

Continuing "NORTH AFRICA."

# The N.A.M. News Letter



OFFICE OF THE NORTH AFRICA MISSION, 34, BISHAM GARDENS, HIGHGATE, LONDON, N. 6

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

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Photo by]

## ENTRANCE TO A MOSQUE IN FEZ, MOROCCO

[O. L. Carnegie

*This snapshot was taken within the entrance portico of one of the loveliest mosques in Morocco. The exquisite detail of arabesque and mosaic work can be clearly seen. It is exceedingly sad that so lovely a building should enshrine a religious system that is a satanic masterpiece. The young man at the doorway is a Moslem student who may already be a proselytising missionary of Islam. Behind him is a Moslem performing the ablutions that precede every act of worship; but it is a "laver" that by-passes the "altar of burnt offering," for the gospel of Islam is a Bloodless gospel. How we need to pray that the satanic veil may be lifted from the blinded minds of these unbelievers, that they might realize there is no cleansing apart from the Blood of the Lamb!*

Page one

## Our Annual Meetings

WHILST the company of friends that filled the Court Room at the Caxton Hall on Thursday, May 28, obviously could not be compared with our large peacetime gatherings in the Great Hall, it was an immense improvement upon the handful which, heralded by the sirens and welcomed with gunfire, met on the previous occasion, in September, 1940!

After a session of prayer, conducted by the Rev. S. J. Henman, the afternoon meeting was opened at 3.30 by the Chairman, Mr. E. T. Morriss. The first speaker was Miss Mabel Jones, converted—by America's entry into the war—from "friendly alien" to "ally"! She gave a graphic account of the work being done, in partnership with Miss Ada Clack, among evacuees in North Wales.

The concluding pair of speakers were Mrs. Short and Mrs. Long, whose names were thus once again humorously associated on the platform. They gave touching and helpful messages.

After a brief tea interval, an augmented company reassembled, the evening gathering (beginning as early as 5.30) being under the chairmanship of the Rev. E. J. Poole-Connor, and led in prayer by the Rev. J. Russell Howden, a beloved friend of the Mission whose presence with us gave general pleasure.

The speakers were Mrs. Webb (daughter, as the Chairman reminded us, of C. H. Spurgeon's private secretary), Mrs. J. A. Liley (who is rendering splendid service just now in the deputation department), and the Editorial Secretary, Pastor E. J. Long, of "Bethesda" Chapel, Sunderland.

An outstandingly interesting feature of the evening meeting was the reading, by Mr. O. L. Carnegie, the Honorary Secretary, of messages of greeting sent by many missionaries of the N.A.M., both on the Field and in the Homeland. [The major portion of this NEWS LETTER has been given over to the publishing of these messages.—*Ed.*] In

response to Mr. Carnegie's invitation, friends rose to their feet in token of their desire that a suitable telegram of reciprocal greetings be sent to missionaries in North Africa, through Mr. Warren as intermediary.

Our own impression, confirmed by that of many friends present, was that this was one of the happiest Annual Meetings we have known—the more intimate atmosphere of the smaller room probably helping both speaker and hearer. Best of all, the Lord was with us in gracious power.

## Greetings from the Field

THE following messages of greeting, sent from missionaries in North Africa for the Annual Meetings at Caxton Hall, on May 28, represent the most recent tidings from the Field, and we feel sure that our NEWS LETTER friends will be glad to read them:—

From the **Misses Buxton and Reed**, Settat: "Our message is Psalm 103, 1: 'Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless His holy name.' We would praise Him for answered prayers on our behalf, for increased opportunities, for the supply of every need, and for the comfort which, in all the varying circumstances of these days, Romans 8, 28, never fails to bring: 'And we know that all things work together for good to them that love GOD, to them that are the called according to His purpose.'"

From **Miss I. Dew**, Rabat: "'And they shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down in the Kingdom of GOD.' This land, Morocco, is called in Arabic 'Blad El Moghreb,' which is 'The Land of the West,' so these people are actually included in this promise of the Lord. . . . What an incentive to prayer! The labourers are very many fewer than before the war, so there is much more need for you to pray for us who remain, that we may be led of the Lord to those whose hearts are prepared for the Message of His grace."

From **Miss G. Sharpe**, Rabat: "'Thou art my GOD. I am Thy servant. This is my Beloved; this is my friend.'

“The above texts express far better than any words of mine what is in my heart these days, for it is such a joy to serve Him, and to see how He is graciously blessing and encouraging. *I am sure it is because we have such faithful prayer partners at the Home base.* Please convey to them all my warm greetings in the Name of our blessed Saviour.”

From the **Misses Bradbury and Low, Tetuan**: “We are so glad to testify to the Lord’s lovingkindness in supplying all our needs, and allowing us to carry on unhindered. Friendly homes are open to us, but we long for more than a superficial interest in the Message we have come to bring. There is little conviction of personal sin and need of a Saviour. Will you, by your prayers, be a ‘Link in the chain of Love,’ to draw these dear folk to the Lord Jesus?”

From **Dr. Anderson, Tulloch Memorial Hospital, Tangier**: “We are now thinking of and praying for the coming Annual Meeting in London. May it be a time of rich blessing for all present, and may it result in great things for North Africa!

“So far as the Hospital is concerned, we feel that it is a day of great opportunity. Medical and surgical work is opening the way to many minds and hearts. Please ask friends to pray that through the lives of the Staff—Native and European—many may have their eyes opened to see the Invisible Physician of Souls, and commit themselves to Him who makes *all things new*.”

From **Nurse N. Bowker, Tangier**: “How often we sing with the Psalmist, ‘Teach me Thy way, O Lord’—and if we ask the Psalmist *why* he sang it, he replies, ‘Because of mine enemies . . . for false witnesses are risen up against me, and such as breathe out cruelty.’

