

# INDIA MISSION NEWS.

Vol. XIII. § Dhamtari, C. P., India, January 1934. § No. 1.

## CHRISTMAS

**MEDICAL STATION.** For some time our compounders have been preparing a program to be given in the villages during the Christmas season. From December 12 to 26 they gave the program at eight different places including the hospital veranda. To some of the villages we received especial invitations, to some we came unannounced. At only one place was the crowd very small and this was perhaps due to the fact that we arrived too late and the villagers had gone to bed. Hindus make a great point in their holidays and our Christians too love to make much over their holidays. We are especially glad to show the meaning of this day which they call "Big Day."

A Women's Meeting has been organized at the Medical Station which includes a Sewing. Our women made a few little garments and personally took them to the homes of those who were in need. We hope they will want to do more by next Christmas.

MARY J. HOLSOPPLE.

**SANKRA.** Sunday evening, December 24, we held our regular Christmas Eve service. It is estimated that some over 450 people were present, 300 of them being Hindus. A fine service of song, verses and talks was enjoyed. R. R. SMUCKER.

**GHATULA.** On Thursday evening, December 21, the Industrial School girls gave a very interesting Christmas program. It was enjoyed by a full house. Sunday we had a Christmas sermon and appropriate subjects for Christian Endeavor and Christmas morning the Sunday School gave a very interesting program.

About two-thirds of the Industrial School girls went to other stations to visit relatives and friends over the Christmas season.

FLORENCE FRIESEN.

**SHANTIPUR.** What brightened most our Christmastide was the spirit of joy and rejoicing manifest among these poor sufferers, the lepers. Many of them know Christ and this is one time in all the year when they feel that they should with all their strength sound the praises of Him who has redeemed them.

Weeks before Christmas the gifts for the Leper Home began coming from countries all over the world. Even Lititz Pa. mouse traps came from New Zealand near Australia. The gifts included coats from Dhamtari, new suits of clothing made or bought locally, soap, scarves, bags, knit caps, and sundry toys sent from different countries.

The countries represented by the gifts were England, Australia, New Zealand, Scotland, United States, and Canada. Friends of the lepers also sent personal gifts of money to a few and from a general fund the Secretary for India of the Mission to Lepers, Mr. A. Donald Miller, sent us a gift of Seventy Rupees for special Christmas treats which was used for purchasing special food and sweets.

Every leper from the strongest to the most helpless could be made happy with some special gift suited to his needs. The members of the Leper Home staff and their family members and the few others who are living in the Shantipur Christian community were also remembered with special gifts. The missionary couple were not forgotten but were recipients of many good wishes and invitations to special meals during the few days of celebration.

Christmas programs were given at different times during the Christmas Holidays, by the Primary school in which the village children as well as the community children had a part, by the community as a whole on Christmas morning, and by the Leper community on Christmas night.

We rejoice with these poor unfortunates that Christ has come to save them and has given them the witness of His presence in their hearts and lives. GEORGE J. LAPP.

**BALODGAHAN.** The afternoon before Christmas was a time of great rejoicing for the children of the Christian community. About 117 gifts were given out, 40 of these being New Testaments for the older children. Clothes bought by the Sunday School and made by the Christian women were given to the poorer children and toys were also given out. Sister Good and Sister Wenger together with the Sunday School made these gifts possible.

The boarding girls gave their Christmas program on the evening of December 28 and the Christian men gave a program on Saturday evening, December 29. Christmas Day our large church building was well filled and many Hindu friends from the surrounding villages enjoyed the program with us. The Hindu children of our village Sunday Schools came from many miles around and several groups of them sang special Christmas songs. Our Indian Pastor, Sukhlal, gave a message on the meaning of Christmas. After the program over 150 oranges were given out to the Village Sunday School children.

## ANNUAL JALSA AND CONFERENCE Dec. 28—Jan. 1

Our Jalsa this year was held at Sankra. The Christian community there is not so large as at Dhamtari and Balodgahan but they entertained us all very comfortably. Tents, large and small, were borrowed from all over the mission. Every home had a number of guests. A census was taken one day and 450 guests were found on the ground.

Bro. G. J. Lapp preached the three evening sermons, Dec. 28-30. The speakers in all the other general meetings were Indian brethren, both old and young, with the exception of Bro. J. A. Dick, our Russian Mennonite brother, who came to us from Champa. He was accompanied by his wife and two little daughters. Bro. Dick gave us two talks. The first day he spoke on conditions in Russia and the second day he told of their flight from Russia to India. The Lord wonderfully led them and protected them all along the way and they give Him all the praise. Bro. Friesen was Bro. Dick's interpreter, translating from German to Hindi. Bro. Dick and his family are spending two weeks here visiting the different stations.

The text for the Jalsa was "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God." Our prayer is that we may be kept pure in thought and deed in this new year and that God may use us in bringing others to know Him. FANNIE LAPP.

There were two sessions of Sunday School Conference, Sunday morning and afternoon, Dec. 31. In the evening the Church Conference began with the Conference sermon by Bro. J. N. Kaufman after which the constitution was read. New Year's day held a full day of work for the Conference delegates. Serious and prayerful consideration was given to the problem of the Evangelistic Samaj as the three-year period for its organization had expired; it was finally decided that the Samaj should again continue to function. As we look to the future of our evangelistic work we want to advance only as the Holy Spirit directs and our prayer is that a greater responsibility of this work might be carried by the Indian church.

### GENERAL

We thank God that He has permitted our boys, Arthur and Ernest, to again return to us safe and happy after spending their school year at Landour. They arrived in Raipur Dec. 8 at 8:30 p. m. This was 68 miles from Sankra. Kathryn Kaufman, Thelma Miller, Edward, Paul, and Grace Friesen were also in this school party.

A Hindu woman brought here sick with rheumatism, gonorrhoea, and syphilis gave birth to a girl. She is so happy that her child is a girl and listens eagerly to the Gospel story. R. R. SMUCKER.

Excluding the European Ward room and the guest room the Nurses' Bungalow is ready for occupancy. The nurse waiting to occupy it was more than glad to be moved into it just before Christmas. We hope that its quiet location will be a restful place for those who come into it whether they be ill or well. Its name "Dilaram" means rest of the heart. MARY J. HOLSOPPLE.

We have two people who are receiving instruction for baptism. They are receiving the messages with glad hearts. One came as a patient. FLORENCE FRIESEN.

Dec. 24 the Balodgahan congregation partook of communion and rejoiced to receive into fellowship by water baptism sixteen young people, eight being boarding girls. Twenty of the Balodgahan boarding girls have been baptized in their home stations since the meetings held during the Workers' Normal the first part of December.

.....  
A number of missionaries and Indian Christians were permitted to be present for the church dedication at Dondi on Dec. 17. The dedication sermon was given by Bro. Kaufman using Isa. 56:7 as a text. In the afternoon communion was observed. The Dondi congregation has furnished the labor and most of the money for this new building of the Lord. This is the first Indian church building not built with foreign money. The building is planned so that it can easily be enlarged; its open front is surrounded by a small courtyard and wall.

.....  
Bro. and Sis. Brunk are planning to leave Jan. 10 to accompany Bro. E. E. Miller to the closest hill station, Pachmarhi, C. P., for a six weeks' rest. We pray for Bro. Miller's speedy recovery.

.....  
A few days before Christmas a cablegram from America brought the sad news of the death of one of our former missionaries, Sister Anna Stalter of Goshen, Indiana.

.....  
We crave the prayers of God's people for the deepening of the spiritual life of our congregation here at Sankra and a definite leading of the Holy Spirit in our work, HIS WORK, of evangelism.

ALMA SMUCKER.

# INDIA MISSION NEWS.

Vol. XIII. § Dhamtari, C. P., India, February 1934. § No. 2.

## TOURING.

Touring season is on and all together we wish to pitch out tents at eight different places this season before Sister Smucker goes to the hills with the boys. At that time the plan calls for a long tour off to the jungles southeast of Sankra with three or four camps, perhaps

On our first tour at Bagdai several people were very much convicted anew. There is a group of families, all related, who have been under conviction time and time again and yet can't seem to let the Holy Spirit have His way with them. The leader of this group was so convicted that he couldn't restrain the tears while the invitation was being given. Yet he could not say that he was willing to give up. I spoke to him after the meetings and urged him and tried to help him all I could, yet his reply was negative.

The gospel is powerful and is stirring hearts of people, yet sin is more rampart than ever and it seems as though the Devil is determined that none of his shall enter into the Kingdom of Heaven. Truly speaking, none of these souls are his, are they? For they are bought with a price far above rubies in value but so far he has not released them from bondage of sin. That is where we come in with our prayers and teachings. The release is arranged for, the invitation is open, Christ and their sins and souls must be gotten together so He can do His work thru the Holy Spirit. He it is who convicts and brings to redemption.

Pray for Bharath and his entire family group (Bagdai) that they may follow the dictates of the Holy Spirit and accept baptism.

R. R. SMUCKER.

Hostetlers spent a week touring around Komipur and expect to go this week (Jan. 21) to Koragaon. They express good interest being manifested among the people.

DORA SHANTZ.

Two Bible Women and Sister Vogt toured from Jan. 19 to Jan. 30 in the Chickli district south of Balodgahan working with the regular workers at that place, Joseph and wife. It was an inspiration to this isolated family to have help and many villagers showed interest and acknowledged our teachings to be true although that is

as far as they were willing to go. One elderly Mohammedan leader gave us a thorough theological examination and backed up his own religious views in a very firm way. Our strongest point was to give him Scripture that Jesus Christ is the "Son of God" and not a mere prophet, although he strongly repudiated what we said.

#### MOHADI.

(Jan. 21) Twice during the past week our Christian community has gathered together in a common meal.

The first was to celebrate the Christian wedding of a couple who were received into Church fellowship last Sunday. The husband had been a member in previous years but the wife came now for the first time. After becoming Christians they had a Christian wedding and we joined with them in celebrating this event.

The second common meal of the week was an expression of thanks to God for His gift of twin daughters, Mary and Martha, into the home of Lela and Pyrelal. We thank God for these privileges of fellowship together.

The medical work is continuing. Some days the attendance was small because of the cold mornings, but one day we had twenty exceeding our previous record.

DORA SHANTZ.

#### SANKRA.

Do you folks wear the same kind of clothes in your country when you work out in the fields and plow as you do here? Do you wear the topi (sun helmet) and then carry water pots and heavy loads on top of it on your head? These are several of the questions one of our leper patients asked me the other day. He thought our women worked out in the fields like the women of his country do and also that we carry the same things on our heads as they do. This man likes to talk very much but he would rather not talk about religion too much. He argues but does not care to get serious about Christianity. Continue to pray with us for these lepers. During January we had between 100 and 130 lepers every week. We have 275 on the register but they come very irregularly.

This week some professional beggars came to stay in the ward for treatment. When they found out we would not give medicine without money they left. But they were not poor people and we cannot give to such.

At present our Christian community is well. There are always colds and coughs during the cool season.

ADA HARTZLER.

A Hindu couple and six young people from Christian families were baptized on Dec. 24. We rejoice that they received water baptism and were joined unto the Church of Christ here on earth.

We trust their inner baptism was also a blessed experience and not only the outer one.

