

Continuing "NORTH AFRICA"

The N.A.M. News Letter



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

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No. 85

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

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, 1952



Photo by]

[E.J.L.

Mahbouba and her Brother—Children of Kairouan, Tunisia

Tunisia still looms as a dark cloud upon the political horizon ; but the regrettable outrages of terrorists and the unremitting pressure of extremists must not be allowed to provoke us to impatience or to lessen our love for a needy, Satan-deluded people. How charming some of these dear folk are the missionary well knows, and even a snapshot such as the above demonstrates. These are the kind of children that are endearing themselves to Mr. and Mrs. Don Rickards. Let us specially remember these young missionaries as they hold the fort in Kairouan the "Holy" during the absence (in U.S.A. on deputation work) of Mr. and Mrs.

From the Field Director :

Themes for Praise and Prayer

There is not a problem that cannot be solved at the Throne of Grace. Praying Hyde of India found that when he was tempted to criticise, but began instead to intercede for the one who appeared to him impossible, the whole aspect of his problem began to change. The more he was led out in prayer for that fellow-missionary, European or Indian, so much the more did the problem or difficulty melt away. There is much to pray for, and I am sharing with you aspects of the work as they present themselves to me in as succinct a form as I can.

Tripoli

Ramadhan was particularly busy in the Medical Mission in spite of the Fast, and there were exceptional opportunities for witness. Mr. and Mrs. Pearce rejoice that God has brought them new Christian friends who give active assistance. The temporary help of Dr. Hugh Dawson has now come to an end, but prayer has been answered in a new offer coming from Dr. and Mrs. A. R. Hargreaves, late of Gaza Hospital. They have seen many years of missionary service in Egypt and Palestine, and speak Arabic fluently. The U.K. Council have gladly accepted their proffered help for a period of six months, beginning in the Autumn. Their experience and ability, we are assured, will be of tremendous help to us during the interim period until our Canadian reinforcements arrive.

Tunisia

We are deeply grateful to God for His protection over each of His missionary servants during the past trying months. The Church at Bethesda, Tunis, has greatly missed the care and ministry of Mr. and Mrs. Patching, but the small group of deacons has been ably shouldering the new responsibilities thrust upon them. There is an encouraging group meeting weekly at St. Germain, outside Tunis. We can praise God also that Mr. and Mrs. Rickards, the vanguard of our U.S.A. reinforcements, have completed their first year of Arabic studies very creditably indeed.

Algeria

During the month of June a new experiment was tried out in conjunction with other missions in the area. Reports so far received seem to indicate a good measure of success. It was the first Missionary Summer School for the study of languages and missionary methods. Senior missionaries were the tutors and lecturers, and younger

workers and probationers the students. The curriculum was varied and compact and of great practical usefulness. As a refresher course for older missionaries the school would have great value too. A second month's session will take place during September at Cap Matafou.

We are grateful for further reassuring news of steady recovery to health on the part of Mrs. Willson of Djemâa.

Morocco

Since the Spring tour news has reached us of another three souls who have professed conversion at Casablanca, precious fruit of the work amongst Europeans. It is our constant experience that whenever blessing has come, the Enemy has counter-attacked. The church at Casablanca needs our constant prayers that right guidance and leadership may be given, together with a deepening experimental knowledge of all the riches of wisdom and understanding that are in Christ.

Many of you will have heard of the great sorrow that has come to our colleague, Miss Grace Sharpe, in the sudden "Home-call" of a beloved sister as the result of an accident in London. Tragical it seemed to us, but God's ways are never "purposeless"; and while we mourn with the sorrowing ones, we can trust Him not only to give tender Fatherly comfort and consolation to His bereaved children, but also to make the grief bring forth fruit to His praise.

From a Station in Morocco comes the news of one (the first there) who dared to break the recent Ramadhan Fast for Christ's sake. All fellow-workers will realize what that means, and how necessary is the surrounding of this man's soul and body by prevailing prayer.

Another centre also reports encouragement given during the trying month of Ramadhan, when five trusting souls witnessed to their faith in Christ in the breaking of the Fast.

