The Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur & Assam
Mission Estd. 1845 — Autonomous 1919.

President:—**Rev. J. J. P. Tiga,** M.A., B.D., S.T.M.

G. E. L. CHURCH COMPOUND
RANCHI, BIHAR (INDIA)

L.N.M.S

Ref. No .....

Dated the 13th April, ...1957.

To

The Members of the L.N.M.S. Team of Investigation.

Dear friends,

This is to inform you that the L.N.M.S. Team of Investigation will meet in the Lutheran Church at Tezpur,Assam, at 8 A.M. on Monday the 29th April.1957. The meeting may be held for the whole day. I am requesting Rev.S.Horo,President,Assam Synod of the G.E.L.Church, Tezpur,Assam to make arrangements for the hospitality of the members of the team and for the place of the meeting. Please write to him about your plans to arrive there.

Members of the Assam Boarder Team of Investigation.

1. Rev.S.Horo,Synod President,G.E.L.Church,Tezpur, Assam.
2. Rev. M. Hemrom,C/O Rev.S.Horo,G.E.L.Church,Tezpur,Assam.
3. Rev. M.Mosahary,Parkijuli Mission,Parkijuli,Kamrup,Dt.Assam.
4. Mr.Thaneswar Bosumatary,Yasrany Mission, Haltugaon, P.O. Goalpara, Assam.
5. Rev. Westborg, Yasrany Mission,Haltugaon,P.O. Goalpara,Assam.
6. Rev. J.D.Asirvadam, Tambaram, Madras.
7. Rev.J.J.P.Tiga, Ranchi,Bihar.

With kind regaeds,

Yours sincerely,

J J P Tiga

Convener,
L.N.M.S Team of Investigation.

To

The G. E. L. Church president

Ranchi.

Sir,

With due and respectfully I beg to state that my spirit always Converts me to preach the "Gospel".

There fore I offer my self as a Candidate for the Catechist for Mission field.

As regards my qualification that I have read up to "eleventh Class." And am also read up the second year Bible Course at Lutheran Theological Collage Ranchi.

Now am out of employment. So I request you to kindly allow me as the Catechist on there (Mission field).

For this act of your kindness I shall be ever grateful to you.

I remain sir,
yours faithfully,
Nicolas Beck
village - Jaddi
p.o. Kausir
Dist. Ranchi
Bihar.

Date - 25.5.1957.

23

Lutheran N. M. S.

President Emeritus:
RAO SAHIB
THE REV. J. D. ASIRVADAM,
TAMBARAM. S. RY. TEL. NO. 80751, EXTN. 40

President:
THE REV. G. DEVASAHAYAM.
CHURCH OFFICE, POST BOX 2.
GUNTUR.

Secretary:
REV. J. KUMARESAN,
9, THAMBUSAMY ROAD,
KILPAUK, MADRAS-10.

Treasurer:
PROF. D. T. CHIRANJIVI.
MESTON TRAINING COLLEGE,
ROYAPETTAH, MADRAS-14.

Date... 12-12-56

Dear President Tiga,

I have to thank you for your Cooperation in making it possible to visit Jamshedpur, where Mr P D Kandulna & the pastor (Rev L Tapano) were most helpful, and also Rajgangpur and Rourkela where Rev C. B. and was very Cooperative. Being out with a messy boil, it was a joy for me to get to know him.

It was a great pity that I could not visit Ranchi and other main stations in Chota-Nagpur. I am glad we were to contact the main stations next year also so that the C.C.'s Cooperative action in appointing our N. M. S. Committee for evangelistic work in Church could be awaited & for working out a really effective N M S mission among our people. My experience at the Centres on the S. E. Ry (Nagpur - Kharagpur line) fills me with much hope & faith, the Challenge of Bahapara & Sahibi could be brought home to our people.

The N M S has appointed a Committee of 3 (Rev. Devasahayam, Rev. A C Abraham, your & I) to visit Assam in April-May 1957 as I told you. When I reported on this, I told

our Exec. Kindly send the balance of the Assam money & wanted me to take it over & return it to our Treasurer but as I was constantly on the move, I requested you to send the full amount to the Treasurer, so that the year's a/c might be closed without that balance showing as an outstanding amount - monies ought not be unspended till a year. Kindly have this advance a/c closed.

When is the Nathaniah meeting? I wish to give two or three weeks to the Sasonee field & then go to the Santal area early in April - so that I might join you at Tezpur for the Conf. of interested parties & then attend the Assam Xn Council meeting at Shillong. But before I meet you, I am most anxious that our Sasonee affairs are well settled. My prayers are with the Sasonee Church & its leaders. May the Lord in His love & grace prepare the way for united witness in the field.

With Cordial good wishes, for you and family & for the Church for a blessed Advent Season

Yours truly

J. D. Asirvadam

How is your son? My greetings to Mrs Tyler & children.

Dear

No. 1385/57.

June 29. 1957.

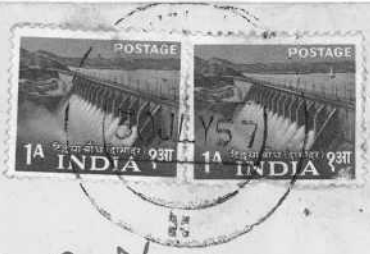
Rev. Raymond Martin,
Luth. N.M.S.
Kotma S.E. Rly.
Shahdol,M.P.

My dear Rev. Martin,

I am very glad to hear that Shri Beck and his wife arrived safe and that they are happy. I shall always wish him and Mrs. Beck to be strong witnesses of the Saviour of the World and to be good examples in the citigenship of Christ's Kingdon. Either today or tomorrow another evangelist is to come here to proceed for Kotma. As soon as he comes I shall send him with recessary directions He is also a fine man with evangelistic zeal and fervour. I hope the Lord will use him for His glory and for the rememption of many. Our eldest son is not yet well. He is quite helpless. We are hoping that God will touch him in His own good time and heal him. May God bless your work and give you health and strength.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- J.J.P.Tiga,
President,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.



To The Rev. J. J. P. Tigaya
President
G. E. L. Church
P.O. Ranchi (Bihar)

Re
Ann:- Forwarded to Rev. Aswathanarayana

23

Application of S. Sankara
Bach- to School
for reinstatement of his
stipend Rs 31/- per
recommended + forwarded
to Rev. Edn. D.M.I. Nagercoil
1/8/57

No. 1636/57
1-8-57

No. 1385/57.

June 29. 1957.

23

Rev. Raymond Martin,
Luth. N.M.S.
Kotma S.E. Rly.
Shahdol, M.P.

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Yours sincerely,

Sd/- J.J.P.Tiga,
President,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

The Lutheran National Missionary Society of India

(Organised January 1916 and affiliated with the N.M.S.)

President Emeritus :
RAO SAHIB
THE REV. J. D. ASIRVADAM, M.A., L.T.
TAMBARAM, S. RY. TEL. No. 80751. EXTN. 40

Treasurer :
PROF. D. T. CHIRANJIVI, M.A., M.ED.,
MESTON TRAINING COLLEGE,
ROYAPETTAH, MADRAS-14. TEL. 8184

BHARAT CHRISTYA SEVAK SAMAJ

"Expect great things from God :
Attempt great things for God."

President :
THE REV. G. DEVASAHAYAM, B.A., B.D., S.T.M.
CHURCH OFFICE, POST BOX 2,
GUNTUR.

Secretary :
THE REV. J. KUMARESAN, M.A., B.D.,
LIC.THEOL. (LUND),
9, THAMBUSAMY ROAD,
KILPAUK, MADRAS-10.

12-12-56

The President, Secretary and Treasurer
Y. E. L. Church

Dear Friends,

You as leaders and the problems of the Church have been on my heart in a special way, and many in the south are standing by you in love and prayer. Since I left Calcutta on Oct 19, I have had no information as to how the situation is shaping under the Lord's guidance. He is gracious & ever active to promote the triumph of love among His people. I need not say how dear Gossner has been to me since 1916-17, and how I rejoice in all of which we can fruitfully be proud, and how burdened I feel when things go wrong. I have even after my return written to Mr P. D. Barua, Mr P. D. Kandulna, and Rev. A. Bosu Das to try to help towards unity and orderly Church administration. As I had visited Rayagarapur, once more I appealed not to work at cross purposes, not create any difficulties in Rourkela, but work in Conformity with C.C.'s action. I made a personal appeal to Principal Y. Lazarus to promote unity & orderliness. I have not to-day written to him, but shall write to him - after I meet Bishop Mannoram on the 18th. I am in the dark as to developments in the area. I shall be with my son on the 17th & 18th and if any of you have any news or suggestions that might help, kindly address mail 9 Thambusamy Road, Kilpauk, Madras 10.

I trust our Secy. Mr Horo is back from Germany. I was eager to meet our Treasurer at Ranchi, but as I had to cancel it on his & Rev. Tiga's advice, I regret I could not meet him and express to him my appreciation of his good work, which is well spoken of at C W M circles. I am very glad and proud of it.

My visit to Jamshedpur, Rajhanzpur & Rourkela was of help for our N.K.S Cause. Much more did I feel the thrill of fellowship in the new Gospel Congregations as dear to me as my own Mission many long years.

The N.K.S on the advice of Bishop Amritanand of Assam appointed the Sundays, Rev. Tiga & me to visit Assam in Jan 1947 to attend a Conference at Dispur Baptists & Lutherans convened by Assam C.C. officers, and later attend the N.C.C. session at Shillong. I have agreed to spend 2-3 weeks in the Ebenezer area, and before I go there I would like to visit Chota-Nagpur & await supply of your warm invitation given me earlier this year, which had to be cancelled on account of sad developments caused by the Non-Co-operation. But of what avail can my visit be, unless by that time things reach normalcy. Our marriage feast can be made only to a united church.

When is the Kabasabah meeting? We shall take our matters when you attend the Jed.-Trasurer Conference.

The L.N.K.S Council meets in Kottayam on the 9th. all of you will be cordially welcome - Rev Tiga as member of Council and the other officers as official visitors esp. as you are members of the N.K.S Co. of Eng. & U.S.A.

With Cordial greetings & good wishes

for Advent & Christmas,

Yours sincerely

D. T. Asirvadam

The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, M.A.

23

"Arulagam", Tambaram,
3rd June 1957.

Mr.S.S. Sinha,
Panna Building Kota,
P.O.Kargi Road,
Bilaspur Dt., M.Pr.

L.N.M.S

Dear Mr.Sinha,

Thank you for your letter dated 28th May sent Express Delivery. It reached me on 1st June.

I am glad you are willing to take a nine or ten months course at Govindpur afterwhich you will be appointed as an evangelist subject to transfer anywhere. On account of our present need at Shahdol, it is possible that you are attached as evangelist to the hospital. But our main evangelistic work will be among the Adivasis and we shall look forward to your taking a keen interest in reaching the objective of our Society, viz. building up congregations in Adivasi villages throughout the Shahdol District.

I am also very happy that Mrs.Sinha has given her wholehearted consent to your taking a full-time evangelistic work in our Society. I am also happy to know that all our missionaries know you and Mrs.Sinna.

You say that you are in charge of your father-in-law's fields at Kargi Road. I wonder what arrangements you will make for these fields when you leave the place with a view to undergo take up work in the N.M.S. Will it be that you will find a reliable man who will be able to cultivate the lands on lease, or is there any relative who can take care of it? In any case I am sure you will receive some income from these lands to meet your own expenses. As you say that you resigned the work in Delhi with a view to take care of the fields, it makes me somewhat concerned to know how you will arrange things when you leave Kargi Road.

From what you say I take it that all the children are with the Mother and therefore there will be no difficulty about your leaving for Govindpur Pracharak School which belongs to the Gossner Lutheran Church in Ranchi District. I believe you can go by bus from Ranchi to Govindpur and we shall pay your travel expenses and Rs.20/- per month will be remitted to the Treasurer of the Church Council, and for your own pocket expenses I hope Mrs.Sinha can provide. Rs.18/- is for food expenses and Rs.2/- is given to cover cost of books. So far as I know there is very little personal expenses for the students. The Govindpur Compound is a very large compound, clean and healthy and instruction is very good and I am sure you will immensely profit by this one year course.

I shall be placing your letters before the Lutheran NMS Executive which is to meet on the 18th or so as it has been found difficult to convene the meeting in the first week of June. I shall write to you as soon as the LNMS decision has been made to send you for training to Govindpur.

With cordial good wishes, Yours sincerely,

Copies to: The Rev.J.J.P.Tiga
The LNMS Secretary
The Rev.Raymond Martin
Mrs.L.S.Sinha

Rev. J. J. P. Tiga M.A., B.D., S.T.M.
PRESIDENT, LUTHERAN CHURCH
RANCHI.

1308/57 8-6-57

Rev S Horo
President, Assam Synod

Dear Rev Horo, bataiye ki
Krupa Kanke Rajbindhi
ka Assam Border mein kya
ho sakta hai, Assam Synod
ki kya sitarish hai? *

Rev Asirvadam ke sath
ap logon ki batchit hogayi
hai isliye ap samajh gaye
honge ki main kya janna
chahta hun-

2) Rev. Amos Ruj ke Sambandh
mein abhi tak kuch nahi?

* 2. N.M.S. se Rev se, Kaisi sahayta chahiye?

J. Tiga

The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, M.A.

"Arulagam", Tambaram,
29th December 1956.

The Rev.J.J.P. Tiga, M.A.,
President, GELC.

L.N.M.S

Dear Rev. Tiga,

I am afraid that by the time this reaches you, you, the Secretary and probably the Treasurer would have already started for the meetings at Renigunta. As this request was made to me only this morning and as the letters will be got ready on Sunday in Madras, I am authorising my steno-typist to send this letter to you signed by him for me.

With cordial greetings for the New Year,

Yours sincerely,

Jaikumari.

for Rev.J.D.Asirvadam.

For perusal and necessary action.

L. N. W.

Pres.

2/3/57

12/3/57

Treasurer,
E. E. L. Church.

9/7/57
12/3/57

President

There is no money. This is the reason of non-payment of the N. M. S. contribution and various other contributions.

Treasurer.
12/3

Rev. J.D. Asirvadam, M.A.,

45

"Arulagam", Tambaram,
12th February 1957.

The Rev. J.J.P. Tiga, M.A., B.D.,
Ranchi.

Dear President Tiga,

You must be very busy making arrangements for the Mahasabha.

We have had no word from you as to what is happening. We are particularly anxious that in this year where we are standing before great opportunities both in Shahdol District and in Balipara all our Churches should be organised in an effective manner. I am fully conscious of the special problems that have arisen in our dear Gossner Field. Yet we could go ahead and organise N.M.S. groups, which would be a source of a new blessing to the Church. Usually the missionary cause is a unifying cause and I wish to place my services at your disposal for two or three weeks in April. Kindly do write to me and tell me what the possibilities are about an N.M.S delegation in Chota Nagpur in the first part of April, with transport help from Rev Bosukka. I shall make a personal request - after knowing the Bosukkam Randa

With cordial greetings,

Yours sincerely,

J. D. Asirvadam

Would you rather advise that I go to Ranchi with you on our way back from Assam I could in that case not need to make any arrangement for my summer stay. But if Bosukka can manage not then he available as he usually goes to Kodaikanal for summer which case also the Oppasans should they could send Rs 2000/- as budgeted for 1956 when you met the Secy attended the Council But you stated you would remit Rs 10000/- for 1956 Kindly do help us with this amount as Treas badly needs. Dte 13/2

The Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur & Assam
Mission Estd. 1845 — Autonomous 1919.

President:—**Rev. J. J. P. Tiga,** M.A., B.D., S.T.M.

G. E. L. CHURCH COMPOUND
RANCHI, BIHAR (INDIA)

L.N.M.S

Ref. No .....

Dated the 13th April, ...1957.

To

The Members of the L.N.M.S. Team of Investigation.

Dear friends,

This is to inform you that the L.N.M.S. Team of Investigation will meet in the Lutheran Church at Tezpur, Assam, at 8 A.M. on Monday the 29th April.1957. The meeting may be held for the whole day. I am requesting Rev.S.Horo, President, Assam Synod of the G.E.L.Church, Tezpur, Assam to make arrangements for the hospitality of the members of the team and for the place of the meeting. Please write to him about your plans to arrive there.