Pray for a Malguzar who has caused havoc here in our community by despoiling a girl and perhaps another as well that he may be convicted of sin and quit his sinful ways. R. R. SMUCKER.

#### BALODGAHAN.

The village Sunday Schools have been again reorganized for the new year. About forty people have volunteered to help conduct the twelve Sunday Schools. The village Sunday School work in Balodgahan has from the beginning been voluntary work and we are happy to see it increasing each year.

A number of the leaders of our Church have realized the need of revival within the Church and are therefore meeting each Saturday evening to pray for it.

Our Christian community has been canvassed to see how many homes were without Bibles. Some very poor homes and illiterate ones were found without. These have now been provided with Bibles. Some of our Christians have volunteered to daily read to some of their illiterate neighbors.

The Sunday School here has decided to support a widow in our community and are making further plans to help the poor.

MARY A. WENGER.

#### SHANTIPUR.

About fifty of the lepers from Berar, west of Nagpur, have gone home to visit their relatives. Most of them will return, but some will stay at home.

New lepers keep coming every few days. Some of them are very helpless.

The Mission to Lepers has furnished a windmill for Shantipur. It will be set up in a few weeks. It is hoped that the new pump will help solve the water problem.

FANNIE LAPP.

#### MEDICAL STATION.

Since we are having our own Sunday services at this station many of the patients have availed themselves of the opportunity and find out what we do on these occasions. We are having separate Sunday School classes for the non-Christians.

Since being without a nurse from last October the hospital force welcomed Lachni Bai, one of our own boarding girls, who completed her nurse's training and graduated at Bilaspur on Jan. 15. She began her work here on Jan. 18. A trained Indian woman fills a great need in our work with women patients.

Tomorrow, Jan. 30, is a great Hindu Mela held at Rudri five miles from here. Many Hindus will go to bathe in the Mahanadi river, which because of the full moon is supposed to be especially pure and effective in washing away sins. As we do not expect many patients in the hospital we intend to take some simple medicines and some religious literature and do what we can in the name of the Great Physician.

MARY J. HOLSOPPLE.

#### EARTH-QUAKE.

"It sounded like the rumbling of a train."

"I thought at first that it was the grating noise of cart wheels."

"It must have lasted several minutes."

"I saw the window glass shake, the punkha begin to swing, and the pictures on the wall move, and I heard the safe-lock rattle."

"I felt dizzy after it was all over. Some tile fell off of the roofs not so far away."

"We hurried out of the bungalo not knowing how hard it might get later."

These are some of the remarks made by our missionaries about the earth-quake felt here Jan. 15 at about 2:30 p. m. No damage was done in this part of India but in north-eastern India much damage was done. The assembly hall of the Darjeeling school, which some of our children attend, was completely destroyed and a big hole was made in the roof of the opposite wing of the building. Fern Hill, the boys' dormitory, has been declared unsafe to live in. Arrangements for more room will have to be made so that school can start in March. There were seven deaths reported in Darjeeling and about 6,000 lives were estimated lost in the whole province, Bihar especially having a heavy toll. In these eastern parts a number of shocks were felt several days later.

#### GENERAL.

Bro. and Sister Brunk left Jan. 10 by motor to take Br Miller to Pachmarhi, C. P., a low hill station, for a six weeks' rest. Bro. Miller seems to be improving some since there.

Sister Good, Sister Wenger and Sister Hartzler attended the Nurses' Graduation at Bilaspur, Jan. 15. Two of our own boarding girls were in the graduating class.

A number of missionary ladies met with Sister Kaufman on the afternoon of Jan. 18 to help divide the clothing which came from America. We certainly appreciate what the home Sewing Circles have done for our work in India.

# INDIA MISSION NEWS.

Vol. XIII. § Dhantari, C. P., India, March 1934. § No. 3.

## BALODGAHAN

The following are the subjects for prayer which were on the Girls' Boarding prayer room bulletin board the past week:

- Pray:—
1. That we may forgive those who trespass against us, so that our Heavenly Father may also forgive us our trespasses.
  2. Since we have received freely that we may also give freely.
  3. That we may take up our cross and follow Christ.
  4. That those who are weary and heavy laden may find rest.

We indeed rejoice at growth in the spiritual life of our girls and are praying that as the hot season approaches and many of them will be going to their homes that they will be able to stand against the Evil One. Will you pray with us that their lives may be a blessing in their homes during the hot season vacation?

MARY M. GOOD.

## SHANTIPUR

The number of inmates in the asylum at the end of the month was 307. New ones keep coming every few days. Two, died during the month and several others are in a serious condition. There are eight applicants for baptism.

Because of the crowded condition of the quarters, a number of kitchens are being built with mud walls. That will leave more space in the rooms.

The Mission to Lepers has given the money for a windmill for Shantipur and we hope to have it running by the middle of March. Some of the wells go dry in the hot season and it is difficult to supply sufficient water. This pump is being put into a well which has never gone dry.

Most of the annual examinations have been held in the village schools with average results. The primary school at Shantipur showed the best average of passes in all the grades of all the schools which makes it one of the banner Mission schools. Our two Indian sisters who are the teachers have put forth extra efforts to get good results.

**BAPTISM AT BAGTARI.** On Sunday March 4th a baptismal service was held at Bagtari. The candidate was a joint owner of the Bagtari village and in his boyhood was a pupil in our Mission School. His father was a wicked man and an opponent of Christianity. For some years he had trouble in his soul and finally after carefully studying the Scriptures along with other religious literature and after carefully consulting with our Christian teacher of the Bagtari school openly and firmly decided for Christ and sealed his vow by holy baptism. During the service his mother and sister vehemently protested against his decision and at the time of administering the sacred rite his sister slapped him twice in the face. This act however led the village people to sympathize with the candidate and to come to his defence rather than oppose him. His wife and younger brother both had decided to come with him but at the last moment as a result of the opposition of the mother and sister forsook him. But we believe that the Lord will bring them back and win the mother to his side. We also believe and pray that this may be only the beginning of a large work of grace in the hearts of the village people not only of Bagtari but of many other villages.

GEO. J. and FANNIE H. LAPP.

### MOHADI

Bro. and Sis. Kaufman visited Mohadi over the week end of Feb. 10-11. On Sunday morning Bro. Kaufman preached to us on "Effective Praying." It will be remembered that Bro. Kaufman opened the work at Mohadi in 1914, just 20 years ago. Later in 1921-22 he supervised the building of the bungalow and several more Indian houses. Their visit at this time was very much appreciated.

We have come back from tour for some necessary repairs on the car and for several days of committee meetings. Most of the time we were gone we had our camp at Koragaon where two of our workers live. Interest was very good. Some people admitted that our Way was right but they are still not willing to leave all and walk in that Way. The recent earthquake had its effect in turning

people's minds to God. We told them how God's word says that such things will come and later there will be much more suffering and in the end only those who accept Jesus will be saved. "Yes," they say, "We want to be saved but how can we leave caste?" That is still one of the greatest obstacles we meet. Let us pray that in some way God may mightily convict men that they may not even stop for this, but accept Jesus as their Saviour.

Nearly all the literate people of our community are enrolled in our weekly Bible class which meets every Monday afternoon. We are finishing the book of Zechariah and expect to take up the Gospel of John next. This study of God's Word is very much worthwhile.

IDA HOSTETLER.

**BABY DAY AT MOHADI.** Feb. 15 we observed Baby Day at Mohadi. Dr. Troyer and family came out for the day. In the forenoon general patients were examined and treated, and in the afternoon 55 babies were examined and scored. The event created quite a lot of interest among the village people. Each child was awarded a piece of soap. All of our Christian children scored high in comparison to the village Hindu children. Sister Troyer and the Bible women gave talks to the mothers.

DORA SHANTZ.

### GHATULA

On Sunday Feb. 18, Phulkuwar Bai, a village woman who came to us last August, was baptized. It was a very impressive baptismal service and meant so much to her. We believe she was truly born again. She is so happy to be a Christian. She has now gone to the Widows' Home and we trust that she will be a witness wherever she goes.

Bro. Friesen has spent much of the last month in Dhamtari holding meetings.

The children will be leaving for school at the hills in another week. Their vacation has seemed so short. This year we are not going with them to the mountains but will go up later in July and August and have them with us.

FLORENCE FRIESEN.

### SANKRA

We were on tour from the first week of January until Feb. 26. During this time we had our tents pitched in the following places: Chichahbog, Lareka, Paire, Jagnathpara, and Adamabad (Balod circle). The evangelists are still out making a total of six more camps or eleven or so places for this touring season. There was a very good sale of books.



One family in Bro. Harchand's circle at Balod say they want baptism. When we came to make definite preparations and to set a time the man said, "I am ready when and if my wife is."

She said, "I am ready now."

Then the husband said, "We must ask our children first." Their children are 4, 6, and 8 years of age. We talked with him and showed him the folly of being so hesitant. Yet he still hesitated and we had to leave him for the present. He is a consumptive. We have hopes for his recovery both spiritually and physically. Pray for all such. R. R. SMUCKER.

### GENERAL

Bro. Orie Miller of Akron, Pa., arrived at the home of brother, Ernest, Sunday Feb. 25. He had spent some time in Africa helping to find a location for the new mission station there and after visiting in India for about a month he plans to return to meet the new missionaries on their way to their new place of labor in the Tanganyika Territory, Africa, and then proceed to his home in America.

All of our missionaries were permitted to meet together Friday, Mar. 2, and enjoy Bro. Orie Miller's talks on conditions in Africa and the Homeland.

Bro. and Sis. Brunk and Bro. Ernest Miller have returned home from Pachmarhi and we are grateful to our Heavenly Father that Bro. Miller is much better, and he hopes to again take up his work. Our prayer is that he might be increasingly strengthened and sustained.

Miss E. E. Ruggles of the Methodist Mission at Raipur spent twelve days at our hospital as a patient. She also brought several boarding girls with her for medical treatment.

The Landour school party, consisting of the Friesen, Smucker and Miller children, leaves Sat. Mar. 10, with Bro. and Sis. Smucker as escorts. The Darjeeling group, leaving Mar. 13, includes the Hostetler and Troyer children and Merle Vogt and will be accompanied by Sisters Troyer and Hostetler.

# INDIA MISSION NEWS.

Vol. XIII. § Dhamtari, C. P., India, April 1934. § No. 4.

## DONDI.

I had a most interesting week's stay at a village called Bheritola. People were sitting at my tent almost all the time and when I asked them what they wanted they said, "Tell us something about God." They surely seem to be thinking seriously. Do pray for them that they may decide to leave all and follow Jesus Christ.

Brother Luke has been prevented by illness from taking his usual part in village preaching work. Please pray for his recovery. He is now in the Dondi ward.

Pray for the many who have bought Bibles that through reading they may be saved.  
A. C. BRUNK.

## MEDICAL STATION.

On Friday, March 9, Nurse Lachhani Bai was married to David Dewanath, Manual Training teacher. Lachhani has an interesting history. When she and her brother were small children they were found begging in the vicinity of Ghatula by one of the Indian evangelists. No one claimed these children and it is not known whether their parents deliberately went off and left them or perhaps may have died in an epidemic. They were placed in the mission orphanages and today her brother is a carpenter and Lachhani a nurse. She has just graduated from Nurses' Training and we hope that God may use her to bring many souls to Himself through the witness of His Word in the ministry of healing.

