

Continuing "NORTH AFRICA"

# The N.A.M. News Letter

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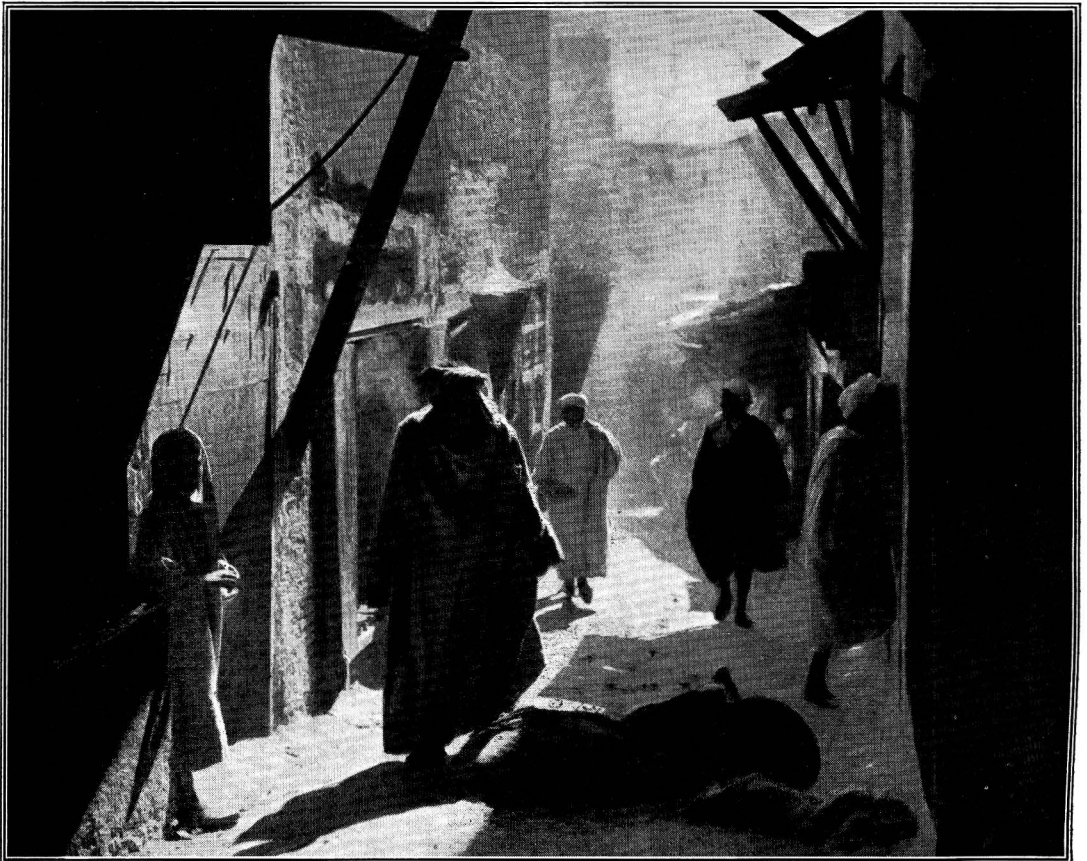
ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO : GENERAL SECRETARY, ERNEST J. LONG

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A STREET SCENE IN MOROCCO

*There is a picturesqueness about the street-scenes of North African towns and villages that is apt to mask some of the less attractive features : the sun-glare and the palpitating heat of summer ; the tormenting flies—blood-suckers, every one ! ; glimpses of native cruelty to beasts and birds and humans ; and probably a generous selection of the " seventy distinct smells and nine special stinks " with which an impartial French guide-book generously credits the native quarter in Algiers !*

# TOKENS OF THE BLESSING OF GOD

## 1.—Further Reinforcements

IT is our pleasure to announce the acceptance by the N.A.M. Council of three further recruits, whose arrival in North Africa will furnish immediate and much-needed help in three different centres.

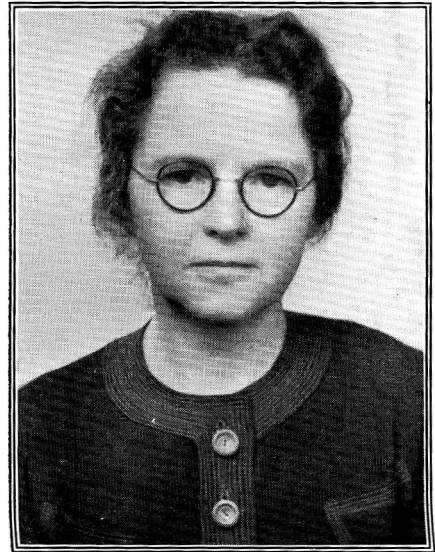
Those of our readers who have for a long time been prayerfully concerned that Dr. and Mrs. Liley should have the assistance that the volume and nature of their work requires, will be happy to learn that **Miss Jennie Wilberforce**, a qualified nurse-midwife and student of Ridgeland's Bible College, is on her way to

