

THE 93RD  
ANNUAL REPORT  
of  
THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE  
NORTHERN CHURCHES  
FOR THE YEAR 1959

AND

THE TENTH YEAR  
of  
THE NORTHERN EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

DUMKA

PUBLISHED BY THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES  
PRINTED AT THE BENAGARIA PRINTING PRESS, BENAGARIA  
1960

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**THE NINETY THIRD ANNUAL REPORT**  
of  
**THE SANTAL MISSION**  
<sup>h,</sup>  
of  
**THE NORTHERN CHURCHES**  
( THE INDIAN HOME MISSION TO THE SANTALS )  
For the Year 1959  
and  
The Tenth Year  
of  
**THE NORTHERN EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

( FORMERLY THE EBENEZER E. L. C. )  
CHURCH OFFICE, BENAGARIA

DUMKA

**PUBLISHED BY THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES**  
**PRINTED AT THE BENAGARIA PRINTING PRESS**

1960

# THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES

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### From America :

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

FRICKSON, MISS LUCILE, (Dec. 1952) Furlough,

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

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

LANDSVERK, REV. & MRS. O. J., (Jan. 1952) Kaerabani.

RIBER, REV. & MRS. H. N., (Oct. 1947) Grahampur,

(Mornai), furlough

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SCOTT, DR. & MRS. W R.,	(Jan. 1955)	Mohulpahari.
TORKELSON, MISS NAOMI,	(Dec. 1952)	Furl., Dumka.

*From Denmark :*

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

*From Norway :*

AUSTAD, MISS BORGNY,	(April 1946)	Haraputa.
CLAUSEN, MISS GUNVOR,	(Nov. 1948)	Maharo.
CLAUSEN, REV. & MRS. K.,	(Jan. 1952)	Bagsarai
DORDAL, REV. & MRS. O.,	(Nov. 1950)	Benagaria.
DRAGOY, MISS ELISE,	(Feb. 1953)	furl., Eklakhi.
FOSLAND, REV. & MRS. G.,	(Nov. 1937)	furl., Santipara.
FISKE, MISS ASBJORG,	(Oct. 1947)	Sevapur.
GLAD, REV. & MRS. W.,	(Nov. 1934)	Chondorpura.
GULBRANDSEN, MISS E.,	(Nov. 1946)	Eklakhi.
HALVORSRUD, REV. & MRS. H.	(Oct. 1938 & Nov. 1937)	Gaorang.
HANNEVIK, MISS MARGIT,	(Jan. 1947)	Saldoha, furl.
HAUGSTAD, REV. & MRS. M.,	(Nov. 1949)	Sevapur.
HOYLAND, REV. & MRS. I.,	(Jan. 1947)	furl. Grahampur.
KJOLBERG, REV. & MRS. P.,	(Mar. 1947)	Nimasarai, furl.
KVAM, REV. & MRS. H.,	(Nov. 1946)	furlough.

MALTERUD, MISS ELLA,	(April 1946)	<i>furl.</i> Mahāro.
NORDBY, MISS BETZY,	(Nov. 1946)	Rajadighi, <i>furl.</i>
OFSTAD, DR. & MRS. E.,	(Sept. 1959)	Dumka.
PEDERSEN, REV. & MRS. P.;	(Jan. 1934)	&
	Nov. 1935)	Joemā.
RINGHEIM, MISS KARI,	(Nov. 1946)	<i>furl.</i> Saldoha.
SIGURDSEN, MISS EDLE,	(Nov. 1934)	Maharo.
SOMMING, MISS SOLVEIG,	(Feb. 1933)	Gaorang.
STRONSTAD, REV. & MRS. A. E.,	(Nov. 1934)	Dumka.
STURE, REV. & MRS. J.,	(Nov. 1946)	Saldoha.
SULEN, MISS ANNE MARIE,	(Oct. 1958)	Saldoha.
TORKILDSEN, REV. & MRS. K.,	(Oct. 1947)	Koroya, <i>furl.</i>
WESTBORG, REV. & MRS. D.,	(Jan. 1943)	<i>furlough.</i>

*The Swedish Cooch Behar Mission :*

HODNE, REV. & MRS. O.,	(Jan. 1948)	Cooch Behar, <i>furl.</i>
PIHLQUIST, MISS ELSA,	(Dec. 1938)	Dinhata.
WITTANDER, MISS ADA,	(Nov. 1947)	Dinhata, & Cooch Behar.

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# THE

## NINETY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1959



### SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT

"We work with God." [I Corinthians 3:9]

These words of St. Paul as they appear in J. B. Phillips' translation come to our minds as we review the work and happenings of the past year in the Santal Mission. It is indeed a heartening fact to know that we have not been left alone with the tasks and problems before us. We have been privileged to work with God. He is the Master Builder and we have only been laborers building further on His temple on earth. We cannot say how far we have succeeded in shaping our little portion of His temple according to His perfect plan, but we do want to testify to God's continued grace and forbearance with us. He was always near with His blessing and help. At times we felt as St. Paul did when he wrote "We are handicapped on all sides, but we are never frustrated; we are puzzled, but never in despair.....we never have to stand it alone."

Our faithful friends in the homelands have continued to support us, we have had a happy atmosphere of co-operation and fellowship among the missionaries, and we have experienced the same fine relationship with our Indian Christian leaders and co-workers as previously. For all this we are truly thankful.

## 2 THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES

As we have experienced God's sustaining grace and guidance in the past we can go forward into the new year with faith and confidence. When we work together with God and trust in Him our efforts shall not be in vain.

During the past year two of our missionaries have passed away. They are Rev. H. Winding and Mrs. Solveig Petersen both from Denmark. The former even though retired from the field a number of years ago nevertheless did a splendid voluntary work at home. His love did not grow cold and his vision did not grow dim, He was very active and enthusiastic up to the very end. He has now gone to his eternal reward and the memoirs of him will continue to be an inspiration to all of us.

It came as a sudden surprise to all of us when it became necessary for the Kurt Petersens to leave India in August. Even though Mrs. Solvig Petersen had been ailing for some time yet she courageously kept on in her devoted service in Santipara. After a month's hospitalization in Denmark she was called to her Eternal Rest leaving behind her husband and two small daughters.

We miss our two departed colleagues but we do not "grieve over them like men who have no hope". Let us follow their example and be faithful to our Lord and the work which he has entrusted to us.

A faithful member of the American Board for the past twenty-five years, Dr. C. M. Weswig, was also called to his Eternal Rest during the later part of the year.

In the previous annual report it was mentioned about the visit of our Home Board chairmen and it is only to add here that they were present at the annual Synod meeting during the first days of January. They also visited all our mission centers in Bihar, Bengal and Assam. Their advice and considered opinion on

mission and church matters formulated in a statement to the Synod has proved to be a real help in solving our problems. Their visit was an inspiration to us missionaries, as well as to our church leaders. After their return home their visit has proved to be a great impetus for the work in the homelands. A few weeks after his return home Rev. Wisloff had a book read for the mission friends and this is being widely distributed. In December Rev. Wisloff was ordained as bishop in the Church of Norway and after the new year he will take up his new duties in the northern part of Norway.

New encouragement and inspiration have come to us through the visit of several other people. The journalist, Miss Erlandsen from the Norwegian Christian daily "Vaart Land", came here to Santal Parganas in the rainy season. Her report and pictures have certainly brought our work and daily life close to the hearts of many readers at home.

Several Government officials have honored our Church and Mission by their visits to our, schools hospitals and leprosy colonies and they have given favourable reports of the work. We are especially happy to note that the Minister for Industries in the Assam State Government expressed his appreciation for the valuable social and charitable work which is being done in Mornai Tea Estate and other institutions in Assam.

Also in the rainy season Professor Nygaard, a Norwegian mission friend, paid us a few days visit on his way to a Biochemists' Conference in Australia. In October we had a short but pleasant visit from Dr. and Mrs. Olav Bjorgaas who were on their way home to Norway from the mission field in Formosa.

Although exact figures are not available at the time of writing it is noted with appreciation that the total Government grants covered a remarkable percentage of

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our expenses for the educational, medical and social programs. This is a great encouragement to us and we would like here to express our thanks to the various departments of the Governments of Bihar, West Bengal and Assam, for the recurring and the non-recurring grants received during the year. In some instances considerable delay was experienced in receiving payments but this, however, was compensated by payment of grants which had been in arrears for several years.

It is also a great relief to put on record that the whole financial status of our mission has continued to improve throughout the year. At the end of 1959 remittances were on the way out to cover the budget quotas from home for the year. Some extra grants were also received or promised to be paid outside of the ordinary budget. We do want to thank our faithful friends at home for their determined efforts to meet the requests from the field not only for supporting us missionaries and carrying on the existing work, but also for their willingness to take up new projects. But most of all we thank them for their sympathetic understanding and warm hearts.

Work on finalizing the Church Constitution has continued by the Synod and steps have been taken by the Trustees to compile an up-to-date list of all mission properties. Legal advice is being obtained in preparing the Deed of Transfer of this property to the Church and the Trustees are eager to turn the property over to the new Trust Body which is to be created under the Church as soon as the remaining legal formalities have been completed. The proposal to re-arrange the Church councils on a geographical basis met with some opposition. A new proposal is now up for consideration which will give the Circles freedom to join the Council of their own choice. We hope that this will now be passed by the Synod.

We are happy to report that now finally the Church has taken over the administration of our institutional work. Ever since the Church was formally established in 1950 the transfer from Mission to Church has been gradually taking place and it may be said that this turn over has been completed by the remaining major institutions being under the Church from 1st January, 1959.

For several years the congregational budgets have been up for consideration in the Circle conferences and scrutinized by the Church Councils before being recommended to the Synod for final approval.

The work in the congregations has long been under the direction of the Circle Conveners and the Church Council Presidents. But from this year the remaining work, that is the major educational and medical institutions are also under the jurisdiction of the Synod. The Institutional Board prepares and co-ordinates the budgets and formulates the general policy for administering these institutions before recommendation to the Synod for final approval. Matters which need attention between the meetings of the Institutional Board are to be dealt with by its convener who is the Church Secretary. It is hoped that it will soon be possible to appoint a National as permanent Church Secretary and thus completing the transfer of responsibility to the Church not only in a theoretical way but actually putting the executive power in the hands of our national church leaders.

Although we see many healthy signs of readiness to accept more responsibility and shoulder a greater share of the burdens of our work, it has to be admitted that more determined efforts are needed to foster stewardship and create a spirit of pride in belonging to an indigenous church which is not only selfgoverning but self-supporting.

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When the Church is now taking over the whole administration, one may well ask: Where is the place of the missionary in this new set-up? Let it be stated clearly that weas missionaries do not want to be directors or administrators but advisers and counsellors. So far we have had no difficulty in finding our place. The fine co-operation with our Indian co-workers has been a great encouragement. Most of us are busier now than ever and we have still great opportunities for Christian service and witness through our daily work in the institutions and by contributing our share to the spiritual life of the Church.

New missionaries are called by the Church and placed by the Mission Conference in consultation with and upon request from the Synod. The only matters which still remain under the Mission are missionaries' personal items such as their maintenance, residential quarters, travel and furloughs or home duty as it is now being called.

During the year eighteen of our missionaries went on home duty, namely; Rev. and Mrs. Riber to America; Miss Ella Gjerman, Miss Ellen Laursen, Rev. and Mrs. Thoft Krogh, and Rev. and Mrs. Kurt Petersen to Denmark; Miss Margit Hannevik, Rev. and Mrs. Hodne, Rev. and Mrs. Kjolberg, Miss Betzy Nordby, Rev. and Mrs. Torkildsen and Rev. and Mrs. Westborg to Norway.

On the 1st of August, 1959, Rev. and Mrs. Lande retired from service in the Mission. We thank them for their service on the field and wish them God's continued blessing.

Only the following ten missionaries returned to India this past year: Miss Naomi Torkelson from America; Miss Inger Krogh Nielsen, Miss Elisabeth

Krohn, Dr. Miss Else Hoiland, Dr. and Mrs. Johs. Andersen from Denmark; Miss Elise Dragoy, Rev. Gunnar Fosslund, Miss Ella Malterud, Miss Kari Ringheim from Norway.

In September we were very happy indeed to welcome a new missionary family, Dr. and Mrs. Egil Ofstad. At the end of the year good news came that visa had been granted for Miss Ingrid Espenes.

The Synod at its last meeting decided to call three new missionaries, Miss Harager and Miss Stannius from Denmark and Miss Melve from Norway.

Regarding the work at our different centers and congregations the reader is referred to the more detailed reports on the following pages and to the General Superintendent's Report and the statistics which are appended.

As a general remark it may be stated that the year was one of steady growth and continued devoted service on the part of our entire staff, Indian and foreign personnel alike. The Gospel was proclaimed. Literature was produced and distributed. Many were healed and helped and taught. The Church was strengthened. The congregational life was nourished through Sunday Schools, Youth Groups, regular Sunday services and Bible Courses. As a result of evangelistic efforts several converts were added to the local congregations in nearly all the areas. It is notable that the local church income is gradually if not rapidly on the increase.

Mention should also be made of the evangelistic out reach to Nepal where our Church now has a worker together with his family engaged in school work and is planning to establish a permanent Christian center. Through the few Christian families living in Morang

## § THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES

District in Nepal there is an opening to present the Gospel to their neighbors. Contacts have been made and there are already a number of inquirers being instructed for baptism. This new mission project is sponsored financially by the Church and it is encouraging to note that the interest is growing and the contributions are coming in from all sections of our Church.

Benjamin Pauria, our Indian Student, has continued his studies in America and is expected to return sometime next year. The home boards have extended invitations to the Church to send more students for further studies abroad both in America and in Scandinavia. Possible candidates are being selected.

At several of our institutions new extensions have been made. The Eklakhi Girls' School takes pride in a new school building and at Narainpur a very much needed teachers' house was constructed. For the building of these two buildings liberal grants were received from the West Bengal Government. At Sevapur the Maternity and Surgical Ward was completed and at Mohulpahari two fine residential quarters for doctors were built. The additions to these two medical institutions were made possible by extra grants from Norway and America.

It may be noted from Rev Eie's report that the financial position of Mornai Tea Estate continues to improve. The quality of the tea is better and the quantity was greater than last year. With reference to the last Annual Report a note is made of the fact that Messrs. Norinco (Private) Limited who had served the Mission as Managing Agents for Mornai since the last war tendered their resignation. Through influential friends in Calcutta we were fortunate in being advised to appoint an Indian firm, the Messrs. Davenport and Company (Private) Limited as new Managing Agents from 1st July, 1959 on favourable terms. Provision



has been made in the agreement for continuing the religious and social work which the Mission has always been doing, and thus we hope that Mornai may continue to be an influence for good and a source of income for the Church.

The encouraging event of the year for our missionaries on the field was the annual conference held in Dumka in November. As much of the business which formerly was directly under the conference now is done in the Church Councils, the Institutional Board and the Synod, we could devote more time to Christian fellowship and discussion of important aspects of our work. The remark was heard from several that this is the best conference that we have had for years!

In reviewing the past year we are very conscious of our own shortcomings and failures and we see so much left undone. We do not know what the future may hold for Christian Missions in India and we do not know how long we may be permitted to carry on the work. But we do know that He who called and placed us here is faithful and His promises are sure.

We extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all friends of the Santal Mission in India as well as in Norway, Denmark, America, Sweden and other countries. Thanks for continued faithful support and intercession. May God richly reward you.

Respectfully submitted.

A. E. Stronstad.

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# WORK IN SANTAL PARGANAS

## BASETKUNDI DISTRICT

It was a disappointment to us that the Hoylands could not return to the Sultanabad District. Sultanabad District needs young, physically strong missionaries to cope with the many tasks in that large district.

Owing to the nature of the land it certainly is a very strenuous job to travel in the district. There are very few good roads. Stones, small and large and clayey soil and other obstructions are doing their best to hamper the activities, especially in the rainy season. Ordinary cars are of no avail. What is needed is a strong, good jeep which forces its way through almost everything.

We have thirteen congregations in this district relying upon four pastors for baptism, confirmation, Holy communion and marriage performance. There are ten evangelists assisting in the preaching and village visiting service. The number of Christians is now approximately two thousand.

We have a number of primary schools with hundreds of pupils. Some of the schools are fairly good and some not so good. But it certainly is not easy to maintain a high standard of teaching under such primitive conditions in a trying, tropical climate where the schools are located in rural and jungle areas without modern facilities such as electricity and up to date school equipment and other materials.

In Basetkundi, the head station of the district, we have a very good Middle school with more than two

hundred students. Mr. Augustine Tudu, a son of a former pastor Emanuel Tudu, is the headmaster and Mr. Silas Marndi the head pundit. It has indeed been a pleasure and source of much joy to work together with these fine young men.

As the large school building was in a very bad state of repairs we simply had to do something in order to save the building. The Synod cut the sum of three thousand rupees which we requested for this very necessary repairs. We consulted together, the staff and district workers, and agreed that if the Lord wants this school to continue, He will most certainly find a way for us. With this assurance in our hearts we ordered some building materials. And now as the materials slowly arrive the money to pay for it has also, so far, come in. Half of the expenses for the major repairs has yet to come, but we are sure that our Lord shall graciously provide for all our needs.

There is a fine spirit of fellowship between Jubdi and Sultanabad congregations and we have had several big meetings together with an attendance of up to one thousand people.

William Glad.

## BENAGARIA DISTRICT

All around in the district the work has gone forward and a marked progress has taken place in several congregations. Our pastors, elders and Bible women have been enthusiastic in the task of proclaiming the Gospel both among Christians and non-Christians. In seven out of eighteen congregations baptisms have been performed and a number of people are under instruction for baptism. In 1959, forty-nine non-Christians were baptized by our pastors. The church offerings have gone up a little in comparison with the 1958 figures. In some places the Christians are very eager to become self-supporting. In Jithia the average offering per Christian was Rs. 3.40 which is a very encouraging result. For all other congregations the offerings per capita range from less than four annas to a little above one rupee.

Several major repairs which we were not able to finish in 1958 were completed in the beginning of 1959. In December 1959 the church in Matiajuri was dedicated. For Murshidabad we received a special grant for repairs of residential quarters for our workers over there. In Bidyanagar a temporary school house and cookhouse were erected. In Dhitpur the pastor's house was repaired, but we have still much repair and building to do in these two places in order to provide decent living quarters for our workers. We have gathered a great deal of material for building but we need funds for the construction work. Grant was applied for, and the application was included in a list of special requests and sent to the homeboards for consideration. We hope that the homeboards will grant at least some part of our application to enable us to continue the work in this part of our district.

Major changes took place in Murshidabad with the placement of a teacher, Mr. Bhonde Soren, in Bidyanagar, and pastor, Rev. Philip Hembrom, in Dhitpur

from April, 1959. These two places have been mentioned before in the annual reports. It is an area far away in the southeastern corner of our circle and by road it is about one hundred and thirty miles from Benagaria. A school has been started, and at present fifty-five children are attending the classes. Besides that, Bhone Soren and Philip Hembrom have done a great deal of work to gather the congregations again. All around they find Christians who for many years have never attended church services and Christians who have never had an official marriage. They have just moved together and started a new family. We as a mission must take some of the blame for the poor state in which the congregations are. We have neglected to give them proper help and guidance. After the last war we took over the responsibility for these areas from other missions, and we found that in some congregations they had only church services two or three times yearly. Sometimes even worship for Hindu deities was held in the churches. There are places where adults who are children of Christian parents never were baptized because there was no one to perform the baptisms. Their version is: "No one cared for us. We have had to go without the sacraments of the church for many years but we are not happy about it." So it was natural that the Christians carried on and moved together and formed new families, and their children now are like the non-Christians. Rev. Kvam paved the way for the work now going on. He, as well as us, was aware of the great responsibility we have for these people. We who know about it feel that there is still much pioneer work to do in our old mission fields.

In 1959 our Christians in Murshidabad and Burdwan districts experienced the heavy floods which struck West Bengal in the last part of the monsoon. In Bidyanagar they were cut off from the rest of the world

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for a long time, and their only communications were by boat. Food was sent to them by air but still many people suffered very much during the floods. The government did its utmost to send relief, but since the floods covered such a vast area relief could not reach everyone in time. In Bidyanagar the houses of three Christian families collapsed, but no lives were lost.

Of the greater events during 1959 all of us will remember the visits of the presidents from our three homeboards. In the middle of December in 1958, Dr. Stensvaag preached here in Benagaria. Christmas Day Bishop Gudmund Schioler preached in the church to a big crowd, and finally Bishop H. E. Wisloff from Norway visited us in January. One evening he talked in Benagaria church with Rev. A. E. Stronstad as interpreter. Dr. Scott from Mohulpahari showed us his colored religious slides and gave a testimony. We all felt that the Spirit of God worked among us that evening. In February we had the annual mela, and again our Christians worked hard and the result was good. The net income was one thousand one hundred and forty-five rupees. Little by little we have reached the goal that everything for the mela must be donated by the Christians.

The work among the children, the young people and the women has gone on as usual with the Sunday School on Sunday mornings, the young people's meetings on Wednesday afternoons and women's meetings in the compound on Thursdays and in the villages on Fridays. The children had their special day the first Sunday in November with church services in the morning and a picnic in the afternoon.

The young people have had their picnic also this year and very often on Sundays they go out to the congregations in the vicinity of Benagaria to visit the

Christians there. It is with great happiness that we baptized two of our young boarding boys during the year. They have been in our Industrial School Boarding for some time, and through the daily Bible hours and the work in Luther League they learned about Jesus Christ and chose to follow Him.

#### BENAGARIA MIDDLE ENGLISH SCHOOL

The work in the middle English school has gone forward in 1959. The number of children enrolled is still going up. This year more than four hundred children are enrolled and about sixty per cent of the children are from Christian homes. Nine teachers have taken care of the classes and done a good work. We have a small boarding which is self-supporting, for the children who are not able to go home every day. The children bring their own rice and pay three rupees per month for other expenses. The examination results have been encouraging and during the year many children received government stipends and scholarships.

