Goiary, N. Lakhimpur.

### PASTORS UNDER THIS CHURCH COUNCIL

Tarani Iswary, 1942, Gaorang, P. O. Haltugaon.

Maguram Mosahary, 1945, Parkijuli, Menoka.

Upendro Mosahary, 1945, Goladangi, Haraputa.

Malsing Mosahary, 1947, Bongaigaon, Bongaigaon.

Biswanath Narjari, 1952, Bongaegaon, Bongaigaon.

### BENGAL CHURCH COUNCIL :

President : Rev. K. R. Ghose, Suri.

Secretary : Sri. J. N. Das, Suri.

#### Members :

Birbhum-Murshidabad Circle : Rev. J. J. Das, Messrs. J. N. Das, and Mr. Theophilus Arun Biswas.

Santal Pargana Circle : Rev. Daniel Jha, Rev. David Jha, Mr. P. K. Dutta.

Malda Bengali Circle : Rev. P. Kjolberg, Rev. M. Bhandary, Mr. Ruel R. Das.

Cooch Behar Circle : Rev. J. A. Roy, Miss. E. Pihlquist.

### PASTORS UNDER THIS CHURCH COUNCIL

Maharaj Bhandary, 1937, Nimasarai, P. O. Old Malda, Malda.

John Jotadhari Das, 1940, Luth. Ch. P. O. Nalhati Birbhum.

John Anondo Roy, 1941, Swedish Mission, Cooch Behar.

Daniel Jha, 1944, Dangalpara, P. O. Dumka, S. Parganas.  
Haraknath Pramanik, 1944, Luth. Church, P. O. English  
Bazar, Malda.  
Kumud Ranjan Ghose, 1946, Mission P. O. Suri, Birbhum.  
David Jha, 1952, P. O. Kaerabani, Santal Parganas.  
Ajen Chisim, 1955, Swedish Mission, Cooch Behar.

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## GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The entry in our Santali Almanac or "panji" for April 7th reads: "Ebenezer bit'ena Benagariare 1867". The site for the first mission station had been selected by the pioneer missionaries, Boerresen and Skrefsrud, and on April 7, 1867 they fixed a stone marker on the site and called the place Ebenezer. Not until after the rainy season, on September 26th 1867 did the work actually commence at Ebenezer, and this latter date is observed as the birthday of the Santal Mission.

During ninety years the Gospel message has been preached among the Santals and neighboring peoples, not only from Ebenezer, but from 25 additional mission stations, and many more outstations in several districts of Bihar, Bengal and Assam. During these years thousands have responded to God's call of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, and the Church thus established is by His Grace, through the preaching of the Word and administration of the Sacraments, marching on.

At the turn of the year we remember the 300 congregations with some 6,650 families, living in the many villages and homes throughout our area, and we thank God for every believer and true follower of Christ, who through personal experience know the power of God that saves from sin and gives new life and hope. Christ has promised to be with all who are His, and we trust that among the 34,750 church members many can claim to have the joy of His presence in their lives.

During the year there has been much that has been encouraging in the work of the Church. Many of our pastors and lay leaders have been zealous and concern-

ed that those who have not heard or accepted the Good News might also become partakers therein. Consecrated Christian witnessess, who have a personal knowledge of salvation, and a firm foundation in the Word, through their devotion to the task of witnessing, have given much cause for joy a thanksgiving.

Conventions and Bible Courses have again this year made valuable contributions to the spiritual life of the Church. It is a miracle of Grace that these people who ninety years ago knew nothing but the fear and hopelessness of "bonga" worship and sacrifice, today speak with joy of the Grace and peace that is theirs through faith in Jesus, the Savior.

We observe, among our church leaders, a greatly increased interest in, and a growing understanding of the responsibilities involved in taking over the work of the Mission by the Church.

In the institutions now under the Church the good work is carried on as heretofore, and the reader is referred to the reports submitted by the leaders of these institutions.

In the annual statistics a decrease from last year appears under the the heading "ministrations" We had hoped there would have been an increased number of ministrations, but these figures seem to vary from year to year without any obvious reason. Difficulties are experienced in collecting statistics from the many congregations and we realize that the figures are often somewhat approximate. An increase is shown in total membership; in number of congregations; in the number of Sunday Schools, teachers and pupils, and also in stewardship.