In the village of Potiyadh, where a home mission is located, lives a farmer named Sukharu. He has been deeply interested in Christianity for the past two years and finally was willing to make his decision for Christ, understanding that this is the only way of salvation. On March 18, he was baptized in the presence of about 200 people of his village by Brother Isabaksh, the Indian minister living at Dhamtari.

After the service he invited us to his home. His relatives railed on him. They had taken his eight year old daughter away from him. His mother-in-law called him a rascal saying he was dead and now his child would be fatherless. The daughter was weeping bitterly. He bore all this without complaint saying afterwards, "What is this compared to what Christ has done for me."

The next few months he will no doubt have many persecutions. He needs the prayers of God's people. We believe his step will have a great influence on others who have been taught much about Christ.

Our compounders are busy getting ready for their examinations next month.  
DR. TROYER.

BABY DAY. March 21 was observed as Baby Day at Dhamtari. At one-thirty two missionaries, an Indian nurse, and two compounders went to the church to arrange a suitable place.

One compounder was stationed near the door and his business was to register the babies' names and give the card to the mother who passed on to the next place where weighing and measuring were done. Then they were sent to the Doctor who gave marks on the score card. After this the mothers returned to the place of registration where they returned the score card and received a small piece of soap.

They were told to return at five-thirty when a short program was given outside the church.

Prizes were given according to three divisions of age, viz., up to six months, six months to one year, and one year to three years. In each group three prizes were given. After the distribution of these prizes the crowd was dismissed.

MARY J. HOLSOPPLE.

#### MOHADI.

Mar. 13 Sister Hostetler left for Darjeeling with the Troyer children, our own children, and Merle Vogt. I accompanied them as far as Calcutta to help with the luggage, tickets, etc. On the last leg of the journey, the motor car trip from Siliguri to Darjeeling, the axle of the car in which they were riding broke, but no one was hurt.

Last Sunday, Mar. 18, Bro. Friesen was with us and we celebrated communion. We are happy that one Sister who had not been in full fellowship with the Lord confessed her sin and could commune with us. Nearly all of the members and several visitors who were present took part in the sacred service.

A number of our brethren here and the evangelists and I are holding evening meetings in the surrounding villages. This is the time of year when the village people like to sit out together in the evening until late often and talk, and so it is the best time to have meetings with them. We leave the bungalow about eight o'clock and return about eleven. We hold four to six meetings in each village according to the interest and the leading of the Spirit. We have had good interest. Before each regular meeting I have been having short meetings with the children, and the older people have shown as keen interest in these as the children. I have been using colored pictures and telling them the Bible account illustrated thereon. We have a short prayer service each time before we leave for the village. We are very glad for the interest the local brethren take in the work. We are praying and trusting that there may be fruit in the form of lives given to the Lord.

We are planning to have four meetings during Passion Week in the Church, for the deepening of spiritual life. It is a wonderful evidence of the grace of God that where there were a few years ago no followers of the Lord, there are now many who own Him as Lord and Savior and rejoice to celebrate His supreme gift of Himself to the world that we might be saved. And it is wonderful that He is not only a Savior through His death, but He has also risen from the dead and is a Savior from the power of sin in life.

S. JAY HOSTETLER.

Among our recent interesting cases was one in a village 16 miles east of Mohadi. Two men arrived here about eight-thirty one

evening. After hearing the urgency of the case I made plans to go at once. Bro. Hostetler was away, so our only means of going was a village cart. It was a long, hard trip taking most of a night and day. At night it grew cold and by day the sun shone in tropic heat. We helped the mother and left her in a fairly good condition. But the baby son was beyond help, it being a "neglected transverse case." No Christian teaching has been done in this village before so if this woman recovers it will make a fine opening for touring sometime. The people received us kindly, and we wished so much we could tell them more of Jesus.

DORA SHANTZ.

#### GHATULA.

On March 8 and 9 we had the privilege of having Bros. O. O. and E. E. Miller with us. We were glad we could have them in our weekly Prayer Meeting as our Indian brethren and sisters also appreciated meeting them and hearing about the Lord's work elsewhere.

Dr. and Sister Troyer, Weldon, and Sister Holsopple were with us on Mar. 23 and in the morning we did a couple of operations. After the operations we had our BABY DAY. This was the first we have had in this station. Only eighteen babies were examined. They were all presented with a small piece of soap and in the afternoon we gave a program especially for the mothers. We believe it was appreciated and as time goes on we hope we can do more for the mothers and babies of this part of the district.

We are looking forward to special meetings over the Easter season.

Sister Kanagy has taken two small babies into her institution. So far they are doing well and we hope and pray that they may some day be living witnesses for our Lord and Master.

FLORENCE FRIESEN.

Sister Smucker and the boys left for the hills Mar. 10.

We are acquiring land for a new well to be dug by the Christian people. This is badly needed and will serve as a public well for the local bazaar as well as for travellers. There is no water for animals anywhere near here along the road so this will become a stopping place for cartmen, giving a chance for Gospel teaching.

A new Sunday School was opened at Balod with a full staff of officers. We expect to conduct preaching services here every two weeks. There is keen interest manifested in this Sunday School by the Christians living there. So far there are four Hindu women who attend regularly.

A man and wife near here say they are ready for baptism. On setting a date they asked for a few weeks more time to "fully make up their minds." Pray for them that they may not let the Devil hinder them.

Bro. Dewanath, who lost his wife some months ago, has announced his engagement with a sister from Ghatula. This is rather quick, isn't it? Yet it is not the way they look at it.

Three evangelists have been gone from Sankra for a full month on a long tour. During their absence not one word has come from them as they are entirely cut off from here. We don't even know where they are nor when they will return. They took only one

month's provisions along so will probably show up soon. They are working in the jungle south of here, going into Kanker Native State. In the meantime Bro. Harchand and I worked in every village in his district (Balod), giving a sermon in each village except two. We will take these during the hot season as evening meetings. We did not find as many real inquirers this year as last year. There was good interest in every village except in one where the attitude was cold.

R. R. SMUCKER.

#### SHANTIPUR.

On Sunday, Mar. 11, we had the joy of receiving ten lepers into the Church by water baptism. Pray that the Lord may be very real and very near to them.

We were also very happy to be able to tell two of our young women that they were symptom free and could leave the asylum. One had been a Bible woman and has been here for a year and a half. The other is a young woman from a Christian home who has been here for three years. The disease is not in her family so she does not know where she contracted it. Both these young women are to be under observation for six months and if there are no further developments, they will need no further treatments. Pray that they may be kept free from this dread disease.

This is the time of the year when the lepers are allowed to take a week or ten days leave and go to visit their relatives. All of the men have gone and most of the women. Those who have not yet gone will go next week. Many of them take Gospel portions and small song books along and sell them to the people they meet. A number of them bring new lepers along back with them. Our rooms are beginning to be crowded. We will either have to have more buildings or refuse to admit any more.

Mr. S. T. Moyer, of the General Conference Mennonite Mission, spent from Mar. 14 to 19 visiting among the missionaries.

FANNIE H. LAPP.

#### DARJEELING.

The opening of the school was postponed for nearly two weeks because of the damage done to the school building by the earthquake. The group for our mission this year consisted of seven children and one mother. We arrived safely, however we had some trouble on the way up the hill when the rear axle of our car broke. This delayed us for nearly two hours. We were very happy to find a hot meal waiting for us when we arrived.

Altho the whole of Darjeeling was badly shaken by the earthquake in January, not many buildings were actually destroyed. The quake seems to have travelled in lines; one such line came down thru our community. It passed thru the large catholic school just above Mt. Hermon, down thru one of the cottages, our school, and the big boys' dormitory. These buildings are all being repaired. We are very thankful that our children were not here at the time this happened. Surely God was kind to us in sparing our dear little ones.

IDA HOSTETLER.

# INDIA MISSION NEWS.

Vol. XIII. § Dhamtari, C. P., India, May 1934. § No. 5.

## SENIOR HOSTEL BOYS' SERVICE

About a week ago early one morning fire broke out in a shop in Dhamtari. The owner of the shop tried to get the people who were standing about to help put out the fire, and even promised the sweepers one rupee for each pail of water they would bring, but they stood idly by watching the fire. News of the fire came to the Senior Hostel boys while they were having their morning prayers. They at once went down town under the leadership of their Warden and organized themselves in such a way in bringing water that the fire was quenched. Many in town talked of the service which the Christian boys had rendered and without pay. This was one opportunity they had of helping someone in need and of making manifest before many people the spirit of Christ. We hope it will be the means of definitely interesting someone in finding out more about the Gospel message.

RUTH B. MILLER

## MEDICAL STATION

We are feeling the need of more Ward room. We have had so many patients lately that we have sometimes had to put two in a room, which is a rather delicate business here in this country governed by caste system. There is no field work now and the people have time to come.

In spite of the weather getting warmer we have as we look at the new leaves on the trees and listen to the songs of the birds something of the same spring fever we always had at home. God shows us wonderful things at every season of the year.

Dharun of the cowherd caste came to us from the Ghatula district suffering from cancer. He has no hope of recovery. Although he does not know much we believe his simple faith is enough to allow him to take baptism, which he says he is ready to take. We hope to receive him into Church next Sunday.

MARY J. HOLSOPPLE.

## GHATULA

Sister Kanagy left Ghatula for Ootacamund, South India, on the 9th of April. A well is being dug in the Industrial School Girls' Compound so there is plenty of work to keep the girls busy in her absence.

Some of the men of the congregation here are going out to the villages holding evening meetings. Our prayer is that the seed sown may bring forth fruit.

Paul Friesen has been in the school hospital at Landour for a couple of weeks on account of influenza.

FLORENCE FRIESEN.

## SHANTIPUR

For a number of months Mr. A. Donald Miller, the India Secretary of the Mission to Lepers, urged that a memorial tablet be placed in the Shantipur Church to Bro. C. D. Esch who for many years was Superintendent of the Leper Homes and also superintended the erection of the buildings for the Homes. The Shantipur Community wished to meet the expenses for a small marble tablet as their expression of the love and respect they had for Dr. Esch. At the same time that the arrangements for the tablet were being made a windmill was erected and an improved water supply system was installed in the Leper Home. Both were finished about the same time and on Friday, the 6th of April, simple dedication services were held for both the tablet and the new windmill and improved water system.

A large number of people from Dhamtari and surrounding villages were present including Government officials, friends from the business people and the residents of the town, missionaries, our own Indian brethren and sisters and villagers. Bro. and Sister P. A. Penner from the General Conference Mennonite Mission, Champa, C. P., were also with us. Sister Esch had sent us a message for the occasion which was read both in English and Hindi at the time of the dedication. Mr. A. Donald Miller who could not be with us at the time also sent a message of greeting and appreciation which was read in both English and Hindi. Bro. Penner and Dr. Benson of our own Medical Station gave very impressive addresses of appreciation of Dr. Esch's services while among us. The brethren A. C. Brunk and R. R. Smucker offered the dedicatory prayers. Bro. Esch, though dead, yet speaks

through the lives and hearts of many whom he served during his years of faithful service in and for India. We believe that the windmill plant will serve its purpose in the Leper Homes in the future. We wish here to record our appreciation to Bro. M. C. Vogt of Balodgahan for his very valuable help in the erection of the windmill especially in placing the gear-box in the tower and in putting together the wheel parts. We also thank Bro. A. David, the caretaker of the Homes, for his valuable service in assisting in this work.