#### BENAGARIA MISSION FARM

After five years of work in agriculture improvements have been made in the fields and much more land has been cultivated. There are still many necessary improvements to be made before the agricultural work can be made a profitable institution. The irrigation system is inadequate. Since we have no cemented water channels much water is lost on its way to the fields. Several acres of land which is suitable for rice fields is not yielding anything. These improvements will take time and money, but there is no doubt that the farm can be a source of income for the church in the future. During the past five years Maharo Girls' High School has received seven hundred and eighty maunds of paddy valued at eight thousand five hundred and eighty rupees

figured at the rate of eleven rupees per maund which is a low estimate according to the market price during the last years. This year it appeared as if we would get a bumper crop, but in September we had continuous heavy rains and much of the paddy rotted in the fields. But since we have made several new rice fields the total harvest was the same as last year. However, with the increased expenses we figured on a loss of about two thousand rupees. On the other hand the corn crop gave us almost double as much as last year. During May and June the big tank was cleaned for silt which we used as manure for the fields.

## BENAGARIA INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

### CARPENTRY:

In 1959 five students finished their three year course with good results and six new students were accepted in the beginning of the year. According to government laws our school is now licensed as a factory. In order to get the school facilities up to date we have had to do several changes and therefore our repair expenses are higher than previous years. As a whole it has been a good year for the school. We have had much to do with the making of furniture, roof construction and other woodwork. The students have had their practical and theoretical training as usual, and the staff of three teachers have done their work faithfully.

### WEAVING:

Three students finished their course in 1959 and four new students were accepted in January. The total number of students for the year were nine. Besides the students thirteen contract workers have worked permanently in order to cover all the orders for hand-



loom received during the year. As usual much cloth was made for our hospitals and several bigger orders from other missions were received. The work has gone on very well, and our teacher, Jetha Besra, has taken care of the training of the students and has been responsible for the dyeing of all the material used.

The income in 1959 together with a grant of Rs. 4500.00 was Rs. 26,910.66, and the expenses Rs. 23,382.02 leaving a balance of Rs. 3,528.64. Materials for approximately four thousand rupees was on stock at the end of the year.

### BENAGARIA MISSION PRESS

“Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.” (Psalm 119:18)

It has been our hope for the last five years that we by the task of printing and distributing Christian literature may have been of a little help to all those who have the longing in their hearts that they may get a better and fuller knowledge of the Word of God. It has been our hope that we could be of some help to those who live without hope and without God in this country. The written word does its silent but powerful work in the hearts of men, and we in Benagaria are but a small unit of the group of printers and distributors of Christian literature in India. Our main task is to print and distribute literature for the Santali speaking population in Northern India. We feel that we have an important task to accomplish as only a few other presses print in Santali. We do thank everyone who has helped towards the goal of publishing literature for the Christians as well as for the non-Christians. We struggle with figures and estimates, but it is our hope and prayer, that behind this struggle may be

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people around in India who through this branch of our mission work "may behold wondrous things out of the Word of God."

Our staff of seventeen workers has carried out faithfully the orders we received during the year. We regret the delay in some of the orders mostly due to shortage of paper, but as a whole we have been able to fulfill and meet the requests. Important changes took place in the management in 1959 in that Mr. Manasse Tudu came back after four years of training in press management and was appointed as manager of the printing department and Mr. Mongol Murmu, the assistant manager was promoted to the post of business manager of the book sales department. Mr. Mongol Murmu has carried the heavy burden of work in both departments during the last five years and we want to thank him for his willingness and fine service in our press. We do hope that he still may have many years to give in the work of distributing literature.

In October we got an order for the printing of 7500 copies of the New Testament (the revised union version) from the Bible Society of India and Ceylon. For this special work a new set of 10 point types were purchased. As we did not have the necessary funds at present a loan of three thousand rupees was granted from the mission.

During the last years the demand for stationery has been greater and greater and at times it has been difficult to fulfill the orders in time. The reason for this is that the machine used for that particular kind of work is almost worn out and needs to be replaced by a new and more up to date machine with a bigger capacity. Our press has for the last three years carried on without any grant from the mission or the church. In order to keep that record we will have to

get better materials, types and machines. Another machine which we need very badly is a hand casting machine. The price of such a machine with all accessories will cost from fifteen to sixteen thousand rupees. In the long run it will be a good investment for the press to purchase this machine. We will then be able to do more work of better quality at a cheaper rate. At present we are printing in Santali, Bengali, Hindi, Boroni, Nepali, English and other languages using Roman script. Our stock of Hindi types is insufficient to cover the present need.

The following books have been printed during 1959:

#### REPRINT, SANTALI

Buj Rakap' I Hatin	2000 copies
Buj Rakap' II Hatin	2000 "
Lesson Sheets	2000 "
Krus Reak' Katha	2000 "
Hajri [Tract]	1000 "
Pahil Puthi	2000 "
Seren Puthi	5000 "

#### NEW BOOKS, SANTALI

Niropon Hormo	1000 copies
Jisu Masi Doe Cet' Lekakea	1000 "
Dilan Daniel	1000 "
Panji	2200 "
Kristan Patiau Siknat	1000 "
Hospital Sunday [Pamphlet]	1000 "
Santali News Letter	500 "

#### UNDER PRINTING

Hor Seren	2000 copies
Sunday School Lessons	1000 "

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### REPRINT, BEGNALI

Nawa Din, Nawa Dare 1000 copies

The weekly paper "Pera Hor" has been printed in 1250 copies.

The gross income in the press in 1959 was Rs. 32,480.02 and the expenses Rs. 29,854.89 leaving a balance of Rs. 2,625.13.

### BOOK SALES DEPARTMENT

The Santali Literature committee has had one meeting in 1959 and all the members except Mr. Gora Tudu were present. A new manuscript, "Jisu Masi Doe Cet' Lekakea" written by Rev. William Glad was presented and accepted for printing in 1000 copies. (This book has been printed and while this report is written more than eight hundred copies have been sold.) The Sunday School lessons prepared for use in our Sunday Schools will be finished in the beginning of 1960. Dilan Daniel, a drama written by Mrs. O. Landsverk and some of the teachers in Kaerabani has been printed.

The demand for books has been greater than ever, and we could distribute many more books if we could find a more efficient way of advertising. We are sending out catalogues, but it is all too often just put aside and no one ever sees them. We advertise in Pera Hor, and our missionaries do a great work in distributing literature all over our mission field. But still there are many people who never get an opportunity to buy one of our many good books. It has been said that we have too few books. That is true and we could sell many more books, but it does not mean that we have few books. There is quite a number of good books in our book store at present.

In order to encourage the sale of books by our congregational leaders it was decided at our last meet-

ing to give a commission of twenty per cent on all book orders of twenty rupees. All books except "Mare Hapramko Reak' Katha" are included in the new rules. This, of course, reduces the income but we hope to get that covered by larger sales. Nine months have passed since these rules were introduced and the result is, as far as we are able to judge, encouraging. As Mr. Mongol Murmu, the manager of the book sales department, can use his whole time in the distributing of literature, it is our hope that we may be of better service to all. The gross income in 1959 was Rs. 13,519.68 and the expenses Rs. 9,115.76 leaving a balance of Rs. 4,403.92.

In closing our last annual report from the work which we have been in charge of for the last five years, we want to thank all our co-workers out here in India for good fellowship and help during the years we have served here.

We extend thanks to the home boards and the many friends of the Santal Mission who are behind us with offerings and prayers that we together may go forward in the task of building up the Kingdom of God in India.

Hanne and Aage K. Jensen.

## CHONDORPURA DISTRICT

We stated in our last report that to give an account of our district work is no longer the task of the missionaries. The missionaries in the Jubdi area, four in Saldoha and two here in Chondorpura are all assigned to special posts, outside the direct district work. Having been asked to submit a report in order to give a few

glimpses of the general work in the district, we shall have to comply with the request.

As Chondorpura has been for many years an ideal place for pastors' refresher courses, laymen's courses and literature courses, such courses have been arranged from this place in 1959 also.

Most of our time should be taken up with the literary work assigned to us, but during the last year the strong requests from pastors, teachers and evangelists to visit them for church services and Bible study have been so many and urgent that we have had to re-arrange our whole working routine in order to reach as many as possible.

In regard to the two large districts we are concerned with, namely, Jubdi and Sultanabad, we are experiencing a real deep awakening among our pastors, evangelists and teachers with regard to what the Bible really teaches and the divine power which is manifested where the Gospel is preached unadulterated.

This has led to a systematic campaign with the goal of having, first of all, a Bible into every Christian home and secondly to have a New Testament in the hands of every literate Christian boy and girl. The result of this has been that the sale of New Testaments has tripled from the previous year.

In many of our churches we have the following in writing on the wall just above the pulpit: "What does the Bible say?" The Bible influences the reader and in many lives the change is already obvious.

The pastors and evangelists as well as the teachers have told us that this campaign, "What does the Bible say?" has helped them to go back to the Bible for their own spiritual strength as well as to find out what the Bible teaches in regard to special difficulties

which they have never been able to solve, but now can see through, thanks to the divine light of the Bible.

Some of our workers have confessed that the Bible has never been so dear to them as now.

All these things are proof in themselves that the Word of God is quick and powerful and penetrating.

The primary schools in the district are working as usual and in some places often under difficult circumstances.

The local congregations in the district have really lived up to the occasion in fulfilling their obligation to meet the financial cut made by homelands and the Synod.

A number of people have been baptized during the year and the work in general seems to be promising.

William Glad.

## DUMKA DISTRICT

The evangelistic work is under the supervision of the circle convener, but since he has not been able to write any annual report I shall here give a few remarks.

The two pastorates in Dumka district consist of five local congregations. They are Dumka and Ranga which have been served by Pastor Bhikulal Hasdak' and Dum, Chukapani and Mundha which have been served by Pastor Sibram Marndi.

In addition to the two pastors we have had only one fulltime evangelistic worker, namely Kishun Hasdak'

who came here last year after he had passed his L. Th. examination. He has studied at Gossner Theological Seminary in Ranchi. Kishun did a good job assisting the pastor in visiting the nearby villages, instructing the confirmation classes and especially keeping in touch with the Christian college students. Unfortunately, he left his promising work here after one year because he wanted so much to continue his studies. He is now reading in the B. A. class at Serampore College.

Regular Sunday services have been held in all churches. Here in Dumka the Luther League youth group has met regularly once a week and Sunday School classes have been held here and at Ranga. On Thursdays the women have continued to gather as usual.

During the year two circle conferences were held in Dumka. These are important gatherings as representatives from all sixteen congregations in the circle come together with their pastors and the missionaries within the circle to review the work, make plans for the future and prepare the budgets. The main themes of discussion this year were how to present the Gospel more effectively to the non-Christian community and how to reach the goal of economic independence by 1965.

The church income has increased a little over last year, but looking at each congregation separately it appears that the church collections do not even cover the allowance paid to the local lay preacher. It is to be recognized that these problems are fundamentally of a spiritual nature and our aim must therefore be to strengthen the local groups of Christians and nourish their spiritual life.

At Dumka the church attendance has varied somewhat but it has been a great encouragement to see a faithful group of high school and college students come regularly to church services.



During the year thirty college students organized themselves into a Christian Students' Fellowship Group all on their own initiative. They have held regular monthly meetings and it has been a great joy to meet with them. We do hope that this group will be of a great help to them as well as a means of witnessing to their fellow students.

Baptisms have been performed in all five congregations. Twenty-nine children of Christian parents and twenty-five from the non-christian community were baptized.

Annual "mela"s were held in Dumka and Dum and the proceeds were comparatively the same as the previous year.

As indicated in last year's report aluminium sheets and fittings were bought for a new church roof and the main portion was completed before the rainy season. A new cement floor was laid in the central part of the church and this portion of the church has also been whitewashed. The roof of the chancel and the sacristies remain to be done but the materials are all collected. We only wish that we had money to put in electric light in the church as well.

Unfortunately some irregularities were discovered in the handling of the local church and circle accounts but the persons concerned have admitted their mistakes and the money that was unlawfully borrowed is being repaid.

The suggestion to open a hostel for high school and college girls in Dumka has been brought up on several occasions. There is certainly a great need for such hostels and we are happy to hear that there is hope of receiving extra grants for this project.

The primary schools at Dumka, Dum, Chukapani, Khatijuria and Ranga have continued as before with the same staff of teachers.

In September we were very happy to welcome a new missionary family, Dr. and Mrs. Ofstad with their two boys who have stayed here during their language study.

In October Miss Naomi Torkelson returned back to Dumka after furlough. In addition to her duties in the mission office she has taken over the supervision of the Sunday School and the youth work.

We thank all who are remembering Dumka in their prayers and are supporting the work here.

Alvhild and A. E. Stronstad.

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## DHOROMPUR DISTRICT

Thinking of the many villages in the big so-called Dhorompur District where there as yet are no Christians at all and on the other hand remembering the very few Christian families in the three small congregations taken care of by a handful of Christian workers, one feels like asking the same question as Andrew did when he saw the multitude and looked at the five barley loaves and the two small fishes:—"what are they among so many?"

There are many opportunities for work, but the labourers are so few. On our visits we found many people eager to listen to the Gospel and the most frequent question asked was this: "Have you come to stay at Dhorompur Mission?" Unfortunately, we had not come to stay. The Dhorompur bungalow has remained empty for several years, and it appears as if we shall never have missionaries to place there any more. Our main effort as a mission must be to strengthen the local congregations and pray that each Christian may be a witness for Christ to their neighbours.

At Dhorompur itself Pastor Baijun Murmu has continued as the only ordained full time evangelistic worker of the entire district. He has already reached his retiring age and will according to the decision of the Church Council be replaced by Pastor Amdi Murmu. The work is not easy but Baijun has continued steadfast and faithful. In addition to being the leader of the Sunday School he has conducted regular church services every Sunday throughout the year. He has also held monthly communion services in all three congregations. On his visits to the south side of the hills he has visited the Christian homes and done village preaching as far as time and strength would permit.

Dhorompur congregation is the largest of the three congregations with a total of one hundred and four members. During the past year no one was added from the non-christian community but one child of Christian parents was baptized.

Women's meetings have been held, but it has to be said that hardly any evangelistic work especially for women is being done since we have no paid Bible women in the entire district any more.

The Upper Primary School has not yet been recognized and therefore is not aided by the Government. The attendance should have been greater. The staff of four teachers have continued, however, to do their best. As the open mud house is far too small it has been decided to move two classes over into the missionary bungalow. Durga Marandi, the head pundit, has now been replaced by Munshi Soren.

One step forward during the year was the opening of a small dispensary in one of the rooms of the Dhorompur bungalow. This is operated by a qualified Christian compounder who had previously worked at Mohulpahari.

He is kept busy most of the time as there is a very great need for medical work in that area. He was granted a small loan from the Dumka Circle to start the dispensary but otherwise the dispensary is self-supporting.

Some very necessary repairs were done to the bungalow to stop the worst leaks before the compounder and the two school classes could move in. More should have been done if only money were available.

The cultivation of the land belonging to Dhorompur has now been given entirely over to the congregational committee and is being managed by the pastor. Some income was received for the church from this source. Otherwise it appears that the church income in Dhorompur was a few rupees less than the previous year.

The church building has been whitewashed and kept in fine condition by the congregation.

Munshi Hasdak' and his wife who came directly from the Theological Seminary did a fine work at Honja. The Church income was four times greater than the previous year and seven were baptized from the non-christian community. Unfortunately, the house which was built a few years ago and recently repaired again was so badly damaged during a heavy storm and down-pour at the end of the rainy season that Munshi and his family had to move out. It was next to impossible to rent even a small room in the village. It is very much to be regretted that the only trained evangelist on the south side of the hills may have to be moved away to some other place where a house is available.

At Nijhor-Jetke a young man, Choto Marndi, was chosen by the congregation to conduct the Sunday services which he has done to the best of his ability. After much disagreement and discussion the majority

voted for having the old church building at Amgachi cleaned out and rededicated again. The twelve families are now regularly worshipping there.

Unfortunately there are no Christian schools in this area which still is a very great challenge to our church and mission.

Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth labourers!

A. E. Stronstad.

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## KOROYA DISTRICT

Under the leadership of Pastor Johan Hasdak' the evangelistic work in this district has continued much as previously. He is responsible for the pastoral care of the four local congregations, that is, Koroya, Rajband, Majdiha and Jalwae. There have been seventeen baptisms during the year of which seven were adults and the remaining ten were children of Christian parents.

At Koroya and Majdiha more than one hundred children have regularly been attending Sunday School.

In the two Upper Primary Schools at Koroya and Majdiha the same staff of teachers has continued. The daily average attendance has been kept up as before throughout the year.

It appears that the church collections have increased in the three congregations whereas it has gone down considerably in Koroya. There is a good reason for this and it does not mean that the local Christians have been giving less.

After nearly five years in Koroya the Rev. Kjell Torkildsen and family left in April for furlough. We thank them for their missionary service and only wish that they would come back again.

Since there is not very much hope of missionaries being placed in Koroya the missionary conference decided to offer the bungalow there to the church for temporary use as a hostel for college boys. The distance from Koroya to the Dumka College is only about three miles. The distance is perhaps a bit too far for the students to walk every day, but there is a great need for hostel accommodations and it was felt that this was the best use we might make of the Koroya bungalow for the present time. The matter is now before the Santal Parganas Church Council for their decision.

There are no more orphans staying in Koroya any more so the orphanage has practically been closed. The mission is now supporting one girl in the training class in Maharo and two boys studying at Kaerabani High School.

With regard to the Christian work in Koroya district the same factor is true here as in most of our church areas, that is, the harvest truly is plenteous but the labourers are few. We must continue to pray for a real awakening of the local groups of Christians that their witness may be strong and clear.

A. E. Stronstad.

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## KAERABANI DISTRICT

“And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” (Acts 4: 12)

In reviewing the activities of Kaerabani District the one impression which stands out is that our national workers have willingly and joyfully shouldered more responsibility often in very trying situations. Records show a steady increase in membership and offerings. One new congregation is in the making at Rak, where about twelve adults have begun having regular Sunday worship services.

There are now eleven congregations served by three ordained pastors, two paid elders, four elders on small allowances and two teachers. Kaerabani congregation is the largest with a membership of five hundred ninety-four, reporting ten baptisms last year. We will miss Pastor Suphol Hembrom when he is transferred to Benagaria in February, 1960. He has now completed twelve consecutive years in this circle, serving as Circle President for the last four years. Pastor Bhikulal Hasdak' and wife, both of whom are from Jambua congregation originally, will replace Pastor and Mrs. Hembrom.

The activities of the congregations in this circle include regular Sunday services with the Lord's Supper once a month. Sunday schools are active in all congregations with a total enrollment of two hundred. Periodic Sunday Schools conducted by teachers and hostel boys have been held in Duma and Tilia villages where the children are unable to attend Sunday School in Kaerabani because of the distance. Special programs for Christmas and Easter are presented by the children of the Sunday Schools. We are grateful for the teaching aids and Christmas card pictures from friends at home

which serve as a stimulus for attendance. We see the need of Sunday School teachers gathering for some days of fellowship and instruction. The short training given for confirmation instruction should be preceded by years of good Sunday School instruction. Post-confirmation youth groups are so far spasmodic, varying with the leadership in each place. The 3rd annual Youth Ashram for the Ex-Matriculation students was held this year during Easter Week from the 23-31 of March. Rev. William Glad was the special instructor and a good week of fellowship and instruction was enjoyed by all attending.

In the beginning of the year, Pastor Munki Marndi of Dhobona and Mongol Besra of Jambua exchanged parishes and have adjusted nicely to their new responsibilities. From next year, Pastor Munki Marndi will also serve once a month a newly organized congregation. This is on special request from a congregation in Jamtara and thus he will be relieving our Kaerabani pastor who served this congregation also during the past year. Jamtara has not officially become a part of our circle. It is pending formal sanction from the mission in that area for work among the Santals of our church there. With regular bus service to Jamtara there are prospects of a growing Santal work where more educated Christian Santals are finding employment in the court and high school of this sub-divisional center.

The annual circle mela was held again this year on November 17-18th with a good attendance. It was managed entirely by the national church and lay leaders. Rev. Ruel Soren of Benagaria Theological Seminary was the speaker. The second day, which was tried for the first time this year, continued with Bible Hour in the morning and varied activities in the afternoon and evening. The proceeds of the second day went to the local congregation. Babhondiha congregation also held



a "mela" in December. It has been proposed that the circle "mela" hereafter be held in February or March when people are not so busy with harvesting and perhaps more able to contribute to the church in this way.

## SCHOOLS

In spite of repeated attempts to get government recognition and aid we have not been successful for any of our seven village primary schools. We have had visits from inspectors, who have submitted favorable reports but our applications have not been granted so far. We hope it will be possible to continue these schools as long as possible for here is a good opportunity to teach Bible to Christian and non-christian children and the Santali language in the Roman script.

One of the problems usually raised by inspectors is that we have no separate school buildings as schools are conducted in the local church building which is meant primarily for a house of worship. We are advised that recognition will be accorded if separate school buildings are provided but due to financial limitations this has not been possible. However, with additional short courses for the teachers with our teachers here at the Kaerabani Lower Primary School our village teachers are keeping informed and carry out their work conscientiously. Attendance has varied with a total of two hundred and thirteen in all schools. More than half of them are in the first grade with about thirty finishing third grade last year. More is trying to be done to encourage the children to complete the course but poverty and often indifference on the part of the parents counteracts the teachers' best efforts. It is a joy to visit these humble Christian schools. The children from the non-christian homes also have a receptiveness to the Gospel which is encouraging. We pray that the good seed planted and cultivated in the hearts of these young citizens will fall on good ground and bring forth fruit.

The Kaerabani Lower Primary School has continued to operate well with five devoted teachers. The average enrollment has been one hundred and sixty-five. These teachers teach Bible regularly in the school and also make up the Sunday School staff on the compound.

We close this report with our sincere thanks to all faithful praying friends here in India and in our homelands for their untiring efforts which made it possible for us to share in this ministry this past year. We soon hope to have a new jeep for this station so we shall be enabled to get out more regularly to the outstations. We know that the words of the message of salvation in Christ will not return void, and that God is able to do far more than we can ask or think. May He grant the increase in precious souls who have found peace with God, through our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Helen and Obert Landsverk.

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## MAHARO DISTRICT

Jesus Christ our Saviour came to this world to give us life and to save us from sin. Therefore, the Apostle John gives this witness, "God gave us eternal life and this life is in His Son."

During this past year I have had charge of Maharo and Dombria congregations. I have visited the congregational members and administered the Lord's Supper. Pastor Joseph Hasdak' has had charge of Nayadi and Asonthar congregations. He also has visited the brethren and administered the Lord's Supper. But from the 1st of January, 1960, he will be pensioned. He has been a good and faithful worker for many years in the church.

