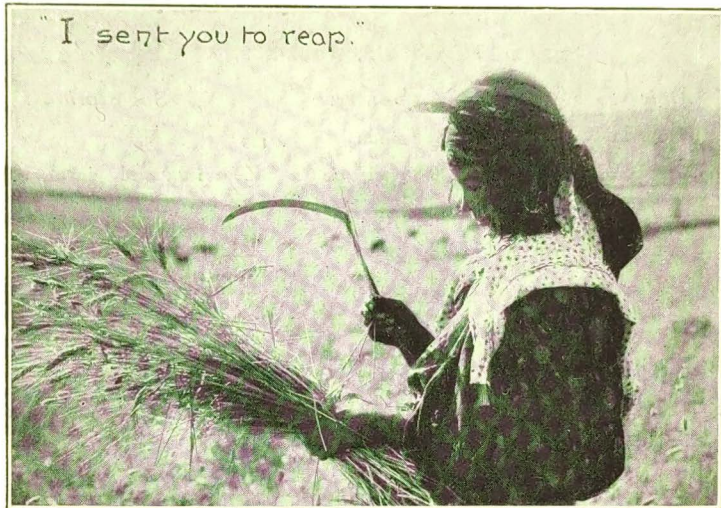


# Algiers Mission Band



Story of 1922-23.

# ALGIERS MISSION BAND.

## STATIONS, 1922-23.

<i>Algiers.</i>	<i>Country.</i>	<i>Sub-Stations.</i>
1893 2 Rue du Croissant	1908 Blida	
1908 Dar Naama	1909 Relizane	Zemmora and Tiaret, 1921.
1909 Beit Naama	1909 Miliana	
1921 Belcourt	1912 Mascara	Bou Hanifia, 1911.
	1913 Tozeur	Monastir, 1917,
	1917 Mostaganem	

*Sec. for Prayer helpers:* Mr. J. H. Smeeton, 2 Rue du Croissant, Algiers.

### *Algerian Mission Band—America :*

*Sec. :* Mrs. J. A. Walker, S.S. Ass., 2300 Dexter Street, Denver, Colorado, U.S.A.

## WORKERS ON THE FIELD. Winter, 1922-23.

(In order of arrival.)

1888	I. Liliás Trotter	1916	Kathleen Butler
1890	F. Helen Freeman	1919	Mons le Pasteur J. P. Cook
1906	Sascha E. Perkin	..	Madame Cook
..	Alexandrine Gayral	..	Mons. Pierre Nicoud
1907	Mabel D. Grautoff	..	Augusta Butticaz
..	E. R. May Ridley	1920	Mr. Buckenham
1909	Fanny K. Currie	..	Mrs. Buckenham
..	Millicent Roche	..	Violet Wood
..	Alma Krebs	1921	M. L. McInery (short service)
..	M. Mary Watling	..	Mr. Theobald
..	Alice McIlroy	..	Mrs. Theobald
1911	Ida Nash	1922	Madame Pierre Nicoud
1912	Mr. J. H. Smeeton	..	Alice Kemp
..	Senor C. Soler	..	Isabella Sheach (short service)
1914	Augusta M. Farmer	..	Jessie Gray

Dar Naama, El Biar, Algiers,

June, 1923.

**H**ARDLY worth binding, this first handful, so the passing glance would say. Faith judges otherwise; for it looks, not at the few ears that have got ahead of the rest, but at the sheaves that are coming.

“A handful of corn on the top of the mountains”—that is spoken of, in the Psalm of the kingdom, as one of its glories. Even now, in its tiny measure, the first groups of Converts from Moslem Lands may look like that in heaven, and praise may go to God for them, more than we realize who are face to face with their fewness and their frailty. Like the barley stalks in the little maiden's hands, they have hardly reached even a “thirty fold” standard. But there they are, thank God, and we must learn to garner them.

We look back this year, to a range of ever new horizons that stretch before us; horizons that would have seemed a dream-land in the hemmed-in years of the past; yet it is not so much in these that our hope lies, as in the sense that, far and near, there are beginning to appear strangely ready souls, sown and ripening

towards harvesting, we know not how. "I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour" may await us, along the surprises of His grace.

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We will tell first of the outward preparing of Christ's way before us. This also has been apart, so to speak, from any sense of pushing forward on our part, for it has not been the result of planning, but only a following as the tract opened. It is of these new developments alone that we will speak, leaving to Journals the side lines of the work, and the background life of the stations.

