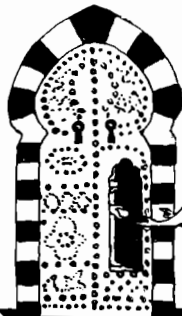


Friend, lend me three loaves.

Algiers

Mission

Band



Story

of

1926-27.

ALGIERS MISSION BAND

Headquarters.—Dar Naama, El Biar, Algiers. *Gen. Sec.*—I. Lilius Trotter.

ADVISORY COUNCIL IN ENGLAND

Rev. Francis C. Brading, B.D.

W. Cecil Collinson.

Rev. E. H. Hamilton.

Rev. Chas. Inwood, D.D.

John Gordon Logan.

John L. Oliver.

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer for England, Mrs. Brading, 38, Outram Road, Croydon.

Hon. Deputation Sec., W. Cecil Collinson, 62, Tuddenham Road, Ipswich.

REFEREES, AMERICA

W. C. Pearce, W.S.S.A., Metropolitan Tower, New York.

Dr. S. D. Price, W.S.S.A., Metropolitan Tower, New York.

Charles G. Trumbull, 1031, Walnut Street, Philadelphia.

ALGERIAN MISSION BAND, AMERICA

Mrs. J. A. Walker, Sec.,
2300, Dexter St, Denver, Col.

Mrs. F. Goodrich, *Treas.*,
302, College Court, Albion, Mich.

REFEREES, FRANCE

Pastor J. P. Cook,
Les Issers, Menerville, Algeria.

Pastor R. Saillens,
Nogent, sur Marne, Seine.

PRAYER UNION SECRETARIES

Central Sec. for Prayer Groups: Mrs. Brading, 38, Outram Road, Croydon.

Sec. for Scattered Prayer Helpers: J. H. Smeeton, Dar Naama, El Biar, Algeria.

General Treasurer, Miss F. K. Currie, Oulad Sultane, Blida, Algiers.

Quarterly Magazine "A Thirsty Land." Published at the Croydon Office.
Price 1/6 per year. Post free.

FRIEND, LEND ME THREE LOAVES.

MIDNIGHT, empty breadstalls in the market, silence as yet in the bakers street, just a few crusts to be found in the seeker's home, wholly unfit to set before the friend from afar.

Only he knew of the great house of another Friend and there he won his way, through delay and apparent denial, till he bore off the supply.

We have friends without number out here, men friends and women friends, boy and girl friends, friends even among the dear toddlers and the babies who stretch out their arms to us in love. They have come to us in their darkness and need and we give them a heart welcome, but ever more keenly do we feel that from our own resources, face to face with the soul starvation of Islam, we have nothing to set before them—we must go out of our empty house to the house of that other "Friend" for this, and we must wait on Him till "it shall be opened" unto us. "As many as he needeth"—that is the measure of the gift of Christ to those who pray through.

Three loaves—may we not trace a meaning in the symbolism? Spirit and soul and body, all are dumbly waiting in these Moslem lands, for the hour when

we can bring the life of God within reach : the spirit waits the arousal of the vision of Christ Crucified to quicken it from the sleep of death ; the soul in these races has often rare forces and capacities lying dormant,—even the body needs the liberating of the Spirit of life, dragged down and beset as it is with the deadly heritage of sin.

And here is the promise that is our plea. “ If a man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask and He shall give him life for them that sin not unto death.” “ Life for them ” that come our way heart-starved ; is it not worth the quest ! Christ, “ the Bread of God ” passed through our hands to theirs— that is our high calling.

You, who have come with us in fellowship through the year, will want the outline of its story.

It is a story of ever-growing opportunity, and of ever-deepening conviction, both at our Home Base and among us out here, that our Mission as a Band is to the outlying and unreached places, and that our Stations should be considered as means to this end, rather than ends in themselves.

In this aim the Car, with the co-operation of the Nile Mission Press behind it, has stood for much during the past year. It has taken on a new objective,

alongside sales and broadcast distribution of literature, with the opportunities for evangelisation flung open thereby ; we now see its further scope in strengthening the stations, making possible special services among boys and men, and extending the circuit of villages within reach, far beyond the old limit.

