

The Fields

TIDINGS OF CHRISTIAN MISSIONS IN MANY LANDS

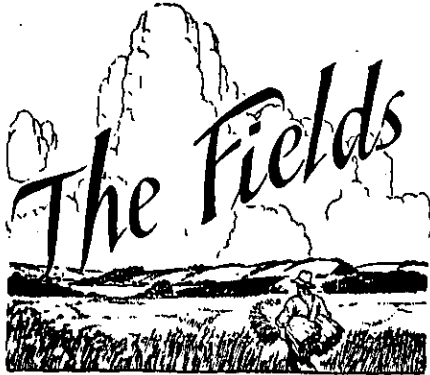


Group of Children at Lima, Peru

(Stanley and Joan Livingston first and third from left, front row)

Photo by W. Livingston

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Editorials:

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Our Objective

The objective of "The Fields" is to promote interest in the work of the Lord throughout the world. This magazine concerns itself primarily with the labors of missionaries commended by assemblies in the U. S. A. and Canada.

Illustrations

Letters and articles covering the work abroad are more useful if illustrated. Reader interest is always stimulated by photographs. The cooperation of workers in forwarding good photos is much appreciated.

"The Fields" to Missionaries

Through the kindness of friends we have been able to send *The Fields* to many missionaries. We would like to send the magazine to many more missionaries on the field.

J. E. H., British Columbia	\$1.50
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Editorials



The Passing of Dr. John Olley

An appreciation of the late Dr. Olley appears in this issue. We have neither desire nor ability to enlarge upon what Mr. Colin Price has written. We desire however, to emphasize one great feature of Dr. Olley's life and labors which we believe will appeal to all, namely, his utter abandonment to the Lord and His interests. Evidently life held little charm for our beloved brother aside from the opportunity it afforded of fellowship with the Lord and the furtherance of His work.

The bent of his life was in this sole direction. Once his hand was put to the plow there was no looking back. Ordinary qualifications in earlier days developed into extraordinary ones as he continued his studies well into middle life that he might be the better equipped for the Lord's work.

Through thirty-seven years of unbroken service under difficult conditions in French Equatorial Africa, Dr. Olley has set an outstanding example to us all. His passing may not be much noticed in this world, but the arduous trekking that he did, the privations he endured, the evangelistic and teaching ministry he fulfilled, the languages he learned and the translations of the Scriptures he produced are recorded in Heaven. When the accomplishments of kings and presidents have all passed into obscurity, the life and labors of such men as John Olley will shine on in glory. "He that doeth the will of God abideth forever."

* * * * *

"Sì! Creol!"

We had the pleasure of a week-end recently in Madrid, Spain. In the face of many and difficult problems, the assembly in Madrid appears to be in good condition. There are approximately three hundred believers in the Madrid assembly. In a later paper we hope to remark more fully upon the situation in Spain.

By interpretation we were able to address the friends in Madrid and were particularly impressed with the large attentive

audience gathered to hear the Word and witness the baptism of eleven believers on the Lord's Day evening. Following ministry on the subject of baptism and its application to the believer's life, a Spanish brother proceeded with the baptizing in a dignified manner. One by one the young believers were challenged with the question, "Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ alone unto eternal life?" Each in turn replied firmly, "Sì! Creol!" "Yes! I believe!"

Our heritage of freedom is so taken for granted that we scarcely realize what that simple confession may involve for those young men and women. Some time ago two of our young men were imprisoned for refusal to bow to the Host when being inducted into the Spanish armed forces. Their avowal, "Yes, I believe!" cost them something. Others in different ways are paying dearly for their discipleship.

It does something to us to witness such a baptismal service and to hear a firm declaration of faith on the part of those who know full well what their confession of Christ may mean. May the abundant blessings of the Lord rest upon all such Confessors of His Name.

* * * * *

Teach Us To Pray

At a recent missionary conference in Glasgow, a young man remarked on the strangely strengthening news he received at an hour of crisis in Africa. Amid a set of almost overwhelming difficulties a letter was received from an elderly believer in the homeland assuring the youthful missionary of her daily intercession on his behalf. The thought of saints at home thus laboring in prayer gave renewal of spirit and assurance of faith in regard to the besetting problems.

A few days later at the Belfast missionary conference a worker told of the uplift received from old friends who assured him that three times daily for thirty-five years they had besought God's blessing upon the missionary in Latin America.

Prayer is a reality. It is the God-ordained link between Himself and His servants. We

had a vivid reminder of this in a brief but decidedly vital prayer service near London when seventeen brethren took part audibly within ten minutes! Those men had a hold upon God. Their waiting on Him was gripping. It was of such spiritual experience that Francis Thompson wrote, "... of Jacob's ladder pitched between Heaven and Charing Cross."

The greatest need of the hour is that living link, wrought by prayer, between Heaven and the spirit of every Christian worker in every area of service on earth. Horizontal links on the human level have their value; but supremely important is that vertical link with the throne of grace. If this be lacking, all else is vain.

Alice the Prophetess

Reports from the Northern Rhodesia field have brought news of the strange cult of "Alice," a thirty-two year old self-styled prophetess, whose activities have given concern to missionaries of the Church of Scotland. Thousands of persons trek from near and far to hear Alice, who has a strange appeal to many.

Asserting that she is in direct communion with God, who has given her a ministry to her own people, Alice has "almost paralyzed" missionary work in the Lubwa district of Rhodesia.

Authorities, ever on the watch for any movement which tends to anti-white expression, view the situation with concern. Tens of thousands have been baptized by Alice. Loyalty to the prophetess apparently involves separation from things Christian.

This is but one phase of a general trend among hitherto subject races. The day of the white man's dominance is already past in some areas and soon will be in others. All that can be done should be done to set national churches on their feet as soon as possible. Paternalism in any form, social, political or religious, will soon be swept away by the rising tide of nationalism.

As we go to press, the following is added from the pen of Mr. Horace Coleman: "We found the area had been almost completely engulfed by the new uprising of heathenism, led by a so-called prophetess, who claims to have risen from the dead. The movement is aimed at witchcraft and other ailments of African heathen life, but the principle is that of 'setting a thief to catch a thief,' so that a great deal of the movement

has its roots deep down in the midnight darkness of this sorry land . . . Pray for this area, please."

"Moved With Compassion"

Once again we remind our readers that a booklet entitled "Moved with Compassion" may be had free of charge by writing to The Fields, 16 Hudson St., New York 13, N. Y.

This booklet is an interesting and informative survey of leper work conducted by our missionaries in Malaya, India and Africa. This is a record of devoted Christian service toward the afflicted and of spiritual results among them.

Central African Visit

In response to an urgent request from missionary brethren in Central Africa, Mr. W. T. Stunt of England, Mr. G. J. Charlton of Australia, and our editor, Mr. John Smart, have gone to Africa for conferences with missionaries.

There should be much prayer that the Lord's blessing may rest upon His servants and that as a result of their visit the missionaries may be greatly helped and the work of the Lord advanced.

(“The Fields” Committee)

Hearers and Doers

To enter into the place of a doer before you have occupied the place of a hearer is to reverse God's order and throw everything into confusion. If God is not first in the ear, He is not sanctified in the heart, nor is He rightly confessed with the mouth. Bernard has tritely described a Christian as, "One that willingly hears what is taught, and wisely understands what he heareth, and diligently practices what he understandeth."

The Single Eye

I would beg for you this privilege that the public world might never know you for praise or blame, that you should do a good deal of hard work in your generation and prosecute many useful labors; but that by the world you should be overlooked, that you should not be known out of your place, that you should serve your God and Him alone with a pure heart and single eye, and should make Him your sole hope, and His heaven your sole aim.

THE CHAD

The Northern Province of French Equatorial Africa

F. W. ROGERS

FRENCH Equatorial Africa is in the center of Africa, located between the Belgian Congo to the south and Libya to the north, with the Sudan to the east and Nigeria, French West Africa and the Cameroons to the West. It is nearly four times as large as France. The Chad stretches from 5° south of the equator to 23° north, from the dense tropical forests in the south to the barren Sahara desert in the north, composed of bush country and grasslands interspersed with many swamps. The four provinces that make up French Equatorial Africa are Middle Congo, Gabon, Oubangui-Chari, and Chad. This survey deals with the northern province, Chad, where missionaries from the assemblies are laboring.

