


Continuing "NORTH AFRICA"

The N.A.M. News Letter



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Photo by]

A FORTUNE-TELLER OF KAIROUAN, TUNISIA.

[E.J.L.]

With "Christian" England becoming more and more the happy hunting-ground of the astrologer and the soothsayer, it is not surprising that among the superstitious Moslems of North Africa the fortune-teller should continue to exploit the credulity of the gullible. The plausible charlatan pictured above used to sit in the Market Square at Kairouan, and he rarely lacked a client. Before him was a small quantity of sand, upon which, having smoothed it carefully with the palm of his hand, he made certain cabbalistic signs. From these—assisted doubtless by a shrewd knowledge of human nature, and drawing upon a vast fund of experience—he pretended to foretell the future of the fearful creature who had consulted him. ". . . Even their mind and conscience is defiled. They profess that they know GOD; but in works they deny Him." (Titus 1: 15-16). Only the Truth of the Gospel can enlighten them.

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Our New Map

IT has come to our knowledge that, during the War years, a new generation of missionary-hearted young people has arisen who would welcome such additional information regarding North Africa as could be furnished by maps, diagrams, photographs, and other visual aids.

We have accordingly prepared a Map of the N.A.M. "Field" in which our main object has been simplicity and clarity. The bold outline, the clear type, and the readily-distinguishable "occupied" and "temporarily unoccupied" Stations are features which will probably be especially welcomed by our older friends, whose vision would be overtaxed by the microscopic lettering of conventional maps.

The present location of missionaries is indicated in the tables beneath the Map. The names of workers are printed alphabetically, for convenience in reference, and the Stations themselves are arranged (approximately) in relation to their nearness to, or remoteness from, the Homeland.

News of Our "Family"

FRIENDS will grieve to learn of the great loss that **Mr. and Mrs. Ewing** have sustained in the Homecall, on January 18th, of their ten-year-old daughter, **Josephine**. For a number of weeks we have been much in prayer for our dear friends in Belfast; but the LORD, in His loving wisdom, has taken His little lamb to be with Himself. The trouble proved to be "a deep-seated brain tumour." Your continued remembrance in prayer will mean much to the dear Parents in their sorrow.

On January 12th a party of nine N.A.M. missionaries, comprising all who were ready to return to the Field, sailed from Liverpool. **Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Miles**, together with the **Rev. and Mrs. "Bob" Brown** and little **Christine**, were bound for Tunis; **the Misses Buxton and Reed** for Settat; **Miss Bowring** for Casablanca; **Miss Chapman** for Taza, and **Miss Sharpe** for Rabat.

Some of these workers were returning from their first post-war furlough; Mr. and Mrs. Miles were going back to Tunis after an absence of two and a half years; Mr. Brown was looking forward to resuming a missionary career rudely interrupted by his arrest by the Nazis during their occupation of Tunis; whilst Mrs. Brown, prevented (as "Miss Little") by the outbreak of war from embarking for North

Africa in 1940, realises at last a "deferred hope" that has exercised her patience for well-nigh seven years! Little Christine (forgive the word-play on "Little") is a splendid consolation prize!

Homecall of Mr. W. Reid of Tripoli

THE sudden Homecall on December 18th, at the age of 80, of Mr. William Reid, brings before us, for grateful remembrance, a brother of singular devotion to the cause of Christ in North Africa.

It was during the very early years of his missionary career in Tripoli that Mr. Reid wrote: "This is in many respects a very hard field, and needs much patient toil. If we laboured for results only, we might well faint. We do long and pray and labour for results, but above all, I trust, as witnesses of our Lord Jesus Christ, for His honour and glory; and though I should labour here until the Lord call me home without seeing a single convert as the result, I feel it to be the greatest possible privilege to live here as a witness for my Lord Jesus Christ, Who gave Himself for me, and Who has said to all His disciples, 'Ye are My witnesses,' 'Go ye therefore.'