It will be of interest to the readers to know that our new brother in Bagtarai, whose wife had left him because of his openly accepting Christ, is rejoicing that his wife has returned to him again and we believe our prayers in behalf of her will be answered in her coming to the Lord.

Lepers keep coming for admittance into the Leper Homes. They are becoming overcrowded. More buildings are greatly needed. Pray for the work that many may be brought to the Saviour through the efforts put forth for Him among the lepers.

GEO. J. LAPP.

## SANKRA

On April 25 Communion was observed at Sankra with ninety-two partaking, excepting one all communicant members living within a reasonable distance were present. We had the best and most enjoyable communion service that we have had for years. The Sunday previous, Communion was observed with eleven members of the brotherhood living at Balod. Balod is an out-station preaching point with services every two weeks.

The Christian living in the community are digging a new well. The Mission has kindly consented to furnish the material, bricks, lime, etc., if the local people furnish the labor. The Lord has blessed us in that we have dug fifteen feet and have not found any stones. All around Sankra most people find rocks within four feet of the surface.

We have one applicant for baptism. She was present on Communion Sunday and had tears in her eyes when she was told that we would not baptize her that day. We feel that she needs a bit more instruction. The Lord willing she will be baptized in the near future.

Many of our people, especially the children, have been suffering from light attacks of the flu but so far with the exception of one case none were very sick.

#### BALODGAHAN

Monday morning, April 30, Sisters Good and Wenger left for South India.

Three hundred and sixty-eight partook of Communion on Sunday, April 22. A few people were sick. Communion was given to them in their homes. Sister Lydia has been teaching in a Government Girls' School where she has had no Christian fellowship. She is so low with Tuberculosis that she has to stop teaching and come home. When taking communion she said, "This is the first time that I have had opportunity to partake of communion for two years." She is very low and may go to be with her Lord most any time.

This hot season many people in the village have built new houses or have remodelled their old houses. The hot season is the time when the village houses are built as at this time the farming class of people have the least work and also it is a time when mud dries very rapidly.

M. C. VOGT.

#### GENERAL

Bro. and Sis. Kaufman and Kathryn left Dhamtari for the homeland on Apr. 2, and sailed from Calcutta a few days later on the new boat, Jeff Davis. Word was received from them from Port Said stating that they had excellent accommodations, a comparatively calm sea, and fine opportunity for rest as there were only five other passengers on board, all being missionaries.

\* \* \* \* \*

Besides those mentioned elsewhere the following left during the month of April for their hot season vacations: Bro. and Sis. Miller to Landour, Bro. and Sis. Brunk to Kashmir, Sisters Troyer, Vogt, and Shantz and Bro. Hostetler to Darjeeling, and Sis. Hartzler to South India.

\* \* \* \* \*

Laverne Vogt was sick for two weeks with intestinal trouble and was at the Eden Sanitarium, Darjeeling, for several days.

# INDIA MISSION NEWS.

Vol. XIII. § Dhamtari, C. P., India, June 1934. § No. 6.

## SHANTIPUR

This is the season when the lepers suffer from the heat. During the day many of them keep pouring water over themselves in order to keep from being overcome. They suffer terribly from being together in one room like the Church or any other inside gathering place. Therefore all public services are made as brief as possible for their benefit.

The actual number of inmates in the Shantipur Leper Homes exceeds the capacity by over 20. We normally have room for 288 and 319 have been admitted. We have petitioned the Mission to Lepers for more buildings and are given hopes that they will be sanctioned.

On May 12th Sister Holsopple, Bro. Vogt, A. David the caretaker of the Leper Homes, and Bro. and Sister Lapp motored through the Kanker State into the Bastar State as far as Keskal 60 miles south of Dhamtari, thence to Likhma for the noon hour and lunched with Bro. Mukut and family and returned by way of Ghatula in the evening. Over the noon hour the temperature of Likhma was only  $97\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  as compared to  $108^{\circ}$  of Dhamtari and vicinity. We all wanted to move to Likhma.

On May 16th the wife of Parusottam, our new brother of Bagtarai whose baptism had been previously reported, who had returned to her husband also received baptism and has joined him in the Christian faith. We thank God for this influential couple.

Bro. Friesen and the writer have birthdays just four days apart in the month of May and are the same age. We celebrated together at Ghatula over the week-end of May 26, 27. GEORGE J. LAPP.

## SANKRA

We are glad to say that on Sunday May 20th a Hindu woman, named Manmoti, accepted baptism. She had been under instruction for some months and had to shed tears on communion Sunday two weeks earlier because she was refused baptism at that time. We felt she was not ready. When baptized she gave very fine answers and is seemingly very happy in her Christian experience.

We had planned to have a series of evening meetings during the month of May but on account of the extremely hot weather some of the brethren felt it would be better to not attempt to have meetings now. We will attempt to have a series of meetings in the early fall.



Our well which our Christian people are digging is progressing very nicely. We went down eighteen feet with a diameter of 10½ feet for the well. On striking bed rock we had to resort to blasting. After going down through hard rock for six feet we reached a strata of water bearing shale rock. This is a bit softer but requires dynamite as well. The well at present is 32 feet deep.

We thank the Lord that He saw fit to restore Mrs. Smucker to her family after a very severe illness.  
R. R. SMUCKER.

#### LANDOUR

Mrs. Smucker was ill with pneumonia in the Community Hospital for two weeks. We are happy that she is back home again and is getting stronger.

During the school vacation a new school building was erected in connection with Woodstock School. The lower floor of the building is occupied by the Kindergarten and First Standard classes; while the second story will be a dormitory for small boys and the third story a dormitory for girls. As the school grows it also requires more space for classes and living quarters. At present there are approximately 410 students—some Indian, Anglo Indian and English, but mostly children of American Missionaries. Some one has said recently, "There are more American children in Mussoorie than between Constantinople and Singapore." American Children living in India are indeed fortunate that there are good schools here which they may attend, even though far away from home. In this school at present there are 24 regular teachers.

RUTH B. MILLER.

#### DONDI

Early this year the Evangelistic Samaj decided that this year the Gospel Team work should be given to Bro. Sukhlal with the understanding that he would get young men who had no regular employment but had some ability for evangelistic work to co-operate with him in conducting special meetings in villages, and with the understanding that the young men would receive no remuneration other than travel and board and room while at a place holding meetings. Dondi was one of the first places to call the team to leave their homes for a period of time. The team that came to us did very good work and we were very well pleased with the work of the young men who accompanied Bro. Sukhlal. The Spirit of God moved in our meetings.  
A. C. BRUNK.

#### BALODGAHAN

The septic tanks for the Boarding and the Widows' Home are almost complete. These will be much more satisfactory than the old latrines which had to be cleaned out several times a day by the sweepers.

Many people in the village built houses this hot season. Most of them are about complete now. The hot season, when other work is slack, is the building season for the village people in India.

This is the hottest hot season the writer has experienced so far in India. During the month of May the thermometer usually registered from 108° to 111° in the shade during the hottest part of the day. The Indian people mind the heat too. Many have made remarks something like this to me, "This is our country. We mind the heat very much. You are foreigners. It must be very hot for you."  
M. C. VOGT.

#### DARJEELING

The Queens' Hill School children have been going down with the mumps, two or three cases a day. So far Merle Vogt has been the only one from our Mission to take them.

The Annual School Sale, May 26, was a great event of the season and the profits this year have exceeded those of all other years. The programs of the day were held in the Assembly Hall, this being the first time this part of the building could be used since it was damaged by the earthquake in January.

#### KOTAGIRI

I am enjoying my first trip to a Southern hill station. The mountains in the south are quite different from those in the north. Probably the most outstanding difference is that we can see no grand snow capped peaks. But the cultivated gardens covering these hills are a beautiful sight. Two of the large crops are tea and potatoes.

Another point of interest to me is the large numbers of beautiful and useful trees which grow here. Some are covered with the most brilliant red flowers (red gum), some with blue (the Jacoranda) and some with white flowers (the white gum). There are many eucalyptus trees here from which eucalyptus oil is made. There are citradora from which the citronella oil is made. The camphor and cinnamon trees also grow here. On a nice fresh morning the air is richly laden with the spicy scent from these trees.  
MARY ALICE WENGER.

#### GHATULA

This month our church has been unusually full on Sundays due to it being vacation month and the older children are home from the Boarding Schools. It is a pleasure to have them here and to have them enjoy home life for a few weeks.

We have also had many visitors from other stations and we welcome them also.

Bro. and Sister Lapp spent Sunday May 27th with us. Bro. Lapp brought to us the morning message and in the evening Sister Lapp gave us a very helpful message after which Bro. Lapp demonstrated the harmful effects of smoking tobacco. After the meeting one brother told how glad he was that he had given up smoking and also said that he felt that his health was much better than before. We were very grateful for these meetings.

We have had more patients than usual this hot season. One patient came in, in a very critical condition. She was with us a couple of weeks and was recovering very satisfactorily but left us before we wanted her to go. She was satisfied with the treatment but a woman of her village who had small-pox said that she should come home and because of the small-pox no one could convince her or the family that she should stay on awhile longer. MRS. P. A. FRIESEN.

#### MEDICAL STATION

On the evening of May 21st at 5 o'clock we had a short commencement for our one compounder who this year completed his course. The place of meeting was a large spreading tree on the Medical Station compound. After the opening a short speech was given by one of our Post graduate compounders, Sim, on "What a compounder should do." After this the graduating compounder, Vishwanath gave a short speech on, "What I expect to do." After this Bro. G. J. Lapp gave the commencement address and Dr. Troyer presented the diploma. Notwithstanding the fact that this is vacation time and many are here and there enjoying their vacations there were quite a number of friends gathered. On the evening following the hospital workers gathered out under the stars for an evening of social time in honor of the one leaving on the following day. Since he has returned to his mission he has written back that he is very lonely since he is away from his school friends. But we trust that soon he will become busy in his new place of work and be happy in the service of the Lord, whom we believe he has learned to love.

The rush of patients as we were experiencing a few weeks ago seems to have passed and we are finding ourselves the possessors of several empty rooms in the wards. The monsoons will soon be coming and the people are interested in getting their fields ready to sow.

We have for a few weeks two boys in the hospital who are not as yet taking compounding course. They are interested in medical work and may take up that line of work some time in the future. At present they are making good use of their vacation time. As idle hands are the devil's workshop we trust they will prove that the opposite is true.

# INDIA MISSION NEWS.

Vol. XIII. § Dhamtari. C. P., India, July 1934. § No. 7.

## GHATULA.

After nearly eight months of dry weather we all welcomed the first showers of rain which came about the middle of June. It is a great relief to be able to have the bungalows open again and to have a lower temperature but with it come some unpleasant experiences also. We killed a poisonous snake on the steps of the verandah and a scorpion in the bed room. Three of our members were the unfortunate victims of scorpions in a very short time. Their sting is very, very painful and the pain continues for hours and in some cases a day or more.

