

# The N.A.M. News Letter

OFFICE OF THE NORTH AFRICA MISSION, 34, BISHAM GARDENS, HIGHGATE, LONDON, N. 6  
 AMERICAN AUXILIARY: HON. SECRETARY, DR. HARVEY FARMER, 6109, COLUMBIA AVENUE, PHILADELPHIA, PA., U.S.A.

No. 10

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

MARCH-APRIL 1940



Photo by]

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK—TOUJANE (Southern Tunisia)

[E. J. Long

## Methods of Missionary Work

### 3. ITINERATIONS

WHEN one considers that perhaps six out of seven of the native population of North Africa live outside the towns altogether, it is at once apparent that itinerant work is of the very first importance.

But these unshepherded multitudes, scattered over the entire face of the country, are by no means uniform in type, neither are they all equally accessible.

Some live in ancient, stone-built villages, perched through the centuries upon the tops of mountains; others tend their flocks and

herds around the thatched *gourbis* of plain and valley; whilst tribes of picturesque bedouins, sojourning in more transitory dwellings, spread their tents in far-off oases, or encamp along the highways and trade routes of every country of the Barbary States.

From the earliest pioneering days our missionaries have been doing their utmost to meet this vast and challenging need. In places remote from road and railway, the donkey and mule—occasionally even the camel—are still utilised to transport the workers and their baggage from point to point; whilst amidst the rugged mountains of Kabylia to-day, as 50 years back, most journeying must be done on foot.

Train and bus services, useful enough in linking the larger towns and cities, are of little help in reaching these scattered multitudes ; and in these modern times the motor-car has therefore become the indispensable ally of the missionary, extending enormously the radius of the itinerary, and permitting of a wider area being covered in the course of a few days than could once have been tackled in many months.

We are publishing as an inset to this copy of the NEWS LETTER an article written by our veteran missionary, Mr. A. R. Shorey, of Algeria, entitled "Itinerating Under Difficulties," in which he gives a graphic impression of the rigours, as well as the encouragements, of village preaching during the stormier months of the year.

### "Off the Beaten Track"

THE quaintness of the scene depicted in the frontispiece is typical of the pleasant surprises attending practically every excursion into the fastnesses of this truly fascinating land, wherein every kind of landscape is encountered, from verdant valley to scorching desert, and where, too, the amazing variety among the types of natives is reflected in the corresponding diversity of their dwelling-places, manners and customs.

The snapshot was taken at Toujane, in Southern Tunisia, when the writer, accompanied by the late Miss Christine Tinling, was approaching Matmata, country of the *troglodytes*, or cave-dwellers. This is an arid region where rain scarcely ever falls, and consequently grain can be stored upon the roof-tops in what appear from a distance to be enormous jars, of the kind described in "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves," but which prove, upon closer acquaintance, to be cornbins cleverly woven from *alfalfa*, the fibrous sparto grass of the Tunisian uplands.

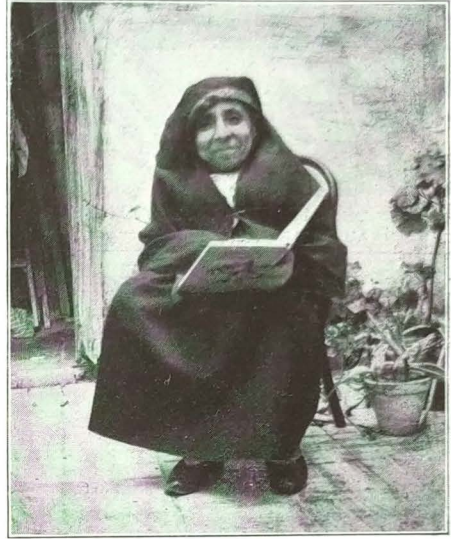
But in the midst of so much that is full of human interest, the missionary is swift to sense the deep, spiritual poverty that unites the many peoples of this land in a common need of Christ.

### "Little Owaysha"

"It must have been in the early 'nineties that one of the missionaries found Owaysha. She was lying on a bed in the corner of her mother's house. When invited to visit the Mission House, the mother protested, saying, 'Surely you will not go with the *Roumia* !'\* ;

\*Foreigner.

but Owaysha held out her arms, and was delighted to be carried off.



"Little" Owaysha

"In those days she was almost crippled, and very feeble. Mr. Michell, an early N.A.M. missionary in Tunisia, made her a pair of crutches, and with these she was able to move about quite nimbly. Then one summer her stepfather opened a café at Korbous, a spa near Tunis. Sunshine and sea air completed the cure ; and though Owaysha was never robust, she managed to get through a full day's work.