We long for the day when this Car work may be multiplied. Those who wish to know our growing hopes may learn them through Mr. Collinson at our Home Base.

His Deputation service in England has had much to do with the constant sense of God's unfolding supply, for it has been carried on with the definite aim of gathering Prayer Circles and keeping them in pace with developments. And we shall never know all that has been wrought by the world-wide intercessor friends won for us through Mr. Smeeton. We believe that the new venture of a Quarterly Magazine, just starting, " A Thirsty Land " by name, will serve the same end.

The other fruitful linking is with those who have come to us to see the land for themselves. The visit of Mrs. J. A. Walker, of Denver, has been hindered as yet, but the Spring brought us, for a long and most welcome stay, our Home Secretary, Mrs. Brading. Among others from afar, we had three days, full of enriching, with Mr. and Mrs. Upson, of the Nile Mission Press, and a longer time

with Mrs. Elwin of Oxford, whose messages to us in Easter week, on the releasing of the Spirit's power, marked, we felt, an era for us and for the work. They dealt not only with our personal need, but with the call for telling the converts from the first, of their right to His infilling.

Touches of that power were seen in a marked way in several of the outposts before their season's work closed. From among "young men and maidens" and from among boys and girls, here and there, were souls who, we cannot doubt, came into living contact with Christ, as well as other older ones, who seem definitely turning towards Him.

This gives us a new spring of hope as we ask you to come with us through our stations, dark and silent though the land may seem to you, and stand with us on the heavenly threshold, knocking until it is opened unto us.

Dar Naama has gone on its way, in its Headquarters capacity, with ever-increasing cause for praising God in the supply of the ever-extending demands, and for the backing of the Home Office and its Council in absolute unity of aim.

The Blind work has also pursued its course steadily. Our trouble is that work in Algiers town, half an hour away, has been almost at a standstill for want

of helpers since the Rue du Croissant house had to be vacated. At the little slum post of Beit Naama in the heart of the Arab quarter, the girls have come in vain asking when classes would begin, and the boys have had barely enough to keep them together, while the Book Depot has seldom had its shutters taken down ; yet through this city pulses the whole tide of the land. Our dearth seems the greater that last Autumn had brought us, in Mr. and Mrs. Tetley, good prospects for the future ; now the oculist's verdict cancels their return. " Pray ye therefore."

Belcourt. Algiers' eastern suburb has itself grown into a town, climbing tier above tier its steep hillside. The Mission Station has held bravely on its way, with many counter tides of opposition from the Moslem influences that surge up from the great shrine below. The children are as ever, its joy and hope.

Colea sends its message that a consciousness of the brooding of the Spirit's power has been over the place of late, quickening the sense of expectation. His influence and grace have been seen markedly at work in one house of some standing, for which prayer is specially asked.

Blida says—" We have had a year of large numbers coming to meetings and classes, specially among the boys, and it has been increasingly difficult to concentrate on individual souls. We would ask prayer that till God sends others to our

help, we may not fear to let go some of the existing work, and so have time to follow the Good Shepherd as He seeks for His lost sheep "until He find them."

Miliana tells—"This Spring our Industrial Class, owing to the higher price of living, increased almost beyond our powers. Parents were eager to send their girls to earn a few francs to help solve the problem of food and clothing.

Of these girls a certain number leave us each year to be home-makers, and if they knew a personal Saviour, how far reaching would be their influence, for they are often sent to towns or districts where there is no missionary and where one faithful Christian Arab woman could mean so much in her community.

We have felt greatly the need of workers and space to enable us to divide the crowd into classes and so get the quiet individual touch. But this has not yet come."

Relizane asks us to praise that God's hand of blessing has been over both Europeans and natives. The Spanish convert lad, although half blind, has shown marked gifts in colportage and soul-winning. This station bids us praise God also that the native children's love for Christ has been communicating itself to the

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parents. Praise is also asked that a tiny plot of land has been secured to provide premises for the necessary growth of the work and that funds have begun to come in for building.

