

Continuing "NORTH AFRICA."

# The N.A.M. News Letter



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HON. SECRETARY: OSWALD L. CARNEGIE

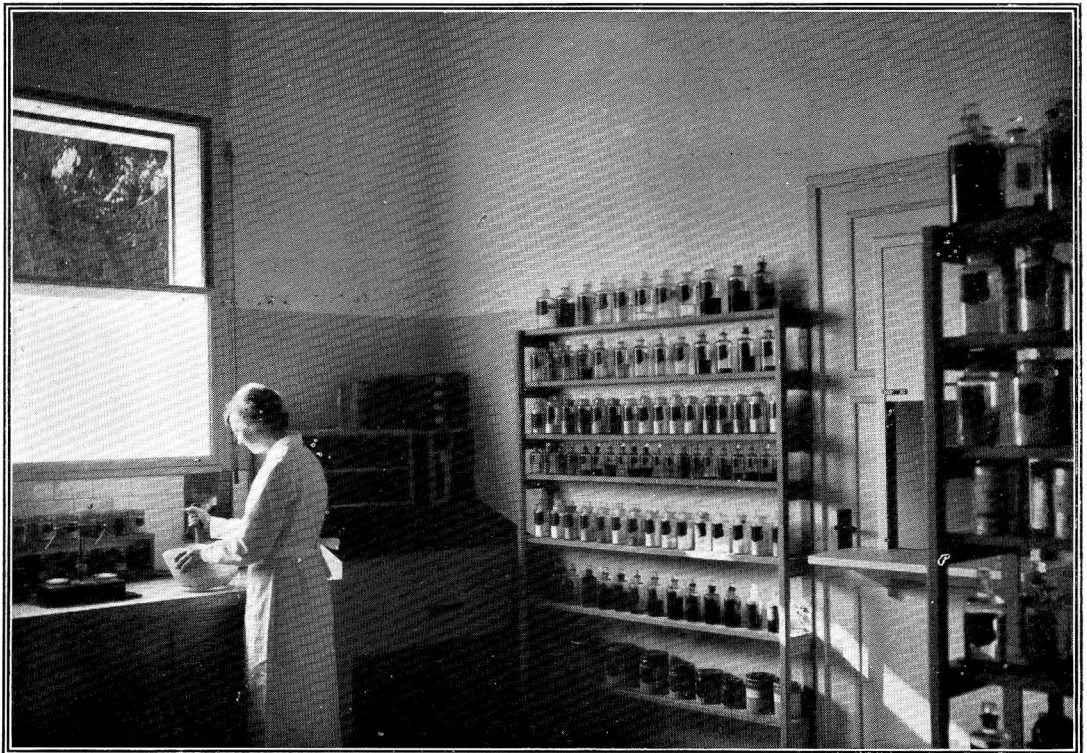
ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: GENERAL SECRETARY, ERNEST J. LONG

AMERICAN AUXILIARY: HON. SECRETARY, DR. HARVEY FARMER, 303, EIGHTH STREET, BRADENTON, FLORIDA, U.S.A.

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

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THE DISPENSARY, TULLOCH MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

*When speaking recently at our Farewell Meeting, Dr. G. W. Fraser Anderson drew our attention to figures that emphasise the considerable growth of the Tulloch Memorial Hospital's work during the war. Whereas in 1939 attendances approximated 7,000, by 1944 they had grown to 15,000, the consultations during the war years reaching the impressive total of 74,779. The above photograph is "a peep behind the scenes," and reminds us of arduous and exacting labours in the Dispensary that we are apt to forget. Not only does Miss F. Gladwyn, whom we see here, dispense a prodigious quantity of medicines in the course of a twelve-month: she is also the Hospital's anaesthetist, and thus fulfils a dual rôle.*

## A Memorable Gathering\*

A MEETING of unique interest brought together on Thursday, September 13th, at the Livingstone Hall, a large company of friends and members of the North Africa Mission, gathered to bid farewell to those missionaries who expect to return to the field during the next month or so, as well as to take affectionate leave of Mr. I. E. Bowles, the Assistant Secretary, who is retiring after fifty-two years of continuous service with the Mission. The occasion also afforded an opportunity for the Chairman to welcome Mr. E. J. Long, who is taking over the duties of General Secretary in succession to Mr. O. L. Carnegie, Honorary Secretary of the N.A.M. since 1939.