There has been sickness among the Christians in this district the past year and some have passed on. "Duli go" who was one of our respected old timers and who worked as matron in Maharo Girls' School for many years passed away on the 16th of December. She was a faithful person and one who completely trusted in Jesus Christ. When I visited her before she died she said that a bell was sounding and when that quits sounding then I shall go.

Baptisms have taken place in all congregations this past year. In Maharo congregation seventeen children of Christian parents were baptized and ten were baptized from the non-christian community. Three children of Christian parents and four from the non-christian community were baptized at Nayadi. Asonthar and Dombria are supervised by elders who have a small allowance. At Asonthar four children of Christian parents were baptized and at Dombria two children of Christian parents were baptized.

Village schools are held in Mangurdi, Burudi, Babupur and Asonthar. There are two lady teachers and two men teachers in charge of these schools. In these schools the children not only receive secular education but they also learn about Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

Sunday Schools have been held at Haripur and Babupur villages. The girls from Maharo Teachers' Training Class have conducted the Sunday School at Haripur and the high school girls have conducted the Sunday School at Babupur. In both places Christian children and non-christian children gather.

Every Wednesday this year members of the congregational committee conducted meetings and women's meetings were also held on that day. Miss G. Clausen has also helped in the congregational work and when people have been sick she has visited and helped them.

By the help of God and His unboundless grace the congregational work goes forward.

Pastor Peter Murmu.

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## MOHULPAHARI—TILABANI CIRCLE

“So shall my Word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it” (Isaiah 55:11)

Through 60 villages and into more than 240 homes the Word of God has gone out. Into the three districts in Mohulpahari Circle it has been carried by faithful pastors and Bible teachers. Despite difficulties and human weaknesses it has been accomplishing that which God pleased and it has prospered in the areas where He has sent it.

More than 70 new souls were added unto His Kingdom out of heathendom from the Mohulpahari-Tilabani Circle in 1959. This is the direct result of persistent reaching out with God's Word into the hinterland villages and homes of the Santal people. With the use of the Gospel Recordings gramophone and records Nicodeem Pastor has attracted larger crowds in his village touring and as they listened to the Word in song and word 21 accepted Christ and took baptism. Mohulpahari congregation now has 99 families and 627 members.

As Circle President, Nicodeem has been active in supervising the activities of the Circle. He has also been busy as Hospital Chaplain, conducting communion and baptismal services on the wards, and as pastor of the Mohulpahari congregation holding classes for new

Christians and confirmation classes for others. As Chairman of the Bible Correspondence Course Committee, Nicodeem has been influential in guiding and counseling the literature program in its outreach to more than 94 new students this past year. His encouraging prayerful attitude in all his dealings has been a blessing to all who have worked with him. His own physical condition is much improved and although he must constantly watch his health there has been no hindrance to his work of getting out the Gospel message. Philip Hasdak' has been very helpful to Nicodeem as treasurer of the Circle and secretary of the Bible Correspondence Course. Philip's neatness and thoroughness in everything he does has been an example for all his co-workers.

In the Tilabani District Sibalal Pastor and Ranglal Pastor have been active in reaching the lost for Christ. Through the activities of village preaching 37 new souls were added to the Tilabani congregation. Now there are 48 families with 242 members. The Mission bungalow at Tilabani has been repaired and it may be used now as a retreat for Bible classes and study groups.

The Karikador Church is badly in need of repair and it is hoped that when the road conditions into the village are improved a team from Benagaria Industrial School will go to repair it. In the meantime the congregation of 108 members meets weekly under the leadership of Hapram Boila Murmu. Ranglal Pastor conducts communion and baptism services. Ambajora Church is still trying to complete its new church building but matters concerning land acquisition are still not settled. Perhaps in the near future this will be completed and the church made ready for the first worship service. It will indeed be a fine monument to God's glory.

The congregations in Toroko, Jamkandor, Masan Duba, Sarsa and Hirapur all are carrying on effectively although the Jamkandor congregation had some difficulty

with their leader. So they have been worshipping with the Tilabani group. In the Masan Duba congregation there is still no church building. Services are conducted in private homes. These people who were displaced by the Masanjor Dam project have been a real witness to the non-christian community. They have used their compensation money to build fine homes whereas their non-christian neighbors spent all theirs on drink and now live in crude huts by comparison. The Christian way of life is recognized by all as the most wholesome and through their testimony others are coming to know Him Who came to give life and to give it more abundantly.

As we look back on the past year we are thankful for the healthy status in which we find the church. Souls have been won to the Lord, luke-warm Christians have been revived, and the Gospel message has indeed left its impact on this darkness enshrouded land. As the Word continues to go forth on the lips of these faithful workers we know that "it shall accomplish that which God pleases, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto He has sent it."

William R. Scott, M. D.

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## LITERATURE WORK

The year under review has shown a growing understanding of the importance of literature, and a marked interest among the literate public to avail themselves of whatever Christian literature they may get hold of.

Therefore, our present problem is neither so much to create an interest among the people for good Christian literature nor the shortage of material, but the problem really is the distribution.

We are at present seriously concerned about how to evoke a vivid understanding of the vital importance of literature-distribution among our Christian workers. It is in this field we encounter a deplorable slow progress. It has not yet dawned upon our pastors, evangelists and teachers that literature in their hands may constitute an immediate contact and provide wonderful opportunity to open otherwise closed doors. To many of them literature-distribution feels more like a heavy, undesirable burden from which they shrink, than a means of providing them with keys to new doors. The few who are living up to the occasion in regard to the literature-distribution are reporting wonderful results which they had never thought of and had never experienced before.

The first lesson they learned was that in order to be successful distributors they themselves must know the content of the books. In that way they were able to answer questions from the people, such as "What is written in that book?" or "Is it very interesting?". Because of this new interest and attitude five hundred copies of the new book, "What Would Jesus Do?" have been sold in a very short time in one local area. By this we can really visualize what wonderful results we would have if all our workers got in on the same track.

We may safely say that we now have a good supply of various good, spiritual and thought-provoking literature, books and pamphlets in the Santali language, as well as in Bengali and Hindi. Few aboriginal tribes have as much literature in their own language as the Santal people have.

At present we are working on a new manuscript to a book entitled "Were you There?" We hope that the book will be out at the end of the coming year.

The annual pastors' refresher course was held as usual. During the year we have had two Layman's Institute with a steady increase in the number of students. The last Institute had forty-seven students.

In addition to my ordinary literature work I was entrusted with a very interesting and important task for the Law-Commission of India. From the Ministry of Law, New Delhi, I was asked to comment on the Draft Plan of the revision of the new Indian Christian Marriage and Divorce Act. I first submitted the written comments in ten copies to the members of the Law-Commission. After that I was summoned to New Delhi to a meeting of the Law-Commission itself for my oral comments. It was indeed a thrilling experience to meet with the broadminded and intelligent members of this Commission.

A very frank heart to heart discussion took place from which we all got a deeper understanding of the many problems facing the Christian Church in regard to the moral, ethical and legal factors in the Christian Marriage and Divorce Act. The new Act will, without doubt, be a far better safeguard for the Christian homes than what the old one was.



We have tried to sow the Good Seed through our literature work in faith with the hope that it shall bring forth fruit in due time to the glory of God and the furtherance of His cause.

With thankfulness in our hearts for God's sustaining grace during the year and in all our work for Him, we humbly submit this report from the field of the literature work entrusted to us.

William Glad.

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# EDUCATIONAL WORK IN SANTAL PARGANAS

## KAERABANI SANTAL HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL

As we look back over the passed year of 1959, the first thing that comes to mind is to offer a prayer of thanksgiving to God for his faithfulness and mercy with us. Thanks to Him who has granted health and strength. Thanks also to Him because He has been with us and led us so well through the year that has passed.

### HIGH SCHOOL

As all schools in Bihar opened from January instead of July there was a rush of students to be admitted when our school opened on the 5th of January. One hundred and ten new candidates were admitted into the high school, making a new high total of three hundred and twenty-two students divided into the following classes: 62 in XI, 82 in X, 77 in IX and 101 in VIII. All classes have two sections each taught by a staff of twelve teachers. Except for a new science teacher, Mr. M. L. Keot, B. Sc., who is replacing Mr. Mallinath Roy who took a position in the Higher Secondary School at Burdwan, the staff has remained fairly constant. Our graduate in agriculture left in August and we have been unable to replace him with a graduate in this subject. We have received much help, however, from our two most qualified Santal Christian teachers who joined the staff from August. They

are Mr. Mathias Hembrom, M. A., and Mr. Emmanuel Murmu, M. A., both graduates of Kaerabani. They both placed high in second division in their M. A. examinations. Fifty-four students were sent up for the Annual Bihar School Secondary Examination in 1959, out of which five did not appear. The results were three in 1st division, seventeen in 2nd division and twelve in third division. Three were sent up for the supplementary examination and all three came out successfully, so the result was that 60.34% passed. In class XI, 59 out of 60 have been sent up for the State Exam to be held in March, 1960. Approximately 90% of the students in other classes were promoted to the next class.

Our boys have done well again in Sub-Divisional, District and Divisional competitions in football, hockey and track. Eleven boys were selected on the Sub-Divisional football team and two were selected on the all-district hockey team which competed in Bhagalpur. Dumka district lost in the final so they did not compete in the State tournament, but these two boys were given a trip to Patna for a one-week coaching camp there. There are three A. C. C. units with one hundred and eighteen boys who received two uniforms each from the Government last year.

Although some of the expected deficit grants were not received last year from the Government, we are grateful for the normal recurring grant of two hundred and twenty rupees per month and eleven rupees being granted per month in dearness allowance for the teachers. Enhanced pay covering half of the increased salaries to teachers has also been received. Library books now numbering 1126 have been replenished with an annual supply of Hindi books from the Government as well as some very useful English story books bought from school funds within the year.

Among high school students, Santals numbered about fifty-two percent of the enrollment. There were one hundred fifty-eight Santals, ten high caste Hindus, one hundred twenty-four low caste Hindus, and seventeen low caste Mohammedans and three Harijans. Among the non-santals fifty-seven were Christians. Some of the day scholars come from a distance of five to six miles and regularly attend school.

We have begun making plans for the Kaerabani Golden Jubilee to be observed March 3-5, 1961. When we think of the former students now numbering into the thousands we cannot but praise God for leading our early missionaries to establish Kaerabani. We request your special prayers for us as we make preparations for this memorable observance.

November 5th was one of the red-letter days at Kaerabani when Dr. and Mrs. Egil Ofstad and children made their first visit to this place where Dr. Ofstad's father had labored hard most of his years in India to build Kaerabani School and other buildings. This visit renewed love in many hearts for Rev. J. J. Ofstad whom they remember as "Kora Saheb", the builder and first Principal of Kaerabani. Special greetings from him were also brought earlier in the year when the now Bishop H. E. Wisloff, President of the Norwegian Santal Mission Board, made a visit to Kaerabani on January 17th.

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL

The middle school, separated from the high school since 1956, has shown steady progress throughout the year. Being encouraged by the receiving of our first long delayed grants from Government including dearness allowance for the teachers, the staff has taken renewed interest in their work. There were two hundred and sixty-five students on the rolls of which two hundred and fifty-nine completed the year. Seventeen

of the students were girls. Boarders numbered forty-three. The teaching of English was reintroduced from Class VI as well as Santali and Bengali in Classes IV and V.

Mr. Silas Marandi, B. A , resigned in December. Otherwise the staff has remained the same. For the present we have decided to carry on with ten on the staff until increased enrollment justifies more. With Benjamin Murmu and Artemas Hasdak' as teachers, all students have regular training in singing both Eastern and Western melodies. The band composed largely of high school students made its most extended tour in more than twenty years by going on a visit to our Assam churches in February. They were well received and we trust their testimonies in spoken word and dramas and song were appreciated. Those who went will never forget what they saw and heard in Assam and they were happy to share with everyone their experiences on their return home.

The Annual Prize Day for the middle school was held on December 19th when award winners for scholarships and sports received their prizes. Examination results were good with ninety-six per cent of the students being promoted. Four students competed in Government scholarship exams and all were awarded stipends from Government for next year. Games and sports activities have been well managed by Artemas Hasdak' who completed a short training course by the Government for which he received a certificate during the year. The library managed by Philip Hembrom, now has one thousand sixty-one books in Hindi, English, Santali, Bengali and Urdu. We hope it will be possible to replace some of the more out-dated books as time goes by because there is a great interest in good books on the part of students and staff. Gardening and knitting are the main handicrafts. With the bullock driven pump again repaired the garden has flourished. The students

get half of the produce and the other half is sold to the hostel. This income totalled one hundred twenty-three rupees and ten N. P. during the year and was used for further gardening projects.

### KAERABANI CHRISTIAN HOSTEL

Hostel discipline was much improved during the past year when from March Bajun Marandi, B. A. and Silas Marandi, B. A., both assistant teachers of the high and middle school respectively were appointed superintendents. Mr. Bhonde Soren was transferred to teaching work in Bidyanagar in Murshidabad after completing thirteen years of faithful service as warden of the hostel. Admissions in the hostel totalled one hundred and eighty-five with an average of one hundred and fifty throughout eleven months of the year. They were distributed community wise as follows: Santal Christians, 145; Santal non-Christians, 24; Hindus, 6; Mohammedans, 5; and Christian non-santals, 5. Thirteen boys were confirmed by our mission secretary, Rev. A. E. Stronstad, on December 5th at a very impressive service. Daily Bible classes in the schools have been voluntarily taught by our Christian teachers as well as morning and evening devotions led by the superintendents and student leaders.

The health of the students in the hostel has been exceptionally good for which we have been very thankful. We were without the services of Compounder Budhrai Soren who was ill with T. B. most of the year. Much credit is due to the timely visits of Dr. W. R. Scott of Mohulpahari who gave the boys physical check-ups and advice. Compounder Bhorot Kisku with the help of his good wife, Hannah, managed the minor health problems very well. Dr. V. C. Rambo of Ludhiana Christian Medical College spent one day here checking the eyes of the hostel students and staff.

Unpredictable price wars in the food market has continued to be a budgeting problem. In spite of a raise in boarding fees from twelve rupees a month to fifteen rupees a month per boy the vast majority of them find it cheaper to pay cash rather than to bring rice. Finances were considerably improved with the rate increase but we now see that unless the boarders bring their own rice (which they prefer to eat anyway) the hostel will continue to be a burden to the church. Old ways are hard to change but the day is soon coming when the full cost of operation for the hostel must be born by its residents. Happily an increased number of Santals are getting Government Aboriginal stipends amounting to fifteen rupees a month. A total of forty-two received stipends last year but delays in payment of up to eleven months of many of them created difficulties. We had a good rice crop of more than five hundred and fifty maunds of paddy from the farm this year which has helped considerably to stock our rice supply.

For the past forty-eight years of God's blessing on the work here at Kaerabani we are grateful to Him and not least for the year that has just passed. We extend our thanks to the Government of Bihar for valuable assistance both in grants and helpful advice and we want to thank all of you who have through your prayers and offerings helped us through another eventful year. As we enter the new year and decade of 1960 we pray God will continue to add His blessing to our human efforts to make Christ the Saviour for all who attend this school.

Helen and Obert Landsverk.

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## MAHARO

SANTAL GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL, MISSION  
GIRLS' MIDDLE SCHOOL AND WOMEN'S  
TRAINING SCHOOL

I know my own and my own know me. [John 10:14]

In school work it is so easy to appraise the work according to the tangible results which the examinations display. Who does not desire good examination marks which are an encouragement both to the students and teachers? How difficult does it not feel when one must tell hopefully anticipating parents that their daughter was not successful in the yearly examination! She was left again in the same class with an inferiority stamp upon her. When the main fault was lack of conscientiousness she could not expect the sympathy of the class as the one with less intellectual ability could expect. There were those who had given of their best during the course of the year, but, nevertheless, did not reach the goal. The teacher takes great interest in such children because such a child can be possessed with other valuable qualities other than intellectual alertness and a good memory. In the Bible it says that Jesus increased in wisdom and stature and favour with God and man. Here we have a harmonious growth—a steady increase in the right lines. When we gathered weekly together with the teachers for Bible study and prayer, it was our prayer this past year also that God might have His will with each one of the young students here. How that prayer was answered does not appear in the statistics and good that is. “The Lord knows his and is known of his.”

During the rainy season this year also we had the visit of Mr. S. Pandit. The meetings certainly do have a great meaning for the growth of the spiritual life in



these young hearts. The Young People's group which had their meetings on Sunday afternoons had good attendance all year. Sunday Schools conducted in two villages by our girls were also a source of inspiration and joy.

We started the new school year in January with two hundred and twenty-two girls in the middle school, sixty-four in the high school and sixteen in the training class. In May the training class had their final examination after two years of study. Unfortunately, one of the students was unable to go up for her examination due to illness. In the middle of February we were also afflicted with sickness in that one of our new students became sick and died after a few days. It is always hard to send such a sorrowful message home to the parents.

At the Matriculation examination held in March all six candidates passed. They all passed in second division even though one of them appeared for the examination the second time. In November-December we sent eleven candidates for the Test examination held at the Government High School in Dumka. They all passed that examination and shall now appear for the Matriculation examination in March of 1960. Up until the present time we have not been successful in getting classes X and XI recognized by the school authorities. The reason for no recognition is that we do not have qualified teachers in these two classes. Results of the examinations show that the work has been carried out satisfactorily but the school officials have their special requirements with regard to the qualifications of the teaching staff. So far we have had good working relationships with the Government High School in Dumka and our candidates for examinations are sent as private students there. Most of the girls in Classes VIII and IX were able to study

this year by the aid of stipends from Government. Likewise many of the girls in the middle school were helped by similar stipends from the Government.

A new group of sixteen students began to study in the training class from July. They all receive a Government stipend of ten rupees per month and this is a great financial help during their two years of training at our teachers' training course. According to the Government's New Five Year Plan there will be demands for a great number of trained teachers. The big and extensive plans with regard to education for all children will demand thousands of schools round about the country. What an opportunity for Christian youth to do something for their country and people! Even though the school routine does not permit religious instruction, nevertheless, there will always be an opportunity for a true Christian to let her light shine to those round about. There will also from now on be a crying need for Sunday School teachers in our congregations. We would so much like to have our girls partake in this work in the future as we have had the joy to see so many of them do until now.

In the beginning of the school year we had the great joy of having a visit of the President of the Norwegian Board of the Santal Mission. During the visit of the home board presidents it happened that Rev. H. E. Wisloff from Norway came here in the middle of January. This is a visit which all both big and small remember with great thankfulness. Later on in the year we had from time to time friends from the homelands who were on a trip here in the East and took a trip up from Calcutta. Likewise missionaries on their way home from the Far East pleased us with a short visit. The distances are not so great any longer and it is possible to see different parts of the world.

So many of our guests are startled when they see that we still have kerosene lamps after they have driven through Dumka town which is electrified. But before the close of the year the electric line was brought right up to the entrance of the compound here. It indicates "brighter" times here in the compound before too long. It would be a big improvement in the hostel with electric light and we hope that the necessary funds will be available soon.

During the entire year the workers have been the same with the exception of one of the "mothers" in the hostel. She had to leave due to illness. I must also mention that on the 16th of December God took home unto Himself our loved and endeared "Duli Go." She was school matron for many years and by her efficiency and kindness she has had a great meaning for Maharo School. It is now some years since she quit and was pensioned, but we always were in contact with her and appreciated greatly her visits. Her memory will shine for us and encourage us to faithfulness in the Lord's Service. We thank our Heavenly Father for this worker whom He gave us.

Before I close this annual report I also wish to report that we have started to think about our fifty year jubilee which we shall commemorate in 1961 in that we gathered a group of "old" school girls to a committee meeting in October. It appears that everyone enters into big preparations for this big occasion.

And so we look back on this past year with thanks in our hearts, first of all to our Heavenly Father for all His grace and help from day to day. Then also thanks to all you friends in our home countries who so faithfully stand together with us in prayer and the work year after year.

Edle Sigurdson.

## SANTAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

From Assam, from the "Middle Country", from the "Old Country", some single, some with family, some as teachers, some as students we have come to the Santal Theological Seminary at Benagaria with the purpose of studying God's Word together in order that we may be prepared for the service to which God calls each one of us. We try to help and to encourage each other to "devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word", not only for the four years of study but also in continued service later.

As a member of the Board of Theological Education under the National Christian Council we try to follow the curriculum which the Senate of Serampore University has prepared for theological study. Consequently, we have stressed that which always has been the main subject for those preparing for evangelistic work, namely; Bible Study. We have this year exegetically read and studied 1 Samuel, some of the Psalms, Daniel and the Gospel according to John. We have also had lessons in the geography of Palestine, and we have read the history of the first centuries of the Christian Church and the introductory part of Systematic Theology and Christian Doctrine. Then in addition to Pastoralia and Liturgics we have also studied Hinduism. Among the more practical subjects instruction has been given in Accountancy, Singing and Hygiene. Language classes have been conducted regularly for Santali, English and Greek, and occasionally also for the study of Hindi.

In groups the students have visited the village congregations round about Benagaria every other Sunday. In the cold season they have trekked to village after village every Friday proclaiming the Good Tidings of Jesus Christ and selling tracts and Gospel parts.

The instructional staff has partly been changed during the year. After having directed the Seminary for six years, Rev. and Mrs. J. Thoft Krogh left for Denmark on furlough at the end of April. As a new teacher we obtained Rev. Ruel Soren for one year from the beginning of the new school year in July. He is a graduate in theology from Serampore College and he has worked as drafter for the new union translation of the New Testament into Santali. From July, 1960, he will again go back to Serampore to study Hebrew, preparing himself for the planned revision of the Old Testament in Santali. He is also working as a pastor under the Santalia District Council of the United Church of Northern India. The same Council is from this year sending a representative to the Managing Committee of the Santal Theological Seminary.

Rev. and Mrs. Aage Jensen have both given teaching help in Accountancy, Singing and Hygiene. Our General Superintendent, Rev. M. M. Tudu has this year also given lectures in Pastoralia during the entire rainy season. He was also censor at the annual examination.

