

*Archives*

## INDIA MISSION NEWS.

Vol. IX. § Dhamtari, C.P., India, Jan.-Feb., 1930. § No. 1&2.

January 31—Bro. Lehman took Waldo to the specialist in Calcutta last week because his leg has not been improving satisfactorily. The Calcutta doctor advised that Waldo stay there indefinitely for treatment or else that they return to America. Accordingly the Managing Committee met this week in special session and decided that plans should immediately be made for the Lehman family to return to America.

Our Special Business Meeting is to be held in Dhamtari, February 20—21.

### **Dhamtari.**

The Esch family spent about ten days during January out in camp and they report a profitable time. Many opportunities came to present the Christian Message. The people so often said, "We are so glad you have come to us and show your love." And we always answered them thus: "We come because we have the love of Jesus Christ in our hearts and we want you to have the same."

There were three Indian Christian workers in the group. One morning Sister Esch and Sister Janki went to a village and were well received in the home of the Malguzar. But in the middle of the talk they were told to leave though they were directed to a place outside the courtyard. They were much surprised and felt rather badly for the man of the house had once been given a Bible which he said he had read through. Later however it was found that this action was not due to any ill feelings toward the workers or their teaching but a crowd of women were gathering and the host feared that some one would cast an "evil eye" on some of his young calves in the open courtyard. Brother, Sister, pray that God may turn these people to the light.

### Balodgahan.

On December 29 a large class of boys and girls were baptized in the Balodgahan Church. Among them thirteen were girls from the Girls' Orphanage. Seven more girls will receive baptism in their home congregations later. We pray that these girls may live true Christian lives.

January 11—Dr. Troyer operated on a number of the girls of the Orphanage. Seven had their tonsils and adenoids removed, and two had growths removed from their mouths. The first night one girl lost much blood, but from then on they all got along nicely.

#### *Church Pastor.*

We have recently given the girls in the Middle School at Balodgahan the final examination on their study of the Gospel of Mark. The results were very encouraging. The staff had previously made a careful study of the book. A similar study has been made of Luke. They are now studying the Acts preparatory to the Bible teaching in the coming months.

A week ago thirty-two small children were vaccinated here at the Dispensary. Nearly all took well.

Sister Lapp has moved into the Village Bungalow with Sister Wenger since the Girls' Orphanage was given over to Sister Miller.

The Sunday Schools at Balodgahan have just been re-organized. Sister Mary Good is Superintendent of the Senior Sunday School, Sister Mary Wenger of the Junior, and Sister Ida Beare of the Primary. The two Schools in connection with the Orphanage have Indian teachers as superintendents.

Bro. E. E. Miller has charge of the Church here for this year.

### Sankra.

January 31—Dr. Troyer and family came out to Sankra the beginning of this week. On Tuesday was Baby Day and he and Dr. Friesen examined the babies brought in. Prizes were given to the three scoring highest in physical

condition. This encourages the parents to give their children better care.

On Wednesday Dr. Troyers went out to the Friesen camp to help in their touring work for several days after which they expect to go to Dondi for several days.

Two weeks ago the local Church committee had a meeting from eight in the evening to 3:30 in the morning to settle several quarrels. We are happy to say that the committee showed a desire to settle the matters according to the will of God, and all parties involved asked and received forgiveness from one another.

Bro. Hostetler is the local pastor for this year.

For the last three weeks we have been trying to do some follow-up work in the district. Our first camping place was Balod. At Balod we have an out station, and Brother and Sister Harchand are the two Indian workers there.

The work in Balod is hard, but we are well pleased with what our Indian Brother and Sister have done during the past year. One couple have asked to be baptised. There are four Christian families living at Balod, but only two of them are Mennonites. On Sunday they all worship together. In the evening service there are usually a number of Hindus and Mohamedans present too. We praise God for the work at this place. Since Bro. and Sister Hostetler have now charge of the Station and the church at Sankra, we expect to be with the Balod Congregation on Sundays as much as possible.

This week we have pitched our tents in a beautiful grove near a small river in the village of Kursipar. The people here are also giving us a very warm reception. In this village are several of our Leper patients and these Lepers and other patients of course are our warm friends, and they do all they can to make it pleasant for us.

This morning after we had given out medicines to a number of people we went to one of the patient's home and had a meeting there. When we came back we saw three men coming across the fields who brought us some fresh goat meat. They gave us enough for our whole staff and so we

decided to have a common meal with our workers in the evening. We expect to camp here another week and we very much need your prayers.

#### **Ghatula.**

January 18—Bro. Vogt and the four Evangelists went to Likhma January 13—18. They sold many books. A number of people seem to be very much interested in the Gospel. We are praying that their interest may lead them to salvation.

#### **GIRLS' INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.**

All girls of the Industrial School are required to work in the fields, or do some other similar work from three to four hours each day. At present they are busily engaged in making brick and gathering lac. One morning they made one thousand brick which they felt was quite an achievement.

Living out in the jungle so far away from efficient medical aid is very difficult, and we felt the difficulty very keenly in a recent experience. One of our girls became very ill quite suddenly. We sent a man to Dhamtari to procure medicine and instructions for treatment. In the meantime the girl became worse and we decided to call the Indian doctor from Sihawa. He refused to examine her, and when we suggested that it might be pneumonia he said, "It may be." He left us with no more enlightenment than we had before. The following morning he came back and again refused to examine her. However we had now received our Mission doctor's instructions, and with a prayer in our hearts we did all we could. We thank God that it pleased Him to spare the girl, and we trust she will soon be well again.

The girls receive daily Bible instruction, and we are glad that their interest in Bible study is increasing.

#### **Dondi.**

January 31—Bro. Smucker spent several days in Balodgahan and Dhamtari this week attending a committee meeting and transacting business.

# INDIA MISSION NEWS.

Vol. IX. § Dhamtari, C.P., India, March, 1930. § No. 3.

## Lehmans and Troyers leaving for America.

Feb. 27—The Lehman family left last night at eight o'clock from the bungalow here in Dhamtari for America. They went to Raipur in a motor bus and from there they expected to go on the train. Their boat, the Pilsna, is due to sail from Bombay March 1st. Many Indian friends and missionaries gathered here last night at the bungalow to bid them farewell. Our prayers go with them and we trust that the Lord may direct them safely across the sea and that he may fully heal Waldo's knee.

Dr. Troyers have been living at Shantipur the past few weeks with Grabers prior to their leaving for America on furlough. Their boat is scheduled to sail from Bombay March 12. They will touch at Hong Kong and other ports, and land at San Francisco in April.

The Managing Committee has decided that Bro. and Sister Hostetler should move to Dhamtari into the bungalow vacated by the Lehman family, and take charge of the Boys' Orphanage, Boys' Primary School and from July 1 of the Girls' Primary School and the Carpentry School. They moved into Dhamtari Feb. 17. Brother and Sister Friesen again took charge of the work at the Sankra Station.

Bro. E. E. Miller was elected by the Business Meeting to be treasurer in place of Bro. Lehman and Bro. R. R. Smucker was elected President of the Mission in place of Bro. Miller.

The cold season lasted unusually long this year. But about two weeks ago it became warm quite suddenly and has been warm since. It is usually 85 or 90 degrees during the day.

## Special Business Meeting.

Our Special Business Meeting was held in the Balodgahan Church Feb. 24-26. All of the missionaries were



present most of the time. Two of the outstanding questions considered were social hygiene and education. A Committee was provided for to work out a program by which we might do more good in that line to help the moral situation in our Indian community. Immorality is one of the worst sins with which we have to deal and it takes much patience, time effort, and prayer to deal with it.

Then a number of phases of our educational work were taken up such as co-education, Bible study, Christian and Hindu Pupils, normal training, high school, etc. One of the early changes resulting from this discussion will be the uniting of the Girls' and Boys' Primary Schools in Dhamtari, and perhaps also in Balodgahan, and the separation of the Boys' Middle School in Dhamtari from the High School and putting it into the present Primary there. Our hope is that ultimately we will be able to have the girls and boys in school together through most of their courses. We are of the opinion that it may be a means of helping the moral situation as well as being more economical. Several of our schools are already being conducted thus and they seem to be successful from that standpoint.

There was a good spirit of Christian fellowship and the meeting did us good spiritually.

### Dondi.

People are coming every day to "see the bungalow" and for medicine. This brings a splendid opportunity to sit and tell them of the great Healer and Savior, Jesus. Often times as many as fifteen or twenty come in one group.

Evangelistic visits to a number of homes are very urgent. Several families are very much interested. We want to ask them point blank where they stand; one family comes to Church nearly every Sunday. Pray for these people.

### Ghatula.

All the Christian workers and Bro. and Sister Vogt spent Jan. 21-27, at Gattasilli. They toured all of the surrounding villages and stayed at Gattasilli for the Sunday service which was enjoyed by everyone.

In January ninety-four Gospels and portions of Gospels were sold. In February there are many religious fairs here in our district. The Evangelists attend all of them. There

is always a ready sale for Gospels and books. MAY GOD BLESS HIS WORD.

The Boarding Girls made fifteen thousand bricks for the new Master's house which is being built.

### Balodgahan.

I have spent about three weeks on tour since Jan. 22nd with three Bible Women, and part of the time two unordained Evangelists, visiting about 40 villages.

