

Continuing "NORTH AFRICA."

The N.A.M. News Letter

OFFICE OF THE NORTH AFRICA MISSION, 34, BISHAM GARDENS, HIGHGATE, LONDON, N. 5

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EDITED BY E. J. LONG, F.R.S.G.S.

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A NATIVE SCHOOL IN MOROCCO.

(Note, particularly in the case of the boy on the extreme left, the tress of uncut hair. Most Moroccan Moslems scrupulously preserve this convenient tuft, whereby the angel Gabriel will lift them aloft to Paradise in the Day of Resurrection! Nothing, alas, is too grotesque for Mohammedan credulity).

A Moslem Boy's Schooldays

THE parents of Moslem children in North Africa seldom devote much of their time to the intellectual education of their children. As early as possible in life the child is taught to recite the Mohammedan

creed: "I testify that there is no deity but Allah; and I testify that Mohammed is Allah's Apostle." At the same time, pride in his father's faith, and hatred of every other religion—particularly the Christian—is fiercely inculcated!

The boy—for the education of girls is well-nigh unheard-of save among a few of the higher class Moslem families in the Barbary States—is then handed over to the tender mercies of the local schoolmaster, who teaches him to recite and chant the whole or certain portions of the Koran by memory. To this “education” a smattering of elementary arithmetic may be added.

The pupils, and often the schoolmaster himself, sit upon the floor. The lessons are generally written upon tablets of wood; and when one lesson is learnt, the tablet is washed and another is written. Punishment—often merited!—is administered with a stick upon the soles of the bare feet.

All the boys, in learning to read, recite or chant their lessons aloud, at the same time rocking their heads or bodies backwards and forwards rhythmically. The noise may be imagined, and is generally of such stridency and volume as to attract from a considerable distance the attention and interest of the wayfaring tourist.

What a delight it is for the missionary to gather around him at the Mission House some of these very lads, and to teach them, not parrot-like recitations in a virtually unknown tongue (as is Koranic Arabic to a child), but heart-warming choruses in praise of a dear Redeemer!

Finance

FRIENDS will learn with relief that at length it has been possible to send financial help, via Tangier, to our missionaries in French Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia. These funds reached Mr. Warren, who is undertaking their disbursement to individual workers, on October 7th.

The Mission has received official authority to send once more the normal monthly allocations; and although the conditions do not permit of the immediate dispatch of such a lump sum as would make good the shortage of the past months, it is hoped that these arrears will be made up in due course.

When it is recalled that our missionaries in “enemy-controlled” North Africa received their last supplies from Headquarters as far back as May, and that even then the sum sent merely made up for the April shortage, it will be readily appreciated that our dear friends out yonder have endured a long and severe trial of patience, and that the now furnished relief will be welcome indeed.

Surely the least we can do to show our affectionate sympathy is to ensure that never, throughout the unknown duration of this cruel war, shall these loyal workers suffer through any failure on our part to minister, with generous hearts, to their temporal needs.

The Spanish Work at Tangier

A MOST encouraging report upon his work has been received from our brother Señor Padilla. The Sunday Gospel meetings have been very well attended, the presence of newcomers being a cheering feature; whilst during the week inquirers have been coming to the Mission House in quest of Gospel literature.

At the conclusion of each service it is the custom to give tracts to the friends as they leave; and in many instances these, when read, are passed on to others: thus the Word has “free course” over a large field.

The meetings for prayer and praise on Wednesdays are being well supported, and are proving a great blessing, as is evidenced by the fact that, during the past months, two young men and five young women have given testimony to their faith in the Lord Jesus.

Whilst Sunday School attendance has diminished somewhat—probably owing to the influence of prevailing conditions in international affairs—there is a growing desire among the people for private visits to their homes; and on a number of occasions families have gathered together for Bible reading and prayer.

There is much else of a heartening character in Señor Padilla’s report, but the foregoing will, it is trusted, serve to stimulate our prayerful and affectionate interest in a worker who is cheerfully and gallantly “carrying on” amidst difficulties that are doubtless serious enough, little though our brother may allow them to obtrude into his correspondence.

News from the Field

PRACTICALLY the whole of our missionary news, and certainly all the up-to-date items, come to us by air mail from Mr. Warren; for the International Zone of Tangier alone in North Africa is linked with Britain by a postal service that is reasonably regular, reliable and rapid. “Surface mail” from

“ enemy-controlled ” territory is so belated that, when it finally puts in an appearance, it has little beyond a historical interest !