The other teachers, Mr. Motilal Hasdak' Mrs. Chundki Hasdak' and Mrs. Esther Hembrom have all been working as before. Miss Helene Romer together with Jasmi Marndi has continued the instruction in Hygiene for the wives of the students. We have also had several guest lecturers visiting the Seminary, and we hope that in the years to come we may get more and more help in this way for the instruction of special selected subjects. We are all grateful for the inspiration we have received through their visits.

There was only one student, John Tudu, who took his final examination in April, after having completed the prescribed four year course. He is now working as preacher and elder in Jubdi in Santal Parganas. At the

same time Patras Hembrom completed a special one year course, and he is now working in Purnea District with the Brethren in Christ Mission.

No new students were admitted in 1959. There are now thirteen students who are studying at the Seminary in addition to the eleven wives who are in the women's class. Of these three are Boros and ten Santals. Six of them are fourth year students, two are third year and five are second year students. In 1960 we hope to admit six new students from July.

The Seminary Library has been enlarged during the year by some gifts of books and by the transfer of a number of theological volumes from the Bodding Memorial Library. In all we have now one thousand nine hundred books which are being classified with the help of the students.

In the Rosenlund-series of books number four was seen through the Press just before the Thoft Kroghs left in April. That was volume I of "The Christian Doctrine", in Santali called "Patiau Siknat", which in all will comprise four volumes.

We wish to extend our best greetings and heartfelt thanks to all of you who in so many ways have supported our Seminary this year too. And we hope that none of you will forget us in the new year. We do need your intercession and we are counting upon it.

Elisabeth and Ole Dordal.

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# MEDICAL WORK IN SANTAL PARGANAS

## BENAGARIA CHRISTIAN DISPENSARY

The result of the rice harvest is always something of great concern for people, a great many of whom live on the border of starvation. In the past year there were all kinds of evidences that there would be a good rice harvest which was necessary after the two previous meagre years. But unfortunately, a big damage was done in September and October by a prolonged and heavy rain. Nevertheless, the rice harvest was better than the previous year and that can be seen immediately on the people who rely altogether on the produce of their land.

Patients have come from the surrounding one hundred and fifty villages. Some come riding in bullock carts, something which not all can afford. Others are carried on a simple rope bed. But the majority of them come walking and often they walk many miles to receive treatment for the tropical diseases from which they suffer.

It is not only the tropical diseases which paint the picture, but in many cases especially among children one finds sicknesses which are caused by poor living conditions, insufficient food and lack of hygiene. Here one also finds the reason why tuberculosis spreads itself so quickly. Patients who suffer from tuberculosis receive out-door treatment here after a thorough examination at Mohulpahari Hospital. It is encouraging to see the result of the modern medicines, Streptomycin and Isonex. But we must not forget that in most cases it demands long time of treatment and great patience.

from the patient's side. For all patients it is almost as important to instruct them about hygiene, good eating habits and good living conditions as to give them medical treatment. Our words of instruction usually fall on rocky ground, but, nevertheless we must have patience in this instruction so that those who do hear can be helped with more than medicine.

Leprosy is also very widespread here in Bihar. From our leper clinic these patients have received their weekly treatment. Many young people have this disease but there is a bright side in that many of them come for treatment early before one sees the serious evidences of the disease such as open sores and crippled limbs. The reason that they come early for treatment can perhaps be explained in that a leper is not so often chased out of home and house and the information that effective medicine can be had has eventually reached out into the villages. Patients realize that it is a sickness which no longer needs to be hidden.

Midwifery work comprises much of the work. An increasing number of pregnant women come for pre-natal examination and are admitted at time of delivery. This is also true of non-Christian Santal and Mohammedan women. But, nevertheless, it is sad to have to admit that many non-Christian Santals under such conditions are still amazingly bound to superstition and fear of the evil spirits. Therefore, they keep themselves home in their miserable huts. Many believe that an ordinary examination can damage the child. Because of all this the low-caste woman, the "ato dai" is still continuing to do unrepairable damage among the women during delivery. In one week they brought three babies to the clinic, two of them twins. Their guardians asked for milk powder for the children since the mothers had died soon after delivery.



The statistics for 1959 show the following consultations:

Patients receiving treatment in the dispensary—7888

Leprous patients treated in the clinic—3335

My two helpers, Compounder Paul Murmu and Jasmi Marandi who has some nurses' training and midwifery training have during the past year done a splendid work. They have both worked with interest, faithfulness and efficiency. Jasmi has as her duty in addition to the practical work, the task of doing some evangelistic work among the patients and those coming with them. When she has had a spare moment she has done this very well. The greater share of our patients are non-Christian so we are reminded constantly of the missionary obligation.

Throughout the past year I have instructed the wives of the Theological Seminary students in Obstetrics, Hygiene and Tropical diseases. These young women have shown a great interest in these subjects and they have done a big work by carefully writing down all lectures. This small textbook which they have thereby received has been illustrated by wonderful pictures which I have received from S. M. F. in Denmark. These pictures are from the Danish textbook in obstetrics. The women have been very thankful for these illustrations.

The year brought difficulties and joys but the things of joy are recalled the easiest and thoughts always find rest in the Psalmist's words, "Bless the Lord oh my soul and forget not all his benefits."

Helene Romer

## MOHULPAHARI CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL

The year 1959 has been a year of encouragement. We are reminded of God's admonition to Moses in Deut. 3:28, "But charge Joshua, and encourage him, and strengthen him." As we think on this admonition to the prophets of old we think also of how we too have been encouraged and strengthened in the work of the past year. Encouragement has been received from many sources: from the distinguished guests who visited us; from the growing professional relationships between the Hospital and the community and government; from the increasing participation in hospital affairs by the Indian staff; through the heartening response of the patients to our administering to their needs; and finally through the bright prospects of future growth and development in the work.

### DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

Not long after the heartening fellowship we had with the Presidents of our Home Boards at the close of last year, all of whom encouraged and inspired us in our work, we enjoyed the brief visit of Dr. A. B. Roy, Health Minister of West Bengal. Through the urging of Mr. Vernon Bonarjee, District Magistrate of Birbhum District, and an active member of our Lutheran Church in Suri, The Honorable Dr. Roy came and spent an hour touring our Hospital. His keen sense of administrative order and professional skill led him to comment very favorably on our work. He was impressed with the cleanliness of the grounds and buildings. He liked the reports of our staff meetings and the co-ordinated efforts being made to run the Hospital smoothly and efficiently. After seeing the budget for the year he commented on the fact that we seem to be able to run our Hospital for one tenth of what it cost the Government to administer a similar institution. When

he left he wrote a letter to Mr. Bonarjee stating that it was his desire to model Bengal's rural medical programs after that of Mohulpahari. His comments were very encouraging to our Indian staff who took pride in presenting their Hospital to such a distinguished guest.

In July the Civil Surgeon of our Santal Parganas District, Dr. A. K. Barat paid us an official visit in response to our request to the Ministry of Health, Bihar for aid in our TB expansion program. Dr. Barat's visit and comments on the Hospital set-up and our proposed plans for enlargement to accommodate the increasing number of TB patients strengthened our hand in continuing the present drive for a new TB sanatorium. His official report to the State Government in Patna was in favor of the extension program and it may result in substantial aid in the future.

November brought us the visit of Dr. E. W. Wilder, Secretary of the Christian Medical Association of India. His lucid comments and subsequent report on our work to the Synod meeting of our Church in Benagaria and to the Journal of the C. M. A. I. gave us much encouragement. His experiences all over India in comparing various types of mission hospitals and dispensaries makes him eminently qualified to offer advice and constructive criticism. He was impressed with the efficiency of the staff and among other things, with the economical use of kerosene tins adapted to serve as file boxes for patients' charts. We have tried in every department to reduce expenditures by utilizing home-made devices to facilitate efficient administration.

Other visitors from local Government offices and from the Indian Medical Association were shown the facilities of the Hospital. All commented favorably on the quality of the service that is rendered in such a jungly situation, 15 miles from the nearest town and 25 miles from the nearest railway station.

## PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

Despite the rural setting in which our Hospital is located patients come from far and wide. Many come on direct referrals from other physicians in neighboring districts. Some come from as far away as Patna and Calcutta. The recognition by professional and lay people alike that quality care is given at Mohulpahari brings some interesting problems to our doors. Extensive burn cases with severe scar deformities come for help. Young children with arms crippled by scars have been helped through plastic surgery to adjust to normal living. Among other types of cases seen we offer surgery for thyroid goiters, breast cancers, gall-bladder disease, peptic ulcers, hernias and all sorts of female disorders. The testimonies of patients who have been helped say pointedly that "you do your work in Jesus' name therefore it is successful." We praise God for the opportunity to so witness for Him through our medical and surgical work.

The Institutional Board of the Church has endorsed our work and has gone on record at its last meeting in November that the high standards of medical and surgical care should continue at Mohulpahari despite increasing costs. Through the Ministry of Healing many are coming into contact with God's Word for the first time and are being helped in unique ways. We feel that it is imperative to press on towards even better facilities to contribute still further to the impact the healing ministry is having on the hearts and lives of hundreds of people.

Our Indian doctors are highly regarded by the patients who come for treatment. Patients feel that they are given the best medical care and at an honest and fair price. This quality of care has gained for the hospital a good reputation and our doctors and nurses gain new confidence in their work and strive to main-

tain this healthy relationship in everything they do. However, there is much room for improvement and we struggle daily to remind our staff of their responsibilities.

Further encouragement was received recently from a visiting eye doctor, Dr. Victor Rambo, who was formerly President of the Indian Ophthalmological Association, on his brief tour of our mission field. He has had many years of experience in India and his instruction and help meant a great deal to all of us. His warm Christian personality and sincere testimony was an inspiration to each staff member. Through arrangements with an optical supply store in Calcutta we have been able to examine and prescribe good spectacles for many patients at a small cost of ten to fifteen rupees. This has brought relief to many a student who was suffering in his studies because of poor eyesight.

Encouraging letters from Dr. A. K. Sen, Honorary Secretary of the Bihar Branch of the Indian Medical Association, prompted us to organize a local chapter at Mohulpahari. From October we have been functioning holding monthly meetings at which papers are read, conducting school health examinations, and demonstrating various health exhibits at the community fairs. The Block Development Scheme in our Thana has assigned Dr. S. Nath as Medical Officer in charge of the area and he has been very enthusiastic and helpful in the Association. His abundant energy and enthusiasm has sparked a very active program and together with medical officers at Shikaripara, Baromasia, and Asanbani we form a healthy organization of twelve members.

Your Superintendent has been active in the Christian Medical Association of India as its Regional Secretary for Bihar. As such he attended the Bihar Christian Council meeting at Chandwa as delegate for CMAI.

He is also co-chairman for a Combined Regional Conference for the U. P. and Bihar States of CMAI to be held in Allahabad in February 1960. These functions have enabled him to further extend the influence of the Hospital and allowed sharing of experiences with other institutional heads. This all helped to enlarge our vision as to the overall contribution being made by Christian hospitals in India.

### INCREASING STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

Miss Alice Axelson has carried both the job of Nursing Superintendent and Director of the Nursing School. With Miss Hilma Gjerde on furlough in America it was therefore necessary to distribute the work so as to allow more thorough coverage of these departments. It also was a good opportunity to give our Indian co-workers a chance for expression of their abilities. The return of Miss Elizabeth Hembrom from Indore where she successfully completed the Ward Sisters Course permitted a redistribution of responsibilities on the female service. She took over as Sister-in-charge and became responsible for the teaching and supervision of the student nurses assigned to her wards.

Mr. Luke Hembrom, who has long been senior compounder on the male service, was asked to take on the job of Assistant to the Nursing Superintendent. This he very ably did and has been carrying the burden of arranging duty schedules, supervising all the ward services, and co-ordinating ward requisitions and supplies. His sense of responsibility grew with the task and Miss Alice was able to alternate supervisory responsibilities with him. This cut her burden in half and released her for other important details. Luke also proved very valuable in the operating theatre, helping to give anaesthesia and supervising the daily surgical schedule.

Mr. Peter Baskey, long our senior operating theatre technician, was given the added responsibility of teaching the student nurses about operating room technique. Now each student rotates through the theatre which gives them vital experience in patient care under critical and sometimes trying situations. Peter's ability as a first rate assistant to the surgeon has won him a firm place on the professional staff. In addition Peter has recently passed his qualifying examinations for a registered pharmacist. This he did along with Luke Hembrom and Bhator Hasdak'.

The Administrative Department has carried on very well, continuing to perform with increasing efficiency, gaining the confidence of the entire staff and doing much to keep the machinery of the Hospital running smoothly.

## PATIENT RESPONSES

Mrs. Nicodem Marandi, our Christian Social Worker, has been playing an active roll in contacting each and every patient who is admitted to the Hospital. Together with Mrs. Das, our Bengali Biblewoman, she has brought the Gospel message to many who have never heard it before. She records the social and economic status of the patients and has repeated opportunity to encourage them in their difficulties. As a member of the committee for charity concessions her recommendations guide the committee in granting financial help to those who really need it. The Mission continues to grant Rs. 12,000 yearly for this purpose and it enables us to give complete medical and surgical care to needy patients even when they can't pay the full cost of treatment themselves.

The testimonies of patients who have been treated are numerous. They all speak of the wonder of the

Christian religion and the way it demonstrates its love in action.

As the Biblewomen explain the meaning of Christianity and as the staff nurses and compounders exemplify it in their ministrations many patients confess that this religion is "a good religion." One Hindu lady by name of Sajena Bibi said of her own Hindu faith: "Our religion has such intricacies that you can hardly understand it." Then on hearing the simple Gospel message repeated over and over again by different staff members she agreed that even a child could understand the story of Jesus. Another Santal woman, Pano Marandi, said: "I have spent so much money on Ojhas (witch doctors), and still I am not cured. I have given them sheep, pigs and chickens to sacrifice to the gods but all to no avail." Then Mrs. Marandi, our Social Worker would explain that Jesus is the only Great Physician and through His healing touch diseased bodies and minds are cured. In her report for 1959 she writes: "Curing diseased bodies is the work of God. We are but to look after them. Patients also realize that at Mohulpahari they get medicines for their souls as well."

In November of this year Bharat Mondol, a patient in our TB Ward, accepted Christ and was baptised into the faith. It was an impressive ceremony and his testimony and subsequent witness to all the patients and staff was a strong example of the power of the Holy Spirit in the life of a truly dedicated child of God. His physical condition is such that there is very little likelihood that he will recover from his illness without surgery. Our facilities at the present time are inadequate for the task and there are no Government places available to him. So he is resigned to the fact that he may soon be with His new found Lord and he rejoices



in the prospect. Mrs. Marandi writes of him: "It shows the hand of the Lord is working mightily. The future may have greater things in store for us."

At the recent meeting of the Synod the Bible Correspondence Course "Way of Salvation" was adopted as a vital method of proclaiming the Gospel. All the pastors and elders were encouraged to use the course in their own work. This was heartening to us who have been working with the program for two years and have seen 183 students get their certificates of completion of the course.

#### FUTURE PROSPECT FOR GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Dr. Paul M. Murmu will finish his course at Arogyavaram, South India in April 1960 and will be qualified as a specialist in Tuberculous Diseases. His appointment to the class was made through the courtesy of Dr. Frimodt-Miller who was especially interested in our plans for a TB sanatorium in connection with the Hospital. It is hoped that Dr. Paul will undertake the first step in the TB program with emphasis on the outpatient department. Tuberculosis can be treated very successfully in the majority of cases on an outpatient basis -- the main problem being one of public health control. In this connection Dr. Paul Murmu will be equipped to educate the community in proper health measures and it is hoped that his contribution will further strengthen the co-operative role we can play with Government schemes to eradicate this disease from India. The new 100 ma Picker-Harting X-ray unit which is being shipped out under the Indo-American Agreement through Church World Service will be the first major investment under the approved TB expansion project for Mohulpahari. For this thanks must be given to the American Board and to the

committee responsible to raise these funds. Dr. Paul has expressed his desire to develop the X-ray department somewhat so as to provide full diagnostic facilities now possible with the new machine. The present sterilizing room in the outpatient department will be moved to a new building to be constructed opposite the Central Supply Room. Then the old room will be converted into a new office for use as a TB Clinic.

Miss Hilma Gjerde is busily engaged in her studies of anesthesia at Minneapolis and will be suitably qualified to give any type of general anesthesia on her return to India. This will be a further step forward toward the day when we can offer thoraco-plasties for our refractory TB cases. Your Superintendent has been granted an appointment at the University of Minnesota to continue his studies in general surgery and also to prepare for doing chest surgery on his return to India. Dr. Kristofer Hagen and his family have offered to come back to India on a short term to take over the reigns of the Hospital while the Superintendent is away on study leave. This was certainly a token of God's unique planning for Mohulpahari. In fact the way all this is working out has been convincing evidence that this is truly according to God's design. It has been a strong encouragement to all of us who have had a vision for the future work at Mohulpahari. We especially want to thank all who have made this possible and especially Dr. and Mrs. Hagen for their offer to come.

The Central Government of India at Delhi has funds at hand for distribution to private institutions to help in building programs. To obtain such grants all that is needed is the recommendation from the State Government that the project is a worthy one. To this end we have been encouraged by the reports of the Civil Surgeon and by the response of the Deputy Commissioner

Mr. R. D. Pande, I. A. S., who has indicated his personal desire to see this program through. In addition we had a visit by Mr. S. C. Choudhury, B. A., who is a Member of Parliament in Delhi representing our district of Santal Parganas. He has been able to contact the Central Minister of Health in Delhi and has given his personal approval of our project. We look forward to hearing further from this source.

The need for new equipment and additional buildings goes on. For instance in the operating room we need an overhead light. The present light consists of a 100 Watt bulb in a bare office-type reflector supplemented by two spot lights which often don't work. We have managed to get by somehow in the past but we hope sincerely that we can arrange to equip the theatre properly in the future.

The Nursing School needs more building space for classrooms and dormitories. This is an essential requirement if we are to provide adequate nursing staff for the growing work. Other mission hospitals and dispensaries also ask for graduate nurses. The new Government hospitals which are opening up all around us are understaffed and even failing to open completely for want of trained nurses.

The new Government installations are no doubt drawing off some of the patients who used to come to Mohulpahari. Our outpatient load has dropped to 18,250 which is about the same as last year but some 2,000 less than former years. The inpatient load is down about 200 from last year standing at little more than 100 new patients each month. The distribution of patients among the Christian, Santal, Hindu and Muslim communities is roughly the same as former years. The tendency to have fewer patients is the same in all our Mission hospitals where Government has been

establishing its program. What formerly was the sole responsibility of mission enterprise is now being shared in increasingly healthy proportions by Government. This is as it should be and should not discourage our mission work. In fact it should challenge it to go on to further, more specialized work than was needed in the past. At Mohulpahari we feel that we can make that contribution by emphasizing surgery and the complete treatment of Tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis is India's biggest killer today. More than 2,500,000 people suffer from the disease which kills about 20% of those afflicted each year. Truly this is the greatest challenge we face. Malaria has all but been eradicated by the use of DDT. But TB remains. So we are thankful for the endorsement on the project given by the Home Boards and appreciate the caution expressed that such a project should not incur further expense to the general budget. It is our hope that Government will contribute to the recurring expenses in such a project. Other groups too may be willing to give regularly to this work as even now they are doing in the States under the sponsorship of the American Board.

Since this is the last report we shall be making on the work for the next three years we want to take this opportunity of expressing our sincere thanks to the Home Boards, to the friends of the Mission, to our fellow missionaries and Indian colleagues who have all encouraged us regularly in this work. It has been a time of rejoicing for the way God has seen fit to bless the labors of our hands and the efforts put forth by so many that His name be glorified in it all. We are thankful too for the help and encouragement we have had from the local Govern-

ment officials, especially the Deputy Commissioner and the Civil Surgeon whose inspiration and help have made it possible to continue in our work unhindered. Above all we are grateful to God Who has appointed us to this task and Who calls us to further service in His Kingdom here in India.

Jeanne and William R. Scott.

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## STATISTICAL REPORT 1959

### A. OUTPATIENT DEPARTMENT

New Patients	9,254	Laboratory Tests	17,622
Repeat Visits	8,996	Injections	3,646
Total Visits	18,250	Minor Surgery	868
		Fluoroscopies	1,779
Christians	2,592		
Santals	4,994		
Hindus	8,425		
Muslims	2,239		
Men	10,634		
Boys	4,791		
Women	1,836		
Girls	989		

### B. INPATIENT DEPARTMENT

Admissions in 1959	1445
Discharged in 1959	1213
Number of Deaths	59
Average Hospitalization	10.94 Days
Christians	290
Santals	356
Hindus	537
Muslims	217
Men	565
Women	530
Boys	192
Girls	113

### C. SURGICAL DEPARTMENT

Total Operative Procedures—	548
Major Procedures—	283
Minor Procedures—	265

## D. OBSTETRICAL DEPARTMENT

Normal Deliveries	86
Abnormal Deliveries	12
Surgical Deliveries	17
Caesarian	10
Forceps	7
Antenatal Visits	63
First Visits	46
Repeat Visits	17

William R. Scott M. D.

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## SALDOHA LEPER COLONY

“ Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.” ( Psalms 103 : 2 )

During the course of the year it was not always so easy to speak the above-mentioned words of the Psalmist. But when we look back over the year we see that even that which we did not like was also giving witness to the Lord's benefits. In a place like this one must take into consideration both good and not so good experiences. When one reminisces it is the pleasant experiences that one wishes to dwell upon.

This year also we had to keep the number of patients as close to three hundred as possible. We had financial difficulties due to the fact that the grant from the Government was not forthcoming. At the close of the year we had no confirmation of receiving this grant. Fortunately, we were able to borrow from the mission to keep things operating. The business men in Dumka were very sympathetic and permitted us to buy on credit. Without this help it would have been very difficult to

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come through the year. In spite of everything we were able to help a large number of leprous patients. Three hundred and seventy-one were treated in the colony. Seventy-six were discharged and of these twenty-one were written off the rolls as cured. The others were transferred to our clinics.

The statistics for the year show the following :

	Saldoha L. C.	Saldoha Out-Door	Tarni Out-Door
Old Patients	310	127	334
New Patients	61	57	38
Symptom free or Under Observation	85	34	22
Improved	105	77	198
Same	62	44	125

At the clinic 10,436 treatments were given. The clinics at Benagaria and Maharo also received medicine from Saldoha. In the Hospital which has thirty-one beds two hundred and eleven patients were admitted, all together for a total of 8058 days. In the colony's dispensary there were 8974 consultations and 12,415 laboratory tests.