Giving seems, in many places, to be static or fixed according to habit and old custom, and it is far below

what it ought to be. However, we have leaders and lay people who have come to regard giving to the Lord's work a privilege, as well as a responsibility. There are a few who have experienced the joy and blessing of systematic giving, and we pray that their number will greatly increase.

During the year more definite plans have been worked out for the transfer of administrative responsibility of all mission institutions from Mission to Church.

It has also been decided that a new General Superintendent shall be elected early in 1958, and we hope to install one of our national leaders to this position in April.

During the Annual Synod meeting a proposal was approved for joining the United Mission to Nepal for work primarily among Santals, but also among other races in that country. A foreign mission committee was selected, and among the candidates who had applied, Hopna Tudu, a senior student at the Santal Theological Seminary was chosen as the first missionary. We pray for God's blessing in this venture on the part of the Church and her missionaries.

Rev. Sirmath Marndi, one of our veteran pastors met accidental death on October 7th when the ferry boat on which he and many others were crossing a river, sank after capsizing in the swift current. Sirmath pastor was for many years our only ordained worker in the Darrang District of Assam, and he has faithfully shepherded the flock in that area. Sincere sympathy is extended to the bereaved wife and family. Blessed be his memory.

On the recommendation of the respective District Church Councils the following workers were ordained during the year:

Ranglal Kisku, for work in Santal Parganas, ordained at Dumka on January 20th.

Budhon Hembrom, Mongol Besra and Sonaram Meh-dier, for work in Assam, ordained at Mornai on February 14th.

Samson Tudu for work in East Pakistan, ordained at Narayanpur on February 24th.

Amdi Murmu for work in Santal Parganas, ordained at Basetkundi on March 10th.

Missionary Idar Egeland of the Norwegian Mission to Moslems, was ordained at Sajinipara on April 7th on the recommendation of the Norwegian Mission to Moslems and also of the Lutheran Church of Sajinipara and Calcutta.

Negotiations were completed during the year for terms of affiliation between the Ebenezer Evangelical Lutheran Church of Sajinipara and Calcutta. The terms of affiliation were approved by our Synod Executive, and later by the Synod, during its meeting in November.

Having been led to resign and retire from the work in India, we desire to extend a hearty thanks to all friends and co-workers for their friendship, Christian fellowship, and co-operation throughout the years of our service on the Mission field. Our earnest prayer is that God's choice for leadership in the Church will be found, and that His Spirit will be permitted to guide the Church in spiritual growth and fruit bearing to the Glory of God.

We would also convey our heartfelt thanks to all friends of the Ebenezer Evangelical Lutheran Church, for faithful support in intercession and material gifts during the past year.

"Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy. To the only wise God our Savior, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen" Jude 24, 25.

Ole. S. Bjerkestrand.

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# EBENEZER EVANGELICAL LUTHERN CHURCH