Members of the Assam Boarder Team of Investigation.

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2. Rev. M. Hemrom, C/O Rev.S.Horo, G.E.L.Church, Tezpur, Assam.
3. Rev. M.Mosahary, Parkijuli Mission, Parkijuli, Kamrup, Dt.Assam.
4. Mr.Thaneswar Bosumatary, Yasrany Mission, Haltugaon, P.O. Goalpara, Assam.
5. Rev. Westborg, Yasrany Mission, Haltugaon, P.O. Goalpara, Assam.
6. Rev. J.D.Asirvadam, Tambaram, Madras.
7. Rev.J.J.P.Tiga, Ranchi, Bihar.

With kind regaeds,

Yours sincerely,

J J Tiga

Convener,
L.N.M.S Team of Investigation.

Copy to Rev. J. Kumaresan
Secy L.N.M.S.

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये

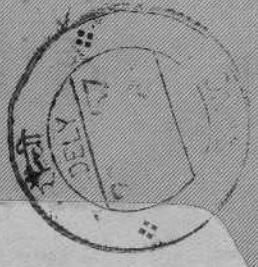
Rev. J.J.P. Tiga

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
Theological School
Ranchi, Bihar

दूसरा मोड़

← तीसरा मोड़ →

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता :-



L. N MS

Kench's Trace
Shillong, Assam
March 22, 1957

Dr. A.C. Abraham
Genl. Secretary
N.M.S. of India
Hughes Town, Hyderabad Dn.

Dear Dr. Abraham:

On February 8th I wrote to you informing you that our annual meeting will be held this year from May 1-6 here in Shillong and I also suggested that it would be a good thing if you and the other members of your delegation planning to come then could first meet a group of friends from the missions working in the NEFA area, and then come up to Shillong for the meeyings of the ACC.

I had suggested that the place of the meeting be Tezpur and the date April 27th.

I have not had any reply from you to this letter. It could be that the letter has been mis carried due to the postal strike we had in this part of the country just about that time. Please let me know wjat you plans are so that I may inform the others at Tezpur and in other places to make arrangements to meet with you and your friends from the NMS.

With all best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Berkeley D. Pugh

Berkeley D. Pugh, Secty
Assam Christian Council

copy to Rev. J.J.P. Tiga

o/c LNMS

MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE ON ASSAM BORDER MISSIONARY EFFORT HELD AT RANCHI ON MONDAY 6TH MAY, 1957.

There were present:- The Rev. J.J.P. Tiga, President, C.S.I. Church.
Mr. N.E. Horo, Secretary, C.N.I. Church.
Mr. C.N. Horo, Treasurer, C.N.I. Church.
The Rev. J.D. Asirvadam, L.E.M.S.

The Rev. J.D. Asirvadam, as acting Chairman of the Team of Investigation which visited Assam on April 26-May 4, 1957, reported on the findings of the Tezpur Conference on 27th April, the action of the Assam Christian Council at Shillong on 2nd May, and the recommendations of the LMMS Team in the light of the above Tezpur and Shillong actions and discussions of the LMMS Team with the four officers of the Assam Synod of the Gossner Church at Tezpur and with Rev. Halvorsrud and Rev. K.N. Biber of the Santal Mission at Shillong on 3rd May.

President Tiga reported on his contacts in December 1956 with persons in Lakhimpur District eager to contact Himalayan personnel from the interior. He suggested that Rev. Abraham Topno might be asked to explore possibilities which might open the way to initiate work among the tribals in that area.

After discussion, it was resolved that following findings be sent to the NMS, LMMS and the Gossner Church.

1. Missionary work by Gossner Church on Assam Border.

To carry the Gospel to the tribes beyond the inner line, immediate steps are to be taken to contact tribals who come to the open area or who live in the open area with a view to win the tribals and prepare some of them to go into the interior as evangelists.

As the ACC accepts the Gossner Church as one of the recognised bodies 'with equal opportunities' with other bodies already at work in the Brahmaputra Valley to carry the Gospel into the interior by reason of 'their existence in the adjacent civil area', this conference ~~xxxxxxx~~ recommends:

a). That the Gossner Church Council take steps to initiate effective contacts with Himalayan tribal personnel wherever Gossner worker and church members are in a position to do so, subject to Comity.

b). That in the beginning Gossner pastors in the border area around Jungle Basti in Tezpur District, and other Gossner centres in Lakhimpur District give immediate attention to this need in an honorary capacity without prejudice to their present work and gradually build up an evangelistic agency with a view to win Himalayan personnel who could carry the Gospel into the interior.

c). That the Gossner Church Council set up in Assam Border Committee and this Committee take steps to secure the needed personnel and budget.

2. Participation in Mishmi Work - As the ACC recommends that the attention of the NMS and LMMS be drawn to the challenge of the Mishmi work and to the ACC recognises that Gossner has equal opportunities to work in the border area, this conference recommends that the Gossner Church explore possibilities of initiating contacts with Mishmi personnel wherever possible, and in consultation with the ACC Executive the possibilities of the ~~NMS~~ participation as recommended by the ACC be explored. The General Secretary of the ~~NMS~~ is requested to secure the consent of the American Baptist working in Lakhimpur and Sibsagar Districts, and make definite proposals to the ACC.

3. Bhutan Work. - as this work is now handled by the Ebenezer Church, this will be a matter for joint study by the EELC and the LMMS if either or both of the Assam Church Council of the EELC (Santal and Garo Church Councils) desire wider lutheran co-operation in their Bhutan effort.

1206-12-57.

Secretary Bangalore

J.J. Tiga
Chairman.

To, Secy E/L/C
" N.M.S
" L.M.M.S
C Rev J.D. Asirvadam
Treas E.L.C.

President, Assam Synod
Chairman L.M.M.S

The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, M.A.
"Arulagam", Tambaram,
29th December 1956.

Shri P.D. Kandulna, B.A.,
Chairman, Board of Truestees,
G.E.L.Church.

-S- L.N.M.S

Dear Mr. Kandulna,

Just now we are having in the premises of the Madras Christian College at Tambaram a Study Conference on Dynamic Democracy under the joint auspices of the Study Department of the S.C.M. of India and the Ecumenical Study Council of the National Christian Council of India. Dr.M.M.Thomas is the Convener and Dr.Eddy Asirvadam, Professor of Political Science, Nagpur University is the Chairman. People from all over India are attending the conference and the discussions are at a very high level. They have been discussing positive criteria regarding State action in other areas of life, problems of Parliament Democracy in India to-day, the role of the State in India's economic development with special reference to the second Five Year Plan and building a religious, cultural and social basis of democracy on econo-mic development. It is a matter for thankfulness that through these means the Church is being challenged to face the problems of national development in India.

The Chairman, Dr.Eddy Asirvadam is an intimate friend of mine. He was for several years attached to the Political Science Department of the University of Madras. Later he has spent several years in America as Professor at Boston. His contract with the Nagpur University is about to end and I am very happy that he has accepted a position in Bihar and is going to reside at Ranchi from the 15th of Jany. He asked me if I could write to friends and secure a suitable house for him. The thought immediately occured to me that if you have a vacant bungalow that could be made available for him, it would be well Dr.Eddy Asirvadam is an old friend of the Indian Church and his residence at Ranchi would mean much for the whole Indian Church in Bihar and particularly for the Christians in Ranchi. He has many friends in high positions including our present Finance Minister of the Govt. of India and of course the Minister for Public Health in New Delhi. I am very anxious that you and other Gossner friends should help to secure immediately a proper house for him.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Officers of the G.E.L.C. who are sure to know if any bungalow in our compound is available. Otherwise I am requesting the President, the Secretary & the Treasurer to be so good as to make enquiries through our own influential Church members in Ranchi and try to write to Prof. Eddy Asirvadam, Economics Department, University of Nagpur. He lives in the University premises and a letter to the above address will reach him immediately. I shall also be thankful if when you write to him you send me a copy of your letter. Of course he would need electricity, as he has to use the refrigerator and similar appliances and he would appreciate the availability of a compound. He is very fond of poultry and also has been having his own cows which he treats with very great love. He is not only intellectual and eminent but also is a very agreeable friend and a keen Churchman. I shall value your help and that of the Officers of the GELC and also of such friends as they could contact at Ranchi. I write this with the earnest request that immediate effortsbe made to secure him a house.

In the event of no bungalow being available and no bungalow being secured for him outside our Church compound, would it not be possible for you to accommodate him somehow temporarily until a proper house is secured. He would be willing to pay a rent of Rs.100/- or Rs.125/-.

With cordial greetings for the New Year to you and the whole Gossner Church which is specially in our thoughts and prayers at this time,

Yours sincerely,

for Rev.J.D.Asirvàdam,

Copies to the Officers of the GELC

P.S.
Rev.Asirvadam requests you very earnestly to do your utmost in this matter.

Copy to the President, GELC

Lutheran N. M. S.

President Emeritus:
RAO SAHIB
THE REV. J. D. ASIRVADAM,
TAMBARAM, S. RY. TEL. No. 80751, EXTN. 40

President:
THE REV. G. DEVASAHAYAM,
CHURCH OFFICE, POST BOX 2,
GUNTUR.

Secretary:
REV. J. KUMARESAN,
9, THAMBUSAMY ROAD,
KILPAUK, MADRAS-10.

Treasurer:
PROF. D. T. CHIRANJIVI,
MESTON TRAINING COLLEGE,
ROYAPETTAH, MADRAS-14.

Retd 4-6

Date... 20-5-57.

The President thro' the Treasurer of E.L.C.

Dear Pres. Tiga,

I shall be grateful if you kindly authorise the Treasr of E.L.C to send to the Treasurer, L.N.M.S. a) an immediate remittance Rs 1000/- as L.N.M.S Contributions for 1956

b) a remittance Rs 1000/- a part of the 1957 Contributions of Rupees Two Thousand

c) to arrange to all get E.L.C Congregations to at least such as can be contacted at the Youth Camp to be held at Tatawagam this month, and to assess the Guaranteed Students to be undertaken (Four Hundred or less) as per proposal by the President, and a sum of Rs 400 could be made available to the Guaranteed Students for deputation work.

The Students could submit their bills to the Treasr, Rev J. Kumaresan when they get return to Guntur.

Unless E.L.C funds are available, Rev. Pres. Tiga could use a part of the money with him out of L.N.M.S Funds drafts, & whatever is advanced will be accounted in view of the money being kept pending with the President for L.N.M.S may have to entrust Treasurer.

Yours truly

J. D. Asirvadam

Vice-Presidents:
THE RT. REV. S. K. CHATTERJI,
MODERATOR, THE UNITED CHURCH OF NORTHERN INDIA, CALCUTTA.
THE RT. REV. J. AMRITANAND,
BISHOP OF ASSAM.
MRS. MOHINI KRISHNAYYA, POONA.
DR. G. ZACHARIAH, MADRAS.

President:
THE RT. REV. S. K. MONDOL,
HYDERABAD, DECCAN.

THE NATIONAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF INDIA

(Bharat Christya Sevak Samaj)

(ESTABLISHED 1905)

"Expect great things from God,
Attempt great things for God."

Hony. General Secretary:
DR. A. C. ABRAHAM.
Hony. Associate General Secretary:
DR. I. S. PETER.
Hony. Treasurer:
J. B. MASILLAMANI.

(Camp:) Tiruvallur ashram

Headquarters:
N. M. S. House,
Royapettah, Madras-14

My dear President Tiga,

I do earnestly believe that the Lord in His grace guided the Mahasabah to joyous results. I shall be thankful for any news that you or Mr Hoss can send me, at Tambaram. Re the meeting of the N.C.C. Executive Committee on the 30th, I am writing to the Secy N.C.C., of which I enclose a copy for your information

yesterday Dr Abraham, our Gen. Secy received a letter from Mr Pugh (Rev D. D. Pugh, Secy N.C.C. Kerala's Trace, Shillong) stating that the Tezpur Church's representatives will be on April 27, & the meeting of Acc on May 1-6. Dr A. C. Abraham has telegraphed Rev. Pugh accepting the dates proposed. a copy of his letter goes to you. Kindly keep yourself ready for these meetings. Confirm arrangements for your stay at Tezpur, & we shall ask Mr Pugh to arrange for your hospitality & accommodation, for which we may have to pay. He shall keep you informed.

I leave Bezwada by Janata on 24th morning and arrive at Calcutta on the 25th. We must arrange to fly from Calc. to Shillong & necessary to Tezpur. We shall be glad to receive your advice. We should arrange to buy the tickets upto Shillong or Tezpur. as Dr Abraham & I travel together from Bezwada, & yours from Calc. is different, we shall be under control of each other, but we should meet at the air Stations and travel by the same plane.

So, we may all request Mr S-K. Boaz, 1 Merlin Pauk Ballygunge, Calcutta to buy the tickets for us three. If return tickets are cheap, we must remit to him the full amount When you are in Assam, you should Convene the meeting of the L N M S Team of Investigation to meet at Tezpore a day or two after the Tezpore meeting of representatives of Convened Area leaders, Convened by the Assam CC officers. I would suggest that we meet on the 28th or 29th - so that we might be at Shillong on the 30th or the 1st.

So, these are my requests to you

1) Please Convene the L N M S Committee of Investigation ~~Assam~~ Gossner reps: Rev. Tuga, President Hoss, Vice Pres. Hemrom any other without extra cost for travel Ehenezer church: 1 Rev. M. Mozhany, Pankijali Mission Pankijali, Kamrup Dt. Gauhati Assam, 2 Mr. Thomas war Bosumatary Halugaon P.O. Goalpara (additional members) 3. Rev Westborg, do ... Halugaon P.O ~~Rev~~

I would like that the President of the Santal Church Council in Assam is also invited.

2) Kindly acknowledge receipt of this by return of post if possible. I am working this in a hurry to catch this days post. We look forward looking forward to seeing you on this important task of investigation.

Yours ever
L. S. Doraisamy
in charge of the Shahibganj Bahirpaver
Districts.

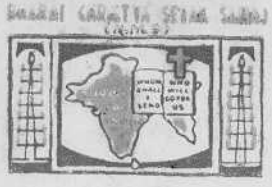
Replied 4/8/14

The Lutheran National Missionary Society of India

(Organised January 1916 and affiliated with the N.M.S.)

President Emeritus :
RAO SAHIB
THE REV. J. D. ASIRVADAM, M.A., L.T.
TAMBARAM, S. RY. TEL. NO. 80751. EXTN. 40

Treasurer :
PROF. D. T. CHIRANJIVI, M.A., M.ED.,
MESTON TRAINING COLLEGE,
ROYAPETTAH, MADRAS-14. TEL. 8184



"Expect great things from God :
Attempt great things for God."

President :
THE REV. G. DEVASAHAYAM, B.A., B.D., S.T.M.
CHURCH OFFICE, POST BOX 2.
GUNTUR.

Secretary :
THE REV. J. KUMARESAN, M.A., B.D.,
LIC.THEOL. (LUND).
9, THAMBUSAMY ROAD,
KILPAUK, MADRAS-10.

17th April 1957.

The Rev.J.J.P.Tiga,
President, Gossner Church,
Ranchi, Bihar.

Dear President Tiga,

After I mailed my letter to you on the 16th evening, the Treasurer called and handed over to me the sum of Rs.300/- being the travel advance to be passed on to you at Calcutta. As by sending a cheque or even a draft, the amount may not reach you in time, I am sending you a telegram on the 17th morning which reads as follows: I have today secured a D.D. in favour of the Treasr. G.E.L.C. for Rs 200/- which I shall send with another Rs 100/- being your travel advance & the balance Rs 200/- & Hubalance Rs 200/- I hope you will receive it at Calcutta.

