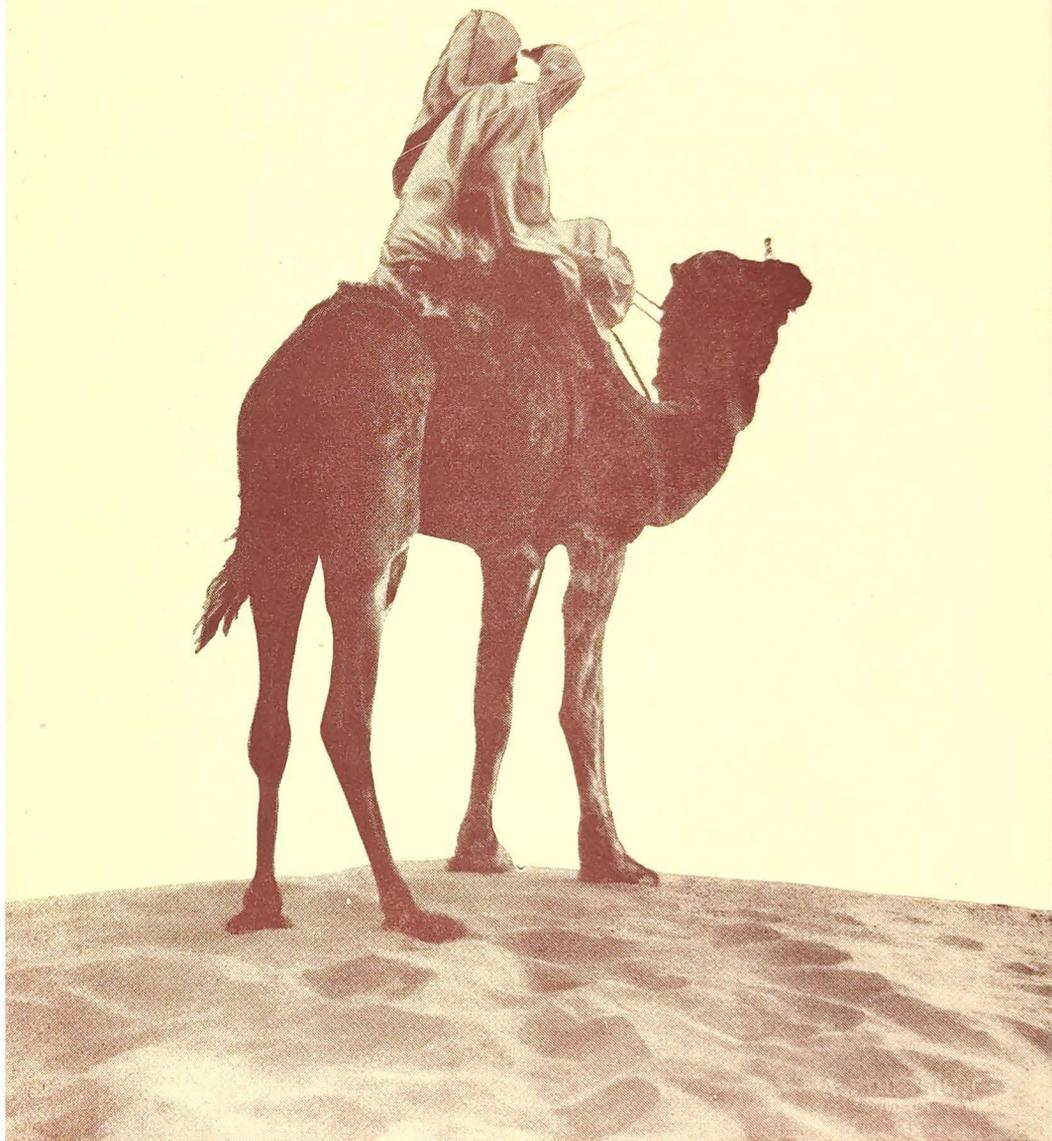


A Thirsty Land



Algiers Mission Band

No. 142.

JANUARY - FEBRUARY, 1963.

ALGIERS MISSION BAND

Founded in 1888 by Miss I. Lillias Trotter

HEADQUARTERS:

DAR NAAMA, 45 AV. CLAMENCEAU, EL BIAR, ALGIERS.

