

A Thirsty Land



Algiers Mission Band

Algiers Mission Band.

FOUNDED IN 1888 BY I. LILIAS TROTTER.

HEADQUARTERS :—DAR NAAMA, EL BIAR, ALGIERS.

President :—Miss S. E. PERKIN.

General Secretary and Treasurer :—Mr. H. W. BUCKENHAM,
Dar el Ain, Route de Chrea, Blida, Algeria.

Corresponding Secretary and Hostess at Dar Naama :—Miss V. WOOD.

Secretary in Great Britain :—The Rev. HAROLD W. STALLEY.

Home Office :—Campfield, Great Barton, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk.

Suggestions for those who would be "Fellow workers unto the Kingdom of God" in North Africa.

HOW YOU MAY HELP

By becoming a Prayer Partner. Intercession on behalf of the work and the workers is greatly needed and deeply valued.

The occasional Prayer Letter giving the special requests and news from the Field will gladly be sent on application to the Secretary at Home.

By forming or joining an A.M.B. Prayer Group in your district, or by bringing A.M.B. needs before Prayer Groups already formed.

By passing on this magazine to another Christian friend.

By arranging meetings in drawing-room, hall, or church, thus giving an opportunity of spreading a knowledge of the work.

The Home Council of the Algiers Mission Band wish it to be known that the Mission accepts gifts made under Deed of Covenant, and that the necessary document can be obtained by writing to the Secretary.

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No. 80.

SPRING, 1947.

MILlicENT H. ROCHE
EDITOR.

“In the Name of Jesus Christ.”—Acts 3. 6.

“Prayer is to me the opening of the sluice-gate between my soul and the Infinite.”

“I came on those words of Tennyson the other day, and they come back again and again. To-day they bring a special sense of the reality with which, instantly and unflinching, the asking in the name of Jesus for this and that village and town . . . does set the sluice-gates open to them. The powerlessness to go gives an intensity to the joy of it. One can stand in spirit among the dear mud houses of Tolga and the domed roofs of the Souf and the horse-shoe arches of Tozeur and the tiled huts buried in the prickly-pear hedges of hill villages. Perhaps one can bring down the working of the Holy Ghost, “by faith in that Name,” more effectually than if one were there bodily, because one can stand alone with God over it, without the thronging distractions of the visible.”

I. L. TROTTER (“The Master of the Impossible.”)

Editorial

We rejoice to give news, in this number of our Magazine, of stations re-opened once more, of new helpers sharing the burdens, and of new beginnings and horizons. We look forward to the time when we shall be able to have more articles from the Field, pictures, praise and prayer requests, names of missionaries in various stations, etc., within the covers of *A Thirsty Land*, as before. There are difficulties in the way, but we hope, gradually, to become more worthy of those who have so gallantly sent us what news they could, even when things were at their hardest.

We thank our readers for their consideration, and ask them to be patient a little longer.

This number is the fiftieth since the present Editor took over the Magazine. In that issue she wrote, “We ask the prayers of our readers that God’s Holy Spirit may guide and direct the Editor and all who contribute to *A Thirsty Land*.”

Praising God for His help and guidance, we would ask for your renewed co-operation in prayer, and in making the Magazine known to those who have not heard of the need in Algeria and of the work of the A.M.B. there.

M. H. R.

Notes by our New General Secretary

"Thou sparest those that remember THEE IN THY WAYS . . . IN THOSE IS CONTINUANCE."

It was a happy party from Headquarters which arrived at Blida in the Mission car on February 4th, at 8.30 a.m., wet morning though it was. There was a double purpose for the journey in hand; a Committee Meeting to be held at Miliana, and Miss Chantler, who had arrived from Marseilles on the Thursday, to be taken thither. The party to this point consisted of Miss Wood, Monsieur and Madame Nicoud, and Miss Chantler. Madame Nicoud stayed at Blida and I completed the party for Miliana. Despite the stormy weather, this mountainous journey was as entrancing as ever.