"GOSSNER PRESIDENT TIGA with the request that my Hony Guest you are
RANCHI madrasadvance of Rs 200/- & Hubalance Rs 200/- I hope you will receive it at Calcutta.
SHALL DELIVER CALCUTTA TREASURER'S CASH 300 RECEIVED
Kindly send me a p.c. c/o Mr. J.P.David, Lalika College, Madras 13 to acknowledge receipt. ASIRVADAM"

I am sorry that as the A.C.C. Secretary's intimation reached rather late, we could not act more quickly as I was myself on tour interesting Missouri centres in our Shahdol and Balipara projects. If the intimation had come before I left on the 29th for the NMS Executive meeting, the Secretary could have arranged for the necessary authorisation and remittance to you. I do earnestly hope that you could make the necessary arrangements by taking an advance from the Treasury.

We have had no word from you as to when you will arrive. I have sent a tentative intimation to our Lutheran representatives in Assam about the possibility of a tentative meeting being convened by you at Tezpur and a formal meeting to be convened on the 4th or 5th immediately after the A.C.C. has acted on the NMS request in the light of the recommendation of the Tezpur Conference.

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It is very importaht that you should be with us at Tezpur. Dr.Abraham has asked Mr.N.K.Bose to buy air tickets for himself and me and I have suggested that as there is 10% discount for a return ticket, he could buy the return at least for the trip Calcutta to Gauhati and back I am not sure whether we should return to Gauhati before proceeding to Shillong and whether there is not a direct railway route from Tezpur to Shillong. As you know the travel situation in Assam, you will make the arrangements for yourself in the best way possible. I shall bevery happy to receive a letter to reach me c/o.Mrs.J.P.David, Lalita Cottage, Madras-13.by the 22nd. Any letter which you may post on Saturday might reach me in Madras on the 22nd; otherwise please write to me c/o.Mr.N.K.Bose, 1, Merlin Park, Ballygunj, Calcutta.

With cordial greetings to you and the Officers,

Yours sincerely,

J. D. Asirvadam

Tamberam 19.4.57

Dear Mr Tiga,

your letter 907/57 dated 8/13.4.57, bearing Ranchi postal mark 15th was received here on the 17th, at as D was away, I saw it only today. From Ketsas I mailed on the 17th a Bank draft on Ranchi Bank, State Bank in favour of the Treasurer, Jorsons E.L. Church – so that he might get it cashed for you even if you were away. Also I have no idea when you were leaving for Calcutta Tezpur, as I could be free the Jun Secy of Parliamentary Ketsas Janata on Thurs. the 25th at 7.45 a.m. Dr Abor. has asked Mr N Bora to put up both his and me, at as I felt sad as your movements were not known (The Jun Secy had received no intimation from you in reply to my letter) you will be independent of us – as you know both Calcutta & Tezpur well. Dr Abraham had booked his reserving plane to be made for 27th so that we arrive at Tezpur at 11.30 a.m. & thus be

The Rev. J. L. P. Tigga

Principal, Gossner Church,

Ranchi

(Bihar)

The Proprietors, or Treasurer
(Rev. J.J. Pigg or E.C. Trevor)
Sasonera Church Council,
Ranchi
(Bihar)

HARLOW
ESS.
16 OCT 36
2 30 P.M.

Read from Rev. Tiga on 16.10.56

Guntur 16/10/56

Lutheran N. M. S.

President Emeritus:
RAO SAHIB
THE REV. J. D. ASIRVADAM,
TAMBARAM, S. RY. TEL. NO. 80751, EXTN. 40

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The President, Gossner Church.

Date 9-10-56

Dear Rev. Tiga,

I was hoping that you would have received earlier than the Bombay Mail arrived on the 6th as noticed. Rev. Bezzenbrand was already at Lee Memorial and he waited till the 8th afternoon. I had intimated in good time my programme - Nagpur Sept 28-30. Rewa Oct 1-5 and Calcutta Oct 6-8. As Rev Devasahayam could not arrive even on the 9th I had no guidance to arrive on the 9th so that we could finish our work by the evening of 10th morning. We had a meeting at Rev Torwick's place at 4 p.m. today, and besides discussing Ted. Comm. arrangements, I noted certain suggestions made by the three Calcutta members 1. a united service in English at 9 a.m. & Rev Devadas agreed to adopt the Tamil Telugu services to 6 p.m.

2. Andhra-Tamil Congregation's application for application was to the Federation

3. Having the Hindi services at the usual time 1.30 p.m. in the same place as the Telugu-Tamil Congregation's place of worship. Rev. Devadas stated his Committee would be agreeable.

In the hope that you and Rev. Das would arrive on the 9th, I am extending my stay by a day and shall leave on Wed. morning.

I learnt from Rev Sorg that you were at Allahabad telegraphed only about the 3rd. inst. being at Calcutta. Every day he has been expecting word from you as to when you would arrive. On the night of the 6th, the telegram from Ranchi dated 5th came your departure was delivered to me by Mr Sorg's messenger. He must have got it after he had left home to meet my train at Howrah.

It was a great pity that I had cancelled our passage by the Serapis when invitations for L.N.M.S. workers, meeting from after the meeting of the Calc. Work Co. at Rev Ker's - we were ~~not~~ going to the N.C.C. mtg, I was asked to read Ranchi. But in view of your telegram & in Consultation with Rev Sorg I am planning to spend the time at Tahamagar.

The 2nd Secy says that the J.B.L.C Exc. mtg. be given at 2 p.m. on the 18th. So there may not be time for our Calc. Committee to meet on the 17th: if so I & Rev Sec^{ry} Committees by the 17th forenoon. also the L.M.M.S Exec. Has our Mission & Rev Sec^{ry} and we to meet the two Board representatives at Calcutta. We could have a meeting in Kerr on the 17th afternoon or evening or on 18th forenoon. Kindly write to me from Allahabad when you plan to arrive at Calcutta from Allahabad. You may please address me c/o Rev Sorg.

Rev Sorg & Rev Sewdas are arranging for a Committee lunch & tea at the Wellesley Square Church Hall. They are willing to provide Christian dinners to all, & they are willing to reserve in the same hall. & numerous Sahib's among guardians may have in Kerr who wish to pay for supper, tea & food dinners - in addition to the two Committee meals.

Further you arrive at Calc. on the 9th, I shall have forward to meeting you on the 17th on your return from Allahabad I hope I could get news of your son. I had asked for Rs 150 for the Assam Mission money to meet travel expenses for Rev Rosabury & Mr Boswell to Ranchi. With Cordial greetings,

Yours truly

J. A.

If you had written Com. Chairman of the meeting, I could have given or wired notice for the N.M.S. field, & Mr Boyce - I also need not have come. Hoping Come on 6th acc. to your notice on 7 meeting, we have done as little, but the full Com- must meet on 17th or 18th forenoon. Wire Rev Boyce - & when we shall arrive. I shall be back on 17th.

No.9, Thambuswamy Road, Madras-10
29th September 1956.

THE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE:

Herewith I am sending the Minutes of the Lutheran N.M.S. Executive that met in Madras on 22nd September. Please intimate any corrections or alterations before the 5th of October. If any no intimation is received till the 5th proximo, may I take it that you have given your approval to the minutes which will then be finalized and sent to the members of the Council.

J.Kumaresan
Secretary, L.N.M.S.

Minutes of the meeting of the Lutheran N.M.S. Executive held at the Fabricius High School, Vepery, Madras on Saturday the 22nd September 1956.

There were present: The Rev. G. Devasahayam (in the Chair)
The Rev. N. Daniel
Prof. D.T. Chiranjivi
Prof. N. Isaac
The Rev. J. Kumaresan
in

The President Emeritus was present on/vitation. The Rev. J.J.P. Tiga and the Rev.A.C.Kondpan could not be present.

FIRST SESSION: 9-12.30 P.M. SECOND SESSION: 1-3 P.M. THIRD SESSION:5-6

Devotions: The devotions were conducted by the President, who based his thoughts on 1 Thes. 5,17 "Pray without ceasing". He referred to the General Secretary's Call to Prayer and its emphasis on the need for prayer to realise God's power in our life and ministry.

1. Minutes: (a) Read minutes of the Council dated 14th April 1956. Recorded.

(b) Officers' meeting dated 3.6.1956: They were read item by item and confirmed with the following amendments: 1000 copies of the larger letterhead to be printed instead of 500.

2. Conference with Dr.Ramabai Gopal: Minutes of the meeting of the Sub-Committee which met at Chirala on 29th July 1956 were read item by item. Welcoming the medical project so essential for the success of our work, it was RESOLVED that a leaflet be prepared to state the imperative need for undertaking this large task without any delay. The financial implications of this medical work and especially the larger contributions from individual Churches to make this possible should be outlined and an earnest appeal should be made to every Church to accept this vital medical project to carry out successfully our long accepted missionary responsibility for the former Rewa State and to pledge the apportioned additional money needed

The following recommendations of the Committee are approved:

RESOLVED (i) that the L.N.M.S. request the A.E.L.C. to lend the services of Dr. Ramabai Gopal for service as medical missionary to the Sehdol District of old Rewa State from 1st June 1957.

(ii) that it be recommended to the A.E.L.C. that her services as missionary in the L.N.M.S. Field be reckoned as service in the Church in respect of the arrangements for refund of study loan.

(iii) that Dr.Gopal's actual salary on the agreed scale of Rs.225-15-400 be the same as what she would draw at the time of her transfer to the N.M.S. service.

Further RESOLVED that steps be taken to get a statement of needs in regard to equipment worked out at a conference of Dr.Zigler and Dr.Ramabai Gopal, if possible along with the President, or President Emeritus when he visits Rajahmundry on his return from Calcutta meetings.

3. Transfer of accounts: The Treasurer reported that the former Treasurer handed over charge to him at the time of the audit on 13th July 1956 and that he has taken over responsibility for the Treasurer's work from that day.

4. Audited Statement of 1955 Accounts: The Treasurer presented the audited statement which were recorded (Appendix I).

5. Half-yearly Account: The Treasurer presented the first half-yearly statement of receipts and payments and also a statement of receipts during the current quarter.

6. Publication of Accounts: (a) L.M.M.S. Accounts: RESOLVED that the L.M.M.S. accounts for 1954 and 1955 be published along with a report for the years 1954-56 and such reprints from the N.M.I. and the Gospel Witness as may be taken in the meanwhile.

(b) The Executive heard with satisfaction that details for receipts are published in the two Tamil journals ARUNODAYAM and the CHURCH MESSENGER for the T.E.L.C. and the A.L.C. respectively. RESOLVED to request Prof. N. Isaac as Chairman of the M.M.S. Committee of the A.E.L.C. to arrange for the publication of the details of receipts from A.E.L.C. and S.A.L.C. sources every year or every biennium. In regard to North India a similar publication will be needed in each Church paper if they take an increasing share in the support of the work.

7. Assam Border Mission: The President Emeritus made a report on developments since he reported at the Council meeting. In reply to the M.M.S. request to the Churches of Assam and to the Assam Christian Council that they agree to the proposal of the Calcutta Exploratory meeting of October 1955 that West Kalipara be assigned as M.M.S. field, the Assam Christian Council has stated that the Council had instructed the A.C.C. Executive to convene a conference of representatives of the M.M.S. and the concerned Churches to consider this problem. The North Bank Baptist Mission which has work among the Naflas in the Brahmaputra Valley have desired a conference with the M.M.S. representatives to come to a proper understanding regarding the work. In addition to the A.C.C. sponsored conference to be held later, efforts are being made to have a meeting at Calcutta between Lutheran representatives including Boro members with representatives of the North Bank Baptists. This effort has been commended both by the Bishop of Assam and Rev.Wilbur S.Sorley, Chairman of the Committee of Comity on behalf of the North Bank Baptists.

RESOLVED that the proposed meeting of Lutheran M.M.S. representatives with North Bank Baptists and others at Calcutta when the President Emeritus, the President and Rev.Tiga would be at Calcutta about the 20th of October be approved and that the recommendation that the travel and other expenses of the two Boro members of the Team of Investigation deducting contribution paid by the President of the Boro Church Council be met from the Assam Border Mission account.

Further RESOLVED that a separate account be opened for the Assam Border Mission and that the Treasurer draw from the L.W.F. Financial Secretary, the sum of Rs.500/- on this account. It was further reported that so far the following amounts have been drawn from the L.W.F. Financial Secretary: Rs.100/- as an advance for the exploratory meeting at Calcutta last October and Rs.300/- for the expenses of Rev.Tiga's Team of Investigation. RESOLVED that Rs.100/- drawn on account of the Calcutta meeting last year be entered into Assam Border account as receipt and payment.

8. A.E.L.C. Treasury Reference: Read letter of the A.E.L.C. Treasurer to President C. Devasahayam dated July 24 referring to a debit balance of Rs.7,654/- on M.M.S. account on A.E.L.C. books. RESOLVED to request the A.E.L.C. Treasurer for details as to how this 'debit balance' has arisen in their books. Further RESOLVED that Prof. N. Isaac be requested to confer with the A.E.L.C. Treasurer about this matter and make a report to the Executive.

9. M.M.S. Sunday Arrangements: The Secretary reported that this year the English, Tamil and Telugu copies of the M.M.S. Call to Prayer as well as the L.M.M.S. printed circular and L.M.M.S. Prayer Topics have been distributed to the various Churches by the 15th of September in the hope that the Presidents' circulars could reach the pastors etc. in time for announcements being made to the congregations on the last two Sundays (23rd and 30th) in September. Miss Sircar later reported that Hindi copies would not be available, and that she would send 100 copies to Gossner instead of 200.

10. Niyogi Report: The memorandum drafted by Rev.J.C.Asirvadam on behalf of the Sub-Committee was read. The Committee appreciated the presentation of the issues and RESOLVED that it be endorsed by the Executive Committee and published in the Gospel Witness and the N.M.I. embodying a few suggestions made by the Committee. A copy is to be sent to the N.C.C.

11. Field Matters: (a) Bijni: It was reported that this evangelistic centre was opened on July 8th, Hagenbalg Jubilee Day, when Sudharam, a trusted former worker was installed as evangelist.

(b) The requests from Rev.Raymond Martin were considered and the following grants were made: (i) Rs.306.12.6 to meet the travel to and fro for the wife and confinement expences: (ii) Rs.43.5.0 to meet the second travel to Rev.Raymond Martin to take his wife back to the field. (iii) A loan of Rs.200/- is sanctioned to be repaid in instalments of Rs.25/-p.m.

(c) Murwahi area: (i) The Treasurer is authorised to pay the amounts needed for repairing the Usad School and the Murwahi house as soon as possible this year, as these sanctioned items could not be undertaken because of early rains.

(ii) With a view to locate a second evangelist at Barar the repair of the house at Barar for a sum up to Rs.100/- is agreed to, the payment to be made only after receipt of an estimate.

The new evangelist will be paid Rs.30/- per month.

(iii) Repair of wells at Usad and Barar shall be undertaken in March or April.

(iv) Murwahi Night School: The school recently opened at Murwahi with the help of Kandulna is receiving all the help given by the Madhya Pradesh Government for such schools.

(v) Leave for Murwahi workers: Leave granted by Mrs.Krupadanam to her workers will be reported to the Kotma missionary who shall submit a consolidated statement of leave granted to the Secretary once in six months.

12. Visit to the field: The Executive welcomes a visit to the field of the President Emeritus with the General Secretary on October 1-5, and of the President at a time suitable to him. The following matters are referred to them for their advice: (a) Relationship between Kotma and Murwahi; (b) Kotma buildings (c) Sahdol work (d) Questions regarding leave to workers (e) watchman's allowances for Kotma and Murwahi.

13. Study Help: (a) RESOLVED to sanction Rs.100/- as help to Ophir for his fourth College year's study in 1955-56.

(b) The youth of Saint Matthew's Church, Guntur have voted a sum of Rs.40/- to be given to Mrs.B.J.Krupadanam in appreciation of the services of the Rev.B.J.Krupadanam. RESOLVED to thank the youth for this gift and to make it available for John Krupadanam now at Sagar University as book help.

14. Provident Fund: The Treasurer reported that the following loans have been paid: Rs.250/- to Tr.Sarin; Rs.263/- to Mr.D.Devapriam.

