

Continuing "NORTH AFRICA"

The NAM News Letter



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

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO : GENERAL SECRETARY, ERNEST J. LONG

AMERICAN COUNCIL : *Hon. Chairman*, DR. HARVEY FARMER, P.O. Box 5057, Daytona Beach, Florida

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No. 66

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

JULY-AUGUST, 1949



BEDOUIN WOMEN AND CHILDREN OF SOUTHERN TUNISIA

These needy folk can never be reached until Southern Tunisian Stations such as Gabes and Gafsa are re-occupied for Christ.

See "An Appeal from Tunisia," on page three of this issue.

A Year of Progress at the Tangier Hospital

THE Lord has given us many opportunities of proclaiming His word. The people have been coming in large numbers, and our books show that, during 1948, 22,000 consultations have been held on out-patients, and over a thousand native homes have been visited.

Four hundred and seventy-two were admitted as in-patients, and these included Arabs, Berbers, Spaniards, Jews, English, French, Americans, Swedes, Finns and Indians. This may remind us that people out of all nations and tongues will be gathered around the throne of God and of the Lamb. May we all be faithful in our witness, as occasion occurs.

One hundred and four mothers have had their babies in the little maternity ward ; these come up for post-natal advice, and thus can be kept in touch with the other in-patients. Every other Tuesday afternoon they come to have their babies weighed, and to listen to the Gospel.

These figures are an increase on any previous year, and though large numbers are no proof of God's blessing, we rejoice that this door of contact with these needy Moslems is as wide open as ever.

Our staff needs have been supplied by the coming of Miss Brown, Miss Gould, Miss Roberts and Mrs. Kent. These got down to the work at once, and though lacking in the necessary Arabic tools, did the job ; now their tongues are beginning to wag in the native language, and Miss Brown has already given her first address in the women's ward.

The brunt of the teaching and preaching has been done by Mr. Bocking, Miss Henman and Miss Chambers ; their labour will not be without fruit.

The coming of Miss Handley Bird has enabled Miss Gould to go away for six months to study Arabic.

We praise God for the three Christian natives who have come to help us in the wards. E—

O— is a country lad, converted years ago at Mr. Elson's Boys' School. Since then he has been working as a plough-boy, but has maintained his faith in Christ chiefly through the Scriptures he learned by heart as a boy. When he left school, he knew the Epistle to the Romans by heart. What a treasure gained ! M—, the Christian girl from Alcazar, is still with us and bears a good testimony by her life and her willingness to help in the ward services. R— is gay and happy-go-lucky, but has confessed her faith in Christ and has broken the Fast. Please pray for these three, that they may grow in the knowledge of their Master and be a true picture of Him as they work in the hospital.

All our money needs have been supplied, in spite of the continued rise in the cost of living and of much poverty around us.

A— has continued with the dispensing, and manages fairly well, though we have to help him out with the sterile injections. He is thirty and needs to get married, and we are praying that there may be a Christian girl suitable for him.

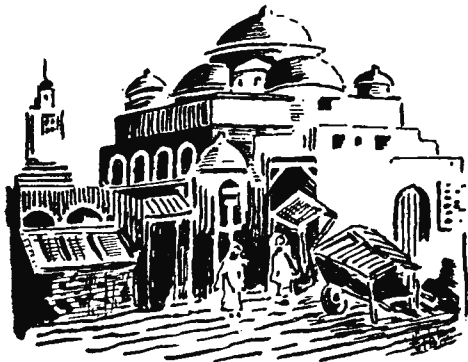
In the light of all these blessings, may we be encouraged to serve the Lord our God with joyfulness and gladness of heart for the abundance of all things (Deut. 28, 47).

My sister Patricia, who is a qualified nurse, joined us here in January. This is a great joy and I trust that she will be led of the

[Continued on page six



Back row (left to right) : MISS HANDLEY BIRD, DR. F. ST. JOHN, MISS ROBERTS.
Front row (left to right) : MISS GOULD, HENMAN, BROWN ; MRS. KENT.



Tunis

Place Bab-Souika

An Appeal From Tunisia.

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED MISSIONARIES, desire to express our deep and growing concern that so many Mission Stations in this Country of Tunisia - notably Bizerta, Sousse, Kairouan, Sfax, Gabès and Gafsa - should still remain unoccupied.