The Rev. E. J. Poole-Connor, who presided at the Meeting, spoke with deep gratitude of the services so generously rendered by Mr. Carnegie during the War years. Though he was retiring from the Secretaryship, his valued advice would still be available, as he had kindly consented to remain on the Council. Mr. I. E. Bowles, who had been devoted to the work from his youth, was also retiring. It had been felt that the occasion should be marked by some tangible expression of affection and esteem, and on behalf of the members of Council, the missionaries, and a number of friends, he asked Mr. Bowles's acceptance of a cheque for £113 11s. 6d., which was accompanied by every prayerful wish for God's rich blessing upon him in his retirement.

Mr. Bowles, who was visibly moved, expressed to the Council, missionaries and other friends his grateful appreciation of their gift and good wishes. He recalled the time when Mr. Glenny, the founder of the Mission, had sent for his mother to bring him, whilst still a boy, to work in the Mission's office at Barking. Now the time had come for him to say farewell.

Emphasising how true to his own experience were the words, "My times are in Thy Hands," Mr. Bowles described the fifty-two years he had spent in the Mission as being both unique and interesting; unique in duration and scope, and interesting in variety. "Unique," because he knew of no other Missionary Society in which the office boy had risen to the position of Assistant Secretary. Why, he had even, for a short period, been a member of the Council. "Interesting in variety"; for he had served eight different Secretaries, and had known of God's gracious deliverances again and again, and of wonderful answers to prayer for supplies when funds were low. It was interesting to recall that, since the receipt of the first donation for £2 in those early days, the total receipts over six decades had exceeded £500,000. It was correspondingly impressive to remember that, since the first offer of service, 796 applications had been considered. Roughly half this number of candidates were accepted, though not all of them arrived on the field.

In welcoming the new General Secretary, Mr. Poole-Connor referred to Mr. Long's association with the Mission, extending over many years, and to his recent pastorate at Sunderland where, for four and a half years, he had shepherded the well-known Bethesda Free Church. God had blessed his ministry in that town, but the time had now come for him to take over the work at Mission Headquarters, for which the Lord had all along been preparing him.

In replying to the Chairman, Mr. Long spoke of the mixed feelings with which he had come south. When he went to Sunderland he had no idea that his stay there would prove so lengthy. During the War years the roots had become very deeply grounded in an exceptionally friendly environment, and it was with something akin to heartbreak that he had bidden farewell to his flock. Nevertheless, it was a tremendous comfort to know that one was being transplanted into a no-less-friendly soil. Twice recently, letters had been received from well-wishing missionary friends, quoting the words, "As I was with Moses so I will be with thee"—a message of great cheer and encouragement.

It was also vastly reassuring to be aware that those who were retiring from their official capacity in the Mission would still be readily accessible and gladly responsive to any call for help or counsel.

The first missionary speaker, Miss Marjorie Marsh of Djemaa Sahridj, prefaced a brief account of her work by a quotation from Psalm 126; "The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad." This was her first furlough, and the years in North Africa had not been easy. One of the disappointments for a young missionary is the apparent lack of results in Mohammedan lands; but "the Lord had done great things," nevertheless.

Not only had native girls continued to attend the missionary classes during the war years, but even when, in bitter weather, they were very thinly clad, and the snow through which they trudged was almost up to their knees, they still kept on coming. They came because they wanted to come, and evidently found blessing in the messages. Miss Marsh spoke of a native evangelist, now quite blind and almost wasting away through lack of sufficient nourishment, who was still happy in the Lord, and of others who were bearing similarly encouraging testimony.

