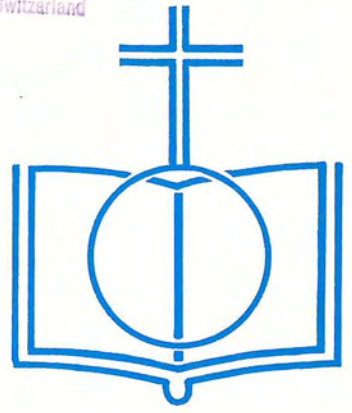


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COMMENT

One of the facts which is often pointed out about our own country is that of the ageing population. By the skills of our medical service people are living longer and at the same time the birthrate has fallen. This reduction in the number of children born has led to a surplus of teachers, with its consequent unemployment, because the statisticians did not get their sums right. It creates another problem in that the proportion of those working, and therefore paying taxes, has fallen in comparison with those drawing retirement pensions with the results that the expense of the welfare services is falling on fewer shoulders. But the moment we look abroad to the fields in which we are privileged to work a very different pattern appears. In one country after another the facts are given that the bulk of the population is young. Over 50% under the age of 18, for example, is the situation we find in Brazil.

This predominance of youth over older people naturally affects the conduct of life in many ways. It affects the life of the church for it is realised that from among the young people associated with the fellowships can come the leaders and the workers of tomorrow.

On all the fields where we witness to Christ there is an eagerness to win and involve the youth of that country in the service of Jesus Christ.

This month then we have taken a look at this aspect of the work of the kingdom as it occurs in one or two places.

In Jamaica, Mr H McD Messam is a solicitor and a keen worker with the Headquarters

staff of the Boys' Brigade and we invited him to say something of what is being done through his organisation among the boys of Jamaica.

The Rev Roy Davies has been appointed Youth Co-ordinator for the State of Paraná and he introduces us to two keen young Christians who are working hard for the Lord among the young people of their town, and we also hear from the Rev David Grainger about his experience with the young people of Brazil. With the keenness and drive of these young men and young women there is every hope that strong and truly committed leaders will be trained for the church of tomorrow, and we shall come to recognise the names of some of them as people respected in the world church as men and women of faith and power in the service of Christ Jesus.

We need also to remember our own young people. At this time many of them will be preparing for Summer School. Experience over many years has shown that a number of those offering themselves for service overseas first heard the call at a Summer School. These are occasions when we are able to present the needs of the Society in every way to the youth from our churches.

We are also deeply indebted to the young people in our churches who over the years have supported the Society in a very real way. The Boys' Brigade through their Christmas Appeals have contributed large sums as have the Youth Clubs and other organisations through their respective projects.

BRAZIL PLANS ITS YOUTH WORK



A break for football at the youth conference

by David Grainger



Rev David Grainger

Of Brazil's 110 million population over half are under the age of 18! The young people are a lively lot and reflect much of the vitality of Brazil which has seized its future firmly by the tail. You cannot handle a discussion of all aspects of youth work all at once so I will restrict myself to three important aspects.

Local and Regional Youth Work

Most of Brazil's 2,500 Baptist churches have youth organizations, even if it is only the young people's class in the all-age Sunday school. In Campo Mourão we have a class of twenty. It is a mixed bunch. Geny, for example, works at the local tax office by day and studies in the evenings, while Davidson helps at his father's workshop and Ademir runs a small accountancy business. The heavy demand of combined study and work means that they do not have time for mid-week activities, so they make the best of Sundays and holidays. Last November our local Association of churches held a very successful youth congress in Campina da Lagoa and in spite of torrential rain over 150 attended. The young people in nearby Maringá are busily preparing to receive over 250 delegates at the regional youth congress to be held early in the month. It will be a hectic, hilarious but helpful time. The

programme in fact is very much like a mini Summer School and a dozen guitarists will provide the backing for the singing. This is always an outstanding feature of these occasions and the young people here seem to be more enthusiastic than their British counterparts, perhaps it's the Latin blood.