The present population of the Chad is over 2,400,000 and can be divided into two classifications, Moslems to the north and pagans to the south. Islam penetrated the Chad from the north towards the end of the 16th century and in the 17th century, and at that time many heathen tribes in northern Chad were Moslemized. The Moslems raided the heathen tribes in southern Chad and took away many natives to be sold as slaves.

The French entered the Chad in 1897 when Emile Gentil conquered the Chad and made a link between the French colonies in North and West Africa and the French possession, Middle Congo, on the north side of the Congo River, which Savorgnan de Brazza had previously acquired for France and which is now the southern province of French Equatorial Africa. When France was overrun during the last war, General de Gaulle made an appeal to rally Free French forces, and the Chad responded valiantly and sent troops across the desert to help in the liberation of France.

The southern part of the Chad endures the two extremes of dampness and dryness. In the rainy season, from May till October, all the roads are muddy and many of them are closed to traffic for two or more months when the rivers overflow their banks and flood large areas. All the rivers in the Chad flow into Lake Chad which is an interior lake with no outlet to the sea—a depression about 150 miles long and 70 miles wide with many islands, and when the lake is filled

all the rivers overflow their banks. In the dry season there is no rain and the ground becomes parched, the roads very dusty, the grass shrivels up, and bush fires rage throughout the country. The northern part of the Chad reaches into the Sahara desert where in some towns they have scarcely any rain at all throughout the year.

The main resources of the Chad are the cattle to the north and cotton in the south. The staple food of the natives is the grain that they grow each rainy season, but they also have maize, peanuts, rice and sweet potatoes. Sheep and goats are plentiful in the south and camels and donkeys in the north. The Chad has a large variety of wild animals—lions, leopards, elephants, rhinoceros, buffalo, giraffe, and many kinds of antelope, with crocodiles and hippopotami in the rivers.

Transportation is one of the main problems here for we are a thousand miles from the nearest railways at Jos, Nigeria, and Yaounde, French Cameroons, and transport is done mainly by trucks over difficult roads in the dry season.

Missionary work in the Chad began about thirty-one years ago when our honored



F. W. Rogers with assistants in translation work.

senior colleague, Dr. John R. Olley, went to Fort Lamy, capital of the Chad. This city now has a population of 1,800 whites and 45,000 Africans. Dr. Olley left New Zealand in 1919 and labored for a few years among the Moslems in Algiers, Tunis, and Tripoli, and then in Kano, Nigeria, for one year; after the death of Mr. H. Pomeroy. In 1925 he entered French Equatorial Africa at Fort Lamy, and went to Abesher where he was allowed to remain only for one year. Some believers were baptized at Abesher at that time and the assembly has continued there throughout the years with occasional visits from Dr. Olley.

At about the same time that Dr. Olley entered the Chad at Fort Lamy, Mr. Paul Metzler of the Mid-Missions went to Fort Archambault, and Mr. V. Veary of Sudan United Mission went to Moundou, and their missions in both areas have made good progress through the years.

Mr. Walter Ganz was also among the early workers and he opened up the work in Doba where many souls were saved through his efforts. Mr. and Mrs. Ganz labored in Doba until 1952. He died in Columbus, Ohio, in 1955.

In 1934 we came to the Chad and in 1936 opened up the work in Moissala. Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Taylor from New Zealand came to this field in 1948 and labored in Bouso until this year when they went to Doba. Miss Marjorie Shaw from Canada arrived here in 1950 and is working in Moissala, and in 1951 Mr. and Mrs. C. Price came from Australia, and are now on furlough there.



Marjorie Shaw with a children's class at Moissala.

Assembly missionaries have five mission stations in the Chad, including the work at Bitkine where our brethren Mr. and Mrs. J. Metz and Mr. and Mrs. M. Baar, from France, are laboring among the Hajarai tribes. So these twelve workers seek to reach many heathen tribes, but more workers are needed to adequately care for all the work in this needy field. There are large areas where assemblies have been formed and the testimony is maintained by the local elders and evangelists with occasional visits from a missionary. In the Mayo-Kebbi region, 250 miles north of Moissala, there are assemblies in five different heathen tribes, resulting from Dr. Olley's annual visits there, but there should be resident missionaries from the assemblies to give much-needed teaching from the Word of God. In Abesher the assembly is composed of believers from pagan tribes who have gone there from Southern Chad. It is a witness for the Lord Jesus in the midst of the Moslem population. We have no missionaries among the 1,000,000 Moslems in Northern Chad.

There are fifty assemblies in the Chad field, and approximately fifty other villages where there are gospel chapels and regular gospel and prayer meetings and daily classes to teach the believers to read God's Word in their own language. These latter are not yet assemblies and they do not have breaking of bread. When a few men are able to take part in the ministry of the Word in a village, an assembly is formed.

The Mbai field is taken care of by two stations—Moissala and Doba, and in that area there is a population of 200,000 natives.

The French administration has given us a wide open door to preach the gospel and teach God's Word in all the villages, and each Saturday afternoon groups of believers from the assemblies go into the surrounding villages to preach the gospel.

The Government has French schools in each district and is doing a good job of educating the natives. There is no hindrance to the children of believers or any other children attending public school if they so desire. The school master



Mr. N. Taylor with burnt brick chapel at Moissala, which is now complete with metal roof.

in the government school in Moissala is a believer in fellowship in the assembly, and he is one of those who are helping in the translation of Emmaus courses into the Mbai language. In some of the other villages in this district the teachers are believers also.

Dispensary work is done on each station to care for the sick, but all serious cases are sent to the government hospitals that are located in important centers. We have been praying that a doctor may be called to serve the Lord in this field. Dr. John R. Olley was an M. D. but he felt called to give his time to translation work and visitation of assemblies, and had only a limited time for medical work. He has translated both the Mbai and Kim New Testaments, and has translated portions of Scripture in some other languages as well.

The French edition of the Emmaus Bible course "What the Bible Teaches" has been sent to us and should soon arrive and will be used among French-reading natives in this country. The course is now being translated into the Mbai language. Gospel records are also being used by evangelists and workers to interest the heathen in the message of salvation.

The natives live in villages that are built by the roadside in huts made of grass-mat or mud walls with a thatched roof, and the village chief is responsible to the District Officer for all who live in his village. A village has twenty to a hundred or more

huts, and there is always a good number of people who come to the meeting held in the open air in the village when the missionary or evangelist visits them.

In the dry season after the harvest has been gathered in, and before the planting begins, we have a month of Bible studies for evangelists and elders, both in Doba and in Moissala. They make temporary huts out of the tall grass woven into mats with corn stalks as a roof, and they bring their food with them for themselves and their families. We have classes at 6 A. M., 9 A. M., 2 P. M., and 5 P. M., and spend about six hours in class each day, except Saturday, for there are no classes on Saturday afternoons so that they are free to return to their villages for Lord's day meetings in the assemblies. Last year a hundred men were at Doba and fifty at Moissala with their families. Special classes are held for the women and for the children also. Miss Marjorie Shaw devotes her time to children's work and has classes for boys and girls to sow the Word of God in their young hearts.

The quarterly conference of the evangelists is a time of Bible Study and discussion of the work of the Lord in the villages, and it is seldom that an evangelist is absent from these conferences except in case of illness. These evangelists look to the Lord for their support even as we do, and none of them receive salaries, but they receive gifts from the assemblies. Each local assembly sends a fellowship gift to at least one worker every month. The evangelists also plant fields of



Mrs. N. Taylor treating a Doba believer.

cotton, grain, peanuts and sweet potatoes to help support themselves.

Regular Bible studies are held on the mission stations for men and women who come in for several years to study God's Word in the daily classes. They work for us each morning to provide for themselves and attend afternoon classes. In this way they are trained in discipline as well as in the knowledge of God's Word. After a few years on the station those who prove faithful are commended by the assembly for the work of evangelists in the villages, and the others return to their home villages.

In December a harvest Thanksgiving meeting is held when the believers bring a portion of the harvest as a thanksgiving to the Lord for the rain and sunshine, health and strength, and the good harvest He has given to them. Enough grain is received to supply food for the believers at the annual New Year's conference (about a thousand present) and the quarterly conference of evangelists; and enough money is received to pay the head tax of all the evangelists and their wives.

