

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY.

No. 124.

MISSIONARY SETTLEMENT  
FOR  
UNIVERSITY WOMEN  
[BOMBAY]

MOTTO :

διὰ Ἰησοῦν Χριστόν  
Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ

“ For Christ, through the power of Christ ”

## STAFF 1937.

Miss R. NAVALKAR, B.A., Wilson  
College, Bombay (*Warden*).

Miss O. M. KAAE, B.Sc., King's  
College of Household and Social  
Science, London.

Miss E. A. UNDERWOOD, B.Sc.,  
Birmingham University.

Miss D. E. KING, B.A., Newnham  
College, Cambridge; Social  
Science Diploma, Glasgow  
University.

Miss R. DONGRE, B.A., Wilson Col-  
lege, Bombay; Social Study  
Diploma, Birmingham University.

UNIVERSITY SETTLEMENT,  
BOMBAY.

*January, 1937.*

DEAR MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATES,

You will notice that nearly all my reports are begun outside Bombay. The Annual Report of 1935 began on the “Mongolia”; my last Annual Report in Bangalore and now my half-yearly Report at the Holiday House. I waited for Miss King and Miss Dongre to return from their short Christmas Holidays and then I might almost say I “escaped” from visitors and new arrivals to Gholvad for a few days to get rested, and to get rid of a persistent cold, and to write my report! It is very quiet and cool here, and already, after two nights I am feeling better

I

Pamphlet

266-  
023  
410  
54  
MIS

and fresher. I had two nights alone and then Miss Payne's aunt, Miss Cazalet, came to keep me company.

We have had a quiet uneventful term except for the illness of one of the medical students. She had an operation for appendicitis and has been obliged to go home. The Final Medical Students who failed last year in April made up their minds to appear for their Examinations in the Christmas term, and the 1st M.B.B.S. Students thought they would also follow their example. Hence this term instead of being a slack one became an Examination one, and we saw students all over the house, in the Library, in the S.T.C. room, in the Common-room, and on the roof, stooping over their huge tomes and gazing at innumerable bones and skulls. The first M.B.B.S. result is out and one student out of four that appeared has passed and she is the youngest and smallest in stature. She was very pleased with herself but could not give full vent to her feelings out of respect to the others. The final results are not out as yet and I hope there will be a larger percentage of passes.

I was sorry not to be present at our Mid-Term Social. I had to leave the Settlement in the middle of the preparations and go to Bangalore on account of my niece's illness. When I left, Miss Bald was preparing a group to act a charade, Miss King was making another group practise folk-dancing and Miss Dongre was helping everybody, visiting students, sending out invitations, ordering food with the help of Mrs. Brewer, and arranging the room. I heard very happy reports of it on my return.

An important event of the term was Miss Bald's departure to Agra. We had all become very fond of her and we did not like her leaving us. The girls suggested a farewell dinner, sitting at one long table as at Christmas and so we did, and the room looked very festive and Christmassy. We drank Miss Bald's health and made short speeches and the students presented her with a sari and a blouse-piece. We expected her to be back at Christmas, but we heard she was too ill to come. Miss Bald's sojourn in Agra has not been very pleasant thus far. Her misfortunes began with swallowing a pigeon bone which lacerated her throat and left it very tender, so that when she caught a cold it affected the delicate organ and made her lose her voice and nearly gave her pleurisy. She was for over a fortnight in hospital and was not allowed to talk. We have better reports of her now and we hope she will have better health this term.

We had a picnic to Elephanta early in December. Examinations prevented all the students from participating in it. The Hostel Committee came with us and provided refreshments. A friend of Miss Dongre arranged to let us have one of the ferry steamers belonging to the Bombay Steam Navigation Company at a low price, and we spent a delightful afternoon on the sea as well as on the island. One of the Committee had arranged for us to have a guide from the Archæological Society to explain the structure and the meaning of the carvings. It was a beautifully calm afternoon with just enough breeze to make it cool and fresh.

We had our usual Christmas Socials this year. The Student Social had more women students than men and none of the doctors could come as there was a medical dinner that night, but some of the wives came. Prof. Millar, of Wilson College, kindly organised the games and I must say that the lack of men students made them go better and with less noise and confusion. Mrs. C. I. Brown conducted the Carols with the help of the Queen Mary High School staff and a friend. Unfortunately we could not have all the Carols she had prepared owing to the Curfew Order. We were fortunate in having Lady Procter with us and she very kindly gave us the Christmas message.