We were glad to welcome Sister Kanagy back from her vacation to the Nilgiri hills on June the twenty-fourth.

Clara Bai from Dhamtari, who has just completed her training in nursing in the Bilaspur hospital, has come to Ghatula to join the staff of workers of the Industrial School here. Sunday morning, June the twenty-fourth, we had a very impressive Baptismal Service when four young souls sealed their covenant with God. They need our prayers that they may always remain faithful and continue in their new-found joy.

FLORENCE C. FRIESEN.

## MEDICAL STATION.

One day a man brought a young boy who had fallen from a tree three years ago and injured himself in such a way that he can never walk again. This man said the boy was no relative of his but an orphan and the village head-man had told him to bring him to us. First he had inquired about putting him into the Boys' Boarding but was told to come here for Medical attention. We now thought we had another charity patient to take care of as long as he would live. As soon as we said we would take him the man disappeared. Then the boy said, "That is my father." We were quite disgusted with such manoeuvres but could not recall the man. But the boy did not stay with us long. When it was train time the next day he crawled to the station less than half a mile away and made for the place from which he had come. Perhaps you wonder where he got the money, but a beggar can ride without money if he does not ride too far.

MARY J. HOLSOPPLE.

## SHANTIPUR.

The able bodied lepers are busy in the fields, plowing and sowing rice.

All the lepers have small plots of ground back of their quarters where they have rainy season gardens. Even the blind and helpless one lay claim to a small plot and pay a few pice to have some one take care of it.

On June the twenty-eighth a young leper couple came to Shantipur from Purulia. They had both been discharged as symptom free, after which they were married. The disease again shows signs of activity so they have come here. The young man has had training as a compounder and she had some training as a nurse. They will be a help to us in the medical work.

The Village Primary Schools opened June the seventeenth. One of the Fourth class boys of the Shantipur school died during the hot season. He was a Mohammedan but we hope that he learned to believe on Jesus because of the Bible lessons in the school.

FANNIE LAPP.

## DARJEELING.

Due to much rain during the rainy season Darjeeling has frequent landslides. This year we have been able to witness a sight which it has not been our privilege to see before. About a half of a mile from the cottage located farthest out on the Mount Hermon Estate is a large mountain which has been gradually sliding away. The earthquake in January evidently gave it a severe jar for at that time the first slides were noticed but since the rains great portions have fallen away with crashes and rumblings which could be heard all over the Estate. During the last week in June a large slide occurred which shook many of the houses on the Estate.

Fortunately this hill is in a part of the jungle and no one is living near it. Many have gone to see it and all report that the ground was falling away when they looked at it so there is a continual sliding away with an occasional large slide which takes large rocks and trees.

We are thankful that the hill is unoccupied and especially that it is so far from the Mount Hermon school and cottages.

The slide is about a mile in length.

Dr. TROYER.

## BALODGAHAN.

Lydia, one of the former orphan girls who was married six or eight years ago and has been teaching school, is very low with tuberculosis. By her quiet Christian life she has shown those about her what the Saviour means to her and now in her suffering He is giving her patience. She is ready to go to be with her Lord.

On the afternoon of the first of July the language teacher for Dr. and Sister Brenneman moved to Balodgahan. He will also teach several periods each day in the Girls' Middle School. He will go to Shantipur on a bicycle to teach the Brennemans. He is a converted Brahman. About three years ago he accepted Christ as his Saviour. He has been preparing himself to serve Christ by going to the Leonard Theological School at Jubbulpore. This year he is earning money so that he can further his studies sometime in the future.

Sister Wenger returned home from Kotigeri, South India, on June 19. She didn't arrive until late in the evening because the bus delayed very much in starting from Raipur. She reports a very pleasant vacation with rich spiritual blessings.

Thursday morning, June the twenty-first, Sister Wenger went to Raipur to meet Sisters Good, Hartzler, and Kanagy. Sister Good has been very busy since she is home getting ready for school which opens July the second.

Wednesday evening, June the twenty-seventh, the girls who were at the Boarding during the summer months had a farewell meeting for those going away to other schools. The meeting consisted mostly of testimonies, songs, and prayer for those leaving. The Lord has been working in the hearts of the girls. He used those who had been to Bible School to bring many into a deeper experience. It was encouraging to hear how the Lord had led many of them into a closer walk with Himself. He has put a special burden on the hearts of the girls for the Church. As the writer sat there and listened to the testimonies it reminded him of similar testimony meetings which he was privileged to attend at Hesston College years ago when he was in school.

Tuesday morning about four o'clock the smallest daughter of Sukhram, Vogt's cook, died rather unexpectedly. She had been having fever for about a week and was getting better. The day

before she had played around all day and seemed about well. In the evening she got fever and was restless all night until she passed away. We were glad that these parents did not sorrow as those that have no hope, for they found comfort in the fact that Jesus will come again to resurrect the dead and that then the saints will always be with Christ.

During the hot season when work is scarce it is hard for the working class to make a living, as their wages the other part of the year are so meager that they cannot save anything. This year the church helped two families during the hot season by giving them twenty pounds of unhulled rice each week. In one home the husband is old and can not do heavy labor and in the other the husband is a consumptive.

The Balodgahan Primary school has grown so much that the present buildings are too small. Last year two classes had to meet in the old church building which was quite a distance from the school house. The arrangement was not satisfactory as the headmaster could not oversee the work properly. It took too long to go from class to class. This need was brought before the Balodgahan Church Board during the summer months. They showed their willingness to help along in this cause by building a recitation shed just beside the school house, which will make enough room available.

M. C. VOGT.

#### GENERAL.

The Managing Committee met on June the twenty-ninth. Bro. Brunk was appointed to help with the Bible teaching in the Academy during the month of July until Bro. Graber, returning from America, will be able to take up this work. Dr. and Sister Brenneman were placed at Shantipur with Bro. G. J. Lapps for their language study. Sister Sarah Lapp is to live in the Village Bungalow at Balodgahan and have charge of Evangelistic work.

Dr. Troyer, Bro. Smucker, and Bro. Vogt have left for a month's rest in the hills with their families. Sister Friesen has gone to Landour to be with her children for several months.

Virgil Vogt was born June 4 at Mount Hermon, Darjeeling.

# INDIA MISSION NEWS.

Vol. XIII. § Dhamtari, C. P., India, August 1934. § No. 8.

## MISSIONARIES FROM AMERICA ARRIVE

We are grateful to our Heavenly Father for sending to us more workers, who arrived here July 25. Sister Sarah Lapp returned to India after her fourth furlough; she is our veteran missionary having come to India for the first time in 1901. Bro. and Sis. Graber are beginning their second term of service and Dr. and Sis. Brenneman have come to India for the first time.

A welcome was given for these missionaries at the home of Dr. Troyer on the afternoon of July 28 and we were much encouraged by their messages of tidings from the homeland and of their visions of the need in the work here.

## OUR TRIP

By Sarah Lapp

As most of the readers know, Bro. and Sis. Graber and Ronald, Dr. and Sis. Brenneman and little Juanita, and I left from New York on June 28 for India.

When arriving at the boat we were pleasantly surprised to see a number of brethren and sisters on the boat to meet us and see us off. Just before the boat pulled away from the shore a short impressive service was held at one end of the boat in our behalf.

The "Saturnia" is a large boat and was crowded with American Tourists going to Europe for the summer. And there were many of their friends to see them off also. As we pulled slowly away from the shore we felt that even though we are separated by distance we are still remembered by many in prayer.

Our boat stopped at a number of ports between New York and Naples, Italy. At Naples we left the "Saturnia" and took the train for Brindisi, Italy, (a night's ride) and took another steamer the next day from there for Bombay.

The passengers on this steamer were an entirely different class of people, consisting of educated Indians, Chinese, English, Germans, Hollanders, Italians, Egyptians, Jews and others going to India, Java and China, as the "Conte Verde" goes as far as Shanghai, China.

The Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea were smooth and the weather was fine. The Red Sea was hot and so was the Arabian Sea; the temperature in our cabins was from eighty to ninety-four degrees the whole trip, the air from the electric fans being warm. We reached Bombay July 23. After doing some needed shopping we left for Dhamtari the next afternoon and reached Raipur at 4 p. m., July 25. We were met there by Bro. Miller and Bro. Lapp who took us in their cars to Dhamtari, forty-eight miles further south.

On arriving we drove in at Dr. Troyer's home and met some of the Missionaries there. And at Bro. Miller's home in spite of pouring rain we were welcomed by a number of men and boys from the Christian community and by some of the Missionaries who had come in to see us.

We are thankful to the dear Lord for His protection over us in bringing us safely to this needy land that we have learned to love to again witness for Him.

#### DHAMTARI

A week has passed since we arrived in Dhamtari. It is a pleasure to meet old acquaintances and we have appreciated the welcome they gave to us. We have visited in a number of homes. So many changes have taken place. Last year's cholera attack in Dhamtari left sorrow in a number of homes. I think now especially of one mother who passed away leaving six small children. The father cares for the three youngest as best he can while the three older ones have been placed in the Girls' Boarding at Balodgahan. The large Christian community in Dhamtari certainly presents many problems. Please pray for the missionaries and Indian Christians in Dhamtari.

The cholera epidemic is gradually losing strength. As yet the bazars and public meeting places have not functioned as before. We however hope to have open services in the Church next Sunday. A number have expressed feeling a distinct loss in not being able to go to services the past three weeks.

Yesterday a little girl died quite suddenly. She was sick less than twelve hours with fever. Reuben and Miriam, the father and mother, have not been too faithful in their devotion to Christ. This is the second child they have lost within six months. We are praying this grief will help to draw them nearer to Christ.

MINNIE GRABER.

#### DONDI

We find in the villages here about Dondi that on the part of quite a number of people there is no desire to obey the Gospel. After explaining Christ's message to a village audience one man said, "It is better that each of us remain in our own religion." In another village a man said, "I know what you say is true but I want to follow my own way." Another man is afraid to read the Bible for fear it might make him a Christian.

Pray for us who preach the Word that we may maintain a courageous and buoyant spirit, and that the Holy Spirit may convict those who are hard of heart.

A. C. BRUNK.

#### MOHADI

During the short time since coming from the hills we have had an unusually large number of patients at the Dispensary as well as several village calls. These village trips are difficult now because of muddy roads—cycles and walking are the surest means of travel. The people have been very appreciative of the help given.

Bro. and Sis. Hostetler will have charge of the medical work while I spend the month of August at Ghatula with Sis. Kanagy helping with the Friesen's work while they are in the hills.

After an enjoyable week around Dhamtari, visiting with the newly arrived missionaries as well as the others, I will leave tomorrow (July 30) by ox-cart on our two-day trip to Ghatula.

DORA SHANTZ.

#### GHATULA

Bro. Friesen leaves early tomorrow morning for a month's rest in the hills with his family. Sis. Shantz will have charge of work during his absence.

Cholera seems to be better in Ghatula village but in Sihawa and neighboring villages there are many sick and deaths occur daily.

The Ranger Sahib is in the Hospital ill with pneumonia. He is improving and eats anything that the Christians prepare for him. He also appreciates the reading of the Word and prayer. We are praying that he may be willing to dedicate his life to Him who gave it.

