

THE 86TH
ANNUAL REPORT
OF
THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE
NORTHERN CHURCHES
FOR THE YEAR 1952



Bdn
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1952

DUMKA

PUBLISHED BY THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES

PRINTED AT THE MISSION PRESS, BENAGARIA.

1953

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The
EIGHTY—SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF
THE SANTAL MISSION
OF THE
NORTHERN CHURCHES

(THE INDIAN HOME MISSION TO THE SANTALS)

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THE SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES

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REV. O. S. BJERKESTRAND, DUMKA, SANTAL PARGANAS, INDIA.

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Missionaries

From America :

AXELSON, MISS ALICE, (Nov. 1946), *furlough*, Mohulpahari.
BAGGER, REV. & MRS. V (Dec 1925 & June 1926) *on furl.*
BJERKESTRAND, REV. & MRS. O. S. (April 1925) Dumka.
FRICKSON, MISS LUCILE (Dec. 1952) Maharo.
GJERDE, MISS HILMA, (Jan. 1946) Mohulpahari.
HAGEN, REV. DR. & MRS. KR. (Oct. 1946) Mohulpahari, *furlough*.
HELLAND, REV. & MRS. B. A. (Oct 1926) *on furl.*
HOFRENNING, REV. & MRS. R. E. (Dec. 1951) Bongaigaon.
LANDSVERK, REV. & MRS. O. J. (Jan. 1952) Kaerabani.
NIELSEN, MISS MURIEL (Nov. 1950) Gaorang.
PEDERSEN, DR. MISS D. (Oct. 1931) Gaorang, *furlough*.
RIBER, REV. & MRS. H. N. (Oct. 1947) Kaerabani.
TORKELSEN, MISS NAOMI (Dec. 1952) Dumka.

From Denmark :

BINDERUP, MISS ELLY JENSEN (Nov. 1951) Gaorang.
BOGH, DR. & MRS B. B. (Nov. 1950) Sevapur, *furlough*.
EIE, REV. & MRS. O. (Oct. 1920) Mornai.

FORMAN DR & MRS. O.	(April 1946) Mohulpahari.
HOILUND, DR. MISS ELSE	(Nov 1946) <i>furlough</i> , Rajadighi.
HOLTEN, MISS GUDRUN	(Dec 1927) Haripur, <i>furlough</i> .
JENSEN MR. & MRS. A.	(Dec. 1947) Dhrompur.
KAMPP, REV. & MRS H. P H	(Nov. 1915 & Mar. 1918) Nimasarai.
KROGH, REV. & MRS THOF.	(Jan. 1947) <i>furlough</i> .
KROHN, MISS ELISABETH	(Oct. 1933) <i>furlough</i> .
LAURSEN, MISS ELLEN	(Jan. 1947) <i>furlough</i> .
LOWE, MISS ERIKA	(Nov. 1924) Koroya.
NIELSEN, MISS KROGH, INGER	(Mar. 1946) <i>furlough</i> , Narainpur.
PETERSEN, MR & MRS KURT	(Nov 1949 & Dec 1947) Mornai and Santipara.
PETERSEN, MISS LILLY	(Dec. 1947) Narainpur.
RISGAARD, REV. & MRS. B.	(Nov. 1951) Nimasarai, <i>furlough</i> .
ROMER, MISS HELENE	(Nov. 1950) Saldoha, Mohulpahari.
SINDAL, MISS KAREN	(Feb. 1946) Maharo.

From Norway

AUSTAD, Miss BORGNY	(Apr. 1946) Haraputa.
BUTTEDAHL, MISS MAGNHILD	(Dec. 1927) Chondorpara.
CLAUSEN, MISS GUNVOR	(Nov. 1948) Mohulpahari, Rajadighi.
• CLAUSEN, REV. & MRS. K.	(Jan. 1952) Eklakhi.
DORDAL, REV. & MRS. O.	(Nov. 1950) Joema.
FOSSLAND, REV. & MRS. G.	(Nov. 1937) Santipara.
FISKE, MISS ASBJORG	(Oct. 1947) Haraputa.
GAUSDAL, REV. & MRS. J.	(Nov. 1915 & Jan. 1919), Benagarai.
GLAD, REV. & MRS. W	(Nov. 1931) Benagarai, <i>furlough</i> .
GULBRANDSEN, MISS E	(Nov. 1946) Haraputa, <i>furlough</i> .
HALTEN, MISS ANDREA.	(Oct. 1947) Gaorang, <i>furlough</i> .
HALVORSRUD, REV. & MRS. H.	(Oct. 1938 & Nov. 1937) Gaorang.
HANNEVIK, MISS MARGIT	(Jan. 1947) Saldoha, <i>furlough</i> .
HAUGSTAD, REV. & MRS. M.	(Nov. 1949) Saldoha.
HODNE, REV. & MRS.	(Jan. 1948) Sevapur.
HOYLAND, REV. & MRS. I.	(Jan. 1947) Grahampur, <i>furlough</i> .
JOHANSEN, REV. & MRS S.	(Nov. 1935) Grahampur.
KIPPENES, REV. & MRS. H.	(Nov. 1937) <i>furlough</i> .
KJOLBERG, REV. & MRS. P	(March 1947) Suri.
KLEVEN, MISS INGEBORG	(Nov. 1948) Saldoha.

Day Mission

KVAM, MR. & MRS. H.	(Nov. 1946)	<i>furlough.</i>
LANDE, REV. & MRS. P L.	(Apr. 1946)	<i>furlough.</i> Suri.
MALTERUD, MISS E.	(Apr. 1946)	Seyapur.
MILDE, MISS HILDUR	(Oct. 1923)	Tilabani.
NESSET, MISS SOFIE	(Mar. 1932)	Bongaigaon.
OGNEDAL, MISS GERD	(Nov. 1951)	Eklakhi.
NORBY, MISS BETZY	(Nov. 1946)	Eklakhi, <i>furlough.</i>
PEDERSEN, REV. & MRS. P R.	(Jan. 1934 &	Nov. 1935. Baset-
		kundi, <i>furlough.</i>
REIN, MISS RAGNHILD	(Nov. 1946)	Maharo, <i>furlough.</i>
RINGHEIM, MISS KARI	(Nov. 1946)	<i>furlough.</i> Saldoha.
SIGURDSEN, MISS EDLE	(Nov. 1934)	Maharo.
SOMMING, MISS SOLVEIG,	(Feb. 1933)	Gaorang, Maharo.
STRONSTAD, REV. & MRS. A E	(Nov. 1934)	Benagaria.
STURE, MR. & MRS. JENS	(Nov. 1946)	Joema, <i>furlough.</i>
TORKILDSEN, MR. & MRS K.	(Oct. 1947)	Dumka.
WESTBERG REV & MRS D	Jan. 1943)	Parkijuli.

The Swedish Cooch Behar Mission:

PEDERSEN, REV. & MRS. R.	(Jan 1951)	Cooch Behar.
PIHLQUIST, MISS ELSE	(Dec. 1938)	Dinhata.
WITTANDER, MISS ADA	(Nov 1947)	Dinhata.

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THE EIGHTY--SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR OF 1952.

Secretary's Annual Report for 1952:

*"Hear the Word of the Lord, O ye nations, and declare
it in the isles afar off." Jeremiah 31: 10.*

In his first address as the Lutheran Hour's new speaker, the Reverend Armind C. Oldsen spoke these words: "In searching for a Bible passage that might serve as a text for this first sermon, I found just what I wanted in the third chapter of the book of Judges in the twentieth verse. It is part of one of the most unforgettable, although little-known scenes in Bible history. Israel was down. The days were evil-like ours. The future was dark-like ours. In some places despots ruled with no thought of God and with little respect for the dignity of man-even as now. Then Ehud, the left-handed judge of Israel, stepped upon the stage and into the presence of the Moab tyrant Eglon with the startling announcement, "I have a message from God unto thee." The message was terrible, one of judgement and death."

Surely the message from God is terrible! It is one of judgement and death for all evil-doers, unbelieving and unrepentant sinners; but at the same time it is a message of love and pardon from a gracious God who is seeking to win back to Himself a lost and rebellious people. The message from a loving God is a message of release from the power of the devil and of ransom paid in full with the Blood of the Lamb of God: "Knowing that ye were redeemed, not with corruptible things, but with silver or gold, from your vain manner

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of life handed down from your fathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot, even the blood of Christ," I Peter 1. 18, 19.

The whole world is in need of a message from God as never before and we are thankful that it has been our privilege also this year to bring the message to the people of India.

The twenty-sixth of September marked the eighty-fifth anniversary of the day when Skrefsrud and Boerresen knelt by a stone at Benagaria and dedicated themselves to the task of bringing the Gospel to the Santals. Now in our eighty-sixth year we still have the open door of bringing the message to this great land and we thank God for that blessing; the blessing of the open door and in the Word through which the open door to the Kingdom of Heaven is presented to all.

The personnel present at the annual missionary conference always changes from year to year, but this year our setting also changed. The annual missionary conference was held at Benagaria from the 25th to the 29th of November instead of at Dumka as has been customary. It was an inspiration to have the privilege of having the entire mission family together for Christian fellowship during the conference. A few were unable to attend for various reasons and our thoughts and prayers were with them.

We missed a number of our faithful workers this year as twenty-five of our adult missionaries have gone home either for furlough or retirement during this year. Twelve have retired from the active missionary list and these include the following: the Rev. & Mrs. Bagger, Dr. & Mrs. Bogh, Dr. & Mrs. Hagen, the Rev. & Mrs. Helland, Miss Gudrun Holten, the Rev. & Mrs. Kippenes, Dr. Dagmar Pedersen, and the Rev. & Mrs. Riisgaard. These friends have spent years of faithful

work in India, and have contributed much in the fellowship we, as a missionary family, enjoy. Their departure from the field means a loss to the mission, but we thank God for their devoted service during the years spent here, and we wish them much joy and blessing in their work at home. In addition to those mentioned above we missed the following who have left for their respective homes for furlough: *For Norway*: the Rev. & Mrs. Glad, Miss E. Gulbrandsen, Miss Andrea Halten, Miss Margit Hannevik, the Rev. & Mrs. I. Hoyland, Miss Betzy Norby, and Miss Ragnhild Rein; *For Denmark*: Miss Elisabeth Krohn, Miss Ellen Laursen; *For America*: Miss Hilma Gjerde. The Rev. & Mrs. Gausdal, the General Superintendent of the Ebenezer Lutheran Church, were our representatives at the Lutheran World Federation conference held in Hannover, Germany, this summer. They also visited in Norway for a few months, but returned before our annual conference.

To fill the vacant places, it was a joy to welcome a number of returning missionaries from their homelands. These include the following: *From Norway*: the Rev. & Mrs. Lande, the Rev. & Mrs. Tromborg, Miss Kari Ringheim; *From Denmark*: Dr. Miss Else Hoiland and Miss Inger Krogh Nielsen; *From America*: Miss Alice Axelson.

When some are called of God to lay down the work on the field to which they have been called, or are called of Him to other tasks in His service, God always calls out others to carry on His Work. Thus, this year we have had the opportunity to welcome six new missionaries to the field. These include the Rev. & Mrs. Kjell Clausen from Norway, the Rev. & Mrs. Obert Landsverk, Sister Lucile Frickson and Miss Naomi Torkelson from America. May our fellowship together and co-operation in the work for the Kingdom of God redound to His glory.

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God established another Christian home in our midst when Miss Solveig Johansen and Mr. Kurt Petersen were united in Holy Wedlock on the 12th of November at Mornai. May God bless that home and may they be granted many years of happiness together.

Our missionary family has been subject to a considerable amount of illness during the year, but the situation is much improved at this time. A word of appreciation is due our own doctors and nurses, as well as the hospitals and doctors at the various hill-stations where our missionaries were under treatment. Miss Karen Sindal has had a lengthy period of illness and because of her condition has had to leave Santal Parganas. May God continue to give her daily strength, rest of body, mind and spirit as she rests in His promises.

Again this year we have been edified, inspired, as well as enjoyed the interest manifested by visits made by friends from different lands. That includes visitors from China, Korea, Denmark, and Sweden. The Rev & Mrs. Arthur S. Olsen, who for many years have been missionaries in China and are now serving as leaders for the work of the Lutheran World Federation at Hong Kong, visited the field on their way to Europe and America. During the hot season the Rev. Lars Asbjornsen, who was on his way home to Norway having served as Army Chaplain in Korea, visited a number of our stations in the Old Country and Assam. His vivid description of his experiences in Korea caused the large audiences to listen eagerly. During the latter part of the year we enjoyed having Mrs. Molly Dahlberg, former Home Secretary for the K. M. A. in Sweden who are the sponsors for the work in Cooch Behar, visit us. Mr Aagaard, a student from Denmark, visited us on his way to the Youth Conference in South India. Bishop and Mrs. Hogsbro from Denmark visited a number of the stations in Santal Parganas on their

way to the meeting of the World Council of Churches in Lucknow. We thank them for coming our way and for the fellowship which we have enjoyed together.

Year after year God calls faithful friends of the Santal Mission from their earthly pilgrimage unto their Eternal Rest. From Denmark we have learned that Mrs. F. W. Steinthal, for many years one of our faithful workers here on the field, has passed away. She was preceded in death by her husband who passed away several years ago. When Santal Mission meetings are held in Denmark the presence of H. Carl Christensen will be greatly missed. Before his passing he was a faithful worker for the Santal Mission and for many years was the treasurer of the board. Blessed be their memory.

As we think of the work on the field, we are reminded again that the transition period is still with us which involves placing more and more of the responsibility previously carried by the mission on the church. Progress is being made, but no detailed report will be given here as to the work in the districts. There is evidence of interest and growing knowledge of church affairs among our Indian leaders in the Councils and Synod, but we would that there might be a greater interest and zeal for the very important work of bringing the message from God to the people in the home, villages and towns in our area and beyond. Let us continue to pray for a revival of spiritual life and spiritual witnessing both among ourselves and our Indian brethren.

Our educational institutions have been and are facing problems peculiar to this period of transition. At Grahampur hope is entertained that funds might be secured so that the High School building may be completed. Each institution has its own peculiar problems. These problems call for a careful study of the course which we are to take with regard to our educational

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work in the future, especially in view of the present financial situation.

Our medical institutions have been functioning very well during the year, although handicapped both by lack of personnel and adequate buildings. At Sevapur the Dr. Andersons, who will arrive in the early part of 1953, are eagerly awaited in order that surgical patients may be treated. At present the beds are occupied with medical and maternity patients. At Santipara a nurse is needed and funds with which to erect the hospital building. The need for a doctor is felt at Saldoha Leper Colony. Nurses' and doctors' quarters and a new motor car are among the needs at Mohulpahari. Then we have the project of providing Dr. Hoiland with buildings and facilities for carrying on her medical work at Rajadighi.

The receipt of grant-in-aid for our various institutions from the Governments of Assam, Bihar, and West Bengal is gratefully acknowledged.

We are all aware of the depression in the tea market and the resultant crisis in the tea industry which has deprived us of the expected income from Mornai, budgeted to be used for charitable work. This is in spite of the fact that a word of congratulation and appreciation is due to Eie and his staff for an over all record in tea production for this year. This crisis has caused considerable anxiety, but as always, God has been faithful and supplied our needs so that the work has not actually suffered. It will cause us to give more careful consideration to our planning and budgeting of funds for existing work as well for extension of the work and building projects.

During the annual missionary conference it was voted that we should return to America for our furlough during the year of 1953. We wish God's richest blessing upon the Rev. and Mrs. A. E. Stronstad and family, who will be at Dumka during our absence.

On behalf of the mission we would remember, with grateful thanks, our friends and supporters in the homelands, the mission board members, the home secretaries and friends who so faithfully uphold the work in intercessory prayer and whose gifts make the work possible.

Most of all, we desire to acknowledge the wonderful faithfulness of God, our Heavenly Father, His marvellous, untiring and never-ending love. His Patience and forbearance in dealing with us and using us in this great task. To Him, the Triune God, be Glory and Majesty and Power now and evermore.

O. S. BJERKESTRAND.

WORK IN SANTAL PARGANAS.

BASETKUNDI.

The Rev. and Mrs P. Pedersen were in charge of the work the greater part of the year until they left on furlough in the beginning of September. Since they left the bungalow in Basetkundi has been unoccupied. The same is the case with the Haripur bungalow since Miss Gudrun Holten retired.

I was asked by the Secretary to look after the work temporarily, but apart from keeping the accounts it is not much that I have been able to do. I have, however, the impression that the work is being carried on faithfully by the pastors and elders, assisted by the local congregational committees, as well as the teachers in the primary schools.

The former mission districts of Basetkundi and Haripur are united under one circle with Pastor Bhiku Tudu as its president and Daniel Soren, one of the teachers in Basetkundi M. E. School, as treasurer. They appear to fulfil their responsibilities efficiently.

The big question has been to assist the congregations in their efforts towards financial self-support. It must be admitted that this is a slow process. Sultanabad Circle appears to be somewhat behind, nevertheless, I am glad to be able to point out that the total amount of church collections from Sultanabad Circle has increased considerably since last year.

I was happy to be able to be present at the Circle Conference in Basetkundi where all the pastors and

elected delegates from the twelve local congregations came together. It was reported that several church buildings and other houses are very badly in need of repair, and great effort is needed on the part of the local congregations in order to carry the responsibility for such items in addition to what they otherwise give for the church.

Much time was spent in cutting down the budget for 1953 according to instructions from the Synod, and it is to be hoped that the Circle will be able to contribute the expected income which again was raised considerably.

It is to be reported with satisfaction that the number of baptized children of Christian parents totalled thirty, nearly double the number of last year, and the number of baptized converted non-Christians totalled eighty-nine, nearly five times as many as last year. The greater number of baptisms are reported from Kakjol, which appears to be a very healthy growing congregation under the leadership of Mondol Soren.

The Christians and especially the workers are anxiously looking forward to have some missionary come to stay in Basetkundi again, because they feel that they need our help and advice for a long time to come yet. We hope that they shall not have to be disappointed.

A. E. STRONSTAD.

BENAGARIA.

In the beginning of April, the Rev. Glad and family left on furlough. From that time until September, the Rev. Stronstad was directing the work in Benagaria district and station, besides being in charge of the Divinity School.

In the middle of September, Mrs. Tromborg and myself arrived from Norway and were welcomed back to Benagaria where we have previously been stationed from 1929 to 1936 and 1938 to 1947. The people gave us a cordial welcome and thanks be to God for bringing us back to the field once more. We pray for His sustaining grace to carry on the work while it is day, for "night cometh when no man can work."

Having felt the heavy burdens of annual repair of many big thatched roofs in Benagaria, especially during the war years, it was a real joy to see new asbestos roofs on two of the bungalows and several smaller buildings here in the compound. Since we last worked here the hospital has been moved to Mohulpahari, and the Divinity School has moved in. We remember with gratitude how much help we received from the hospital while here. And we are glad to have as our neighbour the Divinity School, whose staff and student body are great helpers in our work. We are also grateful for the location of the Church Office of the Ebeneser Evangelical Lutheran Church with the General Superintendent, the Rev. and Mrs. J. Gausdal, whose helpful co-operation in the work is much appreciated.

1. CONGREGATIONAL WORK.

There have been some changes in the staff from last year. The Santal Parganas Church Council in October transferred Pastor Naran Soren from Sapadoha to Dumka. Naran Soren and his wife, Raode, will be moving to Dumka shortly. Pastor Ruben Soren and his wife moved to Sapadoha.

Our pastor here at Benagaria, Abraham Murmu, asked the Santal Parganas Church Council to be transferred to Jubdi District, as he has been in Benagaria for quite a long time and would like a change. In Jubdi he would come closer to his home village which also means something to him. His application was sanctioned and he and his family moved to Ranga at Christmas time.

Pastor Sodanondo Baske who had been pensioned some time ago applied to Benagaria Circle Committee for work as a pastor as he had not reached the pension age. His application was accepted and he is now working as a pastor, helping out at Benagaria and Gamharpahari as the need may be.

Some weeks after our arrival we were happy to see the people of Sulunga and Gamharpahari put aside old struggles and strifes that have continued for years, forgave and forgot what had been wrong in the past and united in Christian fellowship for the future. It was a solemn occasion and we thank God for that evening together. So far the peace seems to be genuine between them all.

At the end of the year the workers were as follows:

Pastor Peter Murmu at Itore—also in charge and visiting some places in Burdwan District.

Nikodem Marndi—Beldanga as preacher and teacher.

Pastor Mongol Hembrom—living at Tatbandha, in charge of Buruamchua, Matiajuri and Jithia and Domdoma, Birbhum District.

Lodo Hasdak—as preacher and elder at Jithia.

Chambru Baske—preacher and elder at Buruamchua.

Pastor Baijal Hasdak—at Gamharpahari.

Pastor Sodanondo Baske—helping out at Benagaria and Gamharpahari as the need may be.

Pastor Ruben Soren—at Sapadoha, also in charge of Adolpahari and our Santal work at Narainpur.

