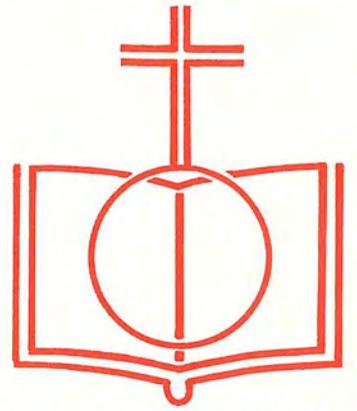


Missionary

HERALD

The magazine of the Baptist Missionary Society



MARCH 1978
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HAS NOT
BEEN RAISED
FROM DEATH,
THEN WE HAVE
NOTHING TO
PREACH AND
YOU HAVE
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TO BELIEVE**

(1 Corinthians 15:14)

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THE CENTENARY OF BMS WORK IN ANGOLA AND ZAIRE

The April *Missionary Herald* will mark the beginning of the Centenary celebrations with a special number.

Full details of all that the BMS is arranging in order to celebrate the Centenary will be given in the *Herald* month by month.

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COMMENT

From the early days of the BMS enterprise for Christ its missionaries have laboured with compassionate zeal to meet the many needs of those to whom they ministered. They have not only shared with the nationals their knowledge of the saving grace of our Lord Jesus, they have also put at their disposal the knowledge they had of more healthful living and the knowledge of better ways to grow food and so avoid some of the ravages of famine. They have also always shared their expertise in learning encouraging those to whom they witnessed to embrace at least the elements of education so that they could read the scriptures in their own tongue and cope with the economics of living.

The BMS has always tried to look to the people of other nations through the eyes of Christ and regard them as brothers. So readers of this magazine will note with interest the proposed 'One World Week' which the Churches Committee is hoping all churches will observe next autumn when it is planned that through an educative programme the local communities, and through them the nation, will be awakened to the need of a greater part of the world's population. It is so easy to shut our minds to the many problems that are experienced in other parts of our globe, simply because they are at a distance, a great distance in many instances from us, and our own immediate concerns loom large in our own eyes.

It must be difficult, for example, for anyone who has not seen it to visualize the many needs of a city like Calcutta. One of the greatest problems is the sheer mass of people. Millions crowding into a city which physically is just unable to contain them all let alone deal with such necessary services as rubbish and sewage disposal, water and electricity supply, which such an overcrowded population needs. The West Bengal Government tries hard, and has first rate schemes to alleviate suffering in some areas of need, but the task of meeting all the needs seems an impossible one.

The Christian church is engaged in many parts of the city to bring the compassionate

love of Christ to bear in one avenue or another to succour and help those whose very condition cries out to be alleviated. The dedication and service rendered by the Christians working through these many agencies is something to be thankful to God for and deserving of our constant prayer support.

The aim of the BMS has always been to build up the national church to the point where it can stand on its own feet and be responsible for the propagation of the gospel in its own country and even engage in its own missionary work. Jack Chen in his article about the work and witness of the Carey Baptist Church in Calcutta acknowledges the work of earlier missionaries and the sure foundation which they laid, but he goes on to show how well Indian Christians are building on their foundation and how keen they are, not only to witness in their own locality, but also to instil in their members and scholars a missionary zeal. The keenness of many of the young Christians, whom he mentions, to share their faith with those of their own community, and to do this under very difficult circumstances is a real joy to behold.

Sometimes we meet people who give the impression that they only regard as missionaries those of our colleagues who are carrying out a pastoral ministry. To see and meet any of our BMS personnel at their work is to dispel at once any idea that they work in a watertight compartment concerned only with their own particular skills. Bob Young, for example, an agricultural missionary, travels on an average twice a week to a village community some 56 miles from his base to help and encourage the church fellowship there in their work and witness, and that travelling has to be done not over fine metalled roads, but for great distances over dirt roads. In this respect it is so interesting to learn from Joy Knapman, who looks after our Calcutta office, how she is able to seize and use so many opportunities to speak of her Lord and Master. She just relates one incident, but that could be multiplied many many times for she carries on a continuous ministry in Calcutta in a number of ways.



Relief in the Teeming City

by A E Easter

To visit Calcutta and to observe it through compassionate eyes is to be overwhelmed by the immensity of human need to be seen on every side. The government of West Bengal is doing what it can by means of some very good schemes but it is a gigantic task and it is encouraging to see the many efforts being made by Christian agencies to help meet the need in one way or another. It has to be said, though, that this help can only scratch the surface as it were, so vast is the problem.

Attempting to meet a need

Some of these efforts to bring help and succour in Christ's name are well known for they have received worldwide publicity. Such a work is the Mother Theresa Home

for the incurables and the dying. It is situated in one corner of a complex of buildings which form the great Kali Hindu Temple and the quiet dignity of Mother Theresa's work stands out in stark contrast to the noise of jostling crowds, and the cries of beggars, who are to be found at the Hindu shrine. This shrine has a stall selling the heads of sacrificed goats, queues of women making a puja offering in the hope that they will become fertile and bear children, and strident warnings against pickpockets can be heard there.

To pass from such scenes into the quietness and cleanliness of the Mother Theresa Home and to observe the love and devotion of the nursing sisters is to evoke a prayer of

thankfulness to God for such dedicated lives ready to serve the dying gathered in from the streets of the city.

In another part of Calcutta there is the home for unwanted and abandoned babies. Not infrequently the mother is housed in one of the expensive nursing homes and every care taken of her, but the moment the baby is born it is deposited in this Baby Home because in this city, as in other parts of the world, not every birth is welcomed and wanted.