“Some of our friends are afraid to come to us because of these false witnesses; and many of those who do come are afraid to listen to our message. Sadder still, there are some who know the Lord, but are afraid to let their light shine brightly, for this same fear that is spreading over the world, and entering into men’s hearts.

“But, praise the Lord, there are still those who cry with the Psalmist, ‘Teach me Thy way, O Lord’; and so we would wait on the Lord in prayer together. He *will* strengthen our hearts. ‘Wait, I say, on the Lord.’”

From **Mrs. Ross, Algiers**: “My message would be a modified rendering of Deut. 2, 7: ‘These forty years the Lord hath been with me, and I have lacked nothing.’ I came out to this land in 1902, and *many* experiences have I had of the faithfulness of our GOD. And during these difficult days of 1942, Psalm 103, 4, is still true: ‘Who redeemeth thy life from destruction: Who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies’ . . .”

From **Miss M. Ross, Algiers**: “My little message for friends at the Annual Meetings is from Isaiah 63, 7: ‘I will mention the lovingkindness of the Lord, and the praises of the Lord, according to all that the Lord hath bestowed upon us.’”

From **Miss Marsh, Mekla**: “‘We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.’ The new worker is not long on the Field before he or she finds what a terrific fight it is, against the very powers of Hell. But ‘thanks be unto GOD, Who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.’ ‘And this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.’”

From **Mr. S. Arthur, Azazga**: “Missions, too, are in the melting-pot! We missionaries of the Cross are being proved in the crucible! Pray for us as we stand still (not idly) and look ahead (not fearfully, but trustfully). ‘He knoweth the way that I take.’”

From **Miss Drury, Tangier**: “‘Behold, I set before you an open door, and no man can shut it.’ This is our real experience at Tangier: open doors to homes, and a welcome in spite of the devil working. . . . Pray that we may be faithful in these days of great opportunity.”

From **Miss G. Lincoln, Tangier**: “‘Ebenezer’! He who has brought us hither will lead us through the thick of the fight to that sure and certain victory in Christ Jesus our Lord. . . . Brethren, pray for us; that the Word might go forth mightily!”

From **Mr. L. Booking, Cherchell**: “The words of Jacob, ‘all these things are against

me,' might serve to sum up our present situation. State restrictions; Roman Catholic zeal and bigotry; Moslem stubbornness and fanaticism; the fear of man; false teaching among the little flock; these, and ill-health, have all contributed to bring our work here to an *apparent* standstill. Yet, as in the days of Paul, when all seemed so opposed to the work of the Gospel, with him we may say, 'but the Word of God is not bound.' . . . I think we are learning these days, that it is not the amount of work done, or outwardly successful service, that is of paramount importance, but rather our personal relationship to Christ: 'He that abideth in Me, and I in him, *the same bringeth forth much fruit.*'"

## Greetings from Missionaries in the Homeland

FROM **Miss H. M. M. Tapp**, Dornoch: "The Vision is yet for an appointed time . . . though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry' (Hab. 2, 3). Pray for the scattered women and girls of Tunis, who have the Word in their hearts, if not on their lips. . . . Also for the readers in many villages around Tunis who possess copies of the Scriptures."

From **Mrs. Padilla**, Norfolk: "Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established' (Prov. 16, 3). If our *works* are under the Lord's control, our *thoughts* will, of necessity, become established, guided, ordered: mind and action will be thus co-ordinated—to His glory. . . ."

From **Mr. Ewing**, Belfast: "And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee' (Gen. 28, 15). This promise was given us *before we came home on furlough* . . . and we look forward to the fulfilment of the latter part of the verse in GOD'S own time and way . . ."

From **Miss E. Turner**, Bristol: "This message is a call to prayer: 1. That we should individually pray more insistently and with greater faith for definite conversions among Moslems. 2. That the Church, as a whole, may realize its neglect of the

Moslem world, and that to evangelize it is 'not only a duty, but an imperative and urgent necessity.'

"Could we not form a Crusade that seeks to enlist all evangelical Church Fellowships, and all individual Christian friends, into an army of intercessors?"

From **Miss G. E. Petter**, Silverton, near Exeter: "Many friends of 'Bethesda,' Tunis, will be interested to hear that news has come through direct to Miss Gotelee and myself. The family Falzon has done exceeding well in keeping meetings and classes going during our absence. The meetings are well attended; the Sunday and Thursday Schools are much appreciated by the children; and news has come that four of our Jewish girls have openly confessed the Lord Jesus as Saviour, as well as two of our Italian girls. This gives us much joy.

"**Mr. Brown** has felt led to take charge of the Italian work for the time being. He now preaches in Italian, and our friends speak with gratitude of his great help. . . . Miss Martin is also taking a most active share in the class work . . ."

From **Miss E. Fearnley**, Lancs.: "I prayed, and the Lord hath given me my petition which I asked of Him. (1 Sam. 1, 27)." (How we join with our dear sister in praising the Lord for His gracious healing!)

## Finance

IN order to economise both in paper and postage, the Council have decided to limit the number of printed copies of the financial statement for the year ended Dec. 21, 1941. The balance sheet has been duly audited by Messrs. Hill, Vellacott and Co., and will be sent on request to any friend of the Mission.

## How a Moslem was saved

"IN reading the New Testament I came to know that I was a great sinner, and that in all the world none was free from sin except Christ. Now I felt the need of some helper who would save me from sin. Christ seemed to be calling me from one direction and my relatives from another. At last the desire for eternal life and the infinite love of Christ won the victory over all else."