Musuc Hasdak—elder at Kistipur.

Some of our previous village school teachers have received appointment from the government to carry on in the village with salary from the Government. We are very thankful for that and think it is a good development, as there has been no objection to Christian instruction, provided it is done outside the school curriculum.

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We have at present 7 village schools and 376 children.

2. UPPER PRIMARY SCHOOL.

The school has carried on as usual. In spite of some strife and another new Lower Primary School in the same area, the attendance has been good. There are some indications that the other Upper Primary School may unite with ours again. The community here is very eager to have our Upper Primary School made into a Middle School. The Government grant has been discontinued for a while, but after united vote by the annual missionary conference, application is made to have the grant-in-aid renewed.

3. INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

According to the opinion of Government officials who have visited us from year to year, the Industrial School meets a great need for this kind of training in the area. For some time the Government grant-in-aid has not been accepted by the school. But considering the situation at our last annual missionary conference it was unanimously felt that as the Government has always shown a great amount of interest and good will towards the work here, the hand of co-operation should be accepted with gratitude and that application be made for renewed grant-in-aid, so much the more as we accept grant-in-aid at all our schools.

We are in need of better trained instructors as those working in that capacity now have only been appointed as helpers and not as instructors in charge.

At the end of the year the number on roll was 9 in the Weaving Department and 12 in the Carpentry Department.

4. THE PRINTING PRESS.

The work of the Printing Press has gone on as usual. With the outfit at hand, we could print much more than we do if we but had the manuscripts and

the funds to pay for the cost of having them printed. I may be permitted to say that to get things printed is no problem. Besides our own press which could do a lot more, even before the last purchase of a second hand printing press and a 6 H. P. motor, there are two or three other big printing presses willing and ready to do printing work for our mission.

5. BOOK DEPARTMENT.

The Book-Sales department has a big stock of books at present and consequently the cash balance is low. The usual grant from the Mission of onethousand rupees has been received. The book sale department is certainly one of our most important mission works at present. We need to increase our funds and extend our work greatly. The difficulty is that you cannot just order a new supply. The books have to be written a new or translated by inspired writers or translators so that the contents will grip the mind of young or old, men and women. Some of our books should be sold at a much lower price. At present the hymn book costs two rupees, which is equivalent to two days' wages for a day-labourer in our locality.

The accounts of the Book-sale department show sales amounting to Rs. 5,121-3-0 during the year.

6. THE CHURCH PAPER "PERA HOR"

Towards the end of the year the Mission Executive Committee unanimously decided the "Pera Hor" should be edited by the church and referred the question to the Synod. The General Superintendent was asked by the Synod and agreed to edit the paper with Pastor Kalu Kisku as co-editor. Considering the great importance of a paper of this nature and the many possibilities to reach far and wide, it was very unfortunate that it had to be reduced to a monthly paper for the last years instead of an issue every second week as previously.

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At its meeting in November 1952, the Synod also decided to make it again a fortnightly paper from January 1953. How much better if it could have been raised to a weekly paper! What an invitation to visit the thousand homes once a week with pictures and illustrations and with the "Good Tidings"! In these days when the importance of literacy work is emphasised everywhere--and very rightly so--our aim can be nothing less than to make our Church paper a weekly edition as soon as possible.

In 1946 the number of subscribers were 2800, but by 1952 it had come down to 1800. There is already an indication that the number of subscribers is on the increase.

7. THE ZEMINDARY

The forest that belonged to the Mission has been taken over by the Government for management. The other collections have gone on as previously. The accounts show a gross income of Rs. 7,920-11-3 and as working expenditure of Rs. 4,588-11 3.

Closing this report of the work here in Benagaria District, we tender our heartfelt thanks to all who have been with us in prayer, supplications and thanksgiving. We urge you to continue and pray that the blessing of the Kingdom of God may spread to many more in this big district.

Yours in His service,

LOLLY & KRISTIAN TROMBORG.

CHONDORPURA.

This past year has really been my first year here at Chondorpura and it has been entirely new for me with regard to both people and place.

Last year at Christmas time I had the privilege to attend worship services in several of the churches on the out-stations, but it was only a few of the number in this big district.

Church attendance here in the main church and in the churches on the out-stations has been more or less as before. On a usual Sunday the church attendance will be about 25-30% of the congregation. Many of these come regularly, but the others attend off and on, but especially on Festive days. On such days the churches are not too big.

In April two of our older workers were pensioned. They were Pastor Chaku Tudu in Ranga, and Elder Bhaerõ Murmu in Gadiapani. They were replaced by Philip Hembrom and Amdi Murmu, both trained at our Santal Divinity School and who have been installed as elders.

Old Tika Pastor in Chirapathor seems to be becoming more and more feeble. He has been bed ridden several times this year and two times he has been in the hospital in Mohulpahari. Chirapathor is a good congregation and it is always a joy to attend worship service there.

At the various out-stations there has been held monthly women's meetings. Some have been held in the churches and some in the villages where there are Christians. Here in the main station we have tried to have weekly women's meetings in the villages where we have Christians. At the time of rice planting and rice harvesting, it is impossible to conduct these meetings with regularity. Nevertheless, this is one part of the congregational work, and the collections from these meetings are designated for the purchasing of more church furniture which is still very meager on the various out-stations.

To the Sunday School here on the main station there comes regularly a group of approximately twenty children, all from the Christian homes here in the

nearest village. One of the teachers, Elisabeth Murmu, is a faithful helper in this work. There is also a Sunday School at Chirapathor out-station. There the teacher gathers the children from the Christian homes an hour before the regular worship service begins. We would be happy to see more Sunday Schools around in the district. It is difficult to secure volunteers to work with the children and in Youth Work. We long for an awakening and revival in the congregations, as this only will drive volunteers out into the Vineyard.

There have been two Upper Primary Schools and three Lower Primary schools, but this year a new Lower Primary school was added. Otherwise, the school work and the teaching staff are the same as the last year. The attendance in the village schools is as customary the highest during the first six months of the year. July is the month of vacation. After that the attendance drops considerably for the last five months of the year. From rice planting time in July until it is harvested around Christmas time, there are many children of school age who must herd cattle and goats. And so school attendance becomes secondary. Then there are countless other excuses for those who have no "desire for books" to be absent. Consequently, it is impossible to attain the desired standards in our village schools. But it has been a pleasure to notice the zeal and perseverance of some of our teachers and it is admirable how they with great patience have prepared a good percentage of the students for the final examination in their school so that they may continue to study further in other schools. There have been regular monthly meetings for all teachers during the entire year.

The last week in November a women's meeting for the women in the Chondorpura and Saldoha district was held here on the station. There was good attendance and a good meeting.

There have been three Bible courses held here on the station during the year. To the first course both

literate and illiterate women were invited from all districts. The course was for three weeks and there were up to forty in attendance. Twenty of these were from other districts. In April a course for wives of pastors, elders, and teachers was held. Twenty—one attended, nineteen of them came from other districts. The course for Bible women was held in September with fourteen attending, two of them from this place. In November there were fourteen girls here preparing for confirmation. Three of them were confirmed in Gadiapani church and eleven of them were confirmed here in the main church shortly after the completion of the course in the latter part of November.

It has been a blessing to have these courses. God blessed the lessons and the fellowship we had together. We can only desire that many more than those that came would have an opportunity to take part. Members of the Bible Course committee came some days and helped me with some of the lessons, and I also want through this report to give them special thanks for the good help.

When I now think back on the year which has passed, there are so many things for which to be thankful. We have been spared so much sorrow and sadness which might have hindered us through the year. In cases of some serious illness among the flock here on the station, in the villages nearby, and on the out stations, we have had the privilege of the help of the jeep to take the patients to Mohulpahari hospital. And we have had the joy of seeing them come back well again to their loved ones and their homes.

There have been new members added to the congregation this year also. Children from Christian homes and heathens have been baptized into the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Among them was our gardener.

He radiates with joy to be able to belong to God's Communion of saints, loosed from the pagan darkness. We are so extremely thankful for the opportunity which we have had in this year of grace to proclaim the message of salvation. As the year comes to a close, we must admit that our many shortcomings convict us. Hence, there is a cry to God for forgiveness for all that was not of the will of God in and through me.

Thanks to you dear friends in the homelands. Thanks for your faithfulness in prayer for those out here, and your faithfulness in the work that has been entrusted to you by Him who said, "Go out and make disciples of all nations."

MAGNHILD BUTTEDAHL.

DHOROMPUR MISSION

Many changes have taken place in Dhorompur district during the year of 1952. In the beginning of the year two of our elders retired and are now on pension. One of them, Bidiae Tudu, has been in the service for about 30 years in Dhorompur. He has been a faithful worker in the congregations, but during the last two years he has not been able to do very much work because of illness. He is among the pioneers of this district. May God grant him many happy days yet.

Another elder is due to retire in the near future. He is Choron Hasdak at Hunja—Rampur. He has told me that he was the first Christian in Dhorompur district, and he has been an elder from the very beginning.

Nitanando Marndi, a student from our divinity school, has replaced Choron Hasdak. He worked as an elder for a little more than a year and on the 19th of October he was ordained and installed as pastor at Hunja—Rampur. Both he and his wife are well educated and we hope and pray that they may be granted many years of fruitful service in the great task of establishing the church of God among the people of India.

At Hunja—Rampur, the new center of our evangelical work on the other side of the hills, we have started to build a new out—station made possible by a special gift from Danish deacons. So far the pastor's house has been completed, and in a year or two we hope to build a church.

In 1955 the Mor project should be completed and many of our Christians will have to move from their homes and find new land. The latest news is that some of them have obtained land around Hunja—Rampur and Bhitra, so it appears as if the new center is built in a convenient place. It well may be that it will be our largest congregation in the future.

The congregational work has gone on as usual in 1952. In some places there has been progress, but in some places we feel that the work is at a standstill. In Kolha a young man was baptized in the beginning of the year, and in the latter part of October a family of six was baptized in Balabohal. We hope that many of the non-christians who have talked about baptism may come to learn about Jesus Christ, take the final step and become His children.

Although our Christians do not fully understand all the new changes regarding the church constitution, they have grasped a little and begin to feel their responsibility in carrying on the work. In our circle conference we decided to promise a contribution of Rs. 400 this year and it appears as if they shall be able to fulfill that promise. We have had several problems during the year concerning the life of some of our Christians. It is very difficult to make our leaders understand that their most important work is to guide the Christians and not to catch them when they have fallen into sins. They are not to be as policemen but as shepherds. Our earnest hope is that the love of Christ may descend into the hearts of our Christians, and that by a life lived in that love they may be true witnesses among the non—christians.

The women's meetings have been carried on in five places, namely: Dhorompur, Balabohal, Kolha, Jetke and Hunja—Rampur. At a certain time the women in one place did not attend the meetings, but as a whole the meetings have been well attended. In Dhorompur there are usually between 30 and 40 women and children at our monthly meetings. The work among the women is promising.

In the educational work there has been progress. In Dhorompur L. P. school 57 children have been registered this year but not all of them have attended. Still we feel that people are beginning to understand the necessity and value of education. At Jetke too, the L. P. school is going on very well, although we need a well-trained teacher there. The teacher we have at present has not had the teacher's training course, but he has passed M. E. and has had some years of experience as a teacher.

The Sunday School has been attended by an average of 18 children. That does not appear so good, but the fact is that there are very few children in the Christian families at present. Taking that into account, we can say that the Sunday School has been well attended.

The work in the dispensary has again convinced us of the need for medical help in this district. We feel sorry that the work has to be discontinued during the coming year, but it is our hope that the work can be taken up again.

During the last three years it has been our experience to see the work progress. May God grant strength and courage to our Christian fellow-workers that they may carry on the work to the glory of God and for the salvation of their Indian brothers.

Yours,
HANNA and AAGE K. JENSEN.

DUMKA.

“Wherefore we receiving a Kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.” Hebrews 12: 28.

The grace of serving God acceptably with reverence and godly fear seems to have marked the lives of our veteran pastors, Andreas Murmu and Simon Baske during the past year. The same spirit has been reflected in several of their helpers, and we feel that it has truly been a year of Grace.

Pastor Andreas Murmu, who has been serving this year in the absence of a regular pastor, will be replaced from January, 1953, by Pastor Naran Soren, the President of the Santal Parganas Church Council, who has been transferred by the Council from Sapadoha in the Benagaria District to Dumka. Andreas pastor has been serving during this year with faithfulness and devotion in the three congregations, namely, Chukapani, Dumka and Ranga, conducting communion services once a month and performing baptisms. He has now been pensioned since the first of January, 1953. Simon pastor has continued to serve faithfully at Dum, but will be pensioned from April 1953 and be replaced by Pastor Chunu Murmu who is being transferred from Majdiha in Koroya District.

Baptisms during the year by congregations were as follows:

Children of Christian parents: From the non-Christian community:

Chukapani	4	
Dum	6	7
Dumka	7	6
Ranga	2	5
Total	<u>19</u>	<u>18</u>

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Sunday schools have been started at Katijuria and Kusumdi making a total of four Sunday schools in the District. Sunday school work continues to be encouraging.

A class of eighteen girls from this district were instructed at Dumka and confirmed by Andreas Pastor.

The annual women's meeting or convention for the Dumka Circle was held at Dumka in the early part of October and despite the rainy weather the attendance was good. The messages were inspiring and a blessing to the hearers. This type of Christian fellowship means much to the village women.

A Youth Sunday and Sunday School Sunday were among special days observed during the year, both with good attendance.

Attendance at the Lower Primary schools at Chukapani and Ranga, and at the Upper Primary schools at Dum and Dumka has continued to be good.

The total number of Christians in the Dumka District, according to statistics from each congregation is now 784 souls distributed by congregations as follows:

Chukapani	94
Dum	236
Dumka	344
Ranga	110
	<hr/>
	784

The prayers of all our friends are coveted for these Christians, and for their non-Christian neighbors, that the work of the Lord may prosper, and His Kingdom come, also in this area.

We thank you all for faithful support.

HAZEL & OLE BJERKESTRAND.

H A R I P U R

The past year has been one of great joy in Haripur. My sister from Denmark visited us during the months of January and February. At that time we had the great joy of baptizing two families in their respective villages. This gave the pastor a very good opportunity to preach the Gospel to the non-Christian villagers who gathered to observe the baptism and to hear the singing. Seven more families were under instruction and on the nineteenth of October three of the families, making a group of fourteen Santals, were baptized in the Church at Haripur. The other families were still preparing for baptism when I left to return home to Denmark on the twenty-ninth of October.

The pastor together with the help of two elders and two Bible women has been visiting and teaching the Christians and those wanting to become Christians. The pastor in particular is very keen on bringing the message to the non-Christians.

The school work is continuing and often more than fifty children gather in the little school. Most of these are non-Christian boys from the villages, but some of the Christian children, both boys and girls are enrolled too. Most of them, however, live far away; so therefore they are planning to begin a small boarding for the Christian children. One of the school teachers asked to return home to his farm. To replace him we obtained a middle-aged man who was a member of our congregation and he is doing satisfactory work. The former teacher's wife was our Bible woman, but when she returned home with her husband the Headmaster's wife assumed the work as Bible woman. She is faithfully helping our old faithful Bible woman by the name of Bimola. I was away for six months to help in Malda and Mohulpahari, but it was a joy to see how all the phases of the work had been going on and well attended to. It has been of a great help to be able to send

the Bible women to a course at the Women's Bible School where they have received much knowledge and inspiration.

In March the elders house at Sirampur was burned one night while he and his family were asleep. It was done by some of the villagers, but he has no knowledge of any enemies and the motive does not seem to be for religious reasons. We believe it was purely because of political reasons. The elder wanted to stay on and we had the house rebuilt before the rains started. Three of the families being instructed for baptism are members of his congregation.

Finally, we want to thank everyone in our homelands and elsewhere who have supported us with their prayers and means. Our most hearty thanks goes to our Heavenly Father who has certainly been with us as He has promised. May the work be for His Glory.

GUDRUN HOLTEN.

KOROYA MISSION AND ORPHANAGE.

This past year in the atmosphere of both sadness and gladness, the number in the children's home has decreased. Sipora, one of the fourteen-year old girls, died after having been ill one year of which three months of that time she was bedfast. The last evening before she passed away, she sat up on her bed and began to sing, even though she was in a very weakened condition. When her mother pleaded with her to be quiet, she answered, "Jesus is here, I must sing." Four days previous to the death she had told her mother that soon the Angels would come and take her. We rejoice for the assurance that she was ready to leave us when the Angels came to take her unto her Saviour.

One of our former girls, Martha, Sipora's sister who left us after she was married in 1951, died after giving birth to her first child.

Paul, one of the older boys in the orphanage, spent some time at the home of a couple who were also formerly at Koroya orphanage. He returned home for Christmas but shortly after Christmas he was seriously ill with brain malaria. However, he has recovered now and is at Koroya.

Mariam, Sipora's sister, was married to a fine Christian boy. Because of an operation several years ago which caused disfigurement, she had thought that she would never be able to be married. And when she was requested as the bride for this young man, she was overjoyed. She was one of the most joyous brides that we have ever seen.

Regarding the school work, the teachers and staff are the same as the previous year. Up until the rainy season the attendance was good, but when the rainy season came many were kept home for shepherding and fewer came to school in the beginner class.

After school hours on Saturday, the teachers divide the school into three sections and have a Sunday School, teaching the Sunday School lesson for the next day. One teaches in Hindi and two teach in Santali. A Bible Hour is held for the teachers, Bible woman and Pastor on Thursday afternoon. This has been a great help and has fostered Christian fellowship among them.

A faction between the congregation and pastor has caused the congregational work to suffer greatly. The matter was settled and the pastor was received back into the congregation again. Shortly after this faction, the pastor's wife died, after child birth leaving six small motherless children.

During the time of difficulties there was one bright light and that was that after the Sunday service the young people would gather for a Bible Hour. They would read a portion of Scripture and have a discussion on questions pertaining to the daily Christian Life. Emanuel, the head teacher here in the school, was the leader of this group. They also started to take an offering at their meetings. One of the group was sent as a delegate to the Young People's meeting in Pakur. The last Sunday in August, Youth Sunday was observed. There was a very good attendance and an inspiration from the messages brought by the speakers, namely, Rev. Obert Landsverk and Jacob Hembrom.

At the Sunday School Day, one of the teacher from Maharo spoke at the Sunday morning worship service. Both the children and the adults listened attentively.

For two weeks a group of girls came very regularly for confirmation instruction.

During the course of the year, two Melas have been held to raise money for the church. Everything which the people brought from their homes, such as vegetables and cakes were sold.

The Bible woman has this year as other years, been faithful in visiting the Christians and preaching the Gospel to the non—Christians.

MAJDIHA :

In March the new school building was dedicated which had been built by the children the previous year. Many people gathered for the service and the children presented a very good program. Rev. Bjerkestrand was the speaker for the occasion. Many children attend the school, and many come from the government school having left that school, but we are unable to register them because they do not bring along a certificate. The first Middle School class is tutored privately by a teacher. Sunday

School classes on Saturday have also been conducted there at this school. They were invited to join Koroya in their Mela, but they decided to have a Mela on their own which was very successful. The Rev. Bjerkestrand was the speaker for the Mela. Several Santals were baptized during the course of the year, and two young girls attended the confirmation class and were confirmed in Majdiha.

Every evening as devotions are held on the verandah of the orphanage while sitting under the beautiful starlit sky, they lift their voices in thanks to God for the many unseen friends who this day have prayed for them and given of their means so that their temporal needs might be met. Therefore, on behalf of those who thank God for you friends in the homelands, as the close of this report I thank you for your faithfulness in intercession and your expressions of love.

ERIKA LOWE.

EDUCATIONAL WORK IN SANTAL PARGANAS.

SANTAL DIVINITY SCHOOL.

The work of the Divinity School has been carried on as usual. It has continued very much as established last year. Regular class work has been done ten months of the year with the same twelve students in the men's class and nine of them are married and their wives are enrolled in the women's class.

The health of the students and their families has generally been good and we were fortunate in not having any serious illness, except for some attacks of malaria.

During the month of January, Rev. Glad gave lectures on Practical Theology and the Rev. Gausdal continued his lectures on the History of the Santal Church, in April. After the summer vacation he lectured on The Epistle to the Ephesians. Mrs. Gausdal has continued to assist Kalu Pastor's wife and Mrs. Stronstad in giving theoretical and practical instruction in various subjects in the women's class.

The Rev and Mrs. P. Pedersen stayed in Benagaria during May and June and both of them gave us very valuable help, Rev. Pedersen teaching in the men's class and Mrs. Pedersen in the woman's class. For some time during the hot season, Bhim John Murmu worked as librarian after he returned from the Theological College at Ranchi before being appointed to work in Malda.

It is a great pleasure to report that Pastor Kalu Kisku seems to have recovered and has taken an equal share with me in teaching the men's class.