These places, together with several other strategic centres - particularly those almost untouched in Western Tunisia - constitute a call and a challenge to Christian young men and women in the Home Churches today.

Those of us here who are in close daily contact with the crying spiritual need of these thousands of Moslem and European men, women and little children would stress the urgent necessity, in this fast-closing day of grace, for a FORWARD GOSPEL MOVEMENT in this part of the Mission Field.

We therefore make this united appeal to the Lord's people everywhere to face this matter; and we urge that prayer, more definite than ever before, be made that fresh recruits from Churches, Mission Halls and the forthcoming "Keswick" and similar Conventions, may respond readily and gladly to the Call from Tunisia to "Come over and help us"; for how shall these needy ones believe in Him of Whom they have not heard, and how shall they hear without a preacher?

W. Miles

B. Brown

E. L. Brookes

Marquerite Miles

E. A. Brown

K. M. E. Gotelle

W. Hatch

R. J. Hatch

NORTH AFRICA
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

		RECEIPTS.					
		GENERAL FUND		DESIGNATED FUND		TOTAL	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
FOR GENERAL PURPOSES.							
Donations	...	10,285	19 6				
Legacies	...	2,530	7 7				
Publications	...	38	12 1				
Dividends and Tax Refunded	...	21	15 6				
						12,876	14 8
FOR DESIGNATED PURPOSES.							
SPECIALY SUPPORTED MISSIONARIES—							
Donations	...			1,791	0 4		
MEDICAL MISSIONS—							
Donations	...			122	6 8		
Patients' Contributions	...			1,612	8 10		
Dividend on Investment and Tax refunded for bed in Tulloch Memorial Hospital	...			28	12 8		
Dividend on Investment and Tax refunded for Women's Hospital	...			118	2 11		
VARIOUS DESIGNATED OBJECTS—							
Donations	...			184	19 3		
Interest	...			25	0 0		
LITERATURE FUND—							
Donation	...			25	0 0		
FOR GENERAL FUND (for subsequent use)—							
Donation	...			2,000	0 0		
GLENNY MEMORIAL FUND—							
Dividend on Investments and Tax refunded...				101	9 9		
						6,009	0 5
REALIZATION OF INVESTMENTS.							
4% Consolidated Stock	...	544	3 6				
2½% National War Bonds	...			1,018	17 6		
5¼% New South Wales Stock	...			515	8 0		
						2,078	9 0
TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR	...	13,420	18 2	7,543	5 11	20,964	4 1
BALANCES at Bankers, etc., as at 31st December, 1947							
For Designated Purposes	...			2,533	2 5		
For General Purposes	...	527	8 3			3,060	10 8

£13,948 6 5 £10,076 8 4 **£24,024 14 9**

We have examined the above Statement of Receipts and Payments of the North Africa Mission received from the Missionaries as are available, and certify that, in our opinion, it correctly summarizes the same.

Law Courts Chambers,
33/34, Chancery Lane,
London, W.C.2

24th May, 1949.

A MISSION

for the year ended 31st December, 1948.

PAYMENTS.