This year three new chapels have been built in Doba, Moissala and Bediondo, to seat 600, 450 and 150 respectively. The believers in each place made the bricks and burnt them in kilns voluntarily, and gave freely towards the purchase of metal and wood for the roof.

The grave danger that seems to be threatening the work in the Chad is the Nationalist movement for independence. This movement was begun in 1946 by members of the Communist party, but for political purposes they have now withdrawn from the Communist party to form a Nationalist party to bring about self-government. Should the Chad be given independence by France, it is possible that the Mohammedan powers would usurp authority again and become the rulers in the Chad. The Moslems desire that the Chad become a Moslem state in the Arab block, and they are working towards that end.

Our work is to form self-governing, self-supporting, and self-propagating assemblies that will function as New Testament churches using the New Testament as their pattern and guide, and then, whatever changes may come to this land, we believe that the testimony to the Name of the Lord will continue. This is our aim and ambition, and we value your prayers that in this fruitful and interesting Chad field, He may see of the travail of His soul and be satisfied.

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DR. J. R. OLLEY

An Appreciation by Colin H. Price

JOHN RAMESES OLLEY was born in London on October 3, 1887, his father being a Baptist and his mother an Anglican. At about twelve or thirteen years of age he



DR. JOHN R. OLLEY

turned to the Lord. Having a great desire to go to sea, he was apprenticed on a sailing ship and in 1902 was shipwrecked in the West Indies. Here at Martinique he saw the results of the devastating eruption of Mt. Pelée, when 40,000 lost their lives, and on November 17th he gave his life to the Lord, as a result of a spiritual awakening.

Mr. Olley was shipwrecked again five years later at Gisborne, New Zealand, and then left the sea and settled in New Zealand studying surveying, and gaining his diploma. This knowledge was most useful later on the mission field.

After this he took up teaching and eventually became head master of a school in Hastings, and also obtained the degree of Bachelor of Arts. This teaching experience was invaluable when producing reading primers in both the Kim and Mbai languages in French Equatorial Africa, and the study of New Testament Greek and Hebrew helped greatly when translating the

THE FIELDS

Scriptures direct from the original, in later years.

During the first world war, Mr. Olley was in prison for two years as a conscientious objector, and while there he first saw believers' baptism and New Testament Church principles. After being released in 1917, he was baptized when thirty years of age, and then asked to be granted another thirty years to serve the Lord and make up for those wasted. The Lord saw fit to give him thirty-nine years of service, and what was accomplished during that time should be a real challenge to us all to re-consecrate our lives to the Lord.

Praying for guidance as to his future service, Olley felt the burden of the Moslems in North Africa, and after preparing by studies in Arabic and medicine, he was commended by the New Zealand assemblies for this work, and sailed from Wellington in December, 1919.

Proceeding to Algiers he continued his Arabic studies and for over five years worked around the Mediterranean Coast, visiting Tunis, Tozier Oasis, Monaster and Gabeo in Tunisia, Tripoli, Florence, Beirut, Damascus, Jerusalem and Constantinople. The vast unreached areas beyond the Sahara burdened his heart, and after correspondence, he planned to join Mr. and Mrs. Pomeroy at Kano, Northern Nigeria. Then word came of Mr. Pomeroy's death, so Mr. Olley decided to go and visit his grave and seek for definite guidance as to the future. In 1925 he sailed around West Africa, and reaching Kano he studied the Hausa language. He finally trekked about 1,000 miles east to Abesher in the Chad Province of French Equatorial Africa, travelling for sixty-six days with nine camels. Thus just thirty years ago our brother Olley became the first messenger of the Gospel to this part of the Province. (The Mid Africa Mission, American Baptists, had commenced work in the extreme south of Chad two years previously.)

The country was very unsettled but even then he saw twelve baptized the first year, and a small assembly commenced, which, though weak and in need of teaching, continues to this day. It hasn't been visited for three years. As a result of these baptisms, Mr. Olley was imprisoned but when released he continued his work. Abesher is a Moslem center, with a district population of over 125,000 souls.

The French Governor of Chad would only

grant a visitor's permit, endorsed "not to evangelize" so the next few years saw him moving from village to village, living in native huts, but preaching and teaching at every opportunity. In 1927 he trekked down to Moissala in the south of the Province, where he started learning the Mbai language, and while there nearly died from malaria. Going on to Doba about 100 miles away, he spent a year with Mr. Ganz of the U. S. A., and an assembly witness was commenced. Mr. Olley then travelled up to Fort Lamy, the Chad capital, and a new governor who was very favorable to his work, insisted that he should live in a suitable house and settle there, granting him "all the province as his parish for eternity." Thus Fort Lamy became his headquarters and he left the Chad only for short trips to Nigeria in 1927 and 1951, and twice into Anglo-Egyptian Sudan.

Each year four months were spent in pastoral tours in Chad, reaching right up into the Sahara to Fada, besides visiting the Wadai and Mayo Kebbi Regions. On these tours he preached and questioned candidates for baptism, and also continued his medical studies, until awarded his medical degree by an American University over ten years ago. Besides this he gained diplomas in Naturopathy and Herbalism.

The rest of each year was spent at Fort Lamy in translation work, preaching and teaching. Translations were made of the Scripture Gift Mission booklet "God's Way of Salvation" into at least six languages, including Chad, Arabic, Mbai, Dai, Kim and Kab-lai, and John's Gospel into Sara, a dialect of Mbai. Dr. Olley also wrote hymns and compiled reading primers in Mbai and Kim, and an Evangelists' Handbook in Mbai. By far the most important translation tasks completed were the New Testament in Mbai (taking seventeen years) and in Kim (fifteen years) besides four Old Testament books in Mbai, with the help of devoted native believers.

During 1950 it came to Dr. Olley's notice that the authorities intended to recommend him for the Order of the Legion of Honor, as their recognition of his long years of missionary service in the Chad and North Africa. He at once wrote to the Administrator in Fort Lamy asking him to persuade them to forget him—such was his humility. He did not seek eminence, but rather sought to teach native believers and leave them to carry on in the various assemblies formed.

Dr. Olley became seriously ill in January, 1955, and at length was obliged to operate on himself—but he grew worse and very emaciated. In April Mr. Neville Taylor, returning from furlough, found him in this condition, and with Mr. Rogers, took him by station wagon to the S. I. M. Hospital in Jos, Nigeria, where he almost passed away. In answer to much prayer his life was spared, and the doctor and nurses cared for him devotedly. He was much cheered by the presence of some of his native helpers, who came with him, and they prayed each day and observed the Lord's Supper together.

About that time Dr. Olley's brother died in Jamaica, and so when the Lord raised him up again, he felt obliged to go there to settle his brother's affairs, and then planned to visit New Zealand. On the way he called at Martinique and other French Islands in the West Indies, and also at French Guiana, and the Lord blessed his ministry at each place. From Martinique he took a steamer for Sydney via Panama and arrived on September 20th when we were thrilled to see him again. There was a large united gathering to welcome him on September 22nd. Many hearts were stirred as he spoke.

The following Tuesday as a friend was praying with him, Dr. Olley passed away suddenly into the presence of the Lord whom he loved and served so faithfully. An artery had ruptured near his heart and thus the Lord saw fit to take home His servant just short of his 69th birthday, after almost thirty-seven years on the mission field without a furlough. What a loss for Chad!

In a letter written fifteen days before his homecall, Dr. Olley said: "I hope to translate the Scriptures, etc., for the Toubris and teach the Kim and finish the Mbal Old Testament Scriptures, if God will, or do any service He may appoint."

The Lord takes home his servant, but He must carry on His work. The need for workers in Chad is tremendous—there is room for at least twenty MEN besides sisters. "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth labourers into His harvest" (Matt. 9:38).

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them" (Rev. 14:13). How true is this last phrase in regard to

Dr. Olley's translation work! What an abundant entrance must have been his! To quote Bunyan, surely "all the trumpets would sound for him" and his response would be "Blessing and honor and glory and power be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne and unto the Lamb for ever and ever."