During the year we have continued teaching the following subjects which were started last year:

Bible Introduction (Old Testament)
Church History (Medieval and Reformation)
History of Religions (Hinduism and Islam)
Indian Church History
Exegetical studies of St. Matthew and Epistle to
the Ephesians
Christian Doctrine
Practical Theology
Music Theory
Liturgy
Santali Grammar and Essays
English
Singing

During the first term we had regular village preaching once during the week. The pastors Mongol Hembrom and Abraham Murmu of Benagaria very kindly assisted in taking groups of the students to the villages and in that way we covered a great part of the area within the Benagaria congregation. We found a great willingness to hear wherever we went and the people very often asked us to come back soon! During the latter term practical training in sermon construction was given in the class once a week.

Some of the students suggested that they would like to take the vacation in the rainy season so that they might help in cultivating their land, and thus be able to obtain some financial help. Therefore, we decided to carry on regular school work through the hot season, right up unto the end of June. As an experiment, therefore, the school remained closed during July and August. It is however, to be recommended to take the summer vacation during May and June, as it has previously been done.

The first annual examination was held in June. Rev. Pedersen was the censor and corrected the papers

together with Pastor Kalu Kisku and myself. All of the students passed. None of them obtained marks required in first division, but six passed in second division, five in third division and one student did not appear for the examination on account of his wife's illness. Examination was also held in the women's class, and some of them obtained comparatively high marks.

The morning devotions have as usual been conducted in turn by the students, their wives, and members of the staff. The social gatherings have continued at which the students prepare a program. We also have had some profitable discussions. Once a week the students held a meeting for men, which was fairly well attended by the people in the compound.

At the beginning of October all the students had the privilege of attending a Youth Leadership Conference in Pakur.

As decided by the conference, we shall have to leave the work in the Divinity School and we must confess that we do that with regret, well aware of our inefficiency for such a great task. May God bless all the students and their wives. May He make them truly God-taught men and women and through this school continue to prepare them for selfsacrificing service to their own brothers and sisters of this great land.

We welcome the Rev. and Mrs. Thoft Krogh who are expected to arrive in February to take charge of the school. May God bless them too, and grant them many happy years of service in the training of evangelistic workers.

Thanks to all who have upheld us with their prayers and supported the School.

ALVHILD and A. E. STRONSTAD.

KAERABANI SANTAL HIGH SCHOOL.

The year 1952 was for us one continuous experience of enriching and memorable event. The tone was set, it seems, by the spirit of the historical national election at the beginning of the year, in which a huge percentage of the local public participated. Though few of our Indian friends are conscious of the fact that democracy with freedom of the individual is the political concept of our Lord Himself, the avenues of work into the future of India are certainly being lined with optimistic signs. The fact that our people have now, for the first time in history, elected their own representatives to govern their nation, gives us increased hope that the work of the church too will become more of an indigenous matter. May God bless the work that was intended to be for His glory during this past year.

For helping the boys at Kaerabani to come more fully into a realization of the opportunities that the church has opened up to them, our special thanks go to the staff who have worked so faithfully throughout the year. We have been blessed this year in many, many ways. There has been relatively little sickness among the students, a main factor in our being able to keep the daily attendance average well over 90%. Dr. Hagen examined the students in March, a service for which we are deeply grateful.

From the Lower Primary School and on up through the High School, our class rooms were filled to almost overflowing with the happiest, healthiest, and in many respects most fortunate generation of this poor and undeveloped vicinity. In the five classes of the Lower Primary School there were some two hundred pupils, under the capable leadership of Mr. Barka Murmu and four other teachers. Mr. P. K. Dutta again proved his organizing and teaching abilities in the fine way that he led the High School staff of twenty and the student body of five hundred and twenty throughout the year.

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We are very thankful for the aid given by the District Board to the Lower Primary School, and the aid received from the Government for the High School. Visits were made by the District Inspector of Schools, the Deputy Inspector, and the sub Inspector. Due to circumstances beyond our control, though all were qualified, none of this year's failed matriculates appeared at the supplementary examination. Most of these boys will have the opportunity to take the 1953 examination, and we have good reason to hope that the majority of them will be successful. Of those who passed the annual government exam, Stephan Hasdak', son of a retired village preacher, broke all previous records to get the highest marks ever attained by a Kaerabani boy, and has the honour of being the first Santal from our Church to pass in first division.

Our Boy Scouts organization was not very active this year, mainly I suppose because of the extra activity of the band, choir, and sports groups. We were able for the first time in many years to take the band and choir on a tour of the Mission stations in Santal Parganas. Benjamin Murmu, Band Master, had prepared a very fine program of music, and thanks to the generosity of the Saldoha people, who let us use their truck, we had ample transportation facilities.

Unable now to have Bible classes in the regular curriculum (Government regulations will not permit), we find our new system of teaching Bible in special classes to be far more effective than what it was before. All of our Christian teachers have volunteered to give extra time for instructing these classes, and the effect is far better than when Bible classes were just part of the ordinary class routine.

The Teacher's Training School under Mr. Minz had a good year. During the course of the year, two of the original eleven who started training dropped out. All of the nine who finished came out successfully in the Government examination.

And so often happens, this year too the most memorable event turned out to be Confirmation Day. Thirty-three boys had received instruction, and to help celebrate the occasion we were happy to entertain a large number of the confirmants' parents and friends. Rev. Gausdal delivered the sermon and assisted in the confirming of the young men. It was especially interesting for us this year to look back over the past five years spent here at Kaerabani. Preparing now to go home on furlough, the prayer in our heart is that Kaerabani, its students and staff, will prove to be a staying and strengthening force in the heart of our Church. May God bless them and keep them.

MARY AND HAROLD N. RIBER.

MAHARO GIRLS' MIDDLE SCHOOL AND TRAINING SCHOOL.

Looking back over the past year I recall a word of the Apostle Paul, "If God be for us, who can be against us?" We have had difficulties and disappointments in the work throughout the year, but despite it all God has carried us through. In looking back, above all we recognize God's great mercy towards us.

We started the year with an enrollment of one hundred and forty-six girls in the Middle School, and sixteen students in the Training Classes. This year we had twenty Christian Santal Girls enrolled in Class VIII, the first high school class. The sixteen students in the Training Class completed their second year and the final examinations were given in December. The result of this examination is not yet known.

The final examination for the other classes will be given in April of 1953, due to a change in the school system for the Province of Bihar. Therefore, the next school year will start in July of 1953. The scholarship examinations will be given in April and May. It remains to be seen whether or not this change in our school routine will be of any benefit.

During the year our compound Lower Primary School was amalgamated with the Middle School for practical reasons. We had eight small girls living in our hostel and attending the compound school as day scholars. Since we have closed the three infant classes in the Middle School, we have arranged it in this way for small girls who have no opportunity of attending village schools.

We are continuing the practice of having the girls bring rice from their homes, and find it suitable for farmers like the Santals. Again this year it was difficult to furnish the cloth needed for our class work, but fortunately a change came in the latter part of the year when cloth was decontrolled.

As in the previous years the girls have done all the work in the cottages themselves except cooking the midday meal. As a whole, they have done their work well.

On the ninth of November twelve girls were confirmed. I always count it a great privilege to prepare the girls for confirmation and may God bless and keep them true unto Himself.

The health of the girls has been very good, but amongs the teachers there has been illnesses such as dysentery and malaria during the year. When Miss R. Rein left for Norway in March, Miss K. Sindal Nielsen took over her work. Ill health caused her to leave Maharo already in August to go to South India for treatment. It was a great loss to the work that she has not been able to return and take over the work thus far.

Miss S. Somming joined us in the beginning of October, and she will be in charge of the school after the beginning of January, 1953.

We express our gratitude and thanks to all who labour in prayer and good works for the cause represented here; and our thanks for all contributions from the homelands and for the grants from the Government.

EDLE SIGURDSEN.

BASETKUNDI M. E. SCHOOL.

Apart from keeping the accounts for the last four months of the year, I have not been able to do much for the school in Basetkundi. The teachers, Daniel Soren, and the "sordar" at Basetkundi came regularly to Benagaria for consultations, and in that way I was able to keep in contact with the work there.

I have the impression that the School and the boarding is being run much as before when it was supervised by the Rev. and Mrs. Pedersen, who went on furlough at the beginning of September. The school seems to be gaining in popularity among the people, and the number of day scholars and boarders are increasing.

At the close of the year there was a total enrollment of one—hundred and sixty pupils in the school with eight teachers. The staff is the same and they are doing a good job as far as I have been able to judge. There is, however a definite desire among the local Christians to obtain a Headmaster who belongs to our own church, and that should not be difficult as we now have several young men with the required qualifications.

Thanks are due to the local school authorities for the granting of Rupees two—thousand and two—hundred

and fifty as refund for house repair expenses, contingencies etc. for the years 1949—1951. Similar grants for the years 1952 and 1953 have also been promised. In addition to this, the Government is paying a part of the teachers' salaries and dearness allowance, as well as a small amount on account of compensation for loss of school fees. This favorable attitude taken by the school authorities is very much appreciated.

Bible teaching may not be given during ordinary school periods, but all of the teachers are continuing Bible classes for the Christian pupils and others who like to be present, outside of the regular working hours, and in this way the Good Seed is continuing to be sown in the young peoples' minds through this institution. May it bear fruit unto Eternal Life for them all.

In closing, I want to thank all friends who are remembering in their prayers the work being done through this school.

A. E. STRONSTAD.

MEDICAL WORK IN SANTAL PARGANAS.

MOHULPAHARI CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL and MOHULPAHARI DISTRICT.

In the past year of 1952 the workers here at Mohulpahari have changed, but the ministry of working together with God in the healing and treating of both body and soul has continued.

On the fifteenth of March we took over from Dr. Hagen who left for America the latter part of March. Shortly before the Hagens left, Alice Axelson arrived replacing Hilma Gjerde who had left for furlough the latter part of February. At the beginning of the hot season, Gunvor Clausen was hospitalized in Shillong. After her recovery she went to Malda where she had been placed by the previous missionary conference. We feel that it has been difficult this year with the new staff of workers and the change in the missionary staff, but we are thankful to all and especially to Gudrun Holten who helped us for one month during vacations. Helene Romer joined us the first part of September having previously been stationed at Saldoha. We are thankful to God for the sustaining Grace which He supplied to those who shouldered added responsibilities, because of those difficulties of transition of workers and the resulting problems, especially to Alice Axelson.

The work of reaching forth with the Gospel has continued much the same as in previous years. The two pastors, Khudia Marndi and Daniel Jha, the Bible women and the elders have shouldered the responsibility for the work. The district work has continued by old but faithful Khudia Pastor and the two elders.

Mrs. Das, Bengali Bible women, has done very effective work both among the in-door patients and the out-door patients, assisted by the Santal elder, Bisu Soren. Khudia Pastor has conducted a short funeral service for the Christians who have died at the hospital before their burial.

The morning devotions formerly held in the church are now held on the front verandah of the hospital. We rejoice over the fact that the patients have requested to have the morning devotions in the Bengali language two mornings a week instead of the former practice of one morning a week. Many patients who would not attend the morning devotions held in the church, listen while the devotions are conducted on the hospital verandah, thereby presenting to us another open door to bring the healing message of the Gospel. On Thursday morning the compounders have their Bible Hour and the nurses meet every Wednesday evening. The practice has been started that on Sunday mornings following the Santal service, the congregation members who desire may do some Christian service. The volunteers are divided into three groups, each group visiting a section of the hospital and singing hymns and having a short devotion.

A few years ago it was decided to start a Nurses Training School. However, the missionary conference of the following year felt that it would be advisable to wait one year due to lack of personnel and funds. Seven girls who had applied, were actually admitted prepared to start school. After the decision of the missionary conference they continued to work at the hospital and from time to time are given classes, as time allows.

We feel that we lack the sufficient personnel to carry on effective work both in hospital care and the training school. The past year has shown that we need three nurses. The hostel for Indian nurses should be built as soon as possible according to accepted plans.

Dr. Chatterjee has carried on as in previous years and has been a great help in the hospital work. His help has been appreciated since I feel that my time has been occupied more than desired with administrative work, repairing of buildings and the like. Most of the year the work has been so overwhelming that a third doctor and accommodation for him is the greatest need at present.

The administration of the Upper Primary School has been in charge of Sukul Marndi who is a very conscientious worker. The enrollment is increasing with children coming from the villages and the compound here. The small boarding has about sixteen children, most of whom are non-Christians. These children are unable to attend school as day scholars because of the distance from their homes. The enrollment last year was approximately one hundred and seventy children in Mohulpahari Upper Primary School, and in our out-station school in Ambajora there have been forty-two children.

We feel undeserving over God's blessing on the work, which has progressed in many ways far beyond our expectation. "Commit thy way unto Jehovah; Trust also in him, and he will bring it to pass." (Psalm 37: 5)

A. OUT--PATIENT DEPARMENT

Out-Patients	11,965
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Repeat visits	7,711
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Total consultations	19,676
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Christians	11%	Laboratory tests	14,677
Santals	12%	Injections (clinic)	2,585
Hindus	61%	Abscesses	228
Mohammedans	16%	Tooth Extractions	169
Men	60%	Other minor operations	551
Boys	15%	Fractures and Plaster Casts	61
Women	20%	X-Ray Fluoroscopies	1530
Girls	5%		

B IN-PATIENT DEPARTMENT

Total patients	1765	Men	50%
Christian	11%	Boys	10%
Santals	16%	Women	35%
Hindus	56%	Girls	5%
Mohammedans	17%		

C. SURGERY AND OBSTETRICS

Major Procedures: 331 *Minor Procedures: 156* *Total: 487*

MAJOR PROCEDURES:		GYNECOLOGICAL	(70)
OPHTHALMIC (113)		Hysterectomies	6
Cataracts	62	Ovarian cysts	3
Iridectomies	7	Uter. suspensions	16
Other	44	Curettage	40
NOSE & THROAT (15)		Tubo—ov. abscess	4
Paracentesis	3	Vulvectomy	1
Tonsillectomies	7	GENITO—URINARY (92)	
Nasal Polyps	3	Hydroceles	74
Deviatio sept	1	Incarceratio testis	2
Other	1	Orchetomies	6
GLANDS AND TUMORS (19)		Scrotectomies	5
Thyroidectomies	8	Circumcision & other	5
TBC Glands	7	UROLOGY (2)	
Amput.	4	Cystotomy	2
GENERAL ABDOMINAL (61)		BONE AND JOINT	23
Appendectomies	1	AMPUTATIONS	1
Hern. incarc.	1	RECTAL OPERATIONS	20
Herniorrhaphies	27	PLASTIC	2
Herniohydrocel	10	SKIN GRAFTING	1
Laparotomies	13	OBSTETRICS (12)	
Cholecystectomy	5	Forceps	2
Gastro—Jejunostom	3	Caesarians	7
Ileo—colostomy	1	Extraut. Gravd	2

Retentio Placentae	1	Cystoscopy	6
Normal Delivery	50	Sigmoidoscopy	20

MINOR PROCEDURES:		ANESTHESIAS: (420)	
Pneumothorax	59	Local novocaine	138
Minor cyst & tumor	15	Local cocaine	89
Thoracocentesis	16	Local Anethine	15
Spinal Tap	32	Spinal Punc.	140
Biopsies	4	Do. & Aether	29
Endoscopies	30	Do. & Chlorof.	8
Laryngoscopy	4	Intravenous	1

ELY and OTTO FORMAN.

SALDOHA LEPER COLONY and CHURCH DISTRICT.

There is much gladness and thanks to God as we look back on this year which has passed. We have experienced the reality of God's promise: "As the days are, so shall thy strength be." We were helped through the many toilsome days and the various difficulties by the faithfulness of God and the intercession of friends.

In the medical side of the work there have been many encouragements. In all thirty—four patients have been sent home having become free of any symptoms, going home to their villages and loved ones to a new phase of life again to be respected by their neighbors. For this we thank God. It brings gladness to all of us when some are able to return home well again. Some of them have also learned to know the only True God while here. Five hundred and fourteen patients have been admitted for treatment in the colony and hospital. The average number of patients is slightly above three hundred and fifty. Three hundred and thirteen have come

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for treatment for the first time and eighty—five patients have come for renewed treatment. Of this total of three hundred and ninety—eight only one hundred and sixty—six could be admitted. In addition to those, one hundred and ten patients have come for regular out—door treatment in Saldoha and one hundred and ninety—four patients have come for regular dispensary treatment in Baromasia.

Approximately half of the patients in the colony have been under the treatment of the new Sulphone medicine. The results are very encouraging. The old method of treating by Hydnocarpus oil by injection still has its place.

The Indian doctor asked to be freed from his work the first of June and that was granted. With all possible effort, it was impossible to secure a new one during the course of the year. Otherwise, the staff members have been the same as the previous year, and they have been steadfast in the work.

When Margit Hannevik left for furlough in the spring, we received the good and deeply appreciated help of Helene Romer who was in Saldoha from March until the last of August when she moved to Mohulpahari where she was urgently needed. Fortunately, we received the much needed help of Kari Ringheim who came after the last conference. Otherwise, Ingeborg Kleven has borne the daily burdens in the nursing care and the district, as far as the time allowed. In addition to the medical work in the colony, much has been done for the sick through the dispensary and in our little hospital for non—lepers. Four thousand nine hundred and eighteen have come to receive medicine and one hundred and seventy—nine patients have been admitted to the hospital. There also a daily devotion is conducted for the patients.

The agricultural work in the colony as well as the work in the weaving school and the industrial school has gone on as usual. The patients have shown great interest in increased food production and in the cultivation

of new land. Three schools have been in session the entire year for leperous children and evening school for the adults has shown great and faithful interest. The worship services conducted both in Santali and Bengali have had good attendance with always two-thirds of those in attendance being non-Christians. Eight have been baptized during the course of the year and six were confirmed. Several are being instructed for baptism now.

The congregational work and educational work in the outstations and here on the main station has gone on smoothly and seems to be advancing. The Saldoha Upper Primary school had an enrollment of about one hundred pupils, with eighteen or twenty of these living in the boarding. We rejoice to have the opportunity for work in the church district in addition to work in the colony, but we have too little time and strength for that work. The women's work has been carried on as usual with the help of the lady missionaries. Five heathen were baptized and some are being instructed now for baptism. The workers have been the same and on the same places with the exception of the elder in Tarni who was transferred to Musnia as a permanent worker there. The pastor in Tarni has been careless in his duties and the congregational life has suffered because of that. We need a spiritual awakening among our congregational leaders.

In closing we thank all who have helped us with gifts and prayers in the year passed. The Government of Bihar, Mission to Lepers, District Board and the many friends of the Santal Mission have made it possible to continue the work. Thanks for the intercession all mission friends! The work is God's and we are all his workers for the spreading of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ throughout the world.

EDEL and MAGNUS HAUGSTAD.

WORK IN BENGAL.

BENGAL WORK IN SANTAL PARGANAS, BIRBHUM AND MURSHIDABAD.

Returning from furlough at the end of October, we were put into work from November when Kjolbergs left for Norway. During these two months we have not been able so far to come around to all the places in the rather large District. During our furlough, Kjolbergs had charge of the work among other races in Santal Parganas and also the Bengali work in Murshidabad besides the work in Birbhum, and so it is for us. So at the close of the year I am only writing down some facts concerning the work, the vast field as a whole being not thoroughly known to me as yet.

Up to the end of the year the work among the Mahalis has been included under the Bengal Church Council. From 1953 this work will join the Santal Church Council, and the Mahali Christians have applied for getting their own separate Circle, which also has been granted them. The work among the Mahalis still needs much care, and they are in need of preachers. We hope the young Mahali couple at the Divinity School, Josef and Nilmoni, will be a great help in the future, and go in for the work among their own people.

Outside of the Mahali work we have a vast field in Santal Parganas, besides the six or seven Bengal congregations already there, we have all the other non-Christians to work amongst who are more in number than the Santals.

The workers have been almost the same as before, and they have been doing their best. Together with the preachers and pastors, the missionaries have been touring around in all three districts. The workers' meetings

have been held as before, and a refresher course was held in Suri during last fall. This year we have had two pastors in Santal Parganas, namely, David Jha in Dumka, and Daniel Jha at Mohulpahari, and also two in Birbhum. The Rev. Ghose in Suri, besides his pastoral work is also the Editor of the Bengali monthly paper, "Bongo Bondhu" The other pastor, J. J. Das at Nalhati, has also helped with the pastoral duties in Murshidabad. In north Birbhum there is a great need of a well-trained preacher.

The split in the congregation in Itor is still there, and it seems to be rather difficult to bring the two parties together. Great effort has been made to solve the problem during the years, I understand, and it has been a special subject for prayer. But still at the end of the year there is so far not any change for the better to be seen. We have also two other places where the devil has been able to destroy the congregation to some extent, at Rampur Hat and Chapuria, where we have many high caste and educated people too. We feel very sorry about this, and ask for intercession.

But the new little congregation at Bhabki in Murshidabad has been going on well. One of the new Christians there, a teacher, has helped as a preacher. During the year the congregation has doubled, as eight from the non-Christian community have been baptized, and they are still anticipating more. Some other places we also this year have had the joy to see new members being added to the congregations, and some more were under instruction. But at the end, owing to so many obstacles from their own people, they did not have the courage of accepting the baptism. We will remember them in our prayers that God may grant them grace and power to break through all hindrances.