In a few villages the people said they never had any one come to their villages before telling them about Jesus.

Nearly every home received us, and listened to the Gospel, and all confessed that it was the true religion, but to leave caste and friends is so hard for them to do.

Over two hundred Gospel portions, song books, and other religious books were sold, and also three New Testaments.

Pray for them that His Word may take root in their hearts and bear much fruit. SARAH LAPP.

Several new inmates have been taken into the Widow's Home during this month. One is an old, old Lady who for years has been Lehman's ayah. She has for many years nursed missionary children; now it is our privilege to care for her.

The other a Hindu Woman, was poorly clad, and her uncombed hair, which was full of lice, together with a large abscess on her neck made her very uncomfortable. Medical aid is being given her and we hope that being under Christian influence she may get a vision of the true Christ, and accept Him as her personal Savior.

### Shantipur Leper Home.

A very loathsome case was admitted a few days ago. A woman came with sores on her feet which were full of worms. Her general health also was bad. It is on such cases that we can work a veritable miracle. Just a few weeks of proper rest, food, treatment, some fresh clothes, a daily bath, and a beginning to appreciate and understand the Christian spirit of the institution makes such people new creatures.

The old, helpless men of the institution recently had a complaint against the Superintendent. "Why do you not spend more time sitting with us and talking to us?" they asked. "We do not get to see you very often," they went on. I told them that if they wished merely to see me they could come to Church and prayer meeting regularly and they would see me twice every week. But the poor fellows are so maimed and helpless that they find it very difficult to go even the hundred yards to Church.

Yes, I admit, that because of a multiplicity of duties I have not sat with and tried to cheer these lonely souls. Their life is so terribly circumscribed that a friendly visit means more to them than we can easily understand.

A small deer accidentally wandered into one of the back gates of the fence around the Leper Home plot one night and when day dawned he could not find his way out.

It was reported to me with the net result that the missionaries and native population of Shantipur enjoyed a good meal of rice and venison curry. Almost a parallel to the quails of the Israelites.

#### **Medical Station.**

On Feb. 2 the Esch family made a call to Kanker to visit the little group of Christians at that place. We enjoyed a very impressive little communion service at the home of Bro. Mulchand. Besides our own group there were six other members of the Church who took part in the service. Pray for the Christians there that they may be a real light in that dark place.

On Feb. 16th Bro. Baldu, our hospital Chaukidar (night watchman), was baptized. He is a direct fruit of the Medical work here. He came here in a very loathsome condition, with bad ulcers on his one leg. By good care and treatment his body was healed and in like manner he responded to the teaching of the Gospel, and has been saved. He is a young man with bright prospects. He is learning to read because he wants to know the Bible first hand. Pray for him.

Bro. Dick of the Brethren in Christ Mission of Saharsa came to us for removal of his appendix. He is getting on nicely.

# INDIA MISSION NEWS.

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Vol. IX. § Dhamtari, C.P., India, April, 1930. § No. 4.

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## GENERAL NEWS.

March 7th—Sisters Kanagy and Hartzler left to-day for a month's vacation. They expect to go to various places and especially to visit some other industrial institutions to learn more about their work. Sister Kanagy has charge of our Industrial School at Ghatula.

March 10th—Sisters Smucker, Friesen, Kaufman and Esch started for Landour this evening to take their children to school.

March 12th—Sisters Beare and Miller left to-day for Darjeeling to take their children to school there.

Mar. 25—Next Tuesday, April 1, we expect to have our Annual Conference. It is to be held in the Sundarganj Church. Some serious problems are arising in the Church here and much praying needs to be done, and much love manifested in the Conference in order to solve them. But it is satisfying to know that The Lord always has the right solution, and it is our work simply to live close to Him so that He can show us what His solution is.

### Shantipur Leper Asylum

Saul, one of our servants, tried his skill at medicine and surgery a few days ago. Some people from a nearby village came running to the bungalow to call for help; a boy had fallen from a tree. Saul snatched up a bottle of liniment and cycled over as fast as he could go. He rubbed some of the liniment on the terribly fractured arm, and then decided he should not take the case. Dr. Esch was called, the boy was removed to the hospital, and his arm was amputated.

They were a couple of the Kalor caste, married with great pomp about six years ago. Recently it was discovered that the husband was the uncle of his wife. This is anathema to the Hindu; husband and wife dare not be related. A great



caste sabha (general conference) was held and both were summarily put out of caste. This was terrible for the ceremonies of reinstatement into caste are expensive. Some of the relatives of the man, not so closely related to his wife, surrounded the house and threatened to beat, if not to kill the offending wife. Her father heard of the trouble by a swift runner and at nine o'clock he came running to the bungalow, for he lives nearby in Boreed, with a relative. He begged stubbornly to be taken to the rescue of his daughter in my motor. They threw some rupees at my feet so that I could not refuse. We drove post haste to the village, about eight miles away, marched in past the enraged relatives, called the woman, and took her away with us in the car. It was the prestige of the foreign missionary they wanted more than the motor car I discovered. Had they gone alone, they said afterwards, there would have been a terrible fight.

On March 9 Bro. Dick from Saharsa preached at our church. He spoke on the three-fold theme, Christ named his disciples, servants, friends, brothers.

A class of twelve children is being instructed for baptism.

### Balodgahan

We are planning to have sunrise meetings in the Church every morning during Passion Week. We are beginning the week with a special children's service on Palm Sunday.

Our Sunday Schools have recently been reorganized and completely graded and the enrollment now totals 501 with a staff of 51 departmental officers and teachers. There are well attended departmental teachers' meetings. It is interesting to find that the efforts in the Sunday Schools are also helping to create a better Church attendance.

### Mahodi

Our touring this year was very much interrupted. So far we have gotten in about six weeks of it, and we have sold over twelve hundred books and scripture portions. We noticed that this year people wanted scripture portions in spite of the higher price. Last year they preferred the cheaper books.

In the village of Chikhli we had our meeting as usual, and as we were singing "Yishu Masih, mero prana Bachaya" we noticed that a Hindu farmer in the group sat there looking on the ground and singing the song with us. After the meeting we had a conversation with him and found that because of a Christian farmer having lived in the village some years past, he was deeply under conviction. The Holy Spirit works in these people's hearts. Do not lose courage in praying for their conversion. We have found many instances on our tours where we could see the effects of the Word on these lean starving souls.

We are so busy these days that we would personally prefer not to take any hot season leave, but we are urged to do so and it is probably for the best to go.

### Dhamtari

Two weeks ago three of the boys had chicken pox, and now there are four more boys "suffering" with it. I am inclined to think that there is perhaps as much pleasure to them in being excused from school as there is discomfort in the malady.

We have been very busy since coming to Dhamtari because of changes being made in the Primary School in our charge, and also in the Orphanage. The girls are being transferred to the Boys' School, and that means much planning for teachers, and classes. There are at present five teachers in the boys' school and five in the girls'. For the new year we will have seven teachers in the combined school, and the enrollment will probably be about 165. The headmaster will also have the work of the Boys' orphanage according to our present plans. We are expecting to put strong emphasis on Bible and Christian life teaching. We want to have the school be a strong evangelistic and character building agency. May the power of God be manifest in the lives and teaching of the teachers.

Next Sunday we are planning to observe communion in the Sundarganj congregation. Most of the members have expressed readiness to commemorate the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus Christ.



## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

(The following is a copy from the 1904 Annual Report showing who were the missionaries then and what they were doing.)

Year of Arrival	Names	Work
1900	Jacob Burkhard, Sec'y of Mission	Sunderganj Station Bookkeeping Colportage
1900	Mary Y. Burkhard	
1901	M. C. Lapp, Treas. of Mission	Rudri Station Medical Leper Asylum
1901	Sarah H. Lapp	
1899	J. A. Ressler, Supt. of Mission	Schools Deaf-mutes and Blind
1903	Lina Z. Ressler	

### Under Appointment

Lydia E. Schertz, Trousdale, Kansas } ( Arrived Jan., 1905 )  
Anna Stalter, Lima, Ohio }

It will be seen that at that time there were only six missionaries on the field and two arrived shortly. At the present time there are 26 on the field, and eight are on furlough. Then there were two stations; now there are eight with ten bungalows.

In the intervening years how many prayers have been offered for the work here, how much sacrifice has been endured by the church at home and the workers here, how many lives have been benefited, how many souls have been saved. These things are real cause for rejoicing. The work has been very much worth while. May the Lord continue to help us to keep faithful and true to Him, and may He continue to prosper His work here.

# INDIA MISSION NEWS.

Vol. IX. § Dhamtari, C.P., India, May, 1930. § No. 5.

## GENERAL NEWS.

March 18th—It was decided by the Managing Committee today that the Baby Home should be moved from Balodgahan to Dhamtari July 1st, and that Sister Wenger, who has charge of it should also move there. Dr. Esch is building quarters for the Home during this hot season.

April 5th—Sisters Hartzler and Kanagy returned from their short vacation which they spent visiting various Missions and institutions to observe their methods and work.

April 7th—Brother Beare left this morning for Darjeeling to join his family. On the way he will stop at the Brethren in Christ Mission at Saharsa for a short stay.