There is also a large Christian work being carried out among those suffering from leprosy and the Cathedral Relief Service is well known because it has been advertized

in Britain and Coventry Cathedral has taken an active interest in this work through Canon Kenyon Wright, one of the cathedral staff.

Links with the BMS

In a quiet street or as quiet as any street in Calcutta can be, there is Mulvany House which was started by our own Zenana Mission and which provides a haven of care for aged ladies and for orphaned children. The present house mother is Miss Ghosh and as a centre to the life of this community there is a small chapel in the compound where those living in this house can worship and hear the word of God.

But alongside agencies which have been brought to the notice of a wider public there are some concerns not so well known in Britain but which, nevertheless, are seeking in Christ's name and by His power to bring help to the needy.

The Baptist Missionary Society has collaborated in one of these pieces of work. It is a work carried on among the pavement dwellers of the city of whom it is estimated there are 10,000 in the city and no less than 200,000 in the greater Calcutta area.

These people live on the pavements of this great city. Sometimes they manage to secure sheets of cardboard or an old sheet of polythene to create some sort of shelter, but for the most part they eat, sleep, cook, live and die on the pavements with nothing but the sky above them.

They cared enough to do something

Very little had been done by any authority or voluntary organization to help these people improve their lot until the Lutheran World Service started to hold schools for the children of these pavement dwellers. This teaching was carried out on the pavements with the minimum amount of equipment. Just slates and slate pencils were used but the joy and response of the children to this approach to help them was such as to give inspiration to do something more to enable these youngsters 'to bloom, in due course, as full flowers of humanity and citizens of India'.

In order to do something more the Lutheran World Service needed a plot of land on which they could build. They asked the BMS if we would allow them to use part of the Entally Compound which we had in Calcutta and which is in an area where there are pavement dwellers. To this we gladly agreed

and the Lutheran World Service have this site on a ten year lease.

This centre was opened on 7 June 1977 and contains a charitable dispensary and health clinic to look after the medical needs of the women and children of the pavement dwellers. It opens every afternoon and the staff in the dispensary deal with between 50 and 70 patients a day.

Education is a must

There is also a free primary school of four classes giving a basic education to 120 pavement dwelling children. When these arrive at school each day they first bathe and then are provided with a neat school uniform which they wear while they are at school but change back into their own clothes when they return to the pavements. They are also provided with a main meal while they are at school, and these children show the same keenness and aptitude for learning that was evidenced in the pavement schools.

Preparation for employment

The building also houses a vocational training scheme for 100 pavement dwelling girls. These are divided into four groups of twenty-five each.

One group learns batik work. This involves creating a design and then drawing it on to cloth. When this step is completed certain areas of the design are painted out with wax so they will not accept a dye and the cloth then dipped in dye. When this is done the wax is washed out and other areas waxed before dipping in a different coloured dye. So the process goes on until a multi coloured design is produced. This group also learns what is called the tie and dye method of producing coloured designs on cloth.

Another group learns knitting and tailoring. This is, in a way, a daring experiment because in India tailoring is reckoned to be a job for men and everywhere men can be seen working sewing machines to produce clothes for both sexes.

Some of the most colourful cloths for upholstery and clothing are woven on hand looms often to be found in even the smallest villages. Such skills, then, are in constant demand and so the third group of these girls learn how to produce fine cloth of differing sorts by weaving.

The last group learns how to keep a house tidy and how to cook both Asian and European food. They are also taught how to

care for babies and children. It is hoped in this way they will be trained for domestic service of which there is still much in India today.

Marketing the produce

The Lutheran World Service is also looking into the possibility of forming a co-operative to market the products that these girls produce.

Attached to this centre are a number of social workers who try to help the pavement dwellers with the many social problems which arise as a result of their particular way of living, and there is also an adult literacy section which holds classes in the evenings.

The whole of this project is staffed by Indian Christians and the complex is supervised by Lt Colonel P C Sarkar, MC who is also the Deputy Field Administrator of the Lutheran World Service Calcutta programme.



Lt Col P C Sarkar, MC, Supervisor of the Centre



Pavement dwelling girl doing Batik work

AN EVENTFUL BUS JOURNEY

by Joy Knapman



Setting out from Calcutta

Joy Knapman

'Please come and finish our audit,' was the plea that prompted my trip from Calcutta to Orissa a few months ago. The journey overnight from Howrah station to Berhampur was fairly uneventful as train journeys in India go, and certainly the more entertaining part of the trip was from Berhampur to G Udayagiri. It was agreed that the Express bus leaving the town at 12.30 mid-day would be the best way to travel for this would land me at my destination in time for a late tea.

Settling into the bus it was good to find two of my travelling companions were old friends who 'happened' to be going the same way. One was Miss B Pande from Cuttack, whom I had met in Calcutta nine years earlier as she was on her way to Hong Kong, and the second was one of the Bible women based at the Christian Hospital, Berhampur. We three eased ourselves into the seat designed for possibly slimmer frames and agreed how good it was the Lord had brought us together for fellowship on the same journey.

The bus grinds to a halt

It was a fairly hot day in August. The rains were over and the road good. After an exchange of news we subsided into silence as the bus sped on first to Aska and then to Bhanjanagar, where we stopped for a welcome cup of tea. Its sweetness was guaranteed to give strength for the last stage of the journey, for it must be realized that in India, the tea, the milk and liberal amounts of sugar are all boiled together.