It was really wonderful to notice in Dumogram among the shoemaker caste how some of the Christians have grown in knowledge and spiritual power. In the

night school, carried on by the preacher, both children and adults have learned to read. One I saw had even gotten his own Bible and was able to read it.

Both in Suri and other places there have been regular family prayer meetings alternately around in the Christian homes. This helps to get into better contact with the homes, and at the same time a good opportunity to preach the Gospel.

Besides the work among the women carried on by the three Bible--women together with the missionaries, Mrs. Kjolberg has also had a Ladies' Association here in Suri. At a sale they were able to turn over to the Church fund more than sixty rupees. This is a good start in self--support, where also the women can help in a wonderful way.

In a very lowcaste village not far from Suri, we have come into contact with the village people. They are listening very eagerly, and we are hoping to be able to help them in starting a night school, with the only one of them who can read as a teacher. In that way we hope to get an opportunity also to preach the Gospel there.

We are still in need of more well--trained preachers and Bible women in this rather difficult field. We are also longing to have more of an awakening and revival among our Christians, and the same time more responsibility for their non--Christian countrymen. The Hindu and the Muslim religion make it often hard for people to break with their own religion. We feel more and more the need of asking you dear friends to remember especially this work among the other races. And we know and have seen that God is able to do wonderful things also here.

The seed has been sown, and we know that it will bear fruit when the season comes. Perhaps, the fruit comes some day when we least expect it.

So we thank God for all the work accomplished also in the last year, and look forward to the coming year with great hope and much expectations. We want also to thank all you friends for joining us in prayer and supplications and support.

KIRSTEN AND PEDER LUDV. LANDE.

COOCH BEHAR.

Cooch Behar District.

Our first year with responsibilities in the work has passed. It has been a year with rich varieties of experiences, including the depressing frustrations which meet the "greenhorn", and also the happy feelings of joy when the Word of God works its miracles. The results of the work may be hard to put on paper, as they are within the hearts and minds of men.

The year opened with a large number of Christian soldiers in our midst. Of the fifteen hundred troops stationed here temporarily, about fifty percent were Christians, coming mostly from Bihar and Madras. As a result, we often had Sunday services in Bengali, Hindi, English, and at times also in Tamil. It was a real encouragement for us to see so many happy, young, Indian Christians. The commanding officers, some of whom were Christians, were very sympathetic and went out of their way to see that all the Christian soldiers had an opportunity to come to worship. Although the soldier's stay here meant extra work for us, it was with sorrow that we saw them leave.

In the middle of January we had our annual conference which was arranged and organized completely by our Garo Christians. Several fellow missionaries visited us at that time, and we all felt enriched by the spon-

taneous happiness expressed by these sons and daughters of the jungle. The program lasted for two and one-half days, and included everything from Bible Study to volleyball competition.

For the greater part of the year we had the good fortune of having a Christian Additional Deputy Commissioner, namely, Mr. V S. C. Bonarjee. He was a very active Christian, and in spite of a heavy load of work in the administration here, he was never too busy to join us. He often accompanied us on our trips to the villages and he preached and gave testimonies both in the church here and in the mofussil. His stay here was saddened by the death of his mother in the beginning of the year, but both he and his twin sisters gave a living testimony of the Christian hope which reaches beyond death.

A Bible Course was conducted in the month of May at Dinhata, and it was attended by all workers, both preachers and teachers. We feel that such courses help to strengthen us and bring us closer to each other and closer to our Lord.

During the past year we have been fortunate in acquiring about two hundred acres of land for our tribal Christians. Two new settlements thus have been started and they may well accommodate about one hundred families. Most of these families have been living under rather poor conditions as forest workers, some in East Pakistan and some in India. It is a real joy to see how well they utilize the land they now may call their own. They have received no financial help from the mission in this. The authorities of the district have been very helpful and sympathetic, and desire our help for their Tribal Welfare plans. We are happy to join hands with them in this work, first, because most of the tribals of this district are Christians or in the process of becoming Christians; and secondly, because we feel that it is a recognition of our work as a mission.

The evangelistic work is conducted by one pastor, eight evangelists and one Bible woman, in addition to some voluntary workers. For six months two of the evangelists were away for training. Therefore, we have not been able to do as much work as we should have, although we have tried to be out in the villages as much as possible.

The educational work is carried on with four Government-aided primary schools and six village schools in addition to our boarding school for girls at Dinhata. At the present time we are working on plans for a boarding school for tribal boys in co-operation with West Bengal Government. About ninety-eight pct. of the children in the Government-aided schools are from non-Christian homes, and we feel that it will be an advantage to close some of these so as to enable us to give more attention to our Christian children.

We have been happy to receive many visitors during the year. A large number of missionaries have stopped over with us on their way to Assam. Most of them are from other missions and it is good to have fellowship with these friends.

Of the more officially marked visits, we may mention the Rev. Fredrik Wisloff and Ivar Skauen who stayed for nearly a week at the beginning of the year. Then the Rev. and Mrs. Bjerkestrand stopped for a short visit and the Rev. and Mrs. Gausdal joined us for a visit to our Garo congregations in the jungle.

Without reducing the joy and significance of these visits, however, it was a special joy to receive a member of our Home Board, Mrs. Molly Dahlberg, in the beginning of November.

In the month of May we had the sad experience of losing our most promising young woman, Tuno Roy, the wife of our pastor's eldest son. She had for some time been Bible woman here, and her presence was like a beam of sunshine on an otherwise grey day. She

died shortly after giving birth to their first child and she is missed by us all. May the Lord bless her memory which is an inspiration to us all.

Looking back on the past year, we find cause for thanks and praise to God. One hundred and one souls have been added to the congregations, but numbers do not mean much in the eyes of God. Our prayer is that He will plant His Holy Spirit in the hearts of us all, so that not only the number may grow but that the individual may grow in grace, love and faith.

The year has been a year of grief, happiness and anxiety. Grief because of the lukewarm and unco-operating Christians, happiness because of the opening for the Gospel amongst the tribals, and anxiety because of the lack of teaching and knowledge amongst our new Christians.

But above it all, we are thankful for the past year. We thank all the friends in Sweden for their unfailing support with means and prayers. We thank the Home Board for their willingness and understanding. We thank fellow missionaries in the Santal Mission for spiritual and moral support. We thank our Indian workers for their willingness to serve. We thank the authorities for sympathy and confidence shown towards us. A special thanks to our two fellow-workers, Miss Pihlquist and Miss Wittander, for their good fellowship. And above it all, we stand at the end of the year with thankful heart before the Almighty God for His mercy shown to us in a thousand ways.

Let us then start a new year with thanks to God because, "We are ambassadors therefore on behalf of Christ, as though God were entreating by us we beseech you on behalf of Christ, be ye reconciled to God." II Cor. 5:20.

In the service of the Almighty,
Anlaug and Ragnvald A. Pedersen.

DINHATA.

In January we had the great joy of dedicating the Mission station here at Dinhata. At that time besides having a great number of our Indian Christians present, we had the privilege of having several of the missionaries with us. Rev. Kampp, who during many years has been of great help to our work here at Cooch Behar, performed the dedicatory rites. Through the opening of this station a longfelt need for a station for two lady-missionaries has been met, and we thank all our friends in Sweden who have so generously contributed towards the work here.

At the same time we were able to open new houses for our girls' boarding department. Miss Das, who has been working at Narainpur School and has had great experience both as headmistress and matron, took charge both of the school and the boarding. During the year she has proved herself to be a very hardworking woman and though all the girls came from Garo villages where the standard of education is very low, she was able to pull them through and the annual examination showed remarkable progress. All the girls appeared in the examination of the Sunday School Union and the results revealed that they have a good foundation of Christian knowledge.

The women's meetings have regularly been held and the women together with the older girls in the school have been working very hard for a mela which was held here just before Christmas. It was the first mela to be held in this Mission and though the attention by the outsiders was not as large as we had anticipated, the result was not too bad. Besides the income from the Mela, the women's society here was able to turn over a fairly large sum to the Church fund owing to their faithfulness in giving "mustichal" (a handful of rice) at every time they cook. The rice was collected the last Saturday of every month and by selling it much was added to their fund.

In spite of finding that there is no necessity of having a dispensary here at Dinhata, we are thankful for the contact we have with non-Christians coming here for medical aid. The need of a Bible woman has been felt and we hope and pray that God soon will send someone who will take up the work among the ignorant Hindu and Mohammedan women living in the villages surrounding us.

In May a Bible course was arranged for our mission workers. We felt the Lord's presence and thank Him for the blessing we received. Several times we have been staying, for some days in a Garo village where there is a Christian congregation, teaching the Bible. We more and more understand that our most important task in India today is to strengthen our Christians with Bible knowledge. Indeed a wonderful task because we know "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth, but the Word of our God shall stand for ever."

E. PIHLQUIST.

NIMASARAI BENGALI WORK.

Living conditions in this district were as severe last year as ever. We hardly understand how we were able to get through, but we did. Towards the end of the year a good and full paddy harvest was obtained, after which prices at last began to ease. These conditions acted as a depression on our preachers and pastors and probably somewhat curtailed their energies. At least visible results of the work were small as previously. The few who were baptized from outside all came from the Hindu community. Towards the end of the year things looked more promising, as some people began preparations for baptism. One blessing was that the district had a plentiful mango crop. Some poor

people could satisfy their hunger on mangoes fallen on the ground, since they may freely be picked up by "first comers".

We tried to economize as much as possible. The account of mission and church have now been completely separated. Pastor Moharaj Bhandary acted as treasurer for the church and took very scrupulous care of the funds of the church. For one thing we have abolished the former monthly workers' meetings because they had gradually become too costly. In some other mission districts it is possible for the workers to come from their homes and return again after the meeting the same day. Thus the problem can be solved by their bringing their own food. But here distances are far too great for such arrangement. Still the co-operation and joint working of the preachers suffer from the lack of these meetings. Now they only meet for the quarterly Circle Conference.

No great change has taken place during the year in the staff or in the centres of work. That of course, means that a very essential part of the district still remains untouched by the work of the mission or the church. Work among women continued as before under the direction of Mrs. Kampp. Our two Bible women worked faithfully and may be said to be among the most diligent of our workers. Sometimes we find encouragement in looking at the work among women and children. So it is not true to say that women's work in Malda is at a standstill. However, it is true that now it is two years since Miss Malmstrom was transferred from this district and no other lady missionary has come in her place to take charge of the most needed work among Bengali women, nor is there any prospect so far of a successor to her.

At the beginning of the hot season we had a convention for the Christians, which was much appreciated by the not so very numerous partakers. In December we

had the usual "witness week" where we try to get all the Christians to partake in proclaiming the Gospel.

During the year we had a new book in Bengali published, a brief Christian Theology, dogmatics and ethics, corresponding to what we give the students in our Divinity School. There seems to be a demand for this book also in other parts of the Bengali speaking regions.

The school at Nimasarai Mission, together with other schools of the vicinity, was declared a free compulsory school. Still it is far from all the children of the surrounding villages that attend the school up to now. We try to help in forwarding "adult literacy" by establishing night schools. The number of boys in our hostel was as low as ever this year, owing partly to the high cost of living and partly due to the establishment of several hostels in connection with other schools, where Christian boys are also accepted as boarders. We are discussing with the Government the possibility of a hostel for girls in connection with some high school of this district.

The new missionary family that had come here was a disappointment, as they had to go back to Denmark before the end of the year.

After all, perhaps, we have to call 1952 a fairly normal year. When we count the Bengali work of our entire church there were baptized in all ninety-five from the non-Christians besides the children of Christian parents. This comes to an average of 1.07 per evangelistic worker. For all people combined within our mission area the corresponding average for last year was 1.125.

There was some increase in the income of the church from Indian sources, namely, from rupees 2836/- in this Circle last year to rupees 3501/- in 1952, that is an increase of 23%. This may be called respectable

considering the time of scarcity. Calculating the average per member of the congregations it comes to rupees 1-9- $1\frac{1}{2}$ per head. Last year the corresponding average for the church of our entire area was rupees 1-7- $1\frac{1}{4}$ and for the Bengalis as a whole rupees 1-4-4.

H. P. H. KAMPP.

SANTAL WORK IN NORTH BENGAL.

A new missionary couple for Santali work in North Bengal have now arrived, namely, Rev. and Mrs. Kjell Clausen who were sent out from Norway. But during 1952 it was impossible for them to obtain sufficient knowledge of the language to take charge and responsibility of all Santali work, so I had to remain in it up to the end of the year—and part of 1953. In Malda, as everywhere in Bengal, it is necessary for a Santal missionary to know both Bengali and Santali. It is a question whether it would not be wiser to begin with Bengali and then take Santali afterwards. The opposite order was, however, decided on in this case, possibly from the old habit

Other difficulties for the Santal missionary of the Middle Field are first that his area is much larger in extent and with regard to the number of Santals living there than any other Santal mission district in our mission,—and secondly that the area is divided between two different countries, India and Pakistan, which at present strive to exclude themselves from one another. Last year we thought that communications across the border would now become easier. Instead of that a passport system has been enforced, which at least to begin with has caused very nearly all traffic across the

border line to cease. Thus this year not even the pastors from Pakistan could come here on visits for consultations. We hope the situation may ease, when both countries have managed to issue the millions of passports that are called for suddenly to begin with. Carrying money across the border has become practically impossible. Personally, only once during the year was I able to secure permit for a visit to Pakistan, although it did then allow me to stay there for a period up to six months, if it had but been practical to do so. For the sake of control there is now only one place where it is legal to cross from Malda to Pakistan or back, and there the means of conveyance are mostly non-existent, so I had to give up that route and instead go around Dinajpur District to enter and return.

Thus, joint meetings for the two parts of North Bengal are impossible at present. Consequently, the Santal District Church Council for North Bengal has to work in two independent sections, each consisting of two "Circles."

The Bengal Christian Council, originally comprising both Bengals, has since the partition tried a similar arrangement. But at its last meeting in the beginning of 1953, it was on the proposal of the East Pakistan section, and they decided to separate the two branches entirely, so that the East Pakistan Christian Council hereafter will be completely independent of the Bengal Christian Council, and even will have no connection with the Indian National Christian Council, but like this itself be directly affiliated to the International Missionary Council.

It may become necessary to have a corresponding arrangement of our Santal Church Council for North Bengal. Then again arises the question, if we may eventually have to transfer our mission field in Pakistan to other missions with headquarters in that country.

We are still seriously short of pastors in the Middle Field. Pastor Jonas Hasdağ of Rajadighi has been acting

both as president and as treasurer of the District Church Council, except that funds for Pakistan had to be disposed of in a particular way. Besides that he is the chairman of his own local Circle, in addition to being the only Santal pastor for an area covering more than two pastorates.

Within the Malda—Purnea Circle is also pastor Jaeram Hasdak of Khoribari. He does a quiet and steadfast work there. But in the West Dinajpur Circle the position is somewhat difficult. Old Pastor Jalpa Soren passed away there in January of 1952. Meanwhile a pastor from the "old country" had come to Narayanpur. But his health and strength and his ability for leadership proved unequal to the difficulties in the work there, so he gave up and left the place before the end of the year. After that the members of the congregations could not agree among themselves as to a successor. After much deliberation they finally agreed to leave the decision to the General Superintendent. So it was settled that Pastor Munshi Murmu of Phoridpur in Pakistan should move to Narayanpur as their pastor. Then in his place a teacher of Narayanpur, Bajnath Baskey, should be ordained pastor for Phoridpur. This has come about during the first part of 1953, and Munshi Pastor has succeeded in getting his papers and coming to Narayanpur; but Bajnath has not yet obtained passport for Pakistan. His qualifications for the pastoral calling are not very high, and the conditions at his place of work are not very easy.

In the northernmost pastorate of Pakistan no solution has been found thus far regarding the question of a pastor for them. The old Pastor Mongol Kisku, already long on pension, is now too weak to deal with matters there, and so some trouble remains unsettled. Also at Rotonpur, the Western pastorate of West Dinajpur, the problem of a pastor remains unsolved. The majority have recently voted for a local leader, who is without any qualifications for pastoral work. The minority prefer

a young son of their deceased pastor, who has been through the Divinity School for Santals at Benagaria. Until further, Jonas Pastor will have to continue his work of supervision there.

In the southernmost pastorate of Pakistan, namely Badhar, Pastor Budhrai Hasdak continues his work during various kinds of difficulties. He had a fairly well educated assistant, who has been through the Divinity School course at Benagaria. But their attempt at co-operation has failed and the young man had to be suspended from his work at the visit of the General Superintendent about Christmas time. In spite of all, the work there has shown progress. During this new year Budhrai Pastor has found it necessary to call the former Pastor Lopsa Soren to help him in preparing new converts for baptism.

Also at other places new believers have joined the congregations, actually in all four Circles. And there are still many that are asking for instruction and baptism. For example, within the area of Jonas Pastor's supervision there are no less than four villages of Santals who have asked to be taught. Sadly enough the preachers and "elders" who ought to take care of them, show far less energy and eagerness than these great opportunities call for.

Statistical reports show that there are now twenty-six congregations in India and twenty-three in Pakistan. The total number of Christians is reported to be one thousand two hundred and eighty in India and eight hundred and seventy-two in Pakistan, all together two thousand one hundred and fifty-two. During the year fifty-three and twenty-three children of Christian parents respectively were baptized, and of converts from the non-Christian community thirty-six were baptized in India and forty-five in Pakistan, a total of seventy-nine. Collections in all congregations in India amounted to Rs. 1344-11-9, and in Pakistan Rs. 663-0-9, making a total of 2007-12-6.

H. P. H. KAMPP,

EDUCATIONAL WORK IN BENGAL.

THE BENGAL DIVINITY SCHOOL.

According to the plans, two terms were held this year, one for four months from April until July and one for two months from October until November. The II year Senior Course subjects were taught. There were ten students, most of them the same as the previous year. Simon Tudor dropped out however, and in his place came Jogindro Banjuria.....Jogen, from Malda District. Jogen was allowed to study in II Senior class without having passed I Senior, with the understanding that he is to take class I after finishing class III. From Cooch Behar came Komol Roy, who also has not passed I Senior. He has studied for one year in another Divinity School, but has not passed there either. Also Nahor Munshi came for a few months as he did last year, coming from Assam. His work is felt so necessary in Assam that he was unable to join us during the second term. We have tried our best to help him with books, and he is said to be doing good work at home, even though he really should have more training for his important task among Muslims. Also we again had Musa here for a time but again he left before he was quite ready for Baptism.

In the following subjects the students prepared for and sat for examination.

1. The Gospel of St. John
2. Romans
3. "The God We Trust" — The Apostles Creed
4. Isaiah in part
5. Modern Church History
6. Teaching enquirers.

7. How We Got Our Bible
8. The Books of the Bible.....Introduction to Old and New Testament
9. Hinduism

The students obtained the following percentage of full marks:—

1. Ajen Chisim Cooch	Behar	70%	2nd class,
2. Komol Roy, Cooch	Behar	69%	2nd class,
3. Gopal Biswas Cooch	Behar	63%	2nd class,
4. Suren Pramanik	Malda	61%	2nd class,
5. Sodanondo Adhikari	Cooch		
	Behar	53%	3rd class,
6. Jogen Banjuria	Malda	51%	3rd class,
7. Nogen Pramanik	Malda	50%	3rd class,
			(increased).

50% is required for passing and promotion to class III Senior. Sonaram Kormokar from Assam and Stephan Jha from Santal Parganas were taken ill during the examination and the first named was unable to sit for one subject and the latter was unable to sit for five subjects. They will be allowed to write their papers at a special test at the beginning of the next term in 1953.

In addition to the two named above, Nogen Pramanik was able to complete the last test in his Junior Exam. which had been left since the previous year.

During the year, Rev. P. Kjolberg assisted for ten days giving lessons in Isaiah and supplying duplicated notes on the subject. Further help was obtained through a few lectures by Sobha Pandit of the Children's Special Mission while he was here for a convention. Three of the students also joined a Youth Conference or Summer School at Dinajpur. Babu Lokhon C. Konai gave a course of lessons on Hinduism. Otherwise, we were alone in the work. Mrs. Kampp conducted the singing classes as before and also the teaching of the families

of students and other women and children, assisted by our two local Biblewomen. In order to give students sufficient time for home studies, unfortunately song lessons had to be cut short to a certain extent. The same was the case in the English class.

Debating club or Christian Endeavour meetings were held every Saturday evening. One speaker would introduce a subject for debating and later on another would read a written treatise. Sermons were practised weekly every market day and in various churches on Sundays, as well as on village tours on Sunday afternoon and other occasions.

Certificates were sent to students through their respective Circle Chairman.

H. P. H. KAMPP.

EKLAKHI MISSION GIRLS' SCHOOL.

It is difficult for me to write a report about Eklakhi, as I have been in charge of the school only since August, but I am sure that all three of us who have been here this year agree, that the Lord is faithful, and he has kept His promise, "I am with you always."