April 8th—The pastors of the various congregations met today in Dhamtari to work out a uniform method of keeping records of the members of the church. There has been considerable confusion due to the fact that children leave their home congregations and go to Balodgahan or Dhamtari or other places to school, and there has been no uniformity in the way of keeping records of their membership. Sometimes they are counted twice and sometimes not at all.

April 14th—During the past month we have been having unusual hot season weather. We had several heavy showers of rain which made the grass grow, and in many places the ground took on a green hue. It also cooled the air so that it often seemed more like the cold season than the hot season. This is quite unusual. Some people say that it is likely to be the forerunner of famine conditions, and others say that it will mean early rains. We pray that it may not result in famine.

April 15th—The Kniss and Hostetler families left today for Darjeeling. (April 21st) On the way Brother Beare joined

them and all arrived April 17th. The weather up here has been cool and damp thus far. It is quite a change to come up from the plains although there has been considerable cool weather there also.

On March 18th the box from Pennsylvania containing food and clothing was unpacked in Dhamtari. The first part of April the boxes of fruit from Oregon and Idaho were received. And some time previous to this a box of fruit from Brother Swartzendruber, Sister Beare's father, was also received and distributed. These fruits and cloth goods were especially good this year and it is impossible to express our appreciation and thanks for these bountiful gifts.

At the beginning of April the Indian Church raised money to add to that contributed by the home Church for the relief of Russian Mennonites. The condition of those unfortunate people impressed the Indians very much and they gave very liberally. Almost Rs. 600 was given by the Church. We are greatly pleased by this real service on the part of our brethren and sisters here.

### ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE.

Our annual conference was held April 1st in the Sundar-ganj Church. All but three of the Conference members and delegates were present, but other church members present were few due to the fact that it was so late in the season probably, and also many of the missionary mothers had gone to the hills already. The spirit throughout the Conference was good. Brother Esch preached the Conference sermon. His theme was "By the power of God" taken from II Cor. 6:7.

After the sermon the roll was called and it was answered by testimonies from nearly all the members and delegates. After this the complete constitution of the Conference was read by the secretary. Reports by the various standing and special committees and by the delegates to other meetings of the church at home were given.

Then the questions before the Conference were taken up. Some were introduced by Indian brethren and some by missionaries. On all of them there was open discussion after which motions were passed relative to the questions.

One of the most encouraging decisions arrived at was that each congregation should take steps to open one or more home mission stations under its own management. This seems to us to have great possibilities of going forward and creating a greater mission spirit among the Indians. Let us all pray that the Church here may move forward in this direction and found many soul saving mission stations and care for them by providing workers and means. It is when Christians become filled with the missionary spirit that they grow in power and grace, and the Church in turn grows. May our Church here in India grow in spirituality and numbers so that His Name may be glorified.

The officers of the Conference were:

Moderator	...	...	J. N. Kauffman.
Assistant Moderator	...	...	L. A. Kniss.
Secretary	...	...	Sukhlal (Balodgahan).

### Balodgahan.

The annual examinations in the Girls' School were held last month. Twenty-three girls passed from the Middle School. Sixteen were transferred to the Industrial School at Ghatula. Most of those who passed out of the Middle School will be retained here another year to take a special Bible course that is being opened for such girls from July 1st of this year.

MARY M. GOOD.

Cattle plague has been very bad in Balodgahan. Elisha, one of our Christians, lost ten or twelve buffaloes, and we lost two from the disease.

One of our large tanks near the road serves as a rest station for cartmen from Kanker and Baster States. We are building a small mud house there for the travelers, and expect to put an evangelist there to work with them.

A seven foot Asoria, a very poisonous snake, was recently shot a short distance from the bungalow.

G. H. BEARE.

**Mohadi.**

At present the missionaries of the station are in Darjeeling for the hot season. The work is in the hands of the Indian brethren there, and Brother Vogt of Ghatula is appointed to partly oversee the work from his station.

The last fragments of material for our new church building are being gathered. The work of construction is to be begun in the rainy season.

Lately a boy confessed his bad conduct and life of the past and accepted Christ, his Savior. Another small group of three from a nearby village are about ready seemingly to confess their Savior, but are still being held by a degree of social pressure. We have hopes of their coming soon. Pray for victory for them.

L. A. KNISS.

**Dhamtari.**

There are a number of boys in the Orphanage who have been studying in the Dhamtari Municipal Hindi Middle School. Now that school has been closed and there is no Hindi school where they can continue their studies. Our own Middle School is English. So we have been trying to make arrangements to send some of them away to learn trades like tailoring, shoemaking, etc. Some boys have parents living and will go back to them. It is quite a problem to take care of such boys in the right way so that they will be prepared to make a living and settle down in life as Christians.

The boys usually get goat meat to eat once a week. When the Church was giving money for the relief of Russian Mennonites several weeks ago, the boys decided to do without their meat for the period of a month and give the money instead to relief work.

The Sundarganj Church has decided to take charge of the evangelistic and school work in the village of Jodhpur just out of Dhamtari. A school is already being conducted there by the Mission for evangelistic purposes. This is the village in which the people have expressed a desire to learn about Christianity. A committee has been appointed from the Congregation to look after the work. This is a golden opportunity which we dare not allow to pass by. Will you not pray with us that this may mean the ingathering of many souls for Christ.

**Locations of Missionaries During the Hot Season.**

*April—June, 1930.*

**ON THE PLAINS.**

R. R. Smucker...	...Dondi and Dhamtari.
P. A. Friesen ...	...Sankra.
Sarah Lapp ...	...Balodgahan.
E. E. Miller ...	...Balodgahan.
J. D. & Minnie Graber ...	...Shantipur.
Dr. C. D. Esch...	...Medical Station.
Ada Hartzler ...	...Medical Station.
M. C. Vogt & family	...Ghatula.

**IN THE HILLS.****Landaar.**

J. N. Kauffman and family.  
 Dr. Florence Friesen and children.  
 Alma Smucker and children.  
 Mina Esch and children.  
 Mary Holsopple.

**Darjeeling.**

Ruth Miller and children.  
 G. H. Beare and family.  
 L. A. Kniss and family.  
 S. J. Hostetler and family.

**Kashmir.**

Mary Wenger.  
 Mary Good.

In addition to their own work Brother Miller and Sister Lapp have charge of the work of Brother and Sister Beare, Brother Graber has charge of the work of Brother and Sister Kauffman and Brother and Sister Hostetler, and Brother Vogt has charge of the work of Brother and Sister Kniss.



# INDIA MISSION NEWS.

Vol. IX. § Dhamtari, C.P., India, June, 1930. § No. 6.

## GENERAL NEWS.

According to the newspapers there is a great deal of unrest continuing throughout India. There are mobs, riots, assaults, reports, and organized breaking of the laws to win ascendancy over the present government. Just today, May 20, the paper reported the arrest of 400 "Volunteers". A "Volunteer" is one who joins the ranks of the "Congress" party for the purpose of helping to carry out their policies. Prominent among their policies are the breaking of the "salt laws", boycott of dealers of English and other foreign cloth goods, and the boycott of the government by vacating positions. Many riots have followed, many people have been killed, many hurt, and much property has been destroyed. The aim of the "Congress" is said to be the complete political independence of India.

Nothing serious has yet occurred in the vicinity of our Mission, but in some Missions there has been trouble. May we pray that the people of India might come to accept Christ, the Savior, and so obtain true liberty, freedom from sin and Satan, and also pray for the government that the Lord's will might be accomplished in this country.

A Correction—In the list of missionaries and their locations for the hot season given in the May issue Sister Minnie Kanagy's name was erroneously omitted. She is located at Jhatula, her regular station.

May 17—Those of our Mission who are in Darjeeling took our dinner out into the woods today. We had an enjoyable time, but it was cut short by an impending shower.

May 18—The Beare family just got out of quarantine for measles on this date. Soon after Bro. Beare came up on

April 17, Evelyn became sick with the malady, and just when they were able to be out again, Ailene became sick. And so they have had to stay away from public meetings practically four weeks. Last year Ailene celebrated her birthday with measles, and this year she did the same. There has been an epidemic in the school here for some time.

### Shantipur.

Recently one of our leper men whose mind had become affected by the disease committed suicide by jumping into a forty foot well at some time during the night.

Loknath, whose left hand was amputated about a year ago is now suffering from severe infection in his right hand, and it appears that he may lose that hand also. Some of our inmates are certainly wrecked in body, but we thank God that many of them have been made whole in Spirit.

One of the most discomforting features of leprosy is caused by what is known as "anhydrosis". The sweat glands over certain areas of the skin cease to function. This makes it exceedingly difficult for those patients to resist the great heat of the Indian hot season. They describe these anhydrous patches of skin as feeling extremely hot and dry.

On the 13th of April nine untainted and non-leper children and five lepers were baptized and on Good Friday we observed Communion. These meetings were a source of special blessing to all of us.

Among those baptized was Ganpat. We had felt the call of Christ very clearly for some time, but was unwilling to take the final step for fear of being ostracized by his family members in his home village. Through a personal talk which I had with him on the day of baptism he finally decided that it is better to obey God than man, and his smile shows that he is happy over that victory won.