Mr. Warren invariably attaches to his own letter carbon copies of his replies to missionaries' correspondence reaching him from the various stations ; and thus we have been able to glean, by inference, such news-items as are gathered together in the following notes, which will be found to furnish the briefest survey of most of our occupied stations from Gafsa, in Southern Tunisia, right through to Casablanca in Morocco.

GAFSA.—**Miss Ethel Brookes**, our American worker, has been joined by **Miss Alma Kraulis**, of Latvia. Work is continuing happily under fairly normal conditions.

TUNIS.—**Mr. and Mrs. Miles**, with their daughter **Muriel**, are installed once more in their old home at Rue Sidi Zahmoul. **Mr. R. Brown** returned with them from Cherchell, and the Arab work is being resumed with real encouragement. Not only is the Bible Depot open again, but, mounted on a bicycle (petrol being unobtainable), Mr. Brown has been combining personal evangelism with colportage in the outlying districts, with cheering results.

LAFAYETTE.—Although greatly missing the car which was such a help in his itinerating excursions among the Kabyle villages, **Mr. Marsh** is adjusting himself to the inevitable restrictions of war-time regime, and making the most of local opportunities.

BOUGIE.—We understand that **Miss Ward** is leaving Bougie—where she was for some while a fellow-worker of Mrs. Twaddle, now in the Homeland—and joining **Miss Degenkolw** at Oued Amizour.

AZAZGA.—**Mr. Arthur** reports : “ Here things are as usual. The winter will soon be here, and a quiet programme will probably be possible for each one of us.”

DJEMAA SAHRIDJ.—**Mr. Willson's** correspondence reveals nothing abnormal in present conditions. **Miss Widmer**, our Swiss worker, now has **Miss Marsh** as a fellow-worker, though the latter is, of course, largely occupied with her early studies in the Kabyle tongue.

CHERCHELL.—**Mr. Bocking** writes in happy vein from Cherchell, where he has been recently joined by **Mr. Norman Pearce**, who, it may be remembered, went out early this year to Algeria, and is mainly concerned with language study.

FEZ.—**Miss Denison**, who has laboured in

Fez for over forty years, is at the present moment our only worker there, all the rest being held up here in the Homeland. She both needs and deserves a special place in our prayers.

SETTAT.—**Miss Buxton** and **Miss Reed** are carrying on their work and finding things fairly normal.

RABAT.—**Miss Dew** has now as fellow-worker **Miss Sharpe**, who was formerly with **Miss W. Ross**, of Casablanca. We are profoundly thankful that Miss Dew's loneliness is now at an end, and pray earnestly that, under dual control, the work at Rabat may progress with much of the Lord's blessing upon it.

TETUAN.—We are especially happy to relate that **Miss Low** and **Miss Bradbury** are still able to continue their labours in Spanish territory. Long may this door of opportunity remain open !

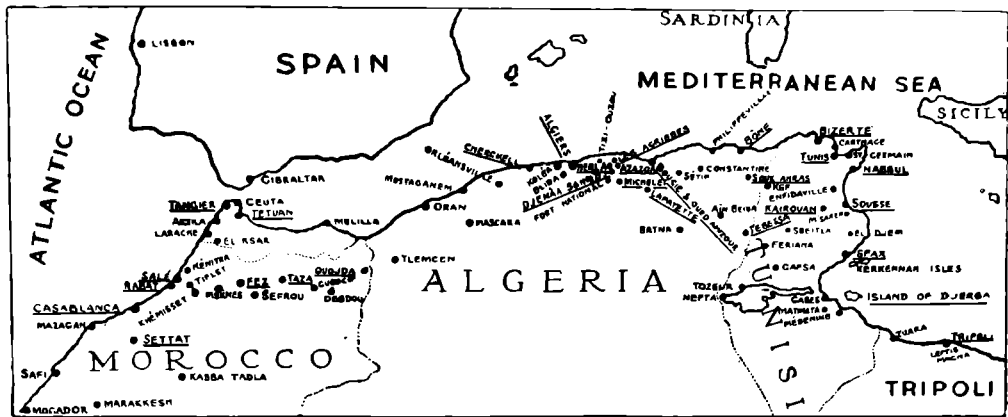
CASABLANCA.—Whilst no news other than that of a domestic character is available, we gather that both the Arab and European work under the care of our lady missionaries at Casablanca is proceeding fairly normally. **Mr. Swanson**, whose wife is in America, recently visited Khemisset, where he laboured years ago. There were many who still remembered him, and they were very friendly. Our brother found multiplied opportunities for preaching the Gospel to both young and old.