In **Algiers**, the main onward step is that the two Tozeur brothers with us for training, have been back at home for four months of the winter, at their own desire. Our misgivings as to whether they would stand the test have been rebuked, for God kept them stedfast, and the elder helped in the book depot, the younger finding work on his own account.

Another step full of hope, is that Dr. Smith, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, has started, within a stone's throw of Dar Naama, the initial stage of a training-course for Converts, in which the little group in residence with us have been allowed to share.

At **Blida** the onward step has been one of preparation for reinforcement. In answer to the prayer for which we asked last year, our two there have been

able to enlarge the overcrowded class-room, and to build a bedroom for a third worker, in faith that the one to inhabit it must be getting ready : for our God has promised to supply all our need, and this is a very pressing one. If you could see their white-roofed parish scattered below, and the countless villages within reach around, you would say so too.

**Colea**, a town within sight of Blida on the coast hills, has been taken on as a new sub-station under the charge of Mr. and Mrs. Buckenham, who went there in the autumn to plunge themselves into native surroundings ; and the seal has come in openings of hearts and houses beyond our hopes.

**Miliana** has had its share of advance in the consolidating of its temporary post at Teniet, on the crest between its own mountain range and the desert. The month that has just been put in there has been filled from morning to night by daily classes of boys and girls and afternoon " Depot work " with groups of men who came day after day to the book-room opened at 5 p.m.

In **Mascara** the work has also been consolidated by the purchase of the Mission House ; no small matter in these days of uncertain tenure. And the Spanish worker has developed a gift of Colportage that covers a considerable district around.

**Mostaganem** also has had its first start towards better accommodation—

just a tiny start—two good-sized rooms instead of one small one. The need remains of a class-room for the children : they would crowd to it if only there were a place to crowd into !

And **Relizane** seems, of all the western group, to have the widest fresh outlook. Ever since last autumn the strands have woven in a strangely rapid way between the work there and the town of Tlemcen, an important place near the Moorish border that has stood long unoccupied. The welcome to the Relizane workers has been so marked in their visits there, and the signs of interest so manifest, that it looks as if it should be followed up further next winter, Relizane being reinforced by Mr. and Mrs. Buckenham during the time given there.

The advance of **Tozeur**, away in Tunisia, has been the starting of the Book Depot. Notwithstanding its open position on the market place, it was frequented till the end of the winter's work, by men and boys in unflinching numbers. This, once more, was a marked sign of God's Hand for good. That Hand was again evident in Spirit-touch among the students, and even among the house-boys, more than one of whom shewed signs of the direct dealing of His power.

Finally, **Monastir**, on the Tunisian sea-coast, has come to its own this spring. We took the flat there, several years ago, as an adjunct to Tozeur, and though it has been used in various ways, it is only now that it has entered on its double service, as a place for language study and a centre for colportage work in

the thickly populated district around. Mr. Theobald is planning to follow up this systematically with Mr. Robb, a C.M.M.L. Missionary in Sousse, near by. Their beginnings, in the last two months, have been full of keen joy.

All these growing-points would be enough to fill us with thanksgiving to Him who is calling them into being, but they do not end the story of His goodness. Its full sequence began to come into view in our January Rally Days. We found then, that without any consultation together, the strong desire had arisen in three stations. Relizane, Miliana and Algiers, to follow down to the desert the three lines of penetration behind us. We must again leave details to the prayer-call that went out in February, and to the record of the answer that has just been issued. All we can tell here is of wonderful prospering in the long, out of the way journeys of the western and central routes, in neither of which had women missionaries been hitherto seen. On the eastern route, which we had travelled over a good many times at intervals, the access culminated in being able to rent a native house at Tolga, 40 kilometers from Biskra, as a fresh winter station for October. All that lies wrapped in this fact, fulfilling the prayers of years, would take more than this whole booklet to tell.

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Our vision goes out in hope to the days when there will be a string of these desert stations, from Tozeur in the East to the main objective of the western journey, a group of oases named Figuig, on the Morocco frontier.



For in these south country towns and villages we reach the Arab race in its own setting, and we believe that thence, rather than from the hybrid coast regions, will be won those who can become Christian leaders in the future, at any rate leaders for the interior.