The Bible In Germany

Since the war there have been 15,000,000 refugees to West Germany; during last year alone 1,800,000 escaped. At least half of these were young people under twenty-five years of age, who had been born and brought up first of all under the Nazi regime and then under Communist ideology and practice; they were in consequence ignorant of Christian teaching and of the Scriptures. Many of these unhappy people have now been absorbed into the populations of the West or have emigrated to foreign lands, but there are still 3,108 refugee camps in existence in West Germany and their inmates increase daily as more and more refugees arrive.

This information was given recently to a special Committee in Bible House, London, by Dr. Alfred Muller, Secretary for the Bible Missionary Campaign (and also for the Union of Evangelical Churches in Germany).

There are now thirteen Bible Missionaries distributing Scriptures throughout West Germany, supported jointly by the Bible Societies and the Churches. In the past twelve months they have distributed over 20,000 Bibles, more than 20,000 New Testaments, and 50,000 single books of Scripture. In addition they have provided Scriptures for Polish, Russian, Ukrainian and Hungarian refugees, and for the German prisoners-of-war returned from Russia.

A certain man went down from Jerusalem, to Jericho, and fell among thieves who said, "Thine is mine, — we'll get it." And by chance there came down a certain priest that way; and likewise a Levite, but they both passed by on the other side saying, "Mine is mine, — I'll keep it." But a certain Samaritan as he journeyed came to where he was; and when he saw him he had compassion, and went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast and said, "Mine is thine—I'll give it."

AUTHORITY ON THE FIELD

The following statement was drafted and signed by all the brethren who attended Kalene Conference, Northern Rhodesia, in August. They have asked us to publish it in toto in "The Fields." Editor.

A RECURRING problem in missionary work has become especially acute in recent years and months, even to the point where the character of the work itself is being placed in danger. Briefly stated, the question is this: how far does the active jurisdiction of commending assemblies continue over the missionaries whom they commend for work in other lands? It is evident that there is serious misapprehension on the part of some "home" assemblies about this question, as a result of which disastrous effects are being felt in the work in Central Africa today. It seems strange that there should be any dubiety about such a matter, especially among those who profess such adherence to Scriptural principles, and who claim to demand a "Thus saith the Lord" for all their procedure. It is a regrettable fact that assembly authority has been asserted by commending assemblies in a way which we believe to be quite unscriptural. They have held the one they commended to be sacrosanct, and though his fellowworkers have been forced to take action against him, and to put him under discipline, his own word of self-justification has been held to outweigh in importance and veracity the combined judgment of all his associates in that field. The men who have been compelled to act may have been men of long years of acceptability with both European fellow-workers and African believers; the unanimous decision affecting the missionary involved, reached in collaboration with responsible African brethren, may have been attained only after patient and laborious investigation, considerable expense, loss of time, anxiety, shame, and sorrow may have been caused to those forced so to act. But some brethren in commending assemblies have mistakenly considered themselves possessed of authority and judgment sufficient to enable them completely to sweep aside and to veto the decision reached by those removed from them by thousands of miles!

The saddest feature of the situation is the lack of confidence shown in the men on the field by some of those at home. Because the principles which should govern the

Lord's work in this land are being thus violated by such brethren at home, this article has been drawn up with a view to stating the principles which we feel to be in accord with Scripture and with our position in this land. We wish thus, if possible, to guard the Lord's work in this land from the abuses to which it is being subjected, and from which it is suffering at the present time.

1. A worker going forth from a "home" assembly ceases to be in active and corporate association therewith. His departure from among them necessarily alters the character of his fellowship with them. He can no longer be said to be of their fellowship in the same sense as those who continue to meet regularly in the assembly. This principle would seem to us to be quite self-evident. It is analogous to that maintaining when any believer is commended from the fellowship of one assembly to that of another in another place, in which case he passes out of the immediate fellowship of the commending assembly. Naturally the home assembly will continue to have fellowship with the worker in his work (as long as he proves himself worthy thereof), by prayer and by financial support. He on his part will seek to justify the confidence they have placed in him. But he is no longer "of their fellowship" in the same sense as he was beforehand.

2. Now it follows that the "home" assembly cannot continue to exercise control over him, as he is no longer under their jurisdiction, any more than if he had left them with a letter commending him to another assembly. They cannot continue to examine and to pronounce concerning his work, his conduct, nor his creed, in the place to which he has gone, as they are not only too far removed from him, but their authority over him has ceased.

3. It is obvious that his transfer to another area and fellowship transfers also his obligation to submit to the jurisdiction of those to whose fellowship he has been commended. As a new missionary is accepted by his fellow-missionaries on the strength of the commendation of the home assembly, he becomes associated with those in this

land, who necessarily possess thereafter the responsibility of pronouncing concerning him, and, if necessary, of asking him to leave the work. Surely the commending assembly possesses no right or authority to reject a judgment against him passed by those to whom he has gone—surely they have no alternative but to hear and to accept the judgment. The responsibility of discipline in such cases belongs to the worker's European and African associates in the field, and to none other. The idea often held that it is the original commending assembly which retains the exclusive right to pronounce finally concerning the fitness of the worker, or that it can serve in any sense as a court of appeal against the discipline expressed by his brethren on the field, we consider to be an unscriptural one, and productive of most serious confusion.

4. The life of missionaries in Central Africa is much more of a corporate nature than is that of believers in the "homeland." The work in different places, separated by distances of as much as one hundred miles, is still much more of an entity than it is at home. Moral or doctrinal defections have a much more vital and disastrous effect on the whole work, and decisions concerning European workers must be made as they affect not only the assembly immediately concerned, but the work in its entirety. In that sense missionary brethren must bear a much heavier responsibility in a pagan land than do elders in the homelands, who normally exercise rule only in the immediate assemblies where they live.

5. Further, it should be remembered that, due to the privileged position in which a European brother finds himself among Africans in this land, in very rare instances, **be the misconduct what it may**, will Africans alone take any action against him. It becomes necessary thus in cases involving European workers, for his fellow-missionaries to take action, in supporting the hands of African elders.

6. It should be understood by those at home that missionaries do not lightly take action against any fellow missionary. Only in extreme cases of absolute necessity will all responsible brethren in any affected area come together to act against a fellow-worker. The accusation, more than once made by those against whom action has had to be taken, that men have moved together thus as a result of personal animosity, or of a

mere desire "to get them off the field," is utterly untrue.

7. The immediate acceptance of the judgment of brethren on the field acting in unity in such matters should follow as a natural result on the part of all the home assemblies. Were the right of judgment to be denied to those on the field, we would have no alternative but to abandon ourselves to hopeless confusion and disorder.

We therefore present these principles which are, to us, self-evident. And we submit that the responsibility of oversight and judgment concerning the work and workers in this land should be recognized as vested properly in those who are immediately engaged in this work; and further, that the rejection, by some brethren in other lands, of the corporate judgment of brethren in this land in cases involving fellow-missionaries, is strictly unscriptural, and should be so reckoned by all.

(The signatories are:—W. Singleton Fisher; Tom Rea; James Caldwell; Jack Prescott; William J. Bentley; H. Faulkner; E. G. W. Bowerman; J. S. Fisher; E. H. Sims; J. A. D. Muggleton; D. C. Dalton; J. A. Sims; M. B. MacJannet; W. W. R. Fisher; W. H. E. Fisher; Walter J. Reed; S. W. Arnot; C. R. Nightingale; E. D. Rout; C. T. Shorten; D. O. McKibbin; H. W. Griffiths; R. B. Young; D. Mawhinney; C. A. Geddis; A. E. Horton; K. E. Barker; T. E. Wilson; W. F. Logan; C. D. Cole; N. S. Arnot; A. W. Stinton, M. D.; W. F. Chapman; W. ffolliott Fisher; G. Gordon Suckling; Lyndon R. Hess; A. Milligan; C. E. Maxwell; C. G. Lohr; James Meikle; Donald C. Reed; D. W. S. Kaye; Geo. D. Armerding, Oakland, Calif.)

List of Missionary Meetings Correction

Tampa Bay Area Missionary Study Class—Date changed to 2nd Sunday of each month instead of first Sunday as formerly.

Detroit Area Missionary Meeting—Third Saturday of each month at 7:45 P. M., commencing December 15 and continuing through May, 1957, rotating among the nine chapels.