This year we called the Ladies' Social an "At Home," and asked to it all our friends, whether men or women. We had a very pleasant gathering on the badminton court and afterwards adjourned to the drawing room. Dr. Hewat gave a very simple and appropriate Christmas message and it was much appreciated. We are fortunate to have a woman of Dr. Hewat's learning and charm in our midst. The "At Home" was followed by a Christmas Tree and Party, and we were introduced to some delightful children whom we had not met before. They were friends of Miss Dongre and some of them entertained us to delightful little recitations in English and Marathi. It was a welcome change in our usual programme.

The next day we had the Naigaum Christmas Party and as usual the wee ones enjoyed themselves swinging, singing and dancing. They had a good tea, then a little talk about Christmas and finally, the distribution of toys and sweets. Miss Childs had another Christmas Tree for the older children and the club boys and girls, and the adult class at Naigaum on Christmas Eve, and I was asked to give a talk and then distribute the presents. Our festivities ended with the Christmas dinner. Mrs. Doughty

Wylie was in charge of the games and she kept the students and visitors very lively. Miss Underwood was with us and helped with the Christmas presents and games. We were sorry not to have Miss Bald to complete our family circle.

Miss Dongre left on Boxing Day for Ahmednagar, and Miss King went to Delhi and thence to Agra. This was her first visit to these two historical places and it is not surprising that she returned thrilled with what she saw. She spent a day with Miss Bald and brought good news of her. Miss Underwood was to leave for Gholvad on New Year's Day and I took advantage of her being at the Settlement to accept Dr. Jhirad's invitation to go with her to Lonavla for two nights. It was a beautiful drive up and down the ghats and the air was very bracing and made one feel different. On our way back we stopped at a little wayside dispensary and a Children's Home belonging to the All Saints' Sisters. Two English women, one a trained nurse and the other a trained nurse and midwife, are in charge and have made it a real home of rest. I do admire these two women living and working night and day amongst simple country people, cut off from society and visited only at rare intervals by friends. The welcome we received was so warm that we wished we could go oftener.

We have had a number of visitors passing through Bombay—some missionaries from China, some cold-weather tourists, one of whom was Mr. Basil Matthews. We wished he could have stayed longer, perhaps he will on his way back. That one short visit made us feel he understood what we stood for, and what our difficulties were. Mrs. Doughty Wylie cannot be called a visitor, for she is just one of us and helps us in entertaining visitors and students and in giving us all outings. She is indefatigable in her labours for the hospital and we wish her all success in her efforts to place it on a sound footing. Miss Betty Lane Smith spent nearly a week with us and we wished she could have stayed longer. We almost came to regard her as a Settler and we hope she will come again and let us have again the benefit of her cheerful company.

A disturbing element during the last term was the riots in Bombay. They began in October just as we were planning our October holidays. Miss Dongre had a fortnight first and before her return I had to leave the Settlement in charge of Miss King to attend the Y.W.C.A. Regional Conference in Colombo. The

riots were still on and I left very unwillingly, but I knew the students were safe, for women and children were untouched, but the atmosphere was not conducive to ease and restfulness. The servants were in danger, and they had to be sent by car or train to various parts of Bombay. Miss Dongre was alone in charge after Miss King left for nearly ten days and it was rather a trying time for her. Our students never lost their nerve and one of them the first day of the riots returning home as usual by tram from the Medical College, found herself the only woman in a tram full of Mahomedan men. One of the men asked her if she was not afraid and she asked him in return why she should be! He then told her that the riots were caused by ignorant men and that the educated people had nothing to do with it. Whatever it may be, the sudden and mysterious murders were very upsetting and continued till nearly the beginning of December when they stopped after the Idd (a Mahomedan Feast) as suddenly as they had begun. One of these secret assassinations happened a little way down the road past the Settlement and the victim passed the new wing and was seen and heard by Miss Dongre. That was the only time any of us saw any bloodshed. One wonders at times whether Hindus and Muslims will ever forget their religious differences. I do not think they will, unless they accept one common religion.