15. Surguja: (a) Read minutes 6/-27.7.1956 and recorded.

(b) The following members were appointed to serve as a committe to re-study the relationship of the L.M.M.S. to the Surguja Board: President Emeritus, President, Treasurer and Mr.N.Isaac(Convener)

16. Deputation: (a) Sahdol Project:The following are requestedto help at their conferances or areas (i) A.L.C: Miss E. Lillelund: (ii) Tamil MLC: President Emeritus: (iii)S.A.L.C: The Treasurer: (iv) A.E.I C: Prof.N.Isaac: (v) Jeypore MLC: Prof.N.Isaac.

(b) Visit to the Northern Churches: In connection with his visit to Calcutta, the President Emeritus is requested to visit the Cossmar Church and if possible the Ebenezar Church.

(c) Regional Conferences in each Church area: RESOLVED to request the N.M.S. Committees of individual Churches to seek to promote deeper knowledge of, and interest in, our N.M.S. work among the Church members by holding regional conferences from time to time.

17. N.M.S: (a) More vital contact with the work of the N.M.S. as a whole: With a view to bring the Church members into closer relationship with the inter-denominational Area Committees, it was RESOLVED to commend to the congregations of our supporting Churches that congregations enrol as collective members by paying regularly an annual subscription and sending one representative each to serve on the Area Committee. (vide article VI 6 b & d. Functions of the Branch are detailed inVI7).

(b) VOTED Rs.100/- as a contribution for the publication of the NMS

18. The report of the Committee on L.M.M.S. Relationships: Read recommendations of the meeting held at 4 P.M. on 23.9.1956. RESOLVED to accept them and to forward the same to the Secretary, F.E.L.C. to be placed before the F.E.L.C. Executive that meets at Calcutta and also to the General Secretary in view of this matter coming up for discussion at the Nagpur meeting of the N.M.S. Executive.

The meeting ended with prayer by the President Emeritus.

Madras-10 (
28.9.1956 (

J. KUMARESAN,
Secretary

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & EXPENSES OF L.N.M.S. FOR THE YEAR 1955.

BUDGET 1955 RECEIPTS.

Credit Balance		Rs.1693	5	9		
Contribution from Churches		14639	8	7		
Field Income		721	2	3	Rs.17054	0 7
SPECIALS						
Typewriter		100	0	0		
Land		41	14	4		
Sale of Muli Property		123	2	0		
Kotma Building		7562	11	1		
Sahdol		500	0	0	8327	11 5
					25381	12 0

BUDGET 1955 PAYMENTS

Salaries and Allowances		8715	0	0		
Field Incidentals & Travel		996	4	6		
House Rent		648	0	0		
Repairs		30	11	0		
Equipments		433	13	0		
Medicine		70	5	3		
Official and Deputation		1422	6	0		
Bank Charges		89	6	0		
Study Help		660	12	0		
N.M.S. History		200	0	0		
Contribution to P.F.		296	14	0	13563	7 9
SPECIALS						
Kotma Buildings		7973	13	0		
Kotma land		500	0	0		
P.F.loan		100	0	0	8573	13 0
					22137	4 9
	Credit Balance.				3244	7 3
					25381	12 0

BALANCE AS ON DECEMBER 31, 1955.

Credit.					Debit			
Budget	Rs.3490	8	10	Kotma Building & land	746	1	7
Typewriter	100	0	0	P.F.Loan (to be collected from P.F.)	100	0	0
Sahdol	500	0	0	Credit Balance.	3244	7	3
Total.	4090	8	10		4090	8	10

Rs.2000/- to be transferred to Kotma Building Fund Account.

Audited and found correct.

sd: J.Paulus
" D.T. Chiranjivi.

/true copy/

Minutes of the Meeting of the L.M.M.S. Committee on Relationships held at the Fabricius High School, Purasawalkam, Madras at 4 P.M. on 22nd September 1956.

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There were present: The Rev. G. Devasahayam (in the Chair)
Miss K. Sircar
Prof. D.T. Chiranjivi
The Rev. J.D. Asirvadam
The Rev. J. Ramaresan

The following were present on invitation: Mr. M. Devasahayam
Prof. M. Isaac
The Rev. M. Daniel

The meeting began with prayer by Miss Sircar. This Committee was appointed by the L.M.M.S. Council at its meeting on April 14, 1956 with a view to study the question of relationship of the L.M.M.S. with the M.M.S. on the one hand and with individual Churches of the F.E.L.C. and the F.E.L.C. on the other.

The Chairman appointed by the L.M.M.S. could not be present at this meeting and had authorised the Secretary to convene this meeting. The memorandum on the subject was tentatively discussed with the Chairman, Bishop Manikam by two of the members. In the light of this consultation, the Secretary had issued a memorandum to all the members of the Committee and the Executive Committee members for their careful study. The memorandum was discussed in detail and Miss Sircar raised several questions with reference to the M.M.S. relationship. In the light of the discussion, the following recommendations were made:-

1. Relationship with the M.M.S.

(a) The Committee emphasised the basic relationship of the L.M.M.S. with the M.M.S. and is of the opinion that the L.M.M.S. work is a part of the total task of the M.M.S. The L.M.M.S. like the Evangelistic Association of the Mar Thoma Church is however an autonomous body, and is affiliated with the M.M.S. on the basis of a definite agreement.

(b) The L.M.M.S. during these forty years has grown in experience both with reference to the administration of the work in the field and with reference to its contacts with the congregations and other supporting members and groups. On this account the M.M.S. has in its revised Constitution made the Mar Thoma and Lutheran fields in a very large measure autonomous in the work, and on account of full autonomy in regard to finance granted in Dec.1950, no financial question goes to the M.M.S. for its approval. But the L.M.M.S. like the Mar Thoma Association greatly values the wider Christian fellowship of the M.M.S. as an All India inter-denominational missionary society with its earnest concern for the total missionary task of the Church in India.

(c) More and more the M.M.S. feels that it should become the arm of every Church in India. The Lutheran M.M.S. is the one managing body of an M.M.S. field which has not only an integral connection with the Church which along with the Syrian Church responded very early to the M.M.S. Call but it has succeeded in making the M.M.S. have its deep roots in every congregation. Thereby it may in God's Providence open the way to the future pattern for the M.M.S. to promote missionary concern and interest within every organised Church.

2. Relationship with the F.E.L.C: The contact of the L.M.M.S. with individual supporting Churches has been not only intimate but also organic. The Churches appoint their Presidents and/or other outstanding missionary-minded representatives to direct the administration, and also they have the responsibility to raise the budget needed for the work according to an agreed apportionment. But so far, the F.E.L.C. has desired that the L.M.M.S. should stand as an autonomous body composed of elected representatives of the supporting Churches. The L.M.M.S. has, however, reported at every Triennial

Conference, and at other Federation meetings from time to time and has received and acted on advice on important issues, e.g., the Revised Constitution was adopted in consultation with the Presidents of the Federation Churches and the F.E.L.C. Our financial autonomy was arranged on definite advice given by the F.E.L.C. at its Ranchi meeting in 1947. The L.E.M.S. has throughout enjoyed the full moral and spiritual backing of the F.E.L.C. and its predecessor the All India Lutheran Conference. The L.E.M.S. welcomes any advice of the F.E.L.C. as to desirable developments to deepen our bonds without prejudice to relationship No.1. The Committee suggests that the L.E.M.S. request the F.E.L.C. to invite one of its representatives as an official delegate of the L.E.M.S. to the Triennial Conference. The L.E.M.S., it is understood, was a constituent body at the organisational meeting of the F.E.L.C. in 1936.

At this stage the Committee re-constituted itself as the L.E.M.S. Executive and proceeded with its work.

J. KUMARESAN.
Secretary

Madras-10 |
23.9.1956 |

The L.E.M.S. Executive action on the above report:

The Report on L.E.M.S. Relationships: Read recommendations of the meeting of the Committee on Relationships held at 4 P.M. on 22nd Sep.'56 (vide Minute 7 of the L.E.M.S. Council dated 14th April 1956). RESOLVED to accept the recommendations of the Committee and forward the same to the Secretary, F.E.L.C. to be placed before the F.E.L.C. Executive that meets at Calcutta next month, and also to the General Secretary in view of this matter being on the agenda for the Nagpur meeting of the E.M.S. Executive on September 28-30.

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THE NIYOGI REPORT.

This report has received very wide publicity throughout India. The report indicates an extreme view regarding missionary work in India, and large sections of the Indian population are far more tolerant and would by no means desire to restrict missionary work in India. Though this may represent only a minority attitude, the criticisms offered in the report is a call to the Church to clarify (i) what its objectives are and (ii) how to avoid any cause for misunderstanding even by those who are rather antipathetic. From the point of view of the Lutheran M.M.S. we have also to consider the particular criticisms that have been offered in regard to the work that the Lutheran M.M.S. initiated and though it is now under the Surguja Board which functions under the auspices of the F.E.L.C., the Lutheran M.M.S. through its President and through its missionary are playing a significant role in the administration of the work side by side with representatives of the Gossner Church and the U.L.C. Mission.

1. Our Objective: The task of the Church is given us by our Master Himself, viz. to bring the new life that is offered in Jesus Christ to all nations and all races. India has always been hospitable to all religions and the continued existence through many centuries of Christians, Jews and later Parsis is an unmistakable testimony to the catholicity of outlook of the Hindu population. The Christian claim is that the revelation of God in Christ, who died for us and rose again offers all men forgiveness of sins, the life of victory and the power to serve men in love and sacrifice. The Christian view does not accept the Indian thesis that all religions lead to the same goal, and that causes a strain in relation to the adherents of other religions in India. The attitude of our present secular Government has been expressed with clarity and definiteness by Shri Vallabhbhai Patel (vide P.153 of the Report). He concedes the right of Christians to propagate the Christian religion, but all that he is concerned about is that those who are Christians should work for the well-being and prosperity of our land. Judged from this point of view the Christian community by and large has been thoroughly nationalistic. Christians in India are as proud of their citizenship as any other class of people. It is in regard to this matter that the report seeks to create a good deal of controversy and the arguments advanced by the report in Chapter III of Part I that the West is trying to obtain world domination and that the ecumenic movement within the Christian Church endangers the national interests of India is a thoroughly untenable position and vitiates all its conclusions and recommendations in Part IV.

In the first place we would like to state as the definite objective of the Church in India that it stands for a sharing of the good life brought by Jesus Christ with every one. The Bible stands for a person's wholehearted commitment to the Lord so that his character may be transformed by fellowship with the living Christ. It is this biblical standard that judges every action of the Church and every method that its adherents may use. The Bible stands for real conversion, turning to Christ as the one in whom pardon and peace and the power of a victorious life could be obtained without this conviction the Christian religion cannot be the power that it can be.

A distinction is often made between proselytisation and conversion using the former expression to change of religion for unworthy ends. But the Niyogi Report does not concede the possibility of conversion, and labels all conversion as a change of religion with worldly motives. There have been outstanding instances of people who have given up everything for the sake of Christ, not merely converts from the educated high caste communities, but also from the middle and lower classes. In the history of the Tranquebar Mission and so of every other Mission, there have been xxxxx notable personalities even from humble life who have been so overwhelmed by the reality of their religious experience and the greatness of the change wrought in them that they were able to witness to others and lead them into the Church. Pandita Rama Bai, Sadhu Sunda

Singh, Kali Charan Banerji, Dr. Ansari and Prof. M. Sirajuddin are all irrefutable instances of coming to Christ making great sacrifices. In the mass movement areas, the objective of the Church has been to present Jesus as the one who will deliver them from their sinful lives, from fear and anxiety, from habits of drink etc. and usually such have often been drawn by the life and witness of other Christian people, and though the desire for social and moral uplift has also been there, we have to affirm that the primary impulse of the Christian evangelist has been to present Jesus Christ as the Saviour of men. When He is accepted as such, more instruction is given so that the entrants into the Church through baptism can grow in Christian faith and experience.

The programme of the Church is essentially a religious programme. It calls every individual who has entered the new life of fellowship with Christ to share his blessings with others and bring cheer and happiness and the fulness of life to all their fellowmen. The vitalizing force in a believer's service to his fellowmen is an outflow of his religious life. Without this fundamental experience, there can be no missionary service. In all humanitarian activities of the Church, the primary motive has been love in answer to the divine love that men have experienced.

The Christian who seeks to serve through education or medical aid throws himself into his task with devotion and where his service has brought cheer and happiness and a deeper insight into the problems and responsibilities of life, the good result has been his reward. When Dr. Albert Schweitzer sits by the African patient who in gratitude looks up to him, he tells him that it was the love of Jesus Christ that has sent him to Africa and this witness is an inevitable part of a Christian's witnessing life

Financial help from abroad: The Church in India has undertaken enormous tasks in the field of education, medical relief etc. and Christians being a small minority community drawn chiefly from poorer classes have been helped by money given voluntarily by fellow-Christians abroad. Many devoted Christians of the West have considered the money that they send to India as something that they are constrained to give because Christ wants them to serve not only their own advanced nations but also the underprivileged. When America offers financial aid to Government or certain national health and educational programmes, India does not decline these gifts provided they are given in a disinterested way without any strings attached to it, and the broad fact is that the poor millions of India have profited enormously by these financial gifts that have come from the west. Truly, as Dr. Harekrushna Mahtab, Governor of Bombay has put it, any opposition to this help "was a disservice to the unsophisticated people whom we profess to serve" and he would commend more such work being undertaken even by other religionists...."There should be competition between religions in their generosity towards the poor and whoever is capable of helping the poor should hold the field." The picture will however be incomplete if it is not.

The Constitution: Along with their fellow-citizens of other religions, Indian Christians are proud of the Indian Constitution. The Christian community has been thankful for the generous appreciation by the leaders of the Congress Party of their identification as a community with the nation in its struggle for freedom. The Christian community did not seek to put a spoke in the wheel, but on the contrary availed itself of every opportunity to urge the Churches in the West to do justice by India. The religious 'right to profess, preach and propagate' given to all citizens is one of the glorious elements in our Constitution, and we as Christians deeply appreciate this privilege. Though a minority community, Christians have conscientiously stood for national interests. Any attempt to counter the noble spirit of the Constitution would not only let down a loyal section of the nation, but

also detract from the flory of the nation.

Methods of Evangelism: Everything that the Church has done has been done openly. The biblical demand for true conversion has always been put forward and methods have had to be adapted to the different levels of the people. But the Church has always done its work in a spirit of love and compassion for the poor and the handicapped and also in a spirit of true service to equip the sons and daughters of India to play their part in the home, in society and in public life worthily.

How to avoid cause for misunderstanding: The Niyogi Report reflects the view of the ultra-orthodox section of the majority community, who fail to appreciate the great benefits of Christian missionary activities in various fields of social, educational and moral uplift.

A criticism which not merely the Niyogi Report but even Christians have advanced against themselves is that having on account of caste rigour been driven out of Hinduism, the Christian community became in some ways anisolated community. Whereas Christians in China, Japan and similar lands have not been ostracised by their relatives, Christians in India have not been so fortunate, and on that account the Christians have in a large measure found themselves separated from the main cultural currents of the majority community, and the Church fellowship brought them into closer contact with foreign missionaries, who have appreciably moulded their outlook and tastes. This isolation and the consequent foreignness is regretted by the thoughtful on both sides and both have to work together for remedying this unsatisfactory situation. Still from the very beginning there has been a persistent effort on the part of Indian Christian Bakthas as well as discerning foreign missionaries to relate the message of Jesus Christ to the Indian environment, especially in regard to music and literature. In Tamil we have two great classics one composed by Father Beschi, Thumbavani, and the other by a national, K.A. Krishna Pillai of Palayamkottai, Rakshanya Yatrigam. Also Christian lyrics set to Indian ragams have always had a place in the worship of the Church. Still very much more needs to be done to make Church life more germane to the soil.