Assembly meeting at 111 West Broad St., Westerly, Rhode Island, have their monthly missionary prayer meeting the first Wednesday of each month.

Middlesex Chapel, Fairfield Avenue near Bound Brook Road, Middlesex, N. J., third Friday of the month at 7:30 p. m.

Notes and Comments

From Arthur Peterkin (Barbados) comes the following: On October 1st twenty-two recent converts, most of them young persons from various halls, were baptized at Dayrells Road. On the 7th I baptized two in the sea, fruit of the work in Speightstown. I have recently been holding a series of gospel meetings in some homes to reach those whom we cannot get into the halls, and the last Sunday in September we had thirty-seven present in our own home. During October and November I shall be having another series in a new district, Belleville, where I hope to reach others who need to hear the simple gospel story, and still others who need to be instructed in the Word of God.

We have again been asked to draw attention of readers to the fact that mail for the Caldwells of Puerto Rico needs to be clearly addressed to avoid confusion. Please note that Colin C. Caldwell is the father: the son is Colin Caldwell (no middle initial).

David Nelson (Belgian Congo) writes: Last time the children were home from school we made a trip together to Sakoko—up in the mountains—forest and mines—to our outstation. We hauled sand for building and visited various villages along the way. We had a week-end conference and met many of the Lord's own people among the Wanyali tribe. The pigmies at Sakoko look just like those in the forest at Lolwa



Full-grown Pigmies with the Nelson girls.

—only they are fewer in number. I took the enclosed snapshot for contrast and comparison. What do you think of it? Life is still raw and wild, and the habitations of darkness and cruelty remain.

Robert McConnell (Italy) writes: In Abruzzo we had the joy of baptizing five more converts on September 16th. A huge crowd came down to the river near Nocciano for the occasion and our English brother, Mr. Harding, from Pesaro came to preach the gospel. This month he is celebrating fifty years of missionary activity in Italy. As we think of the wonderful ministry of this brother and a score or more of English missionaries who have left their mark in this land we appeal once again to you in America not to miss the opportunity God is giving today in Italy. A generation of valiant witnesses has gone on to their reward. Now it is our turn to take up the battle. We need workers! The harvest is plenteous but the laborers pitifully few!

From Vernon Markle (Cuba) comes this note: We have been cheered recently by a number professing faith in Christ in three different places where we have meetings, also in seeing the little assembly here jump from eight to nineteen in fellowship.

WITH THE LORD

Mr. Robert J. Wilding of Vancouver, B. C., went to be with the Lord on September 29, 1956. Born in Liverpool, England, in 1888 and brought to know the Lord at fourteen during the Welsh Revival. Mr. Wilding joined the Royal Navy at seventeen and did worldwide service. He was baptized in Australia during this naval service and received God's call to the mission field while in the South Sea Islands.

Following some months in France and Belgium, he left for the Belgian Congo in 1915, being commended from Liverpool assemblies. He and his wife spent twenty years in the Congo in pioneer conditions. Six years of service in South Africa followed, and then the family returned to Britain just prior to the last World War. During the war years he concentrated on work among the troops and gospel campaigns throughout Britain.

In 1949 he came to Canada and U. S. A., the family following, and until the last week of his life, he preached throughout this continent.



Prayer Pointers

For James Yorgey, a high school teacher in Paris, who gives considerable time to the Lord's work in and around that city.

For radio ministry and Bible correspondence course work conducted by Gordon McLellan, Trinidad.

For F. W. Rogers (French Equatorial Africa) upon whose shoulders fall added responsibilities following the home-call of Dr. Olley. Pray also that the need of French Equatorial Africa may burden young men.

For the spiritual development of promising work in the eastern part of Cuba:

Thank God for the release of two young Spanish brethren imprisoned for conscience' sake. Continue to pray that evangelicals in Spain may be relieved of the intolerable burden they bear regarding civil rights.

Mr. and Mrs. Gifford Beckon (Japan) ask for prayer as they begin Friday night meetings for their neighbors. Some have shown real interest in the gospel.

Mr. Cecil Catton (France) writes: "Do not forget: France is at war in North Africa and many families are severely tried . . . Now is the time as NEVER before to put the Gospel over. The mentality is difficult as one has said, 'France needs specialists,' experienced workers. How very much we solicit prayer and more—earnest intercession."

For a shop and warehouse needed for the Publishing Depot in Tokyo. This is an urgent need.

William D. Stout, Hawaiian Islands, requests prayer for that field. There are about one hundred full-time Mormon workers knocking on doors daily spreading their propaganda.

Olive Fleming writes: "I am accompanying Marilou McCully back to Ecuador to help her in the difficulties of traveling with three small children. As I am available and can fill this need, I go confident of the Lord's leading in this direction. Beyond this trip to Ecuador and my time there until after Christmas, I do not know the next step. I expect to return to the States again some time in January, but do not feel the door closed to me in Ecuador. Until the Lord makes it very plain to me where I can be used down there, I will continue to be at home, but I need your prayers."

Radio Ceylon has had orders from the government which may mean the end of all religious broadcasts at the conclusion of present contracts. Please pray definitely that this may not be so and that the "Living Waters" programs may continue to be broadcast.

PERSONALIA

Births:

To Mr. and Mrs. Walter Gammon (Angola) a son, David William, Oct. 13, 1956.

Departures:

Marion Iverson (Dominican Republic) from New York on November 30.

We are unprofitable servants

Get not too liberal an estimate of the quality and value of your own bit of service. Think over how it ought to be done and how it might have been done. You will have to ask forgiveness for its poorness, and be astonished that your brethren recognize it and much more astonished that the Lord accepts it.

The peace of God

It is most reasonable and yet cannot be understood merely by the intellect. It must be experienced to be known. When known, it surpasses all power of language to express. It is "the secret of the Lord which is with them that fear Him." The peace of God "guards the heart and thoughts through Christ Jesus." Thus guarded, we may rejoice in full assurance of faith, whatever our grief and dangers. What can the world offer to allure us from this fortress? How tasteless its dainties to those who feed upon the bread of life; how empty its honors compared with those of the children of the King of kings.

Letters

The symbol ® in Notes and Letters indicates that the worker is married.

ANGOLA

Capango T. ERNEST WILSON®. We have just returned from a two months' visit to Northern and Southern Rhodesia. My wife had ten days in hospital in Bulawayo, and while she was there, I had some meetings with the assembly on the Lord's coming. Assemblies and groups of believers are being built up at most of the little towns and frontier settlements along the railway from Bulawayo to the Copper Belt in the North. I had some ministry meetings at each of the four European assemblies on the Copper Belt, seeking to strengthen the hands of those who are laying down foundations according to the New Testament pattern.

It was also a great joy to contact many of our African friends from assemblies in Angola who are now working at the copper mines. Some I had not seen for thirty years I found going on well with the Lord and His people. We can understand a little what the Apostle John meant when he said that he had no greater joy than to see his children walking in truth. There was some serious racial trouble on the Copper Belt while I was there but there was no evidence of this among the believers. I received nothing but kindness and friendliness from the African believers.

We much enjoyed the Jubilee conference at Kalene. It was thrilling to see many

honored veterans from all over Central Africa together for four days of happy fellowship and Christ-exalting ministry.

We are now alone at Capango, with the Adcocks and Gammons on furlough. We are kept busy with the responsibility for school and medical work, as well as meetings of some kind most nights.

ANGOLA

Vila Luso

Mrs. ROY WOOD. I am enclosing a picture of our wedding. Doris Pitman was the bridesmaid and Dr. Arthur Stinton was the best man. We had a lovely day and everything went according to schedule.

Now we are back, after having had a wonderful honeymoon in Rhodesia. We enjoyed meeting many of the missionaries there, who up till then we had just known by name. We also visited Sakeji and Kalene, where we admired the beautiful new hospital they are putting up.

On returning we have found our hands full. This term we have more children in the boarding school than we ever had: thirty-two girls and eighty-eight boys. The Portuguese teacher we had arranged for changed her mind at the last minute and did not come. So now we are again looking for someone to fill the need. Meanwhile Doris is carrying the whole load of the school and this year she has one hundred seventy children.

Mr. and Mrs. Allison are visiting the out-schools for a couple of weeks. This is such essential work, as it encourages and helps those who are faithfully witnessing in these isolated places.



