

# A Thirsty Land



Algiers Mission Band

NEWS SHEET REPLACING PRO TEM.

# A THIRSTY LAND

The Quarterly Magazine of the Algiers Mission Band

Home Office : Douera, Glenwood Road, West Moors, Dorset.

No. 55.

WINTER, 1940—41.

1/6 PER ANNUM  
POST FREE

---

Christ in you the Hope of Glory. Col. 1.27.

---

Tribulation worketh Patience,  
and Patience experience and Experience Hope. Rom: 5.4.

---

Looking for that blessed Hope. Titus 2.13.

---

*“ Hope though the night be long, Lord,  
Hope of a glowing dawn, Lord,  
Morning must break in song, Lord,  
For we are saved by hope.”*

B. P.

---

**“ WE ARE SAVED BY HOPE.”**

A letter received not long ago from the Field ended with the wish that we might share this experience. It is in this same Hope that our friends in Algeria are carrying on, steadfastly and undismayed. Their letters are limited both in numbers and in the news they can give, but are full of cheer, and loving concern, and hope, for all at home.

Those who generally receive personal letters from members of the Band will understand that they—as one of them says—“ are not attempting to write any letters, except home.” They send, however, their loving greetings to their many friends.

No Prayer Letters have gone out from the Office, as there was little fresh news to report. This does not mean, however, that the Prayer needs are less, they continue and increase, though many of them cannot be made known to us at present.

The subsistence of our workers has been assured, thank God, and we have money in hand ready to send. But though at present, according to regulations, we may send a stated sum monthly, we cannot despatch individual gifts or extra money for special purposes. The poverty among the natives is great, and our missionaries long to be able to help, but this desire is limited by their financial position. It is not an easy matter for them, specially at Christmas time, but love finds ways of expressing itself, and God's richest blessing rests upon such giving.

From Algiers comes the news, that Monsieur and Madame Millon, with the warm approval of the Committee, have open a Christian Book depôt (taking all responsibility) with the object of increasing contacts with native and other students. This will be a focus for prayer.

Also from Algiers (Headquarters) Miss Perkin writes that she has visited Bou

160

Saada. Here Mlle Butticaz has been working alone, during Miss MacIlroy's absence, ministering to the sick and those in need, and making Christ known to young and old. Miss Perkin also visited Tolga, where Monsieur and Madame Lull are carrying on a rapidly growing work among men, women, and children. Visiting, classes and meetings, visitors, and the care of their two tiny girls, fill their time, but all goes smoothly and joyfully. Mlle Butticaz will probably be leaving Bou Saada in the New Year to take up work at Tolga with the Lulls for a time. Miss Perkin says, that she and Miss Ridley, "are learning more and more what we can do without, especially soap! The latest find put on the market is the white clay that the desert women use for washing."

From Miliana comes word of meetings and classes held for grown-ups, girls, and boys. The Bible, set in the window, attracts readers, and many others come for sympathy and comfort to Miss Grautoff and Miss Russell. Miss G. writes, "There was great excitement last week when an Arab brought us some 'strong' butter, and I put some dates through the meat sieve and made a sweet mixture; so we had some sort of jam to offer to our friends!" Native dolls made of reeds and rags and beads, and paper balls covered with coloured string are being prepared for Christmas gifts by the missionaries, while knitted patchwork shawls made by the Arab girls will be given to old or sick friends. Miss Grautoff says, "I have just sent off a group of little lads after singing hymns with them for over an hour, and this morning we could scarcely find seats for the girls who are learning hymns and texts. All goes well and we thank God for health, and for His care of us."

At Setif, Miss Farmer and Miss Layte are fully occupied in their quarter of this large and far-reaching town. Some may have been interested in their house-girl whom we called 'Serira' in the *Summer News Sheet*, and who seems truly to believe in Christ as her Saviour. She was not, as was feared, married during the summer,

but is back at the Mission House. Mr. and Mrs. Thomson are continuing their work in another quarter of the town and their baby Sheila, is, we hear, a most attractive little person!

Mr. and Mrs. Buckenham are busy at Blida and Edmund has gone back to his school there. They had received no further news of Kenneth when we heard last. Mr. B. writes that during the Fast, the little girls' class was the only one regularly held, but he says, "There is a good spirit all round, and news from various ones returned is also good." On Mr. Buckenham, as treasurer, rests the responsibility for making financial arrangements—no easy task in these days! He tells of the sale of Dar el Fedjr (El Biar), which is no longer required by the A.M.B. He says, "We are so rejoiced that the house is now dedicated to further service in the spiritual realm—it is bought for a Home for aged Protestants."