What joy to enter into another re-opened station, Miss Grautoff and Miss Russell having done wonders in the two weeks since their return. Blida was re-opened a month since, after exactly six months closure; Bou Saada a fortnight ago, after being shut for a year and a half, except for a short visit paid last spring; but Miliana for more than three years has awaited this glad re-opening. Some of us had been fearful for Miss Grautoff's health, but the mountain air is contributing to an increase of strength, for which we praise God.

It is significant that for the re-opening of these three stations, God has given three needed helpers—Miss Munro for Blida, arriving with us from Scotland, December 19th; Mlle. Chollet, for Bou Saada, arriving from Switzerland on January 4th; and Miss Chantler, from England on January 30th. We are similarly hoping for the re-opening of Tlemcen when Miss Clark will have arrived, to accompany Miss Farmer thither. While in praise and prayer for these four stations, let us link on Relizane, unoccupied since 1939, and in that year only visited for a fortnight. "With God nothing shall be impossible."

" . . . making the very most of time . . . "
(Eph. 5. 16. Moffat)

Monsieur Lull's plan to get in a week's colportage round about Biskra at the end of February, and to go farther south early in March for a more extended tour, thus redeeming the most advantageous time for those parts, is a worthy example of heeding this command; as is the planning for a considerable tournée to the south-west by Monsieur Nicoud, assisted by others, a little later.

The reputed retort of a bishop to a curate complaining of having "too little time," "you have all the time there is" has often come as a salutary check to some of us working under station pressure. Normal class and visiting programmes, meetings, relief work, and the miscellaneous activities of a station call for nothing less efficient than the direct guidance of the Holy Spirit—thus, and thus only, can be made "the very most of time."

* * *

Recent visits to Headquarters have inspired a new appreciation of the Mission's heritage in "Dar Naama." Possibly nothing could be more expressive of what that is, than the actual words given to Ezekiel concerning "the house" to serve "the house of Israel"—"This is the law of the house . . . the whole limit thereof round about shall be MOST HOLY. Behold, this is the law of the house." And because of its labyrinth of passages and multiplicity of doors, the emphasis of detail, "the form of the house, and the fashion thereof, and the goings out thereof, and the comings in thereof . . . according to their fashions, and according to their doors," also given with purpose to Ezekiel, still stirs the heart of those who have had deep impressions about Dar Naama, to faithful prayer-remembrance with respect to its present and future service, and for those now in charge.

Coming to Blida, where, in addition to large station work, the work of the General Treasurer during and since the days of Miss Currie, has devolved (the present notes, as indeed most of the years' treasury commitments, have been handled, on the same spot where they were handed on by

Miss Currie), is for the present additionally charged with the work of the General Secretaryship. Prayer for the faithful discharge of the same is also requested.

* * *

"*Ye also helping together by prayer.*" In February, 1924, Miss Trotter, feeling the need of a "closer knitting," issued the first number of a "Prayer-call," entitled *Together*, introducing the same by the words above and the following:—"Together: Together: Together." We were told at the Rally that this was the battle-cry of one of the Highland clans—a watchword that hurled them irresistibly against the enemy. There is a meaning for us in the three-fold repetition; for it is not only you at the home base, and we in the trenches, so to speak, who are one in the fight, but we are "together" in a yet deeper sense *with Christ*, whose cause is ours."

Mrs. Stalley sees to still "closer knitting" in these solemnly important days to which we have come, by the issue from the home side of up-to-date prayer calls, and amongst ourselves on the field Miss Wood has become responsible for the renewal and circulation of "Praise and Prayer Requests." May none of us stop short of God's intention and provision shown in the words "Praying in the Holy Ghost," for so, and so only, have we the right to align ourselves with those of whom is true, "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

Those of us who were much with Miss Trotter will remember that she observed March frequently to be a "battle-month," March 10th (1888) having been the date of her first stepping ashore, with those who were with her, at Algiers. After that stepping ashore, she wrote, "Then we had our first prayer-meeting, timing it the same hour as the missionary prayer-meeting at Morley Hall, and like them, going round the world."

"Concerted praying" is another word passed down to us. For us in this land of far distances, where "the work is great and large, and we are separated upon the wall, one far from another," we have felt a strengthening to come in a common constraint to "give ourselves to prayer."