#### "OWAYSHA'S CONVERSION AND BAPTISM—"

"In the early years of this century, Owaysha desired to confess by baptism her faith in the Lord Jesus as her only Saviour ; so, there being at that time no baptistry available, she was baptised one sunny morning in the sea, on the shores of the Gulf of Tunis. At that time the beaches around Tunis were quiet, beautiful spots, surrounded by fields of marigolds, purple anemones and starry daisies. The post-war eruption of bungalows and bathing-huts had not yet come !

"When the Girls' Hostel was opened Owaysha helped there for several years, but later on her mother's long illness kept her at home. She nursed her mother devotedly ; indeed, her feeble physique never fully recovered from the strain.

"Twice a week she has been a mainstay in the classes for women and girls. Even dark, cold mornings did not deter her. By seven



Photo by]

A Kabyle Mountain Village

[the late J. W. Gordon-Oswald, Esq.

## Itinerating Under Difficulties

By Mr. A. R. SHOREY, *Algiers.*

Early in June I joined Mr. Arthur on a Gospel tour in a part of the country seldom visited. During this itinerary—of six days' duration—we were accompanied by Mr. Sears and two native brethren, Said Abaoudou (Methodist Mission) and Mohammed of Tazmalt (Mr. Griffiths' helper). We had two motor cars, two small tents, and cooking utensils; and a Kabyle man came with us to look after the cars and baggage while we visited Kabyle villages and cafés—some 30 in all during the tour.

It rained early in the morning of our first day, and the whole day long the sky was very cloudy. We went first to a Kabyle café near a market-place, after which our band divided into two groups, so that we might the better reach the villages around. In the afternoon a thick mist enveloped the mountains, so that one could only see a few paces ahead. However, we all met again at a café towards the evening and asked the keeper to bring some coffee. The man made no reply, but just locked up the shop and went off to his village! It was getting late, and no doubt he wanted to arrive home before dark.

Fortunately, we had given our testimony outside the café previously, before going to the villages; so we made for another place, not far away. Having spoken to the men there, we returned by car to a native out-house (without a door!) standing near the roadside, and arranged to sleep there for the night.

Next morning we packed up and drove a few miles along the Government road, again dividing into two groups. The Kabyle man remained behind to look after the cars and our belongings while we made for the villages. The atmosphere was very warm and heavy. Poor Mohammed (from Tazmalt) had tooth-ache, and his swollen face made us very sorry for him. He carried on, however, and had no thought of remaining behind.

In the afternoon a storm broke over us, and as the ground became too wet for putting up the tents, Said Abaoudou suggested that we should make for the Mission house at the Ouadhias, some few miles away, where he lives. On the way another storm burst over our heads. The water rushed down the mountain-side in torrents, and in places the Government road had the appearance

of a river. There was the possibility, too, of the road becoming blocked, as is often the case during stormy weather in Kabylia. However, praise the Lord! we arrived safely at the station of the Methodist Mission, and were welcomed by the ladies residing on the compound. Our gear was brought under shelter, and we slept in the mission hall for the night.

Next day we returned to the villages passed on the road. The sun shone brightly and it was very warm. Once more we divided up into two groups, Mr. Sears, Said and myself going to a Koranic college. We had quite an interesting audience comprising some 20 or 30 students, whilst others also listened to our messages. There was one sheikh present who came from a tribe close to Boghni, where I had lived for five years.

Hardly any objections were offered, though our messages provoked a number of questions. Some Scriptures were left with sheikhs and students.

We roamed about after this, but met by arrangement at a market towards 1.30 p.m. We spoke to the men in the café, and then went back to villages that we had been unable to visit on the way.

Yet another storm was brewing, and we were a long way from the motor cars on the Government road. Stopping at the village café we were just in time to shelter from another heavy downpour of rain. A well-to-do man came in and told the proprietor to give us some native tea. Being all rather tired (for we had walked a long distance) this rest by the wayside gave us fresh courage. Thanking our good friend for the welcome refreshment, we addressed 20 or 30 men inside the café.

The rain, by this time, had ceased; but we found the Kabyle roads extremely muddy, and having reached the cars, decided to return again to the mission-station for the night. It was well that we did, for it rained practically the whole night, and next morning the prospect was anything but inviting. However, we set off in another direction, towards the Djudjura Mountains, where the villages are fairly close together and the people tolerably well-off.