Mascara says—" Perhaps the most hopeful part of the work is that in the forest between Mascara and Frenda. The Arabs living there are for the most part unreached by colporteurs, but they are friendly to our missionary helper and every now and then there arrives a cart, preceded by an invitation to come and talk and bring her books with her. Confiding her little adopted daughter to the care of friends, she is able to spend two or three days among the natives and always finds a most courteous hearing and a willing reception of her literature."

Mostaganem. " The work here is hidden, but we feel that it is very real, and that it may be further developed in the course of the next few months. Meanwhile there are enquirers who seem to be truly in earnest."

Sidi Bel Abbas. Our Colporteur-Evangelist has made several journeys to outlying places and small villages and finds a fair sale, though sometimes a taleb arrives on the scene and obliges the buyers to give back their gospels. On all European converts he presses their duty to pass on the light to their Moslem neighbours."

Tlemcen writes—"Thank God the answer to prayer that regular work might start last Autumn in Tlemcen *did* come and the last Sunday in October saw our first tiny class of three children. His definite word was that we should 'stand still and see His salvation with us' and that we should 'not need to fight.' "We *did* 'see.' for from that first Sunday He brought to us little ones, then boys and girls and women, and we believe His touch of life was on them. In praising with us, pray for deeper work still in the new season."

Tlemcen, as all will remember, marks our Western limit, being close to the borders of Morocco. Returning past Algiers to the East we come first to

Dellys. This has changed its special aim during the past year, for the time does not yet seem fully ripe for the shelter work in view when it started, and as yet we have been able only to care for individual cases. Dellys town and the villages around have, however, proved too good a foothold to be relinquished. The workers write: "The people express their pleasure at our presence among them saying, 'You are ours, you belong to us.' This attitude, in God's hands, has been brought about through the help given in ways that in England would be called District Nursing. One very dense old woman, now nearing Eternity, is, we have reason to believe, rejoicing in Christ as her Saviour. Fresh doors are

opening on all sides, and many villages are waiting to be visited as soon as we have opportunity."

Bou-saada tells : " One clever girl, who had practically taught herself to read and write, confessed before we left for England, ' I too am a Christian,' though there were tears in her eyes as she added ' but I dare not tell my Mother.' Her small companion is our waif-girl, whose story equals any in pathos, for she has suffered many injustices. Now as she moves in and out of the houses in town, she is a little interpreter of Christ's message.

While on a tour in the Aures, three different persons remarked to us the same day, ' We never thought there were such things to be told in our own tongue.' "

Tozeur had last Winter and Spring one of the longest and the best of its times of opportunity and once again there was definite soul response, and very specially in its final weeks when more than one of the student lads met Christ, we believe, and yielded to Him. The gladness over this helped through the sadness of the outward way, for they were the closing days of the many years that our dear fellow worker Miss Krebs had held the Winter post down there, and now that failing health has obliged her to return to Denmark, no one can really take the

place for which God had so fitted her. Pray that the buried seed all around in that desert town may yet yield its sheaves.

Tolga and its suburb Rassouta had their turn early in the year. "The impression" so runs the report, "was one of determined welcome. The house was invaded by wee toddlers, little girls with babies slung on their backs, schoolboys, big lads who came earnestly wishing to learn, or to pose hard questions, women demanding remedies for eyes and chest. Also in the narrow Tolga streets and in the long tramps across the desert and through the mazes of the palm gardens, welcome came nearly everywhere."

Beyond Tolga, on the Touggourt trek, lay the furthest bit of this year's penetration on the women's side, other plans having had to stand over from one cause or another. And even that stay was not a very long one, only enough to prove once more that readiness of spirit among the people which urges the call for those who can carry the Living Bread out and away to the limits of the land.

Beyond and beyond: the words of the parable of our title page echo far afield of North Africa, limitless as its needs look to those of us who see them. Earth's dark hour around us brings to our door the Moslem world in its long

journey through the ages, brings it to our door hungry at last, with its old proud self-sufficiency breaking down in a way that would have seemed incredible a few years ago. Shall we not open our house of love and welcome, empty of resources though it be, and go to the Treasure house of Heaven, till the Spirit of Life from God is set free? Then will even Islam taste the grace that is to be brought to us in the revelation of Jesus Christ.

“He shall ask and He shall give him life for them that sin not unto death.”



