

The N.A.M. News Letter

OFFICE OF THE NORTH AFRICA MISSION, 34, BISHAM GARDENS, HIGHGATE, LONDON, N. 6

No. 5

EDITED BY E. J. LONG

FEBRUARY, 1939

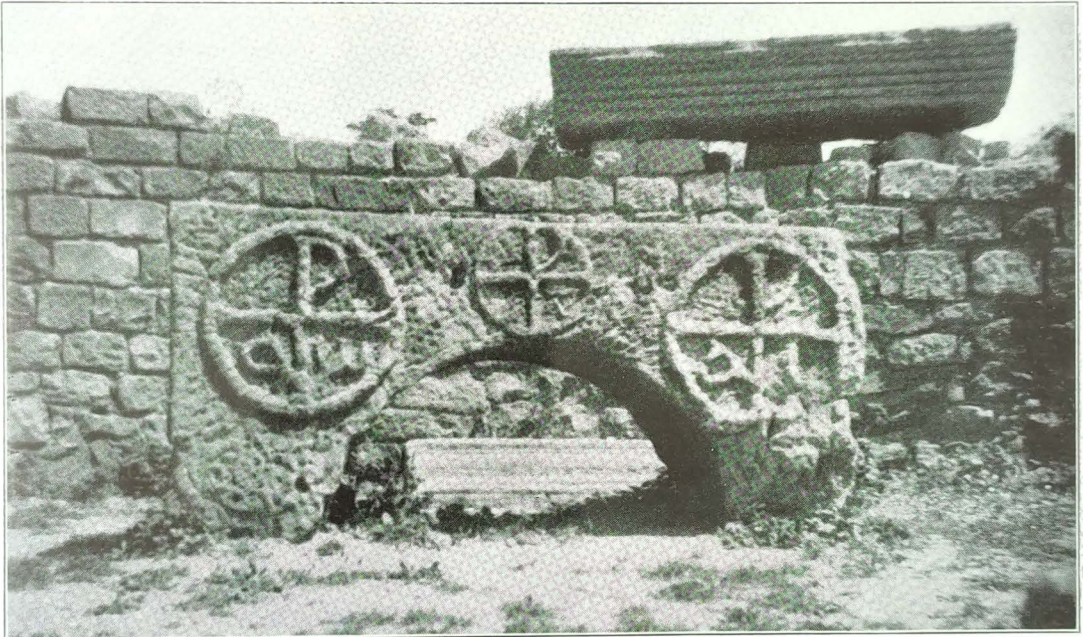


Photo from]

“ALPHA AND OMEGA”

[Mr. S. Arthur

Stones that Speak

IN a land where the “witness” to Mohammed may be expressed by simply raising the index finger, it is a joy to discover a silent witness to the Lord Jesus Christ. This clear-cut inscription in stone (ALPHA AND OMEGA) has endured all down the Moslem ages amidst the ruins of the Christian Church at Tizgirth, Kabylia.

Against the constant affirmation that Mohammed is the last and greatest of the prophets is raised this witness of the stones. Those early-century Christians were so

sure that their Prophet was “the First and the Last” that they set forth the fact in this beautiful piece of carving, destined to abide as an imperishable memorial of the faith and love of a by-gone generation of believers.

May the remembrance of these stones of testimony, seen every week by hundreds of Kabyles, be an inspiration to every witness to Christ in Moslem North Africa! He is still “the First and the Last; . . . the same yesterday, and to-day, and for ever.”

S. A. (*adapted*).

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FEZ: Ancient—

Tunisia

THE focus of interest in the daily papers is a constantly-shifting one; and we were profoundly relieved when the word "Tunis" began to fade out of the headlines.

Letters received from our missionaries previous to, and during, Monsieur Daladier's visit were, however, reassuring, proving that the reports in some newspapers were unduly alarmist in character.

Nevertheless, the trend of current events is not without deep significance; and many of God's children that keep a watchful eye upon Rome, as well as upon the Jew, will look upon the Gospel's open door in Tunisia as one that may yet be slammed and locked.

Whether so grave a view be justified or not, certain it is that these are days not merely of opportunity, but of challenge, in so far as North Africa is concerned. To pray and to labour as though this were indeed the last hour of foreign missions will manifestly be productive of larger blessing than the all-too-prevalent willingness to ignore every portent.