The girls of the Industrial School are keeping well, a few had fever and two were bitten by scorpions.

Bro. Moti (Friesen's cook) and family are rejoicing over the arrival of a plump little baby girl on Sunday, July 23. The three older children are boys and are very happy for a little sister.

MINNIE KANAGY.

#### SHANTIPUR

Two babies have been born in Shantipur during the month, one in one of our Christian homes and one in the Leper Asylum. The poor infant of the leper mother lived only two weeks.

Shantipur is on very much of a treeless plain. A number of trees have been planted on the site of the Leper Asylum and the missionaries' bungalow and other buildings but their growth has been very slow and not a few have died. Others have been planted which we hope will grow.

We are very thankful to our Old Order Amish Brother Fisher for his visit in our midst and his interest in the Lord's work at this place. His stay was all too short with us—only four days, which had to be crowded very full in order to visit Dhamtari, Balodgahan, Sankra, and Shantipur. Fortunately he was with us over a week end and worshipped with us at Balodgahan and Shantipur. The work was so much more extensive than he thought that he gave us too little time. Come again, Bro. Fisher and stay longer. May God bless him during his further travels and in his service of inspiring interest in the furtherance of the Kingdom.

GEO. J. LAPP.

#### GENERAL

Bro. and Sis. George Lapp plan to leave August 8 for a month's leave at Darjeeling. Sis. Sarah Lapp is to take charge of their work in their absence.

Bro. Friesen has left for Landour to spend the month of August with his family there.



# INDIA MISSION NEWS.

Vol. XIII. § Dhamtari, C. P., India, September 1934. § No. 9.

## BALODGAHAN

Our Bible Class girls have been going out to the village on evenings when it is not raining to hold meetings with groups of illiterate Christians. They read a Scripture portion and then explain it in the Chhattisgarhi language. In each meeting a testimony is given by some one who because of her Christian experience is able to do so. We especially enjoyed last night listening to the testimony of Prem-bai who herself is illiterate but a very fine mother to our Boarding girls.

MARY M. GOOD.

## DONDI

We have been spending the rainy days in Bible classes with the Evangelists and Bible Women of this station. We had classes both in the forenoon and afternoon. We have all received new blessings from the study of God's Word.

A. C. BRUNK.

## SHANTIPUR

We are busy since Aug. 1 studying the language. Our Pandit, a converted Brahmin, is a fine Christian. We have visited the stations at Balodgahan, Sankra, and Dhamtari. Fred has been helping some of the sick here in Shantipur. We are enjoying our stay with Lapps very much. We praise God for a safe journey and for health.

MILLIE AND FRED BRENNEMAN.

Bro. and Sis. G. J. Lapp left Aug. 8 for a month of needed rest so I am trying to look after some of the work in their absence.

Several babies have been sick with bowel trouble in the Christian community who responded well to treatment given by Dr. Brenneman. Their parents are very happy to have them restored again.

Chaitu, one of the inmates in the Leper Home, passed to his eternal home the 17th. He leaves a widow with three small children. They both had been in evangelistic work for a number of years but he began to show signs of leprosy so was sent to the Leper Home for treatment four years ago but he did not respond to the treatment. His wife also came about two years ago having contracted the disease, but she is symptom free again although still under inspection.

Cholera was in a few neighboring villages but has become less again.

Sarah, one of the teachers in the school here, was married to Kalyan of Sankra Aug. 24. They will make Sankra their home for the present.

SARAH LAPP.

## MOHADI

The cholera siege of about three weeks has just ended a few days ago. We praise the Lord that none of the Christians were taken with the dreaded and terrible disease. In practically all public prayers continually thankfulness for this deliverance and prayer that it might continue were offered to God. We also prayed for the people of the village, that God's will might be done in delivering them and causing the disease to bring not only sorrow and fear to the people but a looking to God. I think the experiences connected with the siege have established a warmer place in the hearts of the people here toward us and our work. They soon began to realize that what we could do and advise did more good than the idol worship and sorcery they practiced, and they were soon all ready to be inoculated. Soon after this took place the epidemic subsided. But it is still in a number of surrounding villages taking a daily toll of lives of those who do not know Christ, the only Saviour.

We are studying the book of Daniel now in our weekly Bible study classes. The interest seems to be growing. They are all very much interested in the unfulfilled prophecies of the Bible that are related to the last days. Today the women's meetings were again started. They had been stopped during the hot season until now. All the sisters in the church attend these regularly.

We are making benches for the church house during the rains. In the hot season the men went to the jungle and brought logs of a cheap wood, and now one of the local boys who graduated from the Carpentry School this spring is making them. The members subscribed liberally to make up the amount needed for the work.

We praise God for one of our young sisters who went away to Bible School and who consecrated her life there to the Lord, and wrote back asking forgiveness for certain sins, which was evidence of the sincerity of her consecration. We are praying that more by "see the Lord" thus.

S. J. HOSTETLER.

## GHATULA

Bro. and Sis. Friesen are leaving Landour on Sept. 3 and expect to arrive here by Sept. 11.

Three of the Industrial School girls had mumps and several are sick with fever. Some of the Christian people have been sick with fever and dysentery but no one has been seriously ill, for which we are very grateful.

MINNIE KANAGY.

A Punjabi Brahman in Government employ (Ranger mentioned below) has been a patient at the Hospital here nearly six weeks. He came in as a pneumonia patient with very high temperature. Since,

he has had various complications which have delayed his recovery. Several times his condition was so serious we had no hope of his recovery. Many prayers have been ascending for him and his family. At times like this we feel the distance away from a doctor. It takes at least five days to get advice by letter from Dhamtari.

In the Christian community this last week, two new babies came to bring joy to their homes. The one is a son of Deacon Mukut and Nurse Sonai Bai and the other a daughter of two of our teachers, Budhullal and Agni Bai.

There has been no cholera in Ghatula for some weeks but the epidemic is still bad in villages five or six miles away. DORA SHANTZ.

## SANKRA

Occasionally quite interesting cases came to the dispensary. A little girl about eight years old was brought by her father to have a fish hook taken out of her cheek just above the jaw bone. So I injected some medicine to relieve the pain and incised it enough to get the hook out. Then one stitch was put in to keep it together. The father said the children were playing and one boy threw his fishing line and the hook struck the girl in the face.

The rains and work in the fields are keeping some of the lepers away from the clinics. Cholera has been in one village where we have a clinic and no one came for treatment for three weeks because of this. Some villages will not let the people go to other villages because of the cholera epidemic. Continue to pray for these lepers and other sick ones.

ADA HARTZLER.

We arrived home from the hills Aug. 6. It was harder than ever to put the boys into school this year. Arthur did not seem to mind it much but the parting was very hard on Ernest. The older they get the harder it is for them to leave us; the older we get the harder it is for us to part too.

We thank God that so far He has spared Sankra from the dread disease, cholera. People have dysentery in a bad form but so far no cholera. The surrounding villages also report dysentery. This so often precedes the active appearance of cholera that we are praying daily to be spared an epidemic of cholera. We enjoyed a spiritual feast with Bro. Graber giving us the message on Sunday, Aug. 19. Bro. and Sis. Graber, Bro. and Sis. Brenneman, and Sis. Lapp were present with us and enjoyed communion services with us. Due to an old standing case (adultery) several families could not partake. We pray mightily that the Devil may be ousted from their hearts and they be given the courage to make things right and again be partakers of heavenly blessings.

Rain, rain, rain! The spill-way at Adamabad irrigation works is overflowing so that the river is impassable for motor cars and part of the time the water is so deep that not even a boat can be poled across. This is a river about seven miles from here, the Tandula river. Several of our Christian families report that parts of their houses are collapsing. So far no one has been injured.

A family, Davids, have been estranged from his parents, due to the young couple being proud and "sassy" to their parents. The Lord has blessed the young couple with a baby boy and this is the means of bringing the two families together again. David's mother told me with tears in her eyes that now they are one again; she was so happy she had to shed tears of joy. The hard feelings of the son has been a source of keen grief and many tears on the part of the mother of David. We trust he too has learned his lesson. R. R. SMUCKER.

#### WOMEN'S MEDICAL COLLEGE, LUDHIANA.

The present six weeks I am permitted to spend in the Women's Memorial Hospital, Ludhiana, Panjab, to observe methods and management and see what I can learn that will be of use in Dhamtari. The Medical College here has been in existence for 40 years and the hospital had its beginning before that. The good work that has been done in the name of Christ during this time extends not only to the patients who have received both spiritual and physical aid, but to the women of India who have been trained as doctors, compounders, nurses, and midwives and have gone out to bring the same message to their own people.

When we hear the story of this institution of how at one time a wave of modernism, which entered the committee and the staff and almost caused the institution to become engulfed in its deadening influences, was checked and overthrown by the prayers of God's children we are made to praise God for His guiding and protecting hand.

MARY J. HOLSOPPLE.

#### REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

1. Will you pray for the young boys of Dondi that they will give their hearts to God? We are conducting a class for them in the forenoon and evening. A. C. B.
2. Will you pray for the Ranger at Ghatula who has been sick for over six weeks and who we believe has been troubled about his soul, that he might be willing to accept Christ as his personal Saviour? M. K.
3. Pray that the Matron and girls of the Industrial School (Ghatula) might have a deeper spiritual experience and thus prove a greater blessing to one another. M. K.

# INDIA MISSION NEWS.

Vol. XIII. § Dhantari, C. P., India, October 1934. § No. 10.

## SHANTIPUR

Two Christian men, who have been in the asylum for some years, died during the month. One of them left a grown daughter who is staying in the Girls' Boarding at Balodgahan.

In the beginning of the month a woman in the last stages of tuberculosis was brought to the asylum. She was too weak to be moved anywhere else so was cared for here and passed away in less than three weeks time. A boy and a girl came with her and they are now in our boarding.

A month ago a woman was admitted who has a very bad foot. She left a two-year old child at home. Several weeks later the husband came with the child saying he could not care for her and wanted to give her to the mother. The child is clean so we did not allow the mother to keep her but have taken her into the boarding. Pray that these children who have now come under Christian influence, may grow up to be true children of the Lord.

Ikbid, a young Christian woman, who spent three years in the asylum and was then discharged as symptom free, ran away with one of our untainted boys, Malaki. The police found them wandering about in Raipur and brought them back. They were made to live separately for ten days and make a confession before the church. They were married on Sept. 21. They had no new clothes, no big wedding party, and no wedding feast. Pray that they may make Christ the head of their home.

In Bagatrai, where the village owner was baptized several months ago, the Deputy Inspector of Schools has registered a protest. He says the school masters are spending most of their time preaching in the villages and do not pay proper attention to their school. He is using this method to show that he disapproves of the religious work they are doing. Pray that the masters may be steadfast and fearless in their witnessing.

FANNIE H. LAPP.

## GHATULA

On the 25th inst. (Sept.) at twelve o'clock, we rang the bell for an entirely new purpose. It was a call for the sisters of the church here to come to the Sewing Circle Meeting. Heretofore we had met an hour or two in the evening and the attendance was not what we desired. A little discussion in the last meeting helped us on to this plan. We were most agreeably surprised to see almost every one come to help. Some who can not sew brought something they wanted to have done. Others worked on garments we want to give for the sale on Thanksgiving Day. It was the first time so many of us ever sat and worked and visited together and we all enjoyed it for we all had to repeat the occasion at least once or twice a month. After the sewing was the devotional service and light refreshments.