Mr. and Mrs. Smurthwaite, in their first year of language study at Tetuan, continue to make good progress in learning and speaking Spanish.

Tangier

The extension to our Tulloch Memorial Hospital is now in progress. We are confident that the building of the new T.B. Ward is a step indicated of God. We need to wait upon Him continually, however, for guidance regarding the development and conduct of the hospital.

Please focus special prayer on the Moorish Christian staff. There is not an easy pathway. A certain sense of security brings many subtle temptations, and one longs to see in them the sacrificial spirit and service that are so evident among the other members of the hospital team.

BRITISH COUNCIL OF T

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PA

| RECEIPTS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|-----------------|--------------------|----------|----------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|-----------|----------|
| | | | | | | | GENERAL FUND | DESIGNATED FUND | | TOTAL | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | £ | s. | d. | £ | s. | d. | | | |
| FOR GENERAL PURPOSES | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Donations | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8,000 | 5 | 11 | | | | | | | |
| Legacies | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3,459 | 1 | 11 | | | | | | | |
| Publications | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 80 | 0 | 6 | | | | | | | |
| Dividends and Tax Refunded | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 17 | 19 | 6 | | | | | | | |
| Rents from Barking Property | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | 11,579 | 8 | 11 | | | |
| FOR DESIGNATED PURPOSES | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SPECIALLY SUPPORTED MISSIONARIES— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Donations | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | | | 3,375 | 9 | 2 | | | | |
| MEDICAL MISSIONS— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Donations | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | | | 435 | 8 | 3 | | | | |
| Contributions from Patients and Local Authorities | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | | | 3,204 | 2 | 11 | | | | |
| Building Fund (including local Contributions) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | | | 987 | 15 | 10 | | | | |
| Dividend on Investment and Tax refunded for Women's Hospital | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | | | 116 | 13 | 4 | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | 8,119 | 9 | 6 | | | |
| VARIOUS DESIGNATED OBJECTS— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Donations | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | | | 258 | 0 | 11 | | | | |
| LITERATURE FUND— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Donations | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | | | 108 | 8 | 6 | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | 366 | 9 | 5 | | | |
| GLENNY MEMORIAL FUND— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dividends on Investments and Tax refunded | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | | | 95 | 17 | 8 | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | 95 | 17 | 8 | | | |
| SALE OF HOUSE AT MENAA, ALGERIA— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| First Instalment from French Reformed Church | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | | | 101 | 16 | 8 | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | 101 | 16 | 8 | | | |
| TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR | | | | | | | 11,579 | 8 | 11 | 8,683 | 13 | 3 | 20,263 | 2 | 2 |
| BALANCES at Bankers, etc., as at 31st December, 1950— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| For Designated Purposes | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | | | 3,509 | 12 | 6 | | | | |
| For General Purposes | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 386 | 0 | 10 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | 3,895 | 13 | 4 | | | |
| | | | | | | | £11,965 | 9 | 9 | £12,193 | 5 | 9 | £24,158 | 15 | 6 |

We have examined the above Statement of Receipts and Payments of the British Council Head Office and such Statements received from the Missionaries as are available, and certify that

