

THE 90TH
ANNUAL REPORT
OF
THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE
NORTHERN CHURCHES
FOR THE YEAR 1956

AND

THE SEVENTH YEAR
OF
EBENEZER EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

DUMKA

PUBLISHED BY THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES
PRINTED AT THE MISSION PRESS, BENAGARIA.
1957.

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THE
NINETIETH ANNUAL REPORT
OF
THE SANTAL MISSION
OF
THE NORTHERN CHURCHES

THE INDIAN HOME MISSION TO THE SANTALS)

For the Year 1956

and

The Seventh Year

OF

EBENEZER EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

CHURCH OFFICE, BENAGARIA.

DUMKA

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THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES

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THE
NINETIETH ANNUAL REPORT
For the year 1956.

SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1956.

"For other foundation can no man lay
than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

(I Cor. 3:11)

It is essential to have a solid foundation on which to build whether we build with mud, stone, brick or any other material, and it is no less important to have a sure foundation on which to build in our mission work.

The Apostle here informs us of what foundation he had laid for all his labors—even Jesus Christ the chief cornerstone. And no other foundation will do. So firm was he on this point that he could say: I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

The doctrine of our Saviour and His mediation is the principal doctrine of Christianity. It lies at the bottom and is the foundation of all the rest, because it is in Christ only that God is reconciling a sinful world to Himself.

The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation
By water and the Word;
From Heav'n he came and sought her
To be His holy bride.

With his own blood he bought her,
And for her life He died.

Elect from ev'ry nation
Yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation
One Lord, one faith, one birth,
One holy Name she blesses
Partakes one Holy food,
And to one hope she presses,
With ev'ry grace endued.

The sum and substance of the Christian message is Christ. Upon this rock all Christians found their hopes. Those that build their hopes of Heaven on any other foundation, build upon sand.

This glorious message of salvation through Christ is to be proclaimed to all people. This is our obligation as a Christian mission. This is the ultimate aim and inner meaning of all mission work. If we are to be faithful to our Lord who called us, to the Church that sent us and to the Church in which we serve and to those who labored before us, we shall always have to keep this basic fact in mind. The situations may change, but the aim and purpose must be the same. And it is nothing less than building further on the eternal, spiritual temple of God, founded on Jesus Christ — in whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord.

It is not for us to know or report on how far we have been able to fulfill this great obligation during the year under review. Only God knows how much of our work this year will prove to be of such a quality that it will stand the fiery test of the day of judgment. Admittedly there have been failures and shortcomings which we humbly confess, but we believe that whatever was

done in Jesus' Name and under prayer for His blessing, shall abide.

It is much to be thankful for that all the work throughout the fields of Bihar, West Bengal and Assam, has been carried on unhindered along the old established lines. It has been a year full of opportunities to serve the peoples of this great land in so many ways. Sickness and suffering have been relieved, instruction imparted, literature produced and the Gospel proclaimed in the various languages on the mission stations and in the villages, May God add His blessing to it all!

Great calamities have befallen India also this year, especially by floods in several parts of the country, causing damage, suffering and distress. Fortunately we have been spared from that within our areas.

The report of the committee appointed by the Government of Madhya Pradesh to inquire into the activities of Christian missionaries in the state, caused some stir and concern and aroused sharp criticism from many quarters. One good thing has, however, come out of it, there has been a greater publicity about Christianity and Christian mission work.

We are glad to report that we have experienced no serious opposition. The attitude of the general public continues to be very favourable and the Christian message is listened to with great interest where ever it is proclaimed. The local authorities have been most helpful and co-operative.

During the year the following missionaries have retired from active service on the field: Miss Magnhild Buttedahl and Miss Sofie Nasset, who both left India in May. Miss Ingeborg Kleven left India in 1954

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and is not planning to come out again, as she has taken up other work in Norway. Word has come from America that the Rev. and Mrs. Hofrenning have discontinued their services with the Santal Mission and taken up congregational work in Chicago. We do thank all these for their faithful services in the Church and the Mission out here and wish them God's continued blessing in the days to come.

Shortly after the retirement of the Rev. and Mrs. J. Gausdal, word came that the King of Norway had been pleased to confer the honor of St. Olav's Medal First class on Rev. Gausdal for his long and valuable service in this land. We congratulate Rev. Gausdal and take it as an official appreciation of the work that is being done through the Santal Mission.

These have gone home on furlough during the year Miss Helene Romer, Dr. and Mrs. O. Forman, and Miss Muriel Nielsen. Miss Nielsen is expected to return within the time limit of her "No objection certificate". Miss Romer is planning to return towards the end of next year, while Dr. and Mrs. Forman may be staying in Denmark for some years, after which we hope they will come out and continue their medical work on the field.

Quite suddenly and unexpectedly Miss Ragnhild Rein had to leave India in August because of illness. We do remember her with thanks for her untiring service and pray that God may grant her strength and courage and full restoration to health again. Apart from her a number of our missionaries have had to cope with illness of various kinds, and several have had to be treated in hospital.

We are thankful that the following have been permitted to return to India after furlough: The first

ones to arrive in January were the Rev. Glad and the Rev. Stronstad, who both felt that they had to leave their families at home this time. Then came Mr. and Mrs. Kurt Petersen in April, Rev. and Mrs. M. Haugstad in July, Miss Solveig Somming in August and Rev. and Mrs. H. Halvorsrud in October.

After about a year's stay in Norway and Denmark, where they had a busy time doing deputation work, Rev. Naran Soren and wife returned in July to their congregational work in Dumka, — full of new ideas and grateful for the opportunity to visit the many mission friends at home. One of the teachers in Kaerabani, Mr. Gora Tudu, went to America in March for one year's study and deputation work. Mr. Anil Jha returned in December to India via the Pacific route from America and is now back in Grahampur School. Dr. Paul Murmu returned from America in November via Norway and Denmark. He has been placed in Saldoha Leper Colony and also helps with the work in Mohulpahari Christian Hospital.

We do thank our friends at home for the opportunity given to these young men for further studies abroad. Such personal contacts between the mission friends at home and representatives from the Church out here is of great significance and we hope it will be kept up in future.

An invitation has been extended to Rev. K. R. Ghose to visit Denmark, Norway, and possibly America and plans are well advanced for his going in the beginning of next year.

These new missionaries were accepted during the year: Rev. and Mrs. Jens Verner Olsen from Denmark, Miss Elisabeth Anne Jorgensen from Canada, Rev. and Mrs. Audun Tang and Miss Anne Marie Sulen from Norway.

Miss Jorgensen was at the close of the year on her way out and actually arrived in Calcutta on New Year's Day. The Tangs are still waiting for a reply to their application for visa to India. Without making known to us any reason the Government of India refused to grant visa to the Verner Olsens and Miss Sulen.

The new procedure for visa applications having now been formally approved by the Synod, the first application that is to be sent from the Church through the National Christian Council is that on behalf of Rev. and Mrs. J. Verner Olsen. A fresh visa application is also being made for Miss Sulen.

Rev. and Mrs. Ivar Agoy of Norway have for several years been hoping to come out as missionaries, but in spite of repeated applications and reminders they have not been able to obtain any reply from the Home Department in Delhi. Rev. Agoy might have obtained a stipend from the Indian Government, External Affairs, for two year's study at Santiniketan, but as there was no reason to believe that he would be granted permission for further stay in India, he had to decline the offer.

A great relief is felt now that it has finally been possible — nearly ten years after partition — to send missionaries to our field in East Pakistan. The Rev. and Mrs. John Ottesen from America arrived in December on a visitor's visa to India and after seeing a number of stations in Santal Parganas, Malda, and Assam, they were planning to proceed to East Pakistan within the first week of the New Year. Let us remember them in prayer as they take up the work which will certainly not be easy.

We do hope that it will be possible for the two circles in East Pakistan to keep in contact with the

Church in India, but the administration and finance of the Mission will be completely separated from our work in India from 1st January, 1957. Special rules for the East Pakistan Mission of the Northern Churches have been worked out and approved by all the three home boards.

A call for work among the Santals in Nepal has come to us again. Nothing has been done there by our Mission or Church since Pastor Bhogon Murmu had to leave Nepal in 1944. He had at that time been conducting a school for the scattered Christian Santals he found in Morang District, and had also baptized a number of families there. It is now hoped that our Mission will be in a position to support the Church with men and means to take up again the work which was begun more than twelve years ago. The Synod has decided to apply for membership in the United Mission to Nepal.

Another challenge to us is the big district of Murshidabad with its population of more than one and a half million. Permission has been obtained from the State Government of West Bengal and from the Central Government to move Itor Mission Station to a more suitable place near the new highway running through the district. The thing to do may not be to build a new mission station as we do not know whether or not we shall have missionaries to place there in future, but in order to help the Church to do more for these vast areas where opportunities for evangelization are so great, the Conference decided that quarters for at least two Indian workers are to be built soon.

It is still a constant call to our Mission and Church to do something more in the big unoccupied areas of Birbhum with its million of people. As far as is known to us no more evangelization is being done in the

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whole of Birbhum than what we are doing from Narsinpur, Suri and Benagaria.

For the second year in succession the annual missionary conference was held in Assam at the end of November, this time in Mornai. Perfect arrangements were made by the Mornai missionaries for entertaining such a large group, and we are very thankful for the fine fellowship we had together during the four busy days.

We have for some years worked on great plans for developing Agricultural institutions at Grahampur and Kaerabani, hoping that these projects might be financed by the Norwegian Technical Aid to India Fund. But so many difficulties and formalities were encountered that the hope of getting any help from that source had to be given up. It now remains to be seen whether or not the World Service Commission of the Lutheran World Federation will enable us to put these plans into practice.

In the beginning of January we had the pleasure of a short visit of Dr. Birkeli and Mr. Beatz of the Lutheran World Federation, Geneva, and in December, Professor H. Wexelsen of Norway took a trip up here from Calcutta on his way home from New Zealand. The inspiration they brought and the expert advice they gave are much appreciated. Some of our missionaries have had the pleasure of a visit of relatives or friends from home, and in October the editor of our Children's Magazine and leader of the Santal Mission Work Among Children in Norway, Miss Nelly Knarvik came on a four months' visit to India. It is always a great pleasure to welcome visitors from home, and we trust that it has been equally profitable for these friends to see the mission work at close range and study the situation in India today.

There is no need here to report in detail about the various branches of the work and institutions throughout our big field or I should rather say fields. The reader is referred to the detailed reports on the following pages which give a picture of what has been going on during the year. I might, however, mention that some of our institutions have been further built out and enlarged. A new operating and X-Ray department has been completed at Sevapur, and a new maternity ward added to the Rajadighi Hospital. A very attractive construction was erected at the Narainpur Girls' School comprising of a school hall in the middle, living quarters on one side and class rooms with a nice prayer room on the other side. The old church there being far too small, the hall is temporarily being used for Sunday services. The dedication service was conducted by our Church leader Rev. Bjerkestrand, on the 16th December in the presence of a large gathering. Other institutions are in need of more building and renewal of old ones, for instance, at Eklakhi Girls' School where a new school building is desperately needed.

In February the 75th year Jubilee of the starting of the Santal Colony was celebrated at Grahampur, and in November the cornerstone for a new Church there was laid by the Rev. Bjerkestrand.

During the year the three trustees in the homelands have resigned their trusteeships, and the three missionary trustees on the field are continuing as the only trustees for the time being. It is earnestly hoped that it will soon be possible to have the Church Constitution registered and all technical formalities completed for the Church to assume full ownership and control of all its properties. The Conference decided that a Joint Committee is to be appointed to work out plans for further transfer of institutions to the administration of the Church. The aim must be nothing less than inte-

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grating the whole Mission with the Church under the leadership of the Church.

We express our gratitude to the Government of Bihar, West Bengal, and Assam for the grants received for our educational and medical institutions.

The Mornai Tea Estate has yielded a fair output of tea, well above last year's. But due to the steadily increasing heavy running expenses, bonuses to the workers, and road taxes to be paid in two states, it was not possible to receive the whole of the budgetted amount from Mornai during the year. Messrs. Norinco Limited under its director, Consul General S. Gylseth, have continued as Managing Agents, and the Rev. O. Eie assisted by Mr. Kurt Petersen and an efficient staff has been managing this big concern to our entire satisfaction.

We do want to thank our Home Boards and the great host of mission friends in the homelands for their continued interest and support through their faithful intercession and substantial contribution of money.

Most of all thanks are due to our Heavenly Father for His renewal of the call to us, for opportunities to work for Him while it is still day, and for His great blessings bestowed upon the whole Mission in so many ways.

He gave us another year of grace. Glory to His Holy Name.

Respectfully submitted,
A. E. Stronstad.

WORK IN SANTAL PARGANAS. BASETKUNDI.

“But thou art the same,
And thy years shall have no end.”
(Psalm 102: 27)

A year passes so quickly and it carries so much with it. It brings us forth anew into changing times. The past year brought adversity and prosperity, sorrows and joys, struggle and strife, defeat and victory. Some forgot God when all things went well, and of those that went wayward there became some hardened and bitter hearts. It was only a small flock that saw in all that met them a gracious God and loving Father. We learned to give thanks for all things in Jesus' Name and were strengthened in the Lord. In lightness and darkness, in success and adversity we experienced that He loves His people. He is the same yesterday today and for ever. With such grace over the past days, it is good to close the year.

In the thirteen congregations the work has gone on in the usual manner. But with sadness we must report that in some places the Christian community is decreasing. But we also have had the joy to see that in other places new ones have been added to the congregation. Thus, there have been held classes for baptismal instruction and some places individual instruction given so that during the year fifty-one have been baptized from the non-christian community. There have also been baptized fifty-eight children of Christian parents.

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In the course of the year twenty-three have given confession of their faith through confirmation. With church offerings and other collections there has been an increase of two hundred rupees over last year. The amount of increase could and should be larger, but, unfortunately, there are many who have not yet experienced the joy and blessing of giving to the Lord's Work.

One of our pastors was moved by the Church Council to Dumka Circle this year. The four remaining pastors have done their best to reach all the congregations and to carry out all the congregational ministrations. The eleven elders have also carried out their responsibilities even though it is not always so satisfactory.

In the work among the women an advancement is seen. The four Bible women have as far as they have been able gone around in the district and held meetings or else taken part in the regular weekly women's meetings held in several congregations. We have seen fruit of this work, and a part of the increase in offering has namely come from these meetings. The women have zealously sewed clothes for the annual sale held here in Basetkundi for the entire Circle.

Two new Sunday Schools have been added to the congregational work and it has been a great joy for us to behold an awakening of the necessity to gather small children for Sunday school. Now we have six Sunday School teachers with one hundred and fifty-one children enrolled.

Six Lower Primary Schools in the different congregations have been conducted this year with one teacher in each school, while in Haripur we have an Upper Primary School with three teachers. Since it has been

shown that several parents are unable to send their girls to the mission girls' school, twelve girls have been permitted to live at the school in Haripur, and there have been added two lady teachers. But a teacher and his wife have been responsible for the school together with the pastor.

There have been held regular monthly meetings for pastors, elders, teachers and Bible women. We have had these meetings for two days so that the first day we gather for Bible Study, discussion and prayer and the next day discuss the congregational work with paying out salaries and other accounting with the Circle Treasurer, Elia Tudu, who has done a fine job for our Circle on a voluntary basis. These meetings have had a significance for the work and we have been encouraged to "love and good works", and we have been very happy for the willingness to work together. At times, however, we have noticed that the Evil One has put much emphasis to disrupt this co-operative spirit.

Both regular and irregular Circle Conference meetings have been held under the leadership of the newly elected Circle President, Bhiiku Tudu, and it has not always been so easy to bring forth the full confidence and understanding which must be the foundation for good co-operation. We have, however, the feeling that we are now on the upward way.

At Easter time a Young People's Course was held for our entire district here in Basetkundi. There was a good attendance and edifying fellowship. We had the joy to have Mission Secretary, Rev. A. E. Stronstad, as the main speaker. One noticed an open and receptive spirit for God's word among many of the youth and a desire for activity, if only we would be able to lead them into the opportunities which are awaiting the willing young people out in the congregations.

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The yearly women's meeting for our district was held this year in Haripur. The time was inconvenient, but under the circumstances there was good attendance. These meetings mean very much for the Christian women in our district.

For the first time we had a one week's course for village school teachers this year. These became rich days and we noticed a "spark" was given to one or the other who had gone asleep in slothfulness and indifference.

We are both glad and thankful that some few of our Christians, both men and women, have been willing to give of their time and strength to volunteer-work in the congregation. They have visited the sick, and they have visited lonely Christian families in villages where the remaining are non-Christians. They have held meetings in villages where they seldom have heard God's Word, and have witnessed of the salvation in Jesus Christ. We wish that more would see the opportunities and find their place in the evangelistic work.

At our small dispensary on our verandah, 3353 patients have received help and medicine in time of sickness besides the school boys.

In and through all that has happened and in what we have experienced in the past year, we have received God's grace and that "grace over grace".

We wish to express a sincere thanks to all mission friends in our homelands and to all our co-workers out here in India for love, steadfastness, and intercession.

"Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be the

glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus unto all generations for ever and ever. Amen."

Rakel and Ingolf Hoyland.

BENAGARIA

BENAGARIA DISTRICT :

Again we review a year that has passed and we are thankful to God for all His help and grace.

In Benagaria district, church services have been held regularly in sixteen different places and there has been no change in the personnel during 1956. Here we want to express our sincere gratitude to the teachers and students of the Santal Theological Seminary for the help they have rendered by conducting the church services at Belbuni, Kendpahari, Matiajuri and Dimbadoha. Except for Belbuni they have visited these places every Sunday and the work they have done has been very fruitful.

In the surrounding villages two confirmation classes for adults have been conducted by our pastor and his wife. Those who took part in these classes were elderly men and women who for some reason or other never were confirmed. Therefore, until now they have not been able to partake of Holy Communion. At Benagaria a confirmation class has been held for young boys and girls. Every Friday afternoon they gathered here on our verandah. In addition to this, confirmation classes were conducted by our pastors at the outstations.

Three churches were rebuilt in 1956, Belbuni, Buruameua and Itor. Each congregation carried the cost of building the walls either by donations or by work. The carpenters from our industrial school were responsible for the roofing and other wood work. We have still several churches badly in need of repair, and we hope to be able to do some of it in 1957.

Thirty-one non-Christians were baptized by our pastors in 1956, and many others are under instruction and will soon be ready for baptism. From most of our congregations reports have been given of progress in the work. However, in some places we have the feeling that the work is at a standstill. A local quarrel in Sulunga has divided the congregation into two groups and it has done much harm to the Christian fellowship among them, but we do hope that the difficulties may be straightened out and peace again prevail among the Christians in that place.

In Bidyanagar and Sohordanga, Burdwan district, seven families have joined the Roman Catholic church. In this area we have tried to find a place for building a church and quarters for a pastor. Peter Pastor from Itor has looked after the work, but as it is more than seventy miles away from Itor it has been impossible for him to keep constant contact with the congregations there. Due to heavy floods, the congregations were cut off from the surrounding world for a long time. No one was able to visit them, and most of their harvest was spoiled. Due to this the coming year will be very trying for them.

The Executive Committee of our circle went over there to look at a place available for a church building and quarters for a pastor. They found it suitable. We hope to be able to purchase this land, and in the near future may be able to start building. A young man, Dukhu Marndi, who has had three years training at

the Divinity School stands ready to go into this work as soon as quarters are available for him.

Sunday schools have been conducted in many places in the district and here at Benagaria about 120 children are enrolled in the Sunday School with the average attendance of about eighty children.

The youth work has gone on as usual with meetings every Wednesday afternoon and visits to the smaller congregations in the vicinity on Sundays. In March we had a youth Sunday with the visit of the band from Kaerabani High School, and in October the yearly picnic to Masanjor took place.

Disappointments and glad tidings have been our experience during 1956 but we have felt that the Lord has been with us, and that the work has not been in vain. May He grant us His blessings in the new year.

BENAGARIA MIDDLE ENGLISH SCHOOL.

The managing committee has gathered four times during 1956. All the communities in the surrounding district are represented there. We have been very glad for the co-operation which we have experienced from every one of the members in the task of raising the standard of the school and in all major or minor matters on which we had to decide from time to time.

Two teachers left us during the year. One left for two years supplementary training and the other we had to discharge because of indicipline. About 250 children are enrolled in the school and the average attendance has been seventy—three percent. Eight teachers, five men and three women, are in charge of the work among the children and we are glad to report that they have been striving hard to give the very best facilities for the children in their studies. Gardening was introduced in the daily syllabus in order to teach the children practical work along with their studies.

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In the school boarding we have had twelve children. We are not able to accommodate more at present. Many more have applied for room, but we have had to refuse them. The boarding is self-supporting. The children bring their own rice and pay three rupees per month for vegetables, mustard oil and other things needed in the boarding.

BENAGARIA INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Six new students were accepted in the carpentry section in January, but later one of them left us again. One student finished his three year's course in December. That makes the total number of students seven, but in January 1957 we are expecting six students more which will make the number of students thirteen in the new year.

Two teachers are in charge of the practical training and one part time teachers is responsible for the theoretical side of their training.

In the weaving section two students finished their two year's course in December. No new students were accepted in 1956, but many former students have worked throughout the entire year and in that way they have been able to earn something extra along with their farming. It has not been so easy to make this section remain within the limit of grants allotted from the mission as prices of cotton yarn rose very high during the year because of shortage on the market. Although we sold cloth for nearly six thousand rupees it was not sufficient to cover the cost of production. Our expenses were about seven thousand five hundred rupees, which also includes the salaries of the teachers and tools.

FARMING :

For farming it has been a difficult year with much rain at the most inconvenient times. Just after planting we got heavy rains which washed away ridges of many rice fields, and lots of fertile soil. Seedlings were carried away in the floods, so we had to replant in many places. Again during and after harvest we had heavy rains which caused the rice to fall in the fields and the rice on the threshing ground started to sprout. In spite of that we had a fairly good harvest, thanks to the new equipment which we got in the beginning of 1956.

A tractor with all the necessary equipment has been purchased, and that has changed the whole outlook of farming here. With that we were able to make many new fields and get the planting done in time. It will take another couple of years before we will have all the fields levelled out and made bigger in order to make profitable use of the tractor.

BENAGARIA MISSION PRESS.

The assistant manager, Mr. Mongol Murmu, together with a staff of sixteen has taken good care of the work at the press. Many books have been printed in 1956, in all 33,725 books and booklets. Besides that our weekly paper, "Pera Hor" has been printed in 1800 copies. The demand for new literature is growing and in 1956 we got a greatly needed addition of new publications to our stock of books. One book of J. A. Falkberget, a Norwegian author, has been translated by Rev. William Glad. In addition, Rev. William Glad has written three new books which are ready in stock, and a fourth one we are now printing. Mrs. Dina Nielsen has translated a book written by the Danish author, Rev. K. Robert Hansen. Furthermore, several manuscripts have been received and are ready for printing.

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Our main trouble is the poor equipment in the press, especially new types. It is very difficult to make decent print of books with the types we have at present, but fortunately when this report is being written we have received four new sets of types which we ordered in December. In order to provide for our daily need of types we will have to replace at least eight sets more. To replace one set of types a sum of approximately six hundred rupees is needed.