President: MR. H. W. BUCKENHAM.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Co-Chairmen of the Executive Committee: MISS P. M. RUSSELL, and
MR. P. G. LONGLEY

Executive Secretary and Treasurer: MR. P. G. LONGLEY
Miss M. D. Grautoff Miss E. Clark Miss V. Wood
Rev. H. R. Smart Mr. R. W. Withers

GREAT BRITAIN

London Centre: Algiers House, 92 Gordon Road, Ealing, London, W.13.
(Telephone—Office: PERivale 1765 Vis:itors: PERivale 5322)

Home Advisory Council:

Mr. Horace F. Berry (Chairman).
Miss O. M. Botham. Mrs. O. Gilbert-Smith. Rev. H. R. Smart.
Mr. H. W. Buckenham. Mr. John L. Oliver. Mrs. M. E. Waine.
Mr. L. R. S. Clarke. Mr. E. Pearson. Rev. R. J. Waine.
Mr. R. W. Withers.

Secretary-Treasurer, and Editor of the Magazine: MISS D. B. EDGE

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES:

London: Mr. H. F. Berry, 12, Briston Grove, Crouch End, London, N.8.
Essex: Mr. R. W. Withers, Valentine Lodge, 146, Cranbrook Road, Ilford.
Bedfordshire: Mrs. R. Green, Red Cow Farm, Bidwell, Dunstable.
Lancashire: Mr. W. Lister, 25, Burnside Avenue, Blackpool.
Yorkshire (Leeds District): Mr. W. S. Ramsden, 37 Marshall St., Crossgates,
Leeds 15. (*Pudsey and Bradford Districts*): Mr. D. Wilson,
5 Pembroke Road, Pudsey.
Scotland (Edinburgh District): Mrs. Duncan Campbell, 38, Coates Gardens,
Edinburgh, 12.
.. (*Dundee District*): Mr. A. Miller, 25, Perth Road, Dundee, Angus
.. (*Glasgow District*): Mrs. Jean Y. Wilson, 8 Gardenrose Path,
Maybole, Ayrshire.

U.S.A. Honorary Corresponding Secretary:

Mrs. Myrtle Hare, 609 California Boulevard, Toledo, 12. Ohio, U.S.A.

REFEREES.

M. le Pasteur Chatoney, Mostaganem, Algeria.
M. le Missionnaire Rolland, Tizi-Ouzou, Algeria.
M. Leutenegger, Hennaya, Tlemcen, Algeria.
Mlle. L. Saillens, L'Institut Biblique, Nogent-sur-Marne, (Seine), France.
Dr. René Pache, L'Institut Emmaus, Vennes-sur-Lausanne, Switzerland.
Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones, Westminster Chapel, London, S.W.1, England.
Rev. Geoffrey R. King, West Croydon Baptist Church, Surrey, England.
Rev. Percy Hassam, 69 Salford Road, Aspley Guise, Bletchley, Bucks., England
Rev. Duncan Campbell, 38 Coates Gardens, Edinburgh, 12, Scotland.
Rev. Dr. J. G. S. S. Thomson, 121, Norse Road, Glasgow, W.4, Scotland.
Mr. G. E. M. Govan, 2 Monastery Road, Clondalkin, Co. Dublin, Ireland.
Dr. Philip E. Howard, Jr., Sunday School Times, 325 North Thirteenth Street,
Philadelphia, 5, Pa., U.S.A.
Dr. J. Edwin Orr, 11451 Berwick Avenue, Los Angeles 49, California, U.S.A.
Mrs. Northcote Deck, 295 St. Clair Avenue, East, Toronto 7, Ontario, Canada
Rt. Rev. G. F. B. Morris, South Africa.

A THIRSTY LAND

The News and Prayer Sheet of the
Algiers Mission Band

Annual Subscription, including postage:

Three shillings and sixpence (Great Britain)

50 cents (U.S.A.)

No. 142.

JANUARY - FEBRUARY, 1963.

Editorial

The chilly new year with its arctic weather is upon us still at the time of writing. Let us, therefore, turn our thoughts straightaway to warmer channels, to sunny Algeria and the Mission's activities there.

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Algiers, January, 1963.

News of Missionary Personnel, and others.

Mr. and Mrs. Buckenham moved to their new home on 21st November; the address is: No. 8 Bungalow, Eckling Grange, East Dereham, Norfolk, England.

Miss Grautoff left London on 18th December, in company with a friend (Mrs. Bland), to spend several weeks in the South of France.

Miss Gow has written from Dundee, where she has had another attack of influenza. She has, however, been able to do some speaking on behalf of the A.M.B., and has spoken at 7 meetings in the Dundee district during the past 2 or 3 months.

Miss Russell and Mademoiselle Guibé report from Blida that the classes for girls are going well, but numbers have dropped at the boys' class.

The Misses Clark and Powell write from Relizane: "Things are gradually returning to normal here from the point of view of the work. The women are coming back to the house, and we are able to visit a little more."

Mademoiselle Chollet, at Sétif, has been having about 12 girls to the class, half of whom are new ones.