Meanwhile, we are thankful to learn that our two new recruits in Tunis, Miss Alma Kraulis and

Mr. "Bobbie" Brown, have made an exceedingly promising start. Let us bear them up in prayer—*now*.

Fez: City of Contrasts

IN the picturesque streets of ancient Fez it is the trivialities that proclaim the twentieth century. These few accents of modernity are sometimes amusing, sometimes irritating, but, like the anachronisms in a Shakespearean play, they are always interesting.

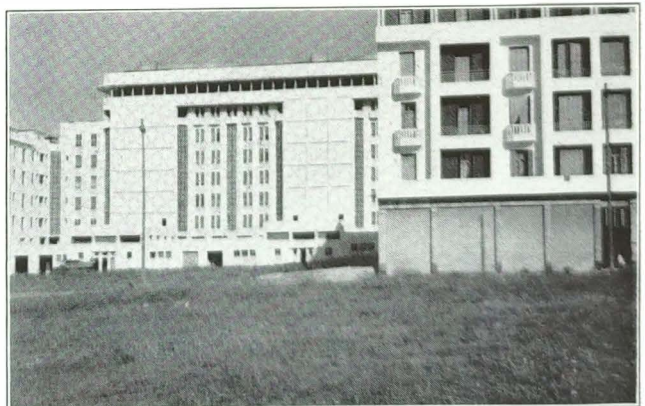
The starkness of electric cables and insulators that none has taken any pains to conceal; the strident note of a distant motor-horn, or the more insistent tinkling of a nearer bicycle bell; some ludicrous item of European attire so absurdly out of place upon a native that you feel it must have been put on by mistake in the dark: of such a character are the jarring notes that bring one back almost with a wince to the present day.

But across the valley yonder, and looking for all the world like a chunk of modern Paris, is Fez the New. Amidst its gorgeous shops, its imposing hotels, and its massive blocks of ultra-modern flats, it is the turn of the native to look, and to feel, grotesquely out of place.

The Three M's

ALTHOUGH this contrast of Eastern and Western is not always so striking, it is nevertheless a prevailing feature of the cosmopolitan towns and cities that flank the Northern Coast. These centres are not merely Moslem: they are European, and Jewish. Tangier, Oran, Algiers, Tunis, Sfax and the rest are not only cities of Mosques, but of Synagogues and Roman Catholic Churches.

There is the ever-present reminder that one is in The Land of Usurpers, the "Three M's" that claim the place in heart and life that should be Christ's alone.



—and Modern!

Does not the Moslem esteem Mohammed more highly than Christ? Is not Mary enshrined in multitudes of hearts that have never acknowledged the Lordship of Christ? And surely Moses, not the Lord Jesus, is pre-eminent in every Jewish heart?

"Behold, all souls are Mine . . ." (Ezek. 18, 4); and so our sisters and brethren out yonder seek to maintain a triple testimony—to Moslem, to Jew, and to Roman Catholic; those who, "being ignorant of God's righteousness, are going about to establish their own righteousness."

So remember constantly, dear friends, the Three-fold Task.

goodness gladdened our hearts. Just when it seemed likely that the sending out of a January remittance to the field would be quite out of the question, a cheque from an unexpected quarter made possible a full allocation! So join us in praise, dear friends; *but keep on praying for fresh supplies.*

"Unwanted Babies"

A FEW years ago the Misses Fearnley (then at Djemâa Sahridj) sent out a touching little photographic folder showing some of the "unwanted" babies for whom they



The Little Family at Mekla

Finance

LETTERS received from certain of our missionaries regarding their income last year have been both illuminating and reassuring. Whilst the total income through Mission channels has been much below normal, the Lord has graciously made up the shortage through outside gifts in a very remarkable way. Although we cannot be certain that the testimony of the few reflects the experience of all our workers, we would fain believe that there is not one among them but would bear glad witness to the Lord's unflinching faithfulness in material supplies during 1938.

The present year had not progressed very far ere a further token of our Father's

were caring. Here is a more recent photograph, and the radiant faces tell their own story. Is not such work joyfully and profoundly worth while?