After consultation with the Superintendent of the Bible Society of India, Pakistan and Ceylon and our Santali Literature Committee it was decided to postpone the printing of a Bible Concordance written by Mrs. Ingrid Gausdal, until the new revision of the New Testament in Santali is completed so that necessary corrections can be done before printing. The special grant of Rs. 1200/- from the Santal Mission of the Northern Churches will be set aside for this purpose.

The second part of Campbell's Dictionary is now completed. Due to printing costs of new books and the many reprints in 1956 the book sales account is not able to cover the cost of printing of this second part on the 1956 budget, so the printing bill will have to be covered by the 1957 budget which will limit our resources for printing of new books next year. In addition to that several reprints of already existing books are due. The most important reprint is the "Seren Puthi" of which only about one thousand copies are left.

We hope to get "Mare Hapramko Reak' katha" within a few months. The printing order was given to Lucknow Publishing House in April 1954, but we did not receive any proofs before the middle of 1956. We hope to be able to supply this book very soon to all who have sent in orders for it.

The following is a complete list of books, booklets, etc. Which were printed in 1956.

Kathamala	...	...	...	2000	Copies.
Ketekism	...	...	...	3000	„
Hor Seren	...	...	...	2000	„
Jisuak' Biboron (Bengali Script)				3000	„
Phlorence Nightingale	...	...		2000	„
Utor Disom Sec' khonak' Merhet'				3000	„
Kristan Juanko Lagit' Puthi				1000	„
Baptisma Sapaok' Kanko Lagit' Puthi				1000	„
Jion Jharna Khonak'				2000	„
Pastor do Juanko cet'ako lagit' Dhara				1000	„
Pahil Puthi	...	...	...	2000	„
Naksa Puthi	...	...	...	4600	„
Khristo Okoe Kanae	...	...	...	1000	„
Hindustani Koejon	...	...	...	1000	„
Dhorom Seren Puthi	...	...	...	500	„
Catalogue of Books	...	...	...	1000	„
Synod Report	...	...	...	825	„
Annual Report	...	...	...	300	„

Hanne and Aage Jensen

CHONDORPURA

One thing which the past year brought with it was that the leader of this station and work for several years, Miss M. Buttedahl, due to health reasons had to leave the work in May and return to Norway. This brought sorrow and left an empty place, not only in the Bible School for young women which she had begun and led, but also around in the district. Especially was this felt among the co-workers who appre-

ciated greatly her good advice and co-operation, and the many small and larger women's groups which also benefited very much from her love and concern. She visited them as often as she could and shared God's Word with them. I feel a desire on behalf of them and myself to thank Miss Buttedahl heartily for her great service and fine co-operative spirit and for the inspiration she has been for us in the work.

As one looks back over the past year, one remembers not only the many dark depressing days, but also the light and joyful ones. It has been sensed that our adversary, the devil, is strong and he does not allow a single mean or opportunity to be unused if possible to seduce and to lead astray the believing ones. But in spite of him and his power we experience again and again that He who is with us is stronger.

Also during the past year a number have been added to the congregation. It is especially from the Mahle tribe that the new Christians have come. Their leader, the young evangelist, Joseph Marandi tries to visit all the Mahle congregations besides taking care of the work on his own place, Minjra. They also have a good friend in the Santal Pastor, Abraham Murmu, of Ranga who has a warm heart for all without regard to race or people. It has been especially in his area that these new ones have been won. He has still people who desire to become Christians and are under instruction for baptism.

In most congregations church attendance has been good. Especially here in Chondorpura we have had the joy Sunday after Sunday to see a large group of young people come to God's House. There has been confirmation after preceding instruction in four places in the district.

Women's meetings have been held as usual around at the different places. Six well attended Sunday Schools are also being conducted, four of which are being conducted by the students of Martha Maria School. We need very badly more Sunday Schools, but it is difficult to find leaders for them.

The elder in Chirapathor was ordained into the ministry in August and moved to Tilabani. In his place we obtained David Murmu.

This year also there have been held annual sales in Gadiapani and Amgachi out-stations as well as here in Chondorpura Mission Station. The net profits from these were larger than last year. As a new effort the Mahles held their first annual sale this year. It was held in Minjra. It did not bring in such a great sum of money, but a beginning has been made and a step taken forward in the right direction. They themselves were very happy over the result of their work.

The schools also are conducted as usual. From November teacher Ramchoron Murmu has been the secretary for the schools. Rahel Murmu, Siblal Hasdak's wife, worked as a teacher in Chirapathor. When they moved from here we obtained Jonathan Murmu to take her place. He had just completed teacher's training in Kaerabani.

The Martha Maria Bible and Domestic School finished its first course in April. The fifteen students are now spread around in their home places. Concerning most of them we have heard that they take part in the Christian activities in their own villages, such as Sunday Schools and women's meetings.

In July we began a new course with fifteen students. Eleven of these live in the school and four come daily from their homes in the neighboring villages.

The teacher has been the same as previously, Esther Hembrom, She has done a good and faithful work. The school's daily routine is the same as before with classes in the morning, study and practical work in the afternoon.

The students conduct Sunday Schools in Chondor-pura, Ero, and Haripur villages and here on the station as well. Each Friday we have been gathered together for prayer meeting which the students have taken turns leading.

Sincere greetings and thanks to all mission friends in the homelands for intercession, offerings, and interest shown also for work in this part of the vineyard,

Gunvor Clausen.

D H O R O M P U R .

It was really refreshing to get away from the language studies and visit Dhorompur Mission Station from time to time during 1956.

We enjoyed to meet the pastor and people and to see the work there. Pastor Baijun Murmu is a good leader and together with his co-workers is managing the work very well. They have kept the church, bungalow and compound houses in good condition and the surroundings are nice and clean. He is also supervising the cultivation of the mission land very efficiently. The harvest was quite good last year, too, and gave some profit that is being used in support of the mission work. He is keenly interested in further developments that may lead to greater self-support.

showing a small increase above last year's enrollment. Besides the above mentioned, the Lower Primary school here on the mission station has an enrollment of 160 students divided among five teachers.

The congregational work is being carried on regularly and very faithfully. The importance of Christian giving is emphasized, but further encouragements are needed. The annual Sale in November netted more income than in previous years. The preaching in surrounding villages is continued, but should be intensified because there are many possibilities. The attitude of the non-christians is friendly and they listen eagerly to the Gospel when preached by the pastor and elders.

Whenever we went to Dhorompur, we met people along the road and people came to the mission station, asking for medicines and help. Many times we heard the question: "Are not missionaries coming to stay at Dhorompur again?"

Due to the large dam project in connection with the Masanjor Scheme, Dhorompur and many other villages have been isolated from the main roads and it is difficult for people to reach the district headquarters and other centers where there are dispensaries and hospitals. Both Christians and non-christians of the entire area would heartily welcome any help that the Church and Mission may be able to give. If it is not possible to place missionaries there at present, we would suggest that a compounder be appointed and a small dispensary started. That may prepare the way for further contacts and increased Christian service.

The Lower Primary School at Dhorompur has for years been serving a large area and its importance has increased since the dam project has isolated the area. There are now no other schools that are accessible in

the neighborhood. After repeated applications from the people, the standard of the school has been raised to an Upper Primary School, and two additional teachers have been appointed. The children are greatly interested in their school and have planted a nice garden. It should be possible to develop this school further and to stabilize the Christian witness in the area.

We have been greatly impressed by seeing the work done by Baijun Pastor, the teachers, and other co-workers at Dhorompur. It gives hope for the future.

We also once visited Honja where Nitanondo Pastor is working. The field is new, but there are signs of openings in some villages and a few inquirers. A college student studying in a Christian college elsewhere was baptized during one of his vacations and is witnessing to his own people who soon may follow him.

For further details regarding the work at Dhorompur and in the district, see the statistics.

We are thankful for the opportunities we had last year to see some of the work carried on in this part of our mission field also, and we wish our Santal brethren Gods' blessing in their work for His Kingdom.

Solveig and Sigfred Johansen.

D U M K A .

Actually Dumka Circle consists of four mission districts, Koroya, Maharo, Dhorompur and Dumka. Statistical information for the whole circle may be found under the church statistics at the back of this report.

This report concerns only the five local congregations within Dumka Mission District proper.

The work has been carried on as usual with regular Sunday services in the churches, village preaching

and visits to the Christian homes in Dumka town and the surrounding villages. We have had the joy of receiving into the church fifty converts from the non-Christian community and in addition to these in all five congregations a total of thirty-seven children of Christian families have been baptized, making a total of eighty-seven baptisms in the district this year. We rejoice and thank God that the evangelistic work is continuously bearing such fine fruits. All the workers testify to the readiness and great eagerness on the part of the village people to listen to the preaching of the Gospel. There seems to be a wide spread longing towards Christianity among the Santals in this area.

We have no big institutions here in Dumka, but I am glad to report that the two Uper Primary Schools at Dumka and Dum and the two Lower Primary Schools at Chukapani and Ranga have been efficiently conducted by a staff of 11 teachers, and a total enrollment of approximately 350 pupils. The work done in these schools is not to be underestimated. Besides giving Bible teaching to the Christian children we have here a fine opportunity to sow the Good seed in many young and receptive minds. And the Christian atmosphere in the schools is bound to put its effect not only on the pupils but on the homes from where they come.

Miss Naomi Torkelson has continued to be the inspirer and organizer of the Sunday School and Youth Work, and Mrs. Solveig Johansen has been looking after the women's meetings. We have now three regular Sunday Schools with a total of 153 children. Weekly youth meetings have been held in Dumka and a well attended youth convention was held here in April.

On Thursday women's meetings have been held throughout the year and once a month the women from the other four congregations have joined them for a

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larger gathering. The handful of rice offerings has increased and the nice sum of Rs. 482/- was paid in to the church treasurer.

Although there is a long way to go before the local congregation will be self-supporting, it is a great pleasure to report that the steady increase of church collection has continued, amounting to the fine total of Rs. 2675-11-0 for the entire year.

The yearly convention for Dumka and Kaerabani Circles was held in Koroya in March. Inspiring messages and Bible studies were given and the attendance was good.

The annual mela (sale) was held here in November. A big crowd gathered and thoroughly enjoyed the program put on by the school children. On that occasion Pastor Naran and his wife, Raode, gave very interesting talks on their trip to Denmark and Norway. The proceeds for the mela amounted to more than four hundred rupees which is a fine contribution to the congregation.

In September the yearly Bible and Refresher Course for all the congregational workers under the Santal Parganas Church Council was held in Dumka. These courses are very much appreciated by the workers and the attendance was good. All testified to the great blessing and spiritual help they had received.

The total number of Christians in this district has this year reached the round figure of exactly one thousand, consisting of 220 families who are living in 54 villages scattered over the hilly countryside surrounding Dumka town.

The average church attendance has been fairly good and on special occasions very good. It has been encoura-

ging to see a fine group of students from public schools in Dumka come regularly to church.

In Karharbil a man with his family was baptized as the first fruits in that village. He had been a leader in the "bonga" worship. We hope and pray that many of his neighbors will now follow him in the Christian worship and new way of life.

In the beginning of the year Pastor Sibram Marandi moved from Basetkundi to Dum and is now the pastor for the 3 congregations, Dum, Chukapani and Indarmuni. Before the rainy season set in we were able to put a new roof on the pastor's house in Dum.

At Indarmuni the small congregation had planned to put tile roof on the newly erected mud walls of a new church, but unfortunately, they did not manage to do it in time before the rains with the result that the temporarily thatched roof collapsed in a heavy storm and the mud walls have now nearly fallen down. Until they can start over again to erect a new church building, services are being held on a shady verandah in the village.

At Chukapani two families have left our church because some one came along and told them that they had to be baptized again. We have no full time evangelist there. The teacher of the Lower Primary School, Boela Murmu, has for a number of years been the congregational leader and conducted the Sunday services.

Ranga has been cut off from Dumka by the water of the Mor River standing deep far north of Hijla. Thus it was found best to have Joseph Pastor look after the congregation since he lives on that side of the river in Navadi village actually in Maharo district.

The fine church building here in Dumka is badly in need of a new roof. The present tiles are leaking so that it is very difficult to find a dry spot in the church during heavy rain. The iron structure and wooden rafters are, however, in good condition. But the cost of a new roof will not be small. We have now asked the Mission for a substantial grant and with the support of the congregation it is hoped that it may soon be possible to get a new permanent roof.

In July Pastor Naran Soren and wife were accorded a great welcome back to Dumka on their return from Denmark and Norway, where they had spent about a year doing deputation work and studying church life. Their trip abroad has been a great inspiration to themselves and according to reports received also to the Mission friends at home. We are very thankful for the fine services they are doing in the congregations here.

When we think of Dumka town with its twelve thousand inhabitants and the many more thousands of Santals and others living in the villages round about of whom the great majority have not yet accepted the glorious salvation in Christ Jesus or not really know of it, we are painfully reminded that what we have done as a Mission and Church in this area is still only a very small part of the tremendous task before us. We pray that the local Christians may be strong in faith and bold in their witness and that many more may be won for the Kingdom of God, in days to come.

A. E. Stronstad.

K A E R A B A N I

The congregational work on the mission field is never dull, even though it isn't always easy. This we have experienced also in the year 1956.

Here at Kaerabani we had a good start of the year by a visit from Miss M. Lofthus of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. By her beautiful colored chalk drawings during the meetings in the church and school hall, she was able to interpret the Gospel very real and personal. We experienced a reviving spirit among the school boys and the compound people.

The next event was the election of circle council and congregational committees for all the congregations. As circle president, Pastor Suphol Hembrom, was re-elected. The headmaster for the Middle English School, Benjamin Pauria, was elected as treasurer, and the previous treasurer, Teacher Manka Hembrom, became the secretary.

It was decided that the congregational committee in each congregation should have at least one ordinary meeting a month and that the members should undertake the responsibility of keeping the contact between the congregation and the circle council. In addition, they should try to encourage the members of the congregation to better Christian conduct. They also should help the pastor in visiting the homes and instructing candidates for confirmation and baptism and try to improve the generosity of giving.

Our three pastors have worked as previously and faithfully carried out their pastoral duties. Forty-seven children of Christian parents and six persons from among the non-christians have been baptized. Forty-eight young people have been confirmed. This year also an average of 10 communion services have been conducted in each of the ten congregations. The hostel boys at Kaerabani have set a good example for others to follow by offering some of their daily ration of rice. During the month this amounts to a full bag, so they bring it to the church and place it in front of the altar.

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In the group of elders in this circle, only a couple of changes have been made. As part-time worker in Manpur, Paulus Soren, was appointed from the first of September. The Santal Parganas Church Council at their meeting in October decided that our leader in Sagra, Ranglal Kisku, should be ordained and work among Santal families who have moved from the Masanjor area when that was inundated by water of the new dam. Therefore, we had to find a new arrangement for Sagra. Dhodua Kisku, who lives at Sagra and studied in the training school last year, is temporarily appointed as the leader of the congregation. Otherwise, the same evangelists are working as before. The same eight Bible women have also continued as last year, and the work among the women has improved.

The Sunday School work has been carried on in seven of the congregations as previously with eleven teachers. The number of pupils has increased some since last year. A very encouraging event is that Benjamin Pauria voluntarily started Sunday Schools at Tilia and Duma villages and managed to gather a number of children. In the month of May he attended two week's course for Sunday School leaders in South India. Since then he has been along visiting the out-stations on Sunday to encourage the Sunday School work.

At Kaerabani a youth group was started in January, but this needs renewal.

The village schools have still good attendance. The schools at Jambua, Babhondiha, and Manpur were visited by the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Deoghar, who gave a fine report of the work being done at these schools. He has given us renewed hope of Government's recognition for these three places. The schools at Dhobna, Domkata and Pæhrudi have continued as before. The total number of students in the village schools is 190,

On our camping tours in the district we contacted some very lonely Christians. We met one such family far to the northwest from Jambua, near the Ojoi River. Such remote Christians appreciate more than others a visit by Christian friends. The Ojoi River is the border of our mission field to the West and on the other side the Methodists and Plymouth Brethren have their mission field. But the Methodists at Madhupur have given us permission to work also on the west side of the river.

From the top of Lokhonpur which is the highest mountain in Santal Parganas, one can see a large plain stretching north towards Deoghar with numerous villages scattered all over. In that vast area very little mission work has been done. Thinking of such fields, the Church has immeasurable tasks yet to fulfill.

Also in the southern part of the district around about the out-station Rakh, we had many good listeners, both Santals and Bengalis. That beautiful mission compound is surrounded by Santal villages, but none are Christian. For five or six years no one has lived in the compound, and the ruins of the church building and elder's house are the only signs to show that mission work has been done there. In the month of November we had a big surprise when a candidate from the last course at the Kaerabani Training School offered to take up the work again at Rakh. He wants to start a small village school and at the same time try to do something for spreading the Gospel in the surrounding villages. He had been along with some of us to Rakh on a preaching trip last hot season, and since then he has felt a personal call to that place.

Many of the training school and high school students have been along on such preaching trips and taken part with song and testimonies. It means much for them to be active in the congregational life during their school years.

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It was a happy experience to be with pastors and elders for one week's Bible course commencing at the end of February. The Rev. W. Glad was guest speaker during the Bible course.

Sunday, the sixth of May, was our "Youth Day" here at Kaerabani. Many young people from most of the congregations of the circle gathered together. We all enjoyed to hear the songs and witnessing. A special happy event that will make that day remain long in our memory was the baptism of the Mohammedan Sajon Mia with his wife and three children.

The annual women's meeting was held at Jambua this time. The local Christians, led by Pastor Mongol Besra and his wife had arranged everything very satisfactorily, and there was a large attendance. The main topic concentrated on by all speakers was "The Christian Congregation."

The mela was held as usual in Kaerabani. It gathered more people than before. Pastor Naran Soren and his wife; Raode, were guest speakers, and they both told many enchanting experiences from their travels in Europe. The net income of the mela was about Rs. 250/- and that is much more than last year.

We are thankful to the Santal Parganas Church Council for the extra grant towards major house repair. As a result the house at Manpur now has received a verandah on two sides, making it possible for the teacher's family to live under normal human conditions which hardly could have been said about them before the repair was done. The roof on the Babhondiha church building has for many years been difficult to keep in good condition in addition to the big teacher's house there. Unfortunately, the budget did not permit the entire house to be repaired, but it is

a big step in the right direction when the house itself now has received an asbestos roof. The verandah has to wait until next year. Then we also hope to be able to build a new church at Sagra and an elder's house at Monhorchok. At this last mentioned place we have not been able to appoint any new elder because there is no house for him to live in. Therefore, the pensioned elder, Daniel Marndi, has been working there from his home also this last year.

In our district hospital we have continued to receive tuberculosis patients. We are still observing good results of the treatment, but tuberculosis has become a big problem in this area. Many suffering from this disease, both Christians and non-Christians, cannot provide the money for medicine and so must die in their homes. It is, therefore, a great pleasure to know that the Government in its second five-year plan has included an extensive campaign against this disease.

Before closing we want to extend our greetings to all the mission friends with thanks for faithful service in prayer and offerings during the past year.

Gudrun and Hjalmar Kvam.

M A H A R O .

The sad fact that Miss Ragnhild Rein had to leave India so suddenly, is being commented on with sorrow everywhere in the district. In each village they miss her and her interest and loving care for them in times of illness as well as in times of joy and gladness.

The medical work has been carried on as usual. It is on rather a small scale as we are so near Dumka,

The work among the out-door leper-patients, however, deserves special mentioning. It was started in 1954 with two patients advised to come here for treatment from Saldoha, and by the end of 1956 the number of patients receiving weekly medicine had increased to 76.

No changes have taken place among the district workers this year. Our two pastors and four evangelists, and their wives in their respective villages have carried on the congregational activities as before. The work to spread the Gospel and help the Christians to grow spiritually has not always been easy, but nevertheless, it has been done. However, the short time I have been in Maharo, has been long enough to create in me a feeling that a deep-going, heart-searching renewal in all our Christians is very essential if the congregations shall continue to grow, spiritually as well as in number.

In the month of February the workers led by Ragnhild Rein were in camp at Jalwae. Naomi Torkelson was also with them. All of them, the two missionaries included, went out preaching most of the day all during the week they stayed there. They mostly went to non-Christian villages, and the week was ended with a good meeting for all the school children in Jalwae.

The village schools are operating as usual. The teachers are the same as last year and they are doing their work faithfully. No new schools have been started, nor have any schools which in previous years were closed, been reopened.

During the year thirty-one children of Christian parents were baptized. From the non-christian community the following have been received into the congregation through baptism: One woman from Mondonpur; one boy from Kurwa; a family of three from Matkur; a Mahle family of four from Haripur; a couple from

Chatra, and their daughter and her husband and two children from Asanbani. In addition to these, we had the great joy of having one of our high school girls be baptized. She has been here in the school since she was in second class, and she is the first one of her entire family to become a christian.

May the new year be a year of increased love to our Master and Saviour and of never ceasing prayer for the coming of His Kingdom to all the many villages of this district which are still in darkness, "without hope and without God in the world." Let us remember that "The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effect."

Elise Dragoy.

TILABANI

Since Rev. P. Pedersen left Tilabani in 1955 there has not been any district-missionary there.

The two very able pastors, Ranglal Kisku and Sibal Hasdak' are in charge of all the district work.

A number of baptisms from among the non-christians have taken place, and the congregations are growing. As the congregational returns are not yet available from the leading district-pastors we are unable at present to furnish the statistics.

During my many visits in the Tilabani area, which now stretches from Mohulpahari and far down to Suri in length, it was a real joy to meet with Christian friends there, and to witness the progress of the work under the inspired leadership of the pastors, and not least of the faithful Evangelist Saona Hasdak'.

May God bless the workers as they toil on for the advancement of the Kingdom of God.

The Tilabani bungalow was given as a residential quarter for the literature work, but owing to the fact that the bungalow is in very bad condition the house has so far been unfit as living quarters. The timber of the roof is partly rotten and partly eaten by the white ants. The ceiling is in a deplorable condition, and there are big cracks in the walls. The walls of the bungalow are very poor, consisting of a mixture of mud, unburnt bricks and some burnt bricks. This mixture is the cause of the bad condition of the walls.

Materials for repair work have been gathered, but it is at writing hour still a question as to how much is advisable to spend in repairs on this bungalow.

Our friends will no doubt remember the important work in this large district in prayer.

William Glad.

LITERATURE WORK.

When I returned to the mission field for the third time on the 13th of January, 1956, it was my privilege to comply with the decision of the conference to give full time service in the literature work.

I do feel that the work in the field of literature is one of the most essential tasks for any person to be entrusted with.

The importance of literature has not always been fully realized, much to the disadvantage of the work in general.

Time and time again considerable sums have been assigned for different kinds of work, both educational and charitable, while the support for literature has been negligible. A review of the huge sums spent in past years for different types of work will markedly bring this fact into light.

In regard to the valuation of our work it is most desirable and necessary that a change in our attitude towards the importance of literature takes place.

The theoretical valuation may be objective, but when it comes down to the practical side, for various reasons it lacks the power to put it through into fruitful service.