CIRCLES & CHURCH DISTRICTS.	COMMUNITY					WORKERS					MINISTRATIONS						SUNDAY SCHOOL		CHURCH COLLECTIONS CUPUT' CANDA OTHER OFFERING AND LOCAL INCOME		
	Congregations	Villages with Christians	Christian Families	Total numbers of Christians	Communicant Members	Pastors	Catecheists	Unpaid Elders	Biblewomen	Unpaid Biblewomen	Total workers	Baptized Children of Christians	Batized from out side	Confirmed	Number of Com-munion Services	Total attendance at communions	Married Couples	Teachers	Children	Rs.	Np.
<b>Kaerabani</b>	10	79	345	1607	881	3	7		6	16	30	5	26	98	2528	19	13	230	1821	16	
<b>Dumka</b>	16	155	523	2639	1368	6	12		2	4	24	78	93	70	155	3279	22	16	336	3951	23
<b>Mohulpahari</b>	8	55	228	1165	369	3	7	1	1	1	12	50	36	21	87	169	5	6	161	1312	42
<b>Jubdi</b>	11	112	432	2517	1292	5	28		10	43	48	115	53	124	1914	25	6	213	3934	30	
<b>Sultanabad</b>	13	117	383	1891	873	5	11		4	20	47	19	18	130	2982	7	8	157	2317	36	
<b>Baniapasara</b>	7	13	85	347			4		2	6	4			20	21				89	97	
<b>Benagaria</b>	17	84	440	2095	1222	5	1	16	1	6	29	56	47	4	156	5299	4	4	203	3219	52
<b>Santal Parganas</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>2436</b>	<b>12261</b>	<b>6005</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>770</b>	<b>16192</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>1400</b>	<b>16645</b>	<b>96</b>
<b>Malda-Purnea</b>	12	56	175	796	302	2	12	1	1	1	16	38	38	6	80	1214	5	5	97	1261	17
<b>W. Dinajpur</b>	13	34	109	548	222	2	14		2	18	18	9	4	63	145	3	3	26	641	73	
<b>E. Dinajpur</b>	14	16	89	485	31		19		1	1	21	10	2	2	8	91	9	4	44	1069	22
<b>Rajshahi</b>	12	33	113	507	129	1		6	1	5	12	14	22	4	47	322	6	7	177	1181	36
<b>North Bengal</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>2336</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>1772</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>4153</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Colony-Mornai</b>	8	65	1404	7174	3606	5	19	46		68	138	276	71	189	84	515	119	41	899	14182	72
<b>Joema</b>	22	77	432	2136	772	4	2	22		17	45	76	98	33	123	3130	39	7	98	3567	33
<b>Santipara</b>	13	30	188	1092	271	2		14		2	18	42	12	45	85	2466	22	2	44	2448	80
<b>Kamrup-Darrang</b>	10	17	175	842	249	1	1	1	1	4	39	20	37	37	157	12	3	50	1645	45	
<b>Dingdinga</b>	5	9	65	305	141	2	2	2		4	10	24	2	1	43	593	3	5	77	679	11
<b>Assam Santal</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>2264</b>	<b>11549</b>	<b>5039</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>457</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>7061</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>1168</b>	<b>21523</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Ganrang</b>	22	50	448	2748	765	2	23	6	2	15	48	117	16	31	54	1535	30	15	246	13214	77
<b>Bongaigaon</b>	26	48	438	2615	732	1	28		1	10	40	107	42	33	47	1450	17	11	52	6149	96
<b>Kamrup</b>	5	5	72	453	151	1	3	8		3	15	12	2	3	11	115	4	3	58	1080	20
<b>Darrang</b>	14	17	128	1011	327		13	4		6	23	41	10		18	244	6	9	114	2540	5
<b>Boro Assam</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>1086</b>	<b>6827</b>	<b>1975</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>3344</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>22984</b>	<b>98</b>
<b>Santal Parganas</b>	8	27	71	331	114	2	6	4	1	1	14	15	6	2	64	93	2	4	44	945	83
<b>Birbhum-Murshidabad</b>	9	22	101	622	263	2	5	11	3	21	31		20	76	184	4	11	145	1738	08	
<b>Malda</b>	11	40	110	448	206	2	9		2	13	16	4	5	74	178	4	7	62	849	23	
<b>Cooch Behar</b>	13	18	95	583	224	2	5	8	2	2	19	36	1	1	99	127	3	10	154	1795	03
<b>Bengal</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>1948</b>	<b>807</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>5323</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Total for Church</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>1179</b>	<b>6649</b>	<b>34957</b>	<b>14510</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>1225</b>	<b>670</b>	<b>608</b>	<b>1783</b>	<b>28951</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>3787</b>	<b>70631</b>	<b>00</b>



# SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES & EBENEZER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Medical and  
Educational  
Statistics. 1957.**