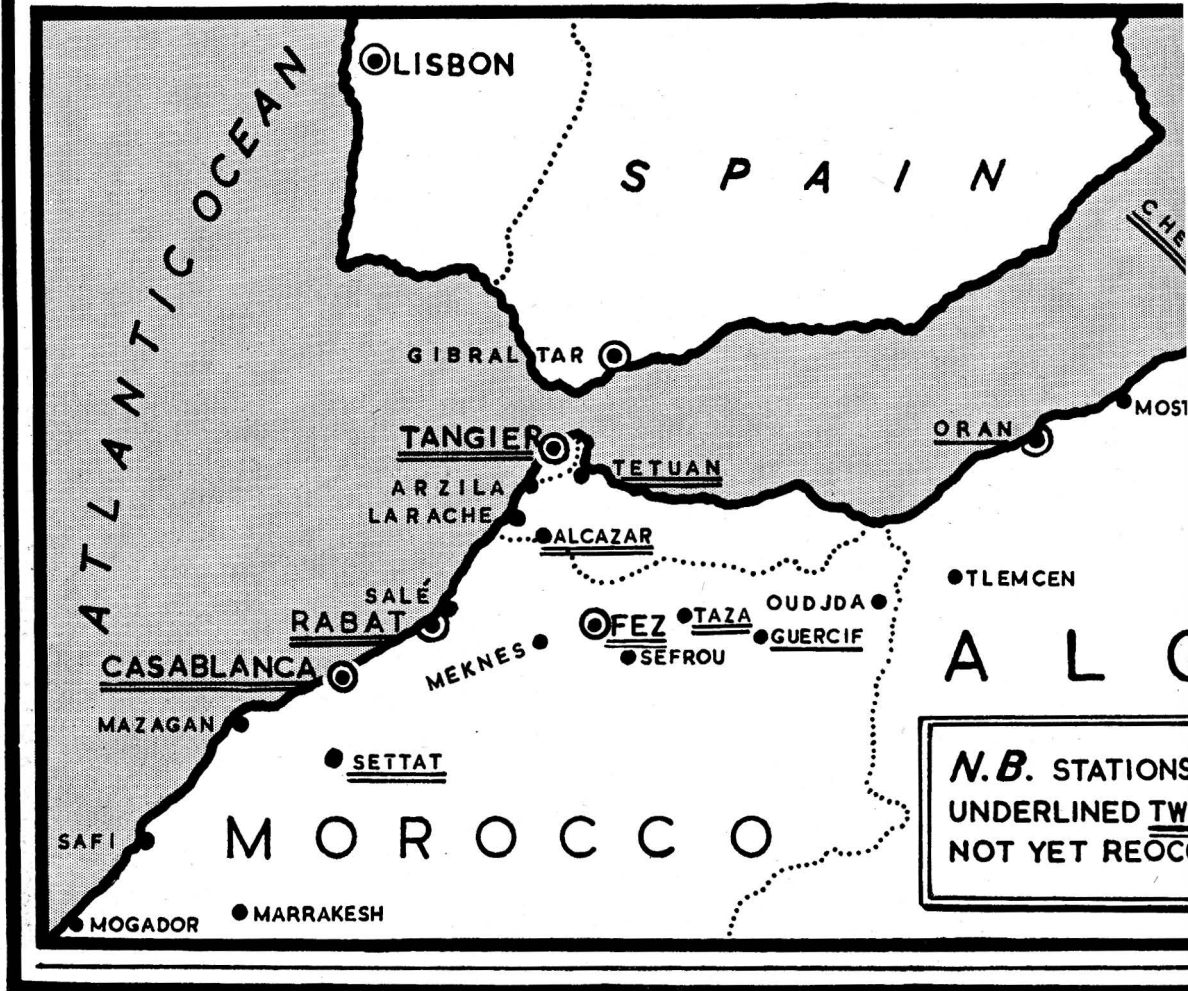
"Pray for us, that we may bear the image of our Master, and be 'living epistles, known and read of all men,' 'burning and shining lights' in the midst of so much darkness, and the means, under GOD, of leading many benighted Moslems to the feet of our King."

Those words, written by Mr. Reid in 1896, when he was a young man of 29, reveal both his strength of character and sense of vocation: above all, they glow with that love for his Lord which was to sustain him when, in later years and for various causes, his five senior colleagues and, at last, his beloved wife, left him, one by one.

During the years that the claims of her children kept Mrs. Reid in the Homeland (1919 to 1926, in which latter year she died), Mr. Reid remained at his post in distant Tripoli. For some while he was quite alone. Later on he was joined, for a time, by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Meers; and eventually by Dr. and Mrs. J. A. Liley.