When Betzy Nordby left for furlough, Gudrun Holten came here to take over her work, both in the school and dispensary. It was not an easy task, but she managed it well, so the work could be carried on as before. And the teachers also have been a great help both to her and to me.

We obtained two new Santal teachers from Midnapur in the beginning of the year, and they have been working faithfully together with the old teachers, Sara Murmu, Snehalata Sircar and Rahel Murmu. In April Sara was married, but she continued in her work here

the remainder of the year. She has been here since the school started, and we are all missing her. She certainly looked upon her work as received from God, and I am sure that the seed she has sown will bear fruit.

We have had fewer children this year than we usually have. I think the reason was due to the poor harvest this year. Thus the parents were not able to pay the boarding fees for their girls.

The children's health has been good. We have had no serious illness, only the usual malaria cases and colds.

In April we had a visitor from Childrens Special Service, Mr. Pandit, here for a week. In the morning we gathered in the church for prayer, in the afternoon he had singing with the girls, and in the evening he held meetings with magic lantern, and every evening the church was filled with people from the villages round about here. I am sure that these days have been a blessing to the children, and also to many others, and we are thankful to the Children's Special Service Mission for their work.

The Government Grant to the school has been as before, one-hundred rupees per month, but the dearness-allowance for the teachers was raised from five rupees and eight annas per month to six rupees and eight annas per month. The Government is very interested in getting this school raised to M. E. and is willing to give financial help. Until now it has not been possible, but we hope it can be done. Many of the parents think it very difficult to send their girls to Narayanpur. Now we have two senior trained teachers, so it could be possible as far as I can see.

Since September the Kjell Clausen family have been staying here. They are studying Santali, and have also been helping here in many ways. The Christian Santals round about here are glad to have their own saheb, and we are all hoping to get the money for the new station

at Bagsarai, so that Mr. and Mrs. Clausen can continue their work here in Malda, where they are so badly needed.

There have been difficulties this year, many of them due to my insufficient knowledge of the language, but I have felt the good-will from the teachers and others. And I am sure that many have been remembering the work in their prayers. May God bless his Work in Eklakhi. The harvest truly is plenteous, and the labourers are few, but let us pray that we may be faithful and fulfill the ministry to which we have been called by the Lord.

GERD OGNEDAL.

NARAINPUR MISSION GIRLS' SCHOOL.

“For I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.” This word has come to us in a new and comforting way in the year which has just passed.

The year of 1952 has had its difficulties for us in Narainpur, as far as the school work was concerned. Most of the year we have been carrying on with insufficient staff. In the beginning of the year, our Headmistress felt that owing to her age she would not be able to work any longer. A younger teacher had to take over the responsibility as Headmistress for the Secondary section, while the Primary Section was in charge of our Headmistress from the previous years. All attempt to obtain a senior-trained teacher for the Middle English section failed as we had to use more or less trained help for class 5, and this was rather a drawback, which their examination results showed. It also was a heavy responsibility for the other teachers, as they had much extra work to attend to.

Our preacher, Mr. Dutto, very willingly helped us not only with the Bible teaching but with other subjects too. At the same time he was a great help to me with all the correspondence, for which I am very thankful.

There was a great deal of illness among the staff and the children in the beginning of the year. At one time seventeen children and one teacher were in bed with a combination of influenza and malaria. All were very weak and it took them quite a long time to recover, and in the meantime still others had the attacks. Some of the smaller children also had a seize of whooping-cough.

Some of our family have died this year. I should like to mention the one who cooked the children's food and was like a mother to them. She was taken away from the work in February, as it was found that she had T. B. and she died in May after a long time of hard suffering. For those of us who were with her until the end, she was a great testimony to what the power of God can do in feeble instruments of His Grace. She left behind three children, two boys and one little girl, and I promised the mother that we would take care of them.

One of our former students, Mukhi Kisku, who had helped in the boarding for the first half of the year and for whom it was decided that she should help with the school work after the holidays, died suddenly towards the end of the holidays from typhoid fever. We miss her very much.

Last, I would mention Supria, the youngest of us all. She came back from the holidays underfed and with all signs of weakness. A few days later she was suddenly taken very ill with fever and in spite of all efforts, she left us the same night to be with the Lord. Even though we miss her so much our hearts are full of thanks to God in Whose safe keeping she now is, for life has been and would be full of difficulties for her.

On the first of July, Miss Solveig Somming came here to help until Miss Inger Krogh Nielsen would return from furlough. It was a great help to have Miss Somming here and make use of her experience in school

work and her willingness to help wherever help was needed. Miss Somming started a confirmation class for five Santal girls and later when she left our Pastor's wife took over, and it was a very happy day when four of them were confirmed in the church by our Santal Pastor.

The Sunday School work has this year been carried on by one of our teachers, Horsho Prosad, and a student preacher and helper in the dispensary, Puspa Das. They seemed to have a very good grasp on the children's interest and a very good way of bringing their teaching home to the children. A great help and inspiration was the visit of Mr. Pandit from the Children's Special Service Mission, and many were greatly blessed. For the women the usual meetings have been conducted by the preacher's wife and Puspa Das and Horsho Prosad.

There has not been much time for dispensary-work this year. Only about nine hundred patients from the nearby village have been treated, and only a very few have been visited in their homes.

Both from the Christians and from the non-Christians many requests have been made for us to come and visit them in their villages, but there was simply no time to spare from the work here. As soon as Miss Krogh Nielsen came back from furlough, she went out to visit the congregations in Santal Parganas, and arranged a short Bible-course for the Biblewomen. It is hoped very much that she should be permitted to do this work which has been neglected during her furlough owing to all too few workers.

In December nine children went to Rampur Hat for their Middle English examination while seven went for Upper Primary examination.

When we look back over the year our hearts are filled with thanks to God for His help sufficient for all our needs and for the hope of resurrection every time

we stood by an open grave. Trusting Him we go forward. And I want to express my thanks to the friends in the homelands who stood behind sharing the burdens and joys with us.

LILLY PETERSEN.

MEDICAL WORK IN BENGAL.

MALDA MEDICAL WORK.

“He who believes in me—out of his body as Scripture says, streams of living water will flow.”

This year saw the re-opening of our work at Rajadighi Mission station which has been empty since the Rev. Kippenes and family left for Norway. In September Miss Gunvor Clausen came from Mohulpahari, and in October I came from furlough in Denmark to take up the work here. We hope that eventually a small hospital for women and children may develop out of the dispensary work that is done here. So far we have no buildings for the purpose, but a small dispensary has been arranged in one end of the bungalow in which we are living. We use the verandah for “consultation room” and a large adjoining bathroom has been turned into a multipurpose-room. So far we have no room for in-patients. A building is under construction for nurses’ quarters, as we hope next year to have two Indian nurses with us to help in the work.

The patients come from the nearby villages. A large number of them are Muslim women and many patients belong to the so-called tribes, i. e. Santals, Rajbongshis, etc.

This year we have been treating three thousand and thirty-three patients.

From the beginning of November I have been going to Nimasarai every Thursday to conduct an out-door clinic for the many patients who know us from before, when the temporary hospital was situated at Nimasarai. Here we have been treating three hundred and thirty patients.

Besides this I have quite often been called out to see patients in their homes. During the last month of 1952 there was a total of thirty-two such calls. May be this is a working method we should develop. You get into much closer contact with the villagers you desire to help, and there is a great need for help and teaching in these many uncared for villages.

Miss Clausen has started working among the Santal women. There is a very great need for work among our Christian women and in many places we hear of Santals wanting to become Christians. So far we have not been able to find a Bible women to help us.

We hope and pray that next year some of our plans for this work and our hospital work here may materialize.

May from the work that is being done here streams of living water from God through us His servants, flow out to all these villages where His name is not known.

We thank the friends in the homelands for the many ways in which they support also this part of our work, and we ask for continued prayers for this new field of work.

GUNVOR CLAUSEN and ELSE HOILUND.

WORK IN ASSAM.

BONGAIGAON.

The year has been quite a good year for the work. Most of the burden in the congregations has fallen on Pastor Malsing Moshary, since Pastor Olichoron Basumatary was seriously ill for many months. In November Biswanath Narjary was ordained as Pastor and he stepped in at once to help out the last two months. Some years ago one congregation had to move away as one of the rivers changed its course. Now some of the families have returned and a few members have joined the community so now we have one more congregation. That makes a total of twenty-one congregations.

The statistics show that one hundred and twenty-one have been baptized from among the non-Christians and one-hundred and six children of Christian parents. Church collections have increased slightly above last year.

Our new missionaries, the Rev. and Mrs. Hofrenning, have helped in the work beside their language study. He has helped with the school and hostel, taken part in Sunday services, and together with the students, workers, and Christians from the Railway colony held street meetings regularly in various parts of the Bongaigaon area. They have distributed thousands of tracts and sold several hundred Gospel portions and quite a number of New Testaments in Bengali, Assamese, Hindi, and Urdu. Mrs. Hofrenning has taken part in the women's work. All this help is much appreciated and we wish them joy and happiness when they go to their new field of work in Parkijuli.

SCHOOLS.

In the past year we have had ten village schools with eleven teachers. For the teacher's salary they have

collected twenty mounds of paddy for each teacher and they also receive salary from the church fund. In some villages where the local board has schools, the children attend there.

The primary school in Bongaigaon has not been going too well because during the year we have had trouble with the teachers and had to change twice. Our high school hostel has been filled with students from the Birjara high school most of the time.

Our wish for the future is a church building where we could gather for our Sunday Services and morning prayers and where the Christians from the Railway colony could feel they had a home and were welcome to join with us or gather in groups according to their own language.

May God bless His own work and make us faithful in His service.

SOFIE NESSET.

GAURANG MISSION.

This year has seen an increase in the number of congregations in the circle.

In February the preacher at Jeaguri informed us that some heathen families wanted him to come along with them and establish a new village in the forest north of Kachugaon by clearing new land in the jungle, and then they would all become Christians in that new place. We advised him to go. They managed to come through the first rainy season with all the difficulties in such a situation. At the end of the year twenty-five people were baptized and a new congregation was established there.

A small congregation has also been re-established in Serfanguri, which was vacated by the Christians during the disturbances two years ago. Two families moved there, and the previous pastor went back to serve again in that place. We are glad that the Word of God is again proclaimed in that locality.

The congregation near Patgaon, where there has been dissension, joined the circle again at the end of the year. Some change was made in the provision of pastoral care in the area. The breach is now healed, but the strife and dissension there for several years has had a bad effect, and the work has suffered a setback in the Patgaon area.

The pastoral supervision as a whole has not been satisfactory, partly due to illness and other reasons and partly due to slackness in the work of one of the pastors. We hope that matters will improve. As there are now twenty-one congregations, one more pastor will be needed.

There are only three full-time elders in the circle, two stationed in the two big congregations, namely, Gothaibari and Mothambil, and one designated for travelling work. The latter one was temporarily placed in Patgaon to help in a difficult situation there, but at the end of the year moved to Gaurang Mission.

Mothambil school started a big collection for a new school building with corrugated iron roof. However, the actual work on the building has as yet not been started.

Gothaibari congregation invited the women's convention in the middle of February and many women attended. These conventions will apparently be established as an annual feature. Mothambil offered to arrange for the meeting next year.

One young man from a completely non-Christian locality was baptized in the Gaurang church. He had on his own initiative learned the Roman script in order

to be able to read the New Testament. Even before his baptism he started distributing tracts and thus witnessing to others.

BORO CHURCH COUNCIL.

As Alichoron pastor's health was not good it was decided that a new pastor should be appointed. Biswanath Narjary, who finished the Divinity School course in Chondorpura in 1946, was recommended by the council for ordination, and this took place in Ranzaupur in November. He will be in charge of the congregations in Darrang and part of Bongaigaon circle.

It was decided that we should call together a meeting of a Boro Christian Board to discuss questions of common interest to the various groups of Christian Boros. Actually, this is a plan dating back several years.

BORO LITERATURE BOARD.

There was no meeting of the Board during the year, But one new booklet, "Sadhu Sundar Singh" was printed, and reprint was made of one school book and one tract in Assamese script.

The Boro paper appeared bi-monthly as before, and has become an important link in the work.

A committee of Boros from various parts of Assam and Bengal met in Basugaon in November for the first general Boro Literature Committee and decided to use Assamese script in their literary work. But as this movement is quite new and there is no evidence that the matter has been finally decided there will be no change at present in our use of the Roman script.

ANNA AND HAAKON HALVORSRUD.

J O E M A.

It is evident that both in Joema Circle and in Kamrup—Darrang Circle the self—government in the church has led to increased responsibility towards self-support; but there is still a great deal to be done before we reach the goal of complete self-support. The budgets for 1953 shall be shouldered one-half by the mission and the other half by themselves. To place the work on a scale which the congregations can manage to continue by themselves, it was decided at the Circle Conference in December that from the 1st of January, 1953, in these two circles there will be only so-called “church elders” on a reduced salary. The eight elders who were previously on full salary are to be “church elders” with six rupees a month. Thus, there are in these two circles twenty-five congregations, twenty-five “church elders” and five pastors. We hope that from next year it will be possible to appoint one or two travelling preachers with the definite purpose to work with the seeking among the non—Christians. There are ten village school teachers who receive part of their salary from the church and part of their salary from the village, but some of the villages support their teachers entirely. The reports from the pastors show that seventy-one non—Christians have been baptized and ninety-four children of Christian parents have been baptized during the year of 1952.

Sirmath Pastor at Darrang reports that the work there has been carried on as usual. Arjun Pastor reports from Kamrup about the dedication of a church building at Paharpur and the founding of a new congregation at Lalpur. At present many Santals are moving from Goalpara to Kamrup to clear new land and to settle down there. Among these new pioneers there are great possibilities. They need more help than we have been able to give them thus far. The need for workers in Kamrup has become even greater after it was necessary for Arjun Pastor to move from there,

Chattur Pastor states that in the five villages near Salakati (along the railroad line east of Kokrajhar) there are a large number of Santals being instructed in preparation for baptism. In the course of the year the seekers themselves have appointed a Christian family as teacher. Besides the customary school work the teacher and his wife also helped with the instruction preparatory for baptism, and are still continuing that. Ratu Pastor reports that it has been an usual good working year, and also reports about the dedication of a church building at Atiabari. The pastor here at Joema, Chotto Murmu, reports that there was dedication of a church at Matiapara in December. After Arjun Pastor moved from Kamrup he has helped in Chotto Pastor's district, because he was given sick leave for some time. He has faithfully been out in the villages which have asked for help, north and west from Arond and Sendrihora, and now quite a number of families are being instructed for baptism.

A ten-day course for the workers in Joema Circle and those interested was held in Joema during the month of June. Each pastor, elder and teacher was given beforehand an appointed them with assignment to accessible Santal literature. In the month of May they gathered together into study groups around in the villages. Then at the course they shared with each other what they had obtained through this study. Since we were still studying the language, there was no other way in which to conduct the course. In Kamrup--Darrang Circle they had a Bible Week at Hingaon during the month of October.

The school at Joema has had a good working year, with one hundred and fourteen students, eighty of these in the boarding. A great event for the school this year was the visit of the Minister of Education for Assam, Mr. Omeo K. Das, on the 28th of April. This was an encouraging visit which was followed by a kind report which expressed appreciation for the school and the chari-

table work done by the Mission The Synod meeting in October voted that from January 1, 1953, the Joema school should be directly under the church. The Dispensary work in Joema has been as usual.

Our impression is that the regular congregational work on the various places is being carried on very well. But there are not enough workers to help the many non-Christians who ask for instruction and guidance. Many Santals forsake their heathen worship. Join in praying that they may not stop here, but that they might surrender all to Christ.

ELISABETH and OLE DORDAL.

M O R N A I.

Regarding the tea gardens in India, the year 1952 will be remembered as the year of the collapse of the tea market. During the rainy season when tea auctions had started, prices rather suddenly came down to a very low level, and tea had to be sold at a rate considerable below the cost of production. After some months a large number of tea-gardens who could no longer pay their labourer's wages had to close down. Along with the closing of those gardens a great deal of suffering was naturally caused to the labourers and other employees who all of a sudden found themselves without a job. In Assam alone one hundred and sixty tea gardens had to close (out of a total of about nine hundred) and nearly one hundred thousand labourers became unemployed, in most cases without being able to find any other means of existence. At the end of 1952 most of these gardens are still at a standstill and one can only hope that things will adjust themselves before too long, so that tea may again be sold at prices that will cover the cost of production.

Mornai tea garden has somehow gotten through so far. Many restrictions and savings have been adopted, but care has been taken that the labourers, as far as possible, should not be made to suffer. We hope and pray that we may get through these hard days without having to resort to very drastic measures, which would not only upset the institution but also cause much suffering to the many men, women and children who have their homes and means of existence here at Mornai. Our economic reserves are far from unlimited and it will not be possible to bear great losses continuously for a long time. It has, of course, not been possible for the tea garden this year to contribute towards the Mission, who is now confronted with a difficulty because of not receiving the amount they had calculated to receive from Mornai.

Now turning to the church and its activities there is fortunately no such crisis. Again a year has passed in which there was ample opportunity to proclaim the Gospel, and though many still, both Christians and non-Christians, keep aloof, quite a number of Santals, Mundas, and Bengali speaking people have availed themselves of the opportunity to hear the Gospel about our Lord Jesus Christ in their own mother tongues. Some have been baptized in all congregations during the past year.

We believe our school with nearly two-hundred children enrolled and seven teachers has been a great blessing to the people. So have the Sunday schools with about the same number of children, or even somewhat higher. The singing in school and church has been greatly improved due to the efforts of our newly appointed song teachers, Bedisia Rawani, and also due to the help given by Biju Soren, who is employed here as an office clerk.

The showing of films and lantern slides always assures large gatherings and we believe that both Biblical, Educational and other good pictures may have a great influence, especially when (as here) shown to many illiterate people and children.

One important happening in 1952 was the dedication of a church for Bengali speaking people. This does not mean that we have built a church, but a house formerly used as quarters for some carpenters has been made into a church at a very small expense. It has become quite a suitable room for the purpose. The need for a church for Bengali-speaking people has been felt in Mornai since the church of Pauspur was shifted to Dingdinga in 1951.

At the present time Nahor Munshi and his family are living in a house close to the church. Nahor and his family are converts from Mohammedanism, baptized here a couple of years ago. Nahor has been appointed as preacher to the Mohammedan population of this locality, and this former Elder among the Moslems is now proclaiming the Gospel of Salvation in Christ throughout the Moslem villages, among the people who know him from before. He is not working without risks, but he is ready to take the risk and many are listening and wondering whether Christ should also not be their Saviour from sin and all their misery. We shall never forget a meeting in our church where several leading Moulvies of this locality with other Moslems were present eagerly asking questions about Christianity. We shall never forget when we, after the discussions, sat down in Nahor Munshi's house and these prominent Moslems took food, rice and curry, together with us, a thing quite unthinkable during past years. Whatever be the ultimate result of our work among the Moslems, we have been permitted to see a wonderful friendly attitude towards Christianity and eager inquiries about Christ and His way. This certainly proves that the Gospel is working strongly in Moslem hearts in our present day.

Another event that must necessarily be mentioned, namely, the ordination of Jacob Biswas, who has now become a pastor for the Bengali-speaking people here. Jacob Biswas is the Head Clerk of Mornai and has been an unpaid helper in the church work for many years.

His ordination now makes it possible for him to conduct the church functions in the Bengali speaking congregations of our Assam field. At the same time he continues his occupation in the tea garden. We have thus by ordaining Jacob Biswas adopted a new principle, namely, ordaining honorary pastors, who work in their spare time and on Sundays without receiving any salary from the church. It is a new system which may prove in the future to be a very suitable one in a land like India where people in many cases are too poor to pay a pastor's salary, and where the idea of doing religious work without receiving any salary or pay has a strong appeal to many. We are glad for this beginning and Jacob Biswas being a man tried and tested through many years of voluntary service in the church, we feel he will no doubt in this way be able to render great service to the Bengali church.

At the conclusion we wish to thank all friends in the homelands who have also during the past year had the work of Mornai in their thoughts and prayers.

INGEBORG AND OLUF EIE.

THE SANTAL COLONY.

The Conference asked us to look after the Santal Colony in consultation with Rev. & Mrs. O. Eie, when Rev. & Mrs. I. Hoyland went home on furlough, but we feel that it is very little we have been able to do outside Grahampur itself.

Rev. & Mrs. O. Eie who know this part of the field and the people very well, have been able to do a valuable work appreciated by all. The Santals have come to them with their difficulties and gone home again thankful for good advices and immediate assistance.

According to the constitution, church affairs have more and more been taken over by the Church Councils. Rev. O. Eie was elected treasurer of the Colony Circle and kindly agreed to hold monthly meetings with the pastors, elders and village teachers in Mornai.

For a few months Cyril Hasdak, the Chairman of Mornai Circle, was faithful co-worker who went from village to village to help the people to settle their disputes and to develop their local congregations. It was therefore a great loss when he became seriously ill, and at last passed away on the 4th December 1952. He died while the benediction was read. Even if he is no more here with us, who miss him so much, we believe that God's blessing will remain over the work he loved.