During the past year also, Dr. J. M. Roy was the doctor in Saldoha. He had six compounders as his helpers. Mrs. A. Sture had the responsibility for the hospital together with the good help of Miss Anne Marie Sulen who was studying language. In the end of November when Sister Kari Ringheim returned from furlough she took over the work in the hospital. Seven leprous girls have also helped and have received a good training in nursing. They leave for home as soon as they are cured so there are always new ones to be trained. The hospital is always filled. Unfortunately many must be turned away. We have tried to stretch the bed capacity as far as possible and sometimes there



have been over forty patients. They sit on the verandah during the day and we try to find a place for them in the colony at night. Thus we keep it going in this fashion.

The work in the colony goes on as usual. A big event took place when we could open the water faucets in the hospital in April. The well has proved to supply sufficient water for the hospital, for much of the colony and for the staff. Our big desire is that we will receive sufficient funds to bring the waterpipes further. We have thus far been able to pay the entire project which cost about twenty thousand rupees. This is due to gifts from the Stavanger Mission Group, K. M. A. in Norway, the Central Government of India and now recently the American Board of the Santal Mission.

From the National Christian Council through Aage Jensen, Benagaria, we have also this past year received powdered milk and wheat which has been a good supplement to the diet of the leprous patients. The staff and their families as well as the school children have also had the joy of this gift.

The leader for the industrial school department was dismissed and two boys who are symptom free received the responsibility for each department. Manjhi Kisku is in charge of the weaving department and Amin 'Hasdak' is in charge of carpentry. The weavers were able to fill all the orders for cloth and bandages to the hospital, as well as a piece of cloth for each patient as a Christmas gift.

The repair work gets to be bigger and greater for each year, but the carpenters were able to complete their task. Two of the patients who were admitted were blacksmiths and therefore, we could again take up the work in that department. The greater share of

the patients has been able to work on the farm and to do some gardening. The rice harvest was the largest we have ever had with a yield of eighteen tons of paddy and a few tons of vegetables. The weaker patients were occupied by making rope, cleaning cotton, cutting bandages, knitting and etc. Three sewing machines with four tailors were in full operation all the time sewing for the hospital and the people in the colony. Mr. Chunka Besra was in charge of the workers in the fields and Mr. D. P. Lal was manager and caretaker.

In the primary school we had thirty children with three teachers, all of whom were leprous patients. The Santal and Bengali boys were moved together into one village and it has proved to work out well. Instruction has been given in Bengali, Hindi and Santali. The teachers are Christians and in that way the students could also receive religious instruction in school. Last fall we started to have evening school in the church for adults. The patients have attended very well and many have learned to read and to write. This will be of a great help to them when they again return to their village.

Church attendance has been good. Each Sunday three church services are held, one in Bengali, and two in Santali. Mr. D. P. Lal was the leader for the Bengali speaking congregation. Pastor Daniel Jha from Dumka has visited them several times. Pastor Salhae Marandi and the missionaries have the responsibility for the Santali speaking congregations. The teachers also have been a good help in this work. Otherwise we have had visits of missionaries who have gladdened us by their messages and witness. Approximately one-third of the patients are Christians. In the course of the year twenty-one were added to the congregation through baptism. At the close of the year four new

ones were being instructed for baptism, and there are more that want to become Christians. God's word is sown every day in the hospital, in schools, in villages and in church and we pray and trust that it might bring forth fruit. Many of the patients who went home were Christians. Pray with us for them that they may receive strength to lift the banner of the cross and thereby win others for Christ.

In January, 1959, we had the visit of Bishop H. E. Wisloff, the President of the Norwegian Board. We had baptism one of the days he was here and he had an opportunity to baptize eighteen leprous patients. Later we had Mr. S. Pandit from Children's Special Service for one week. He had two or three meetings a day with good attendance. Immediately afterwards we had our yearly convention for Jubdi and Sultanabad Circle. Many people were gathered and the leprous patients were also along. It was a great joy for us to have a representative from "Vaartland" (A Norwegian daily newspaper) here. Her visit was only so short but she was able to take up a tape recording from Saldoha which later was broadcasted over the radio from Oslo.

The Health Minister in West Bengal, Dr. A. B. Roy, together with the District Magistrate from Suri, Mr. Bonarjee visited us one day in February. They both went through the colony and were very much interested in the work carried on at Saldoha. In November we had the visit of the Bihar Government through Dr. H. Lall, the Anti-Leprosy Officer of Bihar. He was apparently satisfied with the work and put in a good word for Saldoha in his report.

Dr. and Mrs. Egil Ofstad arrived in September. They shall later take over the responsibility for Saldoha. They are presently engaged in language study and

the study of tropical diseases. But in the end of 1960 we anticipate their coming to Saldoha and taking charge of the work here.

A large number of non-leprous patients have also received help in the past year. In addition to those who laid some days or weeks in the hospital there were 6084 consultations. It is a long way to the nearest hospital and in the rainy season there are several rivers to cross. Therefore it is good that we here in Saldoha can help those who otherwise would not be able to receive help. Sister Margit Hannevik left for furlough in March and since then Mrs. A. Sture has had charge of that clinic with the help of a compounder and a student nurse.

In closing we would extend a word of thanks to the staff for faithful and good co-operation in the year which has passed. Likewise we would thank Mission to Lepers, Mission friends in America, Denmark and Norway because they stood by us faithfully in prayer and offerings.

Aslaug and Jens Sture.

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# WORK IN BENGAL

## COOCH BEHAR

“Be strong and of good courage: Be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed, for the Lord thy God is with thee withersoever thou goest.”

(Joshua 1:9)

This word was a promise to Joshua from God which he needed to have just at that particular time. Joshua experienced that this promise was true. God never broke His promise. This same promise He has given to us who are in His service. When we now look back over the past year we also can say that God never broke His promise to us. He stood by our side and said, “Be strong and of good courage.” It is the great will of God that His Kingdom shall come and, therefore, He will stand by and encourage us in all what we do for Him.

### THE BENGALI WORK

When we think of the work among the Bengalis during the past year we especially remember with joy the Sunday services in Cooch Behar. At that time most of our Christians come regularly to listen to the Word of God. It has also been encouraging to see all the officials who have come from other places in India for work in Cooch Behar. They are attending regularly the Sunday services and are in that way inspiring our own little flock.

During the past year we have tried to encourage the free offerings of our Christians. Pastor Ajen

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Chisim conducted some Bible studies about "Christian Giving". Meetings have been held when special offerings were given to help raise the church funds. At the end of the year one mela was held with great joy and good results.

The work among the young people has not been very progressive due to the lack of good leaders. We pray that God shall call someone who really feels that this work is very important.

Rev. J. A. Roy, who upon his own request has retired on a pension, has nevertheless continued to serve during the year. We are sorry to see that he is not able any longer to continue as before. We miss him and are truly thankful for his many years of faithful service.

In the beginning of the year our evangelist, Ruben Biswas, was transferred to Tufanganj to take up our old work there. He is now working regularly in the villages and has good reports to give from his work.

### **TRIBAL WORK**

The work among the Garos and Boros has as usual given us much joy. The school work as well as the congregational work has been very progressive. I think we can say that Phutimari has become a center for Bible teaching among the Boros and the Garos. It is wonderful to see how the young boys are spiritually growing and are willing to help in the evangelistic work. During the year we obtained a new headmaster for the school in Phutimari and as he has had special Bible training he will be of a great help for Pastor Chisim.

In our area we have many opportunities to come in contact with Mundas and Oraons. We have already started some work among them and hope to be able to increase it during the coming year. Some evangelistic work has also been done among the Santals within our area. To be able to increase this work we should have a good Santal evangelist.

#### **MEETINGS AND BIBLE COURSES**

Five circle meetings have been held during the year and the workers' monthly meetings have been regularly held except during the rainy season. Our annual conference was held in February at Dammanpur. For this conference we were happy to have the General Superintendent, M. M. Tudu, among us. His visit became a great blessing to all of us. In the beginning of March we had a visit by Mr. S. Pandit and his wife. A Bible course was then held in Cooch Behar for the local congregation and for all the workers. The last Bible course we had was in November and it was arranged for our women from all our stations. We enjoyed the good fellowship and it was a blessing to study the wonderful Word of God together.

#### **STUDENTS**

Our three students who studied in Malda have finished their courses and are back in work. Mr. Kedar N. Marak is placed in Madjedabri as schoolmaster and evangelist. Basiram Narjari is doing school work as well as evangelistic work in Phutimari. Mohindra Marak is placed as part-time worker in Dammanpur.

Benjamin Howee continues his theological course in Cherrapunji and has done well in his last examination. Our Garo student, Bilash Chisim, has finished her third year in college and is ready to take her B. A.

examination. We hope and pray that these students will become the leaders and the good workers which we so long have been looking and asking for. May God use them in His Service.

#### SELF SUPPORT

During the passed year our church has done a great effort to try to raise the church funds. When the year was ended we were delighted to find that the congregations had fulfilled their obligation towards the budget. That meant that we during the year had raised the contribution from Rs. 2.00 to Rs. 3.00 per capita. A good help towards this was the income from the land we bought last year for the purpose of promoting self-support. The two melas, one in Cooch Behar and one in Dinhata added also to the income. May God bless and encourage His people to carry on this work for Him.

#### BAPTISMS

Before the Hodnes left for Norway in May they also had the great joy of seeing their "ayah" baptized. Another great occasion in Bengdoba among the Santals was when another woman was baptized. It is wonderful and encouraging when we see that the work for the Lord is not in vain. The extension of His Kingdom for which we are longing so much does come even among us. "Be thou not afraid, not dismayed—be of good courage and be strong for the Lord thy God is with thee,"

To our home board and to all the mission friends we want to convey our thanks for all the support in offerings and intercessions.

Ada Wittander.

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## DINHATA

“O Give thanks unto the Lord for He is good and His mercy endureth forever.” ( Psalm 118:1 )

I am happy to be able to start this report with this wonderful and mighty word of the Psalmist because it expresses exactly what I feel when thinking of the past year. My heart is filled with thankfulness to our Lord for the grace He has bestowed upon us in times when we realized it, as well as in times when we did not. Praise be to His holy Name!

The school work has continued as usual. In April the Primary section of the school was recognized by the Government. Owing to insufficient number of students, classes V & VI are not yet recognized, but there is hope to get them recognized during the coming year. The Government is now paying the salaries of three teachers and that is a great help towards self support of the school. The teaching staff remained unchanged with the exception of the addition of one new teacher whom we had to appoint because the number of pupils in class I increased to about fifty. In all we have had one hundred and fifteen students in the school of whom about forty have been day scholars from surrounding villages. Many of them have taken part in the Bible lessons given before the regular school time as we are not allowed to have Bible on the class routine. I am thankful to the teachers who so willingly give this extra time for direct work in the Kingdom of God.

In April one of our teachers, Binoj Biswas, was able to move into a newly built quarter which was erected on a plot of land bought for that purpose. The plot is situated five minutes' distance from the Mission and we can thus say that in this way we have “enlarged the place of our tent.” We hope that in doing so it

will be of a blessing for the Hindus living round about. When the house was dedicated our thanks went to God and to all the friends at home who by their gifts enabled us to build this house.

The number of students residing in the two hostels increased considerably after the 1st of April when the new school year commenced. The Boys Hostel was enlarged by using the old teacher's house which we use as a dining hall. Thus we could house thirty-five students instead of twenty-four as we had last year. In the Girls' Hostel the number increased from twenty-four to thirty-six. Many more students wanted to be admitted but we had to refuse them because of lack of room. Both of the hostels were recognized by the Government during the year and seven boys and two girls were granted stipends towards hostel charges.

Except for some cases of Malaria and chickenpox the children have been keeping very well for which we indeed thank God. It is a great benefit for the hostel children to have a dispensary here and Miss Wittander to look after their medical needs besides her medical work among the villagers.

The spiritual side of the work is the most important one and so we try to put much stress on that. Besides the Bible teaching in the school we have Bible classes, Sunday School, and prayer meetings. The big boys take part in a Bible correspondence course and the big girls attend the women's meeting every Friday. Here they work for the annual mela held before Christmas. This year the income of the mela was one hundred and sixty-one rupees. Perhaps, I may mention that this year special efforts have been made to increase our part towards the Circle budget and I am happy to say that it has not been in vain. Nearly every Sunday the members brought some fruit or vegetables from their garden to

be sold after the service. On the last Sunday of the month they have brought their "mustichal" (a handful of rice they put aside every time of cooking rice). In all we could this year give six hundred rupees to the Circle instead of the four hundred rupees given last year.

A Confirmation class was held for four girls from January to April. It was a great encouragement to teach these girls, but a still greater encouragement to see them kneeling down in front of the altar at the time of Confirmation in April. All our prayers and strivings for them has this goal that they may grow spiritually and be kept faithful to their Lord. When it is fulfilled we praise our Lord from the depths of our hearts. It was something of this we realized too when Mr. Pandit had a Bible week here in November. His message was met with great response and became a great blessing to us all.

Among the visitors we have had the joy to have during the year, I want to mention two names, namely, the Bishops Wisloff and Schioler. Their visit gave us great encouragement and new inspiration for the work. We were reminded about the greatness of being ambassadors for Christ and the privilege of having a Home Board and many friends who are standing behind and by their prayers strengthening our hands in the Lord. In closing this report we want to avail ourselves of the opportunity to thank you all. May God bless you and give you strength to continue in intercession and work. But first of all let us together thank the Lord because He is good and His mercy endureth for ever.

E. Pihlquist

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## SANTAL WORK

During the year the work has gone on much the same as the previous year. The number of full time preachers in Malda had to be cut down to three owing to the introduced program for Church self support. The remaining three are Utra Hasdak', Munshi Hembrom and Suphol Soren. Besides these three there are eight part-time preachers who mainly hold church services in the different congregations. During the year quite a few have been baptized from the non-christian community. The last baptism took place two days after Christmas at Madnabati, William Carey's first place in West Bengal. Here seven Santals confessed their faith in Jesus Christ and were admitted into the Church.

While the number of Christians is slowly growing, it is very sad to see that the number of young people confirmed is very small. At Eklakhi Girls' School a confirmation class is held every year, but around in the congregations it is not so. We have tried to impress upon our workers the necessity of instructing the young ones in the Christian faith, but so far without much response. This is not only a fault of the pastors and elders. It is very hard to gather the boys and girls for instruction.

Our two pastors in Malda have carried on their work in their pastorates. Jaeram Hasdak' in Khoribari is now getting old and wants to be transferred to a pastorate near his small holding of land in Santal Parganas. The question is who shall replace him. Fortunately, we have a few young men that have been through the Theological Seminary at Benagaria. But they will have to prove themselves first by working some years as evangelists.

At Bagsarai the work has gone on as usual with church services, Sunday school and women's meetings. In February a helmel-sabha, a three days' convention took place here. At such meetings we invite whole families to come. This year Rev. Glad was our guest speaker, and he was of great help and encouragement to us all. Bible courses have also taken place as usual. The number of participants has been smaller this year due to crop failure. They have to bring their own rice along.

We are sorry to report that our small primary school presently is at a stand still as we have no trained teacher. As soon as we find a teacher we hope to start again.

In Dinajpur District the young pastor, John Marndi, is carrying a great burden of the work on his shoulders in that he has seven congregations in his pastorate, besides being Circle chairman and Circle treasurer. He is very keen on fulfilling his pastoral duties in his widespread pastorate. Moreover, he is also one of the few who knows how to keep his account books correct and neatly. The other pastor in Dinajpur, Munshi Murmu, is old and not too well and consequently he is not so often around in his congregations as he should be.

Besides these two pastors we have four full-time and six part-time preachers in this district. As the church offerings do not as yet show much sign of improving, we may now have to cut out one of the full-time preachers to make the budget meet. The question of raising money is a difficult one every-where, but especially so here. The work in the Middle Field started in Dinajpur, and many of the older Christians remember the time when the Mission carried all expenses and they find it very difficult to understand why it should be changed now.

In Purnea District our work is only in its beginning. Here we have two small congregations with two part-time

preachers. Pastor Jonas Hasdak' goes up there three to four times a year as it up untill now is under his pastorate. But this is not very satisfactory and it is, therefore, under consideration in our church council to make a separate pastorate in Purnea. There are great opportunities if we only could find a young, inspired man to go there serving and guiding the congregations and spreading the Gospel among the non-christians.

Looking back we must say that it has been a year of readjusting and consolidation of the work. There have been many difficulties, but we are working with hope. From the statistics you will be able to see part of what has been achieved.

For every non-christian that was baptized into the Church, for every lost one that returned to the fold, we thank God.

We also want to send our heartfelt thanks to you friends at home. Thank you for your work and intercession in the year passed.

Tineke and Kjell Clausen

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# EDUCATIONAL WORK IN BENGAL

## EKLAKHI GIRLS' SCHOOL

“For every house is built by some one, but the builder of all things is God.” ( Hebrews 3:4 )

Again we have been permitted to sense that we are God's co-workers. With amazement we have seen how everything has been prepared and how God has given strength for the tasks and how He has protected us from all danger. This year we have reached two goals. One is that we have finished the construction of an attractive school building and have received the Government recognition for Junior High School. This is nothing which we deserve, but “the builder of all things is God,” and the thanks and honor are His.

The year of 1959 is a year which will be remembered long here in Eklakhi. On the new school building the year is written for all to see. Likewise the festive day of 11th of April will not easily be forgotten, the day when the school was dedicated. Rev. A. E. Stronstad, the Mission Secretary, came and was with us and he dedicated the building. Our friends here in Malda also came and were with us that day. It was a big day, a day of thankfulness and gladness which many of us will remember in years to come.

But most of those here will also remember the days as well as nights when we worked to get everything ready, cleaned and decorated for the dedication day. There were many sore fingers, but fortunately no accidents or any great damage to anyone. The co-operation between

the masons and other workers was at all times very good. There was work on the building for more than two hundred days and not at any time was there any kind of difficulty among the workers. It was a joy and a real experience to be along and not the least to see the enthusiasm and interest which both the teachers and children displayed. No one was too big and no one was too small to be along and have a part. We all learned quite a bit about "lifting the burden together." The flock was much bigger than the flock which we could see. The L. M. F. in Norway who had given us this big gift of money which made it possible for us to build was also along. It could be sensed in many ways that there were many who remembered us and prayed for us. We thank them for faithfulness in intercession.

The year of 1959 was also the year we had the visit of the chairmen from the three home countries. Dr. Stensvaag came to Malda before Christmas in 1958, but Bishops Wisloff and Schioler came here in January. It was a joy for us to see them here and to hear their messages and we shall remember their visit for a long time.

In the school we have been so fortunate to have the same teachers this year also. We have seven Christian, well-qualified and interested teachers. The co-operation among the teachers has been the very best. Everyone participates in everything and does it with interest and gladness. For the first time we had a small school "mela" this year. The income was one hundred and thirty rupees which was very good compared to what we had to sell.

This year we also received government recognition for class five and six. Thus, we now receive government grant for these two classes, which amounts to approximately fifty per cent of the expenses for Junior High School. Many of the students have also received stipends.



We thank the Government for all the help which we have received for operating the school and especially for the big help of rupees nine thousand five hundred received for the new school building.

We have had School Inspectors on visit three times this past year. The first visit was in January of District Inspectress, Mrs. Chatterjee of Jalpaiguri. The next visit was in May of the Assistant District Inspector, Mr. Khan, and the last visit was in November of Miss Dey, District Inspectress of Schools, Jalpaiguri. They were all very kind and helpful and the reports which we received were very fine. It is also nice to meet those to whom one writes so many letters.

There were one hundred and thirty students in the school. In February twelve students went to the Primary Final examination in Gazole. All passed and three of them in first division. We did not send any students up to the Central Examination in the past year. It was not necessary since the school had not been recognized yet. The results of the yearly examination were as a whole very good even though the conditions under which they had studied were far from good because of the construction work going on.

In December we took classes Four and Five on an outing to see the ruins in old Gaur.

There have been about one hundred and ten students living for most of the year in the boarding. This is too many or should we rather say there is too little room for so many. There should be built a new house for the boarding before too long. Bigger and better houses are needed with better place for those who are there, and for new ones who may be coming. This year also it has been difficult financially. Price of rice and other supplies rise year to year while the income is the

same. Unfortunately it is a long way yet before the boarding can be self-supporting.

The health of the students has been unusually good. Hardly anyone was sick. There have been weeks in succession where there has been nothing else but a little malaria, toothache and small pains. All have had doctor's examination and with the hospital so close by we have had an opportunity to have examined those who appear to be not entirely well. Sister Lilly Petersen and Sister Elise Dragoy have taken care of those who have been sick when they were here.

This year as well as in previous years we have had our meetings, Sunday School, Bible hours and daily morning and evening devotions. In March we had a series of meetings conducted by Miss Sahu from the Bible Society. Christmas Day one of the girls in Class Six was baptized in Kolibari. She has always been one of our most capable and likeable girls. May she continue to remain in Christ even as she now in baptism is grafted into Him.

In closing I would like to express a heartfelt thanks from us here in Eklakhi to all who have been along and carried the burden together with us—to all of you who with helpfulness and interest, intercession and gifts have been along, even perhaps unknowingly to advance the work here. Hearty thanks.

Eldbjorg Gulbrandsen.

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## NARAINPUR GIRLS' JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

There is something very encouraging in seeing growth and development, and when I think of the school here as I have followed its growth through the years that I have been in India, it seems to me like a fairy-tale. When I first came to India all the students and teachers could easily sit on the steps of the missionary bungalow. Today our big hall can hardly hold them. At that time they lived in small dilapidated houses and there was only one school house. But today they live in nice and airy hostels and in a few days we shall dedicate a big and beautiful school house with plenty of air and with all the necessary equipment required for proper teaching. In the year that has just passed four new buildings have been constructed. A great part of the cost has been given to us by the Government of West Bengal as a part of the big building program under the Second Five Year's Plan. What is now behind all this. The fact is that at this time many changes are taking place, and India is going ahead also in the educational lines with big strides. We have to follow as the standards are rising and the claims on both Indian and Foreign personnel. It is also a fact that great trust and confidence is shown to the mission schools and financial help to develop them is therefore given. Now it is up to the Christian community to show that they do not lag behind, but give their contribution to the building up of the nation.