Missionary work in Surguja: Reading through the report, a few things become clear in regard to the work in Surguja. It was the success of Missionary Krupadanam's work in Surguja that led the ex-Maharajah and others to create a great agitation against Christian missionaries and the work of Christian evangelists in villages, the main force of evangelists in the early days having been Gossner evangelists who gave their service free for 3 months at a time. Instead of condemning the incitement by responsible leaders to attack and harrass Christian preachers, the report defends their action. We have every reason to be thankful for the work that has been initiated by the Lutheran M.M.S. in this area. From the very beginning, emphasis has been laid on proper instruction and this instruction is given not only by word my of mouth but also through Uraon songs which appeal to their emotion and strengthens their will to eschew evil and to follow that is good. Our workers have always stressed that coming to Jesus means to be holy as God is holy, and to give up whatever has been evil in their past life including the drink habit and live a clean life in body, mind and spirit. One wonders how these illiterate people once having committed themselves to Christ have stood loyally by their decision. Some have not only been molested but have had broken heads, and limbs bandaged. They were persecuted in many ways. The report admits one of Rev. Krupadanam's contentions, namely, that in Surguja and Raigarh they heard complaints of ~~Exxisxkxxx~~ harrassment of Christians by the people and by officials. Not a single case is mentioned of conviction or even any warning in the report against the Christians

within the jurisdiction of the N.M.S. missionary. It is noteworthy that not a single person in belonging to the Lutheran Church of Surguja is mentioned in the reportof having misbehaved or been punished.

The Surguja work had to be taken away from the N.M.S. and the L.N.M.S. administration and put under a special Board under the auspices of the Lutheran Federation of Churches, because the policy of the N.M.S. is to build up missionary work with Indian money and Indian personnel. The Board of 6 members of whom the L.N.M.S. President is the Chairman and the N.M.S. missionary is the Executive Officer for all work in the field, has tried to ensure that things were done strictly on evangelical lines, and also in purely legitimate ways. The N.M.S. Missionary of Surguja from the very beginning had set his heart on training indigenous leaders who would go back to the villages and carry on honorary work. His aim was to build up church life progressively on indigenous leadership and local responsibility for congregational administration.

A blessing in disguise: Not a single thing happens to the Church which on a proper approach in humility and self-examination does not turn out as a blessing to the Church. This report, it may be noted with thankfulness, has set Christians thinking. On the one hand the Church needs to do much more than it has so far done to take over financial responsibility for Christian activities in the land. In spite of earnest striving and remarkable achievements, the Church should push forward with greater determination in this matter and this report spurs us on to a deeper sense of stewardship. On the other there is a growing feeling that any gulf between Christians and the rest of the community in social and cultural matters should be bridged by efforts on both sides. The great efforts of the nation to build up a secular state and socialistic pattern of society is an immediate challenge to all Christians to throw themselves in a spirit of constructive love to work for a unified pattern of society in India.

J.D. ASIRVADAM
On behalf of the L.N.M.S. Committee appointed
on the initiative of the President and Secretary.

Tambaram, I
27.9.1956 I

Minutes of the Meeting of the Lutheran N.M.S. Council held at "Gurukul", Madras-10 on 8th January 1957.

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Members present: The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, President Emeritus
The Rev.G.Devasahayam, President (in the Chair)
The Rev.J.Kumaresan, Secretary
Prof.D.T.Chiranjivi, Treasurer
The Rev.E.Raman, President, M.Pr. E.L.C.
The Rev.A.C.Kondpan, President, J.E.L.C.
Prof.N.Isaac, A.E.L.C.
The Rev.K.J.Williams, S.A.L.C.
The Rev.N.Daniel, Arcot Lutheran Church
Miss B.V.Subbamma, Ladies' Auxiliary
Mr.M.Devasahayam, T.E.L.C.(pending election of the second member).

Dr.A.C.Abraham, General Secretary, N.M.S. attended the meeting on invitation as a visitor.

Apologies of absence were received from Bishop R.B.Manikam, Dr.(Mrs) R.B.Manikam (Chairman, Ladies' Audiliary), the Rev.Chinna David and Dr.A.N.Gopal.

Forenoon Session - 9.30 - 12.30 :: Afternoon Session - 2.30 - 5

DEVOTIONS: Devotions were conducted by the Rev.G.Devasahayam, who based his thoughts on the text: "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (Lk.12,34).

The President warmly welcomed the General Secretary to take part in the discussions and expressed his satisfaction that in the absence of Dr.(Mrs) R.B.Manikam, President of the Auxiliary, Miss B.V. Subbamma could be present. The General Secretary brought greetings from the parent body and reported on recent efforts to widen the evangelistic activities in their old fields in North Arcot.

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS: The following minutes were confirmed:

(a)	L.N.M.S. Council, Madras dated	14. 4.1956
(b)	Officers' Meeting, Madras "	3. 6.1956
(c)	L.N.M.S. Executive, Madras "	22. 9.1956
(d)	L.N.M.S. Executive, Madras "	24.11.1956

2. AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION: The following amendment to the Constitution of which notice was given at the last meeting was passed unanimously. Under 'Members of Council (a) Elected' addition '(iii) A representative elected by the L.N.M.S. Women's Auxiliary.'

3. LADIES' AUXILIARY - (a) Secretary: On the proposal of the Secretary in consultation with the Chairman of the Women's Auxiliary, Miss B.V. Subbamma was appointed Secretary pro tem till the Auxiliary meets and elects its Officers according to the Constitution now in force.

(b) Representation on the Council: Pending election by the Auxiliary, Miss Subbamma as Secretary of the Women's Auxiliary was accepted as member of Council in the absence of the President.

4. NOMINATION COMMITTEE: The following Committee was appointed to bring in nominations to be voted on at the afternoon session:

Prof. N. Isaac (Convener)
The Rev. E. Raman and
The Rev. N. Daniel.

5. SECRETARY'S REPORT: The printed report presented to the eleventh F.E.L.C. Triennial Conference at Renigunta on 5th Jan.1957, of which copies were given to the members, was taken as read. Recorded.

6. AUDITED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT: The audited statement of accoun for 1955 was received and recorded. (Vide pages 19 to 20 of the printed report).

7. 1956 ACCOUNTS: (a) A tentative statement presented by the Treasurer was received.

(b) Auditors: RESOLVED to appoint Mr.M.Devasahayam and Mr.J.S. Masillamani, Treasurer, N.M.S. as auditors.

8. BUDGET FOR 1957: The budget as presented by the Treasurer was adopted.

9. CONTRIBUTIONS FROM CHURCHES: RESOLVED that negotiations for contributions from Churches be undertaken jointly by the President Emeritus and the Treasurer.

10. KOTMA BUILDINGS: The action of the Lutheran N.M.S. Executive at its meeting dated 24th November was considered. It was RESOLVED that on receipt of (a) building accounts prior to last November (b) a report on construction since the Executive action in November and (c) a clear statement of the exact requirements to complete the construction of the larger house, Rs.1,000/- be sent as second instalment.

11. SHAHDOL MEDICAL WORK - (a) Preparatory Work: Executive action regarding the establishment of medical work in Shahdol in June 1957 and the preparatory steps therefor is confirmed.

(b) Recurring Expenses: An estimate of Rs.1,000/- per month will become the normal expenditure as the work progresses in the course of this year.

(c) Non-recurring Expenses: The Council notes with thankfulness the action of the A.E.L.C. Executive in appealing to the Church hospitals to contribute in kind and conveys its thanks to the A.E.L.C., as well as to the three donors referred to in the printed report viz. the A.L. Conference, Vadatherasalur N.M.S. Group, and the Women's Association at Tiruchirappalli. RESOLVED to make similar appeals to Church hospitals in other areas and also solicit special donations to provide the needed equipment.

12. ASSAM BORDER WORK: The President Emeritus reported on the steps so far taken and read action of the N.M.S. Executive appointing a delegation of three members to visit Assam to meet the representatives of concerned Churches and also to attend a meeting of the Assam Christian Council to be held in May 1957. After the N.M.S. proposal to assign West Balipara as L.N.M.S. Field is accepted by the Assam Christian Council, the Rev.J.J.P. Tiga and the Rev.J.D. Asirvadam together with the other members of the Team of Investigation will send definite proposals regarding the work to be started.

13. ENROLMENT OF MONTHLY SUBSCRIBERS: In view of the growing need not only of medical work, recurring and non-recurring, but also of the need for expanding evangelistic work in the whole of Shahdol District, and also in view of the proposed Himalayan Border work, which is eliciting much interest from all the Churches, and notably from the Gossner and Ebenezer Churches, it is necessary to seek a progressive source of income, and this effort initiated by the Executive shall be continued.

14. WORK AMONG THE CHURCHES - (a) Gossner/Ebenezer Churches: As the President and the President Emeritus who had been invited by the Gossner Officers to visit Ranchi in connection with the Federation Executive meeting at Calcutta last October could not do so, and as President O.S. Bjerkestrand had suggested that a visit to his Church should be prepared well in advance, it was RESOLVED that the President Emeritus on his way to Assam arrange to visit these two Churches.

(b) Jeypore: Prof.N.Isaac who could not visit the field in December is requested to visit the field, if possible, in April, and that the offer of the Gurukul student Benu be accepted and that his travel expenses within the field during his summer vacation be provided.

(c) L.N.M.S. Delegation to Churches: In addition to arrangements in (a) and (b) above, RESOLVED that the Secretary take steps to see that an L.N.M.S. delegate presents the new developments to Conferences in each Church.

NOTE: RESOLVED to request the Churches and their auxiliaries to invite L.N.M.S. representatives to present the N.M.S. cause at their gatherings.

(d) S.A.L.C. (i) L.N.M.S. Delegation to the S.A.L.C. Convention: Prof. D.T.Chiranjivi reported that he was unable to attend the S.A.L.C. Convention to be held from the 12th instant at Nayudupet and on the request of the two S.A.L.C. representatives on the L.N.M.S. Council, it was RESOLVED to request the President Emeritus to take the place of Prof. D.T.Chiranjivi and supplement the report of the S.A.L.C. representative, and bring to the Synod the greetings of the L.N.M.S., and give further information regarding the work with reference to the new projects.

(ii) L.N.M.S. Constitution: RESOLVED to request the Church Convention to ratify the provision in the Constitution whereby the President of the Church becomes ex-officio member of the L.N.M.S. Council.

(iii) Correspondence with the S.A.L.C. Treasurer: In view of the statement of Mr. K.D.Benjamin, Associate Treasurer, S.A.L.C., that details of receipts from various parishes etc., are published in their own minutes, the proposal to arrange for the publication of these details in the ANDHRA LUTHERAN is dropped.

15. SURGUJA MATTERS: The President Emeritus as Convener of the F.E.L.C. Committee on Surguja Matters reported on correspondence with Bishop R.B. Manikam and Dr. E.G.Wood, the other two members of the Committee, and on the action of the F.E.L.C. Conference in appointing the Rev. C. Devasahayam as Chairman of the Surguja Board to be an additional member of the Federation Committee. The Council agrees that the missionary work of the Surguja Board is primarily the concern of the F.E.L.C.

16. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RELATIONSHIPS: The Secretary presented the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held at Renigunta on 4th January 1957. The Committee's recommendations were with some modifications adopted as follows:

(a) To link up the L.N.M.S. with the F.E.L.C. more closely: (i) That representation for the L.N.M.S. be secured at the Enlarged Executive and at the Triennial Conference of the F.E.L.C. and that if the F.E.L.C. accepts the request, the by-laws of the F.E.L.C. be accordingly amended.

(ii) That the L.N.M.S. budget be presented for comment at the Enlarged Executive meetings or the Triennial Conferences of the F.E.L.C. and that the budget be passed by the L.N.M.S. at a subsequent meeting in the light of the comments made.

(b) To link up the L.N.M.S. with its Constituent Churches and their N.M.S. Committees: (i) That each Church be requested to appoint a missionary agency with a view to foster the aims and objectives of the missionary work of the Lutheran Churches in India and co-operate with the L.N.M.S. in its activities. It is recommended that on this missionary committee, a representative of the N.M.S. of India be invited to serve.

(ii) That the L.N.M.S. send half-yearly reports to these Committees and to the Presidents of the Constituent Churches of the F.E.L.C.

(iii) That the L.N.M.S. send its reports to the annual meeting of each Constituent Church in order to present to it the challenge of its missionary work and objectives.

In regard to relationship with the N.M.S., the Committee will report later when the findings of the N.M.S. Committee on the subject are available.

17. THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON COLLECTIVE MEMBERSHIP: Having heard the report, it was RESOLVED that the Council recommend to the Churches that congregations be encouraged to enrol as corporate members of the Area Committees of the N.M.S. (vide Constitution of the N.M.S. in respect of N.M.S. Branches).

18. REPRESENTATION OF THE L.N.M.S. ON THE N.M.S. COUNCIL: RESOLVED to appoint the President, L.N.M.S. as its representative on the N.M.S. Council.

19. LEGAL NOTICE DATED 26.12.1956, SENT ON BEHALF OF MR.D.DEVAPRIAM, BY MR.P.M.SHANMUGAM, ADVOCATE, TO THE SECRETARY, LUTHERAN N.M.S: The Council RESOLVES that the legal notice sent to the Secretary, Lutheran N.M.S. by Mr.D.Devapriam, dated 26.12.1956 be handed over to a proper lawyer to be replied to suitably, and the Secretary is hereby authorised to act in this behalf.

20. CO-OPTION OF MEMBERS: In view of the fact that some of the Churches which are entitled to get a second representative have not yet reported on the new members, RESOLVED to fill only two out of four places. RESOLVED to co-opt the Rev.J.D.Asirvadam and the Rev.Jacob Kumaresan for the new biennium.

21. ELECTION: The following were elected;

President - The Rev.G.Devasahayam
Secretary - The Rev.Jacob Kumaresan
Treasurer - Prof.D.T.Chiranjivi

Other Members of the Executive: The Rev.E.Raman, the Rev.A.C. Kondpan, the Rev.N.Daniel and Prof. N. Isaac.

NOTE: The President Emeritus will be invited to the meetings of the Executive. The representative of the Women's Auxiliary may be invited whenever necessary.

RESOLVED to record the Council's appreciation of the General Secretary's presence throughout the session, and his participation in the discussions especially in regard to L.N.M.S. Relationships and the new tasks ahead of the Society.

RESOLVED to record a cordial vote of thanks to Prof. & Mrs. Jacob Kumaresan for providing hospitality in their home.

The meeting ended with prayer by Rev.J.D.Asirvadam.

Kilpauk, Madras-10]
8th January 1957.]

G. Devasahayam, President
J. Kumaresan, Secretary

LUTHERAN E.M.S.
BUDGET 1957

INCOME: Contribution from the Churches and individuals.	Rs.
1. A.E.L.C.	7000/-
2. T.E.L.C.	6000/-
3. S.A.L.C.	2000/-
4. A.L.C. (E.M.S)	2000/-
5. M.Pr. E.L.C.	600/-
6. Ebenezer E.L.C.	300/-
7. J.E.L.C.	400/-
8. East Jeypore	100/-
9. G.E.L.C.	2000/-
10. Field and other contributions	1000/-
Other Sources	1200/-
Total.	22600/-

(This makes a provision of Rs.5000/- for the Shahdol Medical Project)

EXPENDITURE:	Rs.
1. Salaries & Allowances including rents.	12000/-
2. Office Deputation, Publicity Work & Printing etc.	1500/-
3. Stationery & Postage	200/-
4. Medicines	300/-
5. Travel - Field workers & members	600/-
6. The Kotma Project	1500/-
7. The Shahdol Medical Project	5000/-
8. Field incidentals, equipment, repairs & contingencies	1000/-
9. Provident Fund Contribution	400/-
Total.	22500/-

THE N.M.S. FRIENDS REGARDING THE SHAHDOL WORK:

Pastor Titus Spencer has secured a small house at Shahdol on rent, and shifted from Kotma and took up his residence at Shahdol on Feb. 8. This house belongs to Mr.Agarwal, who sold the 13 acre site to us in Aug.1953. It is very close to his house and not far from the railway station. Pastor Spencer is very happy to begin the Lord's work in this large town and surrounding areas and asks for evangelists and Bible Women. For his itinerant work, this house is quite good and also one of his responsibilities will be to contact the Rent Controller with the help of Mr.B.Sharaf, Advocate, Supreme Court, who has promised to help us, and Mr.Agarwal and secure the needed larger buildings for the Hospital and residences. In his letter d/-10th Feb., Advocate Mr.Sharaf says "Accommodation in the vicinity desired is possible. We have constructed some rooms on the main road and the construction will be complete in due course. We can spare a few of them which will serve the purpose of accommodating the hospital. For residential purposes separate arrangements will have to bemade!