Law Courts Chambers,
33/34, Chancery Lane,

NORTH AFRICA MISSION

TS for the year ended 31st December, 1951

| | PAYMENTS | | | | | | TOTAL | |
|---|--------------|----|----|-----------------|----|----|----------------|-------------|
| | GENERAL FUND | | | DESIGNATED FUND | | | £ | s. d. |
| | £ | s. | d. | £ | s. | d. | £ | s. d. |
| MISSIONARIES AND THEIR WORK— | | | | | | | | |
| MAINTENANCE, RENT, ETC.— | | | | | | | | |
| Missionaries' Maintenance | 7,027 | 14 | 2 | 3,322 | 2 | 8 | | |
| Missionaries' Rent and House Expenses | 894 | 8 | 3 | | | | | |
| Native Helpers engaged in Missionary Work... .. | 52 | 0 | 0 | | | | | |
| Travelling, Furloughs and Freight | 846 | 13 | 5 | 46 | 6 | 0 | | |
| | | | | | | | 12,189 | 4 6 |
| COLLATERAL EXPENSES— | | | | | | | | |
| Work, General and Sundry Expenses | 387 | 3 | 0 | 188 | 6 | 11 | | |
| Colportage, Bible Depot | 35 | 7 | 8 | 210 | 12 | 0 | | |
| Mission Station Repairs... .. | | | | 349 | 6 | 2 | | |
| Car Expenses and Itinerary | 53 | 15 | 7 | | | | | |
| Removal and Furnishing | 19 | 10 | 0 | 28 | 5 | 0 | | |
| Legal Charges re Property on Field | | | | 76 | 0 | 1 | | |
| Purchase of House at Menaa | | | | 336 | 14 | 6 | | |
| | | | | | | | 1,685 | 0 11 |
| TULLOCH MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, TANGIER-- | | | | | | | | |
| Rent, Taxes, Repairs and Insurance | | | | 25 | 5 | 6 | | |
| Drugs, Instruments and Food Relief | 10 | 0 | 0 | 1,911 | 11 | 7 | | |
| Wages, Freight and Customs | | | | 986 | 12 | 10 | | |
| Car Maintenance and Repairs | | | | 60 | 5 | 0 | | |
| Architects' Fees... .. | | | | 25 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Fuel, Light, Telephone and Sundries | | | | 232 | 13 | 10 | | |
| Building Fund—Amount forwarded for Tulloch Memorial Hospital | | | | 725 | 0 | 10 | | |
| | | | | | | | 3,976 | 9 7 |
| TOTAL DIRECT PAYMENTS FOR MISSIONARIES AND THEIR WORK | 9,326 | 12 | 1 | 8,524 | 2 | 11 | 17,850 | 15 0 |
| HOME PAYMENTS— | | | | | | | | |
| PUBLICATIONS— | | | | | | | | |
| Printing, Postage, "News Letter" | 231 | 7 | 9 | | | | | |
| Other Printing, Postage and Publication Expenses | 60 | 16 | 3 | | | | 292 | 4 0 |
| MEETINGS— | | | | | | | | |
| Deputation Expenses, Travelling, Postage, Printing, etc. | 235 | 17 | 7 | | | | 235 | 17 7 |
| OFFICE— | | | | | | | | |
| Rates, Repairs, Fuel, Lighting, Cleaning and Insurance | 176 | 6 | 2 | | | | | |
| Salaries, Wages and State Insurance | 1,483 | 12 | 11 | | | | | |
| Postages, Printing, Telephone, etc. | 194 | 5 | 6 | | | | | |
| Travelling, Legal and Sundries | 42 | 0 | 7 | | | | 1,896 | 5 2 |
| OTHER PAYMENTS— | | | | | | | | |
| To General Fund (included in Donations) | | | | 1,090 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Interest on Private Loan | 14 | 5 | 0 | | | | 1,104 | 5 0 |
| TOTAL PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR | 11,765 | 3 | 10 | 9,614 | 2 | 11 | 21,379 | 6 9 |
| BALANCES at Bankers and in Hand on the Field at 31st December, 1951— | | | | | | | | |
| For Designated Purposes | | | | 2,579 | 2 | 10 | | |
| For General Purposes | 200 | 5 | 11 | | | | 2,779 | 8 9 |
| | £11,965 | 9 | 9 | £12,193 | 5 | 9 | £24,158 | 15 6 |

North Africa Mission for the year ended 31st December, 1951, with the Books and Vouchers at hand, it correctly summarises the Cash Transactions of the Mission for the year.

From the Spanish side of the work comes glad news of four baptisms that took place in June. The virility of this particular branch is most encouraging, and we can pray that God will make it and its sister congregations in Casablanca and Tunis effective missionary agencies, taking their places within the greater effort for the evangelisation of the North African peoples.