My visit to Ceylon was most interesting both from the point of view of meeting big women thinkers from all parts of the world and from the point of view of seeing a new country—a country of palms, not simply of palm groves, as in the Konkan, but a palm forest where sunlight never enters. Palms grew by the sea, on the mainland and on the hills, three to four thousand feet above sea level. It was also a country of beautiful stretches of water, which never dried, for Ceylon has a plentiful supply of water from both the S.W. and the N.W. monsoons, except when there is a drought. The plentiful supply keeps the Isle ever green, but it produces deadly malaria mosquitoes, which cause a high mortality in the villages. I could write much about the buried cities and the unearthed huge statues of Buddha, the innumerable moonstone temples and palaces and the gigantic Dagobas built on some minute particle of Buddha's body. Lady Maharaja Singh, Miss Shinde and I visited these buried cities and we wondered why these heavy edifices should surmount these tiny remains and what purpose they served. They were not beautiful, neither were they inspiring. They produced depression rather than hope or consolation.

The Conference itself at Colombo was inspiring and strengthened one's faith in one's religion, and made one realise how necessary it was to life. It also made one realise how various peoples of the world craved for it. I was glad I went.

News from Poona is very encouraging. Miss Underwood writes that she has two new Christian students and may have two more. The one final L.C.P.S. student passed her examination at Christmas, securing a high percentage. She has obtained the post of Resident Medical Officer in the David Sassoon Hospital in Poona. Miss Underwood and Miss Moore have had wonderful success in their work and both of them are to be congratulated. It has been a strenuous year for Miss Underwood and she is looking forward to her furlough and to a well-earned rest.

Miss King has enjoyed her term at Wilson College and I believe from what I hear that she has been much appreciated. Her four-and-a-half years will be over in May and it remains to be seen how she is going to stand the monsoon term. Unfortunately the furloughs of both Miss Underwood and Miss King happen to be very close to each other and we hope it will be possible for Miss King to last another term.\*

Miss Dongre is enjoying her College visiting and she has a gift of attracting young people and children wherever she goes. She is sought after by various Societies and yesterday the Chairman of the Bombay Presidency Council asked me if we could spare her for some months to act as Secretary while the permanent Secretary was on leave. Her duties here are too numerous to spare her.

We have followed Miss Kaae's deputation tour with much interest and we feel she has awakened much interest in the work of the Settlement wherever she went. A friend said about her in a letter that "She had given the people of Great Britain a background which they had not before and that they will be better able to realise the setting in which the Settlement is working." Miss Kaae was somewhat nervous of the welcome she, a foreigner, would receive from a British public, but I am sure her fears have all vanished by now.

The new students we have this term are very interesting. Two have come from the Dastur High School in Poona and

\*News has since been received that Miss King is suffering from anæmia and must return to England in April, 1937.

their conduct in the Settlement speaks well of their school. We have a real character in the little Muhammadan Medical Fresher. She is a clever little thing and I think is going to surprise us at her first examination. Accidentally and fortunately for her, I discovered she was observing the forty days' fast of eating or drinking nothing from sunrise to sunset, and I was able to arrange a light meal before sunrise. The fast seemed to agree with her for she seemed none the worse for it. The place she uses for her evening prayers and her night study is the roof and if she is ever wanted after dinner we know where to find her.

Another interesting student is a demure little maiden from Kathiawar. She is from the National Medical College. She is very regular at morning and evening prayers and one feels that underneath her gentle demeanour lies much strength of character and that she will hold her own in the struggle of life. The other Gujerati Fresher is a great contrast to the former. She is in the School of Art and is extremely artistic in her dress and appearance and very charming in her manner. I wish her room would be more picturesque in its untidiness. I have just received an application from a student who wishes me to reserve a "seat" for her in a four-seater room! Life in the Settlement is full of interest and one cannot help growing fond of the students as one gets to know them. One often feels inefficient and unworthy of one's job when one finds one has not been able to live up to the Settlement ideal and hence has not been able to draw them any nearer to Christ. That is where we need your prayers to strengthen our hands and our souls.

Yours sincerely,

R. NAVALKAR.

P.S.—The third M.B.B.S. results were out yesterday and two out of the four that appeared have passed.

**FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK.**

DENISON HOUSE,  
296, VAUXHALL BRIDGE ROAD,  
LONDON, S.W. I.

February, 1937.