Madame Lull is having good numbers of girls to the Sunday School at Tolga — there were 62 on 25th November. They became excited at the prospect of Christmas. After school hours, all go for a walk if it is fine, or play in the classroom if wet. The Thursday class has been divided into two — the smallest girls now come on Wednesdays instead. Two older girls (former pupils) who are not yet married, come frequently. There is a good spirit in the village and all are friendly with Madame Lull. She is also helping Hélène, who has many sick people to treat, for there is no doctor and a shortage of medicine.

The girls' class at Dar Naama, El-Biar, had not been re-started this autumn, but **Mrs. Longley** is temporarily helping in the Thursday classes of the Mennonite Mission, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Stetter. Visiting has been continued, sometimes in company with a missionary of the North Africa Mission.

Mr. and Mrs. Isaacs left El-Biar on 4th December for the Sahara.

* * *

As we begin the New Year we have to report the resignation of two members of the A.M.B.

Mademoiselle Germaine Chollet has felt obliged, for health and other reasons, to leave the Mission and return to Switzerland. She came to Algeria in 1947 to help Mademoiselle Butticaaz at Bou-Saada. In 1952 they both left Bou-Saada to work at Ain-Arnat, where Mademoiselle Butticaaz died in 1957. In 1959 Mademoiselle Chollet moved into the town of Sélif. Now this station is temporarily closed, as there is no missionary available to replace her at present.

Miss Bella Gow, who has been on an extended furlough in Scotland, has also been obliged to leave the Mission on account of her health. She came to Algeria in 1959 and had been stationed at El-Biar.

We shall miss these two workers from the fellowship on the Field, and pray that God will guide them in the future.

Miss V. A. C. Wood, who has been residing at Algiers House, Ealing, since September 1962, is, at the time

of writing, not too well and has had to go to a nursing home, locally. We feel sure that those who know her, would like to join us in praying for her speedy recovery.

The following tribute to **the late Miss I. K. Nash** was written by a business man in Touggourt:

"We learnt with much sadness of the death of Miss Nash, for she won the sympathy of all in Touggourt, as much by her goodness as by the courage and unselfishness with which she unflaggingly carried on her work."
P. G. Longley.

P. G. and E. E. Longley

REPORT FROM ALGIERS (EL BIAR):

July - December, 1962.

There are still many wide open doors for visiting in this district. Throughout the period visiting has been continued, sometimes in company with a missionary of the North Africa Mission. Due to lack of workers in the Mission, some homes have not been visited as frequently as they might have been. In July and August visits were made to the Bertraria Hospital, El-Biar.

The class for girls at Dar Naama has not been re-opened this Autumn. Mrs. Longley is helping at the Thursday Girls' Classes of the Mennonite Mission in El-Biar, as already mentioned.

Although there have been no regular women visitors on Friday afternoons since early October, a consi-

derable number of Algerian adults and children have called for various reasons during this half-year, in great contrast to the preceeding 3 or 4 months.

Eleven members of the "Send the Light" team (connected with the "Operation Mobilization" movement) have made Dar Naama their headquarters since the end of November, while they have been distributing Christian literature and Gospel Correspondence Course leaflets in the city and district of Algiers. We have been glad to have them with us. Previous to their stay in Algiers, they visited Tlemcen and Relizane.

A Christmas Service in Arabic was held at Dar Naama on Sunday afternoon December 23rd. It was conducted by Si Embarek of the Bible Society and attended by 34 adults (of whom 23 were Algerians) and 8 children. We rejoice at the increased number who came this year.

E. Clark **RELIZANE**
and **October - December, 1962.**
A. E. Powell

It is with a sense of much thanksgiving to God that we are able to report a steady resumption of the work in this corner of His vineyard, after a period of several months when work was almost at a standstill.

The visiting on the whole, has been quite encouraging, although there is a good deal of fear and suspicion, which we trust will be dispelled in due course. The women also are beginning to return to the house again. It was good to be welcomed once more by our regulars after a lapse of several months.

The highlight of this session was the visit of a team of keen young Christian workers, known as the "Send the Light" team. They arrived in what looked like a large furniture-removal van and caused quite a sensation! People crowded round, thinking it was a mobile cinema. The team visited the town from one end to the other, selling and distributing Christian literature, also leaflets inviting people to avail themselves of a free Bible Correspondence Course, organised by the North Africa Mission. They had very good response everywhere, and experienced great liberty in the distribution of the literature. They felt that this was due to ground prepared by prayer. There were one or two interesting contacts, which we hope to follow up. We felt their coming was at God's appointed time, for, had they come sooner, they would not have had the same liberty to work. Since we know that God was in it, we are trusting Him for a Harvest of souls. We have been asked a few times if they are coming back this way soon, which has given us opportunities for conversation in the things that matter.