Reinforcements

Yes, they are appearing. Mr. and Mrs. T. Wilson of U.S.A. have completed their studies in Paris and will be proceeding to Fez at the end of September. From the U.K. Council comes news that Miss Kathleen Dykes, S.R.N., S.C.M., of York, has been accepted for the T.M.H., and Mr. Bernard Leat of Bookham, Surrey, for service in one of the French regions, most probably Kabylia. Both are ready to proceed to the Field, but have been challenged to pray in an initial £225 each towards their support and passage. They have accepted the challenge gladly. You will want to pray with them and for them.

Deputation

Remember Mr. R. Brown and family, now in the U.S.A., that God will use him mightily. Continue to pray that He will make new provision and give fresh vision for essential deputation work in the United Kingdom. Miss Fraser, the Rev. Harold Fife and Mr. and Mrs. Long are taking all the meetings time and strength will allow, but are most anxious to see something more effective done.

Finance

We need to pray for a mighty revival in the Homelands that will radically alter the face of this problem. And do we not need it in our own hearts and lives too? "Revive Thy work, O Lord; in the midst of the years make known; in wrath remember mercy" was the burden of Habakkuk's prayer. It can well be our own.

—H. W. Stalley.

New Workers for Tangier and Kabylia . . .

At a time when we are experiencing such financial stringency as has not tested us for many years, the word of the Lord still summons us to "Go forward!" (Exodus 14, 15.) The cold facts of adverse balance sheets may be as chillingly discouraging as the command to plunge forthwith into an engulfing Red Sea; but when GOD bids a fellowship of faith for the Moslems (and such is our calling) to *advance*, how can we think of retreating?

In days of dearth and difficulty we do not dishonour the Lord by asking for clear tokens: and

there is no clearer token than when the Sovereign Lord of the Harvest sends missionary candidates knocking enquiringly at our doors. When, in addition, the qualifications of these enquirers convincingly match specific and urgent need on the Field, there is no room for doubt or even hesitation: we must go forward.



Miss Kathleen M. Dykes



Mr. Bernard H. Leat

Two such applicants have been recently accepted by the Council of the N.A.M. The first is **Miss Kathleen M. Dykes**, S.R.N., S.C.M., who comes to us with a commendable record of perseverance and initiative, and with a true sense of vocation. It was her own idea to spend six months in France this year—earning her "keep" by following her profession as midwife, but making a useful grasp of spoken French her goal. In this she was most successful.

Miss Dykes has a true love for souls and a real liking for hospital work. In a word, she is the Lord's provision for missionary nursing duties at the Tulloch Memorial Hospital, Tangier, where there is great need of such additional help.

Mr. Bernard H. Leat owes much to the atmosphere and influence of a Christian home. He received Christ as Saviour at the age of twelve, and took full advantage of the fellowship and facilities afforded at the local Church—a "live" one.

An early marriage, and eighteen months later the birth of a little son brought joy that was immediately clouded over with crushing sorrow. Young Mrs. Leat was found to be a victim of cancer—a scourge that was increased by sciatica and other trouble; and a further period of eighteen months was passed in declining strength and much suffering before the Homecall brought longed-for rest.

A wonderful experience of the grace of God sustained our brother throughout this anguish-fraught period. Seven months later the Lord made it clear that he was calling Mr. Leat to missionary service; and in due time there followed the period of Bible training (at St. Luke's and All Nations) and the more specific call to North Africa.

Mr. Leat spent the first six months of this year improving his French whilst a guest in the kindly household of Mr. Harry Stamp, of St. Brieuc, Brittany. We hope that he will be leaving this autumn for Kabylia, where the N.A.M.'s Gospel witness is in urgent need of such reinforcement as will assure the continuity of the work when senior missionaries have at length retired.

IMPORTANT NOTE. Both Miss Dykes and Mr. Leat have cheerfully accepted the condition that the Council felt impelled to make during these days of financial shortage—that of praying in a sum (£225 each) sufficient to cover their passage money and support during the first year on the Field. We feel certain that friends will be happy to assure these young missionaries-elect of their earnest fellowship in prayer.

. . . and Recruits for Fez also

The spiritual need of the men-folk of Fez, the religious capital of Morocco, has long burdened our hearts. Not since before the War have we had a man worker residing there.