The well-known and famous Dr. France C. Laubach has said that in the next 50 years 500 million new people will learn to read.

The literature which falls into the hands of these people will constitute a powerful and decisive factor in the determination of the course of individual life and society as well.

Then the question rises: What kind of literature are these millions of people going to read?

The communistic as well as the color and frivolous press are fully aware of the situation. Then taking advantage of the hunger for reading materials they are spreading their literature all over. Sometimes they distribute it free of charge, and at other times at a very low price.

The task of producing real good, thought-provoking and character building christian literature cannot be merely a detail far out in the perimeter of our work. The literature is indeed a primary task.

The Christian Teachers Society of Norway has given us a very liberal gift for this special work, 33,500 Norwegian Kroner.

This gift has enabled us to get a special built jeep and trailer for travel and distribution purpose. It has also given us a working budget for 1956 and partly 1957. We shall need a good deal more if we are to use the opportunities that we have before us.

This year I have had the able help of Mr. Jacob Hembrom, a teacher in the Government High School here in Dumka. Mr. Benjamin Pauria, a teacher in our mission high school at Kaerabani, and Pastor Bhiklal Hasdak'. These fellow workers have gone through all my manuscripts before they were presented to the printing press.

The literature produced and printed this year:

New books:

- (1) "Sera horko lagit' baptisma puthi."
- (2) "Juanko lagit' puthi." (Confirmation book.)
- (3) "Pastorko lagit' cecet' puthi."
- (4) "Kristo okoe kanae?"
- (5) 20 Bible study hours

Tract: "Hajri?"

New book in manuscript: "Cet' in mena?"

Translation: Johan Falkberget: "Utar disom khonak' merhet'" (From Norwegian to Santali.)

We have been engaged in Bible teaching at several of our Bible conferences. We have also been visiting a number of our schools in Santal Parganas and hundreds of books have been sold and distributed.

We then humbly present this first report of our new literature work to all who are interested in and praying for the coming of God's Kingdom.

William Glad.

EDUCATIONAL WORK IN SANTAL PARGANAS.

SANTAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

“But how are men to call upon him in whom
they have not believed?
And how are they to believe in him of whom they
have never heard?
And how are they to hear without a preacher?
And how can men preach unless they are sent?
As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of
those who preach good news!” (Romans 10: 14-15)

The task put before us in Santal Theological Seminary is to train young Santals, Boros and Mahles together with their wives to become preachers of “The Good News” How we succeed in this task, none of us can judge, but we go forward believing that God will bless the work done for the good of His church.

At present there are 19 students in the men’s classes and 19 in the women’s classes. Eleven families and one single man are studying in their third year, one family studying in the second year and five families and one single man studying in the first year. The last mentioned, admitted from July 1, 1956, are as follows:

From Boro Church Council: Kirtiman Narjari and family, Gaorang Circle. Khorgeswar Boshumotary, Bongaegaon Circle.

From Assam Santal Church Council: Ruben Murmu and family, Santipara Circle.
Emanuel Murmu and family, Santipara Circle.

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From North Bengal Santal Church Council: John Murmu and family, West Dinajpur Circle.
From Santal Parganas Church Council: Munshi Pauria and family, Benagaria Circle.

The grand old teacher, Pastor Kalu Kisku, died on January 14th, 1956. His health had not been good for several years and the last two years he was not able to carry the burdens he was used to in the teaching, but we miss him now. He was a teacher in the Divinity School from 1939, and most of the present pastors in our church have profited from his spiritual instruction. Blessed be the memory of this faithful worker.

It was fortunate, that a new teacher couple, Moti Lal Hasdak' and his wife, Esther Hembrom, were appointed from January 1, 1956. They have entered into the work here with joy and a good spirit. Otherwise, the teachers are the same as last year: Rev. M. M. Tudu, Mrs. Chundki Hasdak' (Kalu Pastor's widow), my wife and myself.

It is the great concern of the staff and our Governing Body to develop this institution in order to meet the growing demands for better training. The pastors in our church are to carry heavier burdens in the future, as they will take over the responsibilities from the missionaries. It may not be their desire, but it will be necessary. We must also remember that more well educated people are counted among our congregation members. Therefore, we have planned and started an education equivalent to the L. Th. degree from Serampore University. But beside the academical instruction we also want to give the students as much practical teaching as possible. In this connection some points must be mentioned from our Governing Body meeting at Benagaria, August 25, 1956, as the Synod decided upon these in our favour.

KAERABANI SANTAL HIGH SCHOOL.

“For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do His good pleasure.” (Philippians 2:13)

Young Christians eager to know and do the will of God in their lives depict a large number of the students at Kaerabani. It is good to remind ourselves that it is God who by various means guides them to a knowledge of His will and the grace to do His good pleasure. Many encouraging signs of the Spirit of God at work could be reported. Among the most worth while signs has been the sincere hunger for spiritual knowledge in many indicated by attendance at special evangelistic meetings conducted by Miss Lofthus of America from January 8-16 and by Mr. S. Pandit of the Children's Special Service Mission from September 4-10. Sunday, December 6th, was another significant highlight when twenty-one young men were confirmed in their faith by our General Superintendent, Rev. O. S. Bjerkestrand, guest speaker for the day.

In March the high school band and choir went on a concert tour of most of our stations and several congregations in Santal Parganas under the leadership of Bandmaster, Mr. Benjamin Murmu. In spite of the aged instruments and uniforms, the boys made a sizeable contribution towards creating more interest in Kaerabani among our church members. Our hostel enrollment was increased from 125 to 145 in July and we believe this is largely because of the interest created by this concert tour. If new instruments and uniforms can be had in the future, tours of this kind should be made every year.

The high school and middle school became separate departments from the new school term in July by Government recommendation and Mr. Benjamin Pauria

was appointed headmaster of the middle school. The enrollment was again somewhat increased over the previous year when a new section was opened in Class ten making a total of 221 in the high school and 255 in the middle school as of December. Matriculation results in the Government examination in March were encouraging when 17 out of 30 passed in the honors exam and half of the others in 2nd Division. Two out of the three sent up for the supplementary examination in July passed, one coming out in the first division. The school was again awarded an efficiency grant by the Government.

Our staff had a few changes when Gora C. Tudu left for studies abroad in March and Sonathan Jha took leave for his Basic Training course in July, Mr. A. Rahim, M. A., was appointed in November, 1955, and Mr. S. N. Sahay, I. Sc., B. A., Dip-in-Ed replaced Mr. Prabodh Mondal, B. Sc., who resigned in September. Other additions include Mr. Artemas Hasdak', I. A. fail, who joined the staff in April. We were unfortunate that our clerk, Mr. Arun Mahto, took sick with complicated plueresy in April and has been forced to take medical leave most of the time since. He was replaced by Soiland Modi who did the clerk's duties in addition to part time teaching. Agriculture has finally become officially a new part of our curriculum when Mr. Aziz Ahmad, B. Sc., (Agr) was appointed from July. Some twenty boys in Class ten have now taken up this subject. We were indeed happy to receive a new Ferguson Diesel tractor and a trailer load of farm implements from Santal Mission friends in America last February. This valuable gift has become a great stimulus to interest and instruction in the science of agriculture among our students. We extend our sincere thanks to all contributing friends who have made this gift possible. Because of this gift is was possible

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to make an extensive tour of Santal Parganas in March with our band and choir. In addition we have from this year begun to manage all accessible rice fields which with the help of the tractor has resulted in about twice as much paddy as usual for the school godown totalling 690 maunds of net paddy.

The gardening program has received some improvement with the addition of a new fence enclosing about six acres for the gardens of high school classes. Some irrigation channels were made so that water from the new well can be made useable. The bullock driven pump serves to lift the necessary water but this project is not yet completed.

We had better results in the Teacher's Training class than expected. In spite of a greatly increased enrollment which we feared might have been too many in one class to train them properly, thirty-one passed out of 38 regular students and six out of 12 previous students who had failed and appeared as private students in the Government examination held in June. Government certificates have this year been granted to all passed candidates of our school since the year 1952 when the present Junior Training School was converted from an Elementary Training School to more basic lines. So for all practical purposes the school is recognized by the Government of Bihar. Following a visit by the Deputy Director of Education in Bihar, we can hope for grant-in-aid also for the training school.

The Lower Primary School under the able leadership of Mrs. Priscilla Tudu, headmistress, has continued to grow so that we now have approximately 165 enrolled. Thirty out of thirty-three in the third grade passed and 40 new students were enrolled from June when the new term opened. Two students were sent for Government scholarship

examination held in Jamtara and both were awarded scholarships for their further studies.

Prize Day was the annual highlight of the year held on the 20th of May, Mr. David, District Agricultural Officer, Dumka, presided. He gave an inspiring talk on the principles and practices of scientific agriculture, and the place agriculture has in the second five year plan of the Government. He gave us much encouragement to develop our agricultural teaching and demonstration at Kaerabani. Being a Christian himself, he spoke well of the place our Christian schools are filling in India today. He especially encouraged us to continue improving our handwork crafts.

We thank God for the general good health of our students and staff throughout the year. Much credit is due to Dr. Otto Forman who assisted by Mr. Roxit of Dumka examined our students and staff thoroughly in November, 1955, and again by Drs. William Scott and Paul Murmu in December this year. Marked improvement was indicated especially in the reports of amoebic and hookworm among the hostel boys. Since 1952 amoebic has been reported reduced from 59% to 12% and hookworm from 89% to 9%. Again we received both cholera and typhoid vaccines from Government for which we are very grateful. Powdered milk was also distributed from Government supplies to Lower Primary School students and others requiring milk supplement. We are soon in need of two trained compounders to replace the present ones reaching retiring age.

We had a number of visitors who added much to the inspiration of our school life. A group of students and two teachers from Grahampur High school in Assam paid their first visit to Kaerabani in October. In January we had a visit of Dr. Birkeli and Mr. Baetz of Luthe-

ran World Federation, who had come from Geneva to a meeting in South India. They were interested in helping us develop agricultural teaching and we were later very happy to learn that a gift of Rs. 225,000 for this purpose has now been earmarked for developing our program of agriculture at Kaerabani.

The Bible Society book van stopped twice during the year when much literature was sold among the students and staff. Before school hours daily we have a planned routine of Bible instruction for our Christians. This year our Hostel Sunday School was reorganized into four classes and they have pledged two seers of rice daily in addition to Sunday offerings in the Church. It has been good to see their happy response and how proud they are when it takes four or five strong boys to carry their rice bags to the church.

The Christian teacher's training school students have been receiving instruction in Sunday School work during Bible hours once a week and on Sundays they have both observed and participated in Sunday School teaching. In addition to learning how to organize village Sunday School, they go regularly with Benjamin Pauria who has been teaching this subject since his return from the All-India Sunday School Teacher's Institute in Coonoor last May.

We thank the Government of Bihar for increased grant-in-aid this year and also we express our sincere gratitude for the advice and help of all our inspectors who have been very helpful.

Then for the prayers and gifts of the Mission friends in our homelands we thank you one and all and pray God will continue to bless your support as He certainly has done in the past.

To the teachers, staff and students who have given of their kind generosity in extending hospitality to us these past four years we extend a hearty thanks. We trust that you will continue to give loyal support to your new principal and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. Johansen.

As we prepare to return on furlough we are happy to leave the work in the experienced hands of Rev. and Mrs. Johansen. We pray God's continued blessing on the ever expanding work at Kaerabani.

Above all we thank God for His faithfulness even when we have not been so to Him. We rejoice in the marvellous thought that it is our ever patient God and Father who works in and through us all both to will and to do his good pleasure.

Helen and Obert Landsverk.

MAHARO GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL, MIDDLE SCHOOL AND TRAINING SCHOOL.

Here in India the new year comes at the most pleasant time of the entire year. At least, that is the way it seems to those of us who come from the far north and enjoy the coolness of the nights here and the pleasant warmth of the day. Around in the villages the rice has been harvested and people enjoy the new food. The supply of food is greater than at any other time of the year.

Here in Maharo we observed the first day of the year as a thanksgiving day, and the congregational members attended very well. The rice offering was the biggest we have ever had and thus it should be when the congregation should begin to think seriously of self-support.

When the school began again we had the joy to see that nearly all the girls came back. There has been a strict rule now that all must pay school fees and boarding fees, before they can sit for the examination. Therefore, they go home debt free and no one needs to stay at home because of old debt. It is quite a task to collect all the money but it must be done. This last year our matron, Miss Sorola Murmu, has been responsible for collecting the boarding fees and this she has carried out in a very satisfactory manner. We are very thankful to her for her efficiency and faithfulness in the leading of the hostel. The arrangement that the girls bring rice seems to us to be an economical saving. Most of them bring rice from their own homes. During the last two years the hostel has been full. It is a joy to feel that parents realize the necessity that girls also receive education.

In the school the new year began with the change that Miss Lois Tudu replaced Dewan Soren who took over the position as supervisor (scrdar). In May Miss Ruth Sushila Singh resigned and was married and moved to Kaerabani. Since it was decided that the Infant Class should be discontinued in accordance with the new school arrangement, there was no new teacher appointed in her place. Instead, we obtained a new teacher in the high school from the first of July, Miss Nilmani Minz. She is failed B. A. and will in addition to her work here, prepare herself to again appear for the B. A. examination. She replaced Mrs. Hemlota Lall who had to leave for health reasons.

Since this year was the first time we sent girls up for matriculation we looked forward to this examination with great expectation. We had six candidates and they had to participate in the examination held at the Government High School in Dumka. In the last of June the results were received. Three passed in

second division, and one in third division. Naturally, the disappointment was great for the two who did not succeed. From July we have had only three in the Matric Class, so we have small beginnings. But at the same time the first class in the high school is filled with 29 girls and the total enrollment in the four classes is 46 from the beginning of the school year in July.

In our Teacher's Training Class we have had the usual enrollment of sixteen. We have up to this time accepted only as many as we have stipends for from the Government. The final examination for these will be held sometime in April, 1957.

During the first half year the state of health was good and all, both students and teachers, were able to return home well at summer vacation time. The yearly medical examination took place the last part of July when Dr. Edel Busch Haugstad was so kind as to undertake the examination. In the meantime, Miss Ragnhild Rein who has been nurse here since 1946 began to feel ill during vacation last summer. At the end of August a specialist in Calcutta advised her to return home to Norway as soon as possible. This was a hard blow for us all here in Maharo and for herself the departure was not easier. It has been good to see the love and intercession on her behalf out in the congregations and here in the school. We were reminded so strongly of the words in Isaiah 55:8 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith Jehovah." Approximately one month after Miss Rein had left us, Miss Elise Dragoy came to fill the vacancy here. We are very thankful to her and to the Mission Secretary who obtained help for us so quickly. A few weeks after Miss Rein left us one of our girls died at Mohulpahari Hospital after only a few days illness. It was also with heavy heart that we had to send home one of the girls in Class

III who returned sick after summer vacation. She had tuberculosis and died in her home in the beginning of December.

Also this year our teachers have been helpful with meetings and extra activities for the girls. Every Monday the Girl Scouts gather and the headmistress of the Training School is always the driving force there. The Sunday School is conducted by the Training Class. Otherwise, we each take our turn conducting the regular meetings. The Bible hours on Thursday afternoon for the teachers seem to us to be an important link in our work, for God's Word is our Leading Star and we receive strength from praying together for our work and for ourselves.

The first Sunday in November was also a festival day in that 17 girls were confirmed in the church by Rev. A. E. Stronstad. May the seriousness of the day follow these young ones through their life and the band of faith knit them more and more to their Lord and Saviour.

Before I close this report I desire to give expression to our thankfulness to the Indian Government for its financial grants and co operation during the year and to the staff for faithful and efficient work from day to day. And not the least, we are thankful to you friends in the homelands who so faithfully stand together with us in prayer and work. At the end of this year we can again look back on the lovingness of God and goodness under all that met us. His promises stand.

Edle Sigurdson.

BASETKUNDI MIDDLE ENGLISH SCHOOL.

The year 1956 was a memorable year in the history of the school in that the school which has up until now been under the Mission was transferred to the Church and now is under Sultanabad Circle. When the school opened again after Christmas vacation on the 9th of January, 1956, this transfer was marked at an informal gathering.

The teachers of the school, Circle President and Secretary, and the missionaries gathered for devotion and prayer meeting. At this time the keys of the school office were turned over to the President of Sultanabad Circle who in turn turned over the keys to the head master of the school. That will be an hour which we shall remember. When the school bell rang for the devotions for the students, we went in a group to the Church where the transfer from Mission school to the Church's own school was brought forth in a short message. One has always so many good hopes and plans at the beginning of a new year. And our best hope for the school's growth and advancement, blessing and that it always must be in accordance with God's will can be expressed in these words, "And God is able to make all grace abound unto you" The word from Philipians 3:16 became so real, "only whereunto we have attained, by that same rule let us walk."

There have been several changes with the school in the course of the year. But the most outstanding change is that we have a new headmaster. A young Christian Santal whose home is in Sultanabad, Augustine Tudu, I. A. was appointed by the school committee and approved by the school authorities as headmaster for the school. For several years a teacher from a Catholic congregation held that office. But there was some dissatis-

faction. He never could read God's Word or pray together with the school's teachers or students. But, otherwise, he tried to do his best in the classrooms.

The enrollment in the school has gradually increased the last few years so that this year we have 178 students on the roll. There is a group of approximately 30 who irregularly come from the surrounding villages, and because they come so irregular we have not enrolled them in the school register. In the smaller classes both boys and girls take part in the instruction. We have a total of 111 non-christian students while only 67 come from Christian homes. In the boarding there is a marked increase recently with 94 enrolled. It has been a joy to see the big group of young boy's come to church on Sunday. They favour the congregation with choir anthems occasionally. A few boys have been baptized while they have been here in school and one joined the congregation by transfer from a Catholic congregation.

Every Sunday morning there are Sunday School classes in the church for those who live in the boarding. This is led by the teachers. There have also been held weekly young people meetings for the older boys in the boarding and the young people of Basetkundi congregation.

Among the students the greater part have shown interest for the school work. They each have their small garden plot, in which they compete to see who keeps it the nicest and receives the most products. The students have been co-operative when they have been asked to do any extra work and they have taken part in "village uplift" A bigger garden belongs to the boarding.

A serious illness, "Malaria-Typhoid" created many difficulties this year and for a while we were con- . . .

ned whether or not the seventh class would be able to take the middle school examination. But by God's grace they fared well, both through sickness and examination. The teachers have faithfully done their duties and shown willingness in co-operation.

We desire to express a hearty thanks to all our co-workers and those that have shared the responsibility of the school's operation with us.

We also express hearty thanks to all mission friends in the homelands who have faithfully continued in intercession and love.

God be thanked for all grace.

Rakel and Ingolf Hoyland.

MEDICAL WORK IN SANTAL PARGANAS.

MOHULPAHARI CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL.

“Ye also helping together on our behalf by your supplications; that for the gift bestowed upon us by means of many, thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf.” II Cor. 1: 11.

It is indeed with much joy that thanks may be given by the many who have been praying for the work here at Mohulpahari in 1956. Truly God has blessed us this year despite its many trials and difficulties and long periods of separation. Your prayers on our behalf helped tremendously and we could feel the uplift of the Holy Spirit in response to your supplications. It was our first year in the work and we have come to realize the gigantic task to which we have been called. Our training in medicine and surgery, nursing, in field hospital administration, in the language study and in specialized studies in the School of Tropical Medicine have prepared us for this work and we praise His Name for enabling us to be here. We would have appreciated more special training in Bible School, but perhaps the Lord can use even us to give a simple testimony through our professional duties that will bring honor to His Name and lead some into the knowledge of the Truth.

PERSONNEL:

It has been a year of change, but God has been faithful, going ever before us, making the rough places smooth. In April, Dr. and Mrs. Otto Forman left for Denmark on furlough. We were sorry to see them go but the hospital was in excellent condition when they

left and we wish to extend to them a hearty thanks for making our work so much easier in starting out. Without the fine foundation which had been established in the work it would have been an extremely difficult year. As it was, however, the work carried on very well in the traditions of the past, to the honor and glory of God.

For the most of the year, I had to be away from Mohulpahari while studying in Calcutta at the Tropical School. I returned only on alternate weekends in a hectic flurry of activity, doing an occasion major operation, supervising the various building projects and signing various letters and bills which had been accumulating while away. It was not easy to be in charge by remote control. However, the medical and surgical skills of Dr. Chatterjee and Dr. Halder enabled the hospital to run at peak efficiency. Miss Hilma Gjerde did a fine job in the Nursing Department and Mrs. Jeanne Scott ran the Administrative Office, keeping up with the many demands for more drugs, supplies and payroll distribution. Miss Alice Axelson continued in the Nursing School after her return from Hindi Language School with a full program of teaching. The other staff workers also continued to perform their duties without tiring so that the total patient load was maintained with very little alteration.

In July we received a new doctor on our staff, Dr. H. Mukherjee, MB, BS, who came to us after Dr. Halder left for further medical studies. He comes from Rampurhat where his father is Vice-Principal of the Rampurhat College. He is well trained and we are very happy for his fine, willing and eager spirit. We wish to thank Dr. Halder for his time with us. He was a fine doctor and had a wonderful Christian witness among the patients. We trust that God will indeed

bless him as he pursues his graduate studies in Calcutta.

In August, I came up from Calcutta on an emergency visit to deliver a fine bouncing baby girl to Dr. and Mrs. Chatterjee by Cesarian Section. Prior to and following the delivery Mrs. Chatterjee had a rather stormy course which finally turned out alright. Through this period and through the long months before Dr. Chatterjee had been under a constant strain. This led to his health breaking down and for an anxious two weeks I saw him regularly at the Presidency General Hospital in Calcutta where he had come for treatment of an acute illness. We were thankful to God for answered prayer in respect to the Chatterjees and we continue to pray that God will have his way in their lives in the coming days. We are praying also for Dr. and Mrs. Mukherjee who have yet to see the glorious Light of the Gospel in their own lives. Continue with your prayers as well.

We were happy to welcome Dr. Paul Murmu back from his studies in America and look forward to seeing him regularly here at Mohulpahari. He will work part time at Saldoha Leprosy Colony and part time at Mohulpahari until such a time as he feels God's leading in respect to his future work. We wish him every success in his future program and trust that he will be happy to work among us once again.

Our Obstetrical Service has increased to over 100 deliveries this past year which is a big advance in an area where home deliveries are the accepted mode. Among the babies were two fine boys born to missionary ladies. One boy was born to Mrs. Bonarjee, wife of Birbhum District Magistrate, and the other to Mrs. Torkildsen wife of our Mission Treasurer. We are thankful for the small part we played in helping them.

Several other missionaries had severe illnesses this year which required various periods of hospitalizations, and special examination. Miss Axelson had a rather prolonged illness which limited her work at the Nursing School but did not prevent her from experiencing the joy in seeing the School recognized by the Bihar Nursing Council for training of Auxilliary Nurses. She will go on furlough in January 1957, for a well earned rest and necessary treatment so that she might return to carry on her excellent work in 1958. The Report of the Nursing School is appended herewith.