Amongst those we met were the former Kaid of the tribe, and a sheikh who, after listening to our message, said "It is good." The evening being fine, we pitched our tents by the river-side in a secluded spot, away from the villages.

Next morning we returned to the Ouadhia Mission Station, and as it was "medicine day" we found some 40 to 50 women and girls and 30 or more men awaiting the arrival of the French doctor. I was asked to give the message, and did so with pleasure.

We had a fine meeting at the junction of two villages, but three or four young men pretended that everything came into existence quite naturally, apart from God. Of course, we opposed this idea, and had all the other men of the audience on our side.

Mr. Arthur and Said had a big crowd around them in another spot, where Mr. Sears, Mohammed and I later on joined them. Two old men were very keen on upholding their prophet, but the other men were more interested in the testimony of Mr. Arthur and Said.

That night we put up our two tents on the mountain top, about half an hour's walk from a Kabyle village; but between nine and ten o'clock yet another thunder-storm came on. At one time it looked as though our tents might be blown down. The water found its way through, and I hear that Mr. Sears has since been seriously ill. His bed got soaked, the ground sheet not being sufficient to keep the mattress dry.

Next day we went to more villages and cafés, then made for Azazga.

On Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Arthur and I went to Djemâa Sahridj for the morning service in Kabyle, but there were only six Kabyle men present. From Djemâa we went to Takouren for the Breaking of Bread, and later on had a service in French.

On Tuesday Mr. Arthur and I had a long day out visiting other villages in the Azazga district. Altogether we had some fine meetings, with very little real opposition—the Lord's goodness and mercy filling our hearts with gratitude and praise for the privilege of witnessing to our Lord and Saviour.

The Hon. Treasurer acknowledges with thanks the following contributions received from September 1st, 1939, to December 31st, 1939.

LIST OF RECEIPTS.

GENERAL FUND.

Table with 16 columns: No. of Rect., Amount (£ s. d.), No. of Rect., Amount (£ s. d.), No. of Rect., Amount (£ s. d.), No. of Rect., Amount (£ s. d.), No. of Rect., Amount (£ s. d.), No. of Rect., Amount (£ s. d.), No. of Rect., Amount (£ s. d.), No. of Rect., Amount (£ s. d.). Rows include various receipt numbers and amounts, with some entries marked as 'Anon.' or 'Legacy'.

**LIST OF RECEIPTS—continued.**

**DESIGNATED FUND.—Receipts from September 1st to December 31st, 1939.**

No. of Rect.	Amount. £ s. d.	No. of Rect.	Amount. £ s. d.
" M "	1 0 0	5	2 9 0
3878*	1 0 0	6	10 16 5
9	2 0 0	7	12 19 10
3880	6 15 0	8	21 5 0
1	2 0 0	9	3 3 0
2	1 1 0	3960	15 0 0
3	2 4 0	1	12 7 7
4	15 0 0	2	2 0 0
5	12 15 0	3	14 14 0
*6	9 8 4	4	1 5 0
7	3 0 0	5	2 0 0
8	18 6 0	6	4 17 6
9	3 0 0	7	3 19 8
3890	15 0 0	8	5 5 0
1	10 0	*9	10 1 0
2	1 0 0	3970	1 8 6
3	3 0 0	1	17 3 11
4	21 5 0	2	12 19 0
5	1 0 0	3	5 8
6	12 18 0	4	11 5 2
7	2 0 0		
8	10 0		
9	11 5 2		
3901	5 0 0	Sund.	£580 15 1
2	10 0 0		30 0 11
3	2 0 0		
4	20 0 0		£610 16 0
*5	9 15 0		
6	16 13 9		
7	2 0 0		
8	6 6 9		
9	15 0		
3910	1 0 0		
1	1 0 0		
2	5 0 0		
3	30 0 0		
4	22 15 0		
5	12 6		
6	6 0 0		
7	1 0 0		
*8	5 4		
*9	3 0 0		
3920	6 0 0		
1	5 0 0		
2	10 0 0		
3	5 0 0		
4	2 10 0		
5	17 18 0		
6	1 0 0		
7	4 17 11		
8	6 0 0		
9	1 17 6		
3930	2 0 0		
1	2 0 0		
2	10 0		
3	1 17 6		
4	7 15 0		
5	13 6		
6	2 0 0		
7	2 0 0		
8	10 0		
9	2 0 0		
3940*	9 15 1		
1	3 0 0		
2	2 16 0		
3	20 0 0		
*4	2 10 0		
5	2 0 0		
6	1 0 0		
7	1 0 0		
8	15 0 0		
9	7 10 0		
3950	1 3 6		
1	1 10 0		
2	1 5 0		
3	2 0 0		