In the meanwhile Dr.Zigler and Dr.Gesler visited Shahdol on the 14th with a view to inspect our N.M.S. site and propose a lay out for the four acre plot to be reserved for congregational and evangelistic purposes and the nine acres for the hospital. It is very kind of them to have agreed to visit this area and propose a lay out of roads and the location of buildings and later to work out plans for essential buildings to have a twenty bed hospital to start with. The task that they have so kindly undertaken in response to the reques of our Lutheran Council is a very responsible task so vital for the future both initially and in later years. We request that our good N.M.S. friends will follow them even hereafter and remember them especially when they are actually working out the details for the lay out etc.

We are also appealing to friends in all our supporting Churches to give monthly contribution with a view not only to raise Rs.1,000/- per month needed as recurring expenses but also the money needed for the equipment and for late developments. Side by side with the medical work, we have to be training an increasing staff of evangelists to carry out our main objective. Soliciting your prayers.

Tambaram: 16.2.1957:

J.D.ASIRVADAM, in charge of Shahdol Publicity.

THE MEMBERS OF L.N.M.S. COUNCIL:

The following Church agencies have reported on election of representatives of their respective Churches apart from Indian Presidents who are ex-officio members of Council:

A.E.L.C.	-	Prof. N. Isaac, re-elected
T.E.L.C.	-	The Rev.J.Kumaresan
Arcot L.C.	-	The Rev.J.Sigamoni
		Dr.V.Annaswami

Rev.J.Kumaresan vacates his seat as a co-opted member, which place will be available to elect the new Secretary.

As Rev.N.Daniel ceases to be an A.L.C. representative, the seat on the Executive falling vacant may be given to Rev.J.Sigamoni who as in the case of late Rev.Paul Visuvasam is a member of the Church Board Executive. In the absence of an Indian Officer (according to the Constitution) LNMS had suggested that one of the two representatives of the Arcot Lutheran Church be a member of the Church Board Executive. The appointment of Rev.J.Sigamoni as LNMS Executive member is to be made by the LNMS Council. Council members are requested to confirm this within ten days of receipt of this notification.

Drs.Zigler and Gesler visited Shahdol on the 14th and left on the 15th Thursday. Report regarding lay out of roads etc. will be placed before the LNMS Executive on 11.3.1957.

LNMS Booklet II: The Triennial Report of the LNMS (1954-56) with audited accounts for 1954 and 1955, 3 reprints from Gospel Witness, 14 pictures on 4 pages of art paper, and 3 maps will be available for distribution. Presidents of Churches are requested to specify their need so that every parish and institution gets a copy. Additional copies will be sent to addresses given. A certain number may be assigned by our Executive for publicity purposes.

Madras-10:
22.2.1957.

J. KUMARESAN,
Secretary.

No.9, Thambuswamy Road, Madras-10
7th March 1957.

THE MEMBERS OF THE L.N.M.S. EXECUTIVE:

Dear Friends,

The Lutheran N.M.S. Executive will meet at the Fabricius High School, Purasawalkam, Madras at 9 A.M. on Monday, the 11th March 1957. Most of the members have been informed about this meeting previously. I hope that all the members will be able to be present. The date is fixed in order to enable the North Indian members who attend the F.E.L.C. Executive on 8th and 9th to stay for the LNMS Executive on the 11th. Important decisions with regard to the opening of Shahdol Medical work and the Balipara work have to be made at this meeting.

Yours sincerely,

Jacob Kumaradoss
Secretary.

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये

The Rev. J. J. P. Tiga
or The Secy. C.C. (if Rev Tiga is not there)
S. P. L. Church
Ranchi
(Bihar)

पहला मोड़

नीमरा मोड़

दूसरा मोड़

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता :-

The Rev. J. P. Chinnadurai
Tamilnadu, Madras
(at Annamalainagar)
C/o Rev. J. Kumaresan, Madras 10

Tambaram. 12-4-57
(from 15th to 17th. c/o Rev J Kumaradoss, Katpadi)

My dear Rev. Tega,

I leave for Calcutta by Janata on Tuesday 23rd, Dr A C Abraham joins me at Bezwada that night at 10, and we arrive at Howrah at 7.45 a.m. on Thursday 25th. Dr. Abraham is arranging for airtickets for him & from me from Calcutta.

As soon as I know that the Tezpur meeting of representatives of interested bodies was on the 27th of the Assam CC on May 1-6 I sent a Circular letter to you, Courtney Jones at Tezpur (Rev S Hoo & Rev N. Hemrom) and to ~~you~~ B Roo CC etc. When will you arrive — on the 26th or 26th to take the 26th plane. We should fly together. Mr N K Bose will arrange for Dr Abraham (NHS Gen Sec) & me in his house at Bow when he/she you know Calc. better, and regarding the air journey to Tezpur, Jan will arrange from Railway or Bus Calcutta funds.

The officers have asked the Treasurer to remit Rs 300/- to you. But we have so far had no Communication from you. Kindly draw an advance for your expenses from G.E.L Treasurer & instruct Prof D. T. Ch. to remit Rs 300 to your Treasurer on your Assam travels &c. If you want Cash to reach you immediately, please write or telegraph immediately Prof. Chuangsiri Madras 14, as Chairman of this Team. I must also draw the Secretary, you may call the members to meet on the 28th or 29th perhaps. We have to be at Shillong on the 1st.

After the Shillong meetings I shall be happy if you and I could visit Haltugaon & one or two other centres. I would very much like to Contact one or more Centres of G.E.L.C other than Tezpur, if you can arrange it after our Team meeting on 29th (or 28th) you have to reach Gauhati by 2nd or 3rd. We can ask the Rugh to hold up our Calipara train to the 2nd

Kindly write or telegraph about your plans. No news about Maharashtra from any quarters. I am not sure the Bishop after he had left Exree when Mr Sowle Nor Sowle was very happy to have Contacted you and other Gossner friends.

With Cordial greetings to you & all the officers,

Yours sincerely,
L. D. Aswardas

When are you leaving for the States?

Jan

Presidents Jr. & P Trips

Herewith a press saying to
reports of Sessions & Elect. Churches
Mr Asahi.

When do you leave us at
Calcutta. We need your cooperation
positively.

Sorry Dec Day wrote to
us too late.

My address Till 21st: Tambaram
on the 22nd
c/o Mrs. D. P. David
Lalika Cottage,
Royapuram, Madras

after 22nd
c/o Mr N. K. Bose,
1 Merlin Park, Ballygunj
Calcutta.

We missed Love Mr President, please
write us — If that is absolutely
impossible, accept the apprecns

Yours
16/4

The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, M.A. "Arulagam", Tambaram,
14th April 1957.

The Rev.S.Horo,
The Rev.M.Hemron,
Gossner Lutheran Church,
Tezpur, Darrang Dt.,
Assam.

Dear Friends,

I hope you have received my intimation that the conference of representatives convened by the Secretary, Assam Christian Council will meet at Tezpur on April 27 and that the findings of this Conference will be considered by the Assam Christian Council which meets on May 1-6. We are looking forward to your sharing in this Conference.

I have informed President Tiga that I am leaving Madras by Janata on Tuesday, the 23rd and arriving at Calcutta on Thursday 25th at 7-45 A.M. and and that we intend flying by plane on the 26th. I trust Mr.Pugh will be making the needed arrangements for our stay. Rev.Tiga knows the place but both Dr.Abraham and I are strangers and we shall be happy if oneof you can meet us at the aerodrome on the 26th by the day plane.

I have asked Rev.J.J.P.Tiga as the Chairman of the LNMS Team of Investigation to call his meeting on the 28th or 29th. I wonder whether I would be able to visit one or two other Gossner centres before I go to Shillong with President Tiga and the General Secretary, NMS. Afterwards I shall not have time to return to the Gossner area, as I wish to visit, if possible, some of the Ebenezer Church centres in Kamrup and Goalpara Districts.

In case Mr.Pugh is not making arrangements for our board and lodging when we stay at Tezpur, I wonder whether you will be able to make the needed arrangements. Rev.Tiga would probably stay with you and it might be difficult for you to take care of us, but if there is a hotel where we could take a double room, Dr.Abraham and I will be happy to stay there. But this is only for your preliminary investigation in case of necessity. As Mr.Pugh is inviting us, we believe that Mr.Pugh will be making the needed arrangements. So if you have any information to give, either of you can write to reach me at Tambaram by the 22nd for which I shall be grateful. Though the Bishop of Assam's absence will be a serious handicap to us, you know the Lord who has beckoned us to enter this area and who has led us step by step to see His will in a positive way and prepared the Churches with a great desire to share in this missionary enterprise, is leading us and He will reveal to all of us His will and will give us grace both to obey His will and also to rejoice in the fruits thereof.

With cordial greetings and looking forward to this God given opportunity of contacting our Gossner people who have been so very dear to me since the First World War,

Yours sincerely,

J.D.A.

Dear Friends,

I enclosea copy of a letter received from the General Secretary NMS. I have also suggested that either the President of the Boro Church or Mr.Narjari, Secretary of the Boro Church who has been appointed by the Council as its representative on the Assam Christian Council and also the Rev.H.C.Riber, who is a member of the Assam Christian Council or Rev.Westborg be invited to the meeting to be held at Tezpur and also the President and the Vice-President of the Assam Synod of the Gossner Church. It is probable that the two members of the Ebenezer Church who are attending the Assam Christian Council and the President or Vice-President of the Gossner Church, Assam xxxx Synod who resideat will be invited. I do not know what action the Assam Christian Council Secretary or Rev.W.S.Sorley who is acting on behalf of the A.C.C. Secretary will take but I write this to keep our members informed so that if any invitation reaches them, they might be ready to join at Tezpur and if necessary at Shillong also.

I also enclose a copy of a circular letter which goes to friends of the Balipara work.

With cordial greetings,

Yours sincerely,

J. D. Asirvadam

the Friends of the N.M.S. effort to take the gospel to a part of the unreached area (Balipara) in the North-East Frontier Agency.

...

The proposal made by theLutheran N.M.S. that West Balipara a part of the large wild himalayan territory in the North of Assam border in response to the NMS appeal that the Churches in Assam should share in the missionary responsibility for this area as non-nationals are definitely excluded therefrom was warmly commended by the NMS Executive at its Hyderabad Session in February 1956. The matter was further considered at the Nagpur meeting when Bishop J. Amritanand of Assam was present. On his advice it was agreed that the NMS should send three representatives to meet in the first place with the representatives of the Churches interested in this northern section of the Assam border so that a definite area be agreed on as NMS field and the recommendation of this meeting which has been convened by the Assam Christian Council Secretary to meet at Tezpur on 27th April will go before the Assam Christian Council for its decision.

The NMS has appointed the General Secretary and Rev.J.J.P.Tiga and Rev.J.D.Asirvadam as its representatives to negotiate this matter with the Assam Christian Council. It has been planned that the General Secretary and Rev.Asirvadam travel by Janata leaving Madras on the 23rd, the General Secretary joining the latter at Bezwada. Rev.Tiga has been invited to join them at Calcutta.

Rev.Tiga was appointed early in 1955 as the Convener of the LNMS Team of Investigation consisting of representatives from the Gossner Church and Santal Church to work out details for the proposal. The work of this team was held up on the advice given by the Bishop of Assam and as soon as the matter is decided by the said Christian Council the team will work out the needed details and place them before the NMS for further action.

It is a matter for great satisfaction that not only the Gossner Church which has very warm-heartedly co-operated in the LNMS projects through many years but also the Ebenezer Church has been interested in this project. In the Ebenezer Church there is a community of 6000 Boros (Mongolian tribe) whose personnel will be available for this missionary enterprise among Boro Mongolians in West Balipara.

The Boro Church Council has selected a young teacher who has taken the intermediate course without passing the examination to undergo theological training with a view to become a missionary to West Balipara. The arrangements regarding this also will be finalised at the time the Team of Investigation is in Assam. The project has had a very special appeal for the Lutheran Churches in North-East India and even apart from it this venture opens cut a very great challenge to the Church of India. Not only the Gossner and Ebenezer Churches but also the other Lutheran Churches will stand by this and the interest and prayers of the whole Indian Church will be behind this difficult project. When once a small group has been gathered among the Akas and Daflas, we may be sure that they will themselves provide the personnel to carry the gospel farther north enough into the interior.

Friends are earnestly requested to follow these preparatory efforts in prayer and ask God for His very clear guidance and blessing so that this project might be blessed and placed on a sound basis for the development of a worshipping and witnessing congregation in this new area of Balipara.

Madras-10 I
16.4.1957. I

J.Kumaresan.
Secretary.

Dinam Hall, Shillong, 2.4.57.

Rev. S. Sorley, Baptist Missi on, Tezpur, Darrang.
Rev. K.W. Hagstrom, Baptist Missi on, North Lakhimpur,
Rev. F.Wyld, Old Mission House, Tezpur, Darrang
The Secretary, Gossner Lutheran Church, Tezpur
Rev.Halverarud, Santal Mission, Bongaigaon, Goalpara District
Dr. A.C. Abraham, General Secretary, NMS, Hughes Town, Hyderabad, Dn.

Dear Friends,

You who are present at Tezpur and have been interested in the question of the NMS of India's desire to work in the N.E.F.A. area remember that I had suggested that all of you have a preliminary discussion of the matter at Tezpur prior to attending the A.C.C. meeting in May.

I have now just heard from the N.M.S. Secretary, advising me that the date - April 27 - fixed for such a meeting is acceptable to them and so am now writing to request you to kindly make arrangements to hold this meeting.

In order to facilitate matters may I request that Rev. Sorley who is, I understand, Chairman of the Comity Committee of the Baptist Mission, write and let the NMS Secretary know what time would suit them all at Tezpur to hold this meeting on the 27th of this month. In order to save time I further suggest that the N.M.S. representatives inform Rev.Sorley when they expect to get into Tezpur.

I shall try to be present also but I am a little doubtful as I am now not well and it will depend on the doctor's advice as to whether I can make the trip or not.

With Christian greetings,

Yours sincerely,
Berkeley D. Pugh
Secretary, A.C.C

NMS Exec Minute on Shahdol Med. Work

Mt.No.38. Copies of the report on NMS work in Mid-India Lutheran Fields were distributed to the members of the Executive Committee. The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam reported on the long planned medical work at Shahdol, now ready to be started from 1st June 1957 in rented buildings, and that the medical missionary, Dr.Ramabai Gopal, M.B.,B.S.,D.O., would be accompanied by her sister, Miss A.S.Gopal (Nursing Superintendent, Augustana Hospital, Bhimavaram, West Godavary District). For recurring expenses, monthly subscriptions from new members were solicited from supporting Churches, but for non-recurring expenses, a wider appeal had to be made.

The Executive received the report with much satisfaction and RESOLVED to accept the proposal to start the medical work at Shahdol in June 1957 and to endorse the appeal to raise the money needed for this important medical work which would open the way for an expanding evangelistic work, both among Hindus and Adivasis throughout the Shahdol Dist.

Dinam Hall, Shillong, 2.4.57.

Rev.S.Sorley, Baptist Mission, Tezpur, Darrang,
Rev.K.W.Hagstrom, Baptist Mission, North Lakshimur.
Rev.F.Wyld, Ols Mission House, Tezpur, Darrang
The Secretary, Gossner Lutheran Church, Tezpur.
Rev.Halverarud, Santal Mission, Bongaigaon, Goalpara Dist.
Dr.A.C.Abraham, Gen.Secretary, NMS, Hughes Town, Hyd.Dn.

Dear Friends,

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Yours sincerely,
Berkeley D. Pugh.
Secretary, A.C.C.

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Madras,
4th April 1957.

N.M.S. Friends interested in the proposed West Balipara Mission.

The Secretary, Assam Christian Council has invited the three representatives appointed by the N.M.S. Executive that met at Nagpur last September to meet with

(a) Representatives of Churches interested in the work in unoccupied areas in N.E.Frontier Agency on 27th April 1957 at Tezpur, and

(b) The Assam Christian Council which meets at Shillong on May 1-6.