There are usually more girls than boys in our churches and, perhaps, this is a fact I ought to advertise! Another notable aspect is the marked social and cultural mixture we find in the church and it is very difficult to cater for the needs of a group that includes rich and poor, university students and semi-literates. In Brazil you are young until you marry and how I wish we could do something for the young married couples who tend to fade very quickly into the background. Any ideas?

Many churches hold annual camps during the *Carnaval* period, when the rest of the population goes crazy. Once again the Summer School type programme dominates.

State Youth Work

The Paraná Baptist Convention has a youth department which co-ordinates youth work throughout the state. Roy Davies, a BMS missionary, is the full-time co-ordinator who is responsible to the young people's committee, made up of young people. Their principal function at the present moment is the promotion of regional youth conferences and the giving of moral and technical support to local youth groups. In the past very little contact was maintained with the majority



Pastor Azevedo of Cianorte, with a group of young people

of young people who live in the interior. However, now that the organization is under new management we are looking forward to exciting developments in the future among these young people.

National Youth Work

The Brazilian Baptist Convention has its own full-time youth department, receiving regular funds from the denomination. It publishes an excellent quarterly magazine with interesting articles and study material which can be used for discussion groups. The last issue, for example, contained articles on Astrology and Parapsychology because these are two highly topical issues here. The second part contained a series of studies on Christian discipleship. Israel Belo de Azevedo, the editor of this magazine, is the son of the Baptist pastor in Cianorte. The full-time General Secretary of the department, Isanias Batista dos Santos, works from Rio de Janeiro, promoting youth work on a national basis through the magazine. The next national youth congress will be held in Porto Alegre at which over 2,000 delegates are expected to attend! At this level a considerable effort is being made to shape the programmes to reach the educated, sophisticated section of Brazil's youth.

The department is also sponsoring a survey to discover the number of Baptist students in Brazil. In a country which has a million students this is a vital task.



If evidence is required of the vitality of youth work in Brazil it can be found in the fact that Daltro Keidman, a young Brazilian pastor, will be presiding at the next world conference of Baptist Youth to be held in Hong Kong.

Sons of the moderator of the Campo Mauro Baptist Church help in the family business

'Are young people the same the world over?' This is a question often asked and my answer would be, 'Yes, and no'. For one thing I think you would find young people more open and easier to reach in Brazil. Let's hope that we can make the best of the tremendous opportunities this gives us at the moment.



Rev Vivian Lewis

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR PROMOTION

The General Committee of the Society has appointed the Rev Vivian Lewis to be the Assistant Secretary for Promotion. Mr Lewis who graduated Bachelor of Arts in Economics and History at Swansea University College, and Master of Arts at Oxford in Theology, has had pastorates at Rockingham Road, Kettering; Orchard Road, Neath, South Wales; at Loughton, Essex; and is at present at Leamington Spa, Warwickshire.

Before entering college he was commissioned in the Royal Navy and had an opportunity to visit Sri Lanka, Australia and the Far East. When he left the service he planned a career in teaching and politics and at one time was the youngest councillor ever on the Swansea City Council.

His home church was Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Swansea, where he was converted under the ministry of the Rev R Emrys Davies and later heard the call to the ministry. Mr Lewis is married and he and his wife have three sons.

His task as an Assistant Secretary of the BMS will be to help the churches of our denomination plan educational programmes on world mission and to bring the needs of the Society before them. He will also hope to keep close contact with our ministerial colleges, with training colleges and university societies to promote the work of the Society.

Mr Lewis will be concerning himself with the 18 plus age-group in our fellowships and is available to help in any way he can. It is the Society's hope that the churches will call upon him for his services when he commences his work at the end of August.

FELLOW



Annabel McQueen



Joy Moseley

FOR BANGLADESH

Annabel McQueen was born and brought up in a Christian home and gave her life to Christ at an early age. Her initial Christian teaching was given at a local Brethren meeting and this laid a firm foundation for the years that followed.

In December 1963 she was baptized and received into membership at Queen's Park Baptist Church, Glasgow. Her general nursing training was undertaken at Glasgow Royal Infirmary, after which she went to Raigmore Hospital, Inverness, to train in midwifery.