Already (and here we reach the deeper side in God's preparation of the way of Christ) we find a stir beginning—we hear of secret inquirers in these inland places—we have come across them here and there at unexpected times and in unforeseen ways. It is these who should be our objective, but to reach them we need converts fitted for the task—men called by the Holy Ghost to the shepherd work of seeking them out and linking them together. For they, with their quick perceptions, and their facilities for meeting them, could do this in a way impossible to us western workers. They, better than we, could be “sent . . . to reap.” Who will take this to heart for prayer ?

It may be that the prayer must go further back before it can be answered. It is only souls that have been truly reaped themselves that are fitted to reap others, and we feel that we have yet to learn how to put in the sickle to these first ears that God has already given us—“the first of the first fruits of the land,” and to bind them.

Years ago a dear new-comer French missionary spoke a never-to-be-forgotten word, “I believe God wants in this country, labourers who dare to reap.” That

man *has* dared to reap, and we need more of his fearless faith. We need to venture out for truly harvested souls.

What does it mean, in its full sense, this harvesting? It means the sharp sickle of separation from everything of the old faith and the old practices and the old self-life; it means being separated to the Holy Ghost, with all that this involves of abandonment. Separation—surrender—sacrifice: this is the path that the true convert must tread; a path where we Anglo Saxons understand but little of the pain and loneliness to an Eastern nature, with its passion for the past and its intensity of family ties. Can we expect them to tread it manfully if we shrink and falter from the way of the Cross in our easier lot? Have we ourselves borne through? It may be that your prayers need to go farther back still. “Brethren, pray for us.”

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“I sent you to reap.” May God make us and keep us ready to go all lengths with Christ, and worthy to handle these first ears of the harvest. So shall we fulfil our vocation and theirs.

LOCATION OF WORKERS. Winter, 1922-23.

*Dar Naama, El Biar, Algiers—*

I. L. Trotter  
S. Perkin  
Mons. and Mme. Pierre Nicoud  
M. L. McInery (short service)  
Alice Kemp

*2 Rue du Croissant, Algiers—*

A. McIlroy  
Mr. Smeeton  
A. Buttica  
J. Sheach (short service)

*Beit Naama, Algiers—*

A. M. Farmer  
J. Gray

*Saint Eugene, Algiers—*

Mons and Mme. Cook

*Belcourt, Algiers—*

M. Watling

*Colea—*

Mr. and Mrs. Buckenham

*Blida—*

F. K. Currie  
M. Roche

*Miliana—*

M. D. Grautoff  
I. Nash

*Relizane—*

M. Ridley  
K. Butler

*Mascara—*

F. H. Freeman  
Senor and Sen, Soler  
F. Hammon (Mission Helper)

*Mostaganem—*

A. Gayral

*Tozeur and Monastir—*

A. Krebs  
V. Wood  
Mr. and Mrs. Theobald

## ALGIERS MISSION BAND.

Statement of Accounts for Year ending June 30th, 1923.

<i>Payments.</i>	<i>Receipts.</i>
To Missionary Allowances 28177.35	By Balance in Banks ... 15793.31
.. Rent, Taxes, Repairs 6659.15	.. Cash in Hand ... 488.60
.. Travelling ... 4228.90	<hr style="width: 100%;"/> 16281.91
.. Various Mission Expenses ... 2699.53	<b>General Fund:</b>
.. Native Workers ... 7519.00	.. Donations ... 65082.75
.. Printing and Postage... 2585.65	<b>Appropriated Gifts:</b>
<b>Appropriated Gifts:</b>	.. Donations ... 25176.90
.. Itineration ... 2343.00	.. Sales of Literature ... 357.95
.. Publication of Tracts 2378.50	<hr style="width: 100%;"/> 90617.60
.. Men's Allowances ... 17540.00	<hr style="width: 100%;"/> Francs 106899.51
.. Van and Colportage ... 810.00	£1527 2s. 8d.
<hr style="width: 100%;"/> 74941.08	Balance of General Fund 25300.53
.. Balance in Banks ... 31633.58	.. Appropriated 6657.90
.. Balance in Cash ... 324.85	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
<hr style="width: 100%;"/> 31958.43	31958.43 Francs.
Francs 106899.51	£456 11s. 0d.
£1527 2s. 8d.	
Nominal rate of Exchange 25 Frs.=£1	
Actual present rate about 70 Frs.=£1	

This Balance Sheet represents a certain proportion only of the expenditure of the Mission, the Honorary Members of the Staff being responsible for the rest.

Treasurer: Miss F. K. Currie,  
Dar Naama, El Biar, Algiers.

Examined and found correct, Algiers,  
10th October, 1923.—Henry R. Turner.