In spite of a good speed all the way we were lagging behind, and it was predicted we would be an hour late. As we traversed the long level stretch of several kilometres from Bhanjanagar, suddenly an unusual noise was detected and it became apparent our driver was having trouble engaging his gears. Terrible grinding noises followed and finally we came to a halt. The driver, conductor and cleaner worked as a team and did their best to wrench the gear lever from neutral and get it somehow to engage in the second gear position. At last, success! The engine roared

into action and slowly, so slowly, we limped along for the next four kilometres until we reached the village of Majjuguda, where we halted. The driver, his team and passengers alike sighed with relief for we had stopped opposite the post office from where the driver would 'phone back to Bhanjanagar and ask for help. Alas the phone had only recently been installed and was not yet working! There we sat until an hour later a truck ambled through the village towards us whereupon our driver leapt on to it promising to return by 8 pm. It was already after 4 o'clock. What to do? Suddenly our companion and friend, the Bible woman, sprang into action with some alacrity.

'Sisters,' she said, 'the Lord has brought us here for a purpose, let's go!' So we three started on our walk through the main village street, stopping to chat at each house as friendly folk hailed us, commiserated with us and then eagerly listened as the good news of Jesus was shared with them by my two friends. Oriya, the language spoken in these parts, is rather similar to Bengali, the language I speak, and so I could follow most of the conversation. Half way along the main village street we were invited to sit on someone's small verandah. In next to no time a crowd of children and young people gathered and these really seemed to enjoy the impromptu Sunday School, joining in the chorus singing and listening attentively to many Bible stories related in quick succession.

The unexpected invitation

By now it was getting dark, so we returned to base, to our bus. We were feeling hungry and shared our resources, a currant loaf, bananas and tomatoes. These were divided into four as we three and another of our fellow passengers shared food and a bottle of water. We were not sure whether it was officially tea or supper but decided it would have to be both!

By then it was really dark when suddenly a visitor arrived. A little girl climbed into the bus and said her mother wanted the three ladies who had been visiting to go back to their home. Gladly we went with her and this time we were invited inside. They had a problem. In the home was a young man, mentally retarded and a worry to the whole family. Would we pray? Gladly we did so in Jesus' Name. No, we saw no great miracle, nothing spectacular happened, but a miracle there was in that these Hindu friends listened to our good news and seemed to grasp that not only we, but Someone greater, cared for and loved them. A neighbour challenged us, 'Are you speaking of religion?' to which we



Udayagiri town

replied, 'No, we are speaking of a Friend to whom we can introduce you.'

Made more than conquerors

It was raining steadily and together with our twenty or so fellow passengers we decided to sit it out in the bus. The next hour was well filled by my two friends taking over the situation. They sang many Christian Bhajans (hymns) and boldly proclaimed the message which is a part of their own lives and experience. Not one among the company could be left in any doubt at all as to what their claims were all about. Simple, direct and forceful was the message they gave.

By 9 pm we were all reconciled to the fact that we would probably be in the bus overnight. Already the luggage had been brought down from the roof to join the bulky mail bags already blocking the aisle. Within minutes the bus, a single decker, was turned into a dormitory as we stretched out across the seats. There were some who preferred privacy and made their own cubicles by draping saris from the bus rail across to the windows. A nursing mum tried to pacify her offspring, not too effectively! Miss Pande and I shared her sari to ward off mosquitoes and our suppressed laughter at the position we found ourselves in provoked the rebuke of a fellow passenger who declared, 'This is not a time for laughing!' So we subsided into a drowsy silence. An hour later deep breathing and snores were broken by the welcome sound of a heavy vehicle. It was another bus and it brought to

us its own driver, our driver and an engineer! But our hopes were dashed a little as firmly we were told that the relief bus was too small and not powerful enough to take us further, in view of the long steep gradient to the ghat ahead of us. We would have to wait patiently while they repaired our own bus. The next two hours were packed with concentration and activity in the light of hurricane lamps as the gear shaft was taken to pieces and new parts fitted. Major repairs indeed, carried out by the team of two drivers, engineer, conductor and many passenger-advisers! Shortly before 1 am they achieved success and we went on our way to reach our destination a little before 3 am. It had been a long, long day, but perhaps not without meaning.

A word in season

Six days later as I joined the same bus on my return trip, I received quite a welcome from the same driver and conductor, but thankfully there were no untoward delays this time. Back to Berhampur, and then on the train to Calcutta. I again found myself with two travelling companions, they were two ladies from Canada touring India and they had come searching for they knew not what. One from a nominal Roman Catholic background acknowledged life held no meaning while the other claimed that her new found experience as a Buddhist was the answer. We talked long into the night as the train made its way northward. Another opportunity and another story. . . .!

One task of William Carey and the early founders of the BMS was to persuade their fellow Baptists that their concern to bring the Good News to men should be a worldwide concern. Despite greatly increased global communication every missionary activist knows that this task is still with us. To help British Christians to see their life, faith and work in the global context the Churches' committee of the World Development are initiating a 'One World Week' to be held this autumn.

The aim is education

The Churches' Committee consists of groups such as Christian Aid and TEAR Fund together with representatives from the major denominations. This new venture is the most ambitious project they have attempted so far. Their hope is that this will be a real opportunity for the people of the churches in this country to deepen their awareness of the situation confronting mankind, in particular the stark challenge of continuing poverty. The increasing difference in life-style between the affluent and the under-fed threatens not only to divide the world disastrously, but also to destroy the fellowship of love which should unite Christians worldwide. 'One World Week' will not advocate a lobbying or a fund-raising campaign. It is an educational programme and is being planned to allow full freedom of choice for local planning groups to work out the programme best suited to their own situation and resources. A Director for 'One World Week' has already been appointed: he is Pat Gerrad from Reading who works from a central office in Brixton, co-ordinating local weeks planned throughout the country. Scotland, Wales and Ireland have their own arrangements for national co-ordination. Funds are being provided from a number of church sources, as well as by grants from the Overseas Development Ministry, Christian Aid and others. Such resources are of course limited and therefore central support will mainly consist of putting interested people in contact and producing a limited range of materials.