The front door leading from the garden of the mission house boasts of a very nice step, which provides convenient, though limited seating accommodation for a number of men and large numbers of children at all hours of the day. This has made possible a little doorstep evangelism on several occasions in the past months. We have also been able to have conversation with the stallholders in the market and in the streets and shops we visit.

We have been made very conscious these past weeks that no good thing will the Lord withhold from them

that walk uprightly, and we pray that we may so walk with our God that indeed no good thing, namely, the salvation of the men, women and children around us, shall be withheld.

P. Russell

and

BLIDA

J. Guibé October - December, 1962.

The keynote of the past quarter has had to be, unfortunately, "Workmen." When the Autumn rains began, the house leaked like a sieve and something had to be done about it, immediately. Men around the premises put a stop to women's meetings and also to our visiting them in their own homes.

We did not attempt to begin classes for the children until after they had celebrated Independence Day, on Nov. 1 and Madmoiselle Guibé's little day school re-opened on Nov. 16.

Throughout the term the girls came in very good spirit to the weekly Bible Class, but the boys fluctuated in numbers. On one occasion, they were so excited that we could not admit them. They took their revenge by wiring up the front gate, in an attempt to prevent us from going to Church. During December, they seemed calmer, though determined not to answer questions on the lessons, or to take any part in singing hymns and choruses. The climax was reached when the girls came to their Christmas treat on Dec. 20. Contrary to rules, they were attended by a crowd of boys, who refused to depart, insulting us and spitting at the girls When the party was over and everyone ready to go home, it was impossible to open the padlock on the

front gate. Finally, the 32 guests had to leave by a side door. There and then, we decided to cancel the Boys' treat and the only one who received a present was M. who had just been admitted to hospital, and was, therefore safely out of mischief, for the time being.

During October we made a trip to Miliana and two journeys to L'Arba in a fruitless attempt to help a Christian brother, who was "under the weather."

On Dec. 19, a telegram informed us that the old Arab, who lived on the premises and had been missing for four days, had just died in hospital. The authorities explained that he was not ill, but merely that his last day had come He was a very self-satisfied Moslem, but we learnt one big lesson from him. In blistering heat and biting cold, alike, he had one comment to make and they were the last words we heard him utter:

"Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!"

M. Lull

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR AT TOLGA

The Christmas celebrations are over. I will describe them briefly for you.

Pastor Grellet, of Constantine, arrived with his family on Wednesday 26th December, and at 2.30 p.m. We made a start. Madame Grellet told the girls a short story, and then Pastor Grellet gave the Christmas message. We also had carols and recitation of Bible verses.

On leaving, each girl chose her present. 84 had come, including some former pupils who were so happy at being together again in their beloved classroom.

Over cups of tea, these older girls were able to talk happily together. One of them was married three months ago.

Next morning, 130 boys were squeezed in round the Christmas Tree. In the afternoon, 194 girls who do not attend the regular classes, and 25 women heard the Christmas story.

On Sunday 6th January, I had about 50 children at Sunday School. May God speak to all their young hearts.

The children of a People's Mission — a certain Christian Brotherhood in Paris — sent 22 parcels of books and games for the children of Tolga. What is marvellous and touching about this, is that these children live in a working-class area, but they wanted other children to know the Joy of Christmas, and so they made great sacrifices. Please pray that God will give them too, a great deal of joy in the giving.

D. B. Edge

A TE DEUM TAPESTRY

What more invigorating and consoling thought could one share at the beginning of another year, than that which may be found among Oswald Chambers' sayings.

"Notion your mind with the idea that God is there. If once the mind is notioned on that line, when we are in difficulties it is as easy as breathing to remember, 'Why, my Father knows all about it!' It is not an effort, it comes naturally.

Don't be disturbed to-day by thoughts about to-morrow, leave to-morrow alone, and bank in confidence on God's organization of what you do not see."

Yes, praise be, Our Heavenly Father knows all about it, and in that assurance we can go forward in 1963.

PRAYER CYCLE

"... and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ." ii Corinthians X, 5.

Monday:	Algiers	Mr. & Mrs. P. G. Longley.
Tuesday :	Blida Miliana	Miss P.M. Russell & Mlle. J. Guibé. Miss M. D. Grautoff (temporarily in France).
Wednesday :	Relizane	The Misses E. Clark & A. E. Powell.
Thursday :	Tlemcen	(Temporarily closed).
Friday :	Sétif	
Saturday :	Tolga Touggourt	Madame Lull.
Sunday :	London Centre	Miss D. B. Edge and Missionaries, including Miss V. A. C. Wood, at Algiers House. Rev. & Mrs. R. J. Waine and family (temporarily in England).

Please remember also, the members of the Executive Committee, Algiers, and of the Home Council, London.