BELFAST AUXILIARY	
Mrs. BOLTON, Hon. Sec.,	10 0
Gordonville, Cregagh, Belfast.	21 5 0
Des. Receipt Nos. 3920/3934/3966	15 0 0
Local Rect. No. £ s. d.	12 7 7
22	5 0 0
3	1 0 0
4	5 0 0
5	5 0 0
6	2 0 0
7	10 0
8	2 6
9	1 0 0
30	15 0
1	3 0 0
	£18 12 6
	£580 15 1
	30 0 11
	£610 16 0
WIMBLEDON AUXILIARY	
S. S. McCURRY, Esq., Hon. Sec.,	2 0 0
46, Eglantine Avenue, Belfast.	2 1
Des. Receipt Nos. 3880/3885/3888	3 8
3896/3926/3949/	2 1
Local Rect. No. £ s. d.	12 0
223	5 0
4	4 0
5	1 0
6	10 0
7	1 0
8	3 0
9	5 0
230	5 0
1	4 0
2	10 0
3	2 0
4	2 0
5	1 0
6	16 0
7	2 0
8	10 0
9	10 0
240	10 0
1	5 0
2	5 0
3	10 0
4	5 6
5	10 0
6	2 6
8	1 0
9	1 0
No.1	1 0 0
2	1 0 0
3	10 0
4	3 0 0
5	10 0
6	3 0 0
7	3 3 0
8	1 0 0

ANNIESLAND AUXILIARY	
Mr. D. GILLIES, Hon. Sec.,	1 0 0
1,597, Great Western Road, Annesland, Glasgow, W.3.	1 10 0
Gen. Receipt No. 5151.	5 0 0
Local Rect. No. £ s. d.	1 0 0
88	10 0
9	3 0
90	1 0 0
1	2 0 0
2	10 0
3	1 0 0
4	7 6
5	10 0
6	5 0
7	2 0
	£6 7 6
WHITSTABLE AUXILIARY	
Miss I. CADRY, Hon. Sec.,	2 0 0
At "Braeside," Borstal Hill, Whitstable.	1 0 0
Gen. Receipt No. 5262	15 0
Local Rect. No. £ s. d.	3 0 0
39	7 8
40	3 0
1	2 6
2	3 3
3	5 9
4	4 0
5	5 0
6	2 6
7	5 4
	£1 19 0
BRIGHTON AUXILIARY	
Miss K. HARRISON, Hon. Sec.,	2 10 0
107, West End Av., Harrogate.	3 2 0
Gen. Receipt No. 4981	4 2 0
Local Rect. No. £ s. d.	5 1 0
22	16 0
3	2 0
4	10 0
5	10 0
6	3 0
7	10 0
8	4 6
9	2 6
30	5 0
1	6 6
2	6 0
3	2 0
4	2 6
5	1 0
6	2 0
7	4 6
8	7 0
9	12 0
6	3 6
	£3 16 0

HARROGATE AUXILIARY	
Miss WATTS, Hon. Sec.,	1 0 0
107, West End Av., Harrogate.	1 0 0
Gen. Receipt No. 4981	2 6
Local Rect. No. £ s. d.	3 0
22	5 0
3	1 0
4	10 0
5	10 0
6	2 6
7	10 0
8	10 0
9	2 6
30	2 6
1	10 0
2	5 0
3	10 0
4	10 0
5	4 6
6	2 6
7	2 6
8	6 6
9	6 0
30	2 0
1	2 6
2	2 0
3	4 6
4	7 0
5	12 0
6	3 6
	£7 1 6

SUMMARY.	
SEPTEMBER, 1939.	
General Fund ...	£361 7 6
Designated Fund ...	58 5 9
	<u>£439 13 3</u>
OCTOBER, 1939.	
General Fund ...	£531 4 11
Designated Fund ...	152 19 4
	<u>£724 4 3</u>
NOVEMBER, 1939.	
General Fund ...	£570 9 5
Designated Fund ...	128 7 2
	<u>£698 16 11</u>
DECEMBER, 1939.	
General Fund ...	£1,105 5 6
Designated Fund ...	191 3 6
	<u>£1,296 9 3</u>
TOTALS.	
January 1st to December 31st, 1939.	
General Fund ...	£8,155 11 8
Designated Fund ...	2,161 5 9
	<u>£10,316 17 5</u>

o'clock she would appear (the last two years using a stick), bearing a marked resemblance to the Fairy Godmother in the Cinderella story. Two years ago, when the classes suffered severe opposition from some unruly hooligans, little Owaysha was badly hurt by a stone: nevertheless, despite cries of 'Kouffira' (infidel) she persevered in her work for her Master and Lord.