The three N.M.S. Representatives are Dr.A.C.Abraham, General Secretary, N.M.S.(Convener), Rev.J.J.P.Tiga, Ranchi, and Rev.J.D.Asirvadam.

Prior to the above action by the N.M.S. Executive at Nagpur last September, the L.N.M.S. had appointed an L.N.M.S. Team of Investigation to meet at Tezpur and work out the details for starting the work as soon as the Assam Christian Council has assigned West Balipara as N.M.S. Field.

As it may not be possible for Dr.A.C.Abraham, Rev.Tiga and me to visit Tezpur again after the Assam Christian Council meeting, I have suggested to Rev.Tiga to convene the L.N.M.S. Team of Investigation to meet at Tezpur on the 28th or 29th, and after the Assam Christian Council has met, such of the Gossner and Ebenezer representatives who are members of the Assam Christian Council, and the Ebenezer members who return to their stations and who could halt at Shillong till the 3rd & 4th within which time A.C.C. would have taken action could meet and finalise the proposals of the L.N.M.S. Team meeting at Tezpur on the 28th or 29th, and submit them to the L.N.M.S. for its consideration and further action with the approval of the N.M.S.

Friends whose co-operation in these investigations will be of help are requested to keep these dates free. Some who attend the meeting at Tezpur may not go to the A.C.C. session at Shillong. Probably some who could not go to Tezpur (especially those in Goalpara and Kamrup Districts) may be able to join those at Shillong and help to finalise the recommendations to the L.N.M.S.

J.D. Asirvadam
in charge of preparation for the
Assam Border Work.

1. Copies to: The General Secretary, N.M.S.
2. The Rev.J.J.P.Tiga with the request that he issue a notice of the meeting of the Team of Investigation at Tezpur on 28th or 29th
3. The President, Assam Synod, G.E.L.C., Tezpur, Darrang Dt.
4. The Vice-President, Assam Synod, G.E.L.C. Tezpur, Darrang Dt.
5. The Rev.M.Mosahary, President, Boro C.C., Parkijuli Mission, P.O.Parkijuli, Kamrup
6. The Rev.D.Westborg, P.O.Haltugaon, Goalpara
7. The President, Santal Church Council in Assam
8. The Principal, Santal Mission High School.

The Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur & Assam

Mission Estd. 1845 — Autonomous 1919.

President:—**Rev. J. J. P. Tiga,** M.A., B.D., S.T.M.

G. E. L. CHURCH COMPOUND
RANCHI, BIHAR **(INDIA)**

Ref. No 4556/56.

Dated the 28th Nov. *195*6

To

The Secretary,
L.M.M.S.,
No.9, Thambuswamy Road,
Madras--10.

Dear Mr. Kumaresan,

Received your letter dated 25-11-56 re: two women members to serve on the Auxiliary Committee. The matter will be considered by the C.C. and the result communicated about the middle of December 1956.

Yours sincerely,

J J P Tiga 28/11

President,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

No. 4557/56.

Copy to Secretary Mr.N.E.Horo.

DT.

N. MS

Foreign Missionaries and the Church in India

Although Christianity came into India as far back as the first century, when we speak of the Church in India today we think largely of the Church that has been built up in this land as a result of missionary activity by European missionaries from 1500 onwards. The period of the growth of the Christian Church in India coincided with a series of political and economic processes as a result of which India became a part of the British Empire. The Church in India was inevitably influenced by some of these processes. Just as India borrowed political and economic ideas and theories from Europe so the Church in India borrowed many attitudes and ways from the European (later from the American) Church.

With the coming of independence in India in 1947 both the country as a whole and the Church in the country were confronted with new problems of adaptation and adjustment and of the paramount necessity to achieve real independence. The Church in India is deeply conscious of the need to achieve such independence. In fact the problem of achieving such independence was felt by the Church in India long before political independence came to this country. To the Christian Church, however, independence does not mean isolation from other Churches in other lands nor does it mean any sense of antipathy towards the Churches elsewhere. It is the nature of the Church to seek the fellowship of groups of fellow-Christians all over the world. The problem of independence of the Church in India has therefore to be solved in relation to this need for communion and fellowship with the universal Church.

The Church in India having come into being largely as the result of pioneering work and dedicated service by foreign missionaries, naturally depended for much of her leadership on foreign missionaries. The problem confronting the Church in India today is to decide the manner in which the coming of foreign missionaries into India to assist the Indian Church in its abiding tasks of proclaiming the Gospel and meeting human needs of various kinds should be related to the national situation and the prevailing feeling that a truly autonomous and adult Church, while welcoming the fellowship of Christians from abroad, would not be dependent on them for carrying on her essential functions.

In this connection it has to be realized that the problems facing the Church are very similar to the problems facing the whole nation. When India became independent she found herself suddenly confronted with the need to run all her institutions and provide the leadership

necessary for the national life from her own resources. But having set her face towards progress and growth, India has found it necessary to utilize foreign technical knowledge and the assistance of friends from many European and American countries in the development of the nation-building activities. In some of the important departments of Government it was found impossible immediately to replace foreign personnel with Indian personnel. It is not surprising that the head of the Indian Navy is still an Englishman. But India, while gladly receiving money and personnel from abroad, is absolutely certain in her own mind that this will not constitute dependence on foreign countries. She accepts assistance from abroad only when, to use a common phrase, there are no strings attached.

Even so the Indian Church has need for assistance from abroad. Not only will the Church require time to replace many of the specialists in various departments of the Church but she will need new people with special abilities and skills to come from abroad to share in her life and to enable her to achieve the larger independence which is her goal. The Church will also want to be able to receive in her midst some foreign Christians as an expression of the fellowship of the Churches of the world.

The Church in India is exercised over the question of how, consistently with her dignity, her independence, and her participation in national purposes and ideals, she can continue to have the advantage of friends and resources from outside. Already in many cases when a foreign missionary works in India he does so at the invitation of the Indian Church and under the general direction of the Indian Church. This change in the situation has generally speaking been arrived at without difficulty or fuss and is cheerfully accepted by the foreign missionaries. Already the Indian Church is increasingly producing leaders to guide her intellectual, spiritual and economic life. It would be most unfortunate if under any mistaken idea of the kind of relationship that should exist between the Church in India and the Churches abroad, from whichever quarter such mistaken ideas may come, a hasty interference was made with the relationship of foreign missionaries with the Indian Church.

Realizing that the present situation of the Church in India is one that calls for adjustments and adaptations of various kinds, we feel that the question of the place of foreign missionaries in India needs to be studied carefully by all church groups in this land. It is difficult, and perhaps unnecessary, to prepare a simple formula which could be used in this connection to determine either the number or the qualifications of missionaries who may come into

India in the immediate future. Since, however, it is necessary (as we believe) that foreign missionaries should come only at the invitation of the Indian Church, there will inevitably be some regulation and control of the process. Each Church or church group will have to determine her special needs and invite the particular kind of fellow-worker she needs. We envisage that in fields of service such as education (including theological education), vocational guidance, medical and nursing work (including psychiatry), community projects, and rural reconstruction programmes, the need for assistance from specially trained and equipped personnel from abroad will not only continue but may even increase for some time, bearing in mind the fact that much of the Church's work in some of these fields is not a self-regarding activity but is intended to benefit everyone irrespective of religion or race, and that some of these areas of service are steadily increasing in extent and scope. In certain other areas of the Church's life and work it is necessary for Indians themselves to undertake full responsibility, as in fact they are already doing in many places. In the administration of Christian institutions, in the running of Christian Councils and Societies, and in the task of proclaiming the Gospel, which is the supreme obligation of the Church, the Church should increasingly utilize Indian personnel and depend on local leadership. In these areas it is therefore likely that there will be a decrease in the number of foreign missionaries.

The situation is a dynamic one, and we should not attempt at this juncture to fix the pattern of co-operation between the Church in India and the Churches abroad. The guiding principle that should govern this co-operation is that the Church in India should be strengthened and helped to attain real independence. This will inevitably lead to a state of affairs in which the Church in India will not need foreign missionaries to assist her in her essential work (although it is our hope that we shall always have the opportunity of welcoming in our midst fellow-Christians from other lands as an expression of the fellowship of Christians all over the world, even as we hope that Indian Christians will be afforded the opportunity to share in the fellowship of Churches in other countries).

During the period of transition, and indeed in the future generally, Christian friends of India from other lands should come here not as foreign missionaries in the old sense, but as fraternal workers. They should come, as has already been indicated, at the invitation of the Church in India, and their exact function should be determined in each case by the inviting Church or group. Such fraternal workers should seek to identify themselves as fully as possible

with the local Church, sharing in her worship, fellowship and testimony, and, reciprocally, the local Church should help in every possible way to make them feel at home by extending to them not only traditional Indian hospitality but also warm and generous appreciation.

It will be necessary for the Church periodically to review the use she makes of foreign fraternal workers, so that she does not lapse into a permanent state of dependence, and so that necessary adaptations can be made as we go along.

We feel that in some of these ways the Church will be enabled both to fulfil her continuing tasks more adequately, and to fit more completely into the pattern of life in Independent India and share in her aspirations.

It is the hope of the Church in India that in the not distant future the coming of missionaries from abroad into this country will be matched by the going out of Indian missionaries from this country. Already a great deal of the work in India is being done by Indians and some Indian missionaries have gone out to other countries. We look forward to the day when reciprocity between the Church in India and the Churches in other parts of the world will be a completely equal, many-directional traffic, and will be an expression of the feeling that Christians all over the world have, of belonging to the body of Christ.

This statement was prepared by the undersigned who met in August at the Christian Retreat and Study Centre, Rajpur, Dehra Dun to consider the place of foreign missionaries in the Church.

Mr. R. M. Chetsingh	...	Delhi
Rev. E. R. Das	...	Banaras
Mr. K. Jacob	...	Nagpur
Rev. H. W. John	...	Akbarpur
Prof. S. Mathai	...	New Delhi
Rev. J. A. Peters	...	Batala
Mrs. C. Prem Nath Das	...	Lucknow
Dr. A. Ralla Ram	...	Allahabad
Rev. A. J. Shaw	...	Lucknow
Miss F. V. Sunderlal	...	Jullundur
Dr. S. N. Talibuddin	...	Saharanpur
Dr. (Miss) E. M. Thillayampalam	...	Lucknow

Lucknow Publishing House, Lucknow.

N. W. S.

c/o Shri P. D. Kandulna,
Jamshedpur. 11-10-56

Dear Rev. Tiga,

I arrived here yesterday by the Passenger, and am staying in the T.E.'s Bungalow. Every evening I shall meet our Congregation and on Sunday I shall speak in the Church Service. Last ~~Dear~~ Mr N. E. Horo helped to send out the N.W.S. call to Prayer in proper time, when in the interim period another was asking President, pending final action by the Mahasabha. Rev. Sorg had not received the papers, & Mr Kandulna said you had just returned from the South, & the material had not been distributed. When you return to Ranchi, I trust you can fix a Sunday in Nov^r and have the papers sent out with your Covering letter by the 22nd & 29th. Go through all the latest. Please see that sufficient time is given to the Congregations for the post-paid answers. At Calc - after the meetings are over, I trust we can talk a little about this matter.

Fortunately Rev Bosco Tete had come to meet Mr Kandulna last evening, & he has promised to meet me at Chandil junction on Tuesday morning to accompany me to Ray & open and to spend Tuesday there, we leave for Rourkela at 7 am & spend Tuesday there and take the 5 p m pass. at Rourkela and reach Calcutta at 6.5 a m on Wednesday the 17th.

We quite realise the difficulties at Ramadan and I did not wish to cause any embarrassment, but the N.W.S. has lost a good opportunity. It is my earnest prayer that with the help of good leadership Mr. Kandulna things could be well settled.

In regard to the Cabe. Worker Conf. I had got Rev. J. Dev's consent to arrange for the 9th but I have received a letter from Matoba on the 22nd. Probably a telegram should have been sent immediately so that the Secretary for Conf. could have met as scheduled and read the Credentials on the 7th & had a preliminary consultation on the 8th at the full Conference with Rev. J. Dev on the 9th & possibly [illegible] the function. Had Where your Conf. called the meeting, Rev. G. S. Bj. & I could have been important. I could not prolonged my stay in the N.W.S. field, or you could have asked Rev. Boseka to have come of course, so Rad I could visit to our centres at least.

Now we have to do the best we can.

I enclose a formal letter to Head Quarters regarding matters Concerning us. We have to frankly & trust that you will forget & make a good Contribution at the N.C.C. meeting. The rest in person

Yours truly

D. A. Kasenwadam

Jamshedpur
11-10-56

The Convenor

Calcutta Work Committee

Dear Rev. Tuga,

When the two Indian pastors at Calc. & I met Mr Tosvick on Tuesday the 9th, he was anxious that Mr Bjerkestrand should represent the Ebenezer Church, which is also taking a keen interest in this united effort should be present. So letter had reached him concerning the proposed meeting over Calc 6-9. He came on 6th morning & left only on 9th afternoon. He would have waited for the 9th but for a meeting of the Santali Church Council at Beinagaora on the 9th morning.

I would suggest that you take steps to arrive on 17th or 18th and fix a time for the meeting. The 3 Calc. ministers are themselves & I arrive on the 17th at 6 a.m. If you know when you arrive, you can ask Rev & S Bj— & to be ready for a meeting at 3 or 4 p.m. on the 17th. Our preliminary conversations reveal that the problems we face especially regarding the Tamil-Telugu Congregation is not easy. So I would be good to have the first meeting on 17th afternoon & a final meeting for Committee on 18th forenoon — giving time to members to think

BALIPARA MISSION - ASSAM BORDER (N.E.F.A.)

When the Prime Ministers of India and Burma visited Nagaland in March 1953, it became very clear that with a view to accelerate the integration of the Himalayan tribes into India's life and culture, foreign missionaries would not be permitted to work anywhere in North East Frontier Agency. This wild Himalayan territory extends from the eastern borders of Bhutan to Manipur on the North-Western border of Burma. Indian citizens who enrol for various Government services in this wild area do so at considerable lack of comforts and almost in a spirit of missionary service. Our Bharat Christya Sevak Samaj (N. M. S.) instantly felt that the exclusion of foreign missionaries from this area (not for religious but for purely political reasons) constituted a special call to it to enlist for the service of India and the Master the sons and daughters of the Church in India. There is wide scope for national service which should appeal to the youth of India, and there is the even more glorious opportunity of bringing the good news of our Saviour to the various tribes of this area.

In Naga Hills, there is a considerable Christian element in the Naga population, and so the withdrawal of American Baptist missionaries led to national missionaries undertaking the work of carrying the Gospel to new areas. The Assam Gospel Team, organised by the Christian Endeavour Union (Assam), which toured certain parts of India under the auspices of the Assam Christian Council in the summer months of 1955 testified to the work of Missionary Longri Ao who had graduated from Serampore, and he was able to reach new tribes farther to the east and gather a Christian community of 10,000 in the course of two years Whereas the parts around Naga Hills have such possibilities of spontaneous expansion, the Balipara Tract, and the Abor and Mishmi tribal tracts of the N. E. F. Agency on the north are untouched by the Gospel, and it is to this area that our Samaj directs the Churches of this area.

The N. M. S. Call to Prayer already in 1953 and the N.M S. Golden Jubilee Call to Prayer last year drew pointed attention to this imperative need which Indian nationals alone could meet. There are four main Churches which have congregations in the northern part of Assam immediately to the south of North-East Frontier Agency through which the Brahmaputra flows. It is the hope of our Samaj that every Church will take a share in this challenging piece of national and Christian service.

On the initiative of the Lutheran N. M. S., the two Lutheran Churches of this Assam area are being mobilised to undertake missionary work. The Ebenezer Church and the Gossner Church have each 16,500 members. Of the former, 6000 belong to the Boro (Mongolian) Himalayan tribe. Whereas the former Church has its congregations mainly in Goalpara and

Assam Boarder Mission team of Lutheran.

Kamrup and partly in Darrang, the latter has its congregations in Darrang, Lakhimpur, Nowgong and Sibsagar Districts.