DEAR HOME MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATES,

Many of you will be anxious to know the result of the Sale to which you sent contributions or came as purchasers. You will rejoice that it was a most successful Sale all ways. We were even fortunate in our weather! Much of the success of the Sale was no doubt due to the kindness of Sir Frederick and Lady Sykes in allowing the Sale to be held in their house. To them both we record our sincere gratitude for their genuine interest in, and earnest desire to help, the Society not only during their residence in Bombay, but also now they are in this country. We also tender our warmest thanks to Lady Cocke, Mrs. Duggan, Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Floyd, Mrs. Lory, Miss Macdonald, Mrs. Mirza Khan, Mrs. Rees-Mogg and Mrs. Wilson, as well as to members of the Committee.

**Sale Account to January 20th, 1937.**

			£	s.	d.				£	s.	d.
To Linen Stall	...	...	30	9	8	By Printing—Leaflets	...	...	3	7	6
„ Foreign „	...	...	27	5	8	„ Cards	...	...	1	10	0
„ Book „	...	...	18	0	4	„ Postage (part)	...	...	5	2	1
„ Boudoir „	...	...	11	1	9	„ Stationery and	...	...			
„ Cakes and Sweets Stall	...	...	10	11	7	„ Sundries	...	...	0	11	9
„ Household Stall	...	...	5	12	4½	„ Gratuity	...	...	1	0	0
„ Teas	...	...	4	11	0				11	11	4
„ Parcels	...	...	0	0	8	„ Expenses, C.S.M.O.	...	...	0	9	4
„ General	...	...	17	18	6				12	0	8
			£125	11	6½	„ Bank	...	...	125	15	2
„ C.S.M.O.	...	...	12	4	3½				£137	15	10
			£137	15	10				£137	15	10

The Home Base Committee has very regretfully accepted Mrs. R. M. Gray's resignation as Chairman of the Sale Committee for twelve years. Only those behind the scenes perhaps know how much the success of our Sales has been due to the personal

work of Mrs. Gray in securing stallholders, contributions, purchasers and her loss as Chairman is a very real one. We welcome as her successor, Mrs. H. M. Leaf, who has already given considerable help to the Sale.

This year we hope to have a private Sale a week prior to the Stall at the *Combined Sale for Missions Overseas* at the Central Hall on October 25th and 26th (where we have such a limited space that we could not make the sum we need). It has been suggested that we revive the "College" stalls and we shall be very grateful for offers of help to furnish or to undertake the organisation of say, "Girton," "Newnham," "Somerville," "Westfield" stalls.

**Deputation.** We regret that owing to the short time at her disposal, Miss Kaae was unable to visit all our Branches, especially as she roused so much interest in the associations and colleges and schools to which she went. Miss Kaae returns to Bombay in April and her work will be followed with even more interest and prayer by those to whom she is now personally known. Owing to Miss King and Miss Underwood being on furlough together, it is hoped that all Branches will meet one or the other and that a considerable amount of new ground will be broken. So please will anyone who can organise a meeting or coffee party at school, college, in church hall or drawing room, communicate with me so that plans can be made well ahead for the summer and autumn terms 1937?

Owing to Miss King's illness and the consequent shortage of staff in Bombay, the Home Base Committee has reluctantly agreed that it cannot assume full responsibility for our new venture at Poona. Miss Underwood, to whom, along with Miss Moore, its generous benefactor, the success of the Hostel is due, will be profoundly disappointed at its ceasing to be an M.S.U.W. Hostel owing to her furlough. The need for this hostel has been demonstrated and the Committee would have gladly extended the experimental period had it been possible, for it regards the provision of a Christian hostel in Poona, primarily for Christian women students, as a most important matter for the Christian community in Western India. The utmost the Committee can do at present, is to offer Rs.1,200 (£90) per annum for the next two years and hope that the Poona Advisory Committee will be able to secure a suitable Warden to help Miss Moore. The Committee also decided to try and obtain *new money* to provide the other half of a worker's salary. We emphasise that it really

must be new money for to divert money from Bombay will not help Poona, for M.S.U.W. must have sufficient income to meet the expenses of Settlers or else some activities would have to be given up in order not to place too big a burden on a smaller staff. If only the M.S.U.W. could raise its income by £220 a year, it could engage a new Settler. It has several candidates with whom it is keeping in touch. Can *you* help by raising your subscription or by securing a new subscriber or by arranging a special effort such as a *Bring and Buy Sale, Vanishing Tea or Coffee Party, Tennis Tournament*, in aid of its funds? The alternative is to find an *honorary* Settler and to anyone who can make our work known to a possible honorary Settler, we shall be most indebted.

We have now taken over the unsold copies of "Mary Dobson" and will be glad to receive orders for copies (one shilling and fourpence post free). Every school, college and Association Secretary should have a copy of this interesting life of our former Warden.