Ordinary people are to be involved

The theme chosen for the week is 'JUST LIVING' — a theme which speaks of the meaning of justice in our lives and those of others. Examples of two aspects of 'Just Living' which local groups might take up are basic needs and human rights.

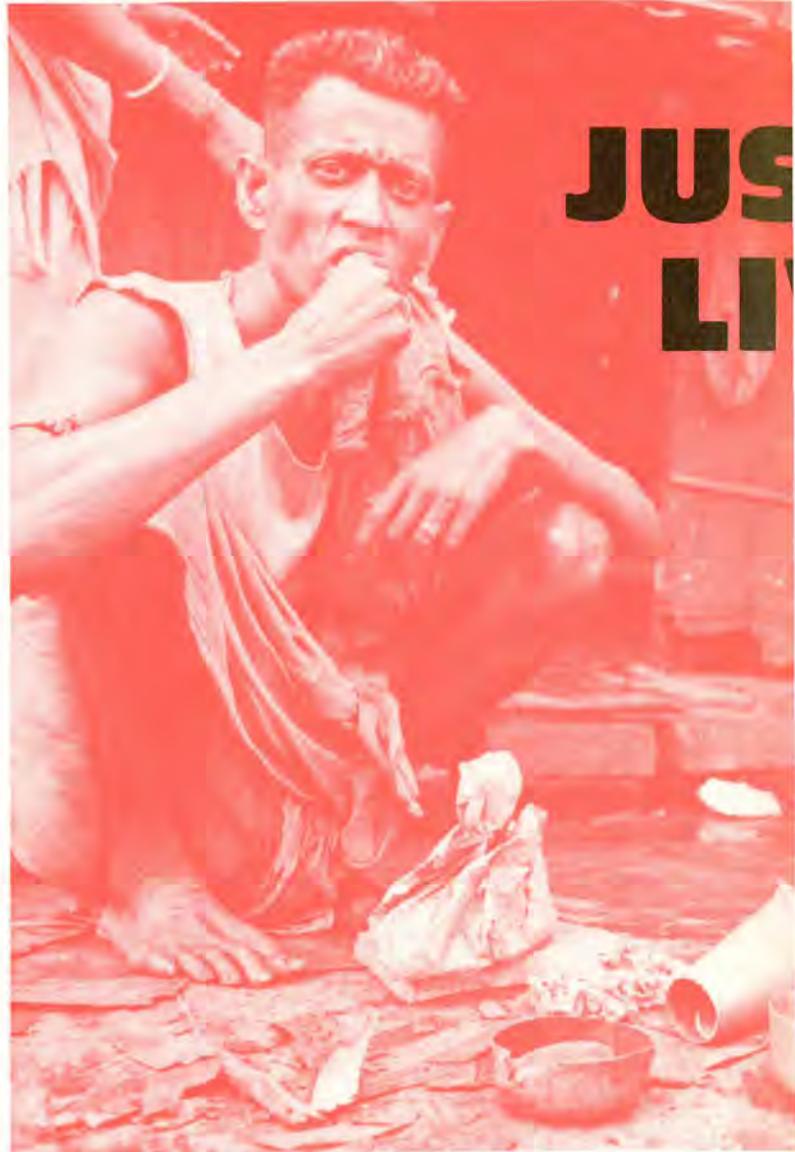
It is important that 'One World Week' involves ordinary people. To do this it is planned to start from 'where people are' and to explore what 'Just Living' seems to

us in our own situation. Later people might go on to explore related issues in the poorer countries and in international relations. Wherever possible what is done will be activity-based involving people in doing things that help them to understand how injustice occurs and how it can be overcome. This is of course easier where local issues are concerned but global issues can be studied as well. Pat Gerrad has suggested that 'One World Week' will be an experiment 'which will only succeed where it meets a need, is welcomed and used'. As with any educational week it is hoped that the learning process will be a continuing one leading to informed prayer and action. Now is the time to get involved in 'One World Week'. Perhaps there is already a local organizing committee or a suitable group through which to plan. It has been emphasized that 'One World Week' should complement what is already being done and not conflict with it. Should you want further information, write to:

Pat Gerrad,
Programme Director,
One World Week,
240 Ferndale Road,
London SW9 8BH.
(Tel: 01-733 5500)

Planning should be done now

Local groups need to decide soon when to hold the week. 22-29 October, 1978, is suggested as this would complement existing observance of United Nations Day and the Week of Prayer for World Peace. The local issues of justice and development to be spotlighted need to be selected in order that educational resources in the local churches, university/colleges, WEA, World Development Movement as well as Missionary Societies can be contacted. There is now a large reservoir of returned volunteers, missionaries, teachers, etc, with first-hand knowledge of the situation overseas who would be pleased to help in your programme. The work of





by Dr L Ebdon

the BMS brings them into direct contact with the issues of world poverty. In particular Operation Agri have produced some excellent resource material on the battle against world hunger. The Baptist Union have a resource pack available, 'Combat Poverty', which contains material, Bible Studies, etc, for all sections of the church. Locally you will probably also find the representatives of various charities such as Christian Aid valuable resource people.

Christian faith shows a concern for all!