In December, our sordar and driver, Thomas Sunua Mia, was baptized into the Christian faith at our Mohulpahari Church and with his decision came the answers to many prayers on his behalf. We rejoice also in the way he is carrying on in his zeal and interest. Continue to pray for him in the days ahead as he seeks to win wife and family who are yet in heathendom.

HOSPITAL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT.

The new equipment we brought from America has been hard at use. The Jeep Station Wagon Ambulance given by the Norwegian Young People's Society of Trinity Church in Brooklyn has been a wonderful utility vehicle, carrying patients and supplies from as far as two hundred miles from the hospital, over all kinds of difficult roads. The Anesthesia Machine given by friends in Minnesota has broadened our range of surgical procedures, as has the new dermatome, suction machines, and oxygen resusitators. In the laboratory the new centrifuge and electric colorimeter have extended our diagnostic facilities. In the Outdoor Department construction is under way for two new doctors' offices and a large waiting room for the clinic patients. This will also serve to provide shelter for the indoor patients' families and attendants who are no longer permitted to live on

the wards. As a result of this restriction the wards have a much neater appearance and the nurses are getting more experience in patient care since more of the patients' needs are now being met by the staff nurses which formerly were handled by the relatives.

CHRISTIAN WITNESS

Mrs. Das continues her faithful witness daily on the wards and in the Out-Door. Her contacts bring many patients under the Gospel message for the first time in their lives and the literature distribution extends this message beyond the hospital compound. Bhikulal Pastor has had a very difficult year in this congregation due to elements of unrest among some of the members. He has continued to present the true Gospel message with a real living witness to the people and we praise God for his evangelical approach in Church and in the Bible Study periods.

We have started a men's Bible Class using the Landour Bible Institute course "Way of Salvation" There was a good response initially and we trust that the Word may penetrate deeply into the lives of these who take part in this regular Bible study. These courses are in Hindi and we are hoping to get them into Santali as well, so those of our compound and outside may begin to take this study in their own tongue. Pray with us that this undertaking may be successful in reaching those who may not yet know the blessed experience of the inner life with Christ.

STATISTICAL REPORT.

As you can see from the appended statistics the work has progressed very well despite the shortage of staff workers and serious illnesses. We praise God that He has enabled us to continue the Nursing School for

1956 with applications from new students. We look forward to a bright New Year in 1957 and trust that each of you will continue to remember us daily before the Throne of Grace that God will effectively work through us to the end that these dear ones to whom we have been sent may come to know Him Who gives Life and gives it more abundantly.

Jeanne and William R. Scott.

A. OUT-PATIENT DEPARTMENT

New Patients	11.708		
Repeat Visits	10.507		
Total	22.215		
Christians	2.958	Laboratory Tests	11.722
Santals	4.381	Injections	5.319
Hindus	11.545	Abscesses	232
Muslims	3.331	Plaster of Paris	107
Men	12.315	Tooth Extractions	230
Boys	2.351	Minor Operations	370
Women	6.085	Flouroscopies	1.527
Girls	1.464	X-ray Photos	30

B. IN-PATIENT DEPARTMENT.

Admitted during the year	1.624
Average length of hospitalization	12 days
Number of Deaths	66

Christians	317	Men	650
Santals	389	Boys	234
Hindus	684	Women	584
Muslim	234	Girls	156

C. SURGERY & OBSTETRICS

Ophthalmic	47	Plastic	14
Ent	14	Gynecological	128
Glandular	19	Ano-Rectal	12
Neck	5	Orthopedic	23
Abdominal General	130	Obstetrical	125
Urologic	222	Sterile Procedures	43

Total Procedures : 782

MOHULPAHARI NURSING SCHOOL.

"Trust in the Lord and He will bring it to pass.

(Psalm 37:5)"

One specific object of our trusting in regard to the Nursing School in Mohulpahari Christian Hospital has been brought to pass in this year of 1956. In late fall of 1955 the inspection of our facilities by a representative of the Bihar Nursing Registration Council was made. The result was a favourable recommendation, and in April, 1956, came the long awaited word that "Mohulpahari Hospital is provisionally recognized by this Council for the training of Auxilliary Nurses."

In October, by special permission and payment of a special fee, two student nurses who had been studying and working and waiting for that day went to Patna for their written State Board examination. Two weeks later they went to Ranchi for the practical and oral parts of the same examination. It was a chatter-full day of suspense when they returned and younger students, graduate nurses, and all talked all at once to hear "all about the exam.s" A thankful and more serene joy reigned on the day a few weeks later when the letter came to tell us both had passed.

Now we are continuing to trust that the Government will maintain its recognition and that our students may continue to have success in the State Examinations. We trust also that even as our God has fulfilled for us these necessities, He is quietly and surely shaping the environment where young women together with the disciplines of their profession will be helped in those disciplines of the soul which will turn their desires toward living for Him and him only. Do trust, and pray, and work with us to that end, and He will bring it to pass.

Alice Axelson.

SALDOHA LEPPER COLONY.

When we look back upon the year which has passed and on all that has happened, we can only say "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us so well, even unto today." Often the problems were many and big, but afterwards we saw the Lord had helped us through, not always as we had expected it. We sensed that to have friends who intercede for the work and us who are in the work is a great and priceless blessing which we in our wisdom cannot understand or measure the depth of.

Due to the high cost of living we had to reduce the total number of patients to 350. Four hundred and forty have been treated during the course of the year in the colony. The Government has opened several dispensaries around in the district where medicine for leprous patients is also available. Thus, we were able to transfer the names of some patients who could receive medicine at such places. They return here after one year for check-ups. In the colony we try to admit only those that are the most contagious and live among small children.

It is a joy to see a good improvement in many patients after they have begun with the new tablets. Fifteen were this year discharged with certificates and a great number showed marked improvement. Such results give encouragement to those that are still left behind. Unfortunately, we have a group who came too late for treatment and will be here until their death. But the greater part we may say, have a hope, either great or small. This year also many came for examination for the first time. Some of them we admitted, but most of them we could transfer to Government dispensaries and many to our own dispensaries in Benagaria or Maharo together with the three conducted under Saldoha. The Methodist

Mission also has a dispensary out in the district where a Norwegian nurse works. They also send their patients here for examination and check-ups.

The statistics for this year are as follows:

	OLD PAT IENTS	NEW PAT- IENTS	SYMPTOM MUCH			
			FREE	BETTER	SLIGHTLY BETTER	SAME
Saldcha	377	63	47	9	257	120
Saldoha out-door	114	31	12	0	65	64
Baromasia	252	55	5	0	105	165
Tarni	218	61	2	0	113	155

The consultations at the out-door dispensaries have increased from year to year. In 1954 there were 11,676 consultations. In 1955 there were 15,165 consultations and this year 17,503 consultations.

With the same personnel as before, sometimes less, we must say that those who have been our co-workers have been faithful and persevering. Twice weekly two or three go out to the out-door dispensaries which are six miles away. It can be terrifically hot, storm or great rain, but they must go.

Dr. Roy has been the doctor for the leprous patients also this past year, but he had to be away a time during the illness and death of his wife, and then we were without the services of a doctor. He is now left alone with seven children of which the youngest is only an infant.

Sister Kari Ringheim has been in charge of the hospital for leprous patients. They are admitted into this hospital from the colony when they have fever, bad sores or need nursing care for other complications. The beds are always occupied and very often the place

is too small. We must also sometimes admit very ill leprous patients who come from the villages and need hospital care. There are six leprous nurses as assistants. When someone leaves, new ones must be trained. Sister Kari has had the responsibility of all this work.

Pastor Salhae Marandi has church services in the church for nonlepers and out in the district, and has also participated in the work among the patients with church services, meetings and instruction for baptism. Last year sixteen were given baptismal instruction for over half a year. They were baptized on the Sunday between Christmas and New Year and that became a great day for us all. Several younger ones also took part in the instruction, but they cannot be baptized until they become of age since the families are non-christians. In the spring a small group which had earlier been instructed and baptized were confirmed. We feel that there is a big group that have open hearts for the Gospel. We have also been so fortunate as to receive visits from visitors who have taken one or more meetings. Miss M. Lofthus from America worked here nearly two weeks, held Bible hours and with chalk drawings illustrated her messages from the Bible. It made the message vivid for many. We had shorter visits from Bishop Schioler and his wife from Denmark, Dr. Williams a representative from the Lutheran Federation to the Batak Church, and several of our missionaries. Miss Nelly Knarvik, who works among the children in the Santal Mission in Norway celebrated Christmas together with us here in Saldoha. Professor Wexelson from Aas Agricultural College was on a trip through India and spent one day at Saldoha. We are thankful to all these for their visit. Such visits refresh both ill and well people in a lonely place.

The children's home for well children of leprous patients was closed this past year. The oldest girl is

now in Maharo Girls' School and the biggest boy in Kaerabani Boys' School. One boy lives here in the boarding school at Saldoha. Three girls were adopted by Christian families who would like to have them, and two small boys returned home to their families in the village.

Sister Margit Hannevik has worked among the non-lepers. A dispensary and hospital with seven beds is a help for the staff and people who come from the villages. The consultations have continually been many since it is a long way to another hospital. Last year the dispensary was visited by 7969 patients.

This year we have also received grants from Government and we are thankful for their help. Likewise, we express thanks to Mission to Lepers and all friends in America, Denmark and Norway who have supported us in offerings and intercessions.

May this blessing continue to be shared on us in Saldoha so that destitutes may continue to receive help both to body and soul and God's Name be glorified.

Aslaug and Jens Sture.

WORK IN BENGAL

BENGALI WOMEN'S WORK IN BIRBHUM AND SANTAL PARGANAS.

Another year has passed and looking back we remember God's unfailing love and goodness throughout the year from the beginning to the end. The work among the women has been carried out by our workers as usual, Mrs. Das in Murarai and Mrs. Dutto in Dumka and Mrs. Biswas was transferred to Suri in November. We hope she will be used very much in that part of the district. Earlier in the year Miss Mullick was sent to Suri and worked out from there for a short time. There are many possibilities for work in that area. Murshidabad is still without any Bible-woman, but we hope that some arrangement can be made for regular visits to this area where there are many open doors.

From that part of the field we plan to send a couple to the Nimasarai Divinity School for training, and it is our great hope that they may come back and work among their own people. Here in Narainpur Miss Mullick and the Bible students have done house visitation in the big village near here and in the surrounding villages going farther and farther out. Many contacts have been made, many Gospel portions and tracts have been distributed and the Seed sown in many hearts. In three surrounding villages there are Christians who are regularly visited and women's meetings held, attended by many women from the neighboring houses. Much more interest is shown in many places and we just long that it may one day bear fruit.

This year also it was possible to go out in camp and visit the various congregations. The work of tea-

ching can not be over-emphasized, I feel. It is so needed, especially where there are new Christians. In one of the congregations there were two families who had recently been baptized. They live far away from other Christians, and one month after baptism the old father in the family suddenly was taken ill and two days after our visit there he died. His funeral was a mighty testimony to the non-Christians around there. All the men from the neighboring Christian congregation came and helped the family in making all the preparations and digging the grave and showed so much brotherly love that the people were astonished. Staying just in the midst of the village gives much opportunity to learn to know the people better and to share their problems with them. There is always something to be settled. Children who have to be sent to school, some have fallen away and gone astray, peace has to be established anew. In so living with them we come to know the people in a new way, and love them more. It is also good to see the circumstances under which our workers live and work. We always come back with this feeling: If we only could do more for them, visit them more regularly. But the districts are so vast and the congregations are so widespread. Thus, it now is impossible. More over, we have up until now had to rely on the buses and bullock carts which are both very unreliable. The buses go as the wind blows and the distances are so great that the time spent waiting on the road for the buses amounts to a lot. Moreover, they usually go only half of the way. It is our great hope and prayer that it will be possible one day to get a jeep, so that the problem of getting around will be solved.

The work here in Narainpur is centered in the Bible Training School which has gone on steadily throughout most of the year. The results of the Junior Exa-

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mination for the Bible women were as follows: 7 passed in first division, and 1 in second division. The students are very eager to learn and we hope and pray that they may be very useful workers, wherever they may be placed. They should finish the entire course in 1957. It has been a privilege to teach them and a joy to both Miss Mullick and myself to see them work so hard and pass with such fine results, but, most of all to see their understanding widening and urge for witnessing growing. The Senior course is much more difficult, but they all passed well in the first part.

In the dispensary many patients have found their way for getting help inspite of a period of closing down due to ill health. Much illness has prevailed due to the unusual heavy rainy season. One of Biblewomen is also a very efficient midwife and has been called out during the year to many cases in the village. For that help many are very thankful.

We close this year's report with much thankfulness to our friends in the homelands who have backed us in prayer. May the blessing of the Lord rest on us all throughout the coming year, so that we may see the work bear fruit in the hearts of many.

Inger Krogh Nielsen.

COOCH BEHAR CIRCLE.

When we look back on the past year we have much to thank God for. In a brief report, I can but only point out a few things. First, I would like to mention our annual church gathering. This year it was held from the 9th to the 11th March at Putimari. It was a good gathering from the beginning to the end, and we felt that God had spoken to each one of us through His Holy Word and strengthened our spiritual life. We had Bible lessons, prayer meetings, and heard reports from the different congregations and talked about the work and how to extend it and strengthen it.

Shortly after this we had Miss Lofthus from America visiting us. All the workers gathered for a Bible course in Cooch Behar. Miss Lofthus had much to give, and we trust that our workers went back to their respective villages strengthened in their faith and more burning in their zeal to proclaim the Gospel in the villages. The public evening meeting was also well visited during these days.

During the year we have had our regular workers' meetings once a month. The workers gather for Bible study and give also reports from the work in the villages. We talk together about the different problems from the work in their villages, and pray together. These meetings prove to be very valuable for the work.

One of the greatest problems of our work is the lack of leaders. By giving stipends we hope to help promising young boys and girls to receive a better education so the problem might be lessened, if not solved.

This year Kedar Nath Marak started his three year's course in the Divinity School in Malda. Soon

a young Garo boy who has passed his matric will start for his L. Th. course in Cherrapunji.

In view of the new primary school for our tribal boys, one of the teachers, Haradhon Nokruk is now taking his basic training in Cooch Behar. A Garo girl is studying in the college in Cooch Behar. In this way we hope to prepare for the future.

The work out in the congregations has gone more or less as usual. The pastor and evangelists have frequently visited the churches for services and other meetings.

From the non-christian community several have been baptized this year and for this we thank God. We know that in our own power we can do nothing, but we are also aware of what the Scripture says that "I can do all things through Christ which strengthened me."

So we thank Him and pray that He will always cause us to triumph in Christ Jesus so that our lives may be a continuous witness to His glory. Our thanks go also to all our friends who support the work by their prayers and their means. In closing I would like to quote the words as found in I Corinthians 15:58 "wherefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast.....as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

John A. Roy,
Chairman, Cooch Behar Circle.

DINHATA.

When looking back over the past year, our hearts are filled with thanks and praise for the privilege of having been able to serve another year in the great Vineyard of our Lord and Master.

We praise Him for all the children and young people He has entrusted into our care. In the beginning of the year we had the joy of opening a new boarding for boys. By doing so, the number of school children was increased by fifteen. In the girls' boarding, we had twenty-nine boarders and in the school we had seventy-two names on the roll. The number of day scholars from the villages around has gradually increased and we count it a privilege to have the opportunity to teach the Bible to these Hindu and Mohammedan children. We pray that they will carry the Good Tidings further on into their homes.

For the first time we had class six opened in our school and because of that we had to have more teachers. A new headmaster, C. H. Marak, from the Australian Baptist Mission, Birisiri, was appointed together with his daughter who is a senior trained teacher.

The work among the young people has been very encouraging. In May we had the joy of having Miss Lofthus from California here for some days and her teaching became a great blessing to them all. After her visit a Bible class for the bigger boys and girls was started and held every Sunday afternoon. It has been a great joy to share the wonderful truths of God's Word with these souls who seem to respond greatly. A Confirmation class for boys was also held during the first months of the year and it was a day of praise and thankfulness when in the beginning of June the Pastor from Cooch Behar came out here and performed

the Confirmation. What a wonderful sight to see ten young boys kneel at the altar and receive the Lord's Supper for the first time in their lives. How we pray that God may bless and keep them as His children and make them faithful servants of His Kingdom. Every Saturday the girls and boys gather separately for Young People's meetings for which they themselves have the whole responsibility. We do hope it will stimulate them to start similar meetings later in their own congregations.

But we realize that we are here not only for the Christians, but also for the non-Christians around us. Every time we have been out proclaiming the Gospel we are filled with thanks and wish we had more time and strength to give to this important work. But we are happy to get in contact with all the Hindus and Mohammedans who are coming here for medical help. Last year the number of tuberculosis patients has increased considerably and by having been entrusted the distribution of powder milk, butter oil and flour from the National Christians Council, we have been able to help them to a better diet also.

To all you who are so faithfully standing behind us in our work by your prayers and offerings, we want to express our hearty thanks. The fruit of the work may not seem to be as much as we expect, but let us take new courage remembering the word "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

Elsa Philquist and Ada Wittander.

NIMASARAI.

The most important event which effected the life and work here in Nimasarai this year, was the re-opening of the Bengali Divinity School. The school actually did not open until the beginning of September, but months previously we had to start getting ready for the coming of the students. The old church building was converted into a schoolroom, with new ceiling, tables and benches. The old dispensary was made ready for the students as living quarters. Rice and firewood had to be stocked and books be bought before the school started. It is the desire of the Bengal District Church Council that we should conduct a three year's course.

We started the school with 9 students. It is quite a mixed group, one Kamar preacher from Dingdinga Circle, one Garo from Cooch Behar, one Boro, two young Bengalis from Birbhum Circle, the preacher from Sajinipara Mission in Murshidabad and 3 young men from Malda. Only one of the students is below the Middle English standard. Some of them have read up to class 9 or 10. We have been able to make fairly good progress already and could finish most of the Junior Course Examinations before the Christmas vacation. Final examinations have been taken by the students one by one, as we have finished the respective subjects.

Before the school opened, the preacher in Eklakhi, L. C. Konai, moved to Nimasarai to be a permanent assistant teacher. Temporary help in the teaching has been given by Rev. P. L. Lande and Rev. S. Johansen.

Two of the students have their families along. Their wives are getting Biblical instruction also. Our two Biblewomen and Mrs. Kjolberg are conducting classes for them.

The other institutions in Nimasarai have been carried on as in previous years. The Primary School has had about 90 pupils with a staff of 3 teachers. The boy's hostel has had about 25 boys with the same boarding master, Barnabas Murmu. The Sunday School, Youth Club and Women's Club have continued their work regularly. The women arranged a women's meeting the last week of October, where about 80 women from different congregations took part. Mrs. Kjolberg has attended to about 500 patients in her nursing routine.

In our last annual report we mentioned the problem of poverty here in Malda. In order to do something about it we this year formed a so-called "Business Committee." The committee is supposed to think out ways and means to better the economic and social conditions of our Bengali Christians. Our first attempt, however, proved to be a failure. The men we tried to help did not manage to carry our plans through. We opened a blacksmith shop here in Nimasarai with a plan to extend it by and by, and possibly to build up some sort of a technical school for our young boys. With this in view, we sent three of our Christian boys down to Balasore Technical School for training. But for several reasons none of them were able to continue. After some months we also had to close the blacksmith shop here. It proved to be impossible for our Christian blacksmiths to operate it somewhat economically, even after we had supplied them with all necessary tools and materials. We ran into quite heavy debts in order to help get things going. We hope, however, that we have learnt something through this first unhappy experiment and that our next attempt must be more successful.

That economic uplift is necessary has been only too clearly proved this year. Because of excessive rains the

rice harvest was partly damaged. That means higher prices of rice. The condition of many of our Christians have been most pitiable. Fortunately, we also this year have received some milk powder and butter oil through the Indian Red Cross for free distribution. It certainly has been a blessing to the people in and around about the Mission compound.

After being tied down to the teaching in the Divinity School, together with all the other responsibilities here in Nimasarai, it hurts to think of all the work which should have been done in this vast district. Thinking of our Bengali congregations here in Malda we must confess that we are waiting for signs of new life. So many of our Christians seem to have taken baptism mainly because they thought it would mean material advantages, or because they for some reason had left their own community. In the course of time, many of this type of Christians have fallen back. Also this year several Christian families went back to their old Hinđu community. This was partly due to the activity of the Ram Krishna Mission. This "Mission" is trying to make the way back easy for our Christians. We believe that a purifying process is needed. We, therefore, do not so much fear the activity of the Ram Krishna Mission. What we fear is that our pastors and preachers shall be too late waking up to the situation. It is through them that new life can be brought into our congregations.

We have seen signs of encouragement during this year. One of these was the convention in Patra in the month of March, where a committee consisting solely of Bengali and Santal preachers carried out most efficiently the many arrangements for the big gathering. There Christians came, from many congregations and stayed together in self-made huts for 3 days. The message of revival was powerfully proclaimed by the

Children's Special Service Mission preacher, Mr. S. Pandit.

Another sign was the short Bible courses for workers at the end of the year, where our workers seemed to grasp something more about the ever-recurring theme of self-support. They solemnly signed a paper stating that they would start everyone in their own family to bring life into the many plans we have been talking about. This is the way ahead.

It has also been a great relief and help this year to have had Miss Lilly Petersen working among the women and children. She has made several visits around to the different congregations. We are sure that this work will bear fruit.

St. Paul wrote, thinking of the situation in which he was working, "We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed. We are perplexed, but not in despair." Thinking of our situation during the past year we want to make these words our own.

And we want to thank all the friends in the home countries for trustfully supporting us another year, with your prayers and with your offerings.

Solveig and Per Kjolberg.

SANTAL WORK IN NORTH BENGAL.

Bagsarai Mission is gradually becoming a center for our work among Santals in Malda-Dinajpur and that is what it was meant to be. In 1956 all our Church Council meetings have been held here, and towards the end of the year the first Bible course took place here. This has been our goal for a long time. Twenty-five evangelists and pastors came together for a week and a half. Rev. Kjolberg came every day to give Bible lectures. We were also very happy to have Rev. S. Johansen here three days to give lessons. The rest of the speakers were seven Santals and the undersigned. The plan is to have regular Bible courses here, both for our Church workers and for members of our congregations throughout the entire district.

In July the new church at Bagsarai was dedicated by the General Superintendent, Rev. O. S. Bjerkestrand. In December a school house with two classrooms was completed. School will start in January of 1957 for children from nearby villages. The Santal preacher, Mohendro Hembrom at Bagsarai was transferred to Nimasarai and Munsbi Hembrom from Nimasarai has come to Bagsarai to work as a teacher in the school here and as a part-time preacher.

It was decided in the church council that Pastor Jonas Hasdak' now living at Rajadighi Mission, should move over to Bagsarai where a house for him and his family is under construction. Jonas Pastor is president of the church council and up to now co-operation between him and the district missionary has proved difficult as they live quite a distance from each other. His coming here will facilitate the co-operation and also his work as president and treasurer for our church in Malda-Dinajpur, as Bagsarai is in a very central place.

In Khoribari pastorate Pastor Jaeram Hasdak' has done a quiet, but good work. So has also Pastor John Marndi in Rotonpur pastorate in West Dinajpur. He is a young man with quite a good understanding of his duties as a pastor. In Narayanpur pastorate Pastor Munshi Murmu is still working, but he is getting old and does not feel fit to travel around much. If a good young man could be found soon to take his place, it would be good for the work up there.