After the baptismal services a poor old leper man with loathsome sores on hands and feet, mostly deaf, and not able to speak above a whisper because of leprosy in his throat began to wheeze and place both hands on his head as I approached. I wondered what he might mean and when I listen-

ed closely I found he was asking for baptism. The hands on his head were to indicate hands placed on the applicant's head in the administration of the rite. Being deaf and scarcely able to get about he can have but meagre notions of what it means to be a Christian. But being deaf he has had a better opportunity than others to see Christianity in action and that is likely what has impressed him. That kind of reaching always does. His sores are carefully washed and oandaged daily by Christian inmates, and he wants to get that same spirit in his own life.

The wells about the Home have been going dry; so the able-bodied men have been busy digging them deeper. Water is lower in the wells this year than it has been for several years. There has been no soaking rain since the close of the monsoons last September.

Brother David, our caretaker, whose wife died in December, 1928, was recently engaged to be married again. The wedding is to take place on the 30th of May. David has served in our Leper Home for ten years.

Recently it was reported that a tigress with two cubs was lying in the jungle about two miles from here. We went to see and found the place where she had been making her bed all day. We stalked cautiously through the tall grass and had the thrill of seeing one of the cubs, not yet able to run properly, dart out of hiding right at our feet, and make for cover as best he could. The mother must have been observing us from hiding, but we could not see her. We decided this was enough of a thrill for one evening, and came back.

J. D. Graber.

### Balodgahan.

The first week of May one of the children of the Baby's Home died. It is very difficult to keep the babies well during the hot season and especially those who were not very strong in the beginning of the hot weather find it a struggle to live through it.

It has been quite hot the last few weeks. The cloudy weather makes it very oppressive. The people say that cloudy weather indicates that the rains will come early.

The Boarding girls are repairing their mud walls these days. If you should visit their home now you would see that half of the building is unroofed. The girls did most of the work of removing the tiles themselves. The West Bungalow near by is also without a roof. We hope that the new roofs will be ready by the time the rains break.

About the middle of May a number of the girls had their tonsils removed. They are all getting along nicely.

### Dondi

Dondi is semi-vacant as far as a missionary is concerned for the last three weeks of the month of May. I have taken advantage of an opportunity to spend some weeks in at the Dhamtari hospital working beside the doctor there or rather observing. I am picking up a lot of practical knowledge that will help us much in our work at Dondi.

A bright young man of about twenty-two has said he wants to be a follower of Christ. He had quite a struggle before he was ready to take Him as his Savior. His wife, mother, mother-in-law, and older brother are all strongly against his leaving the old religion. We are praying that his wife at least will feel conviction in her heart, and accept Christ along with her husband. He will be instructed for some time before baptism. He is an earnest seeker, and seems to feel the conviction power of the Holy Spirit very keenly. I told him that God could also convict his wife that she too will yield. At the present time she gets angry whenever he mentions anything about it to her. That is a very good sign. She too is feeling the power of the Spirit's convicting her of sin. She does not want to yield; hence she gets angry.

Another high caste Brahmin is much interested, and has taken a New Testament and promised to read it faithfully, and then come to talk it over. His heart had been softened by death in his immediate family.

The building work is coming along fine. The well is at last in, and finished. It caved in twice and caused a lot of extra expense. We are thankful that no lives were lost. It is an open well, forty-five feet deep.

# INDIA MISSION NEWS.

Vol. IX. § Dhamtari, C. P., India, July, 1930. § No. 7.

## General News.

The Mission News is later than usual this month because the time of publishing came just at the time when the missionaries in the hills were getting ready to leave for the plains. Hence it would have been difficult to get it ready. But the principal reason for its delay is that it was thought better to wait and include the news of the work at the time of the missionaries' arrival on the plains.

We came home on the following dates:

June 12 — Bro. and Sister Beare from Darjeeling.

June 20 — Bro. Kniss and family, Bro. Hostetler and family, from Darjeeling. Sister Smucker and Arthur from Landour. Bro. Smucker had gone to Calcutta to have some dental work done and met the missionaries there and came along back with them.

June 26 — Bro. Kaufman from Landour. Sister Kaufman will come the following week.

June 27 — Sisters Wenger and Good from Kashmir. Bro. and Sister Miller and Donald from Darjeeling. Bro. Miller had gone to Darjeeling for only a few days.

June 28 — Bro. and Sister Friesen and Grace and Paul from Landour. Bro. Friesen had gone to the hills for a few weeks at the end of the hot season.

Dr. Esch also went to Landour for several weeks of much needed rest, and they will return probably about the middle of July. The missionaries who have returned all seem to have gotten good rest and renewed inspiration for their work.



July 1 — This is the usual date of the opening of the schools for the new year. Pupils who have completed the four years primary course in the primary schools of the various stations, are now transferred. The boys go to Dhamtari and the girls to Balodgahan where they continue their work in the fifth class or the first class of the Middle School.

The Dhamtari Primary School opened last week on the 27th of June. As has been previously stated, the boys and the girls are united into one school this year for the first time.

July 2 — Yesterday Motilal Nehru, President of the Indian National Congress, was reported to have been arrested and so today the people in Dhamtari are observing hartal (closing of all business) in honor of him. All shops are closed and no business can be transacted.

July 3 — On this date the Managing Committee was scheduled to meet in Balodgahan at the West Bungalow. A number of the members could not be present because of high water so the meeting was postponed.

### Dhamtari.

The Mission High School opened on the first of July with an enrollment of 180 boys. Other boys are applying for admission. The recruits from the village primary schools are not so large on account of the fact that boys have been used to getting to go to school without paying fees, while here they are required to pay fees.

On account of the over crowded condition of the English School dormitory, twenty Christian boys of the first English class were transferred to the Boys Orphanage from where they will attend English School.

During the missionary pastor's absence during the hot season Brother Isa Bakhsh looked after the church at Sundar-ganj. He did his work very acceptably.

*J. N. Kaufman.*

### Boys Orphanage.

Next week I expect to take three boys to Mhow to learn tailoring in a school there, and three others to Benares to a motor school. Three have work with local tailors and several have gone home and are now doing coolie work. During the hot season four ran off. This is the time of year when work is scarce and, being idle they become restless and dissatisfied.

*S. J. Hosteller.*

### Balodgahan.

In line with the decision of the Mission at its last annual meeting a special Bible Class has been opened for girls. The mission requires all girls to take this special year's work in Bible before going on for Normal or Nurses training. 18 girls are enrolled. There are courses in—The Gospels, Old Testament, Bible Geography, Method in Religious Education, and Social Hygiene. There is also practical work for all the girls in connection with the course. Sister Good, Brother and Sister Miller, Brother Suklal, and Brother Obed are the instructors.

During the last few days we had 10½ inches of rain. Tanks that usually fill up gradually throughout the rainy season were filled to overflowing. In many places water was flowing over the highway and bridges were washed out. There was much damage to houses and there is danger that much of the rice already sown will rot in the ground.

Arrangements have been made for a special men's meeting at the old church every Sunday afternoon. It is hoped this meeting will prove a source of great blessing to the laymen of our church. Brother Beare has been appointed leader for the coming six months.

The Babies' Home is in the process of being moved to the Medical Station in Dhamtari. We shall miss Sister Wenger's help in the station, both in the medical and Sunday School work but we rejoice with her in having better living accommodations for the babies.

*The Balodgahan Workers.*

### Ghatula.

"Sagni fell into the well". It was about time for our evening meal when this news came to us about one of our faithful, Christian women who had gone to draw water. But she did not stay in long, but was soon safely carrying her water home. While drawing up the drum of water she lost her balance, and holding on to the chain, slid down into the well, striking her back against the side. But on the way down she managed to catch herself on the chain of the second drum and remained hanging over the thirty or so feet of water below, until the women with her were able to collect themselves enough to pull her out. Sagni helps us each day in the house and has become very dear to us all.

Last week news came from a nearby village that a twelve year old girl had been bitten in the hand by a snake. After trying all their home remedies and the advice of the whole village, the girl had become unconscious, and they had come running to us for help. Bro. Vogt was unable to go because of a sore foot but Deacon Mukut at once took the proper medicine and hurried over only to find that the girl had died.

Sunday morning, June 15, we were made happy to see eight girls from the Industrial School taken into fellowship with our congregation by water baptism. They have promised to read their Bibles daily. We hope to see them grow into strong and useful Christian women.

After a month of hot season vacation the Bible women and three of the Primary Schools began their work again. The other Primary school is taking its vacation now during the rice sowing season so that the children can help at home. The men evangelists are also taking their vacation now as three of them have fields of their own to care for.

*Ghatula Missionaries.*

# INDIA MISSION NEWS.

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Vol. IX. § Dhamtari, C. P., India, August, 1930. § No. 8.

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## GENERAL NEWS.

We appreciate the many prayers that are ascending to God in behalf of the work here in India in response to the requests that appear in these and other columns from time to time. We hope that there will be an increasing number of people who will pray for some of the special needs noted and also for the things that are not specifically asked for. These requests come from definite needs and concrete problems that we have to face here. They are not inserted merely as suitable conclusions to contributions to periodicals but as sincere requests. Will you not join us in prayer for a greater manifestation of God's power in us and in our work.

The Mission has decided to give only one meal a day in the school kitchens this year instead of two as has been the practice. We are trying to reduce the dependence of the people on the Mission. There are still many worthy poor who need help, but we hope the number may diminish.

July 18—Dr. and Sister Esch and Clara came back from Landour. The missionaries are now all on the plains again and at work.