The Forest Officer, who has been in our ward seventy-one days with many complications, has left today. We are grateful that God has heard our prayers in his behalf and we hope that the Christian influence has been such that he will accept Jesus Christ into his life.

We are nearing the close of the rains and it is the time we have much malaria. Bro. Friesen had planned to be in Mohadi this week to help in Evangelistic meetings but he has been in Dhamtari instead suffering from an attack of fever. The two days between mails seem like weeks when some member of the family is sick and away from home.

FLORENCE C. FRIESEN.

## SANKRA

The month of September finds us busy getting ready for various committee meetings and other meetings; such as, Business Meeting, Christian Workers' Normal, Annual Jalsa and Sunday School Conference. I happen to be chairman of the committee for the Jalsa and Conference and besides this we have our regular work of looking after the school and the church here at Sankra and preaching at the clinics and village meetings, as well as the Sunday work here at Sankra. We have organized a Sunday School at Balod which is eight miles from here and have Sunday School there every Sunday and preaching every other Sunday. I go only on the Preaching appointments as a rule. A worker, Bro. Harchand, has charge of the Sunday School.

One of our Christian women, who was baptized this past hot season, has had an operation for hernia. It isn't healing any too well as it has formed a deep pus pocket. We trust she will speedily recover and be able to be about her work again.

After the rice weeding is fairly well over we wish to start building a low wall around the hospital and ward. The money for this, outside of ten dollars which the mission gave as a donation to give encouragement, was all collected or rather given by our Hindu friends and patients, mostly wealthy Malguzars (village owners), officials, etc. We have spent the last three years collecting money for this wall to be built by the Hindu friends. So far not a Christian has donated toward it and we have asked none, out side of the Mission. We now have enough to build the wall and altho there isn't sufficient for the iron gate, we will probably succeed in getting that donated too. This is pretty good, we feel, for the Hindu well-wishers of the hospital in these hard times. C. compounder, John, is directly responsible for starting the agitation and for doing the vast bulk of the solicitation.

Pray for the spiritual life of our Church as a local group. There is such an appalling increase in indifference and laxity in caring for real spiritual food that one is almost discouraged oft-times. The people come from a sense of duty rather than from a sense of real hunger. Realizing that the fault lies with the preacher, pastor, and deacon as well as with the people themselves we ask a special interest in your prayers that a spiritual revival may be prayed down from Heaven.

Two lepers say they want to come. Pray that they may not again be side-tracked by the clever wiles of the Devil. Various ones among the leper group know the facts: they know they are sinners lost without a Saviour, they know that Jesus is this Saviour, and they know that they should take Him for themselves. Pray that the start may be made. Others will follow once several come. So far many have been near the Kingdom but yet outside the gate.

Health is fair although much malaria and colds and cough are prevalent among the people, both Hindu and Christian.

Pray for us, Brethren.

R. R. SMUCKER.

## MEDICAL STATION

Mr. DeSilva, the Inspector of Schools for this area, made a tour through this part in the last week and the day he was planning to return became ill with acute indigestion. He has been in the European Ward for several days.

Bro. Friesen was detained at the Medical Station on account of rain the other day and in a few hours we found he was suffering with malaria. He is now on the road to recovery.

Bro. Graber, though not in the hospital, caused us some anxiety when he broke out with a sort of poison rash all over his body. We are glad to report he is better although the toxins seem to have been a very strong dose for him.

MARY J. HOLSOPPLE.

#### DONDI

The Dondi congregation has just finished putting a cement floor into its new church building which here-to-fore had only an earth floor. A Hindu gave one thousand brick free of charge. All the ordinary labor was done by the members of the Church. We all worked: men, women, and children, after school hours. We have also had benches made sufficient for the present congregation and some visitors. This has all been done within the congregation's budget.

A. C. BRUNK.

The Christian workers from Balodgahan and its outstations came together for a very profitable two weeks of Bible Study. Sister Sarah Lapp taught the class in the books of Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther; the Indian Pastor, Bro. Sukhlal, taught the Psalms; and Bro. Vogt taught Job and Bible Doctrines. One of the Bible Women became sick with malaria so could not attend the last week.

Sister Wenger has been very busy the last month caring for the many sick. The Indian nurse at Balodgahan was so sick one night that Dr. Troyer was called out from Dhamtari. Sis. Wenger spent a good bit of that night with her, the next day she was busy all day and cared for a new baby until late in the evening. The next morning (Sunday) a little girl was brought to her for treatment who had been bit by a big snake. During the Church Services this Sunday, Sis. Wenger was called out of the meeting to the home of our Pastor, Sukhlal, whose wife was very sick. Sister Wenger is not very strong herself and her work will be very heavy the next month as giving her Indian nurse a month's vacation so that she can recuperate.

Bro. Friesen recently went to Nagpur to get his new Ford Sedan which he drove back to Dhamtari. The road to Ghatula is not yet open to cars since the rains but in another month or so no doubt Bro. Friesens will be able to use their new car. The Ghatula station was without a car for a number of months so we all rejoice with Bro. Friesens that they have one again.

# INDIA MISSION NEWS.

Vol. XIII. § Dhamtari, C. P., India, November 1934. § No. 11.

## DHAMTARI

The boys have just completed their first term examinations. We have made a rather radical change from the old essay type to the newer type of tests. Changes come slowly in India and many of the teachers are skeptical about the newer type of tests.

Monthly staff meetings are held of the teachers of each of the different departments, normal, Bible and high school on separate Saturday mornings, with a staff meeting of the entire group on the last Saturday of each month. Last Saturday Brother Graber discussed with the Bible teachers the subject "The Bible as the Good News."

The next two weeks the school will be closed on account of the Diwali holidays. During this vacation an institute for Christian boys will be held in a grove on the bank of a large river, three miles out from Dhamtari and will last for five days and about a hundred boys will be in attendance. After this institute Brother Miller will take part in a similar institute, which is to be held near Jubbulpore. At this institute high school and college boys and girls will attend.

Pray for all these young Christian people that God may definitely lead them as they meet the question of deciding "What shall I do with my life." They have great opportunity of service to their Master in this their needy motherland. RUTH MILLER.

## MEDICAL STATION AND KURUD

On Oct. 18 we left home to spend a week with Bro. Premsingh and Sis. Ramoti in Kurud. Our aim was to get better acquainted with the people with whom they work and also to fellowship with them.

On Friday (19th) we went to the village of Dane Sarae about four miles this side of Kurud. In this village one Christian family owns a house and about fifteen acres of land. At present they are out working in their fields. There are also about eleven families belonging to the Oil-Makers Caste some of whom are closely related to this Christian family. A number of times we have heard that they would like to become Christians. We went to the home of Chamru, one whom they highly esteem and consider their leader. He is always very friendly and responsive to our teaching. When approached about accepting Christ he answered as he has often done before, "What about my household? Could I be a Christian and keep my family together?" He has two wives.

Friday evening we went to Dondi where a number of patients were waiting to see the Doctor. On Sunday morning when returning to Kurud we stopped at this village again and asked the Christian couple

to arrange for a meeting at seven-thirty that evening. Then we were told that Death had visited the home of Chamru and claimed his three-year-old daughter. On Sat. about ten o'clock she was stung by a scorpion and died in three hours time. Because of sudden death they were not allowed to bury her until after inquest had been made. They called for the police immediately but Sunday morning at nine o'clock he had not arrived; he lives in Kurud. We went to the home and tried to comfort the mother and her sister wife. With joy we told them of the beautiful place the child could now call home and that all sadness and pain was now over for her but their poor minds could hardly comprehend such a thing. The father had started to Raipur, about thirty miles away, in his ox-cart and did not expect to be back until Tuesday or Wednesday.

A meeting was arranged for Sunday evening and many came to hear. But they were not satisfied and begged us to come again on Monday evening, which we did, and the greater part of the villa turned out and listened attentively.

In the village of Charmuria, three miles north of Kurud, are three Christian families who would like to have us conduct church services with them regularly. This is hardly possible but we hope to get them started on the Sunday lessons and trust they will be interested enough to have Sunday School with the Evangelist when we can not be there.

Sister Dasri Bai, one of the Dhamtari Bible Women needs to be especially remembered by God's people. Her daughter, who has a two month's old baby, is very ill with T. B. Dasri has both of them in her home and is caring for them. She has been excused from attending Christian Workers' Normal held the first two weeks in November.

G. D. and KATHRYN TROYER.

(Dasri's daughter died very suddenly shortly after the above was written.)

Not long ago a man came for an operation on his eyelids, which were so shrunken from disease that his eyelashes were turned in. As he waited so long before asking for surgical aid his eyes are almost past help. He seemed disappointed that he has not been helped completely and at once. Because he has no money to pay for the operation he offered a large brass plate, which shows signs of hard usage, in payment. To take dishes is not our policy, but because he seemed ready to give it and said he had no money I took it. A few days later he and his wife realized that the rice was getting all. What could they do? As yet the doctor had not given permission to leave. He came to me and stating his condition said, "Please keep as much of the price of the plate as necessary for the operation and give the rest to me so I can buy some rice." This was amusing, for the plate was practically worthless to me, and due to its signs of hard usage would have brought very little. So I went and got the plate and gave it back to him. Now if the plate is worth anything he can have its full value.

As the cold season is beginning the morning sunshine feels good after a crisp night. So we go about the morning persuading the

ambulate patients to come out of their rooms and enjoy nature's remedy. Some of them fear there will be some harm in going out. This is only one of the false fears we have to battle against.

MARY JACIE HOLSOPPLE.

#### MOHADI

The last two weeks have been very busy among the sick. There has been very much malaria among our Christians. The attacks seemed unusually severe and long. In two weeks twenty-three of the Christians have had malaria. In the villages there is lots of sickness, malaria as well as other diseases. Yesterday I was called to see a woman who had been unconscious most of the last four days. She passed away today. A boy of about fifteen has typhoid fever and in another home is a boy of seven years very ill with pneumonia. Another young man, whom we have visited daily for the last six weeks, confined to his home with a broken leg, has nearly recovered. He has been very appreciative and listens attentively when I show and explain a Bible picture to him.

DORA SHANTZ.

#### BALODGAHAN

The rainy season is past and the bright clear days have come. The nights are getting much cooler so that cover at night is agreeable. We who do touring in the villages during the cold season are looking forward to that time from December to the end of March with hopes that the sowing of His Word may reach some souls who will be ready to let it grow in their hearts and accept Jesus as their Saviour. Will the readers of this little leaflet remember us all in their prayers that no matter in what line we witness for Him souls may be drawn to Him?

Rice harvest is just beginning so the farmers and day laborers are all looking forward to putting their little hand sickles in to the grain to reap their harvest which is quite good this year.

This is a busy time of the year with Christian Workers' Bible Normal for eleven days, Annual Business Meeting, Committee Meetings, and before long Christmas will be here with Conference and other meetings.

SARAH LAPP.