of the other Nurses at "The T.M.H." as well as affording them a better opportunity of getting down to vital language study. Friends will be interested to learn that Mrs. Kent, like her fellow-nurses the Misses D. M. Henman, B. I. Gould and C. Roberts, was a member of St. James's Evangelical Free Church, Worthing, whose Pastor (the Rev. H. W. Fife) is referred to later in these Notes.

The third recruit embarking upon immediate service is **Miss Elizabeth Prideaux**, who has already spent a number of years in missionary work in Morocco. She is rejoining her one-time



MISS JENNIE WILBERFORCE



MISS ELIZABETH PRIDEAUX

Tripoli at the moment that these notes are being compiled.

Later in the year, God willing, we hope to give fuller information regarding another missionary candidate, **Miss E. O. Pierce**, who has also been accepted for the Tripoli Medical Mission, and whom we trust to send out in the Autumn.

The Staff of the Tulloch Memorial Hospital, Tangier, which has welcomed in recent months Miss Gould, Miss Brown and Miss Roberts, was further strengthened at the end of March by the arrival of **Mrs. J. W. Kent**, of Worthing, who has been led of the Lord to offer her services (as nurse-midwife) in an honorary capacity for a period of some months. Such generous and timely help will considerably lighten the burden

colleague, Miss D. Richardson; and these two friends are looking forward to re-occupying their former house in Arzila (Spanish Morocco), and reviving a testimony among the Moslems begun, decades ago, by those gallant pioneers, the Misses C. S. Jennings and K. Aldridge.

It is not, perhaps, out of place to mention that the three "recruits" referred to above are beyond the age at which it is customary to accept missionary candidates for work in a sub-tropical climate. On the other hand, their special qualifications and experience, considered in the light of many providential tokens and of the specific need on the Field that they appeared well fitted to meet, suggested the wisdom of making a novel experiment. They have been

accepted for a period of one year ; and if, at the end of that time, it has been clearly demonstrated that they can stand the climate, get on happily with their colleagues, and make reasonably encouraging progress with the native language, the position will be reviewed and a more permanent status conferred.

## 2.—*Firmer Re-establishment*

These further reinforcements from the Homeland are assuring, as a direct consequence, the firmer re-establishment of our work upon the Field. As we look back over the past year or two, and particularly over the last few months, we are both amazed and humbled at the way in which our Heavenly Father has come to our aid.

In Paris, the Students' Hostel is again flourishing under the kindly and efficient superintendence of Mr. and Mrs. Procter, with the first two post-war pupils concentrating upon their French studies under ideal conditions.

In Tripoli a strategic bridgehead, valiantly held by Dr. and Mrs. Liley for two and a half years, will soon have its garrison doubled. At Nabeul (Tunisia) Mr. and Mrs. Bob Brown have made a grand beginning, and the Misses Clack and Jones, as they leave for much-needed furlough, will know that they are entrusting their dear natives to the very best of care.

At Tunis, there is the glad prospect of further succour for Miss Gotelee as **Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Patching** join her in the autumn, God willing, to assist in the work at "Bethesda" whilst preparing themselves, by the study of Arabic, for eventual witness among the Moslems. (We expect to tell our readers much more about them after our autumnal Valedictory Meetings !)

In the Lord's goodness our brother **Mr. Charles Cook** is now sufficiently restored in health to resume, with his wife, that promising work at Menâa. The triangle of workers at Chercell has been squared by the arrival of **Miss Kraulis**, and we envisage a very useful future for our sister and Miss Evelyn Collins as co-workers.

The sending of Miss Souter to Alcazar is proving a successful experiment, whilst the re-opening of Arzila by Miss Richardson and Miss Prideaux will afford yet a third N.A.M. centre of Gospel testimony in needy Spanish Morocco. In French Morocco Miss Bowring awaits with cheerful patience the coming (in September or October, we trust) of Miss Huntington. For many years she has prayed for, and greatly needed, a young companion ; and Miss Huntington's eventual arrival is going to ease greatly the burden of the European work.

The good news concerning Tangier is not limited to the Hospital, well-stocked at last with nursing sisters. A splendid new venture is envisaged—the establishment of a Resident Bible School for native converts. In this enterprise, which will, under the blessing of God, meet a long-felt need, **Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Cooper** (returning to Morocco after an interval of some years) will be co-operating with Mr. and Mrs. Seddon of the Bible Churchmen's Missionary Society—a gesture that will gladden the hearts of the many friends of both Societies (N.A.M. and B.C.M.S.).