	GENERAL FUND		DESIGNATED FUND		TOTAL	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
MISSIONARIES AND THEIR WORK.						
MAINTENANCE, RENT, ETC.—						
Missionaries' Maintenance	8,791	13 0	2,071	16 10		
Missionaries' Rent and House Expenses	513	11 0				
Rent and Station Expenses (Meeting Rooms, etc.)	256	15 6				
Travelling, Furloughs and Freight ...	758	15 3				
					12,392	11 7
COLLATERAL EXPENSES—						
Work, General and Sundry Expenses ...	908	19 11	293	19 0		
Colportage, Bible Depot			43	3 3		
Students' Training Fees	12	8 2				
Rent, Rates and Repairs			73	15 0		
Car Expenses and Itinerary	154	17 6	42	10 2		
Removal and Furnishing	10	0 0	60	9 6		
					1,600	2 6
MEDICAL MISSIONS—						
Rent, Taxes, Repairs, Fuel and Lighting			136	5 0		
Drugs, Instruments and Food Relief ...	48	9 4	1,275	16 0		
Wages, Freight, Customs			873	4 0		
Tulloch Memorial Hospital Building Fund			79	18 4		
Printing, Stationery, Telephone and Sundries			114	6 8		
					2,527	19 4
TOTAL DIRECT PAYMENTS FOR MISSIONARIES AND THEIR WORK	11,455	9 8	5,065	3 9	16,520	13 5
HOME PAYMENTS.						
PUBLICATIONS—						
Printing, Postage, "NEWS LETTER" ...	421	17 1				
Other Printing, Postage and Publication Expenses	62	15 10				
					484	12 11
MEETINGS—						
Deputation Expenses, Travelling, Postage, Printing, etc.	305	11 5				
					305	11 5
OFFICE—						
Rates, Repairs, Fuel, Lighting, Cleaning and Insurance	200	3 7				
Salaries, Wages and State Insurance ...	1,030	10 8				
Postages, Printing, Telephone, etc. ...	227	7 9				
Travelling, Legal and Sundries	42	3 1				
					1,500	5 1
OTHER PAYMENTS—						
To General Fund (included in Donations)			2,000	0 0		
Interest on Private Loan	10	0 0			2,010	0 0
TOTAL PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	13,755	19 1	7,065	3 9	20,821	2 10
BALANCES at Bankers and in Hand on the Field at 31st December, 1948						
For Designated Purposes			3,011	4 7		
For General Purposes	192	7 4			3,203	11 11
	£13,948	6 5	£10,076	8 4	£24,024	14 9

for the year ended 31st December, 1948, with the Books and Vouchers at Head Office and the Statements of Cash Transactions of the Mission for the year.

HILL, VELLACOTT & Co.,
Chartered Accountants

Continued from page two

Lord to some part of this needy land, after a period in the hospital.

In the spirit realm, we are up against a stone wall of apathy and antagonism; and any defeat in our own lives makes the position hopeless. But through your prayers God can have His own way with us, and then even Moslems will be saved. (*From Dr. Farnham St. John.*)

“Only twelve years ago.”

I wonder what I can tell you fresh about the Hospital work. You know we have a men's ward, a women's ward, a maternity ward, and a large out-patient department, and as I was adding up the number of out-patients and in-patients for the past year, I could not help thinking back to the time when I first came to the T.M.H.

I remember the doctor calling me only twelve years ago and telling me to take a patient upstairs and show her the women's ward, as she ought to come in for treatment. We often showed them round in those days, to see the clean comfy beds, the little lockers by each one, and the other patients apparently happy and getting better, just to help them to get over their fear of an operation and coax them into Hospital.

Yes, we had to try to persuade them to come, and we did not always succeed! Now, that is all changed, and statistics show a big increase in numbers each year. Folk clamour to come in, our beds are always full, and our prayer now has to be for wisdom, that we may admit those whom the Lord purposes to speak to and to bless while they are with us. (*From Miss Dorcas Henman.*)

Rev. Harold W. Fife.

The Rev. Harold Fife, having completed his year of special service for the North Africa Mission, has accepted the pastorate of Winton Evangelical Free Church in succession to the late Rev. Walter G. Stalley. Mr. Fife hopes to begin his Winton ministry on July 24th next, and the Recognition Meetings have been arranged for July 21st.

At the invitation of the Council of the North Africa Mission and with the cordial concurrence of the missionary-hearted friends at Winton, Mr. Fife will continue to serve the Mission as its Council Representative, visiting the Field for the Annual Conferences and taking some share in the deputation work. His address from July 14th next will be 76, Norton Road, Bournemouth, Hants.

Council Members' Tour of Mission Stations.

On three occasions during the past eighteen months Mr. Fife has visited the Field, and warm tributes have reached us from many Stations telling of the value of his ministry, the cheer of his fellowship and the helpfulness of his counsel.

One of our “newer” Council members, Mr. L. B. Mostyn Davies (who got to know Tripoli intimately during the war years, and of whom mention has been made more than once in our News Letter) was able to accompany Mr. Fife during the April-May visit; and from their joint Report we cull the following paragraphs:—

“Meetings were held on almost every Mission Station of the N.A.M., and Conferences of some days' duration at Tangier, Cherchell and Tunis. These latter were marked with manifest tokens of God's blessing, and proved to be times of adjustment and renewing in which the Council's representatives shared. In the mercy of God we received rich blessings; and the tone of the meetings can be gathered from a remark made by a missionary, not a member of the N.A.M., to the effect that ‘These meetings make me long to be a member of the North Africa Mission’.