The poor are always with us, but many people find it simpler to forget this when the poor live in another country. The issues of world development are complex and it is easy to trust to uninformed prayer rather than to try and learn about the reasons why we in this country have so much compared to the majority of the world. Christians, however, have always been in the forefront

of the fight for justice in the world. Through our missionaries we receive first-hand accounts of the tragic situations in much of Asia, Latin America and Africa, and through the example of Jesus we find the inspiration to try and do something to care for bodies as well as souls – the whole man. Thus it is fitting that it is through the churches that 'One World Week' will seek to awaken our nation to the challenge of world poverty, development and justice. Supporters of missionary work are often unfairly accused of being indifferent to the problems at home and sometimes even of being unconcerned about the material needs of the 'new' Christians of the poorer countries. With your help and God's blessing 'One World Week' will be an opportunity to witness to a faith which has a concern for all men and women, especially the underprivileged. A week of concerted action could be a challenge to our nation 'to do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with God'.

NEWS IN BRIEF

CAN YOU HELP?

The Young People's Department would be very pleased to hear of any possible centre they could approach for use as a Summer School next year. A Boarding School with accommodation for up to 150 people is the type of premises being sought and if you know of any such school that you think would be suitable the YPD would appreciate a note from you giving the name and address.

NEW BAPTIST UNION

Delegates representing most of Zaire's twelve Baptist bodies met at the end of last year for the first inter-convention Baptist Conference ever held. The Conference made plans to form a Baptist Union of Zaire. It will bring together all the Zaire Baptist communities and with some 250,000 members, will form the largest national Baptist group on the African continent. The principal guest speaker at this Conference was the Rev Sven Ohm, Foreign Mission Secretary for the Baptist Union of Sweden.

CRUSADE AGAINST CHILDHOOD DISEASES

Last July the Baptist World Alliance voted an ambitious programme to rid the world of poliomyelitis. The World Health Organization has suggested that this become part of their own objective of worldwide immunization against measles, whooping cough, tetanus, diphtheria, tuberculosis and also polio by 1990. The project also envisages protection against leprosy and parasitosis.

ANGOLA LEADER VISITS EUROPE

The President of the Angola Baptist Convention (which is associated with the Southern Convention of the USA) returned to Luanda recently after a visit to Portugal where he worked on plans to ship 3,000 Bibles to Angola for use in Baptist work.



Dollar Chen, secretary in Mission House, Calcutta, and wife of Jack

God's Nursery

by Jack Chen*



Jack Chen

God's Nursery . . . yes, that is what it has been and is today. Carey Sunday School has brought countless young souls to the Lord Jesus and then these have usually joined the church to form the core of its present membership in every department. Statistics show that at least 50% of the present church membership have been through the Sunday School programme in some way.

What is it that attracts children, young people and adults to the Sunday School programme at Carey? The answer is, and can only be, the Lord Jesus. Through every level of teaching and every department of activity Christ is the central figure. The carefully selected curriculum consists of materials produced abroad and, currently, the adapted series of CEEFI which is the Christian Education branch of the Evangelical Fellowship of India.

Nationals take over

The Sunday School has passed through many phases in the past decade. Initiated through the missionary zeal of British pastors and their wives, the Sunday School now runs mainly through the work and efforts of the national Christians who are members of the church.

Out of a total of about 25 teachers and helpers, only four are foreigners now! Another interesting fact is that over 50% of the teachers have come through the Sunday School as students and now have become teachers themselves.

Several nationalities meet

Who makes up the student body of the Sunday School at Carey? I remember the childhood chorus of 'Red and yellow, black and white, all are precious in his sight, Jesus

loves the little children of the world'. That is how it is here. Children from all types of racial backgrounds wend their way to the church compound each Sunday. So we have those from Bengal, Orissa, South India, some Anglo-Indians and not a few Chinese children. A point to note about the children attending the Sunday School is that their parents are mostly non-church members and non-Christians. Then why, one may ask, do they send their children to Sunday School? There are two main reasons for this. Firstly, most parents want their children to polish up their grasp of the English language to enable them to do well in their school studies. Secondly, recreational facilities being almost a rarity in this vast and over-crowded city, most parents are glad to avail themselves of any good opportunity to get their children safely off their hands for even an hour. Carey Sunday School provides just the right attraction for this.

Lives are changed

Through the years, parents have found out that not only does the Sunday School make their children's English better but their lives are made better too as they are brought into a personal experience of the Lord Jesus! Through the change in children's lives the Sunday School has gained for itself a reputation of making people better citizens. Let us take a closer look at a cross section of the student body. Naresh, 15 years old, is a young Hindu boy from Central India but now settled in Calcutta. He was getting very sceptical about the animalistic trend in his parent's religion which included the worship of pigeons, snakes and rats, when he was introduced to the Sunday School. The very first day he set foot in Carey Sunday School Naresh was attracted to the Lord



Carey Baptist Church, Calcutta

Jesus Christ through his class teacher who gave him much love, attention and understanding. He and his Sunday School teacher would go for daily morning jogs around the city park as the teacher exercised his Alsatian dog. Through these early morning contacts and the personal challenges of the Sunday School lesson hours, Naresh finally gave his heart to the Lord Jesus after less than a year of attending Sunday School.

Though his parents do not fully comprehend the change that has taken place in their son they have expressed their pleasure in the good behaviour of Naresh since he joined the Sunday School! Today he is one of the brightest students in his Sunday School class and is a growing young Christian.

Li Fen is a young Chinese girl born and brought up in Calcutta. Her parents follow a religion that is a mixture of Buddhism, Shintoism and Confucianism. Often there seems to be more confusions than anything else! However, Li Fen's parents too heard of the Sunday School and all that it had to offer by way of 'English lessons'. So off to Sunday School Li Fen and her little sisters and brother were sent each Sunday. Mom would dress them in their best clothes and send them off on time each week. Soon Li Fen began to see the love and joy that came through a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. Today she is a Jesus person, and not only that, with the help of her Sunday School teacher she now has a weekly Bible Study in her neighbourhood, meeting sometimes in her home and at other times in the homes of other friends in the same building. Despite their poverty and lack in material possessions, Li Fen and her friends continue to rejoice in their Saviour.