He had come to the Colony for about 35 years ago, and had soon won the respect of all its inhabitants. As headmaster of Santal Colony M. E. School he secured Government recognition and aid in 1926. Later he became head-clerk, kept the Loan Fund accounts and managed all kinds of business-affairs very faithfully. By and by he gained considerable efficiency and experience and also often led the Colony Panchayats to everybody's satisfaction.

Cyril Hasdak loved his Church. He thus presented the baptismal font, which is now standing in Graham pur Church. As a keen Lay-Christian and voluntary worker he was an active member of the Church Councils and the Synod. Thus the constitution of the Ebenezer Evangelical Lutheran Church was translated by him from English to Santali.

Before Rev. I. Hoyland went on furlough, he visited most of the villages and worked hard for selfsupport. The villagers promised to give chanda both to the congregational work and the village school work. The people of Molkepur enthusiastically started to build their own ince school house, which was dedicated later.

During 1952 new schools were started at Kaerabani, Silghagri, Dingdinga and Manjadabri. These schools have mostly been managed by the villagers themselves.

On the 15th of December a meeting of the leaders of the Colony was held at Grahampur. They agreed to ask their people to send all children between 6 and 11 years of age to school, and to raise necessary funds for the village schools.

On the 31st of December three honourable Ministers of the Assam Government visited Grahampur. They addressed a meeting of Santal leaders and discussed their problems in an atmosphere of understanding and good will.

With hearty greetings to both old and new friends!

SOLVEIG & SIGFRED JOHANSEN.

PARKIJULI MISSION

The past year has been a year of trouble and testing. Recently, however, there has been a noticeable change for the better, and we hope the coming year will bring more mutual understanding and good will among our Christian brethren in this area.

We entered 1952 with high hopes for the church and school as well as the work at large. The preceding year of 1951 had been a good year, one that had augured well for the future. Church collections had been satisfactory. New school buildings had been erected by the Christians, with an enrollment of more than 100 students and school fees had been collected amounting to more than Rs. 300/-. The next project on the programme was a new church building. Plans had been made and an application for funds to help to build the church had been forwarded by the Circle Conference to the Synod. Funds

were short and aid could not be granted at this time. Sorry to say, the congregation at Parkijuli did not receive this news as graciously as they should have done. With hurt feelings they decided to proceed with the building project any way, but the enthusiasm was gone. Before they had started, another set back occurred which badly affected both the church and the school. As a result the building project had to be postponed.

To make a long story short, a certain father refused to give his daughter in marriage; but one of our school teachers in order to help the couple concerned, wed them illegally according to non-Christian custom. As a result of this the Church Council dismissed the teacher. The headmaster and some of our church members, who had attended the wedding, were excommunicated. The remaining teachers went on strike and the school was closed.

After a while some of the offenders asked for pardon, but it was October before everyone concerned finally reached the decision to settle this and other outstanding issues which had poisoned our church life.

Maybe we have taken a dimmer view of the trouble than we should have, for we were surprised at the end of the year to find that church collections, which we had expected to be exceptionally low, were just slightly under the preceding year.

As we enter upon another year we do so with gratitude and hope. One of the reasons for our gratitude is the gracious offer of a gift from America through the Rev. Dixen of 1000 dollars designated for a church building at Parkijuli! Indeed we need a new church as the old one is beyond repair, but we had neither sent a request, nor asked for funds, except at the Conference on the Mission Field. Thus, it is the more remarkable and it augurs well for the future. It gives us new hope and new courage, and we most sincerely express our heartfelt thanks to the donors,

There has been a large amount of illness this year. Here at the dispensary we have had about 700 consultations. In addition, our compounder has treated 853 patients. This work is in many ways a fruitful work as it gives opportunity to contact so many different people among whom are Boros, Santals, Assamese, Mundas, Oraos, Biharis, Nepalis, Korvos and Bhutias. Most of those whom we contact are non-Christians. We hope that they may learn something about the love of Christ through treatment, tracts, and Scripture portions.

Parkijuli was flooded twice this year, during which some of our bridges were washed away and our water canal was partly destroyed. After the flood the rice crop was badly affected by the drought which followed.

Elephants, deer and wild boar have had their taste of the new paddy crop. In Kumarikata circle to which Parkijuli belongs, eight people were killed by wild elephants and 156 huts were destroyed.

KAMRUP AND DARRANG CIRCLES.

In Kamrup District we have a new congregation of 22 Garo members at Nagrijuli. Eight children were recently baptized there.

In Darrang District a Garo congregation is about to be formed. There is a fairly large number of Christian Garos who have moved into Kamrup and Darrang District, some of them coming from Cooch Behar where they were members of the Swedish Mission church.

Biswanath Pastor, who was ordained some time ago, will be in charge of the congregations in Darrang District after the beginning of 1953. This will enable Maguram Pastor to give more time to work in Kamrup and Bhutan.

DEWANGIRI.

Mr. Dann has been working faithfully at Dewangiri this year also. The school has been carried on as usual,

although there has been much sickness. Mr. Dann himself was seriously ill in February and we were afraid we should lose him. After he finally managed to get here we took him to the hospital at Gauhati where he slowly recovered.

Kota, who has been helping us with a dictionary in Bhutanese, has been ill most of the year. The village headman at Dewangiri died just before Christmas. The people are in dire need of medical aid, but as yet, I have not obtained a permit to proceed across the border. It is not advisable for our compounders to go without an escort because of the dangers involved. Even Mr. Dann sometimes gets into trouble because of drunken and unruly people on the road. We send medicines along with Mr. Dann, but people with kala-azar need injections which he is unable to give. They could come down here, that is, if they called for help in time, but unfortunately they seldom do that.

The Maharaja of Bhutan died last Spring and his son was installed in his place. I have sent an application to him for a visa, but so far no reply has been received.

Thashi Jongpen, one of our acquaintances and a former governor of the eastern part of the country, also passed away during the year.

Chungkar Jongpen, who is known to our Home Secretaries, came down to the plains and was in charge of the Darranga Hat Mela as usual. He was sorely grieved by the death of his dear wife last Spring. At that time he requested for our village headman, Surju, a brother of Maguram Pastor and a former elder of the church here at Parkijuli. He went on a three days journey into Bhutan to visit his friend Jongpen and to comfort him in his bereavement.

Fewer Tibetans visited the Mela than usual, probably due to the changed conditions in Tibet. Many of the Bhutanese came down and they did a brisk business before they returned to the mountains.

We are having more and more contacts with the Bhutanese and with the people down here on the plains, but we are eagerly looking forward to the dawn of the day when we may be permitted to see more people desirous of accepting the Good News of the Gospel.

At the beginning of December we had two Norwegian Deacons, Messrs. Mjaset and Ofstad, visit us on their way home to Norway from the war in Korea. We enjoyed their stay with us as we appreciate the visits from our homelands so much.

In closing, we want to express our gratitude to all those who have supported this work by prayers and gifts. Thanks also to the Norwegian Tibetan Mission for their support.

ANNE HELENE and DAVID WESTBORG.

SANTIPARA CIRCLE.

In this circle there are eleven small Santal congregations. The boundary is the Manas River to the East, the Champamati River to the West, Bhutan to the North and the railroad line to the South. South from the railroad line there are no Santal congregations as there are hardly any Santals living there.

Nimbai Pastor is not only pastor for these congregations, but is also president of the Circle Conference. In agreement with the Circle Conference each congregation has elected its congregational leader who from the Circle treasury receives seventy-two rupees a year. There are

two evangelists in the work here. This year thirty—six heathens were baptized and thirty—six children of Christian parents. At the close of the year there are sixteen heathens receiving instruction for baptism in Ranikhata, seven in Rani Sundari, besides three families in Udalguri.

Nimbai Pastor usually writes a report each year regarding the people and the situation in the various congregations. Following are some short excerpts from his report:

“In 1952 there was hardly any fruit for the Lord in the Jhaulabari congregation. We may wonder whether the brethren have begun to think as though they were heathens. Perhaps the congregational leader has not taught them enough of the way of spiritual growth. He is very willing to work, but perhaps he goes forth in his own strength instead of the strength of the Holy Spirit. If he would only now let God go before him and he himself come after, there would be much fruit for God's Kingdom over there where there are so many heathens.”

“In the Moknaguri congregation they give more to the work of God's Kingdom than most other congregations. Some heathens were baptized there this year. The Christian conduct is good, but unfortunately there are two factions in the congregation without open strife.”

“The congregational leader in Udalguri left without notifying the Circle Conference. But the Evangelist Anpa, who is a cheerful and warm-hearted worker, is helping them until they secure a new leader.”

“I rejoice that one day I was able to baptize five heathens in Nagdolbari. The Christians come diligently to church, but their lives do not correspond to their confession and there is reason to compare with James and Jambres. (II Tim. 2.)”

At the close of the year there are four village schools (Amlaiguri, Moknaguri, Rani Sundari, Nagdolbari) which receive help from the Circle treasury to pay the salary of the teachers. The teacher in Jhaulabari has received salary from the Local Board this year. In Larugaon the Christians together with the non-Christians have conducted a school for several years without the help of the Circle treasury, or the Local Board. In Santipara there is also a Lower Primary school for the leprous children.

GUNNAR FOSSLAND.

EDUCATIONAL WORK IN ASSAM.

GAURANG GIRLS' SCHOOL.

Within the past year there have been changes in Gaurang School and compound. Our missionary personnel was increased when Miss Elly Jensen Binderup, both nurse and midwife, came to Thajoubari in February. We were happy to have her join the work, especially, as Nurse Andrea Halten was scheduled for furlough and Dr. Dagmar Pedersen was to leave for retirement in America. Miss Binderup is now the only Boroni speaking missionary in the area who has medical training. In June, Miss Solveig Somming was called to work in another place in our mission, and we were sorry to see her leave before she was scheduled to go.

There were shortages among members of our teaching staff, servants in the bungalow, and compound workers. The staff was enhanced for some time by a master who became the first Christian Boro in our mission to receive the Bachelor of Arts degree. He soon left in order to take advantage of a government scholarship, but that he will ever return to work among his own Christian people where he is so much needed, is doubtful.

Being unable to get money after the beginning of the summer vacation, in the late autumn, the kindness of Miss Ella Malterud allowed us money with which to pay a patient staff. The school girls were in good health despite parental difficulty in paying.

We wish to thank the Deputy Inspector for his encouraging visit; and we also express appreciation to the Government of Assam for the grants received. The

Middle English examination results are still not encouraging, but seventeen were sent up for Primary Examination and they all passed.

A significant event was a visit by a Calcutta lady, who spoke to the girls in public and personally and preached so as to impress them. She taught hymns in Hindi and her own Bengali mother tongue. Following her visit there were regular Wednesday evening meetings in the church and more earnestness shown in the Sunday school.

Some parents withdrew girls after the difficult time when they could not pay, but we had a group of children whom everyone enjoyed. We have made a little family in a house, with some older, and some younger children, who have been taken away from their parents in Santipara, because they are well. The older ones attend school, and the babies enjoy the sunshine of their first Christian environment.

Among the Boro people, helpers for the hard jobs are not easy to find, for they have not learned the blessings of service to those outside their own family and village. Perhaps for this reason we have lost some workers, but those that remain have found peace and happiness. For the first time, a young Boro girl has been appointed matron of the hostels. She is a widow who prefers to live among the school girls and teachers. God has blessed us all during the past months and He will continue, for the fruits are seen in any Christian home where a Dorcas from Thajoubari weaves, sews, sings and reads His Word: ".....many believed in the Lord."

Miss Nasset and the Halyorsruds deserve thanks for help in the past year; without that help this report would have been impossible and incomplete. Above all, thanks to those in the homelands who on their knees ask for blessings on the Christian Church in India.

MURIEL S. NIELSEN.

GRAHAMPUR HIGH SCHOOL.

A quiet but remarkable change is taking place in the New India. Thus in the State of Assam the development of the backward areas and the backward communities is given top priority. Some even talk of an educational awakening in many parts of the state.

Every-where new schools are being started, and ordinary villagers are getting more and more interested in securing higher education for their children.

The boys of the High schools are also supposed to make their contribution to the building of the New India. According to Government order both teachers and students of all the High Schools in Assam are required to devote their time, strength and enthusiasm to social service every Saturday. Here in Grahampur they have been cleaning the school houses, cleaning the jungle, fencing and planting a fruit garden, etc. From time to time they have also visited the neighbouring villages shouting their slogans—Learn to read and write! Send your children to school! Send the sick to the hospital! Take care of your old people! Clean the villages! Drink pure water only! Don't drink wine! etc. With enthusiasm both teachers and boys start to clean the worst parts of the villages, and while they explain the principles of modern hygiene, they pay special attention to the village well and its surroundings. In different ways they demonstrate both in words and deeds the dignity of labour and call people to selfless service. Thus the boys play their part also in the awakening of the masses of India.

We have noticed signs of new life which seem to be entering the ordinary school work of the boys too. The latest examination results encourage us to continue our efforts. 20 boys appeared in the Middle School Leaving Certificate and Scholarship Examination, and 10 passed—4 in first division, 2 Santals appeared in the

Matriculation Examination, and 1 passed. The other was permitted to re-appear in two subjects only in the Supplementary Examination.

The news of this first result stimulated the Santals' interest in the High School. It was proved that their boys might pass from Grahampur also. And they started to inquire about admittance of their boys from the next session.

The people of the Colony also helped financially by raising funds for the High School during the Mela which was held in Grahampur for two days in November. An interesting exhibition of all kinds of home-made articles, vegetables, chickens etc. was followed by auction of gifts. The evening entertainments were attended by hundreds of people of all communities. The Deputy Commissioner, Goalpara, kindly recommended exemption from entertainment tax with the remark: "In order to improve the financial condition such attempt to raise funds deserve encouragement, no doubt, from our level." The net income of the Mela was about Rs. 1,000/—

Government re-curring grant was as usually received in the name of the Middle School, but after the recent visit of the Asst. Inspector of Schools for Plains' Tribal Education he recommended that the Middle School be amalgamated with the High School and the Government re-curring grant transferred to the High School.

The staff still needs improvement. Even if we have succeeded in getting three new Christian teachers, of whom two have passed B. A. and one I. Sc., we look forward to the day when more of our own boys come back from college to build their own school in earnest.

The transition from Bengali to Assamese has now been completed, and from 1953 Assamese will be the major vernacular of all the higher classes. But it may still take some time before both teachers and boys will use

Assamese more commonly and more intelligently in their daily life. We do hope that this fact will not influence Examination results too much.

The house problem is also still there and we are longing for the day when the funds for the construction of the remaining part of the new High School building will be forthcoming.

The number of boys is about the same as the previous year, about 230 for the whole School, the Primary section included. About 85% of the boys are Christians.

Moral and religious instruction has been given in all the classes to Christians and interested non-Christians. In this connection it may be mentioned that according to the new curriculum of the Educational Department the moral instruction in the classes VII, VIII, IX, & X should include the following topics: "Duties & responsibilities of citizens, appreciation of beauty in art and nature, reason and conscience, study of the passions, purpose, aim and goal of life, sin and degrees or grade of sin. Body and mind and their relations, higher powers of the mind, the lower powers of the body. Our duties towards God."

The studies of Christian Theology in the higher classes are followed by almost all the boys with great attention. Our hope and prayer is that some of them may see His glory.

An elementary Training Class was opened in May 1952. Besides ordinary training—school subjects about one third of the time has been devoted to Bible studies. Thus we are trying to train teacher—preachers for the Church.

With hearty thanks to old and new friends for intercessions and gifts during the past year.

Yours in His service,
SOLVEIG & SIGFRED JOHANSEN.

HARAPUTA GIRLS' SCHOOL.

When I returned to Haraputa in January, 1952, and took over the work from Miss Gulbrandsen, I found conditions much the same as before I left. The same working people were here, and the teachers were mostly the same. It is good to have faithful workers. It makes tradition and it gives confidence. In the past year we often said to each other, "How wonderful it has been to have such little trouble with our co-workers." It is good to have workers that we can trust. Especially do I want to mention the house—mothers for their way of doing their jobs. They are as real mothers to the children, and they do their work more faithfully than I recall from previous years.

As already mentioned, the work continued almost as before. The number of pupils has increased slightly. We had an average of one hundred and fifty-nine pupils on the roll, twenty-six of them in the middle school. It appears as if the nearest villages have begun to wake up in regard to education. The headman in Podotola told me that all the children from that village are enrolled in the school. That is not the case with the rest of the villages though, but we have at least seventy-five children as day scholars in the school here. There is one thing that is discouraging, and that is that they take the children out of school so early. Most of the children are in the two lowest infant classes, but at least they learn to read Santali and receive a little Bible knowledge. At one time the entire Haraputa village was gathered together and we counted the literates, both the men and women, and found that 50% of the men and 25% of the women were able to read. That would give a literacy percentage of more than 35%. That is not bad for a country like India. Haraputa School has done a good job during the years. We notice it in church. There are many using song books, and often it is a joy to hear them sing like a choir in two and three parts. So, even though the examination results often

are exasperating, we think of the many who never progressed as far as to take a government examination, but still possess the blessing of school knowledge throughout their life. We are sorry to report that progress in the final examination is small, but the results from the Lower Primary examination is as a rule very good. Once in a while some of them also receive a Government stipend. That is of great help, and is encouraging to us. They are clever with their hands. Most of them receive their Diploma, often with Honours. The practical school work is our best. Often we have met our former students and rejoice too see their neat homes and clean and well-dressed children. They are not necessarily richer than their neighbors, but still we may find a higher living standard and a higher "thinking standard" They entered the school absolutely "jungly", as they say here, and left it as new persons both inside and outside, I believe. Therefore, I feel that our school has a great mission even though most of the pupils never progress as far as the Middle English examination. The Santals in Assam are still very backward intellectually, but we hope that faithful work in our many schools will brighten the darkness little by little.

Two of our teachers were married. Mariam Hembrom, who has had her home here since she was a small girl, had her wedding in the boarding. She has obtained a job as teacher in Grahampur, where her husband also works. Chita Kisku, one of our best teachers during many years, was married also, and she has also continued in the school work together with her husband in Kaerabani village in our congregation. Thus both of them have continued in their good work among their people. We got back Debila Singha, who has worked for us previously, and a new teacher from an American school in Pakistan joined us at the beginning of the year. We did not succeed in obtaining a new headmistress to replace Rahel Kisku, who left us in December 1951. She also was married to one of the Grahampur teachers, and has a position there. We hope to secure

a new headmaster from Upper Assam this year. That will strengthen the school, and get our teachers staff upto the prescribed government standard.

Five pupils appeared for Middle English examination in December, 1952. None of them passed in all subjects, but all the seven girls sent to Lower Primary examination passed. Four girls received their Middle English Sewing Diplomas, and all the Lower Primary girls received their Lower Primary Sewing Diplomas, six of them with Honours.

The price of paddy rose sharply in 1952, but we were allowed to buy what we needed. It caused a small deficit in the accounts of the boarding, but we hope to balance it off this year. The number of children has decreased in the boarding. There have been a few cases of serious illness among the children, but all have recovered. On the whole the children's health has been good, which we also can see from the fact that they have gained on the average of five to ten pounds each.

Among new things happening this year was Social Service, followed by several visits to the villages. We also had U. N. Day, and remembered the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi. We also took part in the big mela in Grahampur in November.

We acknowledge with thanks that as before we have received eighty rupees a month from the Government.

The church convention this year was held in Haraputa and the children took part in it. That was a welcomed break in daily routine both for the children and adults. We had blessed gatherings, and I feel sure that it was a great inspiration for all who took part. Our teachers took part as speakers at the women's meetings where hundreds of women attended.

Otherwise there has been little activity outside of the school work. Both the children's own meetings and

the Girl Guide work has stopped, but our teachers' association has its meetings as before. The Sunday School has continued with Hanna Marndi as teacher. One girl was baptized, and we also this year had our confirmation class. In January a youth leader from the Youth for Christ visited us, namely, Miss Bonner. She conducted meetings for the children for an entire week, and they seemed not to tire from hearing the Gospel. It is encouraging to see how they like to gather and hear the Word of God. And how they love to sing! A few of the non-Christian pupils would like to be baptized. How we wish that that the parents also would come! There seems to be hope, as they have asked us to visit them.

Often in the past year we have felt that the Lord has taken care of us. He has been near with His Grace and Strength, and has given us confidence and peace. It is a great thing to be co-workers of the Lord! We send our thanks to all who remembered us in prayer and with their gifts. May we all once more dedicate ourselves to Him and His service while we have the day and the opportunity.

BORGNY AUSTAD.

MEDICAL WORK IN ASSAM.

SANTIPARA LEPROSY COLONY.

As a heading for this report I should like to write:

“From sorrow to gladness
From darkness to light
From death to life.”

Perhaps this may be said to be a true heading. We have at least seen a manifestation of both sorrow and gladness, darkness and light, death and life, defeat and victory, retrogression but also progression.