“Quite obviously, yearly visits have a cumulative value, and engender mutual confidence and understanding. Five minutes spent on a mission station often lead to the comprehending of a situation that could not be gained by endless correspondence.

“In Tangier we had fellowship in the meetings with missionaries of the B.C.M.S. as well as with the independents. Algeria gave us most helpful discussions and fellowship with the Algiers Mission Band, the American Methodist Mission, the Brethren, the Eglise Réformée, and the representatives of the British and Foreign Bible Society. In Tunisia we had united services with our friends of the Church Mission to the Jews, including a particularly inspiring Communion Service. These contacts are invaluable and we believe will bear much fruit in the ensuing years.

“As a whole the work is most encouraging, and most of our stations are able to report specific cases of blessing. We come home full of thankfulness to God for the absolutely splendid team of sacrificial workers whom we feel proud to be able to serve.

“As we have travelled, sharing their joys and their problems, the conviction has been

borne upon us that it is at home where we most need the next forward move.

“Our brethren and sisters are looking to us to provide additional men and means by which they can reach the untouched places ; but, more than this, they look to us to set a high spiritual standard, to stand behind them in the richest sense in fellowship and to prevail in prayer on their behalf.”

What can I do ?

What happens at the close of a missionary meeting ? Often on long journeys home after speaking of the need of North Africa one prays that, even as one travels, the Holy Spirit will be laying an inescapable burden upon the hearts of the congregation that has now dispersed to many and varied homes.

But what use is a burden unless there is some way of expressing the longing to help ? Recently I have been feeling that it is this sense of frustration that is really hindering our missionary effort.

We go to a meeting and, seeing the films or hearing the speaker, realise with a real ache in our hearts that there are many millions who are yet without a knowledge of Christ. We hear of Libya with only one mission station in its entire area ; we are told of the many closed stations in Tunisia ; we are shocked to hear that the N.A.M. has now only four Kabyle-speaking workers in that field which saw the inception of the Mission. As the truth is borne in upon us we long to do something to help forward the Gospel, and the cry wells up within us “ What can I do ? ”

This question has been put to me in all parts of England, Ireland, America and Canada ; and the sad thing is that so many, assuming that there is little or nothing that they can do, lose the missionary vision. We have only to look around the average missionary meeting to realise that it is quite impossible for most of those present ever to become foreign missionaries ; and because their very presence at the meeting betokens a missionary interest, it is frequently true that, financially, they are already fully committed in their Christian giving. If that is so, how can they respond to the missionary challenge ? I want to suggest some very practical ways in which many who can neither go nor give more money can nevertheless answer the missionary challenge. And we shall take an example from life.

Mrs. Friend had been a stenographer in the days before her marriage and, fond as she was of her husband and home, found that life now sometimes lacked a wider interest. Going to a missionary meeting and feeling deeply drawn to the Field, she realised that her duties at home made it impossible for her ever to go abroad, and her husband's limited salary made it equally difficult for her to give as she would have liked. She offered her services for a few hours each week to a missionary society and was genuinely surprised to find that she was as welcome as a new missionary would have been, for rising costs of secretarial help had made it impossible to have an adequate staff in the office. After a few weeks she found that she was greatly increasing the work that the Secretary could get through ; but, more than that, she obtained an insight into missionary problems, a knowledge of individual missionaries, and an interest in the really stupendous task on hand that drove her to prayer as never before. Coming to give secular help, she found herself spiritually enriched.

This story could be repeated with many variations. God wants to use the talents that we have, not those that we think we would like to exercise ; and not a few men and women, offering to God their so-called secular gifts, have found rich and wonderful ministries as Home Councils, district secretaries, part-time helps in missionary offices, voluntary secretaries to busy missionary executives, Mission doctors, etc. Only recently two brethren, widely separated geographically, have found that their expert photographic skill given freely to the N.A.M. has been a real blessing to us.

It is time that God had the very best that His Church can give Him, and the urgent missionary challenge of these days will only be met as we have men and women bringing every talent and yielding it for His service. It is not enough to say that there is nothing that we can do. Until we have offered to do *anything*, we cannot be sure that we are not missing the very thing God wants of us. There is enough latent talent in the Church of Jesus Christ to meet almost all our urgent needs. If you have one of the gifts enumerated above, or feel there is something else that you can do to forward the missionary programme, *make your offer now*. “ Work while it is yet day, for the *night cometh when no man can work*.” (From the Rev. Harold W. Fife.)