**"HER HOME-CALL—**

"Owaysha was called Home on December 4th. She had been very ill this autumn, and although for a time she seemed to get better, a chill was contracted, and pneumonia supervened. The end came with merciful quickness.

"Little Owaysha she will always be to her friends here, for although old by Arab standards of reckoning, she was so tiny in herself: but she had a big personality, and the courage of a small bull-terrier.

"Her favourite text was Rev. 3, 20: 'Behold, I stand at the door, and knock.' How we shall miss her, particularly at the classes, where all loved her!"

From MISS H. M. M. TAPP.

## Homecall of Pioneer Missionaries

DURING recent months no fewer than six North Africa workers—all veterans, living in retirement—have been called Home. The names of four of them take us back to the very earliest pioneering days in Algeria and Morocco.

Reference has already been made, in our last NEWS LETTER, to the passing of Mr. Finotto and those "good companions," Miss Jennings and Mademoiselle Nicolet, of Morocco.

Now it is Kabylia that, within the space of a few weeks, has lost three of its pioneer workers: Monsieur H. S. Mayor, one of the very first missionaries, who arrived in the country in 1881; Monsieur E. Cuendet, who followed in 1884; and finally Madame Hocart (1886).

## Some Brief Biographical Notes

HAD we the space at our disposal that was formerly available in *North Africa*, we would gladly furnish our readers with a much fuller account of the life and labours of these heroic workers than is here possible. That they encountered, and surmounted, a host of obstacles which, for the modern missionary recruit, have simply ceased to exist, may be taken

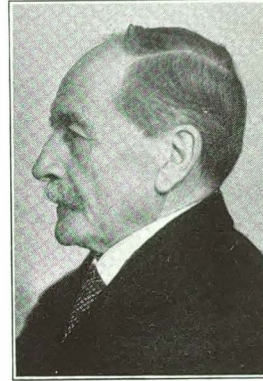
for granted; but the true character of the hardships they endured—the primitive conditions under which they lived and laboured, the wearing loneliness so courageously borne, the arduous linguistic progress in the complete absence of expert help, the heart-break occasioned by the loss of infant children—all this is fully remembered by God alone.

If Mr. E. H. Glenny was "the father of the North Africa Mission," then **Monsieur H. S. Mayor** was the *doyen* of the missionary fraternity, for he first set foot in Algeria in 1881, and fifty years of his life were spent in work for God in that country, though his actual membership of the N.A.M. was of brief duration. Perhaps the most splendid thing one can relate concerning him is that when, after burying three of their five children in the Mission compound, Madame Mayor returned to Switzerland

with the bairns that had survived, Monsieur Mayor carried on alone for quite a number of years.

He is still remembered among the Kabyles to whom he devoted his life as "Mayor the God."

**Monsieur E. Cuendet**, who, in 1934, completed 50 years of service in Algeria, survived his wife by little more than a year. (Madame Cuendet passed away in June, 1938.) He will always be remembered for his remarkable translation work; and his rendering of the

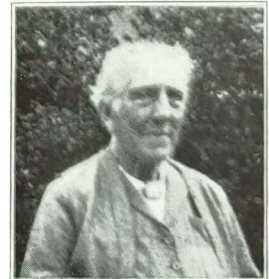


The late Monsieur E. Cuendet

complete Bible into the Kabyle tongue will abide as an imperishable memorial of his scholarly labours.

After 54 years of happy married life, **Madame Hocart** has also been called Home. With her husband, who in latter years has been associated with Mr. Warren in work among Kabyles in Paris, Madame Hocart began her missionary career in 1886 at Bougie, in Algeria—not far from the spot where that devoted pioneer of another age, Raymond Lull, was stoned to death. During the 13 strenuous years spent in Kabylia, splendid work was done, including the opening of a medical mission, and the development of classes for native children. The Hocarts discovered, like the Mayors before them, that the missionary's home is not immune from the epidemics that so often prevail in these lands; and a tiny grave out yonder in Kabylia is poignant evidence that devotion to the Lord's work in those early years was costly indeed.