July 24—The Educational and Medical Committees met today at the North Sundarganj and Hospital bungalows respectively.

### Balodgahan.

The hot weather is over and the rains are here: everything is green and fresh and the air is cool, which puts new life and courage into us.

Four Bible women and one missionary regularly go out to the villages to bring the gospel to the people here. God's word is given to them, but it makes our hearts sad when they

hear so often, and yet, like the rich young ruler, turn away because they are afraid to leave caste and friends.

Will all who are interested in lost souls pray that all hindrances may be removed and that many people in darkness may accept Christ as their Savior. *Sarah Lapp.*

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This last week Bro. Elisha and his family experienced sadness in their home when their youngest daughter Minnie, passed away. She was eleven years old. She was sick only a very short time with dysentery and fever. Her death was not expected and was a shock to her parents. They now have seven children living and seven children who have passed beyond. We remember the family in their sorrow and pray that it may be the means of bringing them all nearer to Christ.

There are now 181 girls in the Boarding. They are all busy with their school work and looking after their own houses. At present they are all well, with the exception of a few, who have rainy season sores.

On July 16th Sarga, one of the Boarding girls, was married to Kequ, who now lives in Mahodi. We hope that as a result of the teaching which they both received while they were in our institutions they will establish a real Christian home and be worth much in the community to which they have gone.

Five girls went to Bilaspur this year for further training: one for nurse's training, and four for teacher's training.

On July 20th Bro. and Sister Friesen were here with the Balodgahan Congregation. Bro. Friesen had charge of the morning service, at which time a Hindu man from the village was baptized. Pray for him that he may remain true when he meets the temptations that are sure to come to him.

*Ruth Miller.*

### Mohadi.

—••—  
The church building, which we had planned to build this rainy season, is still not being built, because of the brick making and hauling having been stopped since the hot season. The villages around us are nearly all the property of one land owner, and his agent is not at all well disposed toward

the Mission. He stopped the brick making, the hauling, and even tries to have all the villagers boycott us in not giving us any help or doing any work for us. He has succeeded in some cases. He has been found to be dishonest, is a very rough appearing man, and uses all his powers in frightening the people, who are our neighbors, into a boycott. We are having special prayer meetings for him that God might mellow his heart and that he might see the light of Christ before it is too late. Pray with us.

All in the station are well at this time. Our people are taking a strong interest in their spiritual welfare. The longer we live among these people the more we become attached to them, and burdened for them in spite of all the weaknesses and sins that are still very evident among them. We beg our friends to join us in special prayer for a genuine revival that will reach also to the Hindus and the Mohammedans about us.

*L. A. Kniss.*

### Ghatula.

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The rice in the Industrial School's fields is all up and looking thrifty. Now when there is no work in the fields for the girls they work in their gardens. In the afternoon they go to school where they are taught Bible, sewing, and several elementary courses.

The Swaraj (self-rule) volunteers are closing some of the Government schools in the Sihawa district. The volunteers persuade the parents not to send their children. So far the movement has not affected our mission schools seriously, but we do not know what the future holds in store. We are earnestly praying that our schools may not be closed.

*M. C. Vogt.*

### Sankra.

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On July 19th all the widows except three were transferred to Balodgahan. These three preferred to stay in Sankra even if they do not get Mission support.

Five of our fourth class pass boys went in to Dhamtari to attend school there and ten girls went to Balodgahan. All



this has made our Sunday School and Church attendance seem very much smaller. We miss them.

July 18th Dr. John Hamilton, an Indian Christian, arrived with his family. He has come to help us with the Medical and Evangelistic work. We are very favorably impressed with his interest in spiritual matters and hope and pray that he may do very well in this station.

The roadside work has been hindered very much this month by the weather. The first Wednesday of the month we were having such heavy rain that the streams were impassable. The second week we started out as usual, but had to turn back two and four miles from our largest crowds. We were told the next day that many people waited for us all day and finally went away disappointed. The third week we went prepared to make the rest of the journey on bicycles if necessary. We were obliged to use them the last part of the journey, and had a small crowd as they all knew that the bridges were not repaired. This week many were kept away on account of rain, but we were glad to meet the fifty-nine who did come, and they seemed glad to meet us. We ask an interest in your prayers in behalf of this work.

A Primary school has been opened near our Tengna outstation. Sixty-eight pupils have been enrolled this first month and others are expected. The parents and their children are very happy and are taking a keen interest in it. They, too, need your prayers that they may learn to know Jesus as they learn to read.

*Florence Friesen.*

### Shantipur.

Two of our untainted Leper boys, Solomon and Enos, have completed the Primary school course and are now being initiated into the farming industry. Despite the antique methods followed with which we are often prone to be disgusted one does find joy in hearing Enos's cheery whistle and song as he carries grain to feed the hungry buffaloes or cuts grass with his tiny sickle to feed the calves. We wish that more such opportunities to learn farming could be given to boys of our Christian communities.

Bhukaria died a few days ago, alone and forsaken. He never accepted Christ, apparently holding caste and Hinduism too dear. But when he was on his deathbed, his son came to see him, the son merely looked in at the door and went away again. Caste ceremony and Hinduism held so dear by the father prevented the son from showing even as much natural affection as is common to beasts. Only Christ can break the fetters!

In our mid-weekly prayer meeting we have been studying incidents from the early Church trying especially to see the secret of the power and testimony of the early Church in the Holy Spirit. We find the study enjoyable and practical.

Tijiya Bai, a former untainted girl at Shantipur, and now headmistress of our Primary School, is soon to be married to Prem Lal. The engagement ceremony was held on July 15th in Dhamtari at Deacon Peter's house. Tijiya is Peter's sister.

And still another snake story—A Cobra got into the chicken house of Sukhlal, a leper, one night. In the morning she was discovered and I was called with my gun. In short order the gun did its work and the snake was pulled out for exhibition. She had four distinct lumps in her body. These were cut open in turn and four whole chicken eggs, unbroken in the process, were extracted. Besides swallowing these four eggs she had killed two chickens. She had also tried to swallow these, but found them a bit beyond her capacity. The cobra was a beautiful specimen and her skin has been sent to the tanners.

*J. D. Graber.*

### Dhamtari.

We have started weekly Bible study classes in the Boys' Orphanage. We had the first one this week on July 23. We have three classes. The first consists of the first, second, and third class boys, the second of the fourth and fifth class boys, and the other of boys who are working. Sister Hostetler has the smallest ones and is teaching them Bible stories, beginning with Exodus, by the aid of chart pictures from the home church. Bro. Michael has the middle group. He is the

"house father" of the Boarding. I have the working boys. We are studying the teachings of Jesus, beginning with the sermon on the mount. We are having very interesting studies thus far and we are praying that the Holy Spirit may make these lessons count in the lives of the boys by giving them a better knowledge of the requirements of Christ, a sincere hungering of the Word, and a real acceptance of Christ and his indwelling. Incidentally it is also good practice for our Hindi which is still nothing to boast of.

We have 69 boys in the Boarding here now, and thirteen are away learning trades. Two have recently gotten work in missionaries' kitchens, but are still staying in the Boarding. We hope to find permanent jobs for more soon. It is interesting and enjoyable to get really acquainted with the boys and seek to help them spiritually and materially.

*S. Jay Hostetler.*

The opening enrollment in the English School as reported last month was 180. There has been a steady increase in the number of students so that the present enrollment is 214, the highest in the history of the school. This in spite of the fact that the Municipal School, which was set up as a rival school last year and is located just a hundred yards from the Mission School, has been using propaganda designed to lure pupils away from our school. Our present eighth class which is preparing to enter High School has an enrollment of thirty-one.

*J. N. Kaufman.*

# INDIA MISSION NEWS.

Vol. IX. § Dhamtari, C. P., India, September, 1930. § No. 9.

## GENERAL NEWS.

Aug. 1—Sister Wenger got her new Ford car today.

Aug. 17—Communion services were observed today in the Sunderganj Church. Nearly all of the members were present and took communion. Several people came from a considerable distance to be present. Bro. Mulchand rode in all the way from Kanker, forty miles, on his bicycle on Saturday and home again Sunday afternoon in order to be present.

Aug. 19—Sister Lapp left today for several days visit to the Pendra Road Sanitarium for tuberculosis. She went to see several patients from our mission. Bro. Miller also left for Calcutta on business.

Aug. 22—Today was a big day in Dhamtari. The Nationalists had announced that they are going to the Government jungle today to graze cattle and to cut grass there in defiance to the law which prohibits it. As a result, according to the reports brought in from time to time, Government officers came to Dhamtari from Raipur early in the morning and arrested the two leaders. The people quickly appointed a new leader and later in the day a big procession marched out to the jungle. Later reports are that four more men have been arrested.

Aug. 23—Dr. Esch and family went to Mohadi today to conduct communion services there. They intended to go out from Chalmuria to Mohadi on a little railroad "pushcar". It is similar to a handcar but is pushed by coolies.

Aug. 27—A ministerial meeting is scheduled for the forenoon of this date. In the afternoon the Publicity Committee is to meet.

Aug. 28—There is to be a meeting of the Managing Committee in Balodgahan on this date. Appointments for the ensuing year are to be considered then, and tentative appointments will probably be made.