Because there are several ex BMS missionaries in the congregation at Queen's Park, one as Minister and another as Church Secretary, it was difficult for Annabel to be unaware of the needs and work of the Society. In November 1976 she felt led to apply with an offer to serve anywhere. She was accepted in March of this year and will probably be going to Bangladesh. She requests prayer during the next few months of preparation that she would be kept faithful to her calling.

Joy Moseley came to know the Lord through the teaching of a Sunday School affiliated to College Street Baptist Church, Northampton. Her first recollection of hearing about the work of the BMS was through missionaries from this church who were on furlough. Joy was 14 when she first wrote to the Society enquiring about missionary service. Since then she has worked as a medical secretary and, for the last eight years, has been living in London where she belongs to Upper Holloway Baptist Church.

Early last year she knew God wanted her to enquire further about service overseas. Conscious of His leading through the last 12 months she has now started a course of missionary training at St Andrew's Hall, Selly Oak, Birmingham. Afterwards she hopes to go to Bangladesh for four years as a secretary.

'My help comes from the Lord' is the assurance with which she goes. 'My God shall supply all your need' is the promise on which she rests.

WORKERS



Luke Alexander

FOR ZAIRE

Luke Alexander was born in a village in St Ann's, Jamaica, where he attended church as a matter of course, but at this time Jesus was just a name to him.

After nine years in England Luke realized that he could know Jesus in a real and personal way. He was challenged to become a Christian after attending a missionary conference. The Lord spoke to him through Isaiah 55 verse 2, 'Why do you spend . . . your labour for that which does not satisfy?' Having accepted the challenge he was baptized and received into membership at Middleton Park Baptist Church, Leeds.

Luke's call to missionary service overseas came largely through campaigns and various other activities which took place at Middleton Park. He tried several openings and found a way through the BMS. After French language study in Brussels he will be going to serve in Zaire doing building and maintenance work.



Lesley Partridge

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SECRETARY

Rev Martin Howie completed his term as Young People's Secretary to the Society last Christmas and the Society has now appointed Miss Lesley Partridge as Youth Secretary and she takes up her duties in July. She will be working closely with the Rev Vivian Lewis and concentrating on the under 18 age-groups in the churches.

Miss Partridge grew up in the Abbey Road Baptist Church, Malvern, and was converted at the age of ten but was baptized at the Westwood Baptist Church, East Kilbride, because her family had moved to that part of Scotland. There she was involved in the Guide Company, the Christian Endeavour, and began teaching in the Sunday School. In 1972 the family moved again, this time to Worcester where Miss Partridge continued in her Sunday School and CE activities and also organized Holiday Bible Clubs for the children.

She has just finished reading for an honours degree in English at the University of Edinburgh, where she has also been involved



Dr Brian Nicholls

DR BRIAN NICHOLLS

It was a missionary of the Baptist Missionary Society who founded the Christian hospital at Ludhiana, India, and through the years the BMS has sent a number of missionaries to serve on the staff of that hospital, but the time came when we had no one working there because the work had been taken over by Indians. Recently three of the senior surgeons moved away and the hospital found itself short of orthopaedic surgeons. It was our privilege, therefore, to help in sending Dr Brian and Dr Nancy Nicholls to Ludhiana last year. It is with great regret that we have to report the sudden death of Dr Brian Nicholls. He was an orthopaedic surgeon from Birmingham who went to India on a year's special study leave and while at Ludhiana he took particular interest in hand injuries. Dr Nancy Nicholls has had to return to this country with her three children.

in the Baptist Student Association and has taught a Crusader Class.

Miss Partridge has had a growing interest in missionary work since the early days at Malvern and she looks forward to sharing her interest with the young people in the churches. She hopes the churches will call upon her for help in their children's and young people's work.

Paraná Trains

Last year the Rev H R Davies was appointed as Youth Co-ordinator by the Paraná State Convention. In this article his wife, Ann, tells us something of what the work entails.