"*Fellowship in giving and receiving.*" Concerning those to whom the first part of this fellowship is given, our whole field-line unites in thanksgiving. To our friends outside Great Britain the Treasurer announces that he is informed that once again cheques may be sent direct by donors to him.* Those with whom this may be possible would render special service at this time by so doing. It is recommended that such cheques should be crossed "Barclays Bank (France) Ltd., Algiers. A/c. H. W. Buckenham."

* * *

"*To the help of the Lord against the mighty.*" We are looking forward to the arrival of Mlle. Robert early in April, and Mr. Frank Baggott early in October, to swell our ranks.

H. W. B.

*Address now appears inside cover of this magazine.

News from our Mail Bag

DAR NAAMA (Headquarters, Algiers).

In this busy centre there is much coming and going of missionaries, A.M.B. and others, and of visitors of many nationalities, Arabs finding a special welcome. Miss V. Wood is in charge of this large house and its various activities, and also of the correspondence. She needs our prayers, for it is no light task, and it is so difficult to obtain adequate domestic help. It is good to know that Miss M. Wood is at Headquarters on a visit and is able to help her sister at this time. Monsieur and Madame Nicoud also live at D.N., and among other things he is in charge of the Mission car, which is a God-send to our workers returning to stations, etc., in these days of most difficult travelling conditions.

An inter-Mission Literature Committee has recently been held at Dar Naama, but mention is made of this elsewhere in the Magazine.

BLIDA.

Mr. Buckenham writes of the welcome he and Mrs. Buckenham received and the spirit of friendliness manifested on every

side on their return. He says, " There were 70 odd at yesterday's women's meeting (February 21st), 88 and 40 respectively at the girls' and boys' classes the day before, and a dozen at least at Sunday afternoon's gathering which has not yet got into stride. Lovely weather prevails at the moment, but quickly it gives place to storms, with snow far down on the mountains above us."

MILIANA.

Miss Grautoff writes : " Here we are at Miliana and we have had such a happy welcome. As I walk through the town French friends come up to welcome me, Arab men to shake hands, Jews from their shops also. We have already had two women's meetings on our classroom upstairs because the classroom downstairs has had to be whitewashed and repaired. It was a wonderful joy to sit among these women and hear all their news. They were so reverent when we read the Bible to them. Boys and girls come daily to the house and so many of them can now read French really well, and ask for story tracts to read. We want simple short stories in French which we can have lithographed.

Miss Chantler has arrived all safely; we are so glad of her help. To-day a little girl came to bring us half a litre of milk (less than a pint). It was very expensive, but was worth it. She came howling because of the cold and snow, and her bare feet, but went off with a warm garment (old material) and a broken doll, radiant with joy.

Yesterday we went to call on the old Hadja widow of Hadj Ouzani of old. She is I think about 92 (though she thinks she is 100) and has all her faculties. It was good to sit and talk with her and to find that she could quote hymns she had learnt nearly thirty years ago, including ' Jesus is mine.' Then we walked back and talked with wayside Arab men and women who recognized us."

BOU SAADA.

Mademoiselle Buttica, with a new Swiss helper, Mademoiselle Chollet, returned to Bou Saada on January 7th. Mlle B. writes : " Mlle. Chollet and I arrived safely at Bou

Saada. We had a great welcome ; a former class boy stopped his taxi to come and shake hands with me, and to make sure it was really I myself ! Some came out of their shops, some shouted to tell others ; old women fell on my neck and cried with joy, children followed me the whole time I was in the streets, and it was not easy to keep our doors shut !

We had difficulty in arranging the house comfortably, it is so old and the ceilings are falling down. But the landlords don't want to do anything.

However, we have begun classes with a daily average of 35 children. We had 20 boys this morning, and 33 girls in the afternoon. There are still lots of children ill with fever ; they look dreadful and many have died. Little Mebareka is in the hospital with it ; as soon as she can walk we shall have her here with us for a few days, to convalesce.