Before she began her 53 years of work in Morocco, **Miss C. S. Jennings** had already spent a term of missionary service in India. That period had threatened to end fatally, for a severe attack of typhoid fever brought our sister to the very gates of the



The late Miss C. S. Jennings

grave. How amazingly complete was the recovery, the ensuing half-century in Morocco abundantly testifies.

A volume of anecdotes illustrating Miss Jennings' career in Morocco would be both inspiring and entertaining. Her courage, fortitude and good humour were proverbial, and have won her an abiding place in the hearts of her many friends.

Her companion through many years, **Mademoiselle M. L. Nicolet** (whose death was announced in the last NEWS LETTER), although little known to most of us in the Homeland, endeared herself to many in Casablanca during her years of faithful missionary service.

To the surviving relatives who mourn the loss of these pioneer warriors whose memory so inspires us—particularly to our dear brother Monsieur Hocart—we would express our deepest sympathy.

## *A Kabyle Fisher of Men*

SEVEN years ago there appeared in our magazine, *North Africa*, the striking story of a Kabyle man, between thirty and forty years of age, who had been "made wise unto salvation" solely through the diligent and prayerful study of the Word of GOD, read side by side with the Koran.

Thanks to our faithful missionary correspondent, Mr. Shorey of Algiers, we have, during the intervening years, been kept in intimate touch with this dear man's growth in grace; and at many of our monthly gatherings for prayer at Headquarters he has been a special subject for earnest prayer.

Not only has Lekheder—for such is his name—been blessed in his courageous testimony to the Lord Jesus among fellow-Kabyles in many centres, but from a recent letter we learn that Lekheder's entire household, *seven believers*, now gather together for prayer. Could there be either a more glowing tribute to the consistency of Lekheder's life before his home folk, or a more gladdening proof of the sufficiency of the grace of GOD in the heart of a native believer?

"Lekheder, and the church that is in his household." What a theme for praise and prayer!

## *"Heightside"---"Slavanka" "Keswick"*

AFTER careful consideration of the many complications arising from existing conditions, and the uncertain trend of events, the Council of the N.A.M. have decided that it would be wiser *not* to hold the usual Easter Convention.

We are hoping, however, to have a three-day SUMMER CONFERENCE at "Slavanka," Southbourne, Bournemouth, from Saturday

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evening, June 29th, to Wednesday morning, July 3rd. Further details will be published later, D.V. ★

Since the arranging of an N.A.M. House-party for the forthcoming KESWICK CONVENTION is entirely dependent upon the desires of our friends, will those who would like to join us, GOD willing, and circumstances permitting, kindly get in touch *immediately* with Mr. A. J. Deer, 34, Bisham Gardens, Highgate, N.6.

## *Our Publications:*

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

WE would remind our subscribers that although the Mission Magazine, *North Africa*, may be suspended for the duration of war, we are hoping there will be at least six issues of the NEWS LETTER during the year, dispatched from Headquarters in the middle of every alternate month.

The considerably cheaper production costs of the NEWS LETTER make it possible for us to broadcast it as free literature at deputation meetings; but we are nevertheless grateful to the many friends whose subscriptions to *North Africa*, sent as a separate item, help towards meeting the rising expenses of printing and posting.

## *Births*

ON October 19th, 1939, to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ewing, of Bône, Algeria, a third daughter—Elizabeth Frances.

ON December 20th, 1939, to Mr. and Mrs. Roy Smith, of Petitjean, Morocco, a second daughter—Jeanette Ruth.

To these dear missionary friends we offer our hearty, if somewhat tardy, congratulations, praying that the Lord may tenderly shelter these little ones, and richly bless the testimony of the Christian homes in which they are being brought up "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."

## *Further Homecalls*

Since preparing the above for press, tidings have reached us of the passing of Dr. ELLIOTT GLENNY, eldest son of the late Mr. E. H. Glenny, founder of the North Africa Mission; and also of the Homecall of yet another N.A.M. veteran, Rev. MILTON H. MARSHALL. Further details will be furnished in our next "NEWS LETTER," D.V. Meanwhile, we would express our loving sympathy with the many relatives and friends who mourn the loss of these dear ones.

★ Learning that the Fellowship of Faith for the Moslems' Conference dates at "Slavanka" (JUNE 7-12) are in such close proximity to our own, we have decided to waive our separate effort and to combine with the F.F.M.