In the course of the year we have lost two good co-workers. The first was Gotbroi Boro, a patient. He was a good-natured man, fresh from the jungle. There has hardly been anyone living here at Santipara who has had such a great love for the work and the place as he had. He died and moved to Heaven. I was with him in his dying hour and I asked him if he were afraid to die and he answered, “No.” “Do you believe that your sins are forgiven?” I asked. “Yes,” he answered and a little while after he left us.....to live!

The other co-worker whom we lost was Sister Solveig Johansen. She was married and moved to Mornai.

It cannot be otherwise that we miss Sister Solveig and Gotbroi, nevertheless we rejoice in the efficient and good work done by Dr. Goldsmith, the three compounders, and not the least the village headman, Dhiba Tudu, who is a patient.

There have been two hundred and twenty-five lepers treated here at the colony. In Santipara, Gaorang and Gurubhasa leper clinics there have been thirty-two, ninety-one, and one hundred and five patients respectively.

The Assam Government transferred from Gauhati bazaar to Santipara twenty—eight lepers and seven healthy children. Most of them had earned their daily bread by begging. A number of them were big trouble makers and it was very difficult to work with them. There were several thefts shortly after they arrived here, and eventually the most difficult ones of them fled. The healthy children were transferred to the Gaorang Girls' School where they appear to be doing excellently. These patients who before had been begging and exposing their worst sores and crippled limbs to earn their daily bread, have here been given shelter, food, medicine and treatment. But that is not all. They have learned something very important, namely, that it is possible for the greater number of lepers to work, even if they have not come as far as to look upon work as a blessing.

There has been established a small hospital for non-leprous patients with a capacity for eight patients, but some days we have had up to twenty patients.

The number of out-door patients treated (non-leprous) is three thousand and seven.

We received a greater yield from our farming in 1952 than in any previous year. In addition to a large amount of dal, oil seed (tilmin) tungseeds, vegetables, potatoes, jute, we received nearly eleven hundred maunds of paddy.

All patients who desire are allowed to cultivate in their spare time a private garden or cultivatable spot here on the colony's land. Ukon, a khasi, received the greatest yield this year and earned one hundred and twenty rupees.

Towards the end of the rice harvest of the high land (August paddy) in the month of August the new Danish threshing machine arrived. People from the neighbouring villages look upon the threshing machine as a great wonder, and during the last rice harvesting season

(December) we received constant requests if we could not move the threshing machine over to the villages and thresh for people there also.

Our granary (a house to store paddy, rice, dal, etc.) is really beyond repair and we plan to tear it down and build a larger one, thereby keeping the rats and mice out and making it fireproof. We applied to obtain corrugated iron for this purpose, but the local authorities gave us a definite refusal.

With the exception of cement, all the materials for the new hospital are procured. When the hospital is finished then it must be the time for Santipara to get electric lights.

There are many of the patients we meet here that "love darkness rather than Light." (John 3: 19) But here they all hear the message of the True Light and some have come to see it and accept it. In all twelve adults have been baptized this year.

We thank all who this year have helped us to keep the work going. Thanks are especially due the Assam Government, The Mission to Lepers, Santal Mission friends in America, Denmark and Norway and the field Secretary.

GUNNAR FOSSLAND.

SEVAPUR HOSPITAL.

The year of 1952 has again seen many changes here in Sevapur. In February Miss A. Fiske moved to Haraputa in accordance with the Conference decision to replace Miss Krohn who was leaving on furlough. At the same time Dr. and Mrs. B. B. Boegh left for Denmark because of poor health. So again we were without the help of a doctor. Therefore, we had to dismiss some

of the workers, but three compounders and two nurses have been willing and steadfast, continuing the work in the hospital and dispensary. Since the doctor's bungalow has been vacant, Rev. Hodne and family have lived in that bungalow temporarily while studying the language since September.

In the year of 1952 we have treated five thousand two hundred and four patients in the out-door dispensary, in addition to one hundred and forty five out in the villages, and we have admitted more than two hundred to the hospital. Two times in the course of the year, Dr. Forman has visited us and both times many patients have benefitted from his help. Temporarily has Dr. Bose, medical officer at Mornai Tea Estate, treated the patients in the hospital, but we look forward to the arrival of Dr. J. G. Andersen and his family, who are coming out from Denmark, so that our patients can receive surgical help when it is needed.

Last cold season we began with regular weekly visits to the villages on Thursdays, as long as the roads were passable, and because the interest for these visits among the people was great, we continued again after the rainy season. Working together with the colony's pastors and elders we try to reach most of the villages here in Rantsapur, Grahampur and Bilandpur. On market day each Saturday, we inform the people which village will be visited the following Thursday. It always takes the village people a long time to gather, but there has always been an unique support and interest for the meetings. We always begin with a devotion conducted either by the elder or pastor. After that Sagram Kisku, one of the compounders, lectures on disease telling how it starts, develops and how it can eventually be prevented. Up to this time we have continued with Hookworm and Malaria which is most widespread and which makes people so weak and unable to work. With the lecture he shows entertaining pictures which the Christian Medical Association has produced. After the lecture we

examine those desiring examination and give out medicine. The compounders treat the men and the undersigned treats the women. Through this work we have reached many and succeeded in getting many to come to the hospital to receive help and decent medicine, who otherwise would have been content with village medicine, and that often does more harm than good, as we all know.

On the sixth of November the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. L. Sharma, of Goalpara District visited the hospital and he was greatly satisfied with it. He said among other things that, "The hospital is ideal in its service to the poor."

During the month of March, Elder Budhan Hembrom moved back to Grahampur and our office worker, Bijai Marndi, took over his work. He has had great zeal in the work and it appears that he has a warmhearted concern for the spiritual welfare of the patients. So in addition to the morning devotions for the compound people, we now have evening devotions and prayers with the patients. May God bless the work among the sick and suffering and through this may they find the way to the Great Physician, Jesus Christ.

In closing we again send our hearty thanks to all the friends who remember us in prayer and through their work.

ELLA MALTERUD.

HARAPUTA DISPENSARY.

Looking back upon the past year, my heart is lifted to God in thanks. He has been our help and our strength in the work, both in the dark and heavy days, as well as in the light and easy days.

It is good to know that the Lord works with us. He has blessed us in the confirmation classes, in the work among the village women and the Bible women, and not to forget the medical work.

From the dispensary we have treated 12,166 patients, which does not include leprosy patients and the people in the compound. More than half of the total number of the cases have been malaria cases.

We have treated twenty-nine in-door patients, three of them badly hurt by leopards. Often we are called out to the villages to see the sick. Last year we made forty-eight village visits. It is not always so easy to treat them in their homes, but sometimes we must do it.

It is interesting to come out and see the different homes. Some of the families are very poor and they have nothing but rice to give their weak and anæmic sick. Many times I have seen them give the little baby only tea without sugar in the feeding bottle. It is a pity, but what to do? Sometimes it is so difficult to treat them when we know that they do not have the right food to eat.

Our two faithful compounders are Jotin C. Das and Sitol Soren. They have worked here many years and are registered and recognized as compounders in India.

Many people are waiting patiently for a doctor who can give them surgical treatment, and we are happy to know that the coming year will bring us one.

The health among the boarding school children has been good without any epidemic. Only two girls have been seriously ill, but after treatment and rest they have recovered.

It was so sad when I returned home from my summer vacation to hear that a little school girl in the village had been bitten by a cobra without knowing it and died only a few hours afterwards.

The work among the women in the villages has been carried on as usual. In eighteen different places in our district the women gather every Friday and it is always a joy to visit them. The Bible women have tried to do their best in gathering the village women, but some places it has been very difficult. They must go from house to house and ask them to come to the meeting. In other places the work is easier, for instance, in Matiajuri where there were forty gathered at one meeting. The collection at these meetings has amounted to Rupees five hundred and eleven, five anas, and six pies. (Rs. 511-5-6).

The regular monthly meetings of the Bible women here have been fairly well attended.

The great event of the year was the Sabha in March. For three days we had meetings. Every morning there were special Bible meetings for the women. The Santal women were gathered in a boarding house, and the Bengali women in the school house. Such meetings are of great value to the village women.

The four confirmation classes have been carried on as previously. In May seventy-five girls and boys were confirmed in Haraputa Church.

From a village by the name of Simoltapur, not so far from Haraputa, we often receive the visits of some Mohammedans. We have learned to know them through the dispensary work, and they want us to tell them about our God. We have been out to them two times, but we feel it very difficult since we do not speak their language. Now they have been here several times and they listen eagerly as our teacher tells the Bible story. Let us remember them in prayer.

• In conclusion, I want to express my thanks to all friends who have remembered us in their prayers and work.

A. FISKE.

**SANTAL MISSION OF THE NORTHERN CHURCHES
& EBENESER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Medical and
Educational
Statistics, 1952.

CIRCLES & CHURCH DISTRICTS.	DISPENSARIES			HOSPITALS & LEPROSY COLONIES					VILL SCHOOLS			STATION SCH.			MIDDLE SCH.			HIGH SCH.			TRAINING ETC.		
	Nurses	Compounders	Out Patients	Doctors.	Nurses	Compounders	Other staff	In-Patients.	Out Patients	Schools	Teachers	Children	Schools	Teachers	Children	Schools	Teachers	Students	Schools	Teachers	Students	Institutions	Staff
Kaerabani	1	2	1951						6	7	200	1	5	200				1	19	500	1	1	12
Dumka	1	1	460						8	10	207	7	25	613				1	1	20	1	1	16
Mohulpahari	1	2	19676	1	7	5	19	1765	1	2	57	3	10	231	1	7	110						
Jubdi	1	1	2076	2	6		8	514	10	13	265	2	8	163									
Sultanabad	1	1	1585																				
Benagaria	1	1	3578						6	6	145	1	8	210	1	8	160				2	9	53
SANTAL PARGANAS	3	8	29342	3	13	5	27	2279	31	38	874	14	56	1417	2	15	270	2	20	520	4	11	81
Malda Purnea																							
W. Dinajpur																							
Rajshahi									2	4	99	1	2	49									
E. Dinajpur									3	4	112	2	3	82									
NORTH BENGAL									5	8	211	3	5	131	1	4	70						
Colony Mornai	2	5	20898	1	4	3	7	364	7	9	289	2	12	298	1	9	150	1	10	123	1	2	9
Joema	1	1	1941						6	6	120	1	5	120									
Santipara	1	3	3007	1	1	3		225	3	3	51	1	1	18									
Kamrup Darrang									2	5	108												
Dingdinga																							
ASSAM SANTAL	3	9	25846	2	5	6	7	589	18	23	568	4	18	436	1	9	150	1	10	123	1	2	9
Gaorang	1		200						11	11	199			30									
Bongaigaon									11	12	330	1	2	30	2	15	210						
Kamrup																							
Darrang																							
BORO ASSAM	1		200						22	23	529	1	2	30	2	15	210						
Santal Parganas																							
Birbhum - Mursidabad									3	3	61												
Malda									2	2	26	1	3	116	1	7	70				1	1	10
Cooh Behar									6	7	130	5	11	230									
BENGAL									11	12	217	6	14	346	1	7	70				1	1	10
TOTAL FOR CHURCH	7	17	55388	5	18	11	34	2868	87	105	2399	28	95	2360	7	50	770	3	30	643	6	14	100

EBENESER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, 1952.

GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT: JOHANNES GAUSDAL
CHURCH OFFICE, P. O. BENAGARIA, SANTAL PARGANAS.

SYNOD:

President: General Superintendent.

Vice President: Rev. O. S. Bjerkestrand, Dumka.

Secretary: Rev. Kālu Kisku, Benagaria:

Members:

From Santal Parganas Church Council:

President Naran Soren, Rev. Kālu Kisku, Mr. Bhaḍu Hāsdak.

From North Bengal Church Council:

Act. President Jonas Hāsdak, Pargana Chunku Tuḍu, and invited Mr. Bajnath Baskey.

From Assam Santal Church Council:

President G. Fossland, Rev. Jatu Murmu, (Mr. Cyril Hāsdak absent on account of illness.)

From Boro Church Council:

President. H. Halvorsrud, Rev. Malsing Moshahari, and in place of Dinesh Narjary, Mr. Thanewar Bosumatary.

From Bengal Church Council:

President H. P. H. Kampp, Rev. K. R. Ghose, and in place of Miss Pihlquist, David Jha.

TRUSTEES: Rev. O. S. Bjerkestrand, Rev. O. Eie, Rev. A. E. Stronstad.

MISSIONARY CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVE: Rev. K. Tromborg.

SANTAL PARGANAS CHURCH COUNCIL :

President : Rev. Naran Soren, Dumka.

Secretary : Rev. K. Tromborg. Benagaria.

Members : Sultanabad Circle : Pr. Bhiku Tudu, Pr. Bhogon Murmu, Mr. Daniel Soren, Jubdi Circle : Pr. Karan Soren, Pr. Tika Murmu, Pr. Haugstad, Mr. Mongol Hembrom. Benagaria Circle : Pr. Naran Soren, Pr. Peter Murmu, Pr. Tromborg, Mr. Sagram Hasdak. Mohulpahari Circle : Pr. Bhikulal Hasdak, Dr. Forman, Pr. Khudia Marandi, Mr. Gangaram Hembrom. Dumka Circle : Mr. Bhadu Hasdak, Pr. Bjerkestrand, Pr. Johon Hasdak, Mr. Raska Murmu. Kaerabani Circle : Mr. Budhrai Soren, Mr. Daniel Marndi, Mr. Ram Murmu, Pr. Riber.

Pastors under this Church Council :

Tika Murmu, 1924, Chirapathor,	P. O. Katikund.
Khudia Marndi, 1931,	„ Mohulpahari.
Kalu Kisku 1931, Santal Div. Sch.	„ Benagaria.
Johon Hasdak 1933, Koroya,	„ Dumka.
Mongol Hembrom, 1933, Tatbandha,	„ Benagaria.
Karan Soren, 1934, Chondorpura,	„ Kathikund.
Naran Soren, 1934, Mission House,	„ Dumka.
Bhikulal Hasdak, 1937, Tilabani,	„ Asanbani.
Mansing Tudu, 1937, Tarni,	„ Pakuria.
Simon Baske, 1938, Dum,	„ Dumka.
Bhogon Murmu, 1938, Haripur,	„ Pakuria.
Bajun Murmu, 1939, Dhorompur,	„ Kumrabad.
Sibram Marndi, 1939, Basetkundi,	„ Maheshpur
Sodanondo Baske, 1939, Sulunga	„ Benagaria.
Joseph Hasdak, 1940, Domkata,	„ Kaerabani.
Suphol Hembrom, 1941,	„ Kaerabani.
Munshi Hembrom, 1941, Lukhipokhor	„ Pakuria.
Ruben Soren, 1941,	„ Narainpur.
Cunu Murmu, 1943, Majdiha,	„ Katikund.
Peter Murmu, 1943, Itore	P. O. Itor Murshidabad.
Mongol Besra, 1946, Jambua,	„ Garsara.
Chaitan Soren, 1947, Maharo,	„ Dumka.

Bhiku Tudu, 1948, Chandpur,	P. O.	Pakuria.
Abraham Murmu, 1948,	,,	Benagaria.
Salhae Marndi, 1948, Saldoha,	,,	Mohulpahari.
Munshi Marndi, 1951, Dhobona,	,,	Kaerabani.
Nityanondo Marndi, 1952, Honja,	,,	Kundahit.

NORTH BENGAL CHURCH COUNCIL :

Act. President: Rev. Jonas Hasdak.

Members: India Side: Malda--Purnea Circle: Pr. Simeon Murmu, Pr. Jonas Hasdak, Mr. Bhimjohn Murmu. W. Dinajpur Circle: Mr. Samuel Tudu, Mr. Raote Soren, Pr. John Jujhar Soren, Pakistan Side: E. Dinajpur Circle: Pr. Munshi Murmu, Mr. Joseph Soren, Pr. Mongol Kisku. Rajshahi Circle: Pr. Budhrai Hansdak, Mr. Chunku Tudu. Mr. Ruben Tudu.

Pastors under this Church Council:

Budhrai Hasdak, 1937, Badhair,
P. O. Talanda, Rajshahi, E. Pakistan.
John Jujhar Soren, 1941.
Jonas Hasdak, 1944, Rajadighi, P. O. Bairgachi, Malda.
Munshi Murmu, 1947, Phoridpur,
P. P. Habra, E. Dinajpur, E. Pakistan.
Jaeram Hansdak, 1947 Kheribari, P. O. Manikora, Malda.

ASSAM SANTAL CHURCH COUNCIL :

President: Rev. G. Fosslund, Santipara.
Vice President: Mr. Cyril Hasdak, Grahampur.
Secretary: Rev. James Soren, Grahampur.
Members: Colony & Mornai Circle: Mr. Cyril Hasdak, Pr. James Soren, Pr. Lokhon Hembrom, Mr. Sakla Hembrom, Pr. Jatu Murmu, Nehemiah Pracharok, Pr. Eie, Miss Fiske. Dingdinga Circle: Pr. Johansen, Mr. Jacob Biswas. Joema Circle: Pr. Chotto Murmu, Mr. Matla Kisku. Mr. Mahaliel Marndi. Santipara Circle: Pr. Nimbai Murmu, Mr. Kanhu Murmu, Pr. G. Fosslund. Kamrup & Darrang Circle: Pr. Sirmath Marndi, Mr. Simon Baske

Pastors under this Church Council :

Lokhon Hembrom, 1930,	Bilanpur,	P. O. Dingdinga,
Kanhu Tudu, 1939,		„ Haraputa,
Nimbai Murmu, 1941,	Santipara,	„ Bongaigaon,
Ruben Murmu, 1942,	Ransupur,	„ Dingdinga,
Jatu Murmu, 1942,	Mornai,	„ Dingdinga,
James H. Soren, 1942,	Grahampur,	„ Dingdinga,
Ratu Marndi, 1944,	Kolabari,	„ Sirphanguri,
Sirmath Marndi, 1944,	Hingaon,	„ Udalguri,
Chatur Soren, 1948,	Dobragaon,	„ Haltugaon,
Chotto Suna Murmu, 1948,	Joema,	„ Gossaingaon.
Arjun Murmu, 1951,	Joema,	„ Gossaingaon,
Jacob Biswas, 1952,	Mornai,	„ Dingdinga.

BORO CHURCH COUNCIL :

President : Rev. H. Halvorsrud, Gaurang.

Secretary : Dinesh Chandra Narjary ; Gaurang.

Members : Pr. Halvorsrud, Mr. Dinesh Narjary, President. Tharini Iswary, Pr. Upendra Mosahary, Pr. Alichoron Bosumatari, Mr. Thaneswar Bosumatari, Miss Nessel, Mr. Biswanath Narjary, Mr. Onaram Bosumatari, Mr. Kandura Bosumatari, Mr. Prem Narjari, Pr. Maguram Mosahari, Mr. Jacob Bosumatari, Pr. Westborg, Mr. Lodor Ch. Mosahari.

Pastors under this Church Council :

Alichoron Bosumatari, 1932		P. O. Bongaigaon
Tharani Iswary, 1942,	C/o Gaurang,	„ Haltugaon
Maguram Mosahary, 1945,	Parkijuli,	„ Menoka,
Upendro Mosahary, 1945,	Goladangi,	„ Haraputa,
Biswanath Narjari, 1952,	C/o Mission,	„ Bongaigaon,

BENGAL CHURCH COUNCIL :

President: Rev. H. P. H. Kampp, Nimasarai.

Vice President: Rev. P. L. Lande, Suri.

Secretary: Rev. K. R. Ghose.

Members: Pr. Kampp, Pr. Kjolberg, Pr. David Jha, Pr. K. R. Ghose, Miss Pihlquist, Pr. J. A. Roy, Mr. Dinesh Lal, Mr. Ruben Biswas, Mr. L. C. Konai, Pr. H. Pramanik.

Pastors under this Church Council :

Maharaj Bhandary, 1937, Nimasarai, P. O. Old Malda.

John Jotadhari Dass, 1940, „ Nalhati.

John Anondo Roy, 1941, Swedish Mission, „ Cooch Bihar.

Daniel Jha, „ Mohulpahari,

Haraknath Pramanik, 1944, „ English Bazar.

Kumud Ranjan Ghose, 1946, „ Suri, Birbhum.

David Jha, 1952, Dangalpara, „ Dumka, S. P.

GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT :

“So is the Kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground, and should sleep and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how.” (Mark 4; 26-27)

It is evident to us who by God's grace share in the building up of the Ebeneser Evangelical Lutheran Church that this Kingdom of God has come here. Devout missionaries of the past cast the seed into the ground, and in so doing intonated a new song of praise, and diligent servants of our Lord—both indigenious and foreign—are following their good example, and the song has become a mighty chorus. The good seed is springing and growing up and ripening; and this life is the creative force of our new church. The year 1952 was only the third

year of its existence as an organized body, and that is no long time to bring forth such flowers and fruits which adorn church life, and yet my eyes have seen most promising buds, and my ears heard most devoted melodies. How sweet lingers in my memory the chant of one lay leader inside East Pakistan on Christmas night.

