

All-India Missionaries to Muslims League.

NEWS AND NOTES, No. 3.

July 1912.

A NEVER-FAILING PROMISE.

KNOCK! GOD can open doors. He is, as the Muslims say, "the Great Opener." He opens the lips of the dumb to song, the eyes of the blind to sight, and the prison-house to the captive. He opens the doors of utterance and entrance for the Gospel. He opens graves and gates, the windows of heaven and the bars of death. He holds all the keys of every situation. He opens, and no man can shut. He shuts, and no man can open. GOD, the Opener, is not on the outside, but on the inside of the barred doorway. "Knock, and it shall be opened."—S. M. ZWEMER.

A Welcome Message from Dr. Wherry, a veteran worker among Muslims in India: In writing to have his name enrolled as a member, Dr. Wherry expresses his hearty approval of a Workers' League whose main object will be to help by prayer the evangelization of India's millions of Muslims. He gives a note of warning concerning the methods of the League. He says, "My judgment is that all aggressive and militant movements in organization and methods are a mistake. We want to approach the Muslim not as a Muslim but as a lost sinner, keeping before us the soul needs of man rather than their doctrinal or intellectual attitude. To be sure these must be taken into account but not paraded. Everything in the nature of a crusade is too Muslim in its character to fit in with the quiet and peaceful methods of our Lord and His Apostles. I hope we may do much to promote the hand-to-hand personal work method of evangelizing Muslims rather than the controversial and debating methods of the past."

The Purpose of the League: In case some have not understood the purpose of the League we may say that the idea of a crusade in the Muslim sense of the word is farthest from our thoughts. The position is this: the Muhammadans are aggressive in India, using all manner of methods to reach Hindus, Christians and others; their numbers are increasing, and they will not be satisfied until the whole of this land is coloured green on all the religious maps of the world. It has come home to some of us with tremendous force that we have not realized this fact and that we have a duty to our Muslim fellow-subjects. How could this be better brought home to ourselves and to others, than by some union that would link workers together in one determination to keep our Muslim brethren and our work for them constantly to the fore—1. *By Prayer* for definite work being done, and for special cases. 2. *By Information* in the way of suggesting tracts, books and methods of work. 3. *By Stimulation*, through the passing on of news concerning the work being done by the members.

We hope the League will be a means of stirring some to think more seriously of the need of the neglected Muhammadan, and to pray and to work, not in the spirit of the Muslim, but in the spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER AND PRAISE.

1. "Let your requests be made known."—In many stations the Members of the League are constantly in prayer for special enquirers or converts. Let us join them.



Madhopur—Punjab: "We have many interested hearers among the Muhammadans and have had several converts from among them. In our High School in this district we have two recent converts, and one young woman is attending as a day scholar, whose whole family believe in Jesus as the only Saviour, but are not courageous enough to confess Him. *Pray for them.*"—C. E. & R. T. W.



Mussoorie: "I should be glad if you would ask prayers for my cook, a Muhammadan named Ināyar Khūn. He has for some time been *inquiring* into the Christian religion; and, as far as I can make out, without conscious prejudice or prepossession. By his own wish he attends my daily Urdu reading, exposition and prayer for Christian servants; and every Monday morning, immediately after this, he comes to my study for a private talk; and he agrees with all I say (I go into much detail) on the superiority of Christianity to Islam, and Christ to its prophet; but he has not yet said anything about taking the logically consequent step, viz.:—leaving all to follow Christ. I would much rather he mention this spontaneously, but if he does not, I must soon talk to him about it. He is a very unusually nice servant, extraordinarily honest, and thorough in his work. In these respects a Christian servant could hardly excel him. Please ask prayer that he may be given grace to take up the cross and follow Christ wholly; for it will be very hard for him to break with his family and many friends.—W. H.



Noakhali—E. Bengal: "Amongst the Muhammadans of this district, which numbers about 70 per cent of the whole population, I do a great deal of work, and at present have three or four interesting cases.

1. A Moulvie who lives about thirty miles away came for temporal help. After this matter had been disposed of, I gave him a New Testament. He took it with glad surprise. An earnest conversation followed, when he told me that he was seeking peace. He had read the Qurān in order to find the way of salvation, but the book had disappointed him. He said he was more grateful for the gift of the New Testament, than if he had been given a thousand rupees.

2. A peon, who had a Testament given him some years ago, has lost faith in Muhammad. He says, "When Christ was dying, He prayed for others, but Muhammad felt a need to pray for himself . . . Christ never asked forgiveness for His own sins, because He had never sinned, but Muhammad was so full of the thought of his own sin that he could pray for no one but himself." When a Muslim advances thus far, it is for us to remember him specially in prayer.

3. Then there are a school-master and teacher who have called on me lately showing a great earnestness in seeking the way of life, and have taken hundreds of copies of a Bengali Magazine to distribute in their school. I ask for prayer that these may be led by the Spirit."—M. P.



Bankipore: I ask prayer on behalf of work in the town of Behar where we have just established a sub-station. It was the residence of the Muhammadan Governors of Bengal previous to the rebuilding of Patna in 1541.