In writing this report I cannot help but think of the friends in the home countries who have backed us up with their prayers and a never failing faithfulness and given us the means so that we were able to pull through.

There were approximately one hundred and ninety-five on the roll of which one hundred and forty were

boarders. Our hostels were so filled that we had to use our classrooms of the secondary section for hostel accommodations. That was a situation which could only be solved by having some classes held in the missionary bungalow. What a life! It was a very great joy to us that many children from our very weak congregations in Murarai and Itor were able to come to school, many of them were boys. We hope in the future to be able to co-ordinate with the hostel in Suri, so that we can have the boys here in the primary section and that they afterwards can continue in the Suri Hostel.

There is a very great need for doing something for our boys, and it is felt greatly that we have no boys' school in our Bengali work from where to take the future leaders of our church. Now when the J. V. Olsens are placed in Suri we hope that the hostel work again will function and continue.

The staff has worked well and hard through the year in order to obtain good results in the examinations. A few changes have taken place. Two teachers left us at the time of the summer vacation, one in order to get married and the other to be near her old parents who are both in poor health. As their substitutes we obtained two new teachers. One had some years ago been a student of our school. The other had had several years' experience in teaching and has shown definite signs of leadership. She started a group of Guides and Blue Birds which has brought much joy and good influence to the life of the girls.

The work of the congregation has been carried out faithfully both by the evangelist and the lay members of the church. In March the congregation decided to take over the full economical responsibility for salary and all other expenditures and they have been able to do so even with a balance in hand. The Youth Work and

the Sundry School work has been carried on mostly by the young members of the church. In the middle of the year we had a visit of some young people from the Youth for Christ group in Calcutta. There is no doubt about it that many had a real personal experience of Christ as their Saviour. There has been eleven children in the confirmation class. Three of the big girls are joining a class in preparation for baptism.

The health of the children has not been too bad, but we have had some very bad cases of typhoid fever which caused us much anxiety. During the very serious flood in October some of our houses were very seriously damaged, but it is a very good reason for thankfulness that in spite of the very heavy rain which caused so much damage to the crops in these parts, our farm had a little larger crop than it had last year. The price of rice has gone up considerably from what it was last year.

The dispensary has been closed during the year. Therefore, only the most necessary cases have been treated and the milk distribution has been carried on.

Our headmistress has been away during the year to fulfill her university studies in Calcutta. We hope that she will be able to finish in April.

The best greetings to all our friends in the homelands. Without you we would not have been able to carry through.

Inger Krogh Nielsen.

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# MEDICAL WORK IN BENGAL

## RAJADIGHI CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL

“For God who commanded the light to shine out of darkness hath shined in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.” ( II Cor. 4:6 )

This verse of St. Paul has often been in my mind during the past year. We who work in the hospital come into contact with a great number of people. May the light of the knowledge of the glory of God shine through all our activities.

Dr. Stensvaag from America visited us late in 1958 but in the beginning of the year we had the joy of seeing the other two home board presidents, Bishop Schioler from Denmark and Bishop H. E. Wisloff from Norway.

Shortly afterwards Miss Betzy Nordby left the mission field for a well earned furlough and Miss Lilly Petersen who had previously been doing work among Bengali women came to take her place. When I came back from furlough in the end of February I found the same Indian staff as the previous year when I left for Denmark. During the year we have had two additions to the staff. Miss Mercy Tudu came to work here in April and Miss Swarnalata Prasad in November. Both of them have had auxiliary nurses' training at Mohulpahari Christian Hospital and midwifery training. During the year two of our girls left to get further training. Miss Elsie Tudu left for Mohulpahari

and Miss Rahel Soren left for Bareilly where she will take laboratory training.

Our senior Bengali nurse who has been with us from the beginning was very ill for many months but after a large operation she is now much better and has been able to work again during the last part of the year.

Women's meetings have been held every week as usual. The women alternate in leading these meetings. The same is true of the daily morning and evening devotions in the hospital.

Three young Santals are being instructed for baptism.

The hospital statistics are as follows:

Out-patients:	Total visits:	12,708
	Mohammedans:	33%
	Tribals:	31%
	Hindu:	34%
	Non-tribal	
	Christians:	2%

In-patients: 454

As in previous years a large problem has been as to how to help the many T. B. patients, who come here. Again this year we have received a Government grant of four thousand rupees most of which we have used for giving home treatment to T. B. patients. But we have not had enough for everybody who needed help. Most of those who come are poor and not able to pay for the expensive treatment. As many as ninety-three cases were diagnosed during the year. Ninety-three leprosy patients mostly with the neural type of leprosy have received free treatment from the out-door dispensary. The results are encouraging.

Through the National Christian Council we have received large supplies of milk, wheat and cheese which has been given to all T. B. patients and leprosy patients. Besides that a daily canteen has been held in the afternoon and has been attended by three to four hundred children daily.

To everyone in the homelands who stand together with us in prayer and work we send our thanks for faithful interest during the past year. May the Kingdom of God come also through this part of mission work.

Else Hoilund.

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# WORK IN ASSAM

## BONGAIGAON MISSION

Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name!  
make known his deeds among the nations, pro-  
claim that his name is exalted. Isaiah 12:4.

During the past year there has been fine co-operation in most of the congregations of the circle. Although a division caused trouble in a few places the work has gone on steadily. Eighteen adults from the non-Christian community were brought into the fold and baptized.

In January Mohendro Narjary, Evangelist from Gandabil, was ordained upon request from the circle. Rev. Malsing Mosahary who has worked alone in the big and growing district through this received a long needed help. Rev. Mohendro Narjary will reside at Gandabil as before and supervise the most northern congregations.

The convention this year was held at Bongaigaon. For the first time it became a joint meeting with the Santals from Santipara Circle. To our great joy the General Superintendent, Rev. Munshi Tudu, participated in the meeting. Leaders from the Church of Scotland Mission and the Australian Baptist Mission were invited also. A loudspeaker was installed in the bamboo-hall built by the congregations and the word of God sounded forth in Hindi, Santali, and Boroni. The meeting lasted three days and became a blessing for many. A young man, a Brahman who was converted gave a testimony and was baptized.

In South Gandabil a Middle English School has been started.

On the mission station Rev. Malsing Mosahary has shouldered the heavy load as I could only be here part of the time.

Although we are a mixed congregation, different in race and mother tongue, yet we have always felt the unity in Christ when worshipping together. The Christians from the Railway Colony have contributed their part in sharing with us the Word of God. The sermons are usually given in two languages every Sunday. The hostel boys have been faithful in attending Sunday Services and Sunday School.

First in December I had the joy to start a small Bible course for women from the villages. It is our hope that these courses can be continued in the villages in the coming years. May God lead us as we go forward to the Glory of His Name.

In closing I do want to express our thanks to all friends and co-workers at home for all that you give and for all that you are to the work and to us. Pray that God may raise up men and women strong in faith and zeal to accomplish the great task that is to be done.

Elly Jensen Binderup.

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## GAURANG MISSION

At the end of January in 1959 we moved from Bongaigaon to Gaurang to take over from Rev. and Mrs. Westborg who at that time left for Norway on furlough after four years' service here.

Previously Gaurang was the center for Gaurang Circle, but that is not really the case any longer. The Circle Chairman, Rev. Upendra Mosahari, has his home in Gothaibari congregation, and more and more of the responsibility has been taken over by him and the circle secretary, Mr. Ramendra Borgawari, who is also the elder of Gothaibari church. But they are always thankful for whatever help we are able to render them and for visits to the congregations. Because of other duties there was unfortunately not much time for such visits.

The Bible Courses for women in Gothaibari from the 30th of March to the 3rd of April was a memorable event. This was the first time that such a course was held in a village congregation in this circle, and it was well attended by women from neighboring churches too. It was inspiring to see the eager desire of the women to get a deeper insight into the Word of God.

The ordinary Bible Course for elders and others was held only once this year. It was held in Gaurang and was well attended. For financial reasons it could not be conducted as long as we would have desired.

From the year 1958 quite a few Boro boys have been asking for permission to stay in the Mission compound in order to attend high school classes at the Gaurang school. In 1959 so many boys were asking for such permission that the Church Council decided to try to open a boys' hostel here. Accordingly a collection for this purpose was started in all the circles and a hostel building was constructed. Fifteen boys have been staying regularly in the hostel practically all from non-Christian homes. In the beginning they found it rather difficult to conform to our rules, but the situation has improved, and it looks as if this

experimental hostel will by and by become an established institution. From 1960 many Christian boys will be staying in the hostel.

#### BORO LITERATURE BOARD

Gaurang has for a long time been the headquarters for the Boro Literature Board, and the accounts and the stock of books are kept here. Total books sales during the year amounted to about one thousand six hundred and fifty rupees.

The biggest task of the Literature Board was the new edition of the Boro Hymn Book. Actually the Boro Christian Board had recommended that a joint Hymn Book be prepared, but as we understood that this would take some time to materialize, it was decided that we should prepare a revised edition of our Boro Hymn Book in such a way that it could also easily be used by other churches. For other reasons also a revision was felt desirable. Many of the translations are from other translations and not from an original text. Thus, in many cases the meaning is not very clear. It was decided to limit the number in the new book to about two hundred and fifty including a few new ones and to go through all the hymns to be kept. This proved a longer and harder task than anticipated, but at the end of June the manuscript was sent to the press and it is hoped the books will soon be ready for sale.

A revised issue of Church Rituals for Sunday Services; Communion, Baptism and Burial was printed and a short Boro Grammar sent to the press.

#### TEXT BOOK COMMITTEE

The committee met several times during the year with representatives invited also from other churches.

The main task has been the preparation of the manuscript for a new Boro Primer.

#### PHUNNI HATHORKHI

As the plan made by the Boro Christian Board to publish the Phunni Hathorkhi from Shillong as a magazine did not materialize it was decided to start again sending it out from Gaurang as a news bulletin. Two issues were printed in the latter half of the year. From 1960 we hope to publish it regularly every second month. The size has been increased to twelve pages.

#### TRANSLATION WORK

Because of other necessary literary work the translation of the Psalms could not be taken up until later in the year and mainly from June when we moved to Shillong. There we were happy to have also a representative from the Presbyterian Church in Bengal with us for some time. He is Mr. Michael Bosumata, B. A., B. T. and headmaster of the Mahakalguri High School.

At the end of September the translation of the Psalms was finished and then a final revision had to be made before sending out copies to the members of the Committee of Consultants. In this committee all the Boro churches of various denominations are represented. Typing of the final manuscript to be sent to the Bible Society has also been started. This will have to be accepted by the British Foreign Bible Society in London before being printed.

Our helper from Darrang, Joseph Doimari, was taken seriously ill during a visit to his home in June and was absent for several months; but joined us again in October in Gaurang after our return from Shillong.

Anna and Hakon Halvorsrud.

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## JOEMA CIRCLE

As the Lord once threatened the storm ridden sea so He has also this year calmed the waves. We think especially of Rolghutu Congregation. Pastor Arjun Murmu who had now cleared up his family problems rejoiced in that now he could begin with the same enthusiasm as before, but then he became seriously ill. An old stomach ailment suddenly ended his life and an energetic worker in God's vineyard has left us. In his place we have temporarily received Pastor Kanhu Tudu who has promised to supervise the congregations over there until we are able to place a new worker there. Since he must supervise the congregations from the colony the situation is not entirely satisfactory, but he is doing a good work. One of our students who soon will be through with his studies at the Seminary in Benagaria will take up the work in Rolghutu as full-time evangelist. There are presently several under instruction for baptism. A new teacher has been obtained for the school and so now we rejoice over the fact that the work goes forward.

The work did not go so well in Sindrihora. There were a few who talked about being Christians but on the other side three families fell away.

In the congregations under Pastor Kisun Marndi's charge we can notice a steady growth and stability in the work. Quite a number have been added to the congregations in most places. In Atibari Congregation the elder was dismissed and another one elected in his place. This is a change which we hope will be for the better for the congregations there.

In the congregations under Pastor Budhan Hembrom's supervision there has also been some trouble with the workers. The former elder in Amguri has been able

to draw a few more congregational members with him, even some that were under instruction for baptism. He works as a medicine man and appears now with a crown of roses so there is no doubt to where he belongs.

In Dobragaon we this year had the great joy to dedicate in the month of May the new church building which the congregation themselves have built of their own funds. They have also obtained a new teacher for the school which has not always had an easy course. There was good attendance at a small Bible Course which this year was held there instead of the previous tradition of having it around Siripur. We felt that the other congregations around Dobragaon could benefit from such a course.

In some of the congregations which belong to Joema District where Pastor James Soren has his work we have had the joy to see many added to the congregations. The good beginning which started in Gomna has spread to the surrounding villages. With their own initiative and funds they have built themselves a small church. Siriram Soren has been appointed elder and in one of the villages they have decided themselves to support a teacher. They ask continually for help to instruct those who want to be baptized and we hope that the same ones who helped us last year voluntarily from the colony will also do it this year. Also here near Joema there are those who want to be instructed but because of shortage of workers we have not been able to instruct them. The harvest is great but labourers few. Let us pray the Lord of the harvest that he send out labourers into His harvest.

The Friday women's meetings have been held several places regularly throughout the year and the

pastors hope to get such meetings started in other places too.

#### SCHOOLS :

In order to have more supervision over our village schools we have elected one of the teachers in Joema to travel around and inspect them. They need encouragement and guidance because most of the teachers have not had teachers' training. Two of the teachers have had their training in Santal Parganas where the school language is different from Assam.

In some places there has continuously been a change in teachers but in these places we have now obtained teachers whom we hope will continue in their work. In a few places the schools have been turned over to the Local Board (Government). In the school on Joema Mission Station the congregation pays the salary only for the teachers in the Middle School.

We feel that the competition among all the schools round about in all places gets greater year by year and it is a big question how long we can continue with middle schools. In most places one does not need to go very far from home to attend higher educational schools. We notice in many ways that the new time brings new problems. A countless number of free days because of the various religious festivals make it impossible for the students to concentrate on their studies as they should.

Since the budget for our Bible Courses was cut we had to cancel the course for teachers. This was the course which was most needed.

We believe that these courses for the workers in our congregations are one of the biggest factors as a means of awakening and renewing the spiritual life.



May God with His Spirit make effective all our work and give us courage to continue, then it shall not be in vain. Thanks to you all who continue steadfastly in the work and intercession.

Asta and Petter Pedersen.

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## MORNAI

With regard to Mornai Tea Garden we experienced a brighter year in 1959. After a depression the world market for tea improved and we can look back upon a year which financially gave an encouraging result.

Like most other industries the tea industry has always had its ups and downs. At times of over production bad years come and this is what we always must prepare ourselves for.

In 1959 Mornai Tea Estate had to appoint new Managing Agents in Calcutta, and this was a very important event. From the 1st of July Messrs. Davenport & Co. (Private) Ltd. took over the responsibility when our former Managing Agents, Messrs. Norinco (Private) Ltd. resigned.

Difficult financial years are not easy for our Tea Garden to come through. Not only due to the fact that there is no profit which the Mission can lay hands on, but also the fact that we are not in a position to pay for necessary improvements in machinery, housing, etc. which a progressing industry demands the whole time.

But otherwise it must be remembered that it has never been the main object of the Mission to make a profit. The Mission has been aware of the great responsibility placed upon it in its position as an employer of many workers. The Mission has been trying as best it could to make the Mornai Tea Garden a place where the workers could be well cared for, both with regard to the temporal and spiritual conditions under which they live and work. In November we had the honor of a visit of the Minister of Industries. He inspected the garden, our labour quarters, etc. and according to his statements he was most favorably impressed. At a meeting in our hall he spoke to the labourers. On an occasion like this it is certainly an advantage that we have a nice hall for meetings at night. The hall can accommodate about a thousand people.

With regard to the work of the church it was an important change that our Pastor, Lokhon Hembrom, who worked here for about ten years left Mornai to take up duties as the leader of the Haraputa Church in the colony. Our new Pastor, Sundar Marndi, is not an unknown man here. He has been reared here, having his home in Joepur village, which belongs to the Tea Garden congregation. For some years he was a lay worker of our church and afterwards he worked in the same capacity both in Haraputa and Rantzaupur in the Santal Colony. For some years Sundar Marndi also worked in the area to the south of the Colony staying in Dhorompur in the middle of the forest. While he was there he got in contact with a number of non-Christian Santals. As we have a number of non-Christians here in the tea garden his previous experience will now no doubt prove useful to him in the work.

Nehimias Topno is still the leader of the Munda congregation. We have had the joy of seeing some Mundas baptized in 1959.

With regard to our work for the Bengali speaking congregation, we had the happy experience that Pastor Jacob Biswas after an eye operation received his vision back again. He had become nearly blind and could not work, but now he is in work again as the pastor for the Bengali speaking congregations in Mornai and the colony.

During the latter part of February we had a large convention in Mornai for our whole field in Assam. About a thousand Santals came from far away places, and as usual huts of straw had been built by the different colony congregations for these guests. The meeting went on for three to four days. At the same time we had the visit of a touring preacher, Sobha Pandit. He speaks well, especially to children and young people. He is supported by The Children's Special Service Mission.

Our work among children and young people has been carried out as before and has been most encouraging.

Our Sunday Schools and meetings with lectures of various kinds often with films and lantern slides and song have always gathered many and we do see the very good results of these activities, both with regard to the educational as well as to the religious gatherings.

Difficulties and adversities are surely felt sometimes in various ways. But this is perhaps always the conditions where the Gospel is proclaimed and the Kingdom of God is established. One should not always expect smooth sailing. In spite of all, we do feel at the close of the year that there is very much to be grateful for. We would like to close this report with a heartfelt thanks to all our friends in our home countries

for their faithfulness and intercession for the work in the past year.

Ingeborg and Oluf Eie.

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## PARKIJULI

It was a great joy for the Christians in and around Parkijuli when they were visited by Dr. Stensvaag from United States of America and Bishop Schioler from Denmark early in January. Both of them presented the Gospel message in a crowded church although Dr. Stensvaag's visit was in the middle of the week. We took Bishop Schioler along for a service in our eldest Santal congregation of Paharpur and on Sunday, 11th January, he preached for Boros and Santals in a well filled Parkijuli Church, translated into Santali and Boroni. On our return trip that very day we had quite an experience in that we faced staying out in the open for the night. The water level had gone terribly down in the Ai-river east of Bongaegaon. In the shallow water the ferry stuck on sandbanks in mid-river. After one hour's struggle the ferrymen were exhausted and returned to the east side in the dusk. The discussion of what to do went on until the people mentioned another ferry some miles downstream on which we might be able to cross. We finally succeeded and were extremely thankful when we reached Sevapur at midnight.

We feel sure that the mission friends will be happy to know that we have been able to buy a plot of land in Kumrikata as a center for the Santal work in Kamrup District. At the end of April the President for the Assam Santal Church Council, Rev. James Soren, and

a few other Santals went along to look at the site before finalizing the transaction. All agreed that this place will suit excellently for a church center which also can be used as a school house. But then we shall have to build the church, pastor's and teacher's house simultaneously. The non-Christians also are excited about this plan and have promised to help. On the same day a new little congregation was founded at Sirisghutu, and their own built church was dedicated. Now we count six Santal congregations with the main center naturally at Kumrikata which is the market place for all of them every Sunday. No doubt the new church will be filled to capacity every Sunday of Santals and Mundas. Could it only be built before too long! In several other villages people ask for instruction for baptism.

#### THE BORO WORK

Among the Boros also we find some progress. The new full-time elder, Jitman Bosumatari is eager to visit the villages and now the work shows fruit as several families east of Tamulpur are under instruction. This is especially encouraging as these Boros are living in a district where there are no Christians as yet. Rev. Westborg will be able to help them in many ways no doubt, and we are looking forward to the time when we can hand over the work to him. During the year we visited Parkijuli nine times. The tenth trip we had to return from Gauhati as the floods had damaged the ferries, roads and bridges.

The church attendance is astonishing well and the church is almost filled every Sunday.

The school work is also proceeding forward although slowly. In the autumn they started to build the long time planned new school house in order to get the

school on full Middle English Standard. Let us hope that they will be able to complete the roof and the walls before the storms and rains start. There are many more possibilities for the school than what is utilized up to now if only the congregation will put more stress on the school work. To some extent it is a drawback that the teachers in our schools so frequently change and more often they do not thrive at far away places and stay at home for weeks at the time on sick leave.

The work in Dewangiri inside the border of Bhutan has so far not been restored. The school remains closed since the beginning of 1958 but the Bhutanese authorities confirm that they have no objections to the re-opening of the school. But we have to wait until we can get an able Christian teacher. Maguram Pastor got in contact with a Christian Nepalese, Norendro Nokormi, in Shillong last summer. He now stays in Parkijuli and will try to work among Nepalese and Bhutanese on the plains until things settle and he will be able to start the school in Dewangiri.

Kocha, a fine and handsome youth, is still staying in Parkijuli for schooling. From October two young Bhutanese boys of Kocha's family are staying together with him. At that time we also received the names of eight other boys who wished to move down to join Parkijuli school; but we had to refuse them partly because of financial reasons and partly because of the present situation. In the future God will show us ways and means. Dodjee is working faithfully as compounder in Sevapur again after one-half year's training in leprosy work in Santipara. Regarding Soonam Paul, it seems that he is loosening his ties with us more and more. He disliked to stay with the Finish friends in Darjeeling who accepted him so wholeheartedly and he

left for Calcutta in August. He obtained work in a factory. He broke his promise to come and stay in Sevapur as compounder apprentice, probably mostly because he is making more money in his present job. Should we not form a closer ring of prayers around these Bhutanese boys of ours, so that in the end they may be a blessing from God to their own people in years to come?

Our medical work has also this year been taken care of by our good compounder, Komolkanto Mosahari. The day roll shows 3086 patients during the past year. He is also selling tracts and books besides taking care of their physical ailments. The dispensary has a good reputation and the Government doctors also send their patients there sometimes for further treatment.

We thank for help and sympathy from the Indian Government and for prayer and support from the mission friends.

Edel and Magnus Haugstad.

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## BORO BIBLE TRANSLATION WORK

A report on the translation work done during the years 1958-59 is long overdue. Actually a start was made in 1957, and Monsob Bosumatari worked for a while, later Rev. Maguram Mosahari took over towards the end of the year.

During 1958-59 the helpers in this work have been Rev. Maguram Mosahari and, from the summer of 1958, also Joseph Doimari, representing the Darrang area.