Arthur Stinton

Roy and Karen Wood

Doris Pitman

ANGOLA

Saurimo DONALD McLEOD®. We ask your prayers for the native preachers and their work for the Lord. Without them, many hundreds of natives in many tribes would still be sitting in darkness, and they continue to go forward into the "bush" to reach those who have not heard and to help those who have made a profession and need help and encouragement. There are thirty-four present here at the Mission as I write this, attending a Bible School which Don is carrying alone this year. We are pleased to see new ones come who haven't been here before.

BELGIAN CONGO

Nyankunde BETTY PARTRIDGE. At the moment we are busy getting out the November issue of our various journals. The new *Neno La Imani* is proving to be very popular. We printed 25,000 of the September and October issues, but found ourselves unable to supply about three thousand people who clamored for copies. However, in a wonderful way and just on time the Lord provided enough paper for us to print 30,000 of the November number and we will continue to trust Him to supply the needs so that future issues may be printed and distributed throughout all of Eastern Congo.

Lately we printed 400,000 tracts—eight varieties in the Congo Swahili language. Work continues on the Old Testament manuscript which the British and Foreign Bible Society has agreed to print. Dena Speering and I are doing the final typing now and have only a part of Ezekiel and Daniel to do plus II Chronicles and a few of the Minor Prophets. Mr. Deans and Gertrud Koppel are doing the checking and we hope to be able to send the completed manuscript to London by the end of this year.

The Stephens arrived back from furlough on September 9th. All are well and happy. The following day along came Merton and Jane Wolcott and their little two-year-old Chrissy. These are the new workers for the press. They

have been having their troubles. After only three weeks here, little Chrissy and Jane came down with malaria; then after that Jane got dengue fever which laid her low for another week, and then this past week (Wednesday) she underwent surgery. We are thankful to say that she is doing quite well and that she and Merton seem to be in good spirits and are looking to the Lord to bring blessing out of their difficulties. We have been praying much for them and know you will join us in this too.

MOROCCO

Tangier JOSEPH GROSSHOLTZ®. At the beginning of April three made a confession of faith in the Lord Jesus, accepting Him as their personal Savior, and on July 11th four more. Three were baptized on April 29 and there are four more wishing to take this step. Pray that they may continue to grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord.

Last February, owing to things being difficult and unsatisfactory, we gave up the room we rented in the town, asking the folk to come to the house, to which the majority agreed. The house is some little way out of the town but has a bus service to the gate. Some come from two to three miles so the money we paid out for rent, light and cleaning is still put aside to help the poorer ones with their bus fare. The meetings were held in the house or garage, and as numbers were fairly well maintained we felt it in the will of the Lord to convert the garage into a Gospel Hall. This has been completed and we held the first service in the new Hall on September 26. Our



The Gospel Hall in Tangier, Morocco

hearts are grateful and we praise the Lord for His provision and undertaking.

We are having a baptismal pool made on the premises; our prayer is that the work may continue to be blessed and extended here, if our Lord tarries and we are allowed to stay.

NORTHERN RHODESIA

Chavuma WALLACE F. LOGAN®. We have been away some time from the station on a Gospel campaign in the distant villages. A great number have professed to accept Jesus Christ as Savior on this trip and a new Gospel Center has been started, where a group of over thirty professing Christians are gathering together for prayer and Gospel meetings two and three times a week. The last we heard from them two more had been won to the Lord as a result of their meetings.

I am happy to say this leaves us all well and busy in the different departments of the work here.

SOUTH AFRICA

Elim ADAM FERGUSON®. Just recently, we held a week of special Bible studies for the evangelists and elders of the Natal stations. Varied subjects were taken up, including the Person and Work of the Holy Spirit, the Lord's Coming, The Church, Revival, and The Tabernacle. Two periods were held each forenoon, and one in the afternoon. The African brethren deeply appreciated the teaching given, many of them taking notes on the subjects. We are confident that the ministry has served to their enrichment in the things of God and to encouragement in their work for the Lord. Each evening, Gospel meetings were held in the kraals, two kraals being visited each night; in the course of these Gospel meetings, four made profession of faith in Christ.

A High School has now been established at Elim. The present accommodation is not sufficient, and the Government intends to erect new buildings just outside the Mission Station. This brings many young people of the late teen-age group within the orbit of our influence. Although missionary administration in African education has now ended, we still retain the privilege to enter the schools for Bible instruction. Among the High School students, we have started the Emmaus Course, "What the Bible Teaches."

We pray that blessing will result from the Course, bringing many of the older children to a definite acceptance of Christ as Savior. Control of African education by the Government is now well established. Problems of various kinds arise from time to time, some affecting our relationship with the Government as missionaries and others affecting our relationship with the natives themselves. We need much wisdom so that our main responsibility to preach Christ and Him crucified may be fulfilled at all times.

SOUTH AFRICA

Murchison IRVING BENTON®. We are pleased to report that the new Native Nurses' home is now nearing completion, and we expect to have it ready for use within a month. It gives us real joy to see the way the Lord has undertaken for us in this respect. We expect to be able to bring the staff up to normal by the end of the year—thus relieving the workers somewhat of this extra burden.

Margaret is enjoying the work in occupational therapy three mornings a week among the T. B. patients, and the patients also are much happier with something to do. We trust that this opportunity of personal contact will bring many to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Two weeks ago at a little colored Assembly at Munster (thirty-five miles down the south coast) the Lord blessed with the salvation of two souls, but this only took place after the brethren, who were at variance with one another, settled their differences. We have now established a Bible reading with them, and we pray that this will build them up in the faith and help them to testify and witness more and more for the Savior.

INDIA

Punjab LLOYD BONE®. We give praise and thanks to the Lord for another fruitful time at our second annual summer Bible School, which was held at Mussoorie in June. About thirty gathered together, representing mostly Ambala but also a few other places, to study God's Word. In the course of the Camp three young people who had had no assurance of salvation made public confession that they had found the Savior. All three happen to be from centers other than Ambala. Two have gone on exceptionally well and I recently

had the joy of attending their baptism at their home city in the United Provinces, where there are a few believers. Others who came to the Camp found it to be a time of blessing and spiritual uplift.

The little group in Ambala is now beginning to take some responsibility in the meetings, and we trust that ere long they may be self-sustaining and self-propagating. As yet no Hindu from Ambala has confessed the Lord in baptism—one or two have professed salvation but fear to take a public stand. We are praying we may yet see fruit from among this most difficult class of people.

LEBANON

Beyrouth DOUGLAS I. HOWELL. A few weeks ago all the British residents in Jordan were advised to leave the country, and after an interview with the Consul and much prayer, we decided to accept the advice. We felt that we should move as far as Lebanon, trusting that after a few weeks we would be able to return to our home in Irbid. Since being in Beyrouth it has become increasingly clear to us that this would make a far better center for our literature work than Jordan, and if the Lord opens up the way we shall remain in this country. For some little time we have been conscious of the fact that if the Bible Correspondence Courses were to reach a wider public, we would have to be in a more central place than Irbid, but we were reluctant to make any move for at that time there was no one to carry on the meetings in that town.

However, when we were advised to leave we found that Arab brethren from other towns were willing to maintain the testimony in Irbid also, so we are happy in the knowledge that the Gospel is still being proclaimed in that rather fanatical town. Though we would never have chosen to move out of Jordan but would have selected a center there, we appreciate that the Lord is possibly using the present circumstances to show us that He would have us here.

We are much in prayer that we might clearly know His will and that we shall in the near future see the number of people reached through the Bible lessons greatly increased. When things are more settled again it will also be possible to visit the believers in Jordan, so contact with the few meetings there will not be lost.

This is a time of testing for the believers in Jordan and we feel sure that they would value your prayer fellowship. In various ways life is very difficult for them and there is much that could turn them aside from the path of faith. We trust that in these circumstances they will realize more clearly how the Lord can sustain and bless them and use them to bring many of their own countrymen to the Savior.

FRANCE

Quevert-Dinan

Mrs. PRISCILLA JOHNSON. Since my return there has been so much extra work; also jobs that were of necessity left undone, and it is difficult to "catch up." I must continually look to the Lord for needed physical strength and spiritual grace to meet all the various difficulties and problems in connection with the Maison des Enfants.