Some months ago the wife of one of our near neighbors, Thelsingh, left her husband with a curse upon her lips declaring that she would never come back. He was left alone with a son who gets epileptic fits. Shortly after his wife's departure his eyes became sore and he has become blind. He became so discouraged that one night he tied a stone to his foot and jumped in a well. The string to which he had tied the stone broke and he came to the top and crawled out of the well. He weeping told his story—that he was hungry and that the pain in his eyes was beyond endurance. The Boarding girls, since then, have been sharing their food with him.

MARY M. GOOD.

#### SHANTIPUR.

On Oct. 2 Dr. Sundaram arrived at Shantipur to take up the medical work here. We are very glad to have a doctor who can give all his time to the sick and suffering ones.



On Sunday, Oct. 28, a group of boys from the Academy, under the leadership of Eleazer Parsadi, came and gave a service of song to the lepers. It was much appreciated by all and we trust that the gospel message in song touched the hearts of those who are still without Christ.

Monday, Oct. 22, was full moon. The missionaries from Balodgahan, Dhamtari, Sankra, and Shantipur met here in our small jungle that evening. First we had a picnic supper, then a prayer meeting led by Bro. Smucker. It was a perfect moonlight night and we were again reminded of the goodness of God in providing all the beauties of nature for us.

Money has come for new buildings for taking in inmates into the Shantipur Leper Home. We thank God for this and are making preparations to build as soon as possible in order to relieve the present congestion. FANNIE H. LAPP

.....

A man ran past the door on the veranda. "Sahib, something has happened! People are shouting!" The boarding girls who were bathing at the tank were screaming at the top of their voices. People began running here and there. What had happened? A pain shot thru me as I guessed that perhaps some one was drowning in the tank. I ran out on the veranda. It was a relief and a new excitement to hear the words, "A Hyena, a Hyena!" And a greater thrill was mine to look out across the field a few yards away and see the big beast trotting along on a rice bank in broad day light. He sneaked around the village and off into the jungle.

.....

#### REQUESTS FOR PRAYER.

1. That each worker in the hospital may have a growing burden for the souls who come daily.
2. That the seed sown by spoken word, song, and printed portion may find root not only in these patients but in their relatives in the villages.
3. For our compounders as they prepare a special program to be given in the villages in keeping with Christmas. M. J. L.
4. That the Indian Church may as a whole reconsecrate themselves a new and may realize their duty and responsibility to God and to those about them and become workers together with Him in witnessing for Christ.
5. That those excommunicated from the Church will repent and come back into the Church again. S. L.
6. Pray for Thelsingh of Balodgahan. It is very hard for him becoming blind at this age to learn to do anything to make a living. Also pray for his wife, Budhiyarin, that she may return to him and especially to her Lord. M. M. G.

# INDIA MISSION NEWS.

Vol. XIII. § Dhamtari, C. P., India, December 1934. § No. 12.

## SCRIPTURE PORTIONS TREASURED BY PATIENTS

Nahura, a fine young Hindu who loved to read, was a patient in our ward at Balodgahan for several months. I gave him a New Testament which he read most eagerly. He also read many other small books from our hospital stock of books; some were life stories of Christian leaders and other religious books. One day I asked him which one book he liked best of all that he had read. He at once replied, "I liked the Jesus story best."

A little later Naharu invited Nurse Bai and me to his brother's wedding. So we went out and spent the day as his guest. Bro. Sukhlal, our pastor, also went along. During the day between ceremonies we were given the opportunity to tell the Gospel Story in a number of his relatives' homes. They all heard it gladly. As a wedding gift I gave the Hindu bride and groom a New Testament.

A couple of weeks ago two men came from a distant village for medicine. After they were supplied I told them about Jesus, read some verses for them, and gave them some Scripture portions to take along home. They said, "These are wonderful words." Another patient (in-patient) overhearing the conversation said, "I can not read but when I go back to my village, won't you give me this same story so my friends and relatives can read it?"

A short time ago we had as a patient a servant of an English Official. He himself could not read but the servant who cared for him could, so we gave him some books to read. When he was able to go home he returned the books which he had enjoyed. I asked him to select a book which he would like to take along as a gift. He replied, "I would like the story of Jesus. I want to read about His birth and life."

Will you pray with us that the Holy Spirit through these portions of the Word may bring souls to Christ? MARY A. WENGER.

## GIFTS FOR THE POOR

This year the Primary Sunday School has been keeping its collections separate and now we have enough to buy a few things for the poor. We want to give seven or eight New Testaments to homes which have none, and with the remainder we bought material to make little dresses for the smallest child in each poor home. Our children are a live bunch and we hope and pray they will have as much enthusiasm for work for Jesus when they grow up as they have now in their play and other activities. ADA HARTZLER.

## JOHN AND SUKHAM

We are happy that two people of Sankra who sinned were convicted and that they confessed their sin; although we must still say that we are sad that the husband is not ready as yet to forgive or ask forgiveness for quarreling with three or four other families. Pray for John and Sukham.

R. R. SMUCKER.

John is a young compounder and Sukham, his wife, a nurse who were both helping in the medical work at Sankra. Sister Hartzler writes, "At present we have no compounder or nurse in our dispensary. Because of sin and questionable character we had to give the compounder leave as well as his wife. Another compounder is coming Dec. 1. Will you pray much for our Christian people that they may not yield to temptations but remain true Christian witnesses?"

## ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING Nov. 20-23

The Annual Business Meeting is always looked forward to with great anticipations and with much prayer for spiritual blessings to be poured out upon us as a united group of workers who are interceding with our lives for the lost. This year there were twenty-seven missionaries and seven children present.

These days were times of heart-searching, re-consecration, and inspiration. As we looked to God and reviewed our work we were humbled to think of how foolish and weak and small have been our efforts, of how great is the task, of how mighty, glorious, and powerful is our Heavenly Father, and of how willing, ready, and anxious He is to guide and to work out HIS plans in HIS work here!

The following testimonies were given concerning what the Holy Spirit means to us:

- (1) "The Holy Spirit beareth witness that we are the children of God."
- (2) "I am not alone.....God is with me."
- (3) "Christ in me the hope of Glory." Col. 1:27.
- (4) "When it is difficult to pray and God's Word is not interesting the Holy Spirit brings me into the presence of God."
- (5) "The Holy Spirit helpeth our infirmities."
- (6) "1 Cor. 3:16 is my favorite verse. To think that my body is the temple of God and that God's Spirit is within me! This thought has (a) rebuked me again and again, (b) it has brought me back to God, and (c) it has again done this for me this morning."
- (7) "The Glory of My Heavenly Father is taught to me by the Holy Spirit."
- (8) "Guidance as to the WILL of GOD is a precious work of the Holy Spirit in my life."

- (9) "The Holy Spirit brings power into the church. At Pentecost the Holy Spirit brought (a) an urge of new power, and (b) the Holy Spirit helped them solve all their problems."

Important subjects discussed were: "The presence of the Holy Spirit and What it Means to Me"; "God's Word, Its place in Church Building, and in Evangelism"; "Soul-Winning and its relation to Faith, to Prayer, and to the Missionary"; "Moral Leprosy in our Christian Community"; "A Comparison of our work and that of New Testament Missions"; and "A Study of the Future of Evangelism in our Mission Fields."

The burden on each heart was that we might return to our work with a will completely subject to God's will, and with a desire to pray more for the lost, and that no matter what our work, whether institutional or otherwise, we try as individuals to get out more into the unevangelized districts to witness for our Lord.

Brother Smucker says, "We certainly received new inspiration, a new vision, and wonderful blessings in our Business Meeting. Pray that we may be willing and ready to take up our share of the burden of the vision and the leading of the Holy Spirit."

## BIBLE NORMAL and CHRISTIAN WORKERS' MEETINGS

On the evening of Oct. 31 was the opening service of the Bible Normal held at Balodgahan. A very profitable time was spent together and several workers testified that they received even more blessings than last year.

Special features were:

(1) Daily Bible Classes. The Books of Ezra, Nehemia, and Esther were taught in two divisions by Bro. Hostetler and Bro. Vogt. These same classes spent the next hour in a study of Bible Doctrines, being taught by Bro. Lapp and Bro. Smucker.

(2) S. T. Moyer's talks. The first two days S. T. Moyer of Basna spoke on Methods for Village Teaching. He emphasized the need of (a) Using only the Bible, (b) Teaching in one village for several weeks until all the people have had opportunity to hear the Gospel essentials, and (c) working simultaneously but separately with the men and women of the same homes.

(3) Brunk, Bryce, and McGavran's talks. A. C. Brunk and G. P. Bryce stopped on their way home from a tour of investigating evangelistic work in South India. Great things were told to us of the power of the Holy Spirit working in those parts of India where Mass Movements have brought thousands to Christ.

Mr. McGavran gave an inspiring talk; two characteristic illustrations were: (1) "So often we take the plow into the field that is ready for harvest. We should take the sickle and rope to tie up the sheaves expecting to carry home the sheaves." (2) "Who goes to the forest with his gun and shoots 'Phat, phat, phat', into the air without any thought of the animals? Such a hunter would bring home no game."

(4) Daily Prayer groups. Prayer for a revival and intercession for the lost were the burdens of these meetings.

(5) Sectional Meetings. While the men discussed "Gospel Team" work the women learned of the possibilities of the Story Method in evangelism.

(6) Last Three Days (Nov. 9-11). This time was given to meetings for all Christian Workers in Mission employ, "Holiness", "Christian Soldiers", and "Bringing Souls to Christ" were the subjects for the respective days.

(7) Evangelistic Meetings. Bro. Graber spoke at the first six meetings and Bro. Friesen the remainder of the time. Everyone was invited to these evening meetings. The Holy Spirit was at work and many, especially among the school girls, reconsecrated their lives to Christ.

#### GENERAL

Ronald Graber was sick for several days first with malaria and later with the mumps.

The Darjeeling school children are to arrive in Dhamtari, Dec. 5; Bro. and Sis. Hostetler went to Calcutta to meet them. The Landour party is to arrive several days later and Bro. Smucker is planning to meet them.

Two very sudden deaths occurred within a week in the Widows' Home. Both were blind widows and both Christians. The one poor old grey-haired grandmother had laid down for the night with the usual earthen pot full of hot coals under her bed to keep her warm. In some way she was soon in a blaze; others soon extinguished the fire but her dreadful suffering was ended in less than twenty minutes.

#### APPOINTMENTS FOR 1935

Appointments remain the same for the coming year except for the following changes:

Dora Shantz and Mary Holsopple are to take over the work of Mary Good and Mary Wenger; the former having charge of the Girls' Boarding and Boarding Dispensary and the latter having the Girls Middle School and Village Dispensary from Feb. 15. The work of M. C. and Esther Vogt is to be taken up by G. H. and Ida Beare. These vacancies in Balodgahan are caused by furloughs being due.

Ada Hartzler is to be Superintendent of the Dhamtari Mission Hospital in place of Mary Holsopple from Feb. 15.

Dr. Brennemans are to move to the Medical Station by July 1 and Dr. Troyers to the South Sunderganj Bungalow. Dr. Breuneman is to be Medical Director of the Hospital and Dr. Troyer the Surgical Director of the Hospital and to have charge of the Kurud and Shantipur Clinics and District Medical work.