In Malda-Dinajpur we have four pastors and twenty-two evangelists. Several of the evangelists are part-time workers. Most of them own some land which means that they spend most of their time working on their land, and the evangelistic work suffers. Time may come to change this set up, by having more pastors and less lay preachers. As it is now, one pastor has five to eight congregations to serve. With less congregations in a pastorate, a pastor will have a better chance of becoming a shepherd for his flock, visiting the people in their homes, more careful instruction of the young before they are confirmed, and better instruction of those who want to become Christians. These things are essential for the life and growth of the Church. But as the situation is today, it is far from satisfactory.

From our brethren in East Pakistan there is as usual both good and not so good reports. East Dinajpur Circle is without a pastor since Bajnath Baske was discharged last year. Pastor Budhrai Hasdak' from Rajshahi Circle has done his best, apart from looking after eleven congregations in his own pastorate, to look after the congregations in East Dinajpur. It is decided that two young men from Pakistan will be ordained as pastors in the beginning of 1957. The two first missionaries, Rev. and Mrs. Ottesen from America

have just arrived to take up work on our mission field in East Pakistan. But they will just have to learn the language before they settle down in earnest to do district work. We ask you to remember these new missionaries in your prayers.

Tineke and Kjell Clausen.

SURI

BENGALI WORK IN SANTAL PARGANAS, BIRBHUM AND MURSHIDABAD.

This year has been a year of joy in many ways. We have been able to re-open work which had been temporarily discontinued and have been permitted to expand in other areas.

In North Santal Parganas our former worker, Dudnath, has re-entered the work. First and foremost he will care for the four to five Christian Bengali families in that area. They belonged previously to the Mahle congregation, but were separated when the Mahle congregations were transferred from the Bengal Church Council. It is also his duty to work among the low-caste Hindus there where very little work has been done previously.

In Murshidabad an application had been made for permission to move the mission station. But the idea was given up as there did not seem to be much hope that permission would be given. Nevertheless in the middle of the year we were suddenly informed that the Indian Government had granted the request. After-

prayerful consideration it became clear, however, for the conference and church leaders that it was not the time now to build another mission station. Instead we should concentrate on getting more quarters for Indian workers so that they may go forward in the work. Rev. Kvam will replace us in Suri when we go on furlough in the Spring. In addition to the work here he shall have to look after the work in Murshidabad from Suri. For this we are happy. But since Rev. Ghose will be going abroad at the same time of our departure, a heavy burden will certainly be placed on Rev. Kvam and naturally the work will suffer because even from before we had insufficient staff to care for the work.

This year also we had the joy to see some new ones enter into God's Kingdom. One of these was the driver at Mohulpahari Hospital, Sonua Mia. It certainly was an answer to many years of intercession when finally he came and was baptized. He was baptized alone, but his life after baptism seems to draw his family to follow him, for which we have reason to thank God.

At the close of the year we were permitted to begin to instruct for baptism a few in North Birbhum. The many Mohammedan families for whom we have been waiting so long have not yet finished with their court case. But let us continue to pray for these as well as the new converts that they may be granted grace and strength to grasp the Gospel of Salvation and always choose the right path and remain steadfast.

Unfortunately this year there has been some sickness among the workers and since we have so few it has made the work difficult. It was, therefore, with great joy to us all that the Divinity School in Malda was re-opened towards the end of the year. We have sent

two young men from Birbhum, One of these was Syamapadho Chakravarty who became a Christian some years ago, and the other Surjo Kumar Das. In Suri, Rati Babu continues to study besides his office work. He has completed three or four examinations during the year. Pray much for these that God may continue to equip them spiritually and prepare them in the right way, and let us not forget to thank God that He called them.

In the fall a good Bible course for workers was held. We were gathered here in Suri for four days and we all sensed that God's Spirit was present and worked among us.

In several new places Sunday Schools have been started. One of the young Sunday School teachers in Suri has toured the district to encourage and help getting these started. The older children have also visited neighboring Sunday Schools, which has been an encouragement to all concerned.

The women's work has been carried on as previously even though the interest has not always been as desired. At the end of the year they had their usual sale. The proceeds from this as well as the harvest festival offerings made a good contribution to church funds.

The Bible woman in Narainpur has helped the other three Bible women in the district and for this we are thankful. In Chaporja, near Kaerabani, Rev. Kvam has helped us a lot taking several services during the time the pastor was ill.

We regret to note that we have had to ex-communicate two members from one congregation because of unchristian behavior. Much effort was made to make them recognize their sin, but without any result. We hope and pray that God may still work in them and convict them.

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At Itor in Murshidabad we have noticed a change for the better. But as it appears that could only happen after God had taken away one of the leaders. During his sickness and at his deathbed it was felt that some of the strife was removed and they could all pray together. May this also result in change of heart so that this congregation may be a means of blessing to this large district.

In Suri we have this year had a little more contact with the college students and some young men in the police force. Several have come regularly to the mission station to borrow books or inquire about Christianity. Some day we feel sure the Word of God will bear its fruit. For the first time we used the loudspeaker for the Christmas Eve Service in Suri. Through the calm and still evening the Christmas Gospel and the lovely hymns were carried forth through the air to a great part of the town. May the Indian Christians more than before take a real share in bringing the Gospel message in this way out to the many who do not yet know from where the Salvation comes. They are the ones who more and more will have to be the front troops, and our obligation will be to more and more support and help them and in this we must not fail.

In closing we want to thank all you friends for intercession and steadfastness in the work.

Kirsten and Peder Lande.

EDUCATIONAL WORK IN BENGAL

EKLAKHI MISSION GIRLS' SCHOOL

Jehovah will keep thee from all evil: He will keep thy soul.

Jehovah will keep thy going out and thy coming in, From this time forth and for evermore. (Psalms 121: 7 8)

Here in Eklakhi we have been permitted to see and to experience that God's promises can be depended on. When I think of the year that now is over, I must say, "The Lord has protected us" There are some things which did not happen, but it is the things which might have happened which fill me with astonishment and thanks. One night during the rainy season one of the teachers awakened and felt something cold glide over her legs. A very poisonous snake had found its way up on her bed. But there did not happen anything. Another night in the hot season the children had been careless with the lantern. It had been placed too near some paper and a number of books. When all were sleeping it began to ignite in the paper. The house mother awakened when it flamed up and nearly reached the straw-thatched roof. She was able to sweep it all down on the mud floor and extinguished the fire so that thirty children who were sleeping so well were saved and nothing happened.

We have had very little sickness this year. The children have been unusually well and healthy. We express a special thanks to the "Red Cross" of Malda for butter oil and powdered milk which has given us a great financial help in the operating cost of the boarding.

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In the school we have had about 100 children divided into 6 classes. In the boarding we have had a little more than 80 children. Our neighbors in the nearby villages do not seem to have awakened up to the necessity for education yet. There are very few children from the surrounding area.

Two new lady teachers replaced the two that left last year. In the course of the year there were no changes in the staff either among the school, boarding or here on the station.

From the Development Office in Malda we received a grant which covered half of the expenses of the construction of greatly needed sanitary facilities. It was begun and actually finished in spite of much rain.

The children themselves have built a very long garden mud wall. We hope to be able to have a garden which will be protected from goats and other animals. An unusual heavy rainy season ruined one corner of the wall, but we are still able to protect the garden.

The Government has also this year given us the same help as before and in addition we have received a non-recurring grant for the purchase of sewing machines and looms for Class 5, and also for Class 6 when that opens in January, 1957.

On the 9th of January, nine of our older girls were confirmed. It was a joy and an inspiration to have them in the class. One girl was baptized together with her parents in July. May they all be faithful to the promises they made.

This year also we have had the joy of receiving visitors at Eklakhi. In January, Bishop Schioler and his wife came on a very pleasant but all too short visit. In the hot season we had the joy to have the Secretary among us. He agreed with us that our old straw thatched houses have become very old and need to be exchanged with new ones.

The work throughout the year has gone on in an even and steady manner. Each week we have had women's meetings and children's meetings, and each Sunday worship services and Sunday School. In March we had special meetings conducted by Mr. S Pandit. On the 15th of December we had our yearly mela. It brought greater net profits than previous years. The last day of school the school children had a Christmas drama which attracted a very big crowd of the village people.

In all and all it has been a quiet and good working year. It has been of that type which gives that quiet growth. We hope and pray that the Word which has been sown, the work which has been done might bring forth fruit unto Eternal Life.

We would express thanks to those who have been along with us in the work here, visible and invisible. We have sensed that we have not been alone. Our hearty thanks to all for gifts, intercession, love and interest. A special thanks to the Lady Teachers' Mission Association in Norway for their faithfulness in prayers and gifts.

Eldbjorg Gulbrandsen.

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NARAINPUR GIRLS' JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL.

Again we can give thanks for a good working year. We have had 143 students on the roll, 28 Santals and 123 Bengalis. This year we had the joy to receive two Government Middle English Scholarships. Nine

students appeared for the Middle English examination. Three passed in 1st Division, 2 in Second Division and 3 in Third Division.

We are thankful to our good teachers who with joy are giving all their leisure time for the benefit of the school. This year they have also contributed much to the Church Fund in money and handwork.

It is good for a congregation to work hard for some years in order to collect money for a new church. It makes them feel the church is their own. Here in Narainpur everyone is trying to make money for the Church Fund. Fines of all kinds, the income from the school garden, school dramas and income for work, all go into the Church Fund, and the leisure time is used for making things for sale. It is our hope once to see a big, beautiful church on the highest spot of the compound so that it will be seen and heard far away.

We have many plans for the future and many hopes and one is a jeep. The road is under repair now and is promised to be fine all the year around. We have about 30 miles to Mohulpahari Hospital and no doctor here from whom we can get advice. Therefore, we feel the responsibility for other's children very great, especially in the rainy season with all the dangers. This year one of our small girls died in the rainy season. Perhaps her life could have been saved if a jeep could have taken her quickly to Mohulpahari Hospital. Much strength and much time also could be saved if we were not to depend on a bus which runs now and then and is under constant repair. And what a help it would be to be able to get around to the congregations.

One of our plans we hope to carry out in February, 1957. We plan to make a big pond. Each month during 1956 a collection has been taken from each one

in the compound for that purpose. The children who had no money gave their contribution in work in the early morning hours. A gift was received from the Mission, and the agricultural department has promised to give a sum equal to the sum given from here, so we hope to get a nice pond for the children to bathe in and for irrigation of our rice fields below. We also plan to cultivate new land around the pond. We will have to put some more stress on the farming side of our work as we have much land and Government does not permit any waste land.

It is also our hope that in future we will have a new Primary School building outside the compound on the other side of the road opposite our entrance gate. Government offers 50% of the total cost. Our present Primary School building is very old and dark. It was never built for a school. It was the house for Indigo workers at the Indigo factory when that was located here. It could again be used for workers in the compound and we could get room for all the smaller boys who want admission because we have no other Christian school for Bengali boys.

A big help in the work is the new Secondary Section building which was dedicated the 16th of December. We are happy for the big hall in which we have morning and evening prayers, school during the school hours and services on Sunday.

The daily life in school and compound has gone on regularly during the year with meetings and Bible Study groups. In October we had our old students' meeting with Miss Lewis from Jiaganj as leader for the Bible Study. They were days of joy and fellowship and deepening of our faith.

We close the year with thanks to God for His nearness and blessing from day to day, and with thanks to friends in the homelands and out here.

Ellen Laursen.

MEDICAL WORK IN BENGAL

RAJADIGHI HOSPITAL.

"Having accustomed himself to do every thing for the love of God and with prayer on all occasions for His grace to do His work well."

It is our hope that this may be true of all of us who work here and that all that we do may be done for the love of God and by His grace.

We are thankful to be able to report that we have had a good year. Early in the year we received the joyful news that the Tribal Welfare Department, Government of West Bengal, had granted us Rs. 16,000 for building a new maternity ward and for medicine for tribal patients. The sum granted represented 80% of the building cost and with the remaining sum granted by the Mission, building work started in the beginning of April. In October the new ward was opened. It has 4 beds in one room and 2 in another and in addition a delivery room and accessory room.

We are grateful to the Government of West Bengal and our mission friends who helped us to build this ward.

The staff has been the same as in the previous year with one addition. On December 1st, Sujon Hasdak', a Christian Santal girl with nurses' and midwifery training came to work with us. All members of the staff have worked well and faithfully.

During the first part of the year the Bengali preacher from Eklakhi, Lokhon C. Konai preached in the out-door clinic twice a week. After the summer vacation he joined the staff of the Divinity School in Nimaserai, and, unfortunately, we have not yet found

anyone to replace him. Morning and evening devotions have been held in the hospital waiting room. All the workers take turns in leading the devotions.

On Easter Sunday, Samu Hembrom, a young tuberculosis patient was baptized together with his wife and the son of our gardener. This was a day of joy for all of us.

Women's meetings have been held every Wednesday. The women are faithful in coming and in giving their offerings.

The hospital statistics for 1956 are as follows :

Dispensary :	Total visits :	17.179
	New patients :	8.653
	Re-visits :	8.526

Out of these 31% were Hindus
 12% were Tribals (Santals and Uraos)
 52% were Mohammedans
 5% were non-tribal Christians

Average daily number of out-patients were 75
 406 patients were admitted as in-patients. The average daily number of in-patients was 13.

Out of these in-patients 19% were Hindus
 58% were Tribals
 18% were Mohammedans
 5% were non-tribal Christians

All together 17% of the in-patients were Christians.
 5.248 laboratory examinations were done during the year. 1.229 malaria cases were recorded.

There were 39 deliveries during the year. The attendance at the weekly ante-natal clinic has been poor, but increased after we have started to give those who attend regularly milk powder and ghee.

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Again this year we have received large amounts of milk powder and butter oil for free distribution. A regular supply of this has been given to poor patients with debilitating diseases and to expectant mothers.

Again this year tuberculosis has been a big problem. Eighty-one new cases were diagnosed. Fifty-two of these are under regular treatment from the dispensary. A great deal of the money granted from Government for medicine for Tribal patients has been used for the treatment of tuberculosis cases. Most of the patients are young and new cases, rapidly progressive. The immediate effects of the treatment are very evident. But it is still too early to say anything definite as to the effectiveness of ambulatory treatment, the only treatment we have to offer, as we have no beds for tuberculosis patients.

Thirteen cases of leprosy were diagnosed. Eight of these are coming for regular treatment.

In closing this report we want to thank all the friends in the homelands who support our work with their prayers and gifts.

Else Hoiland.

WORK IN ASSAM.

BONGAIGAON MISSION.

It was our privilege to return to the work in the Borob field at the end of October, to take charge of the mission station at Bongaigaon. Miss Nessel who has had a long term of service at this place left for home in May. As she will not perhaps return again to India, we want to take this opportunity to thank her for her devoted service in the work. Twice she has come from another field to help us here under difficult circumstances, and the last years of her stay in India were spent in this area. Here, as everywhere else she has been, her special gift of coming in touch with the people and of winning their friendship and willing co-operation was seen.

When Miss Nessel left, Miss Elly Binderup had for some months to take sole charge of the work at Bongaigaon.

Much of the responsibility for the supervision of the congregations and village schools rests on Pastor Malsing Mosahary, the chairman of the circle. Bongaigaon circle has grown to become one of the largest in our church with 24 congregations and about 2500 Christians. There are many small village schools, and the teachers in these get half of their salary in food from the village people and half from the circle. The task of getting the boarding school at Bongaigaon developed into a Basic Middle School has not progressed very far as yet and the number of students is too small.

Several of the congregations have planned to build more permanent church buildings and several thousands

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of rupees have been collected for this purpose, but the difficulty of getting corrugated iron sheets has delayed the projects. The congregations of North Gandabil, South Gandabil, Rangijhora and Boldi are all now waiting for a permit to buy such sheets in order to be able to complete the buildings, and we hope they may succeed in 1957.

The Women's Convention, the first of its kind inside this circle held in 1954, has become an established yearly event, and in Maophar this last year the attendance was very good. There is a great need for more instruction among women of the many comparatively new congregations.

The food situation in the villages during the latter part of the year was very difficult, and this made church contributions fall off a bit. There was some improvement towards the end of the year, but the final position regarding contributions is not yet clear, as all accounts from the churches have not been received.

A large number, 149 children of Christians (part of these should have been included in the 1955 statistics, through) and 42 from the non-christian community were baptized this year. The non-christians baptized belong to the congregations on the other side of the Ai River. The movement on the western side, in the Sidli area, seems to have stopped, but we hope that this may be only temporarily. As a whole it may be said that there are many possibilities of further progress in this circle.

Anna and Haakon Halvorsrud.

DINGDINGA CIRCEE.

"And He said unto them, Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also, for therefore, came I forth." (Mark 1:36)

For Jesus this was His life. He went from place to place preaching the Kingdom of Heaven. We also feel that we should preach the Gospel much more than we do around in the villages and towns. At our workers and circle meetings we often talk about, how can we reach out to the non-Christians with the Gospel.

Our few workers tried their best, I should say. Kaamal Roy, stationed in Mornai has regularly preached the Gospel in Sevapur Hospital for Muslims and Hindus. He has also sold quite a few Gospels and religious books which we hope may be of great help for some of them. Together with Sono Ram Mukdiyar he has also visited villages in the neighborhood, and once also went up to Bongaigaon to visit the Bengali Christians there. A few young Christians from the congregation have been instructed by him and his wife.

Our congregations have been regularly visited by Sono and Kaamal all through the year. Sono Ram and a few others have attended Bible Courses and other courses during the year to make themselves more able workers. Sono Ram's work falls mostly among the Kamars.

As Pastor Biswas has been ill the greater part of the year, we have strongly felt the need for another ordained pastor for our work. In this connection we may mention that old Ratia Pastor in Haraputa has helped us occasionally. We are thankful for this and also for his promise to help in the coming year.

Especially among our Kama Christians the educational problem is a great one. The new primary

school in Sasugutu is certainly a step forward, but they have so far not been able to obtain a good teacher. For this reason the work has been hampered. We hope that this problem might be solved in the coming year. They are also eager for a primary school in Dindinga, and as there is a real need for this school we hope to see it established before not too long.

Ganga Ram, a brother of Sono Ram, strongly felt the call to become an evangelist. He joined the Divinity School in Malda last September for his training. This gives the hope of a new preacher in not too far future.

Kaamal Roy has left our work as a regular preacher and joined the staff of the Mission Tea Garden. But he has the desire to continue his work as far as possible as a voluntary worker, and for this we are thankful.

Regarding the work in Dhubri it may be mentioned that the Anglican Bishop from Shillong has visited the church there. In his report from the visitation he expresses his joy over the fine church being built. He further gives a proposal for a joint work of the different churches represented there. This report has been forwarded to the Santal Christian Church Council where it will be discussed.

During the year four adults from the non-christian community have been received into the congregations through Holy Baptism. Quite a few families in Rantzapur who had been out of the congregation for years have been taught and received into the congregation again.

"Jesus himself came forth to preach the Kingdom of God." May we in the coming year be more able

workers by His Grace than we have been in the past "For His is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever. Amen."

Brit and Olav Hodne.

GAORANG

We began 1956 by having a New Year's worship service in Karigaon village which is about six miles from Gaorang. Here it was festive and joyful, and it was especially the youth that made an impression. After the sermon one after the other arose and gave forth a bold testimony and urged the congregation to continue their work for the furtherance of God's Kingdom.

Karigaon is one of our older Christian villages which has experienced many changes and been subject to many trials during the years, but the Christians have remained faithful and the congregation has produced many workers for the Church.

Sometimes we can be blinded by disappointments in the work and forget the encouraging development which slowly but surely has taken place. Then it is good sometimes to sit down and compare the position "before" and "now" Then the heart bursts forth with praise and thanks.

GAORANG MISSION

The work on the mission station and in the congregation has consisted of worship services, women's meetings, Sunday School, Confirmation instruction, daily morning devotions and a literacy class for the workers.

In addition to this we have had a women's convention, Church Council meetings, Literature Committee meetings, and Bible Course for elders and teachers. In the fall season we have also had a special prayer week and so-called Christian Home Week. These meetings were held around in the homes of the congregational members with different leaders and speakers for each evening. The School girls from Gaorang Girls' School have as usual arranged the meetings in church each Wednesday evening.

The women's convention was held in the beginning of March. There was good attendance and good meetings. This time it was held at Gaorang. Some of those attending arrived tired and exhausted. One of the women had one child on her back, one in her arms besides a bundle of clothes, and then still she led one little one by the hand. Many had walked several miles in order to be along. Since there was not sufficient room for all here in Gaorang some of those taking part stayed at the girls' school. This was just at the time that we had the well-known and appreciated American evangelist, Miss M. Lofthus on a visit and she put an extra, serious and edifying spirit over the meetings.

Seventeen boys and girls who had been instructed for nearly six months were confirmed in the Gaorang Church on April 15, by Upen Pastor. The church was filled that day because it was held during one of the Bible Courses and all those attending that were present. It was a nice group that on that day renewed their covenant with God and who desire to live to the Honor of His Name.

Before Christmas we gathered funds in the congregation for repair of the church, painted the woodwork, varnished the altar and otherwise cleaned up for the festive season.

The church was nicely decorated on Christmas Eve and at the evening service on Christmas Eve the church was nearly full in spite of the fact that the school girls had gone home on vacation. But then the Santals who usually have worship service for themselves had joined us that evening. For that we were very happy.

GAORANG CIRCLE

Due to disagreement among one of the pastors and four of his congregations in Gaorang Circle, I have had to supervise them, conduct worship services, baptize, perform marriages and conduct Holy Communion services. In this way we were not able to visit other congregations to the extent that we would have liked to have done. But now, fortunately, there has been reconciliation and agreement so that I am released from this extra responsibility.

Bharotnagar, one of our congregations north from Kochugaon, was a time back ex-communicated by the Church Council because liquor, according to reports, flourished among them. We hear now that they have continued their services and meetings without support from the Church Council, quit drinking and ask to be received back again.

Otherwise, in Gaorang Circle the past year has been quiet and without great stir. The work has gone on in its usual way. The 22nd of March, Circle Conference was held in Panbani. This was a festive gathering and we were happy to be along even though the journey had caused us many difficulties.

Among those who sought to be baptized during the course of the year, I shall mention Sotis Chandra Bosumatary. He is a Sadhu like type whom we hope will be a blessing for the work. His greatest desire is to bring the Gospel to the non-christians who live around about in

the villages. We hope that the thought can be fulfilled in the near future.

BORO CHURCH COUNCIL

The Church Council members were gathered in January, May and October for meetings and consultations. The Executive, Literature Committee, Textbook Committee, School Committee, Stipend Committee and other committees which come under the Church Council have also had meetings at different times.

The most important Church Council meeting was held from 17-19 May. Earlier in the year elections had been held round about in the different circles. A number of the old faces had, therefore, disappeared and new ones had come in their place.