Roy's main task at present is to visit as many of the areas of Paraná as he can in an effort to help the young people to fulfil their role in the churches. He encourages them to organize themselves and their outreach in such a way that young people from outside will be drawn to Jesus Christ. Roy is very concerned that youngsters should have the opportunity now to think seriously about their vocation in the light of their Christian commitment. As he has travelled around the state his challenge to them has been, 'What is the Lord's will for your life?' and already we are seeing some of the young people respond by dedicating their lives more fully to the Lord.



Vitor and Cristina

New leaders encouraged

It is slow work. One cannot, as an outsider, simply impose one's own views and ideas upon these young people. They must be helped and encouraged but then the work of conviction in their own hearts and lives is the Lord's. These youngsters are the future leaders of the Baptist work in Paraná and the growth of the church as a whole will depend upon the extent to which the young people are 'growing in grace and in the knowledge of God'. Another aspect of this same task is the structuring of a department that at present exists in name only. This would be for the planning and co-ordination of the young people's work and would be very closely linked with the Paraná State Convention in all its departments. An office on the same premises would be the ideal situation.

We meet a great team

At this point perhaps I will bring the work down to a personal level and share with you a little about one of the young couples with whom we have contact.

Cristina and Vitor Kaniak were married last year and now live in a flat in Curitiba, the capital of Paraná state. They are members of the First Baptist Church of Curitiba, which is also the First Baptist Church of Paraná. Vitor works for a firm dealing with afforestation, and out of office hours he is president of the young people's work for the state of Paraná. For this reason he and Roy are very good friends; in fact it is Vitor who keeps us up to date with all the latest expressions that the young people are using!



Dining room at the conference

Future Leaders



First Baptist Church, Curitiba

He is a quiet, reliable young fellow and his commitment to the Lord can be seen in the dedication he gives to all that he does. We feel he has tremendous potential as a leader, and who knows what the Lord will do through him in these years? Please pray for this young man.

In contrast his wife, Cristina, is a real live-wire and very enthusiastic about music. She is at present the leader of a youth choir in the First Church and also greatly involved in her husband's work among young people. She and Vitor together are just one of a number of active young couples in the church. Our concern is that they should go deeper in the Christian life, so that God might do even greater things through them.

The church transforms Carnaval

While on the subject of the First Church, I must tell you about the retreat to which we were invited, Roy being one of the Bible Study group leaders. It was held in the middle of February during the time of *Carnaval*, the Brazilian festival which takes place before the rigours of Lent. The celebrations last from one to three days, depending where you are in Brazil, and because *Carnaval* can be a very rowdy, immoral affair most churches have a retreat at this time of the year with young people especially in mind. The First Church held their retreat at an agricultural college where there was ample room to accommodate all 250 of us! We had to smile when we saw the room allocated to 'Pastor Roy and Ann'. There

was no door, a large window with no curtain, two bunk beds with straw mattresses, one single bed, and one mattress on the floor. The only other furniture was a large wardrobe just outside the doorway, because it was too big to go through! The rooms on our floor contained a variety of people. In some there were all young men, in others all women; some housed couples, others families. From the hubbub of noise in the corridor we gathered that everyone else was rather taken aback by their accommodation, just as we were. There then followed a great discussion about how the situation could be improved. At this point Cristina's father appeared on the scene. Sofonias, or Sofo, as he is affectionately known, soon set to work on resolving the problem. Before long the wardrobes were shuffled about and their doors utilized to give privacy to the rooms! At last after his efforts we now had a room to ourselves.

continued over



ce centre



'Banana Break' after morning Bible study



A cheerful group at the conference

by it all, they did eventually manage to sing on their own and then teach the other children a little chorus in English. People noticed how shy they were and at that point we realized that Brazilians seem to have an insight into children and a sympathy with them that we more reserved Britons sometimes lack. We can certainly learn from them in this respect. Perhaps the most moving moment for all of us came on the Wednesday morning, at about eight o'clock. With the coaches waiting nearby and the cars loaded to go, we all linked hands in a circle and sang farewell choruses. It was a fitting end to what had been a very happy occasion.