CIRCLES & CHURCH DISTRICTS.	DISPENSARIES			HOSPITALS & LEPROSY COLONIES						VILL. SCHOOLS			STATION SCH.			MIDDLE SCH.			HIGH SCHOOLS			TRAINING ETC		
	Nurses	Compounders	Out Patients	Doctors	Nurses	Compounders	Other Staffs	In Patients	Out Patients	Schools	Teachers	Children	Schools	Teachers	Children	Schools	Teachers	Students	Schools	Teachers	Students	Institutions	Staffs	Students
Dumka	2		2104						9	9	317	5	22	586	1	11	298	1	12	282	1	2	40	
Kaerabani									7	7	118	1	5	145										
Mohulpabari				4	12	15	35	1626	21522	3	5	111	2	6	184							1	1	15
Jubdi	1	1	9127	1	2	6	3	414	18011	6	7	173	7	19	397									
Sultanabad		1	2762							6	6	165	1	3	60	1	8	155						
Baniapasar										2	3	58												
Benagaria	1	1	6742							3	3	72				1	8	254				4	11	58
<b>Santal Parganas</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>20735</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>39533</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>1048</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>1372</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>113</b>
Malda-Purnea				1	3	1	4	406	17179				1	5	86	1	1	7						
W. Dinajpur										1	3	66												
E. Dinajpur										2	3	90	2	3	80									
Rajshahi										2	4	121	2	3	93									
<b>North Bengal</b>				<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>17179</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>						
Colony-Mornai	1	2	20465	2	4	6	7	1441	47293	8	11	324	2	14	315	1	10	176	1	12	201			
Joema		1	3305							11	11	229	1	4	96	1	2	22						
Santipara			6580	1	2	4	2	273	407	3	3		2	2	30									
Kamrup-Darrang										2	5	100												
Dingdinga																								
<b>Assam Santal</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>30350</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1714</b>	<b>47700</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>201</b>			
Gaurang										11	11	196				1	3	89						
Bongaigaon										7	8	214	1	4	32									
Kamrup				1		2	1	193	5833	1	1	24	1	3	57									
Darrang										1	2	30												
<b>Boro Assam</b>				<b>1</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>5833</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>39</b>						
Santal Parganas																								
Birbhum-Murshidabad	1		5500										1	3	90				1	8	137	1	2	8
Malda																								
Cooch Behar	1		2237							6	7	145	3	9	205									
<b>Bengal</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>7737</b>							<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>295</b>				<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Total for Church.</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>58822</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>4343</b>	<b>110245</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>2522</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>2456</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>121</b>

## STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT Auditors' Certificate

The Santal Mission of the Northern Churches,  
Dumka P. O., Santal Parganas.

Dear Sirs,

We report that we have checked the books of the Mission for the year ended 31st. December, 1957, as follows :—

### MISSION GENERAL CASH BOOK

The entries in respect of the Payments appearing in the Cash Book have been examined with the Subsidiary Books, Station Cash Books and acknowledgment of cash produced to us and found to be in order with the exception of those detailed in attached Statement 'A'.

We have verified the receipts from the American, Danish and Norwegian Mission Boards during the year and have found the entries appearing in the Cash Book to be in order. The Bank Pass Book has been checked by us and found to be agree with the Cash Book. We have had produced to us a certificate from the Calcutta Branch of the Chartered Bank in confirmation of the balance with the Bank at 31st. December, 1957.

An amount of £500 equivalent to Rs. 6,655-11 received from Denmark Board during the time the Calcutta Banks were on strike, has been deposited in the Central Obligation Fund Bank Account with the American Express Co., Inc., Bombay, on 14th October, 1957, instead of in the Main Bank Account with the Chartered Bank, Calcutta. The receipt of this amount has, however, been entered in the Main Cash Book. On 22nd October, 1957, Rs. 6,000/- has been withdrawn from the American Express Co., Inc., Bombay, and the disbursement of this amount included in the total expenditure as shown in the Main Cash Book. The balance of cash in hand on 31st December, 1957, in the Main Cash Book, therefore, includes Rs. 655.11 representing the amount undrawn on this account.

**EBENESER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH,  
MORNAI TEA ESTATE CHARITABLE FUND AND  
"MISSIONARIES ACCOUNT" CASH BOOKS.**

We have examined the payments recorded in these Cash Books with the receipts produced to us and have found them to be in order. We have seen certificates from the Chartered Bank and the Netherlands Trading Society in confirmation of the balance with the Banks at 31st December, 1957.

**STATION CASH BOOKS**

The books have been checked as follows:—

The remittances from the Mission, Ebeneser Evangelical Lutheran Church and Mornai Tea Estate Charitable Fund have been checked into these books and found to be in order with the exception of those detailed in the attached Statement 'A'.