Careful preparation gives results

One of the secrets of such rich dividends is the systematic programme of the Carey Sunday School. The entire Sunday School is divided into four well defined departments, placing children in each group according to their age and abilities. Each department then follows a graded course of lessons with selected Bible readings and lessons for home tasks.

The teachers who play a key role in the Sunday School ministry are mostly trained personnel. Many are in full time Christian work, others have had some formal training in Bible School and one of the recent projects has been to take young adults and upper teens who have come up through the Sunday School and impart training to them. Quite recently, three new teachers were commissioned this way.



The nursery of the Vacation Bible School

Last, but not least, Carey Sunday School continues to grow because it is a giving Sunday School. From an early age the young ones are infused with a missionary vision. Today, Carey Sunday School gives towards the monthly support of the church missionary and his family serving in the Andaman Islands. (The Andaman Islands are a group of Islands right in the middle of the Bay of Bengal and roughly 800 miles from Calcutta.) Apart from that, every quarter, the Sunday School also disburses an average of 500 Rupees (about £34) to various Christian projects such as orphanages in tribal areas, Scripture Gift Mission and even to buy lesson books for other Sunday Schools in needy areas.

Recruiting in the holidays

In addition to its regular weekly ministry the Sunday School also runs an annual



Sunday School outing to ex Raja's palace

Vacation Bible School programme. For two weeks in the summer, when all the schools are closed for the summer vacation, most of the Sunday School teachers, along with some additional volunteers, slog hard through the heat and humidity to bring the message of salvation through Christ to the students. Most of those attending the VBS are Sunday School pupils but they in turn also make special efforts to bring in new friends who normally do not attend Sunday School. VBS has also proved to be a time of rich harvest as the lessons and teaching methods are geared to an evangelistic thrust. VBS in turn brings in new pupils to the Sunday School each year and this has been a vital factor in the continued growth of the Carey Sunday School.

The future is the Lord's

What does the future hold for Carey Sunday School? For sure, Carey Sunday School holds a great future for young souls because this is where many meet and find the Lord as Saviour. As a word of personal testimony in closing, I came to the Lord through the VBS programme after some years of attending the Sunday School. Later, in a space of three years, my brother and three sisters have come to a personal experience of the Lord Jesus Christ through the Carey Sunday School.

In this respect, Carey Sunday School's future rests firmly in the hand of the Lord Jesus Christ whom she serves.

* Jack Chen is a deacon of Carey Baptist Church and a worker in the Sunday School.



A tribal nurse checking for anaemia in the Under Fives Clinic

That heading sums up the day I spent with Sue Headlam, affectionately known at the clinic as 'Shister', on one of her days away from the hospital. Sue called for me at around 7.30 am on a very pleasant, cool October morning. The mist, which earlier on was swirling in through my bedroom window, was beginning to lift from around the Hill Tracts.

I joined Sue and her staff in the landrover, still chewing my toast much to the amusement of the others who thought I wouldn't be up ready to go. That toast in fact let them



Sue Headlam examining a baby

SISTER AT LARGE

by F L Wallace
Chandraghona.

know just how near I was to being left behind. They were even more amused when we arrived at the clinic and I had to return to the house for my flash gun and spectacles. Sleepy head indeed!

Anyway we left the hospital and were driven sedately by the driver, Authoi, in the World Relief Commission Under Fives Clinic landrover towards our destination.

Driving can be hazardous

When we reached the turn off to the Murriammoggett clinic I assessed the type

of road we were about to drive on and wished I had been driving. But like all the girls Sue started to put my mind at 'ease' by recalling the times they had driven down this road during the monsoon weather. Then the road was a quagmire and it took the skill of Authoi, and the four-wheel-drive of the landrover, to see them safely to the clinic and keep the vehicle from sliding into the canal on either side of the road. If someone designed an amphibious landrover it wouldn't go amiss at Chandraghona.

Well, eventually we reached the clinic, without any mishaps, where the staff very quickly and efficiently brushed out the clinic room and set up for business. At this point, as I said before, I had to return to my house for a couple of items.

By the time I came back they had already treated a number of patients who can number over 100 before the clinic closes. This day they treated 93.

Making a record

My job that morning was to take some slides of the work for Sue and this I did. Snaps of Sue with the stethoscope in action; snaps of Lily dispensing the medicine; snaps of Shefalie making up the personnel detail charts; of others weighing the children for help in diagnosis by making comparisons with their ages, etc, and of Noni the most disliked Sister in the clinic, by the children anyway, because she is the one who gives the injections. We pause for a cup of cha| and my ears still ring from the yells of the children, wha-a-a-a, wha-a-a-a. I can now see the merits of not relinquishing my bachelor life, but at the same time I marvel at the

love and patience, interest and concern shown by Sue and her staff towards every mother and child. They certainly reveal the great love that Jesus had for children. 'Suffer little children to come unto me' must be their watchword. Well, tea is finished and Sue has taken a quick peep outside; about 50 is the report. That means multiply by at least two children per mother and the count of patients will then total about 100.

The routine of loving care

The doors are open and the first three families are let in. The mother puts forward one of her children to be lifted into the swing for its weight to be checked. Wha-a-a-a, it's started, the clinic chorus all over again. I look at my watch, another two hours. Will I survive? I look around me, Sue unconcerned with the music sees the patients, Lily dispenses, Shefalie takes particulars, and that 'awful' Sister Noni continues giving the 'chorus' injection.

Sue took a few minutes to explain to me some of the actual things that are treated and which are most common. Scabies, worms and malnutrition. But when she explained a bit more about worm infestation I felt as though I should 'wriggle' out of my commitment and walk to the bus stand.