The weekend moves to its climax

The retreat got underway on the Saturday evening and from then until the Tuesday night there was a full programme. This included Bible studies, organized sport, devotional addresses, a Bible quiz, singing, and a competition to find new choruses. Each morning there was a get-together for the children and although Abigail and Alun, our young children, were somewhat overawed



Gathered for the evening meeting. Abigail and Alun are in the front row, extreme right



Farewell prayer time

At the time you are reading this we and the young people of Paraná will be involved in two important events. During July two State Congresses are being held, one for the north of Paraná and the other for the south. Then in February 1978 at Porto Alegre there will be a National Congress. These are held every three years and some 2,000 young people are expected to attend next year, including about 100 from Paraná.

SOUTH LODGE

The Baptist Missionary Society has some 164 retired missionaries for whom it cares in one way or another and week by week it invites Baptists throughout the British Isles to remember them in prayer as their names are listed in the prayer guide. Some of these friends live in houses which the Society has had left to it for just such a purpose. Others live in accommodation which they themselves or their families have provided.

But there are at present seven retired lady missionaries who live at South Lodge, 2 Manor Road, Worthing, which is a home

events in aid of it. Of those at present living there, four are nonagenarians and seven are able to attend a local Baptist church.

For the last ten years the warden at South Lodge has been Miss Linda Roffey who has the responsibility of the general oversight of the home, arranging the menus, buying the food and caring for the comfort and welfare of the residents. This, as most will be able to appreciate, is a full-time job yet the burden Miss Roffey has cheerfully carried has been the heavier because for much of the time she has been without an assistant and latterly only the help of a part-time cook.

As a Society we are greatly indebted to Miss Roffey and appreciate so much all she has done for South Lodge and for the family there. She left the service of the Society at the end of May to get married and we wish her every happiness and blessing as she makes her new home in Essex.



'South Lodge'

owned and run by the BMS for those of its retired missionaries who would enjoy and benefit from some help in day to day living. In South Lodge they have a room of their own and there is a communal dining room and lounge where they can meet and share one another's company. They also meet together in the lounge for morning prayers which are taken by each in turn. This residence, near the front, at Worthing is not restricted to retired lady missionaries. There have, at times, been men and married couples enjoying this facility. It is also available to retired members of the home staff and at present there are two residents who gave many years of service at the Mission House.

The Baptist churches in Worthing have always shown a keen and helpful interest in South Lodge, organizing garden parties and other



A birthday party celebration at 'South Lodge'

THE BOYS' BRIGADE IN JAMAICA



Mr H McD Messam

Running to win

Prominent in this work of course are the uniformed organizations attached to the churches such as the Boys' Brigade, the Scouts, the Girls' Brigade, the Girl Guides and the 'upward and onward movement' of the Moravian church. But there are, in addition, a number of school groups, some of which are distinctive in their own school uniforms and which organize themselves in various indoor and outdoor activities. It is interesting to note that from one of these groups Don Quarrie emerged. He is the world record holder in the 200 metres and the 1976 olympic gold medallist over that distance and the silver medallist in the 100 metres. The school which he attended was a small school with about 120 boys. It was my

privilege to coach them and by hard work and enjoyable application he and other outstanding athletes were produced and eventually transferred to universities in the United States of America where greater opportunities awaited them. It is of interest to note also that this fact stirred Calabar High School to regain its place as the island's interscholastic athletic champions over the last two years.

Giving and receiving

Calabar was founded by the Baptist Missionary Society missionaries, the Rev Ernest Price and the Rev David Davis, in 1912. Today a Jamaican, Mr Arthur Edgar, is the headmaster. Calabar High School dominated the track and field events in the 1930's but lost its position in recent years

Jamaica is a young country. The greater part of its population is young and this fact is noticeable in every sphere of the country's life. In the professions as well as in business, in offices as well as on farms, in church life as well as in schools where pupils are often not much younger than their teachers. Consequently it is not difficult to understand that there is an ever increasing call for work to be done with and among the young people that the vast potential of this young life may be harnessed for good. The challenge is always there but the problem is a lack of volunteers to answer the call.



Opening of the Boys' Brigade headquarters

to a neighbouring school, Kingston College, which had won the athletic trophy for 14 consecutive years. So an active sports committee was set up under my chairmanship and with Mrs Nora Porch as secretary.