ALGIERS MISSION BAND.

Statement of Accounts for Year ending June 30th, 1927.

<i>Receipts.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	<i>Payments.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Balance in Bank ...	551	17	5½				To Women's Allowances	798	1	1			
„ Cash in Hand ...	11	17	6½				„ Men's „	450	8	7½			
				563	14	11¾	„ Rent, Taxes & Repairs	37	2	4½			
<i>General Fund:</i>							„ Travelling ...	39	1	5½			
„ Donations ...	1225	7	7¾				„ Printing and Postage	26	6	1¾			
„ Bank Interest ...	17	13	3½				„ Various Mission Exp.	21	7	2¾			
<i>Appropriated Gifts:</i>											1372	6	10¾
„ Donations ...	318	3	7				„ Refugee Work ...	15	6	3½			
„ Sale of Literature...	1	9	7¾				„ Prod. of Lit. for Arabs	51	19	4½			
				1562	14	1¾	„ Itineration ...	26	10	2½			
							„ Car and Colportage	56	14	10			
							„ Bou Saada ...	21	12	10½			
							„ Deputation Literature	4	11	1¾			
											176	14	8¾
							„ Balance in Bank ...	572	1	6			
							„ Cash in Hand ...	5	6	0			
											577	7	6
							<i>Appropriated Balances:</i>						
				£2126	9	1½	Women's Car ..	62	4	3½	£2126	9	1½
							Refugee Work ..	168	5	2¾			
							Production of Lit.	100	12	3¾			
							Itineration ..	12	7	3¾			
							Car & Colportage	39	13	4¾			
							Bou Saada ..	7	2	0¾			
							Men's Hostel ..	148	17	4¾			
							Deputation Lit. ..	3	6	5			
											£551	8	4½

Balance of General Fund .. 25 19 1½
 Balance of Appropriated Fund 551 8 4½
£577 7 6

This was approximately the value during the Year, calculated at 140 francs to the £.

Hon. Treasurer: Miss F. K. Currie,
 Oulad Sultan, Blida, Algeria.

Examined and found correct. Algiers,
 the 6th October, 1927—Henry R. Turner.

LOCATION OF WORKERS. Winter, 1926-1927.

The present stations are given in the order of opening; the workers in the date of arrival.

Dar Naama, El Biar, 1908

- 1888 I. Lilius Trotter
- 1890 F. Helen Freeman (Part time)
- 1906 Sascha E. Perkin (Part time)
- 1912 Mr. Smeeton
- 1919 } M. and Mme. Pierre Nicoud
- 1922 } &
- 1921 Alice Kemp
- 1921 Mr. and Mrs. Theobald
- 1926 Mr. and Mrs. Tetley
- 1925 Belle Patrick (Sec)
- 1926 Lella Brading (Short Service)

Blida, 1908

- 1909 Fanny K. Currie
- 1909 Millicent H. Roche

Relizane, 1909

- 1907 E. R. May Ridley

Beit Naama (Algiers) 1909

Practically closed, *pro tem.*

Miliana, 1909

- 1907 Mabel D. Grautoff
- 1922 M. Helen Drysdale (Short Service)
- 1926 Doris Richardson

Mascara, 1912

- 1890 F. Helen-Freeman (Part time)
- 1912 Fanny Hammon (Mission Helper)
- Tozeur, 1913**
- 1909 Alma Krebs
- 1920 Violet Wood
- 1926 Grace Russell

Mostaganem, 1917

- 1906 Alexandrine Gayral
- Belcourt (Algiers) 1921**
- 1909 M. Mary Watling

Colea, 1923

- 1920 Mr and Mrs. Buckenham
- Tolga, 1923**

- 1906 Sascha E. Perkin (Part time)
- 1926 Maud Walton (Short Service)

Tlemcen, 1925

- 1916 Kathleen Butler

Dellys, 1925

- 1914 Augusta M. Farmer
- 1922 Isabella Sheach

Bou-Saada, 1925

- 1909 Alice McIlroy
- 1919 Augusta Butticaz

Sidi Bel Abbes, 1925 (Sub-Station)

- 1912 Senior and Senora Soler