Surely, as we survey the Field today, there is great cause for rejoicing—ample material for a praise meeting ! The leeway of the war years is gradually being made up ; and even if there are elements of improvisation and experimentation in some of our planning and procedure, we believe that there are multiplied tokens of the reassuring blessing of God, both at Home and on the Field.

## 3.—*Fuller Representation*

But if, in answer to much prayer, the Lord has been making such gracious provision for the needs of His work on the Field, He has been working just as signally in so far as the "Home end" is concerned.

**Mr. Warren**, now most conveniently accessible in his Highbury residence, is very considerably easing the burden at Headquarters by assuming the duties of Secretary for Field Affairs. This means that he handles all Field correspondence, and is able to assure an expert and detailed examination of missionary problems such as could hardly be expected from a much-preoccupied General Secretary. This is obviously in the highest interests of the individual worker and of the Mission as a whole.

But when the Lord "begins a good work" He "goes on to perfect it" (Phil. 1, 6 : **Weymouth**) ; and the climaxing token of his goodness has been the gift to the N.A.M., for full-time service, of an able and missionary-hearted brother who is destined, we believe, to fulfil most creditably a triple rôle.

For, as we embark upon our programme of post-war reconstruction, we are aware of a three-fold need :

1. Mr. Warren's previous duties as Field Superintendent must, in measure, be taken over by a younger man able to stand the stress and strain of periodical tours of all N.A.M. Mission Stations. Only thus can the work in the various centres be happily supervised and wisely



THE REV. HAROLD W. FIFE WITH MRS. FIFE, DAVID AND MARGARET  
(a photograph taken in 1945)

co-ordinated, and effective "liaison" of Field and Home Council assured.

2. Our second urgent requirement—in these days when we are in desperate need of more young men—is of someone able to bring the challenge of the Moslem field before the young fellows in our Missionary Training Colleges and University Christian Fellowships.

3. Our third long-felt need is of somebody suitably gifted and equipped to undertake a tour of centres in America where there is already a strong N.A.M. interest—fostered by Dr. Farmer, Miss Jones, Miss Brookes, Miss Grant and Miss Dew, and capable, under further wise nurturing, of yielding much fruit.

Well—the glad news we are now happy to announce is that the Lord has laid this triple burden upon the heart of our Council member, the **Rev. Harold W. Fife**, Minister of St. James's Evangelical Free Church, Worthing. No man known to us appears better qualified to undertake such a task.

For a time, it seemed possible that Mr. Fife might be able to help us without relinquishing his Pastorate; but the break proves to be inevitable: and we would express our sincere sympathy with the dear friends who must lose a well-loved Pastor that the Lord's work in North Africa may gain an able overseer and an eloquent advocate. Doubtless there is a spiritual law of compensation which will assure that our St. James's friends will not, in the long run, be the losers because of the sacrifice that many have ungrudgingly, if regretfully, made.

Mr. Fife has already visited Stations in Morocco (during November and December, 1947). He is now (April 5th) on his way to Tunisia and Tripolitania, and after visiting our workers in those countries will make a similar tour of Algeria, completing his itinerary by a further visit to Tangier in early May, God willing.

Mr. Fife is planning to address meetings in various American centres during the months of September, October and November; and as he embarks upon a career that will involve much travel, considerable fatigue, and long absences from his dear wife and children, we are confident that our

readers will be glad to remember him and his family regularly in prayer.

The Lord is clearly beckoning us on to ever greater undertakings on behalf of needy North Africa. "The time is short." "The work that centuries should have done must crowd the hour of setting sun." Let us match the sacrifice of our front-rank workers by a similar fidelity in intercession on their behalf!

**N.B.—If any reader knows of a suitable house that could be rented by Mr. Fife, either in the London Area, or within easy reach of London, the General Secretary would be grateful to receive particulars.**

### *Please note the date!*

At the Livingstone Hall (opposite St. James's Park Underground Station), at 6.30 p.m. on Thursday, June 10th, the Rev. Harold W. Fife, Council Representative of the North African Mission, will be exhibiting **A NEW MISSIONARY FILM**, and telling of his recent tour of Mission Stations in Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Tripoli.

**A cordial welcome if you are able to come! Please bring a friend with you!**

**BIRTH.**—We learn with thankfulness to God of the safe arrival on March 2nd, of little Christopher John Brown. His father sends an air-mailed post-card from Nabeul: "Both doing fine."