Yesterday we had supper at Rouquea's house ; it was all so natural and nice. A beautiful brass table was brought with couscous, sweet not piquant, as Mlle. Chollet cannot eat too strong stuff yet ! Rouquea asked me to tell the story of the Magi, as Miss Wood had read it to them before. They were all very interested and quiet, although Rouquea put some intelligent questions.

On the whole we have a very good time in visiting ; the women listen well and receive the Message more willingly than ever.

Prices are to the skies of course, but being two makes a difference and we can manage. We have vegetables in the garden, and it is possible to get some milk, also butter cheaper than in Algiers, though no coffee or tea. We had another locust cloud on Saturday, so on Sunday we had no class for the boys as everyone was after the locusts. They were brown and hung on to all the palm leaves. It was magnificent to see the order the locusts came in, just like soldiers in ranks glistening in the setting sun. The children were so excited running here and there, collecting them in sacks or garments, to boil them at night for eating.

Our needs are many, medical supplies, wool for the children, garments and food

for the poor. We need strength to hold and uphold, wisdom to go on helping the people, and His Spirit to direct us every hour of the day. So I know you will pray!

Mlle. Chollet is such a help in so many directions and a real partner in prayer—praise God for her!

TOUGGOURT.

Miss Nash writes of an Arab man whom she calls "Nicodemus." She went to visit his house, but found that fanatical Moslems were on the watch. She says: "I hope, however, that Nicodemus will soon be able to bring his family to the quiet seclusion of our Hall again, as he did at Christmas time, to learn more of the Truth which has so much attracted him. I have invited his children to a lantern meeting for girls (negro) which I am having on Thursday (February 27th). I hope thus to get an increase in attendance at the classes, as I am advertising it as widely as I can, and pictures always attract the children. The reason for dwindling numbers is two-fold: firstly, owing to the fact that these poor children are shut up when still so very young and married when about twelve or thirteen. Secondly, on account of an epidemic of typhoid and typhus which is raging among Europeans and natives alike, and is ever on the increase."

TOLGA.

"All things come to him who waits," writes Madame Lull, on January 21st, having just received one of the parcels sent out to her many months ago. "Thank you for everything in it. The children were delighted with the cotton bags, although I did not have quite enough to go round. Thank you too for the needles, knitting needles, reels of cotton, etc. In the past I have always given as a wedding gift to any of my class girls who married, a box containing sewing cotton, mending cotton, needles, safety pins, a thimble—everything that would be a help to them and which they always valued so much. Now I shall be able to prepare one or two of these little boxes, for alas, the last two girls who were married were not able to have their usual

present as I had nothing of the kind left. So you can tell the givers how grateful I am and thank them very much indeed.

"We had wonderful Christmas fetes. On Christmas Day sixty class girls met with us round the Christmas tree to worship the Saviour, together with our friends the Mouthons (the new doctor and his wife), and the B.'s (French friends). The next day there were 150 boys and we invited also the other European families of the place—all Catholics. We had 28 grown-ups and children to tea! I am sure the men, ninety of them, will never forget their evening with lantern pictures and refreshments. Then to finish up on another afternoon we had about one hundred women and children who attend the dispensary. Since then things go on as usual, and I am overwhelmed with work, for I have to give lessons to the two eldest girls, Helene and Christiane, as they were simply wasting their time at the native school. Monsieur Lull is hardly ever in, so I have to answer the door as well. (Those who know a mission station will know what this involves.)

"Our hearts are full of gratitude towards the friends who are helping us to fulfil God's plan for Tolga. We have been able to buy a plot of land, and yesterday three groups of workmen began to dig the holes in order to plant our first date palms.

To plant a date palm one needs a hole just over three yards square and eight or nine feet deep. It is very hard work as in this district there is good earth only to a depth of about two feet, then comes a hard chalky substratum sometimes as hard as rock, and they must get through this until they come to the good soil again. It is only the nomads who do this and the cleverest of them can dig such a hole in three or four days, others take as much as eight days.

"In addition to this the authorities have just offered us a good plot of building land in a very suitable position. Our hearts are full of the joy of the Lord. Please pray that God will send us more help as the work develops and our needs increase."