Like Miss Glen's fifty or sixty girls at Tangier, these little ones are being brought up in the love-laden atmosphere of a truly Christian home. Not only are their minds being furnished, and their hands trained in useful employ, but above everything else they are, day by day, being instructed in those Holy Scriptures that are able to make them "wise unto salvation through faith that is in Christ Jesus."

Most earnestly do we pray that from such material many a native Christian home may be built up in the coming days.

An Urgent Deputation Need

The deputation motor-car (a 14-h.p. Humber) first took to the road in 1927. During the year or two that he has used it, the Humber has taken the deputation secretary, with his ciné equipment and literature, many thousands of miles, besides rendering yeoman service to missionaries on furlough; but having now far exceeded the normal span of useful life, and having become prohibitively costly in running expenses, it must at last conclude its long and honourable career.

We would value the prayers of our friends that the worthy Humber may be replaced by a low-powered modern car that would be considerably more economical to run.

Our April Convention

FOR the Easter Convention at "Heightside" we shall again be privileged to enjoy the helpful ministry of Mr. Arthur T. Upson ("Abdul-Fady"), and Pastor S. J. Henman, of Worthing—the father of "our" Miss Dorcas Henman of the Tulloch Memorial Hospital, Tangier.

Mr. Upson has become known to, and greatly appreciated by, a large number of the Lord's people in this country through his admirable books, "High Lights in the Near East" and "Evergreen." From the harvest of a rich experience we are confident that, under God's blessing, our brother will bring us much that is new and helpful.

The return of Mr. Henman amongst us will be warmly welcomed by his many "Heightside" friends. His ministry has rare charm and power.

May we urge those of our readers who desire to join our house-party—and we know there will be many—to write as soon as possible to Miss Wray, "Heightside," Newchurch-in-Rosendale, Lancs.

A Christian Spaniard Speaks

"God is allowing all this to pass in Spain so that we may be awakened, see our need, and be converted to the truth." Thus spoke a Spanish believer recently when giving her testimony at the Spanish Gospel Hall, Tangier, where our dear friends Señor and Señora Padilla have been labouring valiantly for many years.

These are days of "full meetings," and "a growing Bible Class"—manifest signs that in this hour of Spain's agony God is

speaking and working. "When Thy judgments are in the earth" (and war is one of the four 'sore judgments') "the inhabitants . . . will learn righteousness." During the Thirty Years' War the loveliest German hymns were written, and the finest hymn music composed. Exactly so to-day there are those in bleeding Spain, born again amidst the travail of war, that are singing the "new song" they might never otherwise have learnt; whilst many of their compatriots in Spanish North Africa, too, are sharing in the wave of blessing.

Deputation Meetings

THE following are the Deputation Secretary's engagements for the next six weeks, D.V. :—Feb. 11-16, Bournemouth District, and Kendal Road Medical Mission; 21, Uxbridge; 22, Southampton; 23, Combe Down; 25-27, Littleport, near Ely; 28, Spruce Hill Baptist, E.17; March 1, Barking; 2, Ealing; 4, Tent Hall, Glasgow; 5, Anniesland Hall; 6, Artizan's Hall; 7, Bible Training Institute and Anniesland Hall; 8, Pollokshaws U.F. Church; 9, Hope Street Free Church; 11-12, Bethany Hall; 13, Bethesda Free Church, South Shields; 14, Central Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne; 15, Vine Street Mission, Gateshead; 16, Broomhill Assembly, Northumberland; 19, Chiswick; 20, Carshalton Beeches; 21, Whitstable; 22, Cecil Hall, Enfield; 23, Wimbledon; 26, Bankhall Mission, Liverpool; 27, Bethesda Hall, Liverpool; 28, Donaldson Street Mission, Liverpool; 29, Toxteth Tabernacle, Liverpool. *Further details concerning these meetings will gladly be sent to interested friends. At most of them one or another of the Missionary Films will be exhibited. Your prayers for God's blessing upon the gatherings will be deeply appreciated.*

KESWICK CONVENTION, 1939.

THE NORTH AFRICA MISSION is arranging (D.V.) for a HOUSE-PARTY at Keswick during the 1939 CONVENTION.

Friends desirous of joining are invited to write to Mr. A. J. DEER, at the Office of the Mission, 34, BISHAM GARDENS, HIGHGATE, N.6.

TERMS: 8/6 per day.

Early application is advisable.