

Confidential.

All-India Missionaries to Muslims League.

NEWS AND NOTES, No. 2.

June 1912.

And what though earth and sea His glory do proclaim,
Though on the stars is writ that great and dreadful Name;
Yea—hear me, Son of Man—with tears my eyes are dim,
I cannot read the word that calls me close to Him;
I say it *after Thee*, with faltering voice and weak,
“Father of Jesus Christ”—this is the God I seek.—*Anonymous.*

The Progress of the League: As will be seen on the last page, our membership is small as yet, but we take courage in the thought that it is the result of only one month's canvass. It will have to be doubled, however, if we would *print* our “News and Notes” monthly, so will each member endeavour to enrol one other in this prayer-link-fellowship for the evangelization of the Muslims of India.

Canon Hooper writes that he has been accustomed to pray specially for work amongst Muhammadans on Monday. We think if all the members of the League could join him on that day, and focus prayer upon the requests given in these pages, our link would be complete.

The Muslim Awakening: It is many years ago now since Syed Ahmed Khan went about India urging Muhammadans to adopt Western education. He used to say that his community was ‘suffering from a deep-seated disease for which the medicine was English education.’ He was in constant fear of his life. In one of his tours for the purpose of raising money for his College scheme, the friend he was staying with found one night that he had left his bed and was pacing the verandah alone with tears streaming down his face. He was asked if he had received bad news concerning his family. He replied, “It is not of my family that I am thinking, but of the plight of my people. I know well what our reception will be to-morrow when I ask for money to teach English, the people will answer by flinging stones and abuse at me; but my wretched heart will not let me give up.” The Muslims have travelled far since then, and now in almost every town we find those who are advocating the need of a Muhammadan University in India, and are raising subscriptions to bring about the proposal. It is difficult to say whether such an institution, if established, will strengthen Islam. It may become a rallying centre for Pan-Islamism. We rather welcome the proposal: anything rather than the dense ignorance and stupid bigotry so common amongst Muslims at the present time.

IN THE WORK.

Allahabad: A delayed, but very real result of Lucknow 1911, is the starting several months ago of a fortnightly Conference among the women missionaries here who work among Muslims, for the purpose of discussing questions pertaining to this work and for mutual help and prayer in regard to it. We are few in number, but feel that the importance of the subject demands more prayer and thought than we have heretofore given to it. I would like to mention one item of interest, viz., there is a noticeable stir among some of the high-class Muslim women of this city toward learning English and an effort to come into touch with European women, which we hope may be used by God for His glory.

I should like prayer that the Spirit of God may work mightily among the Muslim women of Allahabad, and that He will prepare fit workers to bring to them the light of the Saviour of men.—A. E. W.



Naogaon, Bengal: Last Sunday (May 12th) a man and wife and their daughter (Muhammadans) were baptized. We have a number of enquirers, all Muhammadans, but we decided that only these three were ready at this time. We are hoping and praying for a considerable ingathering soon.

—J. A. M. S.



Dacca: We have a prominent bookstall on our mission premises with an Urdu Section. We are hoping to do more for the Muhammadans.—L. B. J.



Chandpur, E. Bengal: I *Pray* that the power of the Maulvie may be broken, in so far as it is used to misguide enquiring minds. Recently I have met with such blind faith in these Maulvies on the part of the masses, that this seems to be the great obstacle to the progress of the Evangel.—W. P. W.

II. *Pray* (1) that God will open the hearts of the many Muslims who come to our hospital and dispensary to receive the message of the Gospel;

(2) that we and our Indian workers may be given a stronger faith and a more prayerful spirit in view of the great difficulties of the work.—W. H. P.



Rajbari, E. Bengal: *Pray* that several young Muhammadan girls who are receiving Christian teaching in our Mission Schools may be impressed by the beauty and character of the 'True Prophet' as compared with their own.—E. K.



London: Our Society (B.M.S.) has appointed the Rev. W. Goldsack for special work amongst the Muhammadans of Bengal. I rejoice, as I am sure you do, that our Society has at last made a beginning in this direction.—J. R.



Gonda, U.P.: You will be glad to hear that my son will be in Jerusalem for one year from September 20th for special study, having taken a Hebrew scholarship. I have asked him to use as much of his time as he can on Arabic.—N. L. R.

Brahmanbaria, Bengal: Some years ago a great stir was made here by the head Maulvie going over to the faith of Mirza Ghulam Ahmed, the Madhi-Messiah of Qadian. The orthodox Muhammadans brought pressure to bear upon him, and as he held a responsible position in the Government School, he arranged a compromise, promising not to go astray any more. But now we hear he is still a strong believer in the Qadiani Madhi, and is influencing many students and others in that direction. If any reader can recommend a suitable Urdu book refuting the teaching of that impostor we should be glad to hear where it may be obtained.—*J. T.*

URDU TRACTS—A SUGGESTION.

DEAR MR. TAKLE,

The Urdu Tracts prepared by the Rev. H. J. Smith, M.A., mentioned in the first issue of *News and Notes*, are doubtless very effective and should have wide circulation. But few of us have special funds to purchase at eight annas per hundred. Can they not be cheapened? Cannot our Publishing House offer be utilized to cheapen them? I think the offer was made with the view of making literature for free distribution easy to get at. I am a member of the Publishing House Committee and I remember that vote carried the idea with it that the demands on the Press must not be too great at any one time. We must have material to print somewhat at our leisure and not great *rush* orders. I speak not from authority but just by way of suggestion.

Yours sincerely,

N. L. ROCKEY.

Gonda, U.P.

(Mr. Rockey refers to the generous offer of the Methodist Publishing House, Lucknow, to furnish free of all cost at Lucknow, and place at the disposal of the Continuation Committee of the Lucknow Conference, a total of 2,000,000 pages of tracts, in Urdu, Persian or Arabic.—*Sec. I.M.M.L.*)

IN BRIEF.

We have received a new tract in Urdu for women, called "*Bibi Miriam*," from the Rev. H. J. Smith of Aurangabad. We presume copies may be obtained from him at the rate mentioned in our last issue.

From the newspapers we learn that "A meeting of the Lahore Muhammadans was held on the 26th February, under the presidency of Fazal Hussain, M.A., Barrister, at which it was resolved to send a strong deputation of the Punjab Muslims to Japan headed by Dr. Iqbal, M.A., LL.D., Barrister, some time Professor of Philosophy in the Government College, Lahore, with a view to Muhammadanise Japan and remain there two months to study the situation."

We are glad to hear that the B.M.S. examining body has given an important place to Islamic subjects in their entrance and annual examinations for Indian preachers.

I. M. M. League.

Ye that are the Lord's remembrancers, take ye no rest, and give Him no rest, till He make Jerusalem [and India] a praise in the earth.

Isa. lxii. 6-7.

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Hon. Secretary,

J. TAKLE,

Brahmanbaria, W. Bengal.