From Tlemcen we had news of a joyful in-coming after the Rally days at Dar Naama. Miss Wood returned to this Station with Mr. and Mrs. Stalley to their "mutual joy," as Mrs. Stalley writes. She says that they had many tokens of the Lord's loving kindness in the welcome given both by French and Arab friends. Young men visitors arrived when they heard that Mr. Stalley had come back, though during Ramathan only the few faithful friends continued coming. Once the Fast ended girls and boys and women friends would be free to come as usual, and Mrs. Stalley writes, "We have much to be thankful for. It is a great privilege to carry on our work for the Lord, and since He permits it we are trusting for a time of real blessing during the coming days."

There is no special news of Miss Nash or of Mlle Gayral, this time, but they too, will value prayer for their work.

Georges Nicoud had undergone an operation and was in Hospital. This young fellow needs our prayers in his weariness and weakness as do his parents in their anxiety.

We hope the slenderness of our magazine, *pro tem*, will be forgiven. It will soon grow to proper proportions when it is possible to increase its news rations! A renewal form is in this number. Please note that we cannot send a receipt for small sums unless a stamped addressed envelope is supplied.

May the "God of Hope" unite our hearts, in these dark days, in praise for all that He has done, and for His glorious purposes yet to be fulfilled!

MILLICENT H. ROCHE.

(Hon. Sec.).

*P.S.—We are sorry that this News Sheet is late in coming out, but are sure that our friends will understand that it was unavoidable. Since the first part was written a letter has come from Algiers. We hear that Miss Gautoff is hoping to be able to go South as usual in January, with Miss Russell and perhaps Mlle Butticaz. Let us ask that they may go in the fullness of God's blessing in greater measure than ever before. News has also come that Miss Nash was hoping to go for a month to Touggourt in the far South. This visit is probably over, but we can follow the messages given and the copies of God's Word distributed, with our prayers. The Buckenhams have had news from Kenneth, who was at Gibraltar. It has just been announced on the radio that there is heavy snow in Algeria. This, though it may bring great fertility to the land later on, will mean added hardship and wretchedness for the very poor, at present.*

M. H. R.

(The Home Balance Sheet was printed in our Autumn Number.)

## ALGIERS MISSION BAND

### Field Statement of Accounts for the Year ended June 30th, 1940

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
	Francs	Francs	Francs
By Balance in Bank, July 1st, 1939 ...	12002.68		
" Cash in Hand ... ..	266.60		
		12268.28	
<i>General Fund :</i>			
" £1,388 19s. 4d. remitted from Home Office ... ..	244516.95		
" Donations direct to Field (of which 81927.79 Gifts from America) ...	119759.24		
" Grant from Extension and Emergency Fund ... ..	41004.20		
" Grant from Literature Fund ... ..	1686.46		
" Bank Interest ... ..	213.65	407179.50	
<i>Appropriated Funds :</i>			
" £404 16s. 8d. remitted from Home Office ... ..	71283.30		
" Donations direct to Field ... ..	4947.40		
" Legacy (part)—The late Miss J. K. Butler for work at Tlemcen—Instalment ... ..	9868.15		
" Sale of Literature ... ..	925.80		
" Grant from Extension Fund for Literature ... ..	2000.00		
" Transfer to Colportage Fund from Placing Scriptures ... ..	20.00		
		89044.65	
	Francs 508492.43		
Average exchange for sterling amounts received, Francs 176.60 to £.			
<i>General Fund :</i>			
To Missionaries' Allowances ... ..	333762.80		
" Rents, Taxes, and Repairs ... ..	41894.05		
" Travelling ... ..	2865.90		
" Postage and Stationery ... ..	1348.85		
" Various Mission Expenses (including dues on properties) ... ..	30263.58		
		410135.18	
<i>Appropriated Funds :</i>			
" Production of Literature ... ..	4611.06		
" Informatory Literature in French ... ..	511.60		
" Colportage ... ..	3709.65		
" Desert Itinerations ... ..	468.45		
" Placing Scriptures ... ..	132.50		
" Upkeep of Dar Naama ... ..	23214.00		
" Stations ... ..	11876.10		
" Extension and Emergency ... ..	44032.20		
		88456.56	
" Balance in Bank, June 30th, 1940 ...	689.74		
" Cash in Hand ... ..	9211.95		
		9901.69	
		Francs 508492.43	
<i>Balances of Appropriated Funds :</i>			
Production of Literature ... ..	3.07		
Colportage ... ..	1024.07		
Placing Scriptures ... ..	798.90		
Upkeep of Dar Naama ... ..	283.00		
Stations ... ..	7792.65		
	Francs 9901.69		
Examined and found correct			
(Signed) HENRY R. TURNER, El Biar.	15th July, 1940.		