Muhammadans call it Behar Sharif (or Behar the revered) owing to the many tombs of venerated saints that it contains, and is one of the strongholds of Muhammadanism in this part of the country.—J. I. H.



2. "With Thanksgiving."—Praise God for the news that in all directions there are signs that Muhammadans are beginning to listen to the preaching of the Word with more earnestness.



Moulvie Bazaar—S. Sylhet: "The Muhammadans here are changing. I get daily enquirers, and very few use the old arguments. Some are really in earnest and I know the Lord is working in their hearts. How glorious it would be to see a movement towards Christ among the Muslims of Eastern Bengal. Are we ready for this?—J. P. J.



Banka: "A Muhammadan student is coming regularly to read the English Bible with me. He was totally ignorant of the Scriptures, and it is a study to see his face as we read the Old Testament Scriptures as referred to in the New. He looks very perplexed as one after another the prophets are shown to be but sinful men, and I am afraid he thinks that before long Muhammad will have to be classed with them."



Brahmanbaria—E. Bengal: "It was our privilege during the past month to baptize a Muhammadan and his wife from one of our out-stations. For many years he has been well known in E. Bengal as a singer and musician of the fakir type. We hope he will now become our sweet singer of Israel. —J. T.

NEWS AND NOTES.

In our May Number we referred to the Missionary Schools of study to be held in Simla and Mussoorie. We hear from Mussoorie that about forty to fifty missionaries are attending the double course on Islam and Hinduism. One of our members, the Rev. C. G. Mylrea, B.A., is the Lecturer on Islam. He is dealing with the necessity of a general and topical knowledge of the Quran, also with the Quranic ideas of God, Jesus, Man and Sin. Our correspondent thinks these study schools will be most valuable.

Islam in Tibet: Rai S. C. Das Bahadur, the noted Tibetan traveller, gave a lecture recently in Darjeeling on "Islam in China and Higher Asia." It has been published in full in the June Number of "The Modern Review." He says, "In Tibet Islam has made very little progress. When I was in Tibet in 1879, 1881 and 1882 I did not find many Muhammadans in Lhasa and other places of higher Tibet. According to Mr. J. R. Muir there are now 2,000 Muslim families in Lhasa and 2,000 more scattered over the surrounding provinces. At Suchoing on the border, he says, Muhammadanism is making some headway. The Muslim population in Tibet and its border is now estimated at 100,000 souls..... There are also Mongol Muhammadans in the north-east of Tibet who are called Toi-Hor."

In an English paper we see that Dr. Zwemer is making a short visit to London.

Urdu Tracts: In regard to the kind offer of the Methodist Press at Lucknow to print tracts free of cost, we learn that a series of Urdu *Khutbas* is now in the press and will be available shortly. If any one cares to apply for a supply of these tracts to the Rev. C. G. Mylrea, B.A., C.M.S., Lucknow, he will be pleased to despatch parcels of those ready. The tracts will be issued free, postage only being charged.

Qadiani Tracts: Dr. Wherry answers a question in our last issue as follows:—"Some one asks for Qadiani tracts. The best are those written by Thakur Das and Dr. Griswold, published at Ludhiana; and Akbar Masih's tracts or booklets published by the Punjab Religious Book Society, Lahore; also Dr. Inaduddin's writings, published by the same Society."

New Members:

Mrs. W. F. Armstrong	...	...	...	Rangoon, Burma.
Mrs. J. P. Burkholder	...	...	...	Midnapore, Beugal.
Miss A. B. Cox	...	...	...	Balasore, do.
Miss Doery	...	...	...	Tangail, do.
Mrs. Gilbert	...	...	...	Jessore, do.
Rev. W. Hazen, M.A.	...	...	...	Bombay.
Rev. J. Pengwern Jones	...	...	...	Moulvic Bazaar, Sylhet.
Rev. J. Behari Lall	...	...	...	Aurangabad, Bombay.
Rev. J. J. MacDonald	...	...	...	Russelkonda, Ganjam.
Miss Malthe	...	...	...	Tirukovilar, S. Arcot.
Rev. C. G. Mylrea, B.A.	...	...	...	Lucknow.
Miss E. M. Potter	...	...	...	Bangalore.
Miss Tuck	...	...	...	Orakandi, Faridpur, E.B.
Rev. H. U. Weitbrecht, D.D.	...	...	...	London.
Rev. E. M. Wherry, D.D.	...	...	...	Ludhiana, Panjab.
Miss C. E. Wilson	...	...	...	Madhopur, do.
Miss R. T. Wilson	...	...	...	do. do.

(To date there are forty-seven members in the League).

SPECIAL FOR MEMBERS.

I should be glad of the co-operation of members in securing interesting items of news for *News and Notes*. Some do not like to read cuttings from other papers however good they may be. *Please help*. Further, *we need more members*. If we can secure thirty more, there will be no financial difficulty. *Please help*.

Brahmanbaria,
E. Bengal.

J. TAKLE,
Hon. Secretary, I. M. M. I.