In another letter Monsieur Lull writes: "You know that Dr. Mouthon and his wife are here since the end of September last, and are a great success. As they are both

doctors they are overwhelmed with work, and the whole population are delighted to have them here. Personally, we thank God continually for having brought them here. This year we are able to have a service in French every Sunday, which is a great change for us and also a great cheer.

* * *

PARIS is not a mission station, but our latest accepted candidate, Mr. Frank Baggott, in the midst of his studies, is on the look-out for opportunities of service for the Lord. He writes: "My Arab friend, to whom I give lessons in English, was very interested last week as I talked to him of Christ and afterwards he asked me for a New Testament. Wouldn't it be grand if he really found Christ. He is a grand young fellow and I covet him for God." Mr. Baggott is making good progress in both French and Arabic.

A Christmas Fete. Algiers

On Monday, December 23rd, we arranged a fete for the children of the Christian families and others whose grandparents or parents had been visited from our former Arab house in the native quarter of Algiers.

The Methodist Mission (American) kindly lent us their Hall for the afternoon, and as they had had their fete the previous day the decorations were still up, and an electric bulb lit up the centre of the Bethlehem Star.

A few of our guests lived some distance away, and these little people had the extra joy of a ride in the Mission car, Monsieur Nicoud making many journeys to and fro with mothers and their children to the different homes. Meanwhile, we, on arriving at the Hall found the staircase to that upper room lined with nearby women and their children, waiting for the door to open. These had the pleasure of hymns and choruses and happy chats together, for Arab women can seldom meet their friends of another house.

When all the guests had arrived we began with a welcoming message, followed by

Christmas Bible story and hymns. We knew it would warm some hearts and bring back many joyful memories of former days.

All were responsive and happy. Biscuits (left over from canteen days) were distributed and later each of the thirty-five children received a toy, tops and whistles for boys, hairpins, ribbons and sugar bracelets for girls. There was also a small scrap book for each one with a text message somewhere in it, and tiny packets of peanuts and sweets, with oranges for all.

We closed with prayer and so ended a happy afternoon. They left expressing their thanks, several of the little ones bidding us a loving goodbye, for these little Arab children can creep into hearts. They have so few pleasures, and at this time when everything is so expensive, even a tiny toy or sweet is a luxury.

We thanked God, and we long for the time when there will again be enough workers to start a regular meeting for Arab mothers and children in the Arab quarter of Algiers.

M. D. GRAUTOFF.

Literature for Moslems in North Africa

A most interesting two-day Conference was held during January at Dar Naama with Miss C. Padwick, and an Intermission Committee was formed for Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco; the aim being to find representatives in each of these regions, and writers and translators from among missionaries and Christian natives, for literature for Moslems.

The Rev. H. W. Cummin (B.F.B.S.) was elected chairman; Dr. Douglas (M.E.C.), secretary; Miss Grautoff (representative for A.M.B.), Mr. Arthur (N.A.M.), to be counsellor for research as to a newspaper for non-Christians; Miss P. Russell (A.M.B.) will experiment, with Miss Grautoff, in the Laubach method of teaching illiterate adults to read. Preparation will thus be made for further consultation and planning in the autumn.

The Lonely Road

This word opens up vistas of self-reproach, and a heart-aching vision of the followers of Christ coming out of the great Moslem Brotherhood—out of the strong social atmosphere of Islam; and the Moslems are gregarious and dependent on family, neighbours, tribe more than we understand. Indeed the more we see of them the more difficult it is to understand this strong mutual attraction, for unselfish love is conspicuously lacking in Moslem communities.

The converts and inquirers are told that though they see very few Christians, the followers of Christ are a great international Brotherhood, and that wherever they meet they need no introduction. Their hearts warm at the thought. Two or three Arab Christians were taken to a "Week of Prayer" Meeting. One of them was thrilled. He said, "The room was full of people, and they were all Christians!"

The law of Islam has never changed. An apostate is one from whom it is laudable to take his possessions, his wife, his life. The power to enforce this law is limited under French rule, and though the restraints of Mohammed's religion are becoming more and more irksome—the fierce fanatical instinct is still there, and the convert is made to feel it in his home and in the street.