Jesus is my great Guru,
All my life will I follow him.

The year under review brought home to the different Church Councils the problem of existence in a very realistic way. To start with some church workers and council members were under the impression that self-government in church life meant a great opportunity to ask for more financial help from foreign mission sources. But both in 1951 and in 1952 the Synod was forced to cut the proposed budgets sent in by the different Church Councils. To cut is a very difficult work, and a hard lesson to learn as well as to teach. But that in spite of such hard days the Lord's work is both developing and expanding we can see, and thus we have abundant evidence that we are indeed a creation of His, willed and guided by Him.

The organized Church as enumerated at the end of 1952 totalled 30,286 Christians scattered in 1077 villages and worshipping on Sundays in 265 places of worship. During the year 1004 children of Christian parents were baptized, and 701 persons were by this holy rite brought into the light and life of our Lord from the great darkness of the world. That our church body in reality is bigger than our organized body, is a fact known to us. Our Christians go far and wide, and at the time of collecting the statistics, some are lost sight of. There are those in police service and in military units, those

who have gone to industrial areas, to mines and factories, and some are settlers in areas at present out of our reach, even inside Nepal.

Such figures as 512 persons confirmed, 304 couples married, 1589 communion services with in all 32549 administrations, give testimony to the work carried out during the year.

There were 145 Sunday schools with 2500 children.

The life of the Church and the life of the Mission is in such a happy and harmonious cooperation that no line of demarcation can be drawn between them, and therefore when dealing with statistics, it may be mentioned that there were in all 127 schools and training institutions with 289 teachers and 6225 children and students. And in dispensaries, hospitals and leper colonies more than 64 thousand persons received treatment of one or other kind.

Church collections amounted to Rs. 49, 510-6-9 for the year, and this is an increase of Rs. 7, 458-4-7 from that of the previous year. It now stands at just above Rs. 1-10-0 from every baptized Christian of the Church on the average.

Looking at the statistical materials from a sociological point of view, it may be of interest to note that the average size of a family in the Santal Parganas Church Council area was 4.83; in North Bengal 4.70; in the Assam Santal area 4.96; in Boro Church Council area 5.88; and in the Bengal Church Council area 4.94.

Rural India is made up of villages. Our Church members have their homes in 1077 villages. It may sound strange to most readers of our Annual Report that our Christians in one way live more scattered in Santal Parganas than in the Assam area. There are 3.87 Christian families on the average in the 565 villages where our Church members live in the Santal Parganas

area, and 12.62 in the Assam Santal area where they are found in 159 villages. To some extent this question of the compactness of the Christian community comes in in every joint task of the church such as building of village churches and school houses. There were on an average 8.45 Christian families in the 107 villages where our Boro brethren were living. The corresponding figures for the Santals on the plain of North Bengal was 3.70 and for the community inside the Bengal Church Council area 3.91. This might well be borne in mind when comparisons are made.

The following table may also be of help to understand the structure of new churches :

Santal Parganas Church Council :	10475 Chr.,	69 congr.,	average 152.
North Bengal Church Council :	2155 Chr.,	50 congr.,	average 43
Assam Santal Church Council :	9961 Chr.,	47 congr.,	average 212.
Boro Church Council	5834 Chr.,	53 congr.,	average 101.
Bengal Church Council :	2361 Chr.,	46 congr.	average 51.
For the whole church :	30286 Chr.,	265 congregation	average 114.
There were 58 pastors making on the average one pastor for $4\frac{1}{2}$ congregations and to 522 Christians.			

For comparison the corresponding figures for the big Lutheran church on Madagascar may be added (1951). The two Inland Synods: 130838 Chr., 1071 congr., average 122.

West Madagascar :	18777 Chr.,	231 congr.,	average 81.
East Madagascar :	16725 Chr.,	239 congr.,	average 70.
S/W Madagascar :	5350 Chr.,	101 congr.,	average 53.
S/E Madagascar :	9431 Chr.,	155 congr.,	average 61.
For the whole church,	181122 Chr.,	1797 congr.,	average 101.

There were 290 pastors making on the average one pastor for 6 congregations and to 624 Christians.

In connection with the financial discussion the Synod in 1951 appointed a Salary Committee to prepare a scale of pay for church workers. This committee met in May 1952 and prepared a scale which was placed before the Synod meeting at the end of October, and it was recorded "The Synod appreciates the work done by the Salary Committee, and recommends its proposal to be sent to all District Church Councils for their consideration and suggestions with a detailed report of the effect of this scale on their budgets. -- The Synod Executive will then issue instructions as to the lines to be followed in the 1954 budgets."

Another matter causing considerable discussion was a question from the Boro pastors whether lay leaders should be authorized to administer the sacraments. This discussion resulted in the following resolution being passed by the Synod. "In places where there is a need of a pastor for looking after a certain field of work or assisting another pastor in his work, tested and worthy laymen may be selected by the Church Council and ordained as a pastor for such work, wherever they are willing to work without receiving any remuneration from the Church. The Church Council determines the extent of field and duties for such honorary pastors."

During 1952 some of the great old leaders have passed to their eternal rest; may their memory be blessed for generations to come.

On the 24th of January the pensioned pastor Jalpa Soren died in his home at Narayanpur village, West Dinajpur.

On the 14th of March the pensioned pastor Lodo Soren died at his home in Jhunki village near the Benagaria mission.

On the 21st of July pastor Johon Murmu died from T. B. He had the last years been a pastor at Babhondia, north of Kaerabani. Before he died he had come to his village Mangurdi.

And on the 4th of December Cyril Hasdak died in his home at Grahampur. He had been a most trusted lay worker not only in the Assam work, but also in our church making work.

Ordination services took place in 1952 as follows:

On the recommendation of the Bengal Church Council, David Jha, son of the pensioned pastor Dhononjoy Jha, was ordained in the Nimasarai church on the 23rd of March.

On the recommendation of the Santal Parganas Church Council, Nityanondo Marndi was ordained in the Dhorompur church on the 19th of October.

On the recommendation of the Assam Santal Church Council, Jacob Biswas was ordained as an honorary pastor for Bengali services in the Dingdinga Circle. This ordination took place in the Rantzaupur church on the 13th of November.

On the recommendation of the Boro Church Council, Biswanath Narjari was ordained on the same date in the Rantzaupur church.

It has been made a point as far as possible to have pastors from the different language groups of the Church to take part in ordination services, thus giving expression to the unity of our Church.

The Norwegian Bible Society appointed me as their representative to the Conference and Council meeting of the United Bible Societies held at Ootacamund in the Nilgiri Hills February 16 — 24., and it was a most blessed stay together there. And the Bible is

such a vital matter in the life of a missionary that I found much of interest in that Conference.

Apart from this tour to the south, the year under review had much travel in store for my wife and myself. On New Year's day we took part in the great meeting at Grahampur in the Assam Colony where the well known Norwegian pastor and author, Rev. Fredrik Wisloff, also preached.

And on the last day of the year we just managed to reach back to Benagaria having had a tour to congregations inside East Pakistan.

In between there had been many goings and comings, but the great event was the Lutheran World Conference at Hannover in West Germany, 24th July — 4th August. On the way to and from this tremendously big Conference we had the joy to spend a few weeks in our own country, and we are ever so grateful to the Norwegian Home Board for bearing the cost of this journey. The Ebeneser Evangelical Lutheran Church is a member of the Lutheran World Federation, and as even small children have their place in a big family, so also with us at Hannover. It was such a joy to meet our own Methusalah Tudu over there, and also Johanesa Rakotovao from Madagascar, the pastor who after the Tambaram Conference visited the Santal area.

Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

Unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

JOHANNES GAUSDAL,

EBENESER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, 1952.

CIRCLES & DISTRICTS.	COMMUNITY					WORKERS						MINISTRATIONS						SUNDAY SCHOOLS		CHURCH COLLECTIONS CUPUT' CANDA OTHER OFFERINGS AND LOCAL INCOME		
	Congregations	Villages with Christians	Christian Families	Total numbers of Christians	Communicant Members	Pastors	Elders	Unpaid Elders	Biblewomen	Unpaid B. women	Total workers	Baptized Children of Christians	Baptized Heathens	Confirmed	Number of Communion Services	Total attendance at communions	Married Couples	Teachers	Children	Rs.	A.	P.
Kaerabani	10	79	335	1577	863	4	7	33	2	46	39	4	34	113	3567	21	10	166	1392	7	1 1/2	
Dumka	16	139	456	2219	730	7	18	14	9	53	69	32	59	177	1435	26	15	226	3420	2	9	
Mohulpahari	6	52	174	872	404	2	7		2	11	17	12	12	54	1213	7	10	105	921	7	4 1/2	
Jubdi	11	112	430	2120	918	4	8	9	2	4	50	22	25	126	3911	9	7	143	2086	6	4 1/2	
Sultanabad	12	103	385	1623	614	4	9	3	5	1	57	89	30	118	2396	12	6	176	1511	7	6	
Benagaria	14	80	407	2064	625	6	8	1	5	18	51	13	15	102	216	14	6	88	2251	1	1 1/2	
SANTAL PARGANAS	69	565	2187	10475	4154	27	57	60	25	177	283	172	175	690	12738	89	54	904	11583	0	3	
Malda - Purnea	13	44	142	682	325	2	13	1	1	18	25	27	7	77	1364	3	6	106	791	15	0	
W. Dinajpur (Narayanpur)	13	36	134	598	255	1	12	1	1	18	24	9	5	23	398	7	4	61	552	12	9	
E Dinajpur (Phoridpur)	13	18	82	449	146	2	10	1		13	10	32	8	41	941	5	4	56	284	3	6	
Rajshahi	11	28	101	426	84	1	10	7	1	20	13	26		29	264	5	7	260	374	3	3	
NORTH BENGAL	50	124	459	2155	810	6	45	10	3	5	72	94	20	170	2967	20	21	483	2003	2	6	
Colony Mornai	7	54	1302	6605	2003	5	5	50		55	199	57	210	73	7007	77	12	377	9639	3	0	
Dingdinga	4	11	68	309	141	1	4	4		5	9	9	2	27	634	8	5	61	826	10	0	
Joema	17	54	334	1549	506	3	18	3	1	14	67	38	29	122	2467	18	2	60	3081	3	6	
Santipara	11	25	177	881	287	1	8	2		2	36	36	14	68		8	2	30	2751	13	3	
Kamrup Darrang	8	15	126	617	130	2	6	2		10	27	33	21	38	532	6	1	10	1034	12	0	
ASSAM SANTAL	47	159	2007	9961	3067	12	41	11	1	76	338	173	276	328	10640	117	22	538	17333	9	9	
Gaurang	21	44	381	2234	700	2	21	8	1	9	87	31	3	48	1400	22	11	102	6720	7	0	
Bongaigaon	21	50	367	2301	800	2	18	21	6	53	106	121	23	50	1200	28	9	184	5854	7	6	
Kamrup	4	4	69	367	101	1	3	10		3	13	2		4	82	5	2	20	554	12	0	
Darrang	7	9	87	432		1	8	2		3	32	13		11					1959	14	0	
BORO ASSAM	53	107	904	5334	1601	6	50	41	7	21	238	167	26	113	2682	55	22	306	15089	8	6	
Santal Parganas	13	36	108	483	226	2	9	5	1	2	8	8		80	497	3	4	34	859	14	3	
Birbhum - Mursidabad	8	22	90	465	208	2	7	3	3	1	17	11	5	70	1123	8	8	142	1077	3	9	
Malda	12	50	138	778	286	2	11	1	2	1	18	5	10	93	1346	5	3	47	735	7	3	
Cooch Behar	13	14	142	635	252	1	10	12	3	4	30	71		45	556	7	11	155	828	5	0	
BENGAL	46	122	478	2361	972	7	37	21	9	8	73	95	15	288	3522	23	26	278	3500	14	3	
TOTAL FOR CHURCH	265	1077	6035	30286	10604	58	230	143	45	120	1004	701	512	1589	32549	304	145	2509	49510	3	3	

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

Auditors' Certificate.

Dear Sirs,

We report that we have checked the books of the Mission for the year ended 31st December, 1952, as follows:—

The entries appearing in the General Cash Book have been examined with the subsidiary Books and vouchers produced to us.

We report that we have verified the receipts from the American, Danish and Norwegian Mission Boards during the year under audit and have found the entries appearing in the General Cash Book to be in order. The Bank Pass Books have been checked by us and agree with the Cash Book and we have had produced to us the respective certificates from the Calcutta and Bombay branches of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China in verification of the respective balances with the Bank's branches at the 31st December, 1952.

We have examined the Zemindary Account and have ascertained that all remittances have been accounted for in the General Cash Book.

COLONY CASH BOOK:

The books were checked as follows:—

The remittances from the Mission during the year have been checked into these books and were found to be in order. Only a very few vouchers could be checked by us as, in the majority of cases, they were either not available or were written in languages which we were unable to translate, but those which we were able to check were in order.

LOAN BOOKS:

All posting of the Loan Books have been checked and total balances of the loans and deposits outstanding have been agreed therewith.

INVESTMENTS:

The Investments of the Indian Workers Pension Fund, as detailed in the Fund Book, and of the various other Funds as described in the separate Fund Books were verified by reference to certificates from Bankers and by examination of the Scrip for Government Securities, Fixed Deposit Receipts etc., and found to agree therewith.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA & CHINA, CHITTAGONG Rs. 13,287. 3. 0

This amount, which was received last year from the Norwegian Board for Mission work in Pakistan and credited in the General Cash Book, has this year been transferred to Pakistan Branch of the Mission as, we are informed, they will keep their accounts separately.

Yours faithfully,
LOVELOCK & LEWES.



Statement of Account for year 1952.

EXPENDITURE:

	Ordinary Pay	Dearness Allowance.
Basetkundi	Rs. 2231	
Benagaria	„ 5000	Rs. 1080
Ebeneser House	„ 1800	„ 897
Chondorpura	„ 3069	„ 680- 4-
Dhorompur	„ 3261	„ 1734
Rajadighi	„ 2700	
Dumka	„ 4000	„ 1100
Haripur	„ 1188	„ 300
Kaerabani	„ 2000	„ 240
Mohulpahari	„ 2000	„ 1547- 8-
Saldoha Women Work	„ 100	
Tilabani	„ 1200	
Murshidabad	„ 500	
Suri	„ 4544	„ 392- 8-
Santal Pargana & Birbhum Women Work	„ 500	
Nimasarai	„ 10,180	„ 2600
Joema	„ 7500	„ 2789- 8-
Gaorang	„ 2800	„ 1246
Bongaigaon	„ 4965	„ 1332
Parkijuli	„ 12,800	„ 1924
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Rs. 72,338	Rs. 17,862-12
Kaerabani Schools	Rs. 23,550	Rs. 6399- 8-
Maharo Girl's School	„ 13 712	„ 3942
Koroya Station & Orphanage	„ 3,700	„ 1005
Santal Divinity School	„ 10,630	„ 135
Basetkundi M. E. School	„ 8,000	„ 1080
Benagaria Industrial School	„ 2,000	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
C. over	Rs. 61,592	Rs. 12,561- 8-

B. forw.	Rs. 61,592	Rs. 12,561 -8- 0
Narainpur Girls' School	„ 8,242	„ 1,908
Eklakhi Girls' School	„ 7,615	„ 2,010
Narayanpur Station & School	„ 6,165	
Grahampur Schools	„ 28,764	„ 5,536- 7-
Gaorang Girls' School	„ 8,800	„ 3,409- 8-
Haraputa Girls' School	„ 6,000	„ 2,974
	Rs. 127,178	Rs. 28,399- 7-

Mohulpahari Hospital	Rs. 12,000	Rs. 6,922-12-
Saldoha Leper Colony	„ 40,000	„ 3,198-12-
Benagaria Dispensary	„ 1,378	„ 390
Kaerabani Dispensary	„ 800	„ 330
Dhorompur Dispensary	„ 200	
Narainpur Dispensary	„ 400	
Eklakhi Dispensary	„ 500	150
Malda Medical Work	„ 3,000	133 -2-
Maharo Dispensary	„ 400	
Basetkundi Dispensary	„ 200	
Sevapur Hospital	„ 10,000	„ 3,680
Santipara Leprosy Colony	„ 18,901	„ 1,387- 8-
Gaorang Dispensary	„ 590	„ 180
Joema Dispensary		„ 765
Haraputa Dispensary		„ 560
	Rs. 88,369	Rs 17,697- 2-

Mission Station. Ordinary pay total	Rs. 72,338
Mission Station. Dearness all. total	„ 17,862-12-
School Work, Ordinary pay total	„ 127,178
School Work, Dearness all. total	„ 28,399- 7-
Medical Work, Ordinary pay total	„ 88,369
Medical Work, Dearness all. total	„ 17,697- 2-
Total carried over	Rs. 351,844- 5-

B. forw.	Rs.	351,844- 5
Salaries for missionaries on the field 1952	,,	156,065
Dearness Allowance for missionaries on the field 1952	,,	61,790
Servants Dearness—allowance	,,	9,147- 4-
Single Allowance	,,	2,900
Hill—Allowance	,,	21,823
Childrens Tuition and travel, language study	,,	6,118 5- 3
Medicines and doctor	,,	8,077-15-
Setting up house and Cycle allowance	,,	4,454-11-6
Income Tax	,,	7,100- 6-
Dumka Boarding	,,	2,400
Civil Surgeon Fee	,,	795- 1-
Committee and meeting expenditure	,,	6,862-13 3
Secretary's Travel	,,	2,400
Dumka Offices	,,	4,560
Legal Expenses	,,	1,471- 8-
Printing of Annual Report and Audit Fees	,,	2,022 8-6
Indian Workers' Pension Fund	,,	5,533- 3-9
Stipends	,,	14,930
New Constructions	,,	19,722- 3-
Affiliation Fees	,,	1,083- 8-
Land rent	,,	1,967- 2- 9
Youth Work, drawn by Miss H. Milde	,,	800
Bible School for Women, drawn by Miss M. Buttedahl	,,	500
Loan to Santipara Leprosy Agriculture Farm	,,	3,200
Jeep for R. Hofrenning	,,	4,000
Benagaria Allowance	,,	175
Literature Committee	,,	1,000
Other Miscellaneous Items	,,	526
		<hr/>
Carried forward	Rs.	703,269-15-0

EXPENDITURES

Balance brought forward		Rs. 703,269-15-
Transferred to Ebeneser Lutheran Church	,,	144,045-13-3
Total Expenditures		,, 847,315 12-3
Mornai Tea Estate		
Balance	Rs.	509-15-9
Total Bank Balance	,,	83,939- 6-8
Total Cash Balance	,,	4,591-13 1
		,, 89,041- 3-6
		<u>Rs. 936,356 15-9</u>

INCOME:

Balances per 1/1 1952:		
Main Account S. M. N. C.		
	Rs.	17,649- 4-6
Mornai Tea Estate		
Charitable Fund	,,	5,551- 3-6
		Rs. 23,200- 8-
Received from America		
(as per separate account)	,,	152,098-14-6
Received from Denmark		
(as per separate account)	,,	208,236-11-6
Received from Norway		
(as per separate account)	,,	529,925-14-6
Received from Mornai Tea Estate	,,	3,000-
Transfer from Swedish K. M. A. to		
Church Budget	,,	6,445- 6-
Loan refunded by Printing Press	,,	9,002
Received from Benagaria Zemindary	,,	3,000
Bank interests on deposits etc.		
	Rs.	2,496- 5-
Debit interests and		
Bank charges	,,	1,048-11-9
		,, 1,447- 9 3
		<u>Rs. 936,356- 15-9</u>

INDIAN WORKERS PENSION FUND'S ACCOUNT ON 31ST DECEMBER 1952.

RECEIPTS

Balance per 1. January 1952	Rs.	0
Received grant from The Santal Mission of the Northern Churches	,,	5,583- 8-9
Whole year's interest on Government loan C A 87	,,	420- 6-
Contribution from members	,,	1,912- 4-
	<u>Rs.</u>	<u>7,865-13-9</u>

EXPENDITURES

Pension paid to members	Rs.	7,604- 7 9
Pension contribution refunded to previous members	,,	261- 6-
Balance per 31. Dec. 1952, nil.	,,	0-
	<u>Rs.</u>	<u>7,865-13-9</u>

CAPITAL INVESTED

Capital per 1 Jan. 1952	Rs.	43,020- 4-10
Capital increase during year 1952	,,	593- 5 3
Capital per 31 December, 1952	<u>Rs.</u>	<u>43,613-10- 1</u>

This amount is invested this way:

On fixed deposit with The Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China, Calcutta	Rs.	19,670 11-
On fixed deposit with Mahadeolal Prabhudayal, Dumka	,,	7,128-12-3
On fixed deposit with Mahadeolal Prabhudayal, Dumka	,,	1,185-13-6
Government of India 3% loan 1896/97, Ca 87, Nom 19,000	,,	15,628- 5 4
	<u>Rs.</u>	<u>43,613 10-1</u>

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