In the August issue it was stated that the missionaries are all on the plains again. This was a simple error in writing for which we are sorry. Sister Holsopple is still in Landour in Language School. She expects to take the oral examinations there in September. They follow the closing of the school.

### Ghatula.

The Swaraj volunteers have been very active in Kaspur. During the last few days the attendance in the Primary School has dwindled down to almost nothing. The people in the Kaspur area are very ignorant and easily influenced by propaganda.

The farmers are getting very much concerned about their rice crop. We have not had any rain for about twenty days. Some of the rice fields are drying up. People are saying that in 1899, the year of the great famine, the rains acted in this way. All the Christians are earnestly praying that God may send rain before it is too late. The Hindu people are repairing their temples and observing special fasts to appease their gods, which are not gods.

Just after we started to eat breakfast on Friday, August, 8th, Bro. Esch came into sight. We immediately forgot all about breakfast in our eagerness to greet him. He is the first missionary who has come to Ghatula since the first part of June. Bro. Esch came part of the forty-one miles from Dhamtari on a bicycle and the last part he covered in Bro. Lapp's trailer with the tonga oxen as motive power. Saturday evening and Sunday morning we enjoyed two stirring messages from Dr. Esch. After the message on Sunday morning 112 people partook of communion. We are sorry to say that two people were not prepared to partake of communion. Several sisters were hindered from coming because of bad roads and distance.

Several days ago a Forest Ranger (government official who has charge of a tract of jungle) dropped in for a little business. After the business was disposed of, the course of conversation was turned along spiritual lines. He said, "I have a Bible and study it. Sometimes I feel as if I ought to be a Christian and sometimes I don't want to be one." On

further questioning it was found that one reason for his not becoming a Christian is the fear of his relatives. We are earnestly praying for his salvation.

### Medical Station.

Attendance at the hospital has been large in spite of the rain and bad roads. Other places in the town close up frequently and go on strike, but the hospital never does. We are glad for the friendly spirit that exists in and around the town towards the hospital work in spite of the unrest and opposition there may be along other lines.

The Malguzar of Kurud a few weeks ago brought his son who had been suffering severely for years with a stone in the urethra. He had come to the hospital several years ago and was told that an operation was necessary. He was afraid of the word "operation" and went off home to suffer some years more till his suffering got unbearable and he was very weak. So he came again ready for anything. A stone nearly as large as a goose egg was removed with some difficulty. However recovery seems to be progressing in spite of his weak condition. Many with cases of a similar nature come continually suffering untold agony because of neglect.

This is the time of year when stilt walking and tree climbing are the order of sport; so we as usual have our share of broken limbs to set.

C. D. ESCH.

### Shantipur.

We recently admitted a young man into the leper asylum from the River Brethren Mission in Bihar. He is a well trained school master and left a wife and small child at home. He is most anxious to take any and all treatment so that he may soon become well and return to his family and work. We are glad that his outlook, even though dark enough, need not be so hopeless as it would have been only ten years ago.

The Christian workers at Seodi and Maradeo will spend the last two weeks of September at Shantipur for special study in the courses assigned by the Evangelistic Committee. It is also planned that during that time preaching be done in the nearby villages, and special meetings will be held with the leper congregation.



August 24th is the date set for preparatory services and a week later communion at both Shantipur and Maradeo. At Shantipur we have Sunday School in the morning and Church services in the afternoon while at Maradeo Sunday School and Church are both held in the morning. This makes possible our having these special services at both places on the same date.

J. D. GRABER.

#### Sankra.

We have noticed this last month that the attendance in our services is better than it was for some time. We are glad for this as many of our members can receive spiritual food only through the spoken word.

This month the clinic work has been going better. The weather has not been so against us and the people have had more time to attend as field work was not so urgent. We appreciate this opportunity for service.

The political situation is rather tense around here just now; one of the anti-government leaders has been arrested. The people are, however, going on with their plans to break the jungle law very soon.

FLORENCE FRIESEN.

#### Balodgahan.

Some of the poor people of the Balodgahan Church are being employed to dig stones for building a wall around the church building. Through the cooperation of the Indian Church and the Mission it is hoped that the wall can be built before very long.

The girls reading in the special Bible class are taking a keen interest in their work. We are encouraged to see the eagerness of some of them to prepare themselves for the service of the Master among their own people. A number of them are very happy in assisting in teaching the Hindu children in the village Sunday School.

We have an attendance of ten in the school that has been opened in the village for Hindu girls. It is very difficult to get the consent of the Hindu parents to send their girls to school but we are thankful for this beginning.

MARY M. GOOD.

#### Dondi.

We are busy going to villages daily, when it does not rain, except Mondays, which have been set aside as definite hospital days when people can expect to find us at home. We walk from four to eight miles in the mornings. Sister Smucker goes to near-by villages. On Wednesday we find the men at home and have large crowds as they observe Wednesday around here as a holiday in honor of Gandhi.

Last Wednesday we found the men of two villages gathered at their "house of the goddess" of small pox. We had a meeting with them there. I sat on the porch of the idol house and talked from there. No one seemed to object. We walked nearly five miles and back again that forenoon. Then shortly after we had lain down to rest a bit, people started to come to visit us. It surely seemed to be visiting day. Before the afternoon was over, there were three hundred people here. I actually counted 286 at one time all grouped tightly on the verandah. "Some mob." We had two nice services with them. We had songs and reading and two messages. Then after the main group of men left, the women and Alma had a nice service. All in all it was a fine afternoon although we were all pretty well "wilted" by evening.

Due to the rains' not coming regularly the mosquitoes have increased by leaps and bounds; so there has been a tremendous amount of malaria. Several days were like a nightmare. We had one baby girl of two years here, who had a fever of 106 at the arm pit, or 107 at the mouth. We got the fever reduced and then after four hours it came on again. This time they would not let me give any medicine for forty-five minutes, and then not what I wanted to. I wanted to give a hypodermic at the last and they refused. They called in their quack doctor and he gave the child a large pill of various drugs. I told them that if they give their medicine, then we will withdraw ours, and that we are not responsible for the child's life or death. The father had faith in us and the mother in the Indian medicine. The mother won. The child died after fifteen minutes.

The devil has been hard at work with two families who are much interested in Jesus. The one family says they have to suffer a lot because they let us come and talk to them regularly. We are praying for them and working hard with them. Pray for them.

R. R. SMUCKER

(We are glad for the following contribution from Sister Holsopple)

### LANDOUR LANGUAGE SCHOOL.

On the 25th of April we Urdu and Hindi language students gathered in the Kellogg Memorial Church for the beginning of the school term. Before we could be arranged into classes it must be determined which ones were fit to be in the same classes, for we had had different attainments in our former study. An examination was given. The thing which the supervisors must have learned from those papers must have been wonderfully enlightening. As we now look back we feel that we have learned a great deal, although others might not be aware of this attainment.

We were put into our respective classes with our approximate equals. Not more than ten were in each class in order that each pupil might have sufficient attention and help. The school session was divided into four forty-five minute periods—one for conversation, one for grammar, one for parables and miracles, and one for reading. Sometimes we made the grave mistake of not referring to our pandit in the honorific form. But by his kindly suggesting it we formed the habit. Lately when we have been learning to tell two and even three miracles in one week, we look back with surprise at the first week in which we laboriously learned to tell the short parable of the Barren Fig Tree. The amusement of such mistakes as telling in the parable of the Good Samaritan that the man "ate the road" instead of "had compassion" and that he took the two coins for the lodging of the unfortunate man out of his tongue instead of his pocket make us more sure of avoiding those things in the future.

Special lectures are given once a week and oftener on some phase of Mission work. One which I wish to mention especially was given in connection with the Spiritual Life Conference held in Mussoorie. A native Christian who has had a wide education told us that learning the spoken language of a country is important, but the language, which all India understands is the language of love. Pray that we might have its fundamental rules and practices so deeply rooted in our lives that we might be clearly understood.

MARY HOLSOPPLE.

# INDIA MISSION NEWS.

Vol. IX. § Dhamtari. C. P., India, October, 1930. § No. 10.

## GENERAL NEWS

In most of the stations we have been having plenty of rain again the past few weeks after quite a long dry period. However much of the rice crop has been seriously damaged, especially on the higher land. We are expecting the end of the rains soon now.

Aug. 28—The Managing Committee met on this date in Balodgahan. Tentative plans were made for the work of the missionaries for the coming year.

Sept. 12—A meeting of the Educational Committee was held in Dhamtari. Plans were discussed for the alteration of the two Primary school buildings in Dhamtari to accommodate the boys' and girls' Primary and the Middle schools respectively, according to the re-arrangement planned in connection with the Academy.

Sept. 17—This was the long dreaded day of the Hindi oral examination. There were four candidates from other missions and two of our Mission here for the second year, and four of our Mission for the third year examinations. All passed to the immense relief of the same "all". Sister Holsopple had already passed her first year orals in Landour.

Sept. 18—The Publicity Committee met in Dhamtari today. Sister Graber had been appointed editor of the Annual Report earlier, and in this meeting plans were discussed for the work.

Sept. 19—Misses Oliver and Cain of the Pentecostal Mission of Raj Nandgaon came to Dhamtari to take the oral examination. Then the latter got sick with malaria and they have not been able to go back. She has been quite sick, and we hope she may recover rapidly.