There is an echoing yell from inside. Out of the weighing sling the cry goes up again. Wha-a-a-a, oh! that 'awful' injection Sister.

Peace reigns occasionally

Serenity again, I can hear Lily giving instructions as to the dosage of the medicine. Oh, no! here we go again, the injection chorus. Suddenly we're in a little trouble. A small boy has gone to the wrong mother and after she has taken a second look at him she realizes that he is not one of hers, poor 'Kuki', but it is all right, his proper mummy has seen him.

Just a quick note of the immunizations given. They are for protection against tuberculosis, smallpox, poliomyelitis, whooping cough, tetanus, diphtheria and measles.

Here we go again, the dreaded injection chorus, that 'awful' Sister!

Every family that comes for treatment is registered and a card is retained by the clinic, the mother is given a card with a number, etc, and when she comes again the details are all available on the production of the card.

What time is it? Not long now, the clinic will soon be closed, but what about the mothers who have arrived too late to be



Noni, the 'awful' Sister, giving an injection

attended? I know the staff would want to stay on because the need is so great, but they can only hope that those left will be early at the next clinic where their needs will be attended to. In a way I feel Jesus would and does approve. 'Suffer little children to come unto me' is what he urged. Closing down the clinic has its problems, a mother has returned from her home having forgotten how to take the medicine. Children

are poking their arms through the bars on the window, mothers are banging on the doors, and there is the constant noise.

Finally the last to be seen that day is dealt with. I can hear Sue, for the last time, asking, 'Ki awshabeda?' (What is bothering you?) and finally, everyone is finished, including that 'very nice' Sister who gives the injections.



Sue Headlam with the Under Fives Clinic team



The Church, by G C Berkouwer,
Published: Inter Varsity Press £6.95.

By arrangement with the American publishers, the Inter Varsity Press in planning to make available to British readers a number of titles in the series of 'Studies in Dogmatics' by the Professor of Systematic Theology in the Free University of Amsterdam. This is the first volume, a translation into English of a work published in Holland in 1970 and 1972. It presents a careful study of New Testament teaching in the light of current debate. The breadth and depth of the author's reading is evidenced in the helpful footnotes which have the added value of indicating the most important contemporary literature on the subject. After an introductory chapter the material is organized in four divisions based on the Nicene Creed: The Unity of the Church, The Catholicity of the Church, the Apostolicity of the Church and the Holiness of the Church.

The whole subject is most relevant to world mission also. Particularly helpful are the discussions on proselytizing (in relation to the unity of the Church), on the boundaries of the Church (in relation to Catholicity), and on Cyprian's dictum: *Extra ecclesiam nulla salus*.

ASC

Food For Life, by Peter Lee, Greg Sharf and Robert Willcox
Published: Inter Varsity Press £1.50.

This is a Bible Study aid with a difference. The authors claim that it makes personal Bible study appetizing. There is an introduction dealing with such subjects as 'Why study the Bible?' 'Where to start' 'Prayer' 'Problems' and others. Part II deals with basic studies for the new Christian and guides the reader through the heart of the gospel. Part III branches out to give examples of various ways of approaching Bible study. It offers a selection of subjects and passages so that the reader's overall knowledge of Bible teaching accumulates. Part IV goes further still and points to some more mature and stretching study, and looks at some issues one might not meet in the early days of a Christian life.



Charities, by Anne Daltrop
Published: B T Batsford Ltd £3.50.

In this attractively illustrated book the story is told briefly of British charities from the Middle Ages till today. Concluding chapters introduce the reader to charity law and administration, methods of finance, the place of the voluntary worker in the welfare state, and current problems for charities. Like others in this series (Batsford Past-into-Present Series), the book is intended primarily for 13 to 16 year-olds and for use in connection with project work and integrated studies. Obviously the author, an experienced teacher, had to be selective, but it seems strange that there is so little reference to the religious motive in charities in modern times, and no mention at all of missionary societies, not even in the section on overseas voluntary organizations.

ASC



This is a book for the serious reader, to be read slowly and with care. Occasionally the use of theological jargon makes the reader impatient; and the weight put upon sentences from the New Testament raises questions in his mind. But the effort of studying the work brings rewards, for the subject matter is so relevant to what is being discussed among Christians today in relation to Christian Unity. Those exercised about the reply of the Baptist Union to the Churches' Unity Commission on the Ten Propositions would do well to study the chapter on Apostolic Succession within the context of the division of which it is part.



The readings are chosen under subject headings rather than taking the reader straight through a book of the Bible. It is well presented with a good type face and provides a help in Bible study for at least a year.

AEE



Barry was baptized in January 1977. Later that month he first felt God calling him to service overseas, when a Roman Catholic Brother spoke at Barry's school (St Peter's RC School, Southbourne) of the need for helpers in an RC project in India. Barry was received into membership at West Cliff Baptist Church in February 1977.

SERVING THE LORD

IN ZAIRE

In October 1976, Barry Westin attended a Youth Conference weekend with other young people from West Cliff Baptist Church, Bournemouth. He did not particularly want to go but filled a vacancy which arose from a last minute cancellation. It was during the Sunday morning service that he handed over his life to Christ. He did not tell anyone about his decision but it was obvious to those people who knew him that he had dramatically changed in his whole outlook on life.

After talking with BMS missionaries, and with the BMS Personnel Secretary, Barry offered to serve with the Society in Zaire for one year, under the agreement that he would pay for his own travel. The son of a hotel owner, Barry is used to cooking and general maintenance work. In August last year he left for Kimpese to assist Jon Spiller in the catering and other work at CECO, the Protestant Centre for Co-operation.