With its "100 gates and 160 mosques" and a population of some 300,000, Fez is a University city, a centre of Moslem culture, a strategic stronghold; and for far too long there has been no adequate response to the challenge of its crowds of sophisticated but needy Koranic students.

We are thankful to say that **Mr. and Mrs. Tom Wilson** (of U.S.A.), having just completed their preliminary language study in Paris, are on the eve of departure for Fez. Let them introduce themselves in these words from their most recent circular letter:—

"We praise the Lord for His great goodness to us in bringing us to the doorstep of Fez. We feel especially privileged to begin a spiritual ministry in this religious, cultural and intellectual cross-roads of northern Morocco.

"Our appointment to work in the great country of Morocco presents a challenge and an opportunity for which we dared not hope. As the country, people, languages, and customs unfold before us, we will want to acquaint you with them so that your prayers will be more efficiently directed towards spiritual benefit in the lives of these individuals for whom Christ died . . .

"We enter a country hard to penetrate, and yet we do so with a living hope and faith. This hope and faith are based, not on practical preparation, nor on modern methods, nor on imaginary wisdom, nor on a breadth of experience. They are based on a living, victorious Christ, a convicting Holy Spirit, the prayer support of God's people, and the belief that in the future many young Christians will follow in our footsteps in obedience to Christ's command. Without assurance in any one of these factors, we might yet well turn back."

Blessing upon the Spanish Work

I think the outstanding note in our Church life has been the recognition of the need of prayer as a primary essential of its effective testimony, whether it be by word, life, or deed. We realise that prayer is the basis of our work and witness, rather than that work and witness are the basis for prayer. The young people especially need our prayers. It is no easy thing to make a stand for Christ in such a town as Tangier.

We have had some special days during these past few months, so that the average attendances are a bit above normal. The young people have taken up part singing, and for special occasions they learn to sing a hymn with the four voices. We are glad they are so enthusiastic as it keeps them from other doubtful pleasures.

We have been glad to welcome among us some new friends from Spain. Some are baptised members of churches there, and bring with them letters of reference and recommendation from their respective Pastors. One of them, who before the Spanish War was taking a course in a theological seminary or Bible School, is a good speaker and is able to relieve Mr. Padilla now and again at the Sunday Services. For the people it is good to have a different voice and a fresh presentation of the Gospel. Once a month about 26 to 28 out of a possible 34 gather round the Lord's Table. It is always a very blessed time.

There are about 30 on the Sunday School register. Some of the older girls, from twelve years old and upwards, have been admitted to the Christian Endeavour group, which acts as a bridge between the Sunday School and the adult membership of the church. Most of the Christian Endeavourers continue keen. More than 30 have attended the meetings on Friday evenings. Of the 2,000 tracts distributed during two recent months, the C.E. gave out quite a large proportion. Some of their number are commissioned to do this work; others are delegated as sick visitors, etc., and each has to take his or her turn in presiding at their gatherings and in giving a message.

Two men and two women recently gave their public testimony of faith in Christ by baptism before a congregation of just under ninety people. They have all been connected with us for several years. We would ask special prayer for them that the Lord may give them a special consciousness of His presence and a daily experience of the sufficiency of His grace.

—From Mrs. P. Padilla.

Missionary Exhibition

Through the kindness of the Rev. Alan Redpath we have been invited to participate in the Missionary Exhibition to be held (D.V.) at Duke Street Baptist Church, Richmond, Surrey, each week-day from 3 to 8 p.m. during the period October 18th - 29th. For a variety of important reasons we are waiving an independent N.A.M. "effort" and are merging with several kindred societies under the auspices of the Fellowship of Faith for the Moslems. Please look out for the "F.F.M." Stall—and pray for God's maximum blessing upon the Exhibition and the many missionary meetings that are being arranged in connection with it.

Our Annual Meetings

The Annual Vaedictory Meetings will be held (D.V.) at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, on Tuesday, September 23rd, at 3-30 and 6-30 p.m. Missionaries and recently-accepted candidates will take part, and the closing message at the evening gathering will be brought by the Rev. Gordon I. Thomas.