TANGIER.—**Miss Gladwyn**, one of our workers at the Tulloch Memorial Hospital, writes to Headquarters telling of native life in Tangier during the fast month of Ramadhan. The Hospital has proved of service in furnishing medical attention for evacuees from Gibraltar and the French zone. Other missionary activities seem to be thriving.

“ UNOCCUPIED ” FRANCE.—**Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Cook** are in the South of France, awaiting permission from Vichy to return to their mission station of Menâa, in the Chaouia Region.

Our old friend **Monsieur Hocart** is as zealously active in the Gospel as ever. He has taken over for the time being a little church in Al^{ès}, Southern France.

PARIS.—News of **Miss Tilney** has just reached us through an official channel. Our sister's very brief letter is dated as far back as Sept. 11. She is at the British-American Y.W.C.A. Hostel, and assures us that she is “ now better.” Our prayerful remembrance will be deeply appreciated.



Map of North Africa, showing N.A.M. Stations mentioned below

PRESENT LOCATION OF MISSIONARIES *November 1st, 1940*

TEMPORARILY AT HOME*

Miss I. DE LA CAMP
 Miss A. CLACK
 Miss E. COLLINS
 MR. & MRS. C. COOPER
 MR. & MRS. F. EWING
 Miss E. FEARNEY
 Miss K. GOTELEE
 Miss E. HARMAN
 Miss E. HIGBID
 Miss D. HENMAN
 Miss J. HOWELL (Canada)
 Miss M. JONES
 DR. & MRS. J. A. LILEY
 Miss E. LITTLE
 Miss J. McROBBIE
 MR. & MRS. H. MORGAN
 MR. & MRS. C. W. MORRIS
 MRS. D. PADILLA
 Miss G. E. PETTER
 MRS. E. E. SHORT
 MRS. V. SWANSON (America)
 Miss M. TAPP
 MR. & MRS. R. TWADDLE
 MR. & MRS. R. SMITH (America)
 MRS. F. M. WEBB

RETIRED

Miss E. K. ALDRIDGE
 MRS. E. FISHER
 Miss V. HOUGHTON
 MR. W. REID
 Miss E. TURNER

**INTERNATIONAL ZONE
AT TANGIER**

DR. & MRS. G. W. ANDERSON
 Miss N. W. BOWKER
 Miss G. CARTY
 Miss E. CRAGGS

Miss W. DRURY
 Miss M. GLEN
 Miss F. GLADWYN
 Miss M. LICKMAN
 Miss G. LINCOLN
 Miss L. G. ROKEYB-ROBINSON
 SENOR P. PADILLA
 Miss E. M. HOADLEY (*Associate*)
 Miss E. M. COLLARD (*Associate*)
 MR. & MRS. T. W. WARREN
 MRS. E. A. SIMPSON
 Miss M. KNIGHT
 Miss A. G. HUBBARD

FRENCH MOROCCO

Casablanca

MR. V. SWANSON
 Miss F. M. BANKS
 Miss M. W. ROSS
 Miss E. GRANT
 Miss C. A. BOWRING

Fez

Miss S. M. DENISON

Settat

Miss A. BUXTON
 Miss K. REED

Taza

Miss F. E. S. MARSTON
 Miss A. CHAPMAN

Rabat

Miss I. DEW
 Miss G. SHARPE

SPANISH MOROCCO

Miss E. J. BRADBURY
 Miss E. LOW

ALGERIA

Cherchell

MR. & MRS. L. J. BOCKING
 MR. N. PEARCE

Algiers

MRS. A. ROSS
 Miss M. G. ROSS
 MR. A. R. SHOREY
 Miss K. SMITH (retired)

Djemâa Sahridj

MR. & MRS. A. G. WILLSON
 Miss M. FEARNEY
 Miss M. WIDMER
 Miss M. MARSH

Azazga

MR. & MRS. S. ARTHUR

Bougie†

Miss D. WARD

Oued-Amizour

Mlle. E. M. DEGENKOLW

Lafayette

MR. & MRS. C. R. MARSH

TUNISIA

Tunis

MR. & MRS. R. S. MILES
 MR. R. I. BROWN

Gafsa

Miss E. BROOKES
 Miss A. KRAULIS

"UNOCCUPIED" FRANCE

MONS. TH. HOCART
 M. & MME. C. COOK

PARIS

Miss E. M. TILNEY

* Most of these missionaries have now found war-time employment in the Homeland. Several are engaged in evangelistic work with the Forces.
 † See note under "Bougie" on page 3.