IN BANGLADESH

Helen and Mike Ewings are members of Walsworth Road Baptist Church, Hitchin, Hertfordshire and their two daughters are named Joanne and Sarah. Helen trained as a teacher and Mike was a Sales Administrator. They were baptized in 1975 and later God led them to offer for service to the BMS. At the time of their offer the BMS were looking for an administrator for the Christian Hospital at Chandraghona, Bangladesh, and Helen and Mike expect to leave for Bangladesh this month going first to Barisal for language study and then on to Chandraghona. They say that through the period of preparation and waiting for visas they have rejoiced in the words of Isaiah 'They who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength'.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Secretaries acknowledge with grateful thanks the following legacies and gifts sent anonymously or without address.
(1-23 December, 1977)

General Work: Anon: £300.00; Anon: £10.00; Anon: £0.10; Anon: £2.00; Anon: £10.00; Anon: £5.00; Anon: (Cymro) £20.00; Anon: £5.00; Anon: £18.00; Anon: £50.00; Anon: £10.00.

Medical Work: Anon: (WYR) £20.00.

Gift and Self Denial: Anon: £1.00; Anon: £5.00; Anon: £5.00.

Relief: Anon: £10.00; Anon: £10.00.

Women's Project: Anon: £10.00.

Legacies

Lilian Abrahams	£ p
Clarice Ivy Bendall	280.46
F E Blandy	250.00
	6.89

Mary Cooper	12.32
Gertrude Esther Court	4,831.97
Mrs O L Day	38.60
Deamer	124.65
Mr Ernest Dennison	50.00
H M Evans	1,800.00
Mrs Constance May Greenwood	500.00
Mrs Susanna Lee	12,500.00
E C S Lewin	97.42
Miss Edna Mason	30.00
Mrs Ceridwen Mort	206.84
Miss D A Porteous	50.00
Miss E M Pendle	1,500.00
Mrs Augusta Stocks	363.42
Emily Salmon	1,920.02
Marjorie Nellie Thorne	10.68
Miss G M Yelf	100.00

Rev D and Mrs McClenaghan and family on 10 December from Cuiaba, Mato Grosso, Brazil.

Miss J Wells on 12 December from Dacca, Bangladesh.

Dr E W and Mrs Burrows and family on 15 December from Serampore, India.

Rev B V and Mrs Williams and family on 17 December from Ponta Grossa, Brazil.

Mr F Mardell and Brian on 19 December from Chandraghona, Bangladesh.

Miss V A Bothamley on 27 December from Vellore, India.

Departures

Miss R Page on 4 December for Mbanza-Ngungu, Zaire.

Miss W N Hadden on 4 December for Yakusu, Zaire.

(Miss Page and Miss Hadden are on a private visit.)

MISSIONARY MOVEMENTS

Arrivals

Dr J F and Mrs Carrington on 10 December from Kisangani, Zaire.

Miss B Earl on 10 December from Pimu, Zaire.

The Young People's Department

usually known as YPD, aims to provide a service of up-to-date ideas and information for children, young people and their leaders. Here are a few of the current publications.



BMS Summer Programme

Bexhill	Shebbear
A 22nd July - 5th Aug	(N. Devon) A 29th July - 12th Aug
B 5th-19th August	B 12th-26th August

theme : 'Here is the News'

Lyme Regis

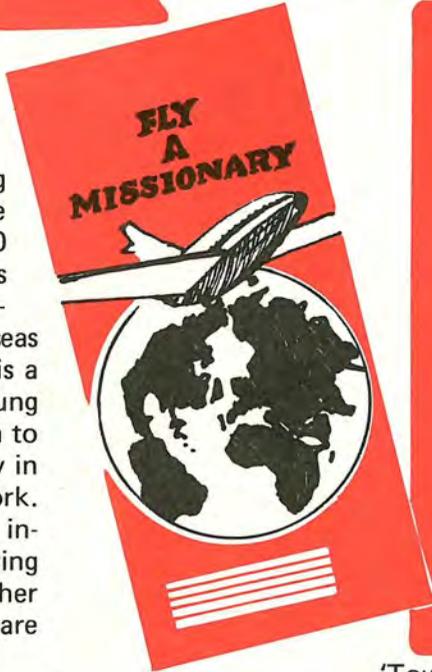
16th-30th August

For young people, aged 14 years and over, and families

Fees: £24.50 per week + VAT

Summer School provides a good holiday for young people, with the opportunity of sharing fellowship and learning about world mission. All our schools have excellent facilities and a varied programme. Send for your brochure and booking form now!

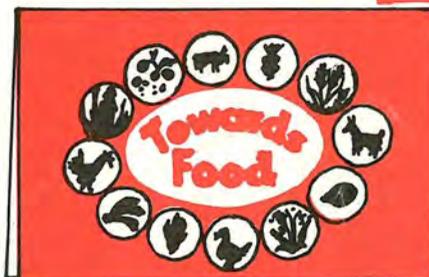
'Fly a Missionary' is the 1978 fund-raising project for young people and children. We aim to raise £10,000 to pay for the air fares of some of the missionaries going overseas during the year. This is a great chance for the young people of your church to get involved practically in overseas missionary work. Copies of the special introductory leaflet giving full details and other resource materials are available from YPD.



The Young People's Secretary is available to speak in churches and to lead conferences on overseas mission for youth leaders, Sunday School teachers, etc.



'Towards Food' is a collecting card, ideal for use with younger children. The card is filled up piece by piece as the money is collected.



'Look,' the children's magazine of the BMS, comes out monthly and contains stories, competitions, things to do, etc.



Copies of any of these leaflets, and other young people's literature, are available from BMS/YPD.