A blind Christian's chachia was stolen from his head. He complained to a policeman, who happened to be an Arab. There was no redress.

"Serve you right for being a Christian! I should have liked to have done the same!"

* * *

"This is Belaid, he is a Christian!"

"Shake hands with the Christian Brother!" called out a hearty American voice, and delegates of the World's Sunday School Convention, visiting us in Algiers, pressed forward with outstretched hands to the tall negro.

Even missionaries sometimes hardly realise what a warm hand-shake and a hearty greeting may mean to the scattered converts from Islam, wistfully looking for recognition from their Christian elder brothers.

S. PERKIN.

Home Notes.

Campfield,

Great Barton.

Bury St Edmunds

Dear Friends,

The month of February saw a new stage in the history of A.M.B. begun. Quietly, another page has been turned. For a period of twelve and a half years, since the passing of Miss Freeman, Miss Perkin has been carrying the burden of responsibility as General Secretary of the Mission. With advancing years she felt that the time had arrived for her to relinquish these exacting duties. Toward the end of last year she made known her thoughts to her colleagues in order that they should prayerfully seek God's Will upon this matter.

It was with reluctance that her resignation from office was accepted. Miss Perkin has been the leader of the Band through very difficult years, and it is with full appreciation of the quiet and faithful way in which the burden has been borne that her fellow-missionaries accept her wish to lay it down. In looking back over the period during which she has thus served, we record our heartfelt thankfulness for the way in which the Holy Spirit has led and guided the work placed under her hand.

We now wish her all joy and peace as she returns to the Field to remain alongside the work to which she has devoted a lifetime. May she be gladdened in seeing many reapers returning laden with precious sheaves, the harvest of souls in which she has been a sower.

Who then takes up the task? We feel that God has guided in the selection made. The duties involved are being divided, with responsibility resting upon two pairs of shoulders. Mr. Herbert Buckenham, who has for more than twelve years acted as Field Treasurer, now accepts the additional role of General Secretary. He will, however, carry out his duties from his station at Blida, where God has so richly blessed his ministry.

The duties that in the past fell to the General Secretary in relation to the Mission headquarters will now be undertaken by

Miss Violet Wood, who becomes Corresponding Secretary and Hostess at Dar Naama, where she is now in residence.

Please remember these two fellow-workers in prayer as they assume their individual responsibilities.

It is with a sense of gladness and fresh expectancy that one considers the notes of our new General Secretary, as they come to us fresh from the "Field-line." To all at home who have been standing with them in the battle through the long months when little news came from the other side, it is a real cheer to hear that note of expectancy sounding from the "front."

For many days it has been a case of holding on. Holding on until the tide turned, and re-inforcements were sent out, and those who had borne the heat and burden of a long campaign could be refreshed and re-strengthened for further service. This has been the subject of our prayers, and it is right that we should lift up our hearts in an offering of praise and rejoicing for what God hath wrought. Following this we set out for our mutual encouragement details of our prayer target from the beginning of 1946, and over against them what prayer has accomplished. Let us keep it before our eyes as we continue our intercession (see opposite page).

I would like to mention here one subject for prayer that had to take second place before the more pressing needs of the Field. It is the need of help at the home end of the work that has been expanding rapidly with the new impetus given. Gratefully we thank God for sending Miss Clara Cross to us last spring for a few months. Then in October, when Miss Cross had to leave, Miss Edith Clark was ready to step in and help while waiting for the way to open for her to proceed to Algeria. It is difficult to show all that this has meant in terms of work done at the office and the corresponding spiritual values. One can pick out two items that may act as an indicator. First, our mail bag, according to the postage book, has much more than doubled over the corresponding periods of the previous two years. Second, the number of meetings the Home Secretary has been able to address

on behalf of the A.M.B. during the last six months exceeds one hundred, and many and blessed have been the results. Without the aid mentioned above this programme could never have been contemplated. Praise God for it.