In 1936 the Mission work in Tripoli was brought summarily to an end by Fascist intervention, and the missionaries were ordered to leave the country. How thankful we are that, in the goodness of GOD, our veteran brother was spared to see Libya delivered from the

NORTH AFR



LOCATION OF MISS

MOROCCO

TANGIER

Dr. and Mrs. G. W. F. Anderson
 Miss N. Andrew
 Rev. and Mrs. L. J. Bocking
 Miss N. W. Bowker
 Miss N. E. Chambers
 Miss M. Collins
 Miss F. Gladwyn
 Miss M. M. Glen
 Miss L. Goodacre
 Miss E. Souter
 Dr. F. St. John

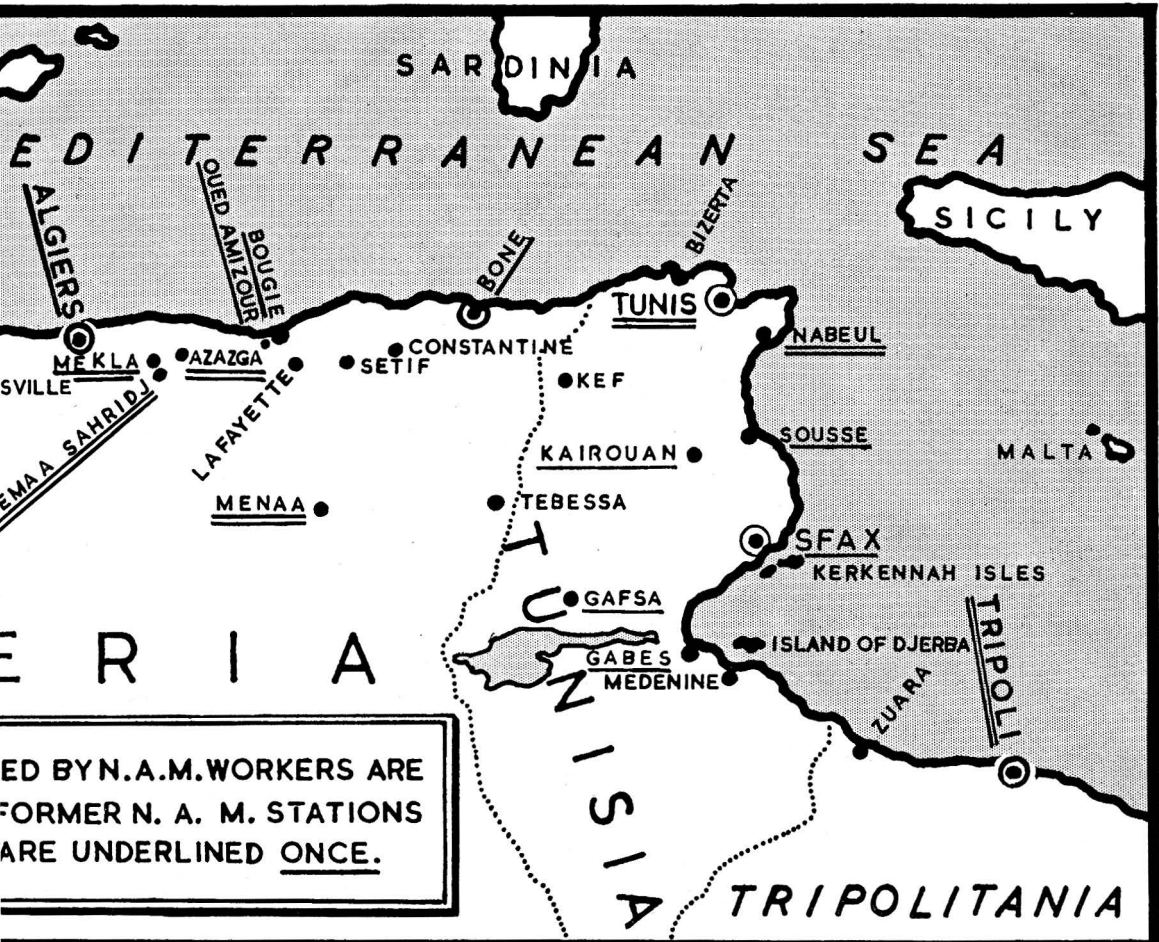
TETUAN

Miss E. E. J. Bradbury
 Miss G. Carty
 Miss E. Low
 ALCAZAR
 Miss M. E. Chipperfield
 Miss G. W. Theakston
 RABAT
 Miss I. Dew
 Miss G. Sharpe
 TAZA
 Miss A. Chapman
 Miss F. Marston

FEZ

Miss E. Harman
 Miss E. Higbid
 Miss G. F. Lincoln
 Miss D. Richardson
 CASABLANCA
 Miss F. M. Banks
 Miss C. A. Bowring
 Miss E. Grant
 Mr. J. Padilla
 SETTAT
 Miss A. Buxton
 Miss K. Reed

CA: SHOWING SPHERE OF OPERATIONS OF THE NORTH AFRICA MISSION.