We had a very successful Luncheon during the session of the Student Christian Movement Quadrennial Conference in Birmingham on January 6th. Eighty-four were present, including three former Settlers, Miss Saunders, Miss Rouse (in the Chair) and Mrs. Wood (*née* K. Fell, from Australia), two former hostel students, a prospective Settler and Birmingham subscribers. The Rev. W. Paton was our chief speaker and he paid a warm tribute to the work of the Settlement. Mr. Paton's opinion carries great weight in the student and missionary world owing to his official position as one of the Secretaries of the International Missionary Council. We here record our sincerest thanks to him for again showing his interest in the Settlement and his desire to further its work.

In conclusion, let us each one bear the Settlement continually in our thoughts and prayers that the hands of the Settlers whom we send be strengthened, that their lives may be so centred in Christ that many Indian women may come to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour in our day and generation.

Yours sincerely,

K. L. SPEECHLEY.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS.

As the financial year ends on *June 30th*, it will considerably help the Society if those whose subscriptions for the current year are still unpaid will remit them as soon as possible to their Branch Secretary or to Headquarters. The deficit this year is high (to-day £300) owing to heavy losses by death and retirement of several generous contributors from professional work.

**LIFE SUBSCRIPTIONS** are invested to provide a permanent annual income.

Owing to the decreased interest now payable on War Loan and of investments (with trustee security) generally, it is now necessary to raise the amount of Life Subscriptions to replace annual subscriptions as follows:—

Subscription of 2/6 is replaced by Life Subscription,	£3	5	6
" 5/- " " "	£6	11	0
" 10/- " " "	£13	2	0

This also allows for the payment of the subscription for the current year.

**DONATIONS ARE INVITED** for the endowment of an **EVELYN GEDGE SCHOLARSHIP** for students resident in the University Settlement without distinction of race or creed.

**DEFICIT FUND.**—Contributions will be welcomed.

**INCOME TAX SCHEME.**—The Secretary will welcome enquiries for particulars of how to help the Settlement to get an extra 6/3 on a £1 Subscription (3/1 on 10/-) as a refund from the Income Tax Commissioners without additional cost to Subscribers.

**BANKERS' ORDERS** will be sent by the office on request.

Contributions of **SILVER PAPER** and **OLD GOLD** and **SILVER** (now so valuable) and **FOREIGN STAMPS** are always gratefully received.

**URGENTLY NEEDED.**—Either an Honorary Settler or new **income** of £220 per annum to meet expenses of an additional worker so as to keep open the Poona Hostel.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS.**

As the financial year ends on June 30th, it will considerably help the Society if those whose subscriptions for the current year are still unpaid will remit them as soon as possible to their branch secretary or to Headquarters. The deficit this year is high (to-day) owing to heavy losses by death and retirement of several generous contributors from professional work.

**COLE & Co. (WESTMINSTER) LTD.,**  
**WESTMINSTER PRINTING WORKS,**  
**92-96, VAUXHALL BRIDGE ROAD,**  
**LONDON, S.W. 1.**

**URGENTLY NEEDED.**—Either an Honorary Settler or new income of £20 per annum to meet expenses of an additional worker so as to keep open the Pina Hotel.

**CONTRIBUTIONS OF SILVER FABER and OLD GOLD and SILVER** (now so valuable) and **FOREIGN STAMPS** are always gratefully received. Contributions of any new narrow gauge steam train (10 1/2 inch gauge) will be sent by the club on request, plus an extra 10% on top as a refund from the Income Tax Commission without additional cost to subscribers.

**BANKERS' ORDERS** will be sent by the club on request, plus an extra 10% on top as a refund from the Income Tax Commission without additional cost to subscribers.

**INCOME TAX SCHEME.**—The Secretary will welcome enquiries for particulars of how to help the Settlement to get an extra 6% on a 10% Subscription (14% on 10%) as a refund from the Income Tax Commission without additional cost to subscribers.

**DEFICIT FUND.**—Contributions will be welcomed. We have a deficit of £1000 and the Secretary will be glad to receive any contributions without distinction of these or other funds.

**GEORGE SCHOLARSHIP** for students resident in the University of London. Settlement without distinction of these or other funds.

**DONATIONS ARE INVITED** for the endowment of an **EVELYN** Scholarship for a student resident in the University of London.