Nora is the wife of the Rev William Porch, a Baptist missionary and a keen sportsman. They have now completed their term of service with the BMS and returned to Britain. Today Mrs Waugh, herself an athlete and a member of staff at Calabar, has taken over as secretary.

Due to my coaching of Don Quarrie at school I had developed a friendship with Jimmy Carnes, a great sportsman from the United States of America and then head coach of the University of Florida. He and four other coaches from the USA visited us at Calabar High School. They laid the foundation of our present success with Herb McKenley, former olympic star and world record holder over 400 yards and 440 metres, as head coach, and Russell Thompson as assistant coach. They are both old boys of Calabar so are giving to the school something of what they received. Readers of this article may be interested to hear that Mr Carnes has now become the National Chairman of the Amateur Athletic Union of the USA but has promised that he will visit Jamaica again to see how much he has helped our young people to progress.

Competing with a purpose

Still dealing with track and field athletics, mention must be made of the fact that the Scouts and Boys' Brigade organize an annual athletic meeting. The Brigade in its different battalions and group councils puts on road races culminating in a national event over a course of 12-15 miles. This, as can be imagined, arouses great excitement along the route taken by the runners.

In the realm of football, various competitions are arranged for boys between the ages of nine to 20 and whenever funds can be found efforts are made both to send players overseas and to be host to players from other countries so that the boys can build up international contacts of goodwill. In recent years there has been an exchange visit in which footballers of Calabar High School and Charter House School participated, with good results. Summer camps, too, are always arranged for girls and boys alike. Understandably the youth from the country prefer to camp in the suburbs of the cities and towns while those from the cities and towns look forward to camping in the country. These summer camps usually last for a week to ten days and are staffed by officers of the sponsoring organizations or teachers of the schools arranging the camps. These occasions give a great opportunity for getting alongside the young people in a way not possible at other times.



Boys of the Calabar High School



A sports day

Training the whole person

Within recent years the International Goodwill Association, Jamaica, has taken young people overseas on holidays with the theme that appears in the motto of the Association, 'The advancement of the cause of goodwill and peace amongst nations and men by study, cultural exchanges and the exchange of visits'. Interesting places visited include Miami and New York. The cost of the holidays is kept low by arranging to house the visiting young people in homes rather than hostels or schools and this subscribes to the aims and objects of the Association. In this way bonds of friendship and international goodwill are established and sometimes strengthened during the formative years of the young people involved. All concerned with young people in Jamaica are striving not only to give youth a spiritual basis for life, but a healthy concern for the fitness of their bodies and a world outlook.

A LOYAL SERVANT

An appreciation of the
Rev Eric Sutton Smith

by Rev A S Clement

When the General Committee of the BMS last met in the Fuller Chapel, Kettering, there appeared at the back door on the first morning a policewoman who had been sent by the court to inquire if there was anyone present who could speak Chinese. The manager of the local Chinese restaurant was up before the magistrates on a charge of keeping an insanitary kitchen and he claimed that he could plead his cause only in his own language, Cantonese. The chairman of the bench, a Baptist, remembered that the BMS committee was meeting in the town and so suggested that a messenger be despatched to inquire if an interpreter could be provided.

Eric Sutton Smith, then pastor of the Cinnamon Gardens church, Colombo, was one of the missionaries present and he agreed to assist the court. He was fluent in Mandarin and could converse in Cantonese because he was born in China and had served there as a missionary. Then, in Sri Lanka, he had maintained contact with members of the Chinese community, most of whom were Cantonese speaking. Characteristically he donated to the Society the fee which he received as official interpreter.

Influenced by his mother

Eric was born at Tsinan in Shantung, the third son of Herbert and Ethel Sutton Smith, BMS missionaries. His father had been among the pioneers in the Upper Congo and had written a fine book on Yakusu which *The Churchman* had described as one of the most valuable contributions to the scientific study of missions which has been issued since the Edinburgh Conference of 1910. After twelve years at Yakusu, and the loss of his first-born son, he had requested to be transferred to North China where he arrived in 1912. He died in 1917 when Eric was only two years old.