For the first time in Boro Church Council history, a Boro was elected as President of the Church Council, something for which I think all were happy and thankful. Before the elections took place, the nomination committee had been gathered several times and done a good work. Miss Elly Binderup was elected treasurer for the Church Council. Otherwise, it is only Boros who are leaders for most of the committees and it was also Boros who were voted as Circle Treasurers in all four circles.

The new Church Council officers are as follows :

President : Rev. Maguram Mosahary
 Vice-President : Rev. David Westborg
 Secretary : Mr. Dinesh Ch. Narjary
 Treasurer : Miss Elly Binderup

The meeting was closed with festive gathering in honor of Misses Sofie Nessel and Muriel Nielsen who both were due to leave on furlough shortly. Pas-

tor Maguram Mosahary led the gathering and expressed deepfelt thanks to the two missionaries for their love and service. He asked them to greet the friends in our homelands, thank them and ask them to send more missionaries to the Boros.

BIBLE COURSES

We have not been able to have more than two Bible Courses this year because the funds did not provide for it. Unforeseen expenses for an extra Church Council meeting, extensive travel for the new president and so forth emptied the treasury. The last two courses, therefore, had to be cancelled.

The first course was held for elders from the 11-19 of April with twenty taking part. The other course was held for teachers from the 6-12 June with 12 participating, most of them from Gaorang Circle. Because of uprising around Bongaigaon most of the teachers felt it best to be home. Those that attended were very thankful and pleased and asked for a course next year.

THE BORO LITERATURE BOARD

Phungni Hathorkhi, our small paper has been published twice during the year.

Rup Narayan Mosahary has continued the work of compiling a Boroni-English dictionary.

"The Life of Jesus" which was mentioned in last year's report has now been printed and received and a number have already been sold.

We have worked with an English-Boroni dictionary which is not as yet finished.

The sale of books has been much better this year than last year. It has been a joy to us that we have been able to sell more New Testaments than before.

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It is a great joy for us that Rev. and Mrs. Halvorsrud have now returned from furlough and can begin the translation of the Old Testament. The Bible Society for India, Pakistan, Burma and Ceylon which now has a branch in Shillong, Assam, has already given permission to Halvorsrud to begin the translation of The Psalms and has promised financial support.

VILLAGE SCHOOLS

In Gaorang, Bongaigaon, Kamrup, Darrang and North Lakhimpur we have over 20 village schools with 34 teachers. Ramendro Borgowary has inspected the schools in Gaorang and Bongaegaon, and Jogendro Narjary the schools in Kamrup and Darrang. The reports have now arrived. Many of the schools are weak. But the advantage of keeping them operating is that the students receive Christian education and that they learn Boroni and Roman script so that they are able to use our books. Should these schools be closed, we would reduce the operating expenses greatly, but then many of the children would not have the advantage of school education at all.

SEMINARY CANDIDATES

Besides Jitman Bosumatary who has studied at the Theological Seminary in Benagaria we have during the course of the year been able to add two more, namely Khorgeshor Bosumatary and Khirthiman Narjary. We have also sent Sahendro Bosumatary to the Divinity School in Nimasarai, Malda, and Birendro Bosumatary to the Gossner Church's Theological Seminary in Ranchi.

REPORTS FOR THE YEAR

The reports from the different congregations have not yet come in. Therefore kindly refer to the statistics at the end of the report to see the growth.

In closing we would express our joy and thankfulness to all the mission friends for intercession and support.

Thanks to their interest and sacrificial offering we have also in the past year been able, without too much financial difficulties, to walk in some of the work the Lord has prepared for us that we should walk in.

Anne Helene and David Westborg.

JOEMA

For of his fulness we all received, and grace for grace.

This is also true of our twenty-one congregations in Joema Circle. St. Paul desired that his congregations should not receive the grace of God in vain. A glance back over the year which has passed, shows that God's gift of grace has not been accepted by all with the same faith. But the Lord does work in the hidden ways.

In some places the work has been hindered because of illness. Pastor Ratu in Kolabari has been sick six months of the year. He now is waiting to be released from the work by Pastor Chatur Soren as he reached retiring age one year ago and shall now go on pension. The one that supervised the women's work in Kolabari congregation, "Doctor Budhi" as they called her, passed away. May the new pastor and his family receive grace to take up the work after the old ones. In Dalabari there are some that have regularly come to church and they are waiting for someone to instruct them so that they may be baptized.

Pastor Chatur Soren who is to take over the pastoral work there has had charge of the seven congregations in the Gaorang vicinity.

All the work there in the East has not gone as well as we would have liked. During the last months of the year the pastor's family has resided outside of the district. The catechist, Kisun Marandi has been hindered greatly in his work as his wife has been ill for a long time and he has had to seek medical help outside of the district. She has now passed away so he is alone with the one small child.

In Anguri the elder was dismissed, but even though a new elder has been appointed, he still continues to have services. So now they have two services every Sunday and the congregation has divided itself into two parts. We have not been able to reconcile the two parties, but we hope that the new pastoral candidate, Budhan Hembrom, will be more successful.

In the other congregations in that area everything goes its usual way, but without any expansion. In Siripur we have had our yearly Bible Course. We were three pastors who participated. We feel that such village Bible Courses have the greatest significance in that all, big or small, have an opportunity to participate. In Siripur they have been very ambitious to gather funds for a new church, and they have gathered together a considerable amount of material, so now we soon hope to erect the church.

In some places God's Kingdom has gone forth such as in the seven congregations of Pastor Arjun Murmu. He is continuously on the move, but he does have good help from Themka Murmu and not the least from Singrae Kiskua. The latter cannot read nor write, but he has not accepted the grace of God in vain and his passion is for the salvation of souls and the care of those who have been won. We feel the fact that there was budgetted for two teachers was well used money. The one is Ar-

jun Murmu's daughter, who recently returned from Martha Maria School. Singrae has received and still receives aid for his women's work since his daughter who suddenly became a widow moved to her home. Together with her husband, Ruben, son of Jadu in Jolesori, they were busily engaged in evangelistic work when he suddenly passed away after an illness of two days. But the Lord's thoughts are not our ways.

Here around Joema we feel that there are many open doors. We have, therefore, asked for Kisun Marandi to help us here. Pastor James Soren is the leader of the congregation. He has now been elected president of the Assam Santal Church Council.

Besides the Siripur Bible Course we have had three Bible Courses for Assam Santal Church Council here in Joema, one for elders, one for teachers, and one for pastors. We were happy for the visit of Miss Lofthus from America and our General Superintendent, Rev. O. S. Bjerkestrand. Each in their own way gave us inspiring messages.

Here in Joema we have the boarding school to supervise. Five teachers have been engaged and we have sought to bring the children up to Class Six. But we receive financial help from the Government for only two teachers in the Primary School, and we do not have the budget for nor have we been able to secure qualified teachers for the middle school. For several years it has been like this because the congregation's financial contribution has not been sufficient. So we shall have to continue to do the best with what we have.

In Kamrup and Darrang Circle there have been forces at work placing hindrances in the way of the work. A mad, possibly possessed man did hard work on the congregation in Singaon and for a long time

threatened the life of the evangelist, Mongol Besra. But the result of this all was greater than we had expected. Mongol, who a few years ago left the Divinity School with the highest grades, shall now be ordained and shall help Pastor Sirmath with the pastoral work in Kamrup and Darrang.

May God give them wisdom and strength so that they may receive grace to overcome the Devil's cunning assaults and thus can work the work of the Lord in peace.

May God's grace reach out to many more and His Name be honored.

Asta and Petter Pedersen.

MORNAI

At the close of the year it is only natural that one stops and reflects on what has happened and what has been accomplished in the past year. When one has the responsibility for an institution as Mornai, one's first reaction is to express a deepfelt thanks to God because this year also we came through so well. Thanks be to Him who helped us through the many problems both of temporal and spiritual nature, and thanks to co-workers and friends who stood together with us in the work.

Many years ago in 1890 when the tea garden became the property of the Mission, it was the desire of the old missionaries that it might give help to poor Santals and people of similar races so that they might live in the tea garden under good temporal and spiritual conditions. Besides that it is possible for the colony

people to work in the garden in the hot and rainy season, thereby earning a badly needed extra income. Throughout the years we have had before us this as an objective. The Mission tea garden should surely be ahead of others (there are about 1000 tea gardens in Assam with about one million workers) when it concerns welfare arrangements for the workers, an aspect in which the Government is now very much interested. India will be a welfare state after socialistic standards and the worker in industry naturally comes in as a vital link in all these endeavors.

Up until now none of our workers have been members of any labor union. There now are several labor unions which introduce themselves and compete for the workers in the tea garden. Because the workers as a rule do not have any education, it is mostly the intellectual who are leaders of these labor unions. The leader of one of the largest (the one that is supported by Indian national congress) came the other day on a visit with the idea of establishing a branch of the labor union here. Naturally he received permission to present his cause, but up until now the workers have shown no interest. However, the day will surely come when they will become organized and it will be natural that we follow the same line as other places, but the initiative must, of course, come from the workers themselves.

The personal contact we try to make with the workers and their families, is of course, of great value, both concerning the temporal and spiritual sphere. But we ascertain that interference from outside the tea garden will be stronger and stronger.

The influence of the school throughout many years has left its mark on the community. There are over 200 children in school, all children of workers, who live

here in houses built and maintained by the tea garden. Education is very greatly desired, and knowledge of reading has made a big influence on the congregations of which most are members. Of our 8 teachers, five of them have lived here since childhood.

In the past year our nursery has been much enlarged. In the new building there is good room, we feel, and good atmosphere for the small children whom the mothers leave here when they go out to work. The mothers of the very small children work as much as possible in the factory so that they can be nearer the children and take care of them whenever necessary. Two women take care of the children which sometimes number over thirty.

In our hospital, Dr. Goldsmith has worked with his same staff, and in addition Kirsten Eie has had her work there this year. Many improvements have been made so that the hospital has now reached the standard set by the Government. There has been built a maternity section with a well equipped delivery room and place for four to six patients. This should be entirely satisfactory since many of our more difficult cases we send to Sevapur. According to the law we are to be associated with a "group hospital" as they call it, namely, a larger hospital, where there must be X-Ray and all types of other medical help. Sevapur Hospital is the tea garden's "group hospital" and it is, of course, a very great advantage for the tea garden to have this hospital so near as it is an easy matter to transport patients over there whenever it is necessary.

In the rainy season there was an unusually severe dysentery epidemic which spread all over the whole countryside. There were many deaths, especially out in the isolated places where people did not have the opportunity to receive help. Here in Mornai it was

also severe, but we did not have very many deaths. In 1956 there have been treated 7,648 new patients and among these 291 have been admitted to the hospital.

As mentioned in the annual report of 1955 we began earnestly this year to take up the fight against lung tuberculosis among our workers. A village with place for ten families was built in an isolated, well situated place. It is with great joy that we can report that with excellent guidance and assistance we have already seen amazing results. Several of those who were very ill have improved and there is on the whole great improvement to be noted among all the patients. The village to which many in the beginning were unwilling to move, has become popular because the value and advantage of it have plainly been seen. For us the good results of naturally a very expensive experiment has been very encouraging.

Our new roomy assembly hall has been a well used part in the work of entertaining, educational lectures, showing of slides, films and religious meetings. The hall seats nearly 1000 people when they sit close together as they often have had to do. In the field of religious films "Apostle Paul's Life" must especially be mentioned. It is a splendid instructive and edifying film of about 6 hours (divided into 3 evenings). We are thankful for the big film library established by the National Christian Council, from where we can rent entertaining, educational and religious films and slides.

For the tea garden 1956 has been a good year with a high production of tea. The tea prices were low for some time, but became better the last month of the year so the final results are expected to be very good.

In April we had the great joy of welcoming Missionary Kurt Petersen and his wife back again to Mor-

nai as co-workers. We wish them God's blessing and a long working time here in Mornai.

In November Mr. Nirode Bose left Mornai after having been a co-worker for 25 years. For the tea garden Mr. Bose has been a valuable man who loyally has served. The impression which he made and his sympathetic conduct among us has insured him a good and permanent memory. He has now been accepted at the Arobindo Ghose's Ashram, a closter in Pondicherry, South India.

Due to the fact of having different languages, we have three different congregations here in Mornai, namely, for the Santals, Mundas and Bengalis. The leader of the Santal congregation is faithful Pastor Lokhon Hembrom, an old and respected pastor among the Santals. He is a good preacher and a sympathetic man, who has a good position among the people here in the vicinity.

In the Munda congregation, Nehemias Topno is the leader. He has now been here 5-6 years and has done a good work. In self-support the Munda congregation is further along than the others.

For the work among the Bengali speaking people, Pastor Jakob Biswas has continuously had the responsibility, but he has been very ill and in poor health the past year. Therefore, Kamol Roy and his wife who now live here have been a great help to him in the work. We have great hope that they will be a big help to the Bengal Church in the future. Roy has been trained at Kamp's Bible School in Malda and Mrs. Roy has been educated at Narainpur Girls' School in Birbhum. They are both well trained for the work and are pleasant in nature and attitude.

Unfortunately for us, Missionary Hodnes left Mornai in the beginning of 1956 to take up residence in Cooch Behar. We are very thankful to them for their help in the Bengal congregation the time they were here. Since they still have the responsibility for the work here in the district, we have regularly had visits from them and we count on having their continued help in the work among other races here in Mornai.

In all of the congregations, the Sunday School work is one of the greatest encouragements. About 250 children are enrolled and they attend regularly, as a rule, each Sunday.

Both among the Santals and the Mundas there have been confirmation classes.

The special meetings for the women on Friday have continued as usual. The rice which they bring along as offering makes a remarkable contribution to the church's self-support.

Thus, the Gospel is presented in many different ways in the mother tongue of the people. The results are naturally not always so easy to ascertain, but we rejoice in the fact that the Gospel does do its work. It brings hope to those who had no hope. We naturally have disappointments off and on, but it is well compensated for when we see and hear that there are many who in life and death put their trust in the Lord and his Salvation.

The congregation goes forward in self-support and self-government. Now when we want to express thanks to all faithful friends in the homelands for intercession and gifts in the year which has passed, we are glad that we can add that we always experience that the work is not in vain.

With thanks and sincere greetings to all friends of our joint task.

Ingeborg and Oluf Eie.

SANTAL COLONY 75TH ANNIVERSARY.

It was 75 years ago, on February 8, 1881, that the first group of Santals arrived from Bihar to settle the area in Assam set aside especially by Government for their exclusive use. The trials of the early settlers and the history of the Colony in general has been recorded in special books and annual reports through the years, and all who have kept an interest in the progress of this undertaking realize that blessings and heartaches have been liberally shared by the Mission and the Colonists alike. Covering an area of 25 square miles, today there are approximately 10,000 people living in the Colony, including those in Mernai Tea Estate.

We celebrated our 75th Year Jubilee Day with a special program of sports for the children in the morning, an open-air meeting in the afternoon where many friends gave short speeches, and a pageant depicting the history of the Colony was staged in the evening. We were honoured to have Sri Kavichusa, Deputy Commissioner of Goalpara, and Sri Abraham, Superintendent of Police, Goalpara, on our afternoon program. It was a memorable day, attended by an estimated 7000 people.

But we'll have to go back to January 1st, to the traditional Colony gathering at Grahampur on that day. This year's gathering was especially festive, and we will remember it particularly because Bishop Schioler and his wife from Rokilde, Denmark, were here. Bishop Schioler and the Pastors from the Colony conducted a large Communion Service, and at the afternoon meeting the Bishop gave an address with Rev. Eie translating into Santali. 8 choir groups brought songs for the afternoon meeting, singing in Santali, Mundari, Hindi, Bengali and English. We want to thank the Schiolders for the days they spent visiting the people in the Colony. They were an inspiration to us all. The Assam Santal Church Council sponsored a three day meeting (Sabha) at Haraputa in February, with well-attended (by the hundreds) Bible Study, Prayer Meetings, and lectures being held throughout each morning and afternoon. Miss Lofthus, an artist evangelist with a wonderful technique of presenting the Gospel through song, chalk drawings and preaching, was a special guest.

Many marked changes in the work going on in the Colony were registered in 1956. In both secular and Church activities, in response, I believe to the call or demand for indigenous leadership, the Santal community here is rising and accepting its responsibilities. In the Church Council the offices of President, Secretary and Treasurer were taken over by Santals during the year. Congregational work is beginning to take on new dimensions in the Colony with the development of laymen committees responsible for more work in the various churches. Though heavy floods in May destroyed most of the rice and other cash crops, contributions of rice and money were 25% higher than last year. This has been most encouraging, and we hope it will result in even better giving in the coming year. Though many examples might be given, I would like to tell briefly about

what has happened in one particular village in this respect. When the original settlers arrived 75 years ago, the first village they built was named "Thakurpur" -- "The Place of God". Thakurpur became the site of the first Mission station also, though for various reasons this station was abandoned for another site close by. A large and prosperous village for many years, Thakurpur has had a sad record in later years and its inhabitants have dwindled to only 9 families at present. Under Grahampur congregation, in recent years the people of Thakurpur have been recognized to be the coldest and spiritually speaking the most distant of all our villages. The people didn't come to Church, their children were never seen in Sunday School, the women never gathered for Christian fellowship the men were drinking heavily and of course contributions to the congregation were about nil. The pastor did his best to get next to these families, and I too was ready to give up trying. But then it happened. Several laymen offered a plan in a congregational meeting, suggesting that they too be used to try warm the hearts of the Thakurpur people. With this added strength in man power, we set up a literal barrage of visitations to the village-- some to gather the men, others to gather the women; we sent parties of 2 to talk to them about their need of Christ, about our need of them in the congregation. The women and children became interested first, and soon after the men were joining. In the end we were able to reach their hearts actually, and the picture has almost reversed itself in the past 8 or 9 months. All the children are in Sunday School, the adults are taking full part in all the congregational activities -- including the stewardship drive. Percentagewise, Thakurpur village is the highest contributing village in the congregation at present. May God bless and strengthen all our congregations.

As to the secular administration of the Colony, the old problems involved in the maintenance of Santal law

and custom have not lessened. The most encouraging sign in this respect is the decision of Government to set up a Rural Panchayat (a local self-government body) in this area, the headquarters of which will actually be in the Colony. This may well revolutionize the administration of the Colony - - for the good of the Santals I believe, helping them to mix more freely and to stand up on their own feet along side of the other races amongst and with whom they must learn to live more completely.

Near the end of this Jubilee Year, on the 25th of November, the people of the Colony gathered once again at Grahampur for a thanksgiving service to honour the One who has so richly blessed them throughout the 75 years. As a token of thanks to our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, we laid the cornerstone of a Jubilee Church to be erected in His Name. Rev. O. S. Bjerkestrand, General Superintendent of our Church, officiated at the service.

With thanks to all the friends near and far who are praying for the people and the work of our Church here in the Santal Colony.

Harold N. Riber.

PARKIJULI

"One soweth and another reapeth, I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour. Other men laboured and ye are entered into their labours."
John 4 : 37-38.

Parkijuli is not an old station. Yet we have a strong feeling expressed in the above quoted verses.

especially when one has to write the annual report after only three months' stay in the place. Yes, we have entered into the labour of others.

Thanks are due to the Hofrennings for their zealous work of which many traces are visible here and which already has and will yield fruit. Unfortunately, it was a strain to their health. The Westborgs were in charge of this work until we could take over, and we thank them heartily for their fine leadership here, although they had great responsibilities in Gaorang.

We arrived in October, and felt strongly the challenge of the jungle both spiritually and medically as well as the natural one—the fight against bad roads and 2-3 meters high jungle. Having arrived we were all warmly welcomed by Maguram Pastor and the Boro congregation. Our children proved to be quite an attraction for all types of local people, the Boros, Santals, Nepalis, Tibes and the Bhutanese.

In spite of difficulties with the Boro language, it is inspiring to join the services in our nice large church, usually more than half filled by Christians and often quite a number of non-Christians. It is the fruit of other's work.

The Santal field seems to be very promising. They are gathering in crowds for medical attention, and many also express wishes to join the Kingdom of God. Certainly the doors to their homes and hearts are flung wide open for the Gospel, and we are trying to bring the Good Tidings across, by visits to the villages, regular devotions at our small dispensary and by church services. One whole village of 5 families are under instruction for baptism, and fallen members wish to come back into the fold. Beside this, devotions are held regularly in Beroni, Assamese and Hindi for people of

other races coming for medical help. At the close of the year the number of treatments showed about 2500. The need for a medical unit is very badly felt, and we hope this will be realized in 1957, chiefly sponsored by extra gifts from Elk Horn, Iowa.

DARRANG HAT MELA.

The work among the Bhutanese and Tibetans, crowding for marketing at Darrang Hat, 3 miles from here, was taken care of by Mr. N. J. Dann, Maguram Pastor and Soonam Paul. Many books, tracts and Gospel parts were distributed in various languages. Soonam Paul is the first fruit of our Christian School at Dewangiri village, 6 hours walk inside Bhutan. Dojee, another young boy from the hills, was baptized into the local congregation here in July. He is already an able hand in helping our faithful compounder, Komolkanto Bosumatary at the small dispensary. May he prove to be a blessing for his own people in spiritual and medical matters. Still a third boy from the same school, Khotcha, has told Maguram pastor that he wants further instruction in Christianity. From 1957 he will stay in Parkijuli and attend school here.

SCHOOL WORK :

The Parkijuli Upper Primary School has continued its work throughout the year with about 40 pupils. Although somewhat weakened by lack of teachers and local strife, we hope the conditions will improve and that one teacher could be obtained also for the Santal children. In Dewangiri the school has run as usual, supervised by Mr. N. J. Dann with a class roll of about 20 boys. When he was requested by the Bhutanese Government to join a survey party at the end of October, one former boy of this school was willing to teacher temporarily. We did hope, however, that Mr. Dann

would be released for the mela work in 1957, which at the time of writing has become true.

In closing, we thank all friends of this work in the homelands and in India for support in prayers and gifts.

Edel and Magnus Haugstad.

EDUCATIONAL WORK IN ASSAM

GRAHAMPUR HIGH SCHOOL.

The importance of formal education to the growth of the Church is not less in India than Europe or America. To the contrary perhaps, a good case might be made for its relative importance to the people here. Living for generations in a society almost void of economic, intellectual or spiritual change and growth, the sudden release of colonial shackles in Asia in combination with the "cold war" politics of the Western powers have set off a chain of powerful reactions which are rapidly moving the patterns in India's way of life. Missions have a part in this momentous transition if our programs are aligned to the general needs and the spirit of the times, and as members of the Indian Church in our respective areas we have the special responsibility of helping the Christian community to develop in pace with the times. As the majority of the people in our Church are from the Schedule Tribe and Backward Classes, we have many opportunities to be of service to the Government who are making special efforts to better the lot of these people. God has provided abundantly for all our spiritual and physical needs--- can His children but give themselves to His holy Will. His way is truth and the truth will make us all free,-- it will lead us to the full development of the purposes He has in mind for each one of us.

Though Grahampur is small (186 students in 1956) the work during this year has been carried on in a spirit of devotion to the task of preparing the students for lives that may be fuller and richer, that they also

in turn may contribute their share from the potential that God has created in them. And such potential! Given the opportunity of proper education, one never ceases to be amazed at the surprising results that come out of even the most depressed and in outward appearance seemingly retarded families and villages.