As the N. T. has earlier been translated (this translation was based on the Goalpara dialect), it was found desirable to start on the Psalms, the translation of which was completed in September 1959, and the last portions of the manuscript were sent to the members of the committee of consultants in October. At the same time typing of the final manuscript, including verse numbers etc., was started.

It has been our endeavour to work out a language form that may as far as possible suit the various groups of Boros living in a rather wide area. This has caused the work to be somewhat slow in the beginning. As far as North Bengal and the Assam valley is concerned, we have found no basic difficulty. There are differences in detail of course, and here adjustments have to be made. One interesting example is this: "Jilirt" in Goalpara means arrow, in most other areas bow, while "boella" in Goalpara means bow and elsewhere mostly arrow. In such a case we have to choose the usage most prevalent. But such extreme cases are rare.

More difficult is the case of the Dimasa Kochari dialect. Here a full adaptation is at present out of the question. It will have to be a long time proposition. We find that this dialect has kept some old terms that are forgotten or absent in other areas. This may be of help in future. Already we find references to Dimasa usage interesting and useful.

To go from the Psalms to most other parts of O. T. is to go from the difficult to the easier. The next portion of the O. T. to be taken up is Genesis and Exodus. But first a "Test Revision" of the Gospel of Mark is being undertaken on the same principles as the Psalms.



We are thankful to the various Boro Churches and Missions for their interest in and helpful attitude to this work, and also for financial help.

Below is an extract of the accounts for the years 1958-59:

## INCOME:

1958

From The Santal Mission.	Rs.	500
„ The Northern E. L. C.	„	1200
„ The Bible Society *	„	200
„ East Him. Church Council	„	200
„ Goalpara B. Bapt. C. Union,	„	100

1959:

From S. M. N. C.	„	1700
„ „ Boro Lit. Board.	„	350
„ Am. Bapt. M. Horisinga	„	500
„ Goalp. B. B. C. Union	„	100

Rs. 4850

## EXPENDITURES:

Deficit from 1957	Rs.	406
Salaries & allowances	„	2911
House rent & electricity	„	654
Travel expenses	„	324
Books and paper	„	128
Medical etc.	„	286
Balance:	„	141

Rs. 4850

\* The Bible Society has also paid the cost of a new typewriter.

Finally we ask you all to remember this difficult and important work in your prayers.

For the translators,

H. Halvorsrud

# EDUCATIONAL WORK IN ASSAM

## HARAPUTA GIRLS' SCHOOL

1959 was on the whole a very good year for Haraputa Schools. As we had received instructions from the Government that the middle school section was to be separated from the lower primary section, this was done from the new year. The enrollment was good, the highest in the history of the school. The average in the Middle English section was thirty-eight and in the Lower Primary section it was one hundred and fifty-five, in all the average of one hundred and ninety-three students. In the boarding the average was ninety-four so the boardings were full almost to capacity. As usual the girls had their practical training in the home-making work, cooking, sweeping, gardening in which they all took part as well as their school instruction. Before the end of the year all the buildings were cleaned, earthwork repaired and walls white-washed by the children and it certainly looked beautiful when it all was finished. All the furniture in school and wallboards as well were also painted by the children.

There has been no change in staff in the boarding for several years. The same old housemothers have faithfully continued to take care of the children, supervise the work in the boardings and the vegetable gardens. The unmarried teachers residing in the boardings have also been very helpful and they have helped the children make very nice flower gardens. In the vegetable gardens we have had good harvests this year. The corn crop, for instance supplied the children with their Sunday morning meal for nearly four months,

In the school the old staff carried on faithfully. In the summer vacation two of them left for further training, Mr. Rajen Das and Mrs. Kapra Marandi. In October Miss Susila Hembrom was married and left the school. We want to thank them all for good and faithful service in the school through many years, and wish them success in their future work. New teachers who have joined the staff are Miss Elisabeth Tudu and Mrs. Maeno Hembrom. The last one is one of our old teachers who is helping out temporarily.

The results of the Middle English examination for 1958 which was announced in February was good. Six out of nine girls passed and for 1959 nine out of eleven passed. The examinations now are being conducted at the school and only the Inspector's approval of the results is necessary. Thus the results are out much earlier. Therefore, we are able to include the 1959 results in this report. All the girls who appeared in sewing passed the examination and that encouraged us very much.

We have as before received eighty rupees monthly from Government for the Middle English school. The teachers in both sections receive their dearness allowance. At the end of the year we were informed that the Lower Primary teachers will not get their dearness allowance from Government in the future and that will be a very heavy additional expense for the Church Council. But application for a continued dearness allowance from Government for the Lower Primary teachers has been sent to the school inspector.

The teachers and older pupils have as in previous years taken part in Sunday School work here in the compound and in the surrounding villages; and they have been very enthusiastic about it. We have nearly

four hundred Sunday School children here in Haraputa congregation now, and the staff here has helped a lot to get the work going.

The children have also had their weekly meetings, the big girls on Saturday nights and the smaller ones on Sunday afternoon. L. M. F. meetings were also held as usual by the staff.

In addition we have visited the surrounding villages several times during the year. Many times I have been out to visit the Sunday Schools and the women's meetings and we always feel that we are welcome, and it is an encouragement for the local workers. The interest is aroused, and for a few weeks we notice that they also come more regularly to church on Sundays. We have also been able to go out some Sunday afternoons to meetings, where the whole village came together to hear the Word of God and to see pictures. The new projector which I received from Ungdomsmisjonen in Norway has proved a good helper. We have had many good evenings here in the compound seeing pictures from the life of Christ. And we have also been able to visit some of the surrounding villages with these pictures, and they appreciated them very much. We also had a tour to Darrang and showed the pictures there.

In the school we had several festive days. In January we celebrated the Republic Day with a picnic to the nearby forest, and found a beautiful place to rest and to have our speech and songs for the day.

The 2nd of April was the annual prize day. In February the Assam Santal Church Sabha was held in Mornai. All the girls were given an opportunity to take part along with their relatives. Then the responsibility for the girls fell on the family, and we

felt it best that way. We had very good meetings in Mornai. In June the big girls entertained the tea garden workers in Mornai for one evening with songs and drama and on the 2nd of October we had Mahatma Gandhi day.

The economy of the boarding has been very good. Many girls received help from the Anna Pedersen's Memorial Fund. We are very thankful for that. We were also able to help all deserving who applied for help to read in high school and training schools. Little by little the girls also here in this backward community are coming forward and we are very happy to help them a little. The funds for students here came from Anna Pedersen's Memorial Fund and the high school and training school stipends from the Assam Santal Church Council.

There has been a great progress in the educational field in Assam. Everywhere there are schools, and the children are enrolled. We notice a much greater interest in the villages and the roll number on our Lower Primary section is a good indicator. We had one hundred and fifty-four children in December and about one hundred came from the villages. The girls in the Middle English section stay mostly in the boarding and that is more expensive so fewer are able to attend. But on the whole the number of school children is increasing immensely and we are happy to have been able to play our part in the progress in this great country.

In closing I want to extend our thanks to all friends who have helped in carrying on the work here both economically and spiritually. We are co-workers in a great work, yes in two—the forwarding of His Kingdom, and the lifting up of a downtrodden and miserable people to a more respectable way of life.

in this land. Let us not tire in our efforts, but go forward praying and working as long as we can. We have not yet experienced the great revival here and we are greatly longing for indication of more life among our Christians. But the Word has been sown faithfully, and we have His promise that one day there will be fruit. May we remember especially this in our prayers in the year to come, that an awakening may come among our Christians to a fuller spiritual life and to a greater responsibility in the work of the Lord.

Borgny Austad

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### GAORANG SCHOOL

As I mentioned in my report for 1958, our Headmaster had to leave the school by the end of that year and on account of shortage of wellqualified teachers in Assam we had to struggle along through the first three months without a single graduate teacher on the staff. But the students joined the school in surprising numbers. The results of the Middle English examination by the end of 1958 showed that eleven girls and boys had passed. One Santal girl was awarded Middle School scholarship. The majority of the new students joined the high school and from neighboring Middle English schools, boys and girls applied for admission into Class VII until we had an enrollment of thirty-two students in that class. Altogether one hundred new students were admitted and the enrollment in the three sections became as follows:

Primary Section	106	students
Middle Section	67	students
High School Section	58	students
	<hr/>	
Total	231	students

Of these students seventy-four girls and twenty-four boys resided in the hostels. One small hostel for the bigger boys was erected in the Gaorang mission compound, and a number of high school boys are lodging in different houses outside the school premises.

On February 1st the staff was strengthened as the former Head-master and one teacher from our church school at Mothambil joined the staff as Middle School teacher and clerk respectively. By April we could appoint a new Headmaster, Mr. Surju D. Brahma, B. SC. In September, Mr. Robindra Brahma, B. A. joined the high school staff as Assistant Headmaster. Mr. Dhuniram Brahma, matriculate, has served the school as mathematics teacher from April.

As our application for recognition of the high school is still pending in one of the school offices we have not received any Government grant-in-aid for that section yet. But with dearness allowance for the teachers, recurring grant for the Middle School, and compensation of loss of school fees Income for Tribal students, the contributions from Government amounted to five thousand rupees for which we render our heartfelt thanks to the Government of Assam.

We have been very fortunate in not having any cases of serious illness in the hostels and compounds this year, as we have been without permanent medical help. But Miss Binderup has paid us occasional visits from Bongaegaon and she has given very valuable aid and advice in matters concerning the health of the people. We had an epidemic of measles in the spring and dysentery in the fall, but no serious cases.

This year we were also fortunate in getting the first consignments of milk powder and Multi-purpose food for the school. This has added much needed proteins and vitamins to the diet of the children,

The lady teachers, who are all Christians, have faithfully taught Bible classes in the school, and Sunday School and conducted the morning devotions. The children have had their regular Sunday afternoon devotions and evening prayers during the week which they have conducted themselves. One high school boy was baptized during the summer vacation and it is our hope that many may be won through the teaching and example of our students and teachers. But we need the support of our friends in intercession for this institution. We see the many mistakes and failures and that our work here is far from perfect. But God is faithful, and He can use what is weak and imperfect to further His Kingdom on earth.

Solveig Somming

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# MEDICAL WORK IN ASSAM

## SANTIPARA LEPROSY COLONY

At the close of 1959 it was twenty years since we moved from Saldoha to Bongaigaon and began to build Santipara Leprosy Colony. One remembers with thankfulness our first co-workers who in spite of all loneliness and this big open plain and the many difficulties in the beginning, still stayed by us. Of the first three patients who came to us we have still Dhiba Tudu here. For many years he has been the village headman in the colony. His conduct has been nice and peaceful and he has carried out his work with great faithfulness. We are happy that he has been cured of his leprosy. It is very important in an institution as this to be able to have the same co-workers for a number of years. Immanuel Murmu who has been reared here began as apprentice compounder here shortly after completing middle school. (His father, Kanhu Murmu was the one who together with Nimbai Murmu had moved in on the Santipara land before we arrived here.) When the previous laboratory worker, Clement Shangma was released from the Colony because he was declared cured from the sickness for which he was receiving treatment, Immanuel was placed in charge of the work in the laboratory. Immanuel and not less Compounder Moseram Borgawary are both men for whom we are very thankful to have as assistants.

Of the missionaries who have served in this leprosy home we remember especially at this twenty year milestone the two who have been called home from this

work, namely, Rev. Anders Malme and Mrs. Solveig Petersen. When we returned to Santipara after our first furlough in Norway Malme had recently died. When I returned this time Solveig's place was empty. Those of us who are left will continue as far as we are able to honour their memory by continued service for and among the leprous patients. We have not forgotten Dr. Dagmar Pedersen either who at the end of her missionary service in Assam was willing to help us. We remember the concern and devotion for the sick and send her our sincere thanks.

In the fall of 1959 when the mission secretary called me back to Santipara I felt it an obligation to answer in the affirmative and that meant to come out alone. It is far from easy for a family to part. But the Lord of all mission work who gave the mission call will help us bear the load and carry on. When Solveig and Kurt Petersen unfortunately had to leave Santipara quickly Miss E. Krohn was willing immediately to come here and temporarily manage the colony. The patients have already thanked her for the remarkable way in which she took charge of Santipara and in this yearly report I also express a hearty thanks to Miss Krohn.

Due to the poor rice crop the last two years it has been necessary to take up a loan in order to be able to meet the expenses. The continual financial anxiety whether there will be enough funds for the co-workers' salaries, food, clothes and medicine for the patients is a burden which I am sure the mission friends will be more than willing to share and remove from us. The colony had in the past year two hundred and sixty-three patients of which ten were discharged as having been cured. In the children's home for well children of leprous parents thirteen children have been

cared for. At our clinics five hundred leprous patients have been under treatment and the number of non-leprous patients at the clinic are the same as last year.

We thank for the grants from the Assam Government, Mission to Lepers and Santal Mission for operation of the colony.

Santipara's guest book shows that the Minister of Revenues, Forest and Excise, the Deputy Director of Health of the Assam Government and the General Superintendent of the Northern Evangelical Lutheran Church visited the colony during the year. All the reports from these three distinguished visitors were of a very encouraging nature. The Deputy Director of Health Services says among other things, "We were happy for the opportunity to see the work which is carried on here and we are very much impressed with the very high standard."

At the close of the year we think not only of the year which has passed, but also that which lies ahead, the new year. When I was home in Norway I noticed anew the strong interest which our mission friends have for the Santal Mission's work among leprous patients in Saldoha and Santipara. We that are engaged in this work can when we go into the new year rejoice and continually be encouraged by the assurance that behind us stand a big flock of mission friends who will never forsake this special ministry. I close this short yearly report by extending a big and strong thanks to all our dear mission friends.

Gunnar Fosslund

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## SEVAPUR HOSPITAL

One of the greatest events at Sevapur last year was the completion and dedication of the new maternity and surgical wards which render us much better facilities for our entire work. Thus we obtained an additional twenty-four beds now making a total of fifty-two beds.

The 7th of April was the great day of dedication. Fortunately we had a visit of our field secretary, Rev. A. E. Stronstad and also the missionaries from Bongae-gaon in the east and Cooch Behar to the west. On the same day we had the monthly meeting of all pastors and workers of the church from the Santal Colony and Mornai. Thus, many people were gathered when Rev. Stronstad was speaking and stressed the specific spirit of our church and mission work among the sufferers: to be moved with compassion on the people, as our great Healer was. Matthew 9: 36. We do thank all you friends again and specially the Norwegian friends who by an extra donation encouraged us to start the work for completing the buildings under the hospital's "umbrella" roof. Thus Sevapur, "the place of service," is better equipped to serve the sick and suffering people to the glory of God.

They came for treatment. The daily register shows a number of 8,773 of whom 2,811 were first consultations. As indoor patients we had 777 for shorter or longer terms with the total of 7 818 "in bed days" with the daily average indoor patients of 21.4. A number of 360 operations took place including 84 babies born. The laboratory tests totalled 6,510.

The nursing work was very well supervised by Miss Asbjorg Fiske with six nurses as helpers. This year we have been able to get trained nurses from Mohulpahari Nursing School which we appreciate very much.

It has also been a great advantage for our medical work that we obtained recognition as distributing center for milk powder and diverse foodstuffs received from the Indo-American relief agreement through the National Christian Council of India. Some help is also promised for drugs and the first consignment is on the way out.

The school work and the congregational work was carried on well. From among the non-Christians three were baptised and five children of Christian parents. We had ten communion services with three hundred and sixteen partakers. The church offerings are on the increase, and all the services are very well attended.

In our joy for another year well ended we don't forget to thank the Government of Assam for their friendly attitude, and last but not least we extend thanks to all our mission friends for their intercession and never failing work and offerings for our common cause.

Edel and Magnus Haugstad

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## HARAPUTA MISSION DISPENSARY

Looking back over the year 1959 we can report that the daily work at the dispensary has gone on steadily, thanks be to our two faithful co-workers, Mr. Jotin Ch. Das and Sitol Soren. I came back from furlough by the end of February, but my stay here was interrupted when I had to temporarily take over at Santipara Leprosy Colony when serious illness caused the missionaries there to go home in August. So Jotin and Sitol together with the help of Miss Austad had

to manage alone here from the first of August, to the end of November.

Fortunately at the same time the work decreased. We are not sure if it is on account of Government's Anti-malaria-spraying or if it just has been a very bad year for mosquito-breeding. But all over the district we have had a very remarkable decrease in malaria attacks as also will be seen by the following:

In 1957 we treated 5,964 patients for malaria

In 1958 we treated 4,919 patients for malaria

In 1959 we treated 2,458 patients for malaria

The work decreased so much that we decided to do without the help of Alphae Murmu, a young man who was taken in when we needed some more help in 1957.

The statistics for 1959 are as follows:

General patients, Total consultations 10,319

Leprosy patients, Total consultations 7,880 with  
170 on the roll

Among the general patients 30.86% were Mohammadans

28.60% were Hindus

29.00% were Christians

11.54% were Tribal non-  
Christians

22 patients were admitted

38 were treated in the villages

12 were confined.

Our leprosy patients are on the steady increase and we get patients coming from far off to get treat-

ment here. Many of the new cases are infectious. Some we try to push on to Santipara Leprosy Colony to get them segregated from young children; but it is very encouraging to see how they improve with regular treatment. We had as in former years two men from Santipara to do the yearly check-up on these patients.

We have as before also enjoyed a close co-operation with Sevapur Hospital. All our tuberculosis patients go there for their regular check-up but have their treatment here at the Dispensary.

The health among the school children has been good. Only a few have been seriously ill. Miss Austad has taken care of these during my absence.

We pray that as we try to help the many patients we come in contact with they may see that behind our work is the Healer of Souls, He who alone can save them. We pray that our work here also may be to the furtherance of His Kingdom.

Elisabeth Krohn

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# NORTHERN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 1959

GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT : M. M. TUDU  
CHURCH OFFICE, P. O. BENAGARIA, SANTAL PARGANAS.

## SYNOD

President : General Superintendent  
Vice-President : Rev. Jonas Hasdak', P. O. Gajol, Malda  
Secretary : Rev. O. Dordal

Members :

*Santal Parganas Church Council :*

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

*North Bengal Church Council :*

President, Rev. Jonas Hasdak', Rev. John Mardi; Mr. Ruben Soren.

*Assam Santal Church Council :*

President, Rev. James Soren, Mr. Mathias Tudu, Mrs. Rahel Kisku.

*Boro Church Council :*

President, Rev. Maguram Moshahary, Rev. Malsing Moshahary, Mr. Dinesh Ch. Narjary.

*Bengali Church Council :*

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

**TRUSTEES :**

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

**MISSIONARY CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVE :**

Miss E. Sigurdson.

**MISSIONARY ADVISERS TO THE SYNOD :**

Rev. H. Halvorsrud, Rev. O. Dordal.

**SANTAL PARGANAS CHURCH COUNCIL :**

President: Rev. Bhikulal Hasdak', Dumka.

Secretary: Rev W. Glad, Chondorpura.

Members:      (The first mentioned is Circle Chairman)

**Kaerabani Circle :**      Rev. Suphol Hembrom, Mr. Ram Murmu, Mr. Bhonde Soren.

**Dumka Circle :**      Rev. Bhikulal Hasdak', Rev. Joseph Hasdak', Rev. Bajun Murmu, Mr. Raska Murmu.

**Jubdi Circle :**      Rev. Abraham Murmu, Mr. Philip Hembrom, Mr. G. Hasdak', Rev. Joseph Marndi.

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

**Mohulpahari Circle :**      Rev. Nicodim Marndi, Mr. Simon Soren, Rev. W. Glad.

**Benagaria Circle :**      Rev. A. K. Jensen, Mr. Enos Hembrom, Mr. K. Kisku, Mr. B. Tudu.

**PASTORS UNDER THIS CHURCH COUNCIL :**

Johon Hasdak', 1933, Koroya, P. O. Dumka.

Karan Soren, 1934, Benagaria, P. O. Benagaria.

Naran Soren, 1934, Chondorpura, P. O. Katikund.

Bhikulal Hasdak', 1937, Mission House, Dumka.  
 Bhogon Murmu, 1938, Beldanga, P. O. Sahapur, Murshidabad.  
 Bajun Murmu, 1939, Dhorompur, P. O. Kumrabad.  
 Sibrarn Marndi, 1939, Dum, P. O. Gando.  
 Joseph Hasdak' 1940, Ranga, P. O. Lakrapahari.  
 Suphol Hembrom, 1941, Mission House P. O. Kaerabani.  
 Munshi Hembrom, 1941, Lukhipokhor, P. O. Pakuria.  
 Peter Murmu, 1943, Maharo, P. O. Dumka.  
 Mongol Besra, 1946, Jambua, P. O. Garsara.  
 Chaitan Soren, 1947, Simoldohi, P. O. Debinagar.  
 Bhiku Tudu. 1948, Basetkundi, P. O. Debinagar.  
 Abraham Murmu, 1948, Ranga, P. O. Amrapara.  
 Salhae Marndi, 1948, Saldoha, P. O. Mohulpahari.  
 Munshi Marndi, 1951, Dhobona, P. O. Kaerabani.  
 Nitanondo Marndi, 1952, Jithia, P. O. Deocha, Birbhum.  
 Joseph Marndi, 1953, Tarni, P. O. Pakuria.  
 Nicodim Marndi, 1953, Mission House, P. O. Mohulpahari.  
 Lodo Hasdak', 1955, Sapadoha, P. O. Pakdaha.  
 Siblal Hasdak', 1956, Tilabani, P. O. Asanbani.  
 Ranglal Kisku, 1957, Tilabani, P. O. Asanbani.  
 Amdi Murmu, 1957, Kakjol, P. O. Pakuria.  
 Philip Hembrom 1959, Dhitpur, P. O. Purbasthali,  
 Burdwan.

### NORTH BENGAL CHURCH COUNCIL:

President : Rev. Jonas Hasdak' Bagsarai.  
 Secretary : Mr. Ruben Soren.

Members :

*India side*

Malda-Purnea Circle : Rev. Jaeram Hasdak', Rev. Jonas Hasdak', Mr. Davidson Hembrom.