Miss Clark is leaving us for the Field at the end of March to join the ranks out yonder, and we rejoice with her. May we ask your prayers now that provision may be made to help carry the double load, and also to enable us to take all the opportunities that are being offered to build up prayer interest and partnership in the work entrusted to us. A strong front line demands a solid and active home front, a principle that none will deny to-day.

A further word of encouragement from the new Field leader comes in the recollection of his words to us at an informal council meeting in London last September. "For more than fifty years it has been a time of sowing in Moslem North Africa, and we have found it 'hard work.' I believe God is going to give us now a time of reaping and that work is going to be 'harder.'" Let us at home strengthen the hands of the reapers.

Yours in fellowship,

HAROLD W. STALLEY (Secretary).

LATER.—I have just completed two further deputation tours in Northern Ireland and the Midlands. Among many new friends found are members who owe much to the writings of Miss Lilius Trotter in days gone by. We trust their fellowship with the work she has left will be as richly blessed to them as the influence of her books.

H. W. S.

LATE NEWS

LATE NEWS.—M. Lull wrote on March 5th that he had been itinerating in the South, by car, with M. Vernier, a missionary from Madagascar. M. Lull writes: "We have visited twenty-one villages of the Oued Rhir oases, the help of M. Vernier making possible the maximum of work in the minimum of time. We have been able to gather groups to hear the Word of God read and explained, and sales of books have been quite good."

“I will Bless the Lord at all Times. His Praise shall continually be in my mouth.”—
 Psalm 34.

PRAYER TARGET.

HITHERTO.

From JANUARY, 1946.

Twenty new workers on the Field in three years.

New workers—arrived and expected.
 Miss Edith Clark at Tlemcen.
 Miss Jean Munro, Mission helper at Blida.
 Mlle. Chollet, at Bou Saada.
 Miss Chantler, Mission helper at Miliana.
 Mlle. Robert, expected in April.
 Mr. Frank Baggott, expected in October.

A Missionary Midwife for Tolga Station.

Dr. and Madame Mouthon arrived in September, 1946.

Closed Stations to be re-opened.

Bou Saada and Miliana, January, 1947, bringing number of occupied stations up to seven (including Headquarters).

A Mission Farm in the Desert. Prayer asked August, 1946.

Land acquired and work begun December, 1946, at Tolga.

Tolga.

Eviction order to take effect from December 31st, 1946—cancelled.

Suitable land for new Station granted February, 1947

The Literature Campaign.

New beginning of production in Algiers, December, 1946. Inter-Mission Council on Literature, January, 1947. Increased flow of gifts for literature production. First token gifts received for Literature Base in Algiers City and Mobile Units.

Strengthening of Home Base.

Temporary help granted—work doubled.

HALLELUJAH!

“ Parables of the Cross ”

By

I. LILIAS TROTTER

A New Edition of this unique work from the pen of Liliat Trotter, of Algiers, founder of the Algiers Mission Band, is now on sale. Illustrated by full-colour reproductions of her own beautiful paintings, it has been republished by Marshall, Morgan & Scott, Ltd., in conjunction with the A.M.B.

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An apology is due to all friends who were led to expect the new issue of “ Parables of the Cross ” before Christmas, and placed their orders accordingly. It was not until the beginning of December that we were advised that the promise of early publication could not be fulfilled owing to conditions then prevailing in the trade. The unprecedented circumstances of the last three months have further delayed the issue. We sincerely trust, however, that the book will not be withheld much longer.

FAITH'S HIGHWAY. A new edition of this booklet, by Mr. A. E. Theobald, has just been received, price 3d. It answers in a very striking and inspiring way the question, “ What is a Faith Mission ? ”

Expected shortly is another booklet by Mr. Theobald, “ BROTHERS OF THE INWARD WAY,” price 3d. Dealing with the subject of Moslem Brotherhoods, this is of great topical interest in view of certain current events.

COMING EVENTS.

MAY 31. Christian Literature Crusade Rally at Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, London, at 3 p.m. Amongst other speakers : A.M.B. Home Secretary on “ Literature in North Africa.”

JUNE 14-19. Fellowship of Faith for Moslems Prayer Conference at Slavanka, Bournemouth. The A.M.B. will again be represented.