We have carried out a test check of the payments recorded in these Cash Books with the receipts produced to us. In some cases receipts were either not available or were written in languages which we were unable to translate. Those which we were able to check were found to be in order with exception of those detailed in attached Statement 'B'.

**INDIAN WORKERS PENSION FUND**

We have checked the payments appearing in the Cash Book and found them to be in order.

**INVESTMENTS**

The investments of the Indian Workers Pension Fund, as detailed in the Fund's Book and the closing balance of various other Funds viz: Emergency Fund, Bhiku Endowment Fund, Central Obligation Fund and Passage Fund as described in the books of such Funds were verified by reference to certificates from the Treasurer, Bankers and by examination of the Scrips for the Government Securities, National Savings Certificates and found to agree therewith.

Yours faithfully,  
Lovelock Lewes.

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## THE ACCOUNT OF 1957.

THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES  
AND MORNAI TEA ESTATE CHARITABLE FUND.

## INCOME :

Balances per 1. Jan. 57 : Cash	Rs.	29.796.70
Bank	„	47.293.52
	<u>Rs.</u>	<u>77.090.22</u>
Received from America	„	175.524.80
Received from Denmark	„	213.197.23
Received from Norway	„	616.115.55
Received from Norway (For Pak. work)	„	15.068.81
Received from Mornai Tea Estate	„	120.000.00
Received from Pastor Knutsen, New Zeal.	„	656 81
Received from Miss Gaustad. New Plymouth	„	66.19
Interests	„	2.124.74
Loan from "Passage Fund"	„	40.000.00
	<u>Rs.</u>	<u>1259.844.39</u>

## EXPENDITURE :

Medical Work :	Ordinary	Dearness—all.
Mohulpahari Hospital	Rs. 22.000	Rs. 8.427
Saldoha Leper Colony	„ 40.164	„ 3.472
Santipara Leprosy Colony	„ 20.530	„ 1.478.75
Sevapur Hospital	„ 12.000	
Rajadighi Hospital	„ 7.566	„ 2.044
Benagaria Dispensary	„ 1.200	„ 480
Kaerabani Dispensary	„ 1.820	„
Narayanpur Dispensary	„ 895	„ 120
Basetkundi Dispensary	„ 610	„ 180
Grahampur Dispensary	„ 1.000	
Gaorang Dispensary	„ 520	36
Joema Dispensary	„ 1.022	„
Medical Work ; D. A. Total		Rs. 16.237.75
Medical Work ; Ordinary Total		<u>„ 109.327</u>
Total "Expenditure" brought forward		Rs. 125.564.75

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Brought forward :			Rs.	125.564.75
Educational Work :				
Kaerabani Schools	Rs.	22.227.55	Rs.	6.759.42
Maharo Schools	„	11.400	„	3.747
Benagaria Ind. School	„	3.000	„	1.020
Narayanpur G. School	„	17.131	„	2.880
Grahampur Schools	„	18.440	„	7.023
Gaorang G. School	„	15.581	„	1.050
			<hr/>	
Educational Work; D. A. Total			Rs.	22.479
Educational Work; Ordinary Total			„	87.779.55

Station & Districts :

Basetkundi	Rs.	6.840	Rs.	660
Benagaria	„	8.200	„	855
Ebenezer House	„	1.800	„	315
Santal Div. School Bung.	„	1.200		
Chondorpura	„	2.880	„	375
Koroya	„	4.674	„	650
Dhorompur	„	628.50	„	600
Dumka	„	4.800	„	570
Kaerabani	„	2.067		
Tilabani	„	2.680		
Sant. Parg. & Birbh. W. W.	„	930	„	300
Suri	„	8.353	„	373.50
Nimasarai	„	4.279	„	408
Bagsarai	„	2.474	„	360
Eklakhi	„	1.000		
Haraputa	„	1.396	„	324
Bongaegaon	„	5.020	„	646
Gaorang	„	6.732	„	1.080
Joema	„	4.200		
Parkijuli	„	15.676	„	982.50
			<hr/>	
Station & District Work; D. A. Total			Rs.	8.499
Station & District Work; Ord. Total			„	85.829.50
			<hr/>	
Total for page, brought forward			Rs.	330.151.80