E. J. L., JAN., 1947.

ARRIVES (January, 1947)

ALGERIA

ALGER
 ERCHELL
 ss E. F. Collins
 . and Mrs. N. Pearce

EMĀA SAHRIDJ & MEKLA
 ss M. Marsh
 . and Mrs. A. G. Willson

AZGA
 . and Mrs. S. Arthur

ENĀA
 . and Mrs. C. Cook

TUNISIA

TUNIS
 Miss E. L. Brookes
 Rev. and Mrs. R. I. Brown
 Miss K. M. E. Gotelee
 Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Miles
 Miss G. E. Petter

NABEUL
 Miss A. Clack
 Miss M. W. Jones

TRIPOLITANIA

TRIPOLI
 Dr. and Mrs. J. A. Liley

Also Miss D. M. Henman (at Marrakesh *pro tem.*) and Miss A. Kraulis (at Constantine *pro tem.*)

At Home, awaiting Passages:— Mr. and Mrs. C. Cooper, Miss W. Drury, Mr. and Mrs. F. Ewing, Miss M. Hutchinson, Mr. and Mrs. D. Padilla, Mrs. A. Ross, Miss M. Ross, Miss M. Widmer (Switzerland) and Miss E. Degenkolw (Denmark).

Fascist yoke, and Dr. and Mrs. Liley triumphantly reinstated in the Mission House from which they had been expelled ten years before!

To Mr. Reid's family we would express anew our loving sympathy, and to our Heavenly Father our gratitude for the inspiration of that gallant life.

Christmas at Our Oldest Station

WE have had some very happy parties, marked by an absence of those little petty jealousies that so often cast a cloud over an otherwise happy evening. We managed to get enough pieces of different coloured materials to make little bags to hang upon the Christmas Tree—one for each child. They were filled with pea-nuts, sweets, acorns, marbles and an orange—the contents varying according to attendances.

Our English games of Musical Chairs, Spinning the Trencher, and so on, are very popular; but the climax is always the Punch and Judy show!

We are to have two more parties—one for certain young people who were brought up at the Missionary Homes in Algiers, have married, and are now living here; and the final one for the shepherd boys, some of whom are a pretty rough lot.

Christmas has been most enjoyable, with nice food, good fires, **sweets** (!) and plenty of oranges. We are very grateful to the unknown friend whose liberality played such a large part in procuring all these good things.

I must not forget to mention our Christmas Eve service, which was greatly enjoyed by all. "The First Nowell" (translated into French) went with a swing, the boys singing with special gusto. There is no doubt about their love for the Christmas Hymns and the Christmas Stories.

Mrs. A. Willson, Djemaa Sahridj, Algeria.

Times of Refreshing at Marrakesh

THE Conference held at Gueliz, near Marrakesh, from December 12-16, was, from the outset, a big answer to prayer. The difficulties in feeding so large a number of people seemed insurmountable, whilst opposition from certain official quarters early in the month caused added anxiety.

Natives from Tangier, Rabat, Salé, Casablanca, Marrakesh, Demnat, Boujad, and other towns, and missionaries from the Brethren, the N.A.M., the B.C.M.S., and the S.M.M. all gathered safely and in happy expectation.

The feeding of well-nigh 150 folk for four days, the making and baking of from 100 to 120 loaves daily, the peeling of vegetables, the cooking and serving of **cous-cous** and **tajjeens**, needed a well-oiled organisation; and everybody agreed that there was no hitch whatever. Work was done "as unto the Lord"; and Mr. and Mrs. Fisk managed things like the experienced host and hostess that they are.

Prayer meetings before breakfast; services morning, afternoon and evening; the snap-shooting of groups; quiet walks and talks in the garden amongst the orange and olive trees: it all seemed to some of us a very real reminder of similar days spent at Keswick.

The Presence and Power of GOD were very manifest in the messages brought from His Word by both missionary and native believer; and the hearty singing, the baptismal service at the pool in the garden, the Communion service on Sunday morning—all these contributed to the consciousness of the Lord's blessing upon us, and added to one's sense of the privilege of being present.

Perhaps the outstanding impression left with us missionaries, and with our native brethren and sisters, too, was the message given from Exodus xiv, 15: "Speak unto the children of Israel that they GO FORWARD."

Our hearts are full of praise for all the Lord's goodness to us during those memorable days; and our prayer is that, by His grace, we may indeed "Go Forward."