### Mohadi.

Our series of special revival meetings are to close in two more days. This will conclude two weeks of meetings which all our members who could, attended regularly. The Spirit of God is in our midst. A number have expressed convictions,



and have purposed in their hearts to consecrate their lives more fully to the Master's work.

A Hindu man brought his eighteen month old boy to us for treatment. He had been sick for months, and after having tried all the quack concoctions of the villagers the boy's strength was about all gone. He looked almost like a corpse. We gave some tonics, cough mixture, oil, and anti-phlogistine which they administered once. After that they refused to take any more of our medicines saying that his cold was made worse by them. The boy died later of pneumonia. Cases like this are discouraging, but others make up for them.

LLOY A. KNISS.

#### Ghatula.

A short engagement service for Puniya and Ram Prasad took place this afternoon. They will be married on September 5th at Balodgahan. We are praying that they may be faithful and true witnesses for Christ in their new home.

The Swaraj (self-rule) volunteers are making it more difficult for the Lord's work in various ways. In the Kuspur school, out of an enrollment of fifty-five only four pupils were present the other day. The other schools have suffered less, but all have been disturbed to some extent. The Bible women have also experienced some difficulty in their village work.

MINNIE KANAGY.

#### Medical Station.

Sept. 12—A fine baby boy was born to Premsingh and Ramoti Bai, our evangelist and Bible woman.

Sept. 14—Sukham Bai, our nurse, went for a month's leave. We miss her very much, but she has done very faithful work and she needs rest and a change.

This seems to be a time of much sickness. There is much flu, cough, and colds, and some pneumonia and dysentery. Including the ward patients we treated about one hundred patients the other day, our highest number.

ADA N. HARTZLER.

#### Balodgahan.

We have had a great deal of sickness in Balodgahan the past few weeks. One little boy had malaria so badly that they thought he would not get well, but the Lord saw fit to spare him, and he is up again.

A few weeks ago a young girl was brought to the dispensary in a very much "run down" condition. She had jaundice, a bad cough, most likely was tubercular, and was scantily clad and hungry. She was the picture of misery. Medical aid and food were given her at once, and a place to sleep. But, alas, in less than fifteen hours after her arrival she died—died at our very door without Christ. When people come for medicine we always tell them of Jesus' love for them, but this one slipped away and we had no opportunity to tell her the story of Jesus for she was too sick to understand.

At present the evangelists and Bible women from Chikli, Seodi, Maradeo, Shantipur, and Balodgahan are here for special Bible study. Brother Graber and Brother Beare are teaching them. We are praying that this may be a time of Spiritual feasting for the workers and a time of real fellowship among workers and missionaries.

IDA BEARE.

In the last Mission News it was stated that I had gone to Pendra Road T. B. Sanatorium (a place about two hundred miles from here) to see several patients. One is Bro. Joel, husband of Janki, one of my Bible women. She went along with me to see her husband. He has been there one year now, and is not improving, but is rather getting weaker, and has been confined to his bed for several months. He is not able to speak above a whisper. He has four children. It is hard to have him away so far from the family, but he is very patient and resigned to the Lord's will.

The other is a young single sister, stepdaughter of Deacon Parsadi. She is also confined to her bed, but is patient and hopeful. Will you please remember them in your prayers.

SARAH LAPP.

#### Dondi.

We have live crowds and good meetings at the bungalow daily. We average one meeting daily, some days we have as many as three, and very occasionally we have four meetings in a day with groups of visitors. Because they come to us they are naturally much interested in the house and our things, as well as the message we have for them. We had to smile the other day. After we had a number of songs with a group, one man said, "Come on, let us go, it is getting late and looks rainy." One of his companions,



a man who had been here before, replied, "Why, we haven't heard anything yet," meaning that the message had not yet been given. "Jesus Christ and Him crucified" is our theme for every message.

We observed communion with our small flock Sunday, Sept. 14. Every member was present. Bro. and Sister Friesen were here with us. It was a most inspiring and spiritual feast.

The Rani Sahiba (Queen), Zemindary ruler, is in Dondi with her court. She is here to settle some quarrels that have been going on for some time. Sister Smucker and the women went to call on her. There has been an exchange of gifts and the Rani has been invited to visit us at the bungalow. She was informed that the Sahib would be "conspicuous by his absence". She observes "purdah" and so she could not allow herself to be seen by a strange man.

R. R. SMUCKER.

#### Dhamtari.

On several occasions we have been made happy by special indications of the working of the Spirit in the hearts of the boys in the Boarding. About two weeks ago I noticed for several days that bamboos had been disappearing from a latticework door. I was quite sure it must be some of the boys who were doing it, but of course I did not know. So one evening in their regular meeting we had a little discussion on their responsibility for helping to keep the institution clean and orderly. Then this sin of stealing those bamboos was pointed out, and they were reminded that God sees everything and that it is not good to keep hidden sin in the heart. Several of the boys and I lead in prayer that if the guilty ones were present that they might hide it no longer but confess their sin and be forgiven. After prayer they were invited to do so and to our joy three guilty boys raised their hands and confessed the sin. Afterward they prayed that the Lord might forgive them and they said they were willing to have the door repaired out of their pocket money. (They get a little money each week for soap, oil, ink, etc.) We were indeed glad for this demonstration of the power of the Spirit among the boys to convict of sin.

S. JAY HOSTETLER.

# INDIA MISSION NEWS.

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## GENERAL NEWS.

Sept. 30-Oct. 1—Mr. and Mrs. G. V. Parker and baby of the Pentecostal Mission at Raj Nandgaon, and Miss E. E. Ward, formerly of the same Mission visited in our Mission. Miss Ward gave several talks to the boys and girls of our Dhamtari and Balodgahan Primary Schools. It is interesting to know that Miss Ward's father baptized Jewarbi, our oldest Bible woman and mother of Brother Haidar, one of our deacons.

The Parkers came primarily to see Miss Cain of their Mission who is still not recovered from her attack of typhoid fever which began the middle of September when she came here for the Hindi oral examinations as reported earlier. At present, October 18, she is getting better.

Oct. 1—The Educational Committee met in Dhamtari and decided on some plans concerning the remodeling of the two primary school buildings in Dhamtari for the Middle and Primary Schools.

Oct. 3—The Managing Committee met at Shantipur and made the appointments for the work of the missionaries for the coming year. These will be found in detail in this number of the News.

Oct. 5-12—Brother Kniss held special meetings during this week at the Leper Asylum at Shantipur. Good meetings are reported. This was also Hindi examination week for Brother Kniss and so he was quite busy.

Oct. 8-10—The Hindi Written Examinations were held on these days in the North Sundarganj Bungalow with Brother Kaufman supervising. Four took the third year

examinations, two the second year, and one the first year. The results will not be known for several months. So we can keep on hoping for some time yet.

Oct. 10—Immediately after the Hindi examination Sister Holsopple left for a visit to the General Conference Mission. When she returns she will live with Brother Grabers, until she takes up the work of her appointment.

Oct. 9-11—Brother Friesen made a trip to Nagpur on some business.

The rains have ceased and we have had clear skies and bright sunshine for about three weeks already. It has been warm also for quite a long time. We are expecting the cool weather to set in any time. The nights have been getting cooler for a week or so already, but the real cool weather has not yet come. The Hindu festival, Diwali, will be celebrated next week. This is a celebration held every year after the rains are over. It is a cleaning up time. Mud walls are mended, houses are cleaned and repaired, tanks have the vegetation taken out, and on the principal day of the celebration hundreds of little lights are burned. The practical outcome of this celebration in annually cleaning and repairing is very good. It makes conditions more sanitary and healthful, and improves the general appearance of everything.

This year's Evangelists' and Bible Women's Normals are finished. They were held in the various stations as they were last year instead of being together in one meeting. The courses for this year were the books of Job, I John, James and Various Religions. These courses were read and studied throughout the year and then in the Normal they were more intensively treated daily in regular class work.

The week following Business Meeting a Christian Workers' Conference is to be held at Maradeo, for all Christian workers—evangelists, Bible women, teachers, compounders, etc. The purpose of the meeting is the deepening of spiritual life. There are about a dozen missionaries on the staff and all will live in bamboo and matting huts. The program

consists of talks and discussion groups on the subjects of the Holy Spirit, practical Christianity, books of the Bible, sermons, and recreation. All the time of each day is planned already and it is to be a time of real heart searching and helpfulness. We are daily praying that it may be a real help in quickening the spiritual life of our Church. Although it will probably be over before you read these lines, yet we ask you to pray that the fruit may come and that its influence may do much.

The program of our Annual Business Meeting has been made out. The meeting is to be held in Dhamtari, November 18-21. There will as usual be one or two other meetings held before and after the program. The first day's program is entirely of a devotional and inspirational nature, and the same kind of talks are interspersed among the business items on the other days. We are praying and expecting that it will be a time of spiritual refreshment and inspiration, and we trust that people at home are also praying that it may be the means of many and great blessings in our work here.

### MEDICAL STATION.

Brother Juel, who had been at the Sanatorium for Tuberculosis at Pendra Road, for several months, has returned. His case seems to be hopeless and at the best we do not think he will be with us for more than a few months. He is a patient sufferer and is resigned to the will of God. What a blessing it is in such a time to have hope in the Lord Jesus.