The children's summer holidays seemed almost interminable! They returned to their schools on the first of October; both workers and children were happy to take up the regular routine work once again. Our thirty-three boys and girls are well and happy, and for this, another of God's manifold mercies, we give thanks.

I was obliged to accompany one of the older boys, Michel, aged fifteen, to his technical school at Tours, which is a long distance from Dinan. He has a scholarship for this school and is learning a useful trade. At first he found it rather difficult; the boys seemed to be pretty rough. One lad became friendly, but just as soon as he discovered that Michel was not Roman Catholic, he would have nothing more to do with him. Then another day, our boy was reading his Bible, and a boy came over and asked what he was reading. When he heard the reply, he grabbed the Bible and threw it at Michel and then ran away. Fortunately, a Christian couple are being responsible for our boy on Sundays, and he has permission to spend the Lord's Day at their home which is in the town of Tours.

The great forces of evil in this country are Romanism and atheism, and the evangelical Christians represent a small minority. France is indeed a mission field, and the requirements for being a missionary here in this highly civilized country are such that only those who are sent ones should come. May God raise up capable men to bring the gospel to this needy land.

Of the 38,000 communes in France, only 8000 have an evangelical witness. There are almost entire departments or countries without a true Christian testimony!

FRANCE

Paris

LOUISE ALLEN. We have just had a Daily Vacation Bible School for the children in the chapel area, the first of such in the French assemblies, and were greatly encouraged by the new contacts made in this way. One day there were ten who came in from the neighborhood, besides seven who came from the suburbs. At the end, we gave each child a framed gospel text and a plastic napkin envelope with a text painted on it. Two of the older ones received New Testaments. We praise the Lord for thus being able to penetrate into these homes with the Word of God. What a privilege, and yet what a responsibility, to tell these little ones of our wonderful Savior! Some did not even know what a Bible is—had never heard of it. We leave the results with Him Who is able, and we would ask you to join us in praying for this work among the children.

So much time was spent on the D. V. B. S., in the preparation one week and the actual carrying it out the next, that I had to lay aside the translating of "Lessons for Christian Living," which I had hoped to have ready for the printers by the end of this month. I still trust, Lord willing, to be able to realize this as there will be those finishing the first course at that time. Up to now over eighty persons have enrolled for the course "What the Bible Teaches." There seem to be great possibilities in France for literature work.

It was a joy to see six believers in the Paris assembly confess the Lord publicly in the waters of baptism last Lord's Day. Five of these were from our young people's group, one of whom was saved at the youth camp at Le Chambon in August, and another was saved at the youth retreat at the end of May. The sixth was a dear elderly man who had been in the meeting for a long time, but had never seen the importance of this step of obedience to God's Word.

PORTUGAL

Espinho

VIRIATO D. SOBRAL[®]. We had the joy of baptizing ten more believers on September 30th from our district in the Vouga river at Cacia, the usual

place for our baptisms, since we started the work here in 1935. We have indeed baptized many there since. After the baptism, we had the joy of seeing a good number of believers from our district gathering together for the ministry of the Word. It did one's heart good to hear again five of the brethren ministering the Word to our hearts in the power of the Spirit. Unto Him alone be all the glory.

Since the opening of the new work in Madalena last August, thirteen people have confessed the Lord as their Savior. We trust they have all passed from death unto life, and will remain firm until that day. We should value the prayers of the Lord's people for that place, because the enemy is busy trying to hinder the work.

Another soul was converted lately in S. Tiago de Riba Ul. The assembly is thriving there.

We have a Hall in view in Avanca, and trust the Lord will permit us to open the work in that town. We have been praying for it for a long time. Please pray that the Lord may remove the hindrances.

One of the young believers that was baptized on September 30 was put out of his house by his father for being a believer and obeying His Word in baptism. It costs to be a Christian in a Rome-ridden land. We should value prayer also for him, that he may glorify the Lord always, cost what it may.

HONDURAS

Cortes

WILLIAM H. TIDSBURY[®]. Here in Cortes the meetings out in the country take up most of my time. In some places interest is very good. In Cuyamel where we have recently built a small hall, the meetings are very well attended. There seems to be good hope for the future of the work in that place. However there is still a great deal to be desired among the few Christians in fellowship as far as unity is concerned. Satan is still working overtime there and sad to say he seems to be able to find sufficient material to see his work through.

We had a day of fellowship with Christians from different parts of the coast recently when we gathered together at a place called El Paraiso. First of all we had a nice baptismal service for two believers. Later we sat down to remember the Lord with something over twenty believers. They now have their little hall practically com-

pleted. The mud plastered walls were finished not long ago and now they are working on the last stage, which is the actual making of doors and windows and the fitting of them. We sat down in series to facilitate the eating problem at meal time, there being a lack of utensils, etc. However all seemed to enjoy the time of fellowship and spiritual encouragement very much.

Our rainy season and yearly flood conditions are practically upon us now, and it remains to be seen how much it will hinder our getting out to these country places for meetings. The presidential elections are supposed to take place shortly. The political unrest and disturbances continue, and we pray for peace and continued liberty to preach the Word in Honduras.

MEXICO

Puebla

PAUL C. CLARKE®. About a month ago we had a day of special meetings in El Pueblo de la Compania when saints and seeking souls gathered from half a dozen different places to hear the Word ministered. Among those taking part in the ministry was brother Carlos Jimenez, whose photo I am enclosing. Don Carlos is



Don Carlos Jimenez

an elderly brother, a widower, who has no certain dwelling place in the earth, but goes from place to place among the village congregations, ministering the Word and encouraging the hearts of the believers. He has a certain fervor which is contagious and wherever he goes the saints are revived and

strengthened. Would to God we had many more men of his caliber!

Another taking part in the ministry was Brother Leonard S. Ingram, who after the evening service had a showing of color slides in the open air on the subject of the life of Christ. Mr. Ingram, now in his 80th year, is probably the oldest missionary in all Mexico in years of service, having arrived here in 1898.

CUBA

Pinar-del Rio

DAVID L. ADAMS®. We keep busy here, not only with the press and the regular assembly activities, but also in an effort to consolidate the recent work done in the meetings in the portable Hall. We are looking forward this week to hearing some of the young converts give their first public testimony, and also to having a baptism as well, D. V. The usual trials, grievances and headaches of the shepherd's work have already been felt while some of the newly-saved have slipped away, others weighed up the weight of a daily cross, and still others wish to retain around them something of the graveclothes while standing in newness of life. But we take comfort in knowing that the Good Shepherd felt the same while watching over His 'little flock' here below, and that the Great Shepherd is now above still feeling the same as He watches over His great scattered flock.

We have been busy making some hardwood benches these past two weeks to start a new work in a country town some fifty miles from here in a rented house secured for the purpose. As this town is a very active place we are looking to the Lord to help the Cuban young brother who wants to begin there and give him the joy of seeing some souls saved amongst his own people. Our hope that the work would extend by means of native evangelists has remained sadly unfulfilled as yet, but it may be that the Lord will yet give us this pleasure as He has raised up others in other lands.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Ciudad Trujillo

GENEVIEVE WHITE. The outlook in the work here is most encouraging. For some months we were without a printer, and the printing work was at a standstill. However, the Lord has recently supplied a printer and the monthly papers as well as tracts are being printed.

Also, the new tent work will start soon (D. V.). There was a delay as permission to erect the tent had not been granted, but this has recently been cleared and necessary preparations are being made.

I have been especially encouraged by a new women's class in the Boca Chica. We are studying the Emmaus Course "What the Bible Teaches," and the women seem very much interested and anxious to learn.

ST. KITTS

Basseterre CHARLES BROWN®. For the past few years I have been asking the Lord's people to pray that we might obtain a suitable lot of land whereon to erect a new hall. We had steel rafters given for this work, and made concrete blocks and doors, windows, etc., in readiness, but the land was not obtainable. However, two weeks ago we decided to purchase the old two-story building where the Sunday School has met for years, and the Lord enabled me to buy this for \$2100.

Within two weeks we took off the wooden top story, and this will make two homes for our brethren. Then we demolished the stone walls and laid the foundations for a new hall 25 x 50 ft. We hope to complete this within two months' time. Most of the building will be of concrete and the roof of steel, thus it will be fireproof. The total cost, I judge, will be around \$7000, a big item for us to face.