Total brought forward		Rs. 330.151.80
OTHER EXPENCES :		
Ebenezer Church		Rs. 285.340.73
Ebenezer Church (Pakistan Side)		„ 17.578.
Missionaries Account		„ 357.220.03
New Constructions & Major Rep.		„ 102.577.07
Secretary's Travel		„ 2.400.
Committee & Travel		„ 8.534.09
Dumka Offices		„ 4.000.
Legal Exp.; Audith Fee.; Print of Ann. R.		„ 2.599.75
Affiliation Fee.; Civil Surgeon Ret. Fee		„ 903.33
Stipends		„ 6.000.
Landrent & Taxes		„ 2.205.55
Miscellanious		„ 7.134.68
Bank expences		„ 186.69
Return of "Other Loan" 56		„ 30.580.
Balances :		
Bank	Rs. 102.402.27	
Cash	„ 30.40	„ 102.432.67
		<u>Rs. 1259.844.39</u>

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Statement of Accounts year 1st. Jan. 1957 to  
31st Dec. 1957.

“EBENEZER EVAGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH”

INCOME :

Balance 1. 1. 57.	Rs.	3.288-12-09
Received from The S. M. N. C.	„	285.340-11-09
Received from Swedish Mission; C. B.	„	32.200
Received from Boro Church Council	„	525
Received from A. S. C. C.	„	649-08
Received from N. B. C. C.	„	60
Received from B. C. C. (56&57)	„	160
Received from S. P. C. C.	„	465
“Loan from Bank”, overdraft	„	<u>2.306-01-06</u>
	Rs.	<u>324.995-02-00</u>

Received from The Santal Mission  
of The Northern Churches for  
North Bengal Church Council, Pakistan, Rs. 17.578.00

Statement of Accounts year 1st. Jan 1957 to  
31st. Dec. 1957

“EBENESER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH”

PAYMENTS

Santal Parganas Church Council	Rs.	105.039-08
Bengal District Church Council	„	63.402-02
North Bengal District Church Council	„	28.148-
Assam Santal Church Council	„	49.884-
Boro Church Council	„	29.045-
Santal Theological Seminary	„	17.560-
Martha Maria School	„	2.600-
Print of Rev. Rosenlunds Manuscript	„	10.000-
Grant to “Pera Hor”	„	3.700-
Church Office	„	4.600-
Synod Meeting & Travel expences	„	1.200-
Grant to “Indian Workers Pension Fund”		3.500-
Aff. fee “Federation of Lutheran Churches, India”	„	925-
Grant to Pastors House, Bagsarai Mission		1.000-
Grant to rep. of Rakh Mission	„	800-
Grant to Kaerabani Chr. Youth Ashram	„	150-
Retroactive salary for Pastor J. J. Soren	Rs.	413-
Bank expences	„	28-08
		<hr/>
	Rs.	324.995-02-00
		<hr/>
For North Bengal Church Council, Pakistan has been paid	Rs.	17.578-00
		<hr/>





3 9002 10638 2337

Statement of account for year 1st. Jan. 57  
31st Dec. 1957.

**INDIAN WORKERS' PENSION FUND**  
**EBENEZER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**RECEIPTS :**

Balance per 1st. January	Rs.	5.696-15-00
Received from Ebenezer Church	„	3.500-00-00
Interest from Government Loan	„	619-14-00
Contribution from Members	„	6.809-09-0
		<hr/>
	Rs.	<u>16.006-04-00</u>

**EXPENDITURE :**

Pension Paid Members 1957 :	Rs.	8.714-08-06
Contribution refunded members	„	350-06
Balance per 31. Dec. 1957	„	6.941-05- 6
		<hr/>
	Rs.	<u>16.006- 4- 0</u>

**CAPITAL ACCOUNT :**

Balance per 1. Jan 1957	Rs.	<u>44.423- 5- 4</u>
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**CAPITAL INVESTED :**

Government loan of 1896/97	Rs.	15.628- 5- 4
Postal Savings Certificates	„	28.795-
		<hr/>
	Rs.	<u>44.423-05- 4</u>