Progress of the students was satisfactory during the year. Matriculation results were good with 5 of the 8 candidates passing the Government examination. Bipin Ch. Roy made Grahampur history by being the first to pass in 1st division. One boy passed in 11nd and 2 in 11rd division. Two other boys had to appear in special subjects only, but only one obtained the necessary marks to pass. 18 out of 33 Middle School candidates came through successfully.

The High School Mela was held in March, and though we had two days of bad weather, attendance was fair and we were able to make a profit of Rs. 1500/- for the School Fund. The Assam Government increased our grant-in-aid to Rs. 250/- per month, plus giving several other grants which have greatly helped us to carry on the work properly. For this assistance we are deeply grateful. Another source of income has been our agricultural project. Profits from this source have enabled us to construct a new teacher's quarters, to carry out many necessary repairs, and to clear more land for cultivation purposes.

No permanent additions were made to the staff during this year. Lokhon Baskey, Assistant Teacher, resigned in September to take up the full-time work of Secretary in the local Rural Panchayat. We were sorry to lose his services, but realize that he will continue to serve the school in many other ways as a public servant of the people in this locality. Two other members of our staff were elected to the offices of

sident of the Panchayat, but are still able to carry on their work as teachers. Mathias Tudu, Headmaster, has led the school in a fine way, working tirelessly throughout the year.

We are indeed grateful for the opportunity given us to serve in Grahampur High School. As promised, God has added His blessings and made the work in His vineyard a joyful task. We send our heartfelt thanks to all the friends who have backed the work here with their prayers and means, hoping that the light of Christ might reach into every heart in this corner of India.

Mary and Harold N. Riber.

HARAPUTA MIDDLE ENGLISH SCHOOL.

1956 was a very good year for our work in Haraputa. Our hopes for better times as we expressed in the last annual report materialized. From the very start many children came so that the boarding houses were fairly full. Thirty new children were received in the boarding of which one died only a month later, and several left after shorter or longer time. The average number of children in the boarding was sixty-seven.

In the school there was a similar picture. Quite a number of children came from a nearby village where they had closed their little school, and decided they would utilize the opportunity to receive a good and cheap education for their children here. We received sixty-three new pupils from all over our mission field in Assam. The average number of children in the school was 152, an increase of 17 over last year.

There were few changes in our teaching staff. In June, Elisabeth Murmu and in October, Maeno Hemrom left work. Lois Hasdak' returned from her training at Nowgong, and took up her work again. The co-operation in the school and boarding was very good for which we are thankful to our staff.

From 1956 Haraputa Middle English School was turned over to the Ebenezer Evangelical Lutheran Church, and it is our earnest desire to be able as soon as possible in a fuller extent to give the management of the school and boarding over to the people who work here. With this in view, more and more of the daily tasks have been under the supervision of the staff, and we are glad to report that they have shown great willingness and capability to shoulder the responsibilities. But there still are problems that we must help them solve for the time being, especially in the economical side of the boarding. All resources must be utilized as far as possible to keep low boarding fees, so as to enable also the very poor to come to the school. The work, therefore, needs very careful planning, and must be closely looked after to carry it successfully through. The leaders are taking part in it all, however, and are learning to understand the problems. Thus, we hope that when it will be necessary for them to carry on alone, they will be able to do so, and also maintain the mission character of the institution.

The health was good throughout the year, with the exception of the usual malaria and colds. But we had two epidemics that caused us some anxiety, first whooping-cough, which many of our smaller children contacted, and a very bad dysentery. No lives were lost, but it was a long and hard fight to save some of them. We realized once more how impossible it is to stop infection in the crowded boarding, and we cer-

tainly must be thankful to God that for most of the time the children have been healthy.

Two of our class VI girls took their middle school examination. This year also we have received Rs. 80/- a month in Government's Grant-in-Aid, for which we are very thankful.

As the crops this year were a little better, people were able to pay fees and we closed the year with practically no outstanding boarding fees. It is a good help when people thus, show co-operative spirit, and save us from starting the new year claiming fees from them.

Special days observed this year were first of all January 26th, Republic Day. As usual we had a picnic. This time we visited the congregation in Bilanpur, and we had a wonderful day together with the people there. In February the 75 Years' Jubilee of the Santal Colony was celebrated in Grahampur. There were many activities and an elaborate program, and there were guests from far and near. Our girls contributed with song. The congregational sabha was also this year held in Haraputa, and thousands gathered for three days' meetings. A catastrophe nearly happened the first day when the people had started occupying the grass huts made for them. A violent fire broke out, and in a few minutes half of the huts were in a roaring fire. Luckily nobody was killed but a few were hurt, and many badly shocked. We opened our school building and one of the boarding houses and somehow or other all got room to stay. Many of our old girls came to the sabha with their families, and we were very glad to welcome them. On the 2nd of April we had our yearly prize and sports day and on October 2nd we remembered Mahatma Gandhi with a meeting in the school hall.

The children's Saturday meetings were carried on as before. We were invited several times and we were very glad to attend and see how well they manage the meetings. It is a very good way for them to become accustomed to preside at meetings and to speak and to witness. Almost all of the children in the boarding take part.

The teachers' mission meetings also continued as before. We used our funds to help some of the poorer pupils buy their school books.

The Sunday school work made great progress in the year that passed. Besides the two classes here on the station, we got Sunday School classes started in almost all the surrounding villages. Some 16-17 teachers have classes on Sunday morning in the villages, and nearly 300 children are on the rolls. We have had special meetings here on the station once in a while to instruct them and to furnish them with necessary materials for their work. It is very important to get them firmly started in this work, as it very likely will be our main instrument in the religious training of our Christian children in the future. If and when Government starts compulsory education, there will be no religious instruction, and every community will have to take care of their own children. It is important, therefore, to build up our Sunday Schools as soon and as well as possible and thus put them on the level with the Sunday church services and the Friday women's meetings in the minds of the people. It is to be hoped that if we can make the Santal Christians accustomed to the idea that Sunday Schools are a necessity, then they will stick to them and see to it that they are continued.

All our single lady teachers have Sunday School classes, some in the compound and some in the neigh-

bouring villages. Most of the girls from the upper classes help them, and we hope that they also will learn to love the Sunday School work and go on teaching the children in their own villages when they graduate from here.

This year also we want to send our heartfelt thanks to all the supporters of our mission work in the home countries. We are co-workers in a very important field of the Kingdom of our Lord, and we feel confident that the work among our young people will have traces in the generations to come. It is a joy to work among them and they are not difficult to manage. We learn to love them, and we feel that when we meet them later in their homes, they also have a feeling for their old school and we see that they have profited much from their stay here. Let us, therefore, go on doing the good deeds, and not become tired. One day we shall see that it was not in vain. Let us pray for His blessing over our work here, and let us pray that the Word of God may live and grow in the hearts of our young girls and boys. Not by might, nor by power, but by Spirit, says the Lord of Hosts. Let us go forward trusting the promises of our Lord. He who calls you is faithful, he will do it.

Borgny Austad.

MEDICAL WORK IN ASSAM

SANTIPARA LEPROSY COLONY

All the days of a year in a leprosy colony are filled with the greivousness of sickness, pain, disappointments and sorrow. But the days of gray clouds have also their silver lining, and in between the sun shines and the clear blue heaven of hope appears.

Many of the patients have difficult chronic ulcers on stunted hands, and especially on the feet. Others have outbreak of the sickness following a very high fever. Not many days ago we had the joy of giving certificates to seven of our patients who had been cured. Barka, one of the seven, came last night to say farewell. He is a Santal and did not thank for the time spent here, but it was easy to read his thankfulness in the expression of his eye. Then he came again this morning to say " Johar "

When some become well it gives new hope for those who still are here.

Clement, our laboratory technician, has just now told me that we have more patients to whom we soon should be able to give certificates. And then he added, " Mongolsing is now negative. It will be interesting to see what the next examination shows." Surely it was a ray of sunshine for Mongolsing and for us who have known him since he came here as a small boy many years ago.

We rejoice over the fact that the conference granted Rs. 5,000/- for the building of a small ward for

leprosy patients who have tuberculosis. The number of such patients is now twelve. In all we have had 30 tuberculosis patients for treatment this year. The out-door dispensary treated 348 leprosy patients and the other out-door dispensaries treated 3,526 patients. In the small hospital for non-leprosy patients 228 have been admitted. The number of leprous patients who lived in the colony three months or more numbered 265. On the 31st of December, 1956, there were 218 patients but actually we do not have adequate living facilities for so many. We hope for an opportunity for building more houses for patients.

Three of the temporary houses which were built 19 years ago for co-workers need to be replaced by new decent houses.

We have had electric lights in about half of the colony since the 2nd of June and we hope that from one place or another the funds will come so that we can complete the installation such that there will be electric light in every room in Santipara.

On the 6th of October the school for leprous children and a home with place for 20 boys was dedicated.

In the home for healthy children of leprous parents we have 12 children this year.

From the Santal Mission, Assam Government, The Mission to Lepers, we have received with thanks the same amounts as last year. The farming project brought much less income this year than 1955 since the last rice harvest was a failure due to the fact that there was a two month's drought during the rainy season. With an almost empty granary, and ever rising prices of rice, split peas, mustard oil and other food products, it is not without anxiety that we enter into the new

year. But we have seen and learned this year as in the years, before, that God's "storehouse" does not empty. May all of us here, both well and sick, really believe the Lord's Word, "Fear thou not, for I am with thee, be not dismayed for I am Thy God, I will strengthen thee, yea, I will help thee, yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." And may the opportunities afford so that the work for the leprous patients will continue, not as an unessential part of the church's life, not only as a humanitarian work, but as a real Christian obedience to Him who said, "Cleanse the lepers"—A work of thanksgiving to God—in the Name of God for His children.

Bergljot and Gunnar Fossland.

SEVAPUR HOSPITAL

This year has once more shown a general increase in all the branches of medical work we have taken up in this hospital. The statistical appendix will show the progress during the last three years.

At the close of the year the theatre block is being put into use, and also the X-Ray work is beginning, although the department is not as yet finished. So far we have only facilities for regular X-Ray photographic work. It would be a great benefit if we could add screening of chest patients to our diagnostic armamentarium. However, we are exceedingly happy for the development we have been able to make, and we want to express our sincere thanks to the Mission for the grants that have enabled us to start this work.

Early in the year our laboratory technician, Noren Kisku, who for many years had worked in the hospital left for personal reasons. This was a great drawback in the work, especially since we so far have not been able to secure trained help in this extremely important field. One of our male nurse students, Peter Murmu, was taken on in this special work, and considering the very meager training the only doctor of the hospital has been able to find time to give him, he is doing well. It is hoped that facilities for full training will be secured for him.

The work in the hospital has now reached the point where the staff, especially the senior trained staff, is getting insufficient in number to cope satisfactorily with the increasing number of patients, this is especially true of the in-door patients' department. During the year our 2 missionary nurses, Miss Fiske and Miss Malterud, have had to shoulder the greater part of the work, especially with the large increase in the maternity work.

The relatively high number of consultations in the out-patients' department together with the growing number of patients in the hospital and a rapidly increasing number of operations is already making it difficult for one medical officer. From the coming year we have received permission to accept two trained Indian nurses on the staff, which we sincerely hope will be a good help in the nursing programme, although a very great share still will remain with Miss Fiske when Miss Malterud goes on furlough early in 1957. It is our hope that we will also soon be permitted to employ an assistant medical officer on the staff.

Two noteworthy developments have taken place during the year. The first is that we now really see the fruits of the work that has been done here for the pregnant women. A steadily increasing number of women register for ante natal clinic care, and a suprisingly good proportion of them do come for the regular examinations that entitle them to be admitted into the hospital for delivery at half rate. The high number of deliveries in the hospital is one evidence of the effect of this work. Another is that not only do the women come for delivery as the last chance in a desperate case, but more and more realize the benefit of delivering their child in the hospital even when everything is normal. This is something for which we are very thankful. We think with gratitude and admiration back to those who started this work many years ago, a long time before there even was a hospital here.

In January this year I had the chance to spend some weeks with Dr. Macphail at Bamdah Hospital in Bihar for training in eye surgery. We have up to now only had some months experience with this work. It already seems as if this could be one of the main features of this hospital. This is an extremely interesting field of work in a tropical hospital. I would like

to thank Dr. Macphail from this institution for the chance he gave us to start this work with his experience to back us up.

The congregational work on the compound has been conducted on the same lines as last year with the same people leading the local congregation, the women's meetings, and the Sunday School. Two heartening features of the spiritual life need mentioning, the first and more important is the growth of the Sunday School. Now not only do the children of the compound come regularly, but a contact has been established with the neighbouring villages, Borsonpur and Thakurpur, where a number of nominal Christians and backsliders live. It is strange to see unbaptized children of Christian parents come to Sunday School and in several cases after a while, coming to church along with their parents. In putting this development on record, I feel that we have a right to ask those friends who pray for us, and thus keep up the work to take the Sunday School, its teachers and its children, especially the unbaptized ones into their prayers.

This is a mission enterprise. That means more than anything else that we are day by day dependent on the prayers of our friends to make the work possible, to make up for spiritual and physical weaknesses, to make it the Christ witness it has been called forth to be. For all those who thus stand behind us, I want to share what I believe is our common experience, "My grace is enough for you. For where there is weakness, My power is shown the more completely."

Karen and Johs. G. Andersen.

STATISTICAL APPENDIX.

	1954	1955	1956
Total No. of consultations :	7,419	10,176	11,105
Number of New Patients :	2,053	2,641	2,955
Number of In-Door Patients :	419	598	974
Total number of Men :	4,954	6,698	6,838
Total number of Women :	2,884	3,496	4,067
Total number of Muslims :	2,213	3,228	2,868
Total number of Christians :	3,021	3,664	4,320
Total number of Hindus and Tribal non-Christians :	2,604	3,272	4,417
Number of malaria cases :	1,211	1,487	1,402
Number of hookworm cases :	320	319	503
Total of diagnosed tuberculosis :			114
No. of patients in regular treatment for tuberculosis per 31, 12 :	1	22	40
No. of deliveries, requiring major surgery :		12	18
Total number of deliveries :	51	54	112
Cataract extractions :	0	0	49
Other eye operations :	0	0	30
Other operations than those mentioned :	123	176	198
Number of women in ante-natal care :	41	114	132
Total number of patients sent for laboratory examinations :		3,534	3,823
Deaths in hospital :	17	21	47

Karen and Johs. G. Andersen.

HARAPUTA MISSION DISPENSARY.

The daily work at the dispensary has gone on steadily during the year, The statistics show an increase in treatments of ordinary diseases as well as leprosy. We have felt this increase also in the daily work, so we have to secure more help in order to carry on the work. Also we would like to have some more time to visit sick people in the villages.

During the year we treated 13,482 general patients
3 985 leprosy patients

Among these	41.1% were Mohammedans
	23.4% were Hindus
	23.1% were Christians
	12.4% were non-christians, Santals or Boros

At the dispensary as well as in the villages we had as follows :

11 normal confinements
9 abnormal confinements
43 were admitted to our wards for treatment
69 were attended to in the villages.

40.5% of the total number of treatments were for malaria.

During the year we had quite a number of patients treated for Kala Azar. In the newspapers quite a bit was to be found about an acute Kala Azar epidemic in Assam, and because of this all patients with enlarged hard spleens were especially examined for Kala Azar. We had more treatments of this disease than before, but we cannot say that there was any epidemic of it around here. During the rainy season and right up to

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the end of the year we had a very bad epidemic of dysentery. Many people died because of it and especially young children who were affected by it and did not have much chance of recovery if they did not get treatment at once. It was unlike any other dysentery seen before, and it was very difficult to treat.

We started the year with 74 leprosy patients on our roll and this had increased to 103 before the end of the year. It seems like the Government has started a new center for treatment of these patients north of us and so some of our former patients from there have left us to get treatment nearer their homes. But then we have received new ones from other places. We have quite a number of young Munda men who are coming here for their regular treatment. They come from various places, some of them are Christians, and some are Hindus. Now they have built their homes near here in order to get their regular treatment. In April we had Clemens Sangma from Santipara Leprosy Colony here for a few days to examine all our leprosy patients. (We are "affiliated" with Santipara and receive our medicines from them free) The examinations showed improvements of many, especially of the contagious type, and many of them were less positive for Hansen's bacilla than before.

We still have good co-operation with Sevapur Hospital. We send a number of patients to them for better treatments and examinations, and we receive quite a number of patients from them for further treatment, usually because this is nearer their homes.

Jotin Ch. Das and Sitol Soren are both working here. They are a good stand-by for me and have done a good and faithful work during this past year also.

Unfortunately, we had the bad dysentery among the boarding children also. Several of them were very ill.

but fortunately they all recovered. Besides this and the ordinary malaria, some of them suffered from whooping-cough.

Work among the village women has gone on as usual. During the spring we had as the year before a whole day's meeting in each congregation only for women. These meetings were very well attended in all places. Before these meetings we had our big "sabha", a three and a half day's meeting for all here in Haraputa. Also these meetings were very well attended, and everyone seems happy for the gatherings. We had a special speaker, an American missionary, Miss Lofthus, who was visiting us just at that time. She used chalk drawings to illustrate her messages and this was very much appreciated by all and it helped them to understand her message better.

During the last half year we have tried to bring more life into our small Friday meetings in the villages. We have gone on as usual, but we felt the need for more life in them. Men were elected from each village to visit their neighbor village, and we felt that it was a good thing and that the interest was stirred up, but we still believe that it can be better and then we must get more life into the homes and the villages.

Confirmation classes were held as before. Our elder and a village teacher instructed the boys, and the pastor's wife, a teacher here and myself supervised the classes for the girls.

The Lord has been with us in our daily tasks both at the dispensary and in the villages, and the work has gone on. We know that in our own strength this could not have been done. But we thank Our Lord and Master for the past year, and we thank our friends and intercessors, who have been with us in our work and made it possible.

Elisabeth Krohn.

EBENESER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 1956

GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT: O. S. Bjerkestrand
CHURCH OFFICE: BENAGARIA P. O., S. P., BIHAR.

SYNOD

President: General Superintendent
Vice-President: Rev. Jonas Hasdak', Rajadighi.
Secretary: Rev. K. R. Ghose, Suri.

FROM SANTAL PARGANAS CHURCH COUNCIL:

President, Rev. Bhikulal Hasdak', Rev. Suphol Hembrom, Mr. Benjamin Pauria.

FROM NORTH BENGAL CHURCH COUNCIL:

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

FROM ASSAM SANTAL CHURCH COUNCIL:

President, Rev. James H. Soren, Vice-President, Rev. O. Eie, Mr. Mathias Tudu, Mrs. Rahel Kisku.

FROM BORO CHURCH COUNCIL:

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

FROM BENGAL CHURCH COUNCIL:

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

TRUSTEES :

Rev. O. S. Bjerkestrand, Rev. O. Eie, Rev. A. E. Stronstad.

MISSIONARY CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVE :

Rev. G. Fossland.

SANTAL PARGANAS CHURCH COUNCIL :

President : Rev. Bhikulal Hasdak', Mohul-
pahari.

Vice President : Rev. Karan Soren.

Secretary : Rev. William Glad.

Members : (The first mentioned is Circle chair-
man)

Kaerabani Circle : Rev. Suphol Hembrom, Mr. Ram Murmu, Mr. Benjamin Pauria.

Dumka Circle : Rev. Naran Soren, Mr. Raska Murmu, Mr. Chunda Soren, Mrs. Raode Hasdak'

Jubdi Circle : Rev. Karan Soren, Rev. Abraham Murmu, Mr. Philip Hembrom, Mr. Amdi Murmu.

Mohulpahari Circle : Rev. Bhikulal Hasdak', Rev. W. Glad, Mr. Simon Soren.

Sultanabad Circle : Rev. Bhiku Tudu, Mr. Daniel Soren, Rev. I. Hoyland.

Benagaria Circle : Rev. Nikodim Marndi, Rev. Peter Murmu, Mr. Enos Hembrom, Mr. Kambo Kisku.

Baniapasar Circle : Mr. Joseph Soren, Mr. Sotish Tudu.

PASTORS UNDER THIS CHURCH COUNCIL :

Johan Hasdak'	1933	Koroya	,,	Dumka
Karan Soren	1934	Chondorpura	,,	Katikund
Naran Soren	1934	Mission House	,,	Dumka
Bhikulal Hasdak'	1937	Mohulpahari	,,	Mohulpahari
Bhagon Murmu	1938	Haripur	,,	Pakuria
Bajun Murmu	1939	Dhorompur	,,	Kumrabad
Sibram Marandi	1939	Dum	,,	Gando
Sodanondo Baske	1939	Sulunga	,,	Benagaria
Joseph Hasdak'	1940	Ranga	,,	Dumka
Suphol Hembrom	1941	Kaerabani	,,	Kaerabani
Munshi Hembrom	1941	Lukhipokhor	,,	Pakuria
John Jujhar Soren	1941	Simoldohi	,,	Maheshpur
Ruben Soren	1941	Jithia	,,	Deocha
Peter Murmu	1943	Itore P. O. Itor,		Murshidabad
Mongol Besra	1946	Jambua P. O.		Garsara
Chaitan Soren	1947	Maharo	,,	Dumka
Bhiku Tudu	1948	Chandpur	,,	Pakuria
Abraham Murmu	1948	Ranga	,,	Amrapara
Salhae Marndi	1948	Saldoha	,,	Mohulpahari
Munshi Marndi	1951	Dhobona	,,	Kaerabani
Nitanondo Marndi	1952	Honja	,,	Baskuli
Joseph Marndi	1953	Tarni	,,	Pakuria
Nikodim Marndi	1953	Benagaria	,,	Benagaria
Munshi M. Tudu	1955	S. D. School	,,	Benagaria
Lodo Hasdak'	1955	Sapadoha	,,	Benagaria
Siblal Hasdak'	1956	Tilabani	,,	Asanbani

NORTH BENGAL CHURCH COUNCIL :

President & Treasurer : Rev. Jonas Hasdak', Rajadighi.
Vice President : Rev. K. Clausen, Bagsarai Mission.

Members :

INDIA SIDE :

Malda-Purnea Circle : Rev. Joyram Hasdak', Rev. Jonas Hasdak', Rev. K. Clausen, Mr. Davidson Hembrom.

W. Dinajpur Circle : Rev. Munshi Murmu, Rev. John Marndi, Mr. Ruben Soren, Mr. Ramroy Tudu.

PAKISTAN SIDE :

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

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

PASTORS UNDER THIS CHURCH COUNCIL :

Budhrai Hasdak'	1937	Badhair P. O. Mundumalahat, Rajshahi, E. Pakistan.
Jonas Hasdak'	1944	Rajadighi P. O. Baigachi, Malda.
Munshi Murmu	1947	Narayanpur P. O. Teor, W. Dinajpur.
Jaeram Hasdak'	1947	Khoribari P. O. Manikora Malda.
John Marndi	1954	Rotonpur P. O. Gangarampur, W. Dinajpur.

ASSAM SANTAL CHURCH COUNCIL :

President : Rev. James H. Soren, Joema.

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

Secretary : Mr. Mathias Tudu, Grahampur.