His mother with her two surviving sons, and a daughter recently born, returned to England, settling in a small cottage at Audlem, Cheshire. She renamed the cottage 'Yakusu', and there devoted herself to the care and upbringing of her children. As a trained and experienced nurse she was able to secure employment locally and she earned a little extra money by looking after babies in her home while their mothers were at work. She greatly encouraged her own children and Eric, in particular, was significantly influenced by her. She transmitted to him something of her own devotion, determination and courage, and her wonderful sense of humour.

He joined his elder brother Christopher at Eltham College. During school holidays, and later on leaving Eltham, he spent much time in Manchester, his mother's native city, and came within the fellowship of the Moss Side church, then flourishing under the ministry of Rev Percy Lush. He was baptized, became a member of the church and gained his first experience of Christian service. Determined to be a missionary, he entered Bristol Baptist College where he came under the influence of Dr Arthur Dakin. He graduated BA in theology and then proceeded to Regent's Park College, Oxford, where Dr H Wheeler Robinson was principal. At Oxford he graduated in the honours school of theology and thus equipped, he offered his service to the BMS and was accepted for work in China. This was in 1939, just before the outbreak of World War II.

He endures hardships

He was to have a hard apprenticeship with severe testing. When he arrived in Tsingchowfu in 1940 the Sino-Japanese War had been in progress for several years. Already all missionaries had had to leave the neighbouring province of Shansi and, at the end of the following year, with the entry of



Rev Eric Sutton Smith

the USA into the war, British and American citizens were declared to be enemy aliens. Together with his senior colleagues, F S Drake and Tom Allen, he was taken to an internment camp at Pootung, on the side of the river opposite to the International Settlement, Shanghai. There 1100 men were housed in four buildings of a condemned tobacco warehouse. The rooms were large, each accommodating 80 to 120 men; so there was no privacy at all. Some six to eight acres of derelict and bombed-out land outside had to serve for recreation and exercise. Yet with courage and spirit, the internees formed their own education committee, and organized a university. Like his two BMS colleagues Eric shared in the teaching and greatly enjoyed it.

When released in December 1945 he did not immediately return home. (His mother had died earlier that year.) He agreed to accompany R H P Dart on a visit to Shansi to discover what the conditions were like there. At Taiyuanfu Eric was particularly impressed with the women of the church and their steadfastness in a time of distress and array. He noted, too, how important had been the witness of the Christian home and family in the absence of missionaries.

The task of restoring the work and witness of the churches, in Shantung, begun with high hopes, was rendered difficult by increasing conflict between the Nationalists and the Communists. In Tsingchowfu and the surrounding villages there was much unrest with growing anti-British sentiment. It became necessary to transfer the Bible School to Tsinan, Eric's birthplace, and there he went, teaching in the university as well. At first he was greatly encouraged, because there were more theological students than ever before, but in the spring of 1951 conditions were such that he, and indeed all BMS missionaries, had to leave North China.

Called to new tasks

After a time of restoration and recovery he joined the staff of his old school, Eltham College, as chaplain and master. He was an excellent teacher and encourager and influenced for good the many boys who came under his care. He earned the gratitude of missionary parents for his kindness and concern for their sons in the absence of their parents abroad.

In 1959 he agreed to go to Colombo to become pastor of the Cinnamon Gardens church, but on condition that he would go

as a missionary of the BMS. The situation was not without difficulties for there was need to restore in the congregation confidence in the pastor. This Eric soon accomplished, proving himself to be not only an excellent teacher, but also a devoted pastor and an eager evangelist. He encouraged the use of the excellent site of the church on Lipton's Circus, a busy intersection of roads round which many people gathered, for means of declaring the gospel, sometimes employing a projector and screen to illustrate Biblical teaching. He trained young people of the church for evangelism and encouraged them to go into the Pettah, the old district of the capital, and there distribute tracts and hold open-air services. To great effect he used drama, in the Lankan idiom, to communicate the truths of the gospel. He earned the admiration, respect, and love of the members of his church and of many beyond that circle and among the young men whom he influenced and led into full time ministry is the Rev Fred George of East Barnet, formerly of Colombo.