Miss Cain from Raj Nandgaon, who has been suffering from typhoid fever for the last four weeks is slowly recovering and will be out of bed in a few days we hope. Her blood examination revealed some malaria and this is the cause of her rather slow recovery. Malaria seems to be an ever present help to more trouble whenever anyone is sick in this country.

We have lost several cases of malignant malaria recently. There is much malaria of the worst type around this year and in spite of all the latest treatments with quinine injections, etc., some will not recover.

C. D. ESCH.

## APPOINTMENTS FOR 1931.

Following is a list of the appointments for 1931 as they were made by the Managing Committee on October 3.

Medical Station	Dr. C. D. Esch	Medical Director of the Hospital, Building work, Evangelistic work, Medical work at Leper Asylum, and Kurud Clinic.
	Mina Esch	... Evangelistic work and Bible teaching.
	Ada Hartzler	... Superintendent of Hospital, Medical accounts to Feb. 1, 1931.
	Mary Holsopple	... Superintendent of Hospital, Medical accounts from Feb. 1, 1931, and Language study.
	Mary Wenger	... Superintendent of Babies Home.
Sundarganj	J. N. Kaufman	English School and Hostels, Carpentry School, Old Men's Home, and Telephone line to Chitod.
	Elsie Kaufman	Bible women's work.
	S. J. and Ida Hostetler	Primary School, Kitchen, Boys' Orphanage, and Language Study.
	E. E. Miller	... Principal of Academy.
	Ruth Miller	... Instructor in Academy.
The Hostetler and Miller families are to live in the South Sundarganj Bungalow.		
Shantipur	J. D. and Minnie Graber	Leper Asylum, Evangelistic work at Maradeo and Seodi, and Telephone line from Chitod to Balodgahan.

Balodgahan Village Bungalow	G. D. Beare	... Village and farm, Evangelistic, work at Balodgahan and Chikli, and Medical work.
	Ida Beare	... Manager of Widows' Home, School Kitchen.
	Sarah Lapp	... Station Bible women.
Balodgahan West Bungalow	Mary Good	... Principal of Girls' School and Bible Class.
	G. J. Lapp	... Director of Religious Education, Village Schools of Balodgahan, Bhatgaon, Bagtarai, Gopalpuri, Maradeo, and Murrumsili, and Instructor in Bible Class.
	Fannie Lapp	... Manager Girls' Boarding and Instructor in Bible Class.
Sankra	R. R. and Alma Smucker	School, Medical and Evangelistic work at Sankra, Balod, Tengna, and Sonai Dongri, and Telephone line to Purur.
	P. A. and Florence Friesen	Evangelistic touring and clinic work till Feb. 1, 1931.
Dondi	A. C. and Eva Brunk	Evangelistic and Medical work.
Ghatula	M. C. and Esther Vogt	Evangelistic, Medical, and School work at Ghatula, Gattasilli, Likma, Kashpur, and Umergaon, and Girls' Industrial School after Feb. 1, 1931.
	Minnie Kanagy	Girls' Industrial School till Feb. 1, 1931.
Mohadi	L. A. and Elizabeth Kniss	Evangelistic and Medical work.



# INDIA MISSION NEWS.

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## Annual Business Meeting.

Our Business Meeting was held in the Kaufman bungalow in Dhamtari last week Nov. 18—21. The Sisters met on Monday preceding the general meeting. We met earlier this year because December is touring time and we wished to avoid interrupting it. Furthermore the children of the missionaries are not home from school yet and this lessens the work of providing meals. It was decided to have it at this time again next year.

We all ate together in the High School Manual Training shed. We removed the school benches and put two long tables into it and made a cooking and eating house out of it. It rained the first two days of our meeting and we had some trouble with the cooking, but we got everything into shelter, even though it was very leaky shelter.

The program for the first day of our meeting was entirely of a devotional nature. In the first session, Tuesday morning, Bro. Brunk gave us a message on "And ye shall receive power" and in the afternoon, Bro. Smucker discussed "The Victorious Life." After each of these talks we had a season of prayer that we might live the victorious life and that we might receive to a much greater extent the power of the Holy Spirit. It became apparent that day that all of us are burdened with the conviction that we are not succeeding nearly to the extent that God desires us to. We resolved to pray more earnestly for a genuine revival in our own selves and then in the whole Indian Church. We felt that God was in our midst that day unmistakably and the feeling grew throughout the meeting.

On Wednesday morning Bro. Esch spoke on "The Language of Love in Missions" and on Friday morning Bro. Friesen gave the message on "Are We Evangelistically

Effective?" These two talks were so nearly along the same themes as the two mentioned above, i. e., the Lord's part in our work, and our own relation to Him, that it is not easy to separate much of them from the latter. The four form a harmonious whole in four different aspects. All of them portrayed our weaknesses and failures, and the strength and power of God, and they made us realize that it is we who have failed and not God. "He is the same yesterday, today, and for ever." These messages all found a hearty response in our hearts, helped to make the whole meeting a blessing to us, and will without doubt do a great deal in inspiring us to greater efforts in prayer and work.

On Wednesday afternoon Bro. Miller opened the subject on "The Truth about Religious Education." Points emphasized were that education must not be allowed to take the place of conversion in a child's life, and that it is not religious education for its own sake that we need but simply the best way of teaching the gospel so that children will grasp its meaning and accept Christ when He calls them.

Bro. Lapp spoke on Thursday morning on "The India Mission and the Present Situation in the Home Church." We were indeed glad for the many encouraging things he was able to give us about the Church. Of course we were somewhat familiar with the fact of the financial depression at home, and we are hoping and praying that it will not affect the Mission to the extent that we will have to reduce work. We rejoice to know that our fellow workers are praying for us and are interested in our work.

After the first day business items were taken up along with the above mentioned talks. One of the questions that received considerable attention was the Girls' Industrial School opened at Ghatula last year. It was decided to locate it there permanently. The distance from all the other stations is great and the roads not very good in the rainy season, but there are buildings already there which help house the girls and this fact made it seem advisable to let the school remain there. The quarters are inadequate however and steps were taken looking to the provision of others.

The Babies' Home also provided some knotty questions which were not solved, but carried over to another year's meeting. E. g., Should the Mission demand that people who bring babies there give up all claim to their children? Should we allow the babies to go back to their Hindu families after some years? Is the comparatively large amount of money spent to feed a baby the best way of using that money for the Lord's work or would it do more good if spent in direct evangelistic work? Or could we close the Home and turn babies that come to us away to almost certain suffering and death? These are some of the questions that the Babies' Home raises, and they all have two sides to consider. The question is to be reconsidered at our next Annual Meeting.

There was a fine spirit of Christian fellowship prevailing throughout and we are sure that we have all received help and inspiration. Bro. and Sister John Vogts of the Mennonite Brethren Mission in South India were present during most of the first two days, and brought us greetings from their fellow workers. They also sang a song in the Telegu language for us. We enjoyed their presence very much.

#### General News.

Nov. 1—Bro. Smucker went to Calcutta for a two week course in the treatment of leprosy.

Nov. 8—Esther Louise Kniss born in the Mission Hospital in Dhamtari.

Nov. 15—G. J. Lapps and Harriet, and A. C. Brunks arrive.

The Christian Workers' Conference which was scheduled for this week at Maradeo has been postponed to February because of the rain last week which has made the living arrangements unsuitable.

The Sunday School Conference, Jalsa, and Church Conference are to be held in Balodgahan, Dec. 28—Jan. 1.

Bro. Kniss, Bro. Beare and the Friesens all did some touring the past month, and they are expecting to go out again now after the Business Meeting.

## Officers and Departmental Committees for 1931.

<b>Evangelistic</b>		<b>Mission Officers</b>	
A. C. Brunk, Chmn.		President—A. C. Brunk	
L. A. Kniss		Secretary—J. N. Kaufman	
Elsie Kaufman		Treasurer—E. E. Miller	
Alma Smucker		Recorder—J. D. Graber	
J. D. Graber			
G. H. Beare			
<b>Educational</b>		<b>Medical</b>	
E. E. Miller, Chmn.		C. D. Esch, Chmn.	
J. N. Kaufman		Mary Holsopple	
G. J. Lapp		Eva Brunk	
S. J. Hostetler		R. R. Smucker	
Ida Beare		G. H. Beare	
M. C. Vogt			
Mary Wenger			
Mary Good			
<b>Publicity</b>		<b>Language &amp; Literature</b>	
J. D. Graber, Chmn.		J. N. Kaufman, Chmn.	
Fannie Lapp		Minnie Graber	
Mina Esch		R. R. Smucker	
Ruth Miller		L. A. Kniss	
A. C. Brunk		G. J. Lapp	
<b>Continuation</b>		<b>Auditing</b>	
J. N. Kaufman		G. J. Lapp, Chmn.	
S. J. Hostetler		S. J. Hostetler	
A. C. Brunk		J. D. Graber	
<b>Managing</b>			
G. J. Lapp, Chmn.		Mary Good	
J. D. Graber, Secy.		E. E. Miller	
G. H. Beare		J. N. Kaufman	
C. D. Esch		S. J. Hostetler	
M. C. Vogt		Mary Wenger	
A. C. Brunk		L. A. Kniss	
R. R. Smucker			