Four New Publications—How you could help.

Quite clearly, one of the very best ways in which we can help our missionaries is by the prayerful perusal and equally prayerful distribution of suitable literature. To create interest that may, under God's blessing, deepen into heart-concern, we need the right type of booklet and the cheerful co-operation of willing friends.

During the past few weeks four new publications have been produced that should greatly assist in multiplying among the ranks of the Lord's people new "friends of Moslems" from every age-group.

For young people there is an excellent new illustrated Magazine called "**Challenge and Counter Challenge**", a specimen copy of which will gladly be sent on request—gratis.

There is a new booklet entitled "**Introducing you to Fez**", by the Misses E. Higbid and E. Harman, which furnishes a "close-up" of Moorish life and spiritual need on one of our most important Mission Stations. This costs fourpence.

Our Secretary for Field Affairs, the Rev. T. J. P. Warren, has written an informative and most helpful volume, "**The Moslem Challenge to the Christian Church**", for which we desire the widest possible diffusion. Will you help? The price is sixpence.

Of similar price is a third (and revised) edition of "**Mohammedanism: an Elementary Catechism**", by the Rev. E. J. Poole-Connor. This splendid booklet, which has already enjoyed a wide circulation, is a masterpiece of compactness, crystallising within its twenty-four pages such outstanding facts concerning Mohammedanism as should be "at the finger-tips" of every intercessor for the Moslem world. These volumes comprise Numbers 1 and 2 of the new "Focus on Islam" booklets*, and the striking cover design (an African "muezzin" calling to prayer) will serve helpfully to identify future publications in this series.

Please let us have your orders—and, perhaps, an extra copper or two to cover postage.

* Sponsored by The Fellowship of Faith for the Moslems.
Secretary and Treasurer: Mr. W. Cecil Collinson,
62a, Tuddenham Road, Ipswich.

Spring Conference for Moorish Believers.

The annual Spring Conference for Moorish believers and those interested in the Gospel has been held at Marrakesh, and the Lord graciously blessed the hundred or more who gathered; and those who went from here

returned so happy and full of praise for the meetings and the kindness received from those who entertained them.

I was one of those who received a different kind of blessing, yet truly a blessing—that of abiding by the stuff and seeing that the four big gaps left by those who had gone be filled and the work go on as usual in the Hospital.

Quite frankly, I did wonder what we should do when Si M—, our out-patient helper, and A—, our dispenser, and M—, our helper in the women's ward, and Mr. Bocking, who does so much in the out-patient department, all left one morning early by the 6.30 a.m. train. We had also promised to look after Si M—'s two lively small boys so that his wife, F—, could go too, taking their baby girl, M—, with her.

However, the week passed fairly quickly, though perhaps some of us began to count the days and hours, especially when one small boy played truant from school all day, and when on another day the operating theatre window was broken by a stone, accidentally thrown, of course.

Anyway, that week made us appreciate our helpers more than ever and welcome them back with open arms. Then, as we talked with one and another and heard their testimonies on the Sunday evening following their return and listened to the messages that had struck home to their hearts, we rejoiced in the small share we had been able to have in helping them to get to the Conference.

One big answer to prayer is that M— was willing to be baptised in Tangier at Easter. Previously she had wanted the baptism to take place at Marrakesh, farther away from her home and people. I know you will pray for her in this big step, and pray, too, for the thirteen baptized at the Conference, some old and some young—yet all, we know, in the Lord's keeping. (*From Miss Dorcas Henman.*)

Our Annual Meetings.

The Livingstone Hall, opposite St. James's Park Underground Station, has once again been secured for our Valedictory Meetings, which are to be held, God willing, on Thursday, **September 22nd**, at 3.30 and 6 p.m. (Prayer Session at 3).

We are hoping to have with us a goodly company of Missionary speakers on this occasion; and the **Rev. Alan Redpath** has kindly consented to give the closing Message in the evening.

We trust our London Area friends will endeavour to keep the date free, and that those who are at too great a distance to attend will nevertheless have fellowship with us in prayer.