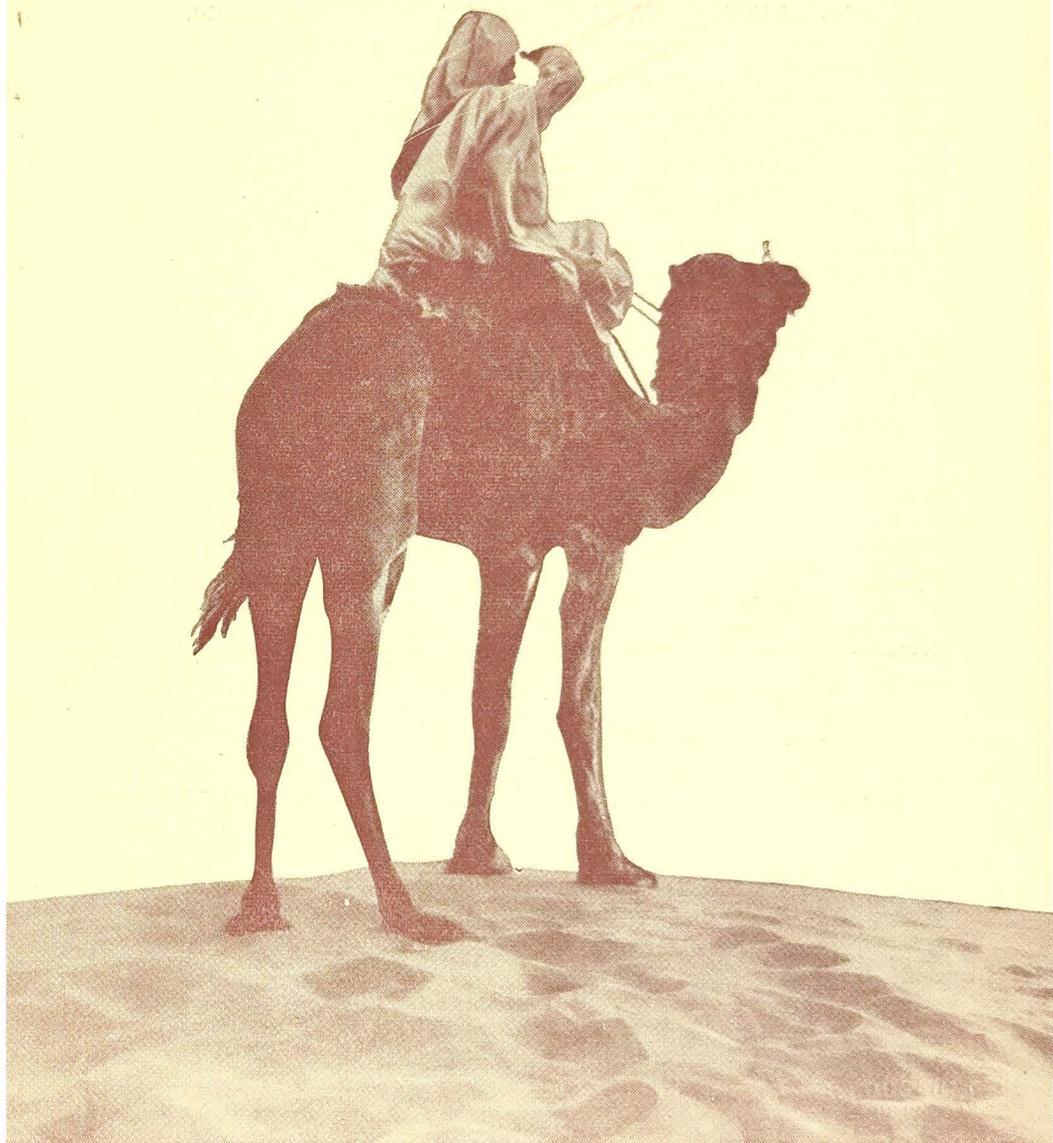


A Thirsty Land



Algiers Mission Band

No. 146.

DECEMBER, 1963.

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Founded in 1888 by Miss I. Lilius Trotter

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A THIRSTY LAND

The Quarterly Magazine of the
Algiers Mission Band

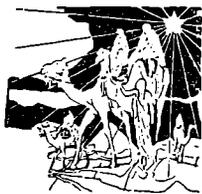
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*"... And the angel said unto them,
be not afraid; for behold, I bring you
good tidings of great joy which shall
be to all people: for there is born to
you this day in the city of David a
Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."*

Editorial Notes

AS Christmas comes with its spirit of joy and sharing, we take the opportunity of sharing with you and our many readers in other lands, something of that holy joy in God's unspeakable Gift to mankind, the Gift of His well-beloved Son,

The Saviour of the world

May Christmas be to you a blessed and peaceful time with a sense of His Abiding Presence throughout the Coming Year.

* * *

Why not give a book for Christmas!

Though we are at present in short supply of the "Parables of the Cross" until its reprinting which, it is hoped may be in the not too far distant future, we would remind you of another of our publications, which also makes a suitable gift —

"The Love That Was Stronger"

by Mrs. I. R. Govan Stewart.

(Price 5/6, plus postage).

The story is of the pioneer experiences of Lilius Trotter, beloved founder of A.M.B., as she travelled in North Africa at a time when it was quite unheard of, for a white woman to attempt such an enterprise; a time when the only means of transport was a camel.

The unfolding of her remarkable experience and the beauty of her life and character are clearly revealed in this story of the birth of the Mission. Those who are interested in the work of the Society should possess a copy.

It is not too late to send us your order now!





REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

P. G. and E. E. Longley

ALGIERS (EL-BIAR)

(July-September, 1963)

During these Summer months we have had a number of interesting visitors at Dar Naama. Two of them were recordists of "Gospel Recordings" — one French and the other Swiss — who stayed here for two or three weeks while making recordings in the Arabic and Kabyle dialects of Algeria. Several national Christians helped in this. On leaving us the two recordists crossed the Sahara Desert on their way to West Africa.

Accommodation was also provided for shorter or longer periods for a number of members of other Missions passing through Algiers, and on more than one occasion Dar Naama served as an assembly point for children being taken to the N.A.M. camp at Cherchell.

In July, Mr. and Mrs. Don Rickards and family (N.A.M.) arrived from Tunis. They will be staying at Dar Naama for several more months. While Mr. Rickards is responsible for the Bible Correspondence Courses in

Algeria. Work in the office, which is now at Dar Naama, goes on steadily each day, with the help of several other missionaries. It is a ministry in which there is constant activity.

Since the beginning of August there has been a regular Sunday morning service at Dar Naama. For the first two weeks it was in French, then for two weeks partly in French and partly in Arabic. But since early September it has been conducted almost entirely in Arabic. Attendance has not been large so far, but it is encouraging to see half-dozen Algerians coming regularly. Your prayers are asked that the Lord will guide and strengthen those who meet, so that a true worshipping Algerian church may be formed.

*P. M. Russell &
J. Guibé*

BLIDA

(July-September, 1963)

The activities during the Summer have been a pleasant change from the usual routine of classwork. Miss Grautoff and I spent five days at Milliana, in July, sorting papers, des-

patching furniture to Algiers and calling on old friends. By the end of that time, I think we both felt some sympathy with the present Algerian Government in its horror of what is termed *paperasse*.

Upon our return to Blida I gave daily reading lessons, in Arabic, to two teenage girls who are not allowed out. One of them is doing the Bible Correspondence Course, and these daily visits were an excellent way of getting to know her.

In the middle of August, Miss Grautoff and I travelled to England, leaving Miss Chantler to keep company with Mademoiselle Guibé, who was, as usual, immersed in business connected with the various Mission properties.

Although only at home for three weeks, I was given two opportunities to speak about the work. The first was at a weekly prayer meeting, where Dr. Wakefield of Tamanrasset was also present. The second occasion was at a Home for the Blind — One lady there was too ill to attend the meeting, but sent a donation from her sick bed . . .

From this Mission station, we now hear the Muslim call to prayer coming from a mosque which did not exist a few months ago.

In spite of adverse circumstances, the Lord is saying to us:—

“I WILL WORK and who shall let it?” (FR . . . qui s’y opposera?)

D. B. Edge

A TE DEUM TAPESTRY

Who is this Incomparable Man ?

He was born of a virgin nearly 2,000 years ago, lived in poverty and was reared in obscurity. He did not travel extensively.

He possessed neither wealth nor high social standing. His relatives were inconspicuous, and had neither training nor formal education.

In infancy He startled a King; in childhood He puzzled doctors; in manhood He ruled the course of nature, walked upon the billows as if on pavements, and hushed the sea to sleep.

He healed the multitudes without medicine and made no charge for His service.

He never wrote a book, and yet many times more books have been written about Him than about anyone else who has ever lived. His discourses and teachings have been translated into over 1,000 languages and have a circulation many times greater than that of any other writings in existence.

He never wrote a song, and yet He has furnished the theme for more songs than all the songwriters combined.

He never founded a college, but all the schools put together cannot boast of having as many students.

He never marshalled an army, nor drafted a soldier, nor fired a gun; and yet no leader ever had more volunteers who have, under His orders, made more rebels stack arms and surrender without a shot fired.

He never practised psychiatry, and yet He has healed more broken hearts than all the doctors far and near.

Once each week the wheels of commerce cease their turning and multitudes wend their way to worshipping assemblies to pay homage and respect to Him.

The names of the past proud statesmen of Greece and Rome have come and gone. The names of the past scientists, philosophers and theolo-

gians have come and gone; but the name of this Man abounds more and more. Though time has spread almost 2,000 years between the people of this generation and the scene of His crucifixion, yet He still lives. Herod could not destroy Him, and the grave could not hold Him. God raised Him from the dead.

He stands forth upon the highest pinnacle of heavenly glory, proclaimed of God, acknowledged by

angels, adored by saints, and feared by devils, as the living, personal Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

Selected—with acknowledgements to "The Flame."

Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised;

And His greatness is unsearchable."

Psalm 145: 3.

PRAYER CYCLE

"And it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, that when he ceased, one of His disciples said unto Him, Lord, teach us to pray."

Luke II: 1

Monday:	Algiers	Mr. & Mrs. P. G. Longley. (At present, on Furlough in England).
Tuesday:	Blida	Miss P. M. Russell & Mlle. J. Guibé
Wednesday:	Miliana & Relizane	Temporarily closed.
Thursday:	Tlemcen	Mr. & Mrs. F. Ewing (North Africa Mission)
Friday:	Tolga	Madame Lull
	Sétif & Touggourt	Temporarily Closed
Saturday:		Missionaries on leave of absence in England: Rev. & Mrs. R. J. Walne Retired Missionaries in England: Mr. & Mrs. H. W. Buckenham, Miss. E. Clark, Miss A. M. Farmer, Miss M. D. Grautoff Miss A. E. Powell, Miss M. H. Roche and Miss V. A. C. Wood.
Sunday:	London Centre	Miss D. B. Edge Members of Executive Committee & Home Council.