Mr. R. I. Brown, whose story of hardship and privation during two and a half years of captivity in Italy and Germany was a moving one, bore testimony to the strength and comfort he had derived from the words in 2 Tim. iv. 17: "Notwithstanding the Lord stood by me and strengthened me." Although at his arrest he had been stripped of all his possessions, his repeated requests that his Bible might be returned to him were at length successful. In solitary confinement and under-nourished, five memorable months were spent in reading the precious volume whenever the light permitted, and during this time, too, a prayer list was compiled to help in daily intercession. Assisted by a meagre recollection of German learnt at school, our brother was able to pass on to the man who guarded him, in the following brief words, a few fundamental facts of the Gospel: "Jesus Christ died upon the cross. If you believe in Him in your heart, and not in your head, you will go to heaven and not to hell." The soldier was so amazed that he left the cell door wide open whilst he went in search of his fellow-guards, and to them, too, Mr. Brown repeated the message. After that there was some slight improvement in the treatment that was meted out to him!

When, later on, Mr. Brown was taken to a prisoner-of-war camp, where were thousands of British Tommies, he was warmly welcomed and tenderly nursed back to health. Subsequently, many opportunities for spiritual service presented themselves, on one occasion as many as 4,000 taking part in a special Communion Service.

\* We are indebted to Miss E. Higbid for valuable shorthand notes from which this Report has been compiled.

After giving a graphic account of the circumstances of his final release from captivity, Mr. Brown told of the great joy that was his in addressing in Arabic some native troops from French Morocco.

The closing speaker, Dr. G. W. Fraser Anderson, introduced his talk with a brief outline of the history of the Tulloch Memorial Hospital in Tangier, and alluded to the valuable service rendered by the founder, Dr. T. G. Churcher, and his successors—Dr. Terry, Challis, Roberts, Wilson, Liley and Scrimgeour—the last-named being Dr. Anderson's immediate predecessor. Referring to the noble band of nursing sisters, and the able assistance now being rendered by Dr. Farnham St. John, the speaker underlined the special problems of the war years, when Spaniards and the German Gestapo made things very difficult. In spite of this, the attendances had actually grown from 7,000 in 1939 to 15,000 in 1944. Altogether, there had been 74,779 consultations during the war years, whilst operations had totalled 1,161, together with a further 923 minor operations in the out-patient department.

Since the building of the new out-patient department in 1937, the increased accommodation had made it possible for larger numbers to hear the Gospel whilst awaiting medical treatment. This Gospel ministry was shared by Mr. L. J. Bocking, native evangelists, and lady missionaries.

Both American and British Service men had been treated, and there had been many opportunities of witnessing both to them and to the many refugees from all parts of Europe.

About fifty girls had been trained for V.A.D. work, and these had received their lectures, drills, examinations and inspections in the Hospital. Dr. Anderson expressed his great hopes for the future, and his desire to train native girls to be nurse-evangelists to their own people.

In closing, the doctor made an earnest appeal to those present as he emphasised the great need of nurses for the Hospital and of missionary candidates for the field.

The Meeting concluded with a Roll-call of Missionaries present, and these were commended to God in prayer by the Chairman.

## *News in Brief*

READERS will be delighted to learn that **Mrs. F. G. Bergin**, eldest daughter of the late Mr. E. H. Glenny, founder of the North Africa Mission, has kindly consented to become an Honorary Associate Member of the Council of the Mission. Not only will this assure that the long and exceedingly happy fellowship with the Glenny family is maintained, but we shall profit, too, from Mrs. Bergin's wide experience and wise counsel.

It is most gratifying to learn that our brother, **Mr. R. I. Brown**, who took his Inter-B.A. examination whilst in a German Concentration Camp, has been completely successful. Our brother tells us that he is now getting down to preparation for the final examination, which will probably be in 1947, the subjects selected being French, Arabic and Theology. Since Mr. Brown's industry and keenness may safely serve as an index of his physical as well as his mental robustness, we share his earnest hope that an early return to Tunis, with Mrs. Brown, will reinforce the hands of the workers at that station. As our readers may be aware, our brother's ultimate objective is Kairouan the "Holy," where we are confident that

he will be accorded a warm welcome by many young native men, who, a decade or more ago, thronged the Editor's classroom and Bible Depot at the Mission House.