The pastor triumphs

There was great regret when two years ago ill health compelled him to leave Colombo for the higher altitude of Kandy. In his short time as pastor there he accomplished much. He revelled in the beauty of the mountain scenery and enjoyed the manse in its splendid setting overlooking the great lake. He took long walks on the mountain roads, and made sketches of the scenery so that he could share his delight with his friends. As in Colombo, so at Kandy he was a faithful pastor, teacher, and leader. One important development of the work was his entry into the local open prison where he soon won the confidence of governor, staff, and inmates. His work was beginning to show fruit in the first candidates for baptism and plans for the erection of a place of Christian worship, when grave illness made it imperative for him to be brought back to London for treatment. He himself seemed unaware of the seriousness of his condition and spoke to those who visited him of his desire to return to Sri Lanka to round off his work. 'There is so much still to be done,' he said.

In his passing the Society loses a highly talented missionary, who served Christ loyally without counting the cost and was always eager that others should know the Saviour and the salvation available through h:m.



Drama in the Lankan style on the theme of the Atonement, 'Keep us from falling'

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Secretaries acknowledge with grateful thanks the following legacies and gifts sent anonymously or without address.

(28 March-30 April, 1977)

General Work: Anon: £2.00; Anon: £10.00; Anon: £5.58; Anon: £20.00; Anon: £4.00; Anon: £5.00; Anon: (MKH, Blaenavon) £5.00; Anon: (MRW) £5.00; Anon: £8.00; Anon: £2.00; Anon: £3.00; Anon: £1.00; Anon: £5.00; Anon: (SBB, Watford) £50.00; Anon (EMW) £5.00; Anon: £100.00; Anon: £10.00; Anon: (Grateful) £40.00; Anon: (Birmingham) £10.00; Anon: £46.60; Anon: (A cheerful giver) £50.00; Anon: £10.00; Anon: (JB) £5.00; Anon: £2.00; Anon: (Easter Day) £65.00; Anon (MK) £2.00.

Relief Work: Anon: £10.00.

Agricultural Work: £5.00.

Legacies

	£	p
Miss M K Byford	125.18	
Mr W P Harris	395.72	
Mr G F Haward	3,596.49	
Mr F Illingworth	39.83	
Mr R W Kemp	200.00	
Miss I P Kiddle	100.00	
Miss D B Knee	20,000.00	
Mr L F Marsh	100.00	
Miss M A Medcalf	1,295.04	
Mrs P E Mehew	50.00	
Mr F C S Painter	250.00	
Mr E J L Pullin	25.00	
Miss R B Stevenson	1,233.15	
Mr R W Stock	100.00	
Mr G W Tomlinson	20.66	

MISSIONARY MOVEMENTS

Arrivals

Miss B M Bond on 1 April from Santi Kutir, Bangladesh.

Miss W Gow on 6 April from Ajmer, India.

Dr Elizabeth Marsh on 7 April from Berhampur, India.

Rev A G and Mrs Lewis on 11 April from Dinajpur, Bangladesh.

Departures

Rev D H Nearn on 10 April for CECO, Kimpese, Zaire.

Dr J D L and Mrs Bulkeley, and son, Paul, on 26 April, for Yakusu, Zaire.

Deaths

In Gloucestershire, on 10 April, **Rev Laurence James Weeks**, aged 85; Zaire Mission, 1921-1946.

Marriage

In Huddersfield, on 2 April, **Mr Philip Stunnell**, of South London to **Miss Carol Ann Schofield**, of Huddersfield, (missionaries designate for Bangladesh).

BENGALI LUNCH

At the missionary deputation to Norwich the children were invited to stay to a Bengali lunch after the morning service. Before the meal of curry and rice, grace was said in Bengali. Some of the deputation dressed in native costume and the children were intrigued to see them eating as they do in Bangladesh, using their fingers only. Slides were then shown and a talk about missionary work was given by Mrs M Bowker.

The August issue of

THE MISSIONARY HERALD

will be concerned with BMS agricultural work and contain information which will be helpful to you for your harvest projects