Members :

Colony & Mornai Circle : Mr. Daniel Soren, Mr. Mathias Tudu, Mr. Lachman Baske, Mrs. Rahel Kisku, Rev. H. N. Riber, Rev. O. Eie, Rev. Lokhon Hembrom, Miss E. Krohn

Joema Circle : Rev. P. Pedersen, Mr. Karlus Marndi, Rev. Chatur Soren, Rev. James Soren.

Darrang & Kamrup Circle : Rev. Sirmath Marndi, Mr. Mongol Besra, Mr. Budhan Hembrom, Mr. Simon Baske.

Santipara Circle : Rev. Nimbai Murmu, Mr. Jetha Murmu, Mr. Shamu Baske.

Dingdinga & Bangali Circle : Rev. Jacob Biswas, Mr. Komol Roy, Sonaram Mehendiar

PASTORS UNDER THIS CHURCH COUNCIL :

Lokhon Hembrom	1930	Mornai	P. O.	Dingdinga
Kanhu Tudu	1939	Haraputa	„	Haraputa
Nimbai Murmu	1941	Santipara	„	Bongaegaon
Ruben Murmu	1942	Ransupur	„	Dingdinga
Jatu Murmu	1942	Bilanpur	„	Dingdinga
James H. Soren	1942	Joema	„	Gosaegaon

Ratu Marndi	1944	Kolabari P. O.	Sirphanguri
Sirmath Marndi	1944	Hingaon	„ Udalguri
Chatur Soren	1948	Dobragaon	„ Haltugaon
Choto Suna Murmu	1948	Grahampur	„ Dingdinga
Arjun Murmu	1951	Dhorompur	„ Kachugaon
Jacob Biswas	1952	Mornai	„ Dingdinga
Gupinath Hembrom	1955	Nagdalbari	„ Sidli

BORO CHURCH COUNCIL :

President : Rev. maguram Mosahary. Parkijuli.
 Vice-President : Rev. David Westborg. Gaorang.
 Secretary : Mr. Dinesh Ch. Narjari Gaorang.
 Treasurer : Rev. H. Halvorsrud, Bongaegaon.
 Members :

Gaorang Circle : Rev. Upendro Mosahari, Rev. Thari-
 ni Iswary, Mr. Mukhiram Bosuma-
 tary, Mr. Mamendro Borgowary,
 Mr. Hejon Bosumatary, Mr. Govind
 Narjary, Norendro Bosumatary.

Bongaegaon Circle : Rev. Malsing Mosahari, Mr. Bai-
 saram Narjari, Mr. Mohendro Nar-
 jary, Rajeswar Bosumatary, Mr.
 Romesh Ch. Narjary.

Kamrup Circle : Rev. Maguram Mosahary, Mr. Jo-
 gendro Narjary.

Darrang & N. La-
 khimpur Circle : Mr. Bangda Bosumatary, Darrang.
 Mr. Bahadur Goiary, Darrang.
 Mr. Joseph Goiary, N. Lakhimpur.

PASTORS UNDER THIS CHURCH COUNCIL

Tharani Iswary	1942	Gaorang	P. O.	Haltugaon.
Maguram Mosahary	1945	Parkijuli	,,	Menoka
Upendro Mosahary	1945	Goladangi	,,	Haraputa
Malsing Mosahary	1247	Bongaigaon	,,	Bongaigaon
Biswanath Narjary	1952	Bongaegaon	,,	Bongaegaon

BENGAL CHURCH COUNCIL :

President Rev. K. R. Ghose, Suri.

Secretary : Sri J. N. Das, Suri.

Members :

Malda Circle :

Rev. P. Kjolberg, (Chairman.)
Rev. Maharaj Bhandary, Sri Ruel R. Das.

Cooch Behar Circle :

Rev. J. A. Roy (Chairman)
Miss. E. Pihlquist, and Sri Norendro Hadima.

Santal Parganas Circle :

Rev. Daniel Jha, (Chairman)
Rev. D. B. Jha, and Sri Prafulla K. Dutta.

Birbhum & Murshidabad Circle : Rev. K. R. Ghose,
(Chairman) Rev. J. J. Das and Sri J. N. Das.

PASTORS UNDER THIS CHURCH COUNCIL

Maharaj Bhandary	1937	Nimasarai	P. O.	Old Malda
John Jotadhari Dass	1940		,,	Nalhati
John Anondo Roy	1941	Swedish Mission	,,	Cooch Behar
Daniel Jha	1144	Mohulpahari	,,	Mohulpahari
Haraknath Pramanik	1944	Malda Court	,,	English Bazar

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Kumud Ranjan Ghose 1946 Suri P. O. Suri, Birbhum
David Jha 1952 Dangalpara ,, Dumka, Santal
Parganas
Ajen Chisim 1955 Phutimari ,, Cooch Behar

THE
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
1956.

“ But this I call to mind,
and therefore I have hope ;
The steadfast love of the Lord
never ceases,
His mercies are new every morning ;
great is thy faithfulness.” Lam. 3: 21-23.

“ I have hope - great is thy faithfulness.” Those are encouraging words as we review the past year of the history of the Santal Mission, and the Ebenezer Evangelical Lutheran Church. In the annals of the mission we are writing the 90th report, and the 7th of the organized Church. As we look back, our thoughts are best expressed in the words, “ great is thy faithfulness.” God’s mercies have not come to an end ; they have been new every morning. As we look forward into the future we can say, “ I have hope.”

Dr. Judson of Burma was once asked, “ Do you think the prospect bright of the speedy conversion of the heathen ? ” “ As bright,” he replied, “ as the promises of God.”

Recently we heard a young Indian Christian of considerable prominence make this statement, “ I feel confident that before long India will become a Christian nation.” We pray that the day may soon come when people throughout the length and breadth of this great sub-continent will bend the knee and worship before Him who some day will be acknowledged by all as the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. And we have hope, for He is able.

Coleridge is quoted as saying, “ Life without hope” draws nectar in a sieve, and hope without an object cannot live.”

Our hope is fixed in His promises; remembering His wonderful faithfulness in the past. The Lord, himself, is the object of our hope. Oh, that men everywhere might come to the knowledge of the Truth, that they might know Him whom knowing is Life.

Someone has said, "The church lives, progresses, conquers by her faith; let her abandon despondency as her weakness, her sin, her greatest hindrance."

We find that in the history of the Church, there are periods of weakness, when forward movement is not easily perceptible. But the work of the kingdom must go forward. The writer to the Hebrews puts it like this, "We are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who have faith and keep their souls."

In our mission we have reached another mile post. We have been reminded that the year 1956 was the last in the 9th ten year period of the mission. What have we to report at the end of this period with reference to the Church? A few statistics covering the last five year period, may be of interest:—

Year :—	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Total					
Congregations	265	275	278	281	292
Total Baptized					
Membership	30286	30904	32221	32697	34226
Baptisms Child-					
ren of Christians	1904	1147	1082	1108	1282
Baptisms from					
Non-Christians	701	641	628	450	777
Confirmed	512	477	450	474	633
Sunday School					
Teachers	145	142	147	152	162
Sunday School					
Attendance	2509	2629	2861	2864	3822
Stewardship	Rs. NP	Rs. NP	Rs. NP	Rs. NP	Rs. NP
Church and	49510.20	49303.55	49571.89	50907.16	60529.20
local income					

We realize that figures do not tell the complete story although they do give an idea of outward development and growth. Apart from statistics we feel that the work is encouraging. We have sensed that there are many within large areas of the Church who are burdened for the salvation of their fellow men and for the growth and up-bulding of the church. It is encouraging to find many praying believers in our congregations, and that their prayers result in action of witnessing to the individual, in Sunday School, youth organizations, women's meetings and in the local congregation.

Again this year Bible study courses have been conducted in all districts of the Church. This very important work deserves our constant prayers that God may bless the Word that is taught.

The two theological seminaries and the Martha Mary Bible School are training a group of fine young men and women for future service in our congregations. We thank God for the call the young people have felt to enter Christian service.

During 1956 regular triennial elections were held in the five Church Districts for selecting new Church Council members. The results show important developments in that all five Church Councils elected Indian presidents whereas during the last triennial three out of five had indigenous leadership. All but one Council have elected Indian Secretaries. This is definitely a forward step. After the new Councils had constituted themselves, elections of new members to the Synod were held. Church Council representation in the Synod is now composed of Indian nationals only. The Mission as such is represented by the three Mission Trustees and one missionary elected by the missionaries.

The annual meeting of the Synod, and the first for the new Synod members, was held at Benagaria

Oct. 31-Nov. 2. During the three days session it was definitely felt that the majority of the newly elected members are worthy representatives of their respective Councils, and it was a pleasure to work with them during the Synod sessions.

The proposal to arrange for nomination and final election of a national General Superintendent during 1957 was set aside, but there is now hope that the nomination elections can be held early in 1958 and the final election take place during the Synod meeting in October 1958.

During the year definite plans have been proposed for further extensive transfer of Institutions from Mission to Church. The opportunity of placing more responsibility into the hands of indigenous leadership is welcomed. We trust that local contributions towards self-support in the Church may continue to increase and and strengthen the leaders in their effort to take over and operate the institutions. It is perhaps quite evident that for some time continued aid from the supporting Home Boards of the Mission will be necessary.

Again this year visits to our mission centers have strengthened our hope for the future of the Church. The co-operation between Indian and foreign personnel in spreading the Gospel and building up the Church is very encouraging.

General conventions with the object of developing the spiritual life in the congregations have been held in many places. Womens' conventions and youth meetings have also been held.

The Sunday School work is growing and we thank God for the many faithful Sunday School teachers in the Church. We are also thankful for all the Chris-

tian parents who bring up their children in the fear and nurture of the Lord.

In one area in particular, special emphasis has been centered on the instruction of adult Christians. Confirmation classes were conducted preparing them for greater knowledge and appreciation in participation and fellowship at the Lord's table.

During the year only one ordination service was conducted. Sibal Hasdak' was ordained on August 26 th in the Chondorpura Church. The Rev. A. E. Stronstad officiated at the ordination.

Pastor Kalu Kisku, of the Santal Divinity School, Benagaria, passed away after suffering a stroke, on January 14, 1956. Although he had been failing for some time, Kalu pastor continued in the work as teacher in the Divinity School till the last. Kalu pastor was ordained in 1931 and served for many years as pastor at Mohulpahri, and later as teacher in the Divinity School at Chondorpura and Benagaria. We thank God for his life of devoted service in the Church. Blessed be his memory.

In closing this report we would give praise and thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ for His manifold mercies and His great faithfulness. He has granted us many faithful intercessors, and many faithful workers. The Gospel has been preached, and He has given the increase. To Him be the honour and praise forever.

“ Oh, for a triumphant faith that the little one shall be a thousand. Oh, for grace to act upon such a faith at once. ” — Spurgeon.

Respectfully submitted,
Ole S. Bjerkestrand.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

Auditor's Certificate

Dear Sirs,

We report that we have checked the books of the Mission for the year ended 31st. December, 1956, 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 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, 1956.

EBENEZER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND MORNAI TEA ESTATE CHARITABLE FUND - 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, 1956.

STATION (INCLUDING MISSIONARIES) 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 the 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 of various other Funds viz. Emergency Fund, Bhikhu Endowment Fund, Central Obligation Fund and Passage Fund as described in the books of such Funds were verified by reference to certificates from Bankers, by examination of the Scrips for the Government Securities and National Savings Certificates etc. and found to agree therewith.

4. Lyons Range Calcutta 1.
9th August, 1957.

Yours faithfully,
Lovelock Lewes.

EBENEZER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH,

CIRCLES & CHURCH DISTRICTS.	COMMUNITY					WORKERS							MINISTRATIONS					SUNDAY SCHOOL		CHURCH COLLECTIONS DUPT' CANDA OTHER OFFERING AND LOCAL INCOME			
	Congregations	Villages with Christians	Christian Families	Total numbers of Christians	Communicant Members	Pastors	Catecheists	Elders	Teachers	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.	A.	P.
Kaerabani	10	83	353	1601	834	3	7	6		8		24	47	6	48	102	2761	16	11	194	2321	15	
Dumka	17	151	524	2503	1216	7	11	30	28	2	10	87	91	90	29	174	3824	18	17	373	4881	4	6
Mohulpahari	7	62	214	1118	449	2	6	11		1		20	20	26	20	50	1615	4	9	111	1053	10	6
Jubdi	11	113	411	2364	1119	4	6	24	36	10	2	82	87	83	38	125	4070	14	8	305	3642	1	9
Sultanabad	13	115	407	1871	627	4	11	17	10	4	1	47	58	51	23	139	2876	9	6	151	2205	1	6
Baniapasar	7	18	99	407	73		3	2	1	2		9	3	25		25	25				87	13	9
Benagaria	15	86	427	1996	1164	5	8	1	3	5	6	28	62	31	36	137	292	12	4	139	2872	8	1½
Santal Parganas	80	628	2435	11865	5482	25	8	45	93	80	33	13	368	312	194	752	15463	73	55	1273	17064	7	1½
Malda-Purnea	13	59	177	896	385	2	9	3		4		19	27	49	8	91	281	6	8	136	1426	14	
W. Dinajpur	13	33	112	580	228	2	13	1	6		1	23	15	1	5	74	171	1	3	51	646	1	6
E. Dinajpur	14	16	89	466	55		3	11	6		3	23	13	42	3	12	123	2	4	48	1067	15	
Rajshahi	12	33	116	500	162	2	2	10	6	11	1	37	10	25	35	29	306	15	9	235	964	13	
North Bengal	52	141	494	2442	830	6	27	25	18	15	5	6	65	117	41	206	881	24	24	470	4105	11	6
Colony-Mornai	8	64	1376	7179	2902	5	3	2	17	48		140	284	45	160	80	494	77	41	1020	10480	7	
Joema	21	72	415	1994	711	4	2	22	19	19		82	69	105	28	119	2904	21	6	89	3222	3	9
Santipara	13	26	219	1117	372	2		9		3		15	40	61	45	96	2947	22	5	91	3387	3	3
Kamrup-Darrang	8	24	162	835	190	1	2	7	3	10		24	40	9	22	38	731	13			1042	2	
Dingdinga	5	9	167	312	128	1	4		1	1	1	12	18	7	1	40	649	4	5	83	626	9	6
Assam Santal	55	195	2239	11437	4303	13	11	40	40	81	1	85	451	227	256	373	7725	137	57	1283	18758	9	6
Gaurang	21	50	443	2605	1178	2	2	20	14	6	2	57	137	22	29	59	2105	26	10	116	6925	12	3
Bongaigaon	24	51	391	2500	789	2	2	20	12	4		50	149	42	19	59	1039	26	11	235	5813	4	9
Kamrup	5	5	69	403	176	1	1	3	5	6		21	12	13	24	12	107	4	3	44	1002	15	6
Darrang	15	21	165	885	374		2	11	4	10		29	36	28	31	28	602	9	2	73	2111	4	6
Boro Assam	65	127	1068	6393	2517	5	7	54	35	26	2	28	334	105	103	158	3853	65	26	468	15853	5	
Santal Parganas	8	26	77	335	154	2	5		1	3	1	14	5	1	4	66	566	1	4	52	936	12	9
Birbhum-Murshidabad	9	21	100	628	268	2		6		12	3	23	12		7	83	163	2	12	81	1570	11	3
Malda	11	42	112	554	246	2	9	1	3		2	16	27	9	8	87	177	5	7	89	1041	3	9
Cooch Behar	12	17	152	572	233	2	3	1	15	16	2	41	20	6	10	89	1123	8	7	106	1198	8	
Bengal	40	106	441	2089	901	8	17	8	19	31	8	4	64	16	29	325	2029	16	30	328	4747	3	9
Total for Church	292	1197	6677	34226	14033	57	70	172	205	233	49	136	1282	777	623	1814	29951	315	192	3722	60523	9	10½

SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES & EBENESER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Medical and
Educational
Statistics 1956.

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
Kaerabani		2	4008							6	6	190	1	5	160	1	11	255	1	11	221	1	2	38
Dumka	1		1500					70					1	1	25	1	10	196	1	5	46	1	1	15
Mohulpahari				3	18	10	31	1624	22215	2	4	92	2	6	178							1	1	15
Jubdi	1	1	7969	1	2	6	8	420	17503	6	7	173	7	19	397									
Sultanabad										6	6	185	1	3	65	1	8	178						
Baniapasara										2	3	48										4	11	58
Benagaria	1	1	6742							3	3	72				1	8	254						
SANTAL PARGANAS	3	5	23572	4	20	16	39	2044	39788	25	29	570	12	34	805	4	37	883	2	16	267	7	15	126
Malda-Purnea				1	3	1	4	406	17179				1	5	86	1	1	7						
W. Dinajpur																								
E. Dinajpur													1	5	86	1	1	7						
Rajshahi																								
NORTH BENGAL				1	3	1	4	406	17179															
Colony-Mornai	1	2	17467	2	4	7	6	1265	18753	6	11	235	2	13	294	1	9	150	1	1	180			
Joema		1	2793							13	13	250	1	5	85	1	2	25						
Santipara	9	6	3526	1	2	5		493	348	3	3	97	1	1	21									
Kamrup-Darrang										2	5	100												
Dingdinga																								
ASSAM SANTAL	10	9	23786	3	6	12	6	1758	19101	24	32	674	4	19	400	2	11	175	1	1	180			
Gaorang										11	11	196				1	3	39						
Bongaigaon										9	10	238	1	3	31									
Kamrup		2	2515							1	4	80				1	3	43						
Darrang																								
BOBO ASSAM		2	2515							21	25	514	1	3	31	2	6	82						
Santal Parganas																								
Birbhum-Mursidabad	3		4000							1	1	12							1	8	145	1	1	5
Malda													1	3	89							1	2	9
Cooch Behar										5	5	173	2	9	178									
BENGAL	3		4000							6	6	185	3	12	267				1	8	145	2	3	14
TOTAL for CHURCH.	7	10	53873	8	29	29	49	4208	76068	76	92	1933	21	73	1589	9	55	1147	4	24	552	9	18	140

THE ACCOUNT OF 1956.

THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN
CHURCHES &
MORNAL TEA ESTATE CHARITABLE FUND
INCLUDED.

OUTLAYS :

	Ordinary	Dearness-allow.
Mohulpahari Chr. Hosp.	Rs. 19.000	Rs. 7770
Saldoha Leper Colony	„ 45.666-11	„ 3472
Benagaria Dispensary	„ 1.600	„ 480
Kaerabani „	„ 1.200	„ 360
Narainpur „	„ 896	„ 120
Basetkundi „	„ 610	„ 180
Gaorang „	„ 1.238	„ 342
Joema „	„ 993	„
Grahampur „	„ 1.000	„
Rajadighi Hospital	„ 7.116	„ 1997-08
Sevapur Hospital	„ 9.000	„ 2950
Santipara Leper Colony	„ 20.000	„ 1545
	<u>Rs. 108.324-11</u>	<u>Rs. 19.216-8</u>

Educational work :	Ordinary	Dearness-allowance
Kaerabani Schools	Rs. 26.194	Rs. 5.973-08
Maharo Schools	„ 13.718	„ 3.690-12
Koroya Mission & Orph. „	„ 4.246	„ 450
Benagaria Ind. School „	„ 4.508	„ 1.020
Sant. Div. Bung. „	„ 1.000	„
Narainpur G. School „	„ 14.316	„ 2.580
Eklakhi Girl School „	„ 7.700	„ 990
Grahampur Schools „	„ 14.300	„ 3.534-09
Gaorang Girl School „	„ 17.898	„ 1.860
	<u>Rs. 103.880-00</u>	<u>Rs. 20.098-13</u>

Total for page.

Rs. 251,520

149 THE SAN. MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES

Brought forward from page 147 : Rs. 251,520-00

District Stations :	Ordinary	Dearness-allowance
Basetkundi	Rs. 3.840	Rs. 660
Benagaria	„ 17.068	„ 2.842
Ebeneser House	„ 1.800	„ 180
Chondorpura	„ 3.530	„ 465
Dhorompur	„ 798	„ 600
Dumka	„ 6.400	„ 525
Kaerabani	„ 3.713	
Tilabani	„ 2.800	
Suri	„ 4.852	„ 510
S. P. & Bir. Womes' Work,	„ 800	„ 300
Nimasarai	„ 5.800	„ 1.024-08
Bagsarai	„ 7.550	
Grahampur	„ 6.252	„ 354
Joema	„ 8.360	„ 720
Haraputa	„ 1.000	„ 324
Gaorang	„ 7.152	„ 1.080
Bongaigaon	„ 4.000	„ 525
Parkijuli	„ 12.949-9-6	„ 809 08
District Work, D. A. Total		Rs. 10.919
District Work, Ordinary Total		„ 98.664-09-06
Committees & Travel		Rs. 9.685-08-06
Secretary's Travel		„ 2.400
Dumka Offices		„ 4.000
Legal Expenditures, Print of Report		„ 3.955-08-00
Civil Surgeon Fee & Aff. fees		„ 2.596
Stipends for Indians		„ 24.030
New construction & Major Repairs		„ 75.552-15-06
Miscellaneous		„ 24.177-12
Ebeneser Church, India Side		„ 213.297-05-06
Ebeneser Church, Pakistan side		„ 15.659-14
Missionaries Account		„ 351.460-02-03
Landrents & Taxes		„ 3.134-03-11
		<u>Rs. 729.949-05-08</u>
Balance per 31. Dec. 1956 :		
Bank	Rs. 47.293-08-03	
Cash	„ 29.796-11-02	
		„ 77.090-03-05
		<u>Rs. 1168.143-02-07</u>

THE NINETIETH ANNUAL REPORT

INCOME :

Balance per 1. Jan. 1956	Rs.	37.714-08-05
Received from America	„	179.558-10-06
Received from Denmark	„	213.786-14 10
Received from Norway	„	390.010-10-06
Received from Norway (Pakistan Side)		13 264-04-00
Received from Mornai Tea Garden	„	98.500-00-00
Gift, Pastor Knutsen, New Zealand	„	398-02-00
Miscellaneous Interests :	„	4.330-00-04
Loans : Central Obligat F.	100.000	
M. T. E. Reserve F.	100.000	
Other Funds	30.580 „	<u>230.580-00-00</u>

Rs. 1168.143-02-07



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3 9002 10638 2618

RN CHURCHES

INDIAN WORKERS' PENSION FUND.

The Account of 1956.

RECEIPTS :

Balance per 1. Jan. 1956.	Rs.	5.299-06-06
Received from : Ebeneser E. L. C. „		3.000
Interest on Government Loan „		420-06-00
Contribution from Members „		6.298-05-06
	Rs.	<u>15.018-02-00</u>

EXPENDITURES :

Pension. paid members 1956	Rs.	9.280-11-00
Contribution refunded prev. memb. „		40-03-00
Balance per 31. Dec. 1956 „		5.696-15-00
	Rs.	<u>15.018-02-00</u>

CAPITAL ACCOUNT :

Balance per 1. Jan. 1956	Rs.	<u>44.423-05-04</u>
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CAPITAL INVESTED :

Government loan of 1896/97	Rs.	15.628-05-04
Postal Savings Certificates „		28.795-00-00
	Rs.	<u>44.423-05-04</u>