On Friday, September 28th, we had the joy of welcoming **Miss Elsie M. Tilney** upon her return to this country after an absence of approximately six years. We were thankful to discover that our sister's war-time experiences had not affected her so adversely as we might have feared. Her visit to the homeland was of the briefest nature, for she returned to Paris a fortnight later, in company with our Field Superintendent, the **Rev. T. J. P. Warren**, who is staying, at the moment that these lines are being compiled, at the former missionary candidates' Foyer at 13, Rue des Orchidees, whilst attending to much urgent business.

As we write, the **Rev. and Mrs. L. J. Bocking** and **Yvonne**, together with **Miss N. E. Chambers**, are upon the eve of their departure for Tangier. Mrs. Bocking will be taking over the school for native girls, previously under the charge of Miss M. Glen, whilst Miss Chambers is hoping eventually to return to Larache, where she formerly laboured for thirteen years.

The work of restoring the **Mission Headquarters** at 34, Bisham Gardens, is nearing completion, and the Mission staff is looking forward to bidding farewell, within the next month, to the very restricted accommodation at the "Sweeties" shop in the High Street, Highgate. In the Lord's goodness, we shall be returning to premises that will be in far better condition than those from which enemy action evicted us in July of last year. The walls at the back of the house, always damp, have been entirely rebuilt, whilst the roof, which was a constant source of trouble, has been completely renewed. Certain small structural changes, too, together with the adoption of a light colour scheme, will add to the convenience and cheerfulness of the rejuvenated surroundings.

We are happy to have back with us again **Miss E. L. Clark**, whom we first knew as Mr. Glenny's confidential typist in the days when the Mission Headquarters were at John Street.

**Mr. R. Stanley Miles** continues to render us extremely valuable service in the Deputation department. His travels have taken him as far North as Aberdeen, where, in addition to many other engagements, he has been sharing with **Dr. G. W. F. Anderson** of Tangier and **Miss E. Low** of Tetuan, in a special N.A.M. meeting.

We are greatly indebted to **Miss J. McRobbie**—an accepted candidate who, to our deep regret, has been unable, for health reasons, to go out to the field—for her valuable assistance in helping to organise this series of meetings for Mr. Miles, and for her cheerful willingness to become our Honorary Secretary for the Aberdeen area.

As we are going to press, a letter reaches us from **Dr. J. A. Liley**, telling us that he is on the eve of embarking (aboard the "Mauretania") for Port Said. From thence he will proceed to Tripoli, where we trust he will not have too much difficulty in obtaining quarters that will be suitable, not only for the accommodation of himself and Mrs. Liley, but also for the inauguration of such medical work as shall once again establish them in the city from which they were expelled some years ago by the Fascist authorities during the Mussolini regime. Confronted as he is by many initial difficulties, we are sure that the Doctor will greatly value our readers' prayers.

## News from the Field

A LONG and intensely interesting circular letter has just been received from **Miss K. M. E. Gotelee** of Tunis, from which we quote the following extracts:—

"The summer is now over, but we have not had the storms of rain which usually herald the end of the hot season, and in consequence the land is very dry, materially as well as spiritually! Sowing cannot commence until the soil has been softened by the rain, after being baked all the summer, and it is very serious when that rain does not fall. So please do pray that we may have some good down-pours to soak well in, and make ploughing and sowing possible. The reservoirs are so low that we only get water every other day, and we are told to boil it well because of the germs in it. I got some of those germs in the summer, and was very poorly for about sixteen weeks.

"On Sunday, October 7th, we celebrated the 18th anniversary of our coming to 'Bethesda.' Mr. Ferree, an American missionary, came and took the services. There was a large attendance, especially in the evening, and the Hall was well filled, much to our delight. A number of those who had been at Mr. Ferree's Bible Camp in the summer came to hear him, and he was able to continue the good work begun then. He has a settlement high up in the cork forests of Western Tunisia, where he is establishing an industrial work. He is a man on fire for God, and seizes every opportunity for witnessing to the power of the precious Blood.