I am also greatly exercised about fitting out a Bible and Book Room in Basseterre. This too will be a big undertaking, but the need is great and will call for much faith. I shall value any helpful advice from those at home with experience in these matters.

Two weeks ago, the assemblies united in a day of open air meetings all around St. Kitts. Seventeen or eighteen open air meetings were held in as many villages and thousands of tracts were distributed. It was a time long to be remembered. The fellowship was much enjoyed by all. The local brethren gave such nice messages, and the sisters helped in the singing, in which they excel.

Continue to pray for us.

TRINIDAD

San Fernando GORDON McLELLAN®. We are in the midst of special meetings, conducted by my father, W. A. McLellan of Detroit. It took years of asking, but we rejoice now in his timely visit. His

presence, advice and help are a constant source of encouragement. Attendance at the meetings is good, building up at each service. Interest is high, and blessing is expected.

The meetings are being held in a new area for a hall. Only a few months back Grace Assembly came into being. Though very small—largely hospital staff, we have rented, renovated, wired and fitted with benches, a hall large enough to seat upwards of a hundred and fifty. The Sunday School work is very good, and many show great joy under the sound of God's Word.

Radio ministry continues each Thursday. Many letters tell of spiritual profit. A minister last week told how he enjoyed the study on Romans. So we continue, praising His name. Over four hundred are taking correspondence courses now, with more names being added weekly. We rejoice in this phase of the work, and gladly give any additional time required.

ARGENTINA

Córdoba REGINALD POWELL®. I wrote you last just before going over to the Santa Fe conference. In spite of continuous rains and much mud in the district where the meetings were held, there was a goodly company of believers gathered. Some from outside were hindered from coming because of the condition of the roads. Since then Mrs. Powell has been up to the conference in Tucuman, one of our former residences. That means that in some ways it feels like going home when we go up there as we know so many of the believers. Some of the young people now in fellowship and helping in the testimony were Sunday School children with us. Our own son David is one of those. He was fifteen years old when we left there. Now he is back there again as professor in the Tucuman University—and the father of three children! He gives help in the assembly there. This week we received the visit here of a very bright sister of over seventy, who accepted Christ during our years in Tucuman. She is visiting children of hers here in Cordoba and hopes to be in the same meeting with us for the breaking of bread tomorrow morning.

This afternoon we were with a fine young man who was converted not long ago here in Córdoba. His case shows that the day of persecution is not passed. Once his wife knew he was saved she commenced to make

life unbearable for him. She also encouraged the children to insult him, using offensive names. Encouraged by the priests she has obtained a separation from him, so he is left without wife and children because of his faith in Christ. May the Lord bless and strengthen him and increase his joy and peace in Christ.

ARGENTINA

Mendoza A. W. Cook®. Yesterday the annual Conference in Lujan de Cuyo finished; three days of precious communion with the Lord's saints. Our brethren held the opening of their fine new hall on the Thursday night, and there was a baptism at that time when fourteen believers obeyed the Lord, three from this assembly in the city and eleven from Lujan de Cuyo. Their hall is very large, and very nice. It seats about six hundred, or will when the gallery above is finished, and it only lacks the floor. There were about four hundred in the largest meetings but as the work in the whole zone is growing the full capacity will be needed before long, God willing. I think it is quite the nicest hall I have seen in the country, although not the largest. Our brethren built it themselves, and have certainly shown what love for the Lord, unity of purpose and desire can accomplish midst difficulties. There was a good number of visitors from other assemblies, and several brethren took part in the ministry of the Word. Some three or four made a profession of faith in Christ in the evening meetings, two being from families of believers in fellowship here in the city.

I returned on last Wednesday night from some fifteen days in Buenos Aires where I had the privilege of giving help in the ministry of the Word in two or three places. We trust the Lord may bless His Word.

BOLIVIA

Santa Cruz LOUISE STETTER. More children have been coming into classes in my home, and it is so nice to have the help of Mr. and Mrs. Smith and also my Christian neighbor two doors away. These children, at least all but two families, have no spiritual help in their homes. Thus, may we put Proverbs 22:6 into practice and as God's promises are conditional, may our part be done even in the short time the children are with us. "Little is much when God is in it."

Many come into Gospel meeting at the Hall, also Bible Study and Prayer meetings.

At the Open Air Meetings crowds listen. It is a joy to hear the young national Christians give such splendid messages.

VENEZUELA

Puerto Cabello S. J. SAWORD®. Soon after my last letter to you, our friend Ramon Alvarez came to get us in his old dug-out canoe, with its ancient outboard motor. By the time my wife, son-in-law and I were seated in it with our camp beds, cooking outfit, foodstuff, box of books and suit cases, and with the man at the helm, it was a full load and so low in the water that as we started off a small stream of water came rushing in from a widened crack in the bows. However, as the canoe gained speed the bows rose higher out of the water and then it was the spray that reached us, as we squatted low down in the low bark. We were eight hours doing the fifty mile trip down the river, as the motor stalled several times, but we discovered that our fisherman brother was also a born mechanic and with only a pair of pliers, a screw driver and a hammer he could work away at spark plugs, ignition and carbureter until he coaxed his motor to purr again. Once the wooden fixtures upon which the motor was mounted broke away and he was just in time to save it from falling into the river which would be about ten feet deep in the middle. He stopped at a riverside hut, borrowed a piece of barbed wire from the fence and made the fixture safe.

We preached in the small river town of Guadarrama five nights and thoroughly worked the place with visits and tracts, sold a number of Bibles and New Testaments and contacted some interested people. The civil chief, his secretary, the National Guard,



Gospel Tent, Sanara, Venezuela

two policemen and the vice-president of the Council, also some of the better class women were amongst the crowds that attended the meetings. We were greatly encouraged and are considering returning when the prairie trails are open to traffic in the dry season. There are many scattered settlements in that vast territory where very little evangelizing is being done.

CHILE

Concepcion RICHARD HANNA®. All here keep wonderfully well, and at present we are enjoying some lovely spring weather, quite a change from the rain and cold of the winter.

Things go along here with encouragements. On Saturday week last I signed a contract with the owner of a Hall in Lota, which guarantees us the use of it for at least a year. This will certainly be a help to the work there. The benches that I made for it are ready, also a platform, and we hope to take them over there by truck this afternoon or tomorrow. This will mean that we can start meetings in it on Saturday, when we hope to have a children's meeting and a gospel meeting. There are a good many people really interested in the gospel in that city and we are looking to the Lord for His blessing, so that souls may be reached and saved.

Here in Concepcion, we still haven't found a hall, but I'm quite sure that when the time comes, the Lord will provide one that will suit us. On Sunday night last we had three more technicians from the University along, and they have promised to come back again. We hope to start next Tuesday a Bible Class for a number of them who have especially asked for one, and hope it may prove to be a blessing to many.

On September 18 and 19, the Christians in Santiago had their annual conference and I was able to go up for the occasion. Good numbers were present and the ministry and fellowship were most enjoyable and beneficial.

VENEZUELA

Puerto Cabello

WILLIAM WILLIAMS®. We are delighted to see the new hall in La Sorpresa finished.

It looks very well as to appearance and we had the joy of seeing it inaugurated free of debt. Seven were baptized on Saturday night before the largest crowd we have seen. All the men Christians had to go outside to make room for the unsaved who came to the opening. Don Francisco Ramos who closed with prayer had to pray in through the window as he could not get inside. Dr. Thomson said that he had heard of men being put out through the window but never saw one pray in through a window. There were around a hundred twenty-five at the Lord's Table and the ministry was excellent. The only foreign worker present was Mr. Fairfield who came from Valencia. Sr. Chavez and I went on with special meetings to profit by the interest, and a nice number were saved.

I will now be able to take down my portable steel hall which I loaned them for three years and we hope to take it over to Maracaibo where the brethren have at last bought a site.

Dr. Thomson and my wife are here with me in Caracas—now a city of one million. We hope to be here for some five weeks and have meetings in all the three assemblies in the capital. Miss Gulston arrived safely and we hope to welcome back Miss Ruth Scott in December.



Mr. Williams and his helpers outside the new Sorpresa Hall.

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