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

*Pakistan side:*

E. Dinajpur Circle : Mr. Joseph Soren, Mr. Daniel Marndi, Mr. Paul Hasdak'



## PASTORS UNDER THIS CHURCH COUNCIL

Lokhon Hembrom, 1930, Mornai, P. O. Dingdinga.  
 Kanhu Tudu, 1939, Haraputa, P. O. Haraputa.  
 Nimbai Murmu, 1941, Mognaguri, P. O. Barabazar.  
 Ruben Murmu, 1942, Ransupur, P. O. Dingdinga.  
 Jatu Murmu, 1942, Bilanpur, P. O. Dingdinga.  
 James H. Soren, 1942, Joema, P. O. Gossaingaon.  
 Ratu Marndi, 1944, Kolabari, P. O. Serphanguri.  
 Catur Soren, 1948, Dobragaon, P. O. Haltugaon.  
 Choto S. Murmu, 1948, Grahampur, P. O. Dingdinga.  
 Arjun Murmu, 1951, Janali Dhorompur, P. O. Kochugaon.  
 Jacob Biswas, 1952, Mornai, P. O. Dingdinga.  
 Gupinath Hembrom, 1954, Santipara, P. O. Bongaigaon.  
 Budhon Hembrom, 1957, Dobragaon, P. O. Haltugaon.  
 Mongol Besra, 1957, Hingaon, P. O. Udalguri.  
 Sonaram Mediar, 1957, Sosoghutu, P. O. Dingdinga.  
 Kisun Marndi, 1959, Athiabari, P. O. Serphanguri.  
 Sundar Marndi, Mornai, P. O. Dingdinga.

## BORO CHURCH COUNCIL :

President : Maguram Mosahari, Parkijuli.

Vice-President : David Westborg, Gaurang.

Secretary : Dinesh Chandra Narjary.

Treasurer : Rev. H. Halvorsrud.

### Members :

Gaurang Circle : Rev. Upendra Mosahari, Rev. Tarini Iswari, Mr. Mukhiram Bosumatary, Mr. Mohendra Borgawary, Mr. Hejon Bosumatary, Mr. Gobind Narjari, Mr. Norendra Bosumatary.

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

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

Darrang & North

Lakhimpur Circle :    Rev. Maguram Mosahary, Mr. Bangda Bosumatary, Mr. Bahadur Goiary, Mr. Joseph Goiary, N. Lakhimpur.

### PASTORS UNDER THIS CHURCH COUNCIL :

Tarini Iswary, 1942, Gaurang, P. O. Haltugaon, Goalpara.  
Maguram Mosahary, 1945, Parkijuli, P. O. Menoka, Kamrup.  
Upendra Mosahary, 1945, Goladangi, P. O. Haraputa,  
Goalpara.

Malsing Mosahary, 1947, Bongaigaon, P. O. Bongaigaon,  
Goalpara.

Durgachoron Mosahary, 1958, Singaon, P. O. Udalguri,  
Darrang.

Mohendro Narjary, 1959, Gandabil.

### BENGAL CHURCH COUNCIL :

President :      K. R. Ghose, Suri.

Secretary :     J. N. Das, Suri.

Members :

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

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

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

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

**PASTORS UNDER THIS CHURCH COUNCIL:**

- Maharaj Bhandary, 1937, Nimasarai, P. O. Old Malda, Malda.**
- John Jotadhari Das, 1940, Luth. Church, P. O. Nalhati, Birbhum.**
- John Anondo Roy, 1941, Swedish Mission, P. O. Cooch Behar.**
- Daniel Jha, 1944, Dangalpara, P. O. Dumka, S. Parganas.**
- Haraknath Pramanik, 1944, Luth. Church, P. O. English Bazar, Malda.**
- Kumud Ranjan Ghose, 1946, Mission House, P. O. Suri, Birbhum.**
- David Jha, 1952, Nimasarai, P. O. Old Malda, Malda.**
- Ajen Chisim, 1955, Swedish Mission, P. O. Cooch Behar.**
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# THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES & NORTHERN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Medical and  
Educational  
Statistics 1959

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	25021						7	7	213	1	5	146	1	11	258	1	13	319				
Dumka									9	9	275	5	22	633	1	9	223	1	4	66	1	1	16	
Mohulpahari				4	15	10	46	1445	18250	3	5	155	2	6	204						1	1	19	
Jubdi	1	1	15058	1	2	7	6	371	10217	9	13		2	10										
Sultanabad		1	577							1	1	25	6	8	201	1	8	122						
Benagaria	1	1	7888							5	5	175				1	9	350				1	6	30
<b>Santal Parganas</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>48544</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>1816</b>	<b>28467</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>843</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>1184</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>953</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>65</b>
Malda Purnea				1	5		5	454	12708							1	7	125						
W Dinajpur																1	7	125						
<b>North Bengal</b>				<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>12708</b>															
Colony Mornai	1	3	21213	2	9	7	7	1079	18023	7	11	359	3	14	315	1	11	227	1	11	175			
Joema		1	2182							9	9	213	1	3	77	1	2	27						
Santipara			5902	1	4	3	4	263	500				2	2	33									
Kamrup Darrang										3	4	130												
Dingdinga																								
<b>Assam Santal</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>29297</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1342</b>	<b>18523</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>702</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>175</b>			
Gaorang		1	1050							7	7	126				1	4	60	1	13	317			
Bongaegaon										10	10	233												
Kamrup		1	3086			1	1	10	3086	6	6	115				1	3	48						
Darrang																								
<b>Boro Assam</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4136</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3086</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>474</b>				<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>317</b>			
Santal Parganas													1	5	127				1	7	68			
Birbham Murshidabad		1	2000										1	3	80									
Malda													3	10	211									
Cooch Behar	1		2336							2	4	56												
<b>Bengal</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4336</b>							<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>418</b>				<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>68</b>			
<b>Total for Church</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>86313</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>3822</b>	<b>62784</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>2075</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>1440</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>945</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>65</b>



## NORTHERN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 1959

CIRCLES & CHURCH DISTRICTS.	COMMUNITY					WORKERS					MINISTRATIONS						SUNDAY SCHOOLS		CHURCH COLLECTIONS CUPUT' CANDA OTHER OFFERINGS AND LOCAL INCOME	
	Congregations	Villages with Christians	Christian Families	Total number of Christians	Communicant Members	Pastors	Preachers	Elders	Biblewomen Unpaid	Biblewomen	Total workers	Baptized Children of Christians	Baptized from out side	Confirmed	Number of Com- munion Services	Total attendance at communions	Married Couples	Teachers	Children	Rs.
Kaerabani	10	79	356	1624	903	3	2	5		10	32	2	61	89	2620	13	13	224	2111	60
Dumka	16	170	556	2798	1308	6	4	6	1	17	75	58	49	167	4661	13	15	428	4372	47
Mohulpahari	9	70	247	1326	305	3	5	2		10	32	68	14	89	184	11	5	151	1687	22
Jnbdi	15	129	507	2731	1518	4	9			15	62	71	39	142	541	13	2	177	4750	91
Sultanabad	13	112	383	1828	759	4	9			16	72	9	11	141	3083	7	2	32	2305	59
Benagaria	18	97	482	2277	1297	5	2	14		30	64	49	34	164	5039	18	10	233	3828	56
<b>Santal Parganas</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>2531</b>	<b>12584</b>	<b>6090</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14 98</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>792</b>	<b>16128</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>1245</b>	<b>19056</b>	<b>35</b>
Malda-Purnea	12	53	168	820	317	2	3	8		13	18	11	2	85	203	3	3	38	1458	86
W. Dinajpur	13	32	109	530	179	2	9	2	1	14	15	7	11	78	119	3	1	14	747	74
<b>North Bengal</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>1350</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>2206</b>	<b>60</b>
Colony-Mornai	8	63	1450	7243	3217	5	5	65		148	261	80	151	92	484	90	38	957	10113	21
Joama	22	80	436	2300	683	4	23	1		40	79	54	20	144	3256	45	4	73	3288	18
Santipara	14	30	222	1197	394	2	1	14		18	36	20	15	111	2915	12	6	82	2236	35
Kamrup-Darrang	13	30	138	853	270	1	10			12	41	24	6	39	222	12	4	102	1848	77
Dingdinga	5	10	65	335	127	2	1	4		12	15			44	674	1	5	81	700	18
<b>Assam Santal</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>2311</b>	<b>11928</b>	<b>4691</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>84</b>		<b>92 230</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>7551</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>1295</b>	<b>18186</b>	<b>69</b>
Gaurang	22	49	450	2939	1010	2	2	20	2	45	157	9		49	1054	27	13	226	7126	53
Bongaigaon	25	50	451	2902	597	2	1	24		37	91	20	7	59	1850	18	8	189	4524	93
Kamrup	5	5	77	411	117	1	1	6		11	20	16	2	15	515	2	2	41	932	06
Darrang	9	11	132	859	302	1	2	9		12	32	2	2	27	468	16	7	89	2472	43
<b>Boro Assam</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>1110</b>	<b>7111</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>32 105</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>3887</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>15055</b>	<b>95</b>
Santal Parganas	7	26	63	308	129	1	9		1	12	11	5	4	53	819		4	46	877	15
Birbhum Murshidabad	9	19	106	624	272	2	5	9	1	17	14	5	16	65	142	1	6	118	1894	48
Malda	12	44	115	541	213	3	4	4	2	13	35	14	2	80	147	3	7	76	961	15
Cooch Behar	10	15	114	603	319	1	4	17	2	24	25	4	7	78	1258	4	9	180	1716	24
<b>Bengali</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>2076</b>	<b>933</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1 66</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>2366</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>5449</b>	<b>02</b>
<b>Total for Church</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>1174</b>	<b>6627</b>	<b>35049</b>	<b>14236</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>139 526</b>	<b>1187</b>	<b>528</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>1811</b>	<b>30254</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>3557</b>	<b>59954</b>	<b>61</b>

## THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT 1959

"And I will give them a heart to know me, that I am Jehovah: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God; for they shall return unto me with their whole heart" (Jer. 24: 7).

Jehovah was displeased with the people of Judah, as they led idolatrous and immoral life. And He delivered them into the hands of their enemies. The Chaldeans took them into captivity to Babylon. The prophet Jeremiah tells that this punishment will cause the people to repent and remember Jehovah, who will put knowledge into their hearts, and they will know that Jehovah is their God and that they are His people. They will know this, because they will return to Jehovah with their whole heart. And finally they will be restored to their previous position.

This is true in our case also. We were alien to God because of our manifold sins. But God reconciled us through Jesus Christ with Himself. The Word of life was preached, and the Spirit of God worked. It led us to repentance. We were regenerated. And God gave us a heart to know that He is our God and that we are His people. So then, we are no longer strangers, but fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God (Eph. 2: 19).

God has made us His own. He wants us to continue in His grace. Therefore we should live in Him that we grow to attain perfection, yea, to attain the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ (cf. Eph. 4: 12-14).

It is a joy to report that our pastors, conscious of their responsibilities, have been faithful in their

works. Their concern to save their fellow-citizens can not be exaggerated. The lay leaders have shown no less zeal and enthusiasm in Church activities. It is very encouraging to see them put themselves whole heartedly into church programmes. It is hoped that it will not be very long before each individual of our Church understands his/her responsibility towards the Church.

During the year the Word of God has been taught to children, young people, and grown-ups through Sunday Schools, Youth meetings, Women's meetings, and prayer meetings. Fellowship gatherings and Bible study courses have been held in all Council areas; emphasis has been laid on christian life, lay leadership, and stewardship. These works need to be remembered in our prayers. We thank the faithful leaders and teachers for their work. The parents deserve our heartfelt thanks for bringing up their children in christian life and sending them for instruction in the Word of God.

Classes have been held for new converts, and adult christians, and confirmants for further instruction and deeper knowledge and for participation and fellowship at the Lord's table.

Rev. Arjun Murmu, one of our gifted workers, died of Cholera on May 20th at Janali Dhorompur, Assam where he was a pastor. He drew many to Christ, and shepherded his flock faithfully. His death has been a great loss to the Church, and specially to Assam Santal Church Council where he also belonged to. Sincere sympathy is extended to the bereaved family. Blessed be his memory.

During the year the following were ordained to the holy ministry of the Church:

Mohendro Narjary, at the request of the Boró Church Council, ordained at Haraputa on January 4th.

Kisun Marndi, at the request of the Assam Santal Church Council, ordained at Haraputa on January 4th.

Philip Hembrom, at the request of the Santal Parganas Church Council, ordained at Benagaria on March 12th.

Sundar Marndi, at the request of the Assam Santal Church Council, ordained at Mornai on April 26th.

During the Annual Synod meeting in November a report on our work in Nepal was heard. Signs of good progress have shown. Government Officials and the local people are very friendly and helpful. The work deserves our constant prayers. May we encourage our brethren for making the much needed funds available for the work.

On the recommendation of the Synod 1958 the two Circles in East Pakistan constituted themselves into a separate Church on December 6th calling their Church "East Pakistan Evangelical Lutheran Church" We congratulate the brethren for this accomplishment. And we pray God's blessings upon this young Church.

All educational Institutions have been transferred to the Church now. They are ably administered under Church Councils. And the good work in these institutions is carried on as heretofore. For detail the reader is referred to the reports submitted by the leaders of these institutions.

In the annual statistics a slight decrease from last year (where we have figures included from East

Dinajpur and Rajshahi circles which now belong to East Pakistan Evangelical Lutheran Church) appears under sub-headings "Communicant members", "Baptized from outside", and "Church collections" We would have liked to see an increased figure in all cases.

It is encouraging to see the brethren raise funds for furtherance of our work. In several places, in addition to regular church collections, fund is raised for our work in Nepal, for local evangelistic campaign, and for the poor and needy. However, the progress in stewardship programmes is hampered by several reasons of which I would like to mention two, namely, static giving or giving according to habit, and, now, change over to decimal coinage. Therefore it is far below what it ought to be in spite of the fact that more effort is made now than ever before. But we are confident of overcoming these difficulties soon.

Further amendments to our Church Constitution has again been made this year. Signs are shown that brethren are gradually coming closer to one another to be of one mind for finally accepting the Constitution.

During the year the General Superintendent made an extensive tour of our area in Assam during the months of January and February visiting many congregations under Boro Church Council and Assam Santal Church Council. The rest of the year gave occasion to visit congregations under Bengali Church Council and Santal Parganas Church Council in the so called "old country". These visits 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.

In closing this report, grateful appreciation and heartfelt thanks are conveyed to our leaders and brethren for their co-operation and prayerful support.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his great mercy begat us again unto a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, unto an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, who by the power of God are guarded through faith unto a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time". (I Pet. 1: 3-5).

Respectfully submitted,

M. M. Tudu

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STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS  
Auditor's Certificate

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

Dear Sirs,

We report that we have checked the books of the Mission for the year ended 31st December, 1959, as follows:—

MISSION GENERAL CASH BOOK :

The entries in respect of payments appearing in the Cash Book have been examined with the Subsidiary Books, Station Cash Books and acknowledgments 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, subject to the following discrepancies in the entries relating to receipts from the Danish Board, have found the entries appearing in the Cash Book to be in order.

Remittances of Rs. 13,309.68 and Rs. 13,309.68 on 27th April and 12th May, 1959, respectively, appearing in the Statement of remittances during the year furnished by the Danish Mission Board have been entered as Rs. 13,309.38 and Rs. 13,309.35, respectively. Receipts of Rs. 33,274.72 and Rs. 13,309.38 entered in the Cash Book on 5th and 13th January, 1959, respectively, do not appear in the Statement. Remittances of Rs. 26,619.57, Rs. 19,964.47 and Rs. 26,616.60 on 18th, 23rd and 31st December, 1959, respectively, appear in the Statement but have not been entered in the Cash Book.

We have, however, been informed by the Treasurer that these three latter sums have been received and will appear in the Cash Book in the following year. An amount of Rs. 221.00 has been credited to Missionaries Account instead of Norwegian Mission Board Account.

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, 1959.

NORTHERN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
& MORNAI TEA ESTATE CHARITABLE FUND &  
MISSIONARIES ACCOUNT :

CASH BOOKS :

We have examined the payments recorded in these Cash Books with the receipts produced to us and have found them to be in order. We have seen certificates from the Chartered Bank and the Netherlands Trading Society in confirmation of the balances with the Banks at 31st December, 1959.

STATION CASH BOOKS :

These Books have been checked as follows:—

The remittances from the Mission, Northern 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 the closing balances of various other Funds viz. Emergency Fund, Bhikhu Endowment Fund and Passage Fund as described in the books of such Funds were verified by reference to certificates from the Treasurer, Bankers and by examination of the Scrips for the Government Securities, National Savings Certificates and found to agree therewith.

Yours faithfully,  
Lovelock & Lewes.

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\* A and B contain lists of minor discrepancies which have since been adjusted.

A. E. Stronstad

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THE ACCOUNT OF 1959

THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES

INCOME:

Balances per 1 Jan. 1959 Bank Rs.	59,060.59			
Cash „	<u>22,673.30</u>			
				Rs. 81,733.89
Received from America				„ 115,941.64
Received from Denmark				„ 325,761.99
Received from Norway				„ 549,976.86
June 30, Interest on current Ac.	Rs.	33.00		
Less :				
March 2, Bank Charges	5.75			
September 22 „	2.25			
December 31 „	1.00	Rs.	9.00	Rs. 24.00
				<u>Rs. 1073,438.38</u>

EXPENDITURE:

Medical Work :

Mohulpahari Christian Hospital	Rs.	28,420.00		
Mohulpahari Nursing School	„	4,799.06		
Saldoha Leper Colony	„	44,100.00		
Benagaria Dispensary	„	980.00		
Kaerabani Dispensary	„	3,450.00		
Narainpur Dispensary	„	901.60		
Rajadighi Christian Hospital	„	<u>7,153.00</u>		
				Rs. 89,803.66

Educational Work :

Kaerabani Santal High School	Rs.	31,082.80		
Maharo Girls' School	„	9,051.00		
Benagaria Industrial School	„	4,528.00		
Narainpur Girls' School	„	<u>12,065.00</u>		
				Rs. 56,726.80

146 THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES

Stations :

Basetkundi	Rs.	1,783.60
Benagaria	,,	15,999.20
Ebenezer House	,,	1,489.60
Chondorpura	,,	1,410.22
Dhorompur	,,	490.00
Bagsarai	,,	3,106.60
Dumka	,,	4,876.00
Eklakhi	,,	2,230.00
Kaerabani	,,	2,350.00
Kaerabani Principal House	,,	6,000.00
Koroya	,,	5,201.04
Maharo	,,	3,038.00
Mohulpahari Nurses' House	,,	490.00
Santal Theological Seminary	,,	1,764.00
Benagaria Nurses' House	,,	980.00
Tilabani	,,	490.00
Suri	,,	3,920.00
Nimasarai	,,	2,940.00
Grahampur	,,	7,123.00
Joema	,,	4,200.00
Gaurang	,,	6,493.00
Haraputa	,,	3,636.60
Bongaegaon	,,	4,900.00
Santipara	,,	784.00
Parkijuli	,,	8,238.28
Narainpur	,,	4,900.00
Assam-Bengali Work	,,	250.00
Thajoubari	,,	1,505.28
Rajadighi	,,	900.00
		<u>Rs. 101,488.42</u>
Committees and Travel	Rs.	8,769.56
Secretary's Travel	,,	2,400.00
Dumka Offices	,,	3,500.00
Legal Expenses, Printing of Report and Audit Fee	,,	4,806.86

Civil Surgeon	„	980.00	
Glad's Literature Work	„	3,890.60	
Miscellaneous	Rs.	35,534.15	
Grant to Church for Barapani College	500.00	Rs.	36,034.15
Land Rent	„	<u>3,114.69</u>	
			Rs. 63,495.86
Transferred to Northern Evangelical Lutheran Church			Rs. 230,000.00
Transferred to Missionaries' Account	„		301,000.00
Transferred to Mornai Tea Estate Charitable Fund	„		53,027.00
Balances: Bank	Rs.	140,077.15	
Cash	„	<u>37,819.49</u>	
			<u>177,896.64</u>
			Rs. 1,073,438.38

Naomi Torkelson,  
Treasurer

## Statement of Account for the year 1959

## NORTHERN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## INCOME :

Balance per 1 January, 1959	Rs.	5,887.78
Received from Santal Mission of the Northern Churches	Rs.	230,500.00
Received from Bengali Church Council	„	320.00
Received from North Bengal Ch. Council	„	70.00
Received from Assam Santal Ch. Council	„	1,249.50
Received from Santal Parganas Church Council	„	1,128.00
Received from Boro Church Council	„	268.00
Contributions received from Dumka Circle	„	51.20
	Rs.	239,474.48
Received from Swedish Mission	„	28,700.00
<b>Total</b>	„	<b>268,174.48</b>

## EXPENDITURES :

Bengali Church Council	Rs.	56,240.00
Santal Parganas Church Council	„	82,888.00
Assam Santal Church Council	„	39,767.00
Boro Church Council	„	20,779.00
North Bengal Church Council	„	20,300.00
Santal Theological Seminary	„	16,130.00
Martha Maria Bible School	„	2,295.00
Grant to "Peṛa Hoṛ"	„	7,280.00
Grant to "Bongo Bondhu"	„	250.00
Church Office and Salaries and Synod	„	14,853.50
Grant to Indian Workers' Pension Fund	„	3,000.00
Miscellaneous	„	1,280.00
Grant to F. E. L. C.	„	925.00
Bank charges	„	3.81
<b>Balances :</b>		
Bank	Rs.	993.81
Cash	„	1,189.36
<b>Total</b>		<b>Rs. 2,183.17</b>
		<b>Rs. 268,174.48</b>

Naomi Torkelson, Synod Treasurer

## Statement of Account for the year 1959

## INDIAN WORKERS' PENSION FUND

## NORTHERN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## INCOME :

Balance per 1st January, 1959	Rs.	3,965.85
Received from Northern Evangelical Lutheran Church	Rs.	3,000.00
Interest Received	"	798.00
Contribution from members	"	5,798.65
	Rs.	<u>13,562.50</u>

## EXPENDITURES :

Pension paid to members	Rs.	10,433.89
Contribution refunded to members	"	2,694.79
Balance per 31st December 1959	"	433.82
	Rs.	<u>13,562.50</u>

## CAPITAL ACCOUNT

Balance per 1st January, 1959	Rs.	44,423.54
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## CAPITAL INVESTED

Government of India Loan	Rs.	15,628.54
Postal Saving Certificates	Rs.	28,795.00
	Rs.	<u>44,423.54</u>

Naomi Torkelson  
Synod Treasurer

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