"Our Sunday School has reopened with a very good attendance. Nearly all the old scholars have returned, and some new ones. You will be amused to hear that even our cat, Pat, does his little part as a missionary's cat!! He is very playful, and the boys around here love to play with him when he is in the front garden. The other Sunday, when school was in progress, some of Pat's friends put their heads round the door to see if he were there! Of course, he wasn't, but they became interested in the lesson which was being given, and stayed to hear more. Several asked if they might come. Of course, we said, 'Yes,' and they have kept their word and begun to attend regularly. So that is Pat's little contribution to the work!

"I have also had the joy of re-starting the class at Radès, after a lapse of four years. I have wanted to do this all the year, but have been too unwell to risk the journey in trains which have no windows! It is not too bad in summer, but in winter it is dreadfully cold and draughty, so please pray that I may be kept in health during the winter as I go to Radès each Saturday afternoon. It was a great joy to see the dear children again. The class was begun in 1921, so the original members are all grown up, and I have now some of their children. It is lovely to see children's children being taught the Word of God. Yvonne's two little sisters come, and she does also, for she gets Saturday afternoons off. 'Paul,' who came as a boy, was there to greet me, and presently his wife brought in their little son, Daniel. Three dear little girls, named Buckwell, also come. They are little cousins of Max Buckwell, who in former days was greatly blessed in Mrs. A. V. Liley's meetings, and I know she will be pleased to know they come. They are bright, intelligent and refined children, and it is a joy to have them under Gospel influence.

"Last week we also reopened the women's meeting. Only two came, but that is always a difficult class to start. Formerly, when wool was

cheap and plentiful, we had a knitting class for them, with a Bible Class after, but now they must come for the Word only! We really prefer it that way, so please pray that the women around us may have a vision of their soul's need. Strange to say, the woman who, more than all the others, was out, we thought, for material things, has been the first to return now that there is nothing in that line to be obtained, so we certainly ought not to judge people!

"When we first came to this neighbourhood, her children were the most tiresome. They would climb over the railings and shout, 'Protestants' every time we had a meeting. Now all that is changed; they are some of the most regular at the school, and all the children around are more friendly. I will not say Pat has not done his part, for they do love to watch him, and he is no respecter of persons! Also, they all know we are true friends who only wish them well."

IN a letter received from her on September 18th, **Miss E. E. J. Bradbury** tells of her safe arrival at Tangier in company with **Miss N. Andrew**. Miss Bradbury is now back again in Tetuan, where she has been warmly welcomed by her Spanish and native friends. We shall be so glad when the way opens for her colleague, **Miss E. Low**, to join her, so that these two friends may resume again together the work in which the Lord has so signally blessed them during many years.

**Miss Madge Hutchinson** of Tangier writes of a happy holiday spent recently up on "The Mountain," near Tangier, at the Raymond Lull Home. (Those of our friends who remember the missionary film of Morocco will recall the colourful setting of this beautiful orphanage for native lads.) This happy sojourn was shared with **Mr. and Mrs. Fallaize**, and our sister writes most appreciatively of Mr. Fallaize's exceedingly helpful ministry, both in Arabic and English. A good deal of sea-bathing was also possible, under conditions vastly different from those in the homeland, chiefly memorable for "chattering of the teeth" and goose-flesh.

## Keswick in London

DURING the war years "The Keswick Convention in London" became quite a feature of the religious life of the Metropolis, and the subsequent report of the Convention has been eagerly awaited, not only by thousands of keenly-interested believers in the homeland, but perhaps even more by the Lord's missionary servants scattered in all parts of the world.

This year the gatherings were held at Westminster Chapel, where, in addition to the customary Bible Readings and Convention Meetings, there were lunch-hour talks for business people. In consequence, the Report of the Convention, published by Messrs. Marshall, Morgan & Scott, Ltd., is much larger than usual, a further seventy pages being included. The price, however, remains unchanged at 2s. 6d.—remarkable value for these days.

Since the spiritual enrichment of God's children is always accompanied by such enlargement of heart and such a widening of the sphere of intercession as brings inevitable blessing to the Mission Field, we earnestly trust that our readers will not only purchase copies of this excellent volume for themselves, but assure its widest distribution among their friends.