Miss Dorcas Henman, Marrakesh.

"In Bounds"

OUR joy and thanksgiving knew **no bounds** as we were able to move and again settle down into this fifty-year-old Mission House—just in time to celebrate the Birthday of our Lord and Saviour. We being in the troops' forbidden area of the native city, on Saturday, December 28th, the District Commander kindly declared us "In bounds" from 2.30 to 7 p.m. to members of the Soldiers' Christian Fellowship and their friends.

At a happily representative gathering we combined Christmas festivities with a house-warming and re-dedication to Him Who, after ten years of our forced absence, has restored this house to us, and us to it.

It was a privilege to have with us the Head of the British Military Administration, to whom the N.A.M. is indebted, under GOD, for permission to return to Libya. The soldier friends were particularly interested to meet our Arab

sister in the Lord, Aisha: a Jewish lady (still with the veil upon her heart, alas!) represented for us GOD'S ancient and needy people; whilst the Senior Chaplain, a "W.V.S." worker, the Matron with three sisters and two orderlies from the Military Hospital, together with the Fellowship members free from duty, brought the total up to twenty guests.

The climax of a very happy afternoon was reached with a hymn, and a prayer of re-dedication of ourselves and our home. Please pray that we may not fail to draw freely upon the Lord's **boundless** stores of grace, to live and work for Him here.

Mrs. J. A. Liley, Tripoli.

Encouragement at Tunis

WE have had the joy of welcoming more Italian children into our school. During the summer an American missionary, Mr. Paul Ferree, who has an industrial work at Ain Draham, was visiting in one of the worst slums in Tunis, when he was attracted by some Italian urchins. He began talking to them, and asked how many of them would like to go with him to his country house, and have a good holiday, and learn something useful. About a dozen responded. He got in touch with their parents, and they all went up to his Bible Camp, and stayed two months.

At first they were just a lot of little hooligans, but he soon got them into order. The daily exercises, the Bible lessons and excursions, combined with the influence of a Christian home and such surroundings as they had never known before, worked wonders. At the end of their stay they returned to Tunis different boys, their faces shining with joy and love, and just full of the wonderful time they had had, and the messages they had heard.

We at once went to visit them, and rejoiced at the expressions of gratitude for what had been done. Their mothers, and other women, listened eagerly to the Gospel message, and we have had more doors open to us than ever before. Do please pray for them. It is an awful district, with several bad houses quite near their homes; and these little ones are just surrounded by sin and wickedness: Humanly speaking, they have no chance at all of growing up to be decent citizens, let alone Christians. But, thank GOD, His grace can keep them, even there!

Miss K. M. E. Gotelee, Tunis.

"They do not Deliver Us!"

"A few days ago in School I asked where a certain girl was who had been absent for a couple of days. The reply was, 'Oh, she has gone with her mother to visit a saint's tomb.'

"That simple remark led on to quite a lively and open conversation with the children, at the end of which one of the oldest girls in the School said: 'Yes, Miss Chambers; we have lots of saints—but, **they do not deliver us.**'

"Another child, on hearing such an awful statement, told her not to say such things; but she replied, quite loudly: 'It is true, they do **not** deliver us.'

"May they know the power of One Who is able to deliver!"

Miss N. E. Chambers, Tangier.

Dr. Harvey Farmer

WE regret to report that Dr. Farmer fell heavily in his home at Tampa, Florida, on January 23rd, and sustained a fracture of the right ankle. After Hospital treatment the patient was brought home by ambulance, with the foot and lower leg enveloped in a heavy plaster cast, which has to be kept in place "for three months, if not longer."

Dr. Farmer's condition necessarily involves the cancelling of a number of engagements, as well as handicapping him in the transacting of certain Mission business. He would therefore be most grateful if his **American and Canadian friends** would in future—and preferably as a permanent arrangement—kindly send their gifts to Miss S. C. Dunkelberger (our N.A.M. Treasurer in the U.S.A.), 147, West School Lane, Germantown, Philadelphia 44, Pa., U.S.A.

We have already expressed to Dr. Farmer and his dear wife our profound sympathy, and earnestly trust that the time of enforced rest may be richly compensated with blessing.

URGENT!

We are still awaiting, from many friends, a reply to our request (published in the last NEWS LETTER) that they should kindly send us a postcard stating whether they require MORE, or FEWER, than the number of copies of the NEWS LETTER that we customarily send them. (N.B.—This query is addressed ONLY to those who usually receive more than one copy of the publication.)