The Lutheran N. M. S. has been able to interest its constituency in this work. Much goodwill has been secured not only from the Federation of Lutheran Churches in India but also from the East Asia Lutheran Conference which met in Madras in January 1956; and earlier through the good offices of Bishop R B. Manikam from the L. W. F. Commission on World Missions that met in Finland in July 1955. In view of growing responsibility that the Lutheran N M. S. is undertaking in the Sahdol District of Vindhya Pradesh, the earlier proposal was that this work could be entrusted to a separate Mission which could function under the auspices of the Federation of Evangelical Lutheran Churches in India, with aid from abroad. But when the Federation Executive Committee met in Madras in September 1955, it strongly urged that this task properly belonged to the N M. S., whose Lutheran section has been accepted by the Federation as its missionary agency. Thus the Lutheran N M.S. was urged to go forward with arrangements for opening this work with the full assurance that the Churches of the Federation will stand behind it and assist the undertaking in every possible way.

Strengthened by this encouragement given by the Lutheran Federation in India, an exploratory meeting was held at Calcutta on October 26, 1955 in connection with the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Society. This meeting comprising 12 members of the N.M.S and Lutheran N. M. S. including two missionaries from our mid-India Fields very strongly endorsed the proposal, and suggested that work be opened in the western area of Balipara as it could be reached from Tezpur, the district headquarters of Darrang, which district was the meeting point of the two Lutheran Churches along the far-flung Brahmaputra valley to the south of the Agency tracts.

Further, Ebenezer Lutherans working in Goalpara and Kamrup have been making efforts to enter Bhutan, and give the Gospel to her people, and West Balipara area is adjacent to Bhutan which is still not open to the Gospel. The Lutheran N M S had more than 20 years' experience of working from the borders of an area where Christian work was still taboo and the years of their waiting have now been well rewarded when with the passing of the new Constitution, the Lutheran N M. S. was able to enter the Sahdol District of Vindhya Pradesh, the Manendragarh and Baikuntpur Taluks which constituted the old Korea State and parts of what was formerly the Surguja State. As the outcome of the work started by Rev. B. I Krupadanam in June 1951 around Ambikapur, the Church which had a membership of 59 in December

1951 had 2791 members at the end of December 1955 and this Church in Surguja has with courage withstood remarkably well the organised opposition initiated by the ex-Maharajah of Surguja, which has been later vigorously pursued by Jan Sangh, Hindu Mahasabha and R. S. S. personnel.

The minutes of the Calcutta exploratory meeting were communicated to the N. M. S., the Presidents of the Churches in Assam, and to the President and Secretary of the Assam Christian Council as well as the Lutheran bodies interested. In the meanwhile at the time of the Ziegenbalg Jubilee Celebrations held in Madras, a conference was held by a few L. N. M. S. and Federation members with the Presidents of the Ebenezer and Gossner Churches, and both of them have welcomed this as an opportunity which the Churches in Assam should not fail to avail themselves of, and they are both hopeful that Boro and other tribal personnel will be available for initiating this work The Lutheran N. M. S. Executive that met on 23rd January 1956 gratified at the progress of negotiations resolved to recommend to the N. M S. that missionary work be started in Balipara in 1957, and that a goodwill agreement with the Christian bodies in Assam be secured so that the Lutheran N. M. S may take immediate steps to prepare workers to be sent to the *Aka* and *Dufla* tribes inhabiting the western part of Balipara. It is the intention of the Lutheran N. M. S. to select a leader, and four or more evangelists to learn one or both languages, making Tezpur in Darrang temporary headquarters from July 1956 It is our earnest hope that apart from the backing of the Christian bodies in the area, the work will be carried on with the backing of Government and the assistance of Government personnel in the villages selected for our work. We are deeply conscious that this constitutes a challenge to the Christian youth to render acceptable service both to our Government and to our Lord.

The newly constituted All India Executive of the Samaj which met at Hyderabad considered the proposal and adopted the following resolution on February 3, 1956:—

N.M.S. Executive resolution on Assam Border Mission: The N. M. S is in favour of the recommendation of the Lutheran N. M. S. that work be opened in the western area of the N. E. Frontier Agency with Tezpur (Darrang District) as temporary base for seeking to enter the tribal area of Balipara (inhabited by the Aka tribe and the western section of the Dufla tribe).

Resolved that the Society communicate the proposal to the Baptists, the United Church of North India, and the Church of India, Pakistan, Burma and Ceylon in Assam, and obtain their consent and goodwill for work in this

western section of Balipara being started by the N. M. S. through the L. N. M. S. as its agency, as the Agency (N. E. F. A) area to the north of Tezpur is nearest both to the Ebenezer and Gossner Churches in Assam.

The N.M.S. appeals also to the other Churches in Assam to open work in affiliation with the N. M. S. in the extensive region of the North-East Frontier Agency to the north and north-east that will still remain unreached by the Gospel.

The N M.S. further requests the N.C C. to undertake a survey of tribal areas which may be recommended by the N.M.S to such of the Cnurches as might be willing to undertake missionary work therein.

The above resolutions have been communicated to the Churches concerned in Assam and also to ihe National Christian Council. In the meanwhile the Lutheran N. M. S is appointing a team of investigation to visit the area as early as possible. The Rev. J. J. P. Tiga is the Chairman of this team, and our Samaj has been requested to appoint a representative, and also the two Lutheran Churches in the North are also requested to appoint one person each selected from the Assam area of their respective Churches.

It is a matter for thankfulness that this challenge has been well received wherever the proposal has been considered. An old tried friend of the N. M. S. when he read the proceedings of the exploratory meeting was thrilled by the new opportunity and immediately wrote to say that this is the kind of challenge that needs to be placed before the Churches in India. Though the Lutheran N. M. S. is about to establish medical work at Sahdol, which is going to tax all its resources, it has been felt that this call to Balipara is a call from God, and Rev S. Gnanabaranam, our pioneer missionary stated at the exploratory meeting that when the Master calls us to what seems to be staggering to our faith, He assures us that it is He Who calls us and therefore He will be with us and carry it through. With God nothing is impossible. Friends of the Samaj are earnestly requested to bear this burden on their hearts and seek the Lord's direction and guidance to us at every stage, so that He may lead us step by step to go the way He has planned for us, and in obedience to His will lie our joy and satisfaction, and even more the realisation of His purposes and His objectives through the ministry of our Samaj.

"Arulagam", Tambaram,
1st April 1956.

J. D. ASIRVADAM.

Reprinted from the N.M.I. (May issue 1956) at the N.M.S. Press, Madras-14.

Copy to The Rev.J.J.P.Tiga

L.N.M.S. NOTIFICATION.

An office typewriter is needed for the L.N.M.S. Office. Friends are requested to donate money or secure a standard typewriter for the use of the L.N.M.S. Office.

Treasurer - Prof.D.T.Chiranjivi of Meston Training College, has been appointed Treasurer, Lutheran N.M.S. and the Bank account is being transferred to the State Bank of India, Mount Road, Madras 2 with effect from 1st July 1956. All remittances to L.N.M.S. Treasury are requested to be sent by cheque, draft or money order to Prof.D.T.Chiranjivi, M.A., L.T., Royapettah, Madras-14. Cheques and drafts are to be drawn in favour of "The Treasurer, Lutheran N.M.S." and sent to the address given above.

The L.N.M.S. requests all congregations of the supporting Churches to observe July 8th as Missionary Festival Day in remembrance of the landing of Ziegenbalg at Tranquebar 250 years ago. The special Jubilee prayer published in English may be kindly translated or used in a suitable form as a part of the general prayer read from the altar on that day.

Madras-10)
7.6.1956.)

J. Kumaresan,
Secretary, L.N.M.S.

The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, M.A.

"Arulagam", Tambaram,
2nd June 1956.

-2-

The Rev.J.J.P. Tiga,
Gossner Church,
Ranchi.

Dear President Tiga,

I have not had any reply from you regarding the various letters that I have sent regarding Balipara investigation. I am happy for the co-operation of the Boro Church Council. Its Chairman, the Rev.David Westborg, its Vice-President, Mr.Thaniswar Bosumatory, and the pioneer worker on the Bhutan border, the Rev.Mosahary.have been very helpful.

I hope that the situation in Naga Hills will not in any way hamper the progress of our investigation. Miss K.Sircar in consultation with Dr.A.Ralla Ram has written to say that Tezpur is about a thousand miles from Nautwa in U.Pr. through which the N.M.S. hopes to reach Nepal. As her Nepal visit is now over, it may not be possible for her to join you just now.

In the meanwhile early monsoons have set in and I do not know whether you intend to hold the meeting at Tezpur. Though we were very anxious that on a report from you we should select a leader and a few helpers and station them at Tezpur for language study already in July, it looks as though that may not become possible just now. In the meanwhile we have to carry with us before we approach government agencies the goodwill and backing of the Christian bodies in Assam.

The General Secretary writes that so far no reply has come from the Baptists and from the United Church of North India and I have written to Dr.Ralla Ram to contact the officials of the U.C.N.I. and I have also asked for the Baptist leaders to be contacted in Assam. The Baptists are very strong in the Assam Christian Council and therefore if we get the goodwill of the President and Secretary of the Assam Christian Council, we can be assured of the support of all the Baptists. The northern section of N.E.F.A. is a vast area and we are asking only for a small section of Balipara for two reasons: (i) that it is adjoining Bhutan to enter which the Ebenezer Church has been making continuous efforts for a long time; (ii) western Balipara is very close to Tezpur which is practically the meeting point of the Ebenezer and Gossner Churches in Assam.

Our present General Secretary, Miss K.Sircar has asked me to contact religious leaders in Assam especially the Assam Christian Council Officers and I have written to say that asyou are in contact with them you would be the right person to take up the matter directly. I am sending you by separate post a few copies of my statement on the Balipara Mission reprinted from the N.M.I. You can send out these copies to the President and Secretary of the Assam Christian Council and to all Church leaders in Assam and explain the situation and request them to give their consent to the proposal made through the N.M.S. It is specially important to know when the Executive of the Assam Christian Council will meet and see that definite action is taken. If the Assam Christian Council gives its assent instead of making further reference to individual Churches, then we could go ahead. So it appears to me that the first thing to be done is for you to get into touch with these persons. Certainly if you are handicapped with too many duties and you want me to handle this matter, I am willing to do it, but you know that you have the advantage of personal contacts and also nearness to the area. I am willing to act on any suggestion from you even though the most obvious thing to do would be for you as Chairman of the Investigation Committee to do this preliminary investigation before the actual meeting takes place.

Bishop Manikam has written to the Secretary that the money should go directly to the LNMS and not through the N.M.S Treasurer. He has also suggested that it would be well for us to have one of the Officers of the LNMS associated with the work of the team, but it is a question of expense and also of the availability of the personnel at the time you need it. With a view to take advantage of the Bishop's advice, I would suggest that if after completing the preliminary negotiations with the Christian agencies in Assam you hold a meeting at Tezpur and also contact

the Government officials in Shillong in proper time, some of us from the South who will be there for the Calcutta Committee, viz., the Rev. Devasahayam and myself can discuss the problems with you and submit a joint report to the LNMS Council.

Kindly note that the address of the General Secretary is "5, Kanpur Road, Allahabad" and not "5, P.D.Tandon Road". This was communicated to me by the General Secretary of which a copy went to you by the same evening post.

With cordial greetings,

Copies to the Officers.

Yours sincerely,

D Vasanthakumar

P.S. If you want more copies of the Report 'Bahumukha Seva' kindly let me know how many copies you need. Please give one copy for translation and publication in Khandesha Dot

Lutheran N. M. S.

President Emeritus:
RAO SAHIB
THE REV. J. D. ASIRVADAM,
TAMBARAM. S. RY. TEL. No. 80751, EXTN. 40

President:
THE REV. G. DEVASAHAYAM.
CHURCH OFFICE, POST BOX 2,
GUNTUR.

Secretary:
REV. J. KUMARESAN,
9, THAMBUSAMY ROAD,
KILPAUK, MADRAS-10.

Treasurer:
PROF. D. T. CHIRANJIVI.
MESTON TRAINING COLLEGE,
ROYAPETTAH, MADRAS-14.

Date 30-8-56

My dear Mr. Tiga,

My son asks me to send you a copy of the L.N.M.S. Circular with the request that it be published in the October issue of Bhavbandan. I just indicate a few points that might be cut off. Kindly read through the whole, and you can bring out the essential challenge as briefly as possible. It would be very nice if you can do the translation. Otherwise kindly see that it is done by a competent person immediately and touched up here if necessary by you as you know our situation unfortunately.

The L.N.M.S. Exec. meets in Madras on the 22nd and I was glad to hear from my son that as you have to visit Bangalore about that time you could be present. That is very fine indeed.

Our Treas. who met us on the 27th told us he had instructed the Bank to send you Rs 250/- I believe I have already sent you a copy of my letter to Mr Sorley & Corpus & letters to our two B'ss members. The matter goes before the N.M.S. Executive on Sept 28-30. I have written to Mr Pugh suggesting a meeting of N.M.S. members with A.C.C. officers & the North Bank Mission representatives etc. that might [illegible]

Calcutta en route to Allahabad for the NCC mtg.
I have suggested Octr 9th & that would not delay
Ken being with us for the NCC. Otherwise we
could give them an hour or two (either the forenoon
or afternoon session). When does the NCC Session begin?
When should you leave Calcutta for Allahabad?

I have suggested that Rev Rosabury could
meet you & me at Calc. on Octr 6-8 when we both
shall be at Calcutta. Though we shall give our
time as one do the Calc. folks have planned
for our Committees, we could take care of ourselves
when we are at leisure. I am anxious to Confer
with Rosabury who will be helpful in my deputation
work esp. in the Soon to raise the needed budget for
our W. Baliparas work. He would to any by train.
3rd class & that would not Cost much. The value of our
meeting would be immense. Even if you have to
leave on the 9th, he & I could spend that day together.
Kindly bring the needed money to meet his bill from
our L W F allotment. I shall ask the Treasurer to
remit & bill amount later. Bapu Baptists.

We have to win over the N. Baliparas Miss & we can
engineer it with Rev P. John (Your Behar C C President, a Baptist)
who is our N x 9 Asso. member will back up our Baliparas
effort. We expect Rev P. John at Hazaribagh on Sept 28-30.
and you can write to him about our Baliparas project &
ask him to support it strongly at Hazaribagh. His words as a
Baptist will carry weight with Bp Townshend & our
whom the Baptists are looking to as pioneers. I am writing
to the Bishop that the Bombay arrangements relate only
to the Diocesan, & that we are Dio. of not N. E. India. After
you get a copy of my letter to the Bishop & the Rev's
please write at once to Rev P. John. Please keep me informed
of your tour programme, for Behar & Calcutta. Cordially & Affectionately

The Editor
Gharbandh
for Oct 1956 issue
Dom
30/8

A letter to Pastors and Church Members

Dear Friends of the N.M.S.

The Lutheran N.M.S. is facing widening opportunities which can be taken hold of effectively for the expansion of the Lord's Kingdom only if our Churches, congregations, homes and individuals are fully aware of the magnitude of our opportunities and take decisive action to provide the wherewithal to carry on the work. Apart from the regular work entrusted to the Officers of the Society certain special tasks have been undertaken, viz. the Kotma Building programme, Sahdol Medical work, the Balipara (Himalayan) Mission Exploration, and monthly subscription enrolment on which the expansion of our work depends. ~~These tasks have been entrusted to our President Emeritus.~~ Due publicity has been given in the English and vernacular magazines of the N.M.S. and in our Lutheran journals, but far more effective publicity could be given orally from the pulpit and through Church organisations of individual congregations. At least once a month Sunday school children could be given some simple news about the work at the general assembly by one of the teachers. Mission work is primarily a witness of individuals, and we need to pray that God should raise dynamic personalities to carry on the work within the Churches and in the N.M.S. Field: "The harvest is plentiful but the labourers are few. Pray ye therefore to the Lord of the Harvest to send forth labourers into His harvest." (Matt.9, 37-38).

~~With reference to the work in the N.M.S. Fields,~~ we particularly request our Church members to make N.M.S. work an object of special prayer. Where there is prayer, there is earnest dedication and along with it a sense of stewardship and only money contributed from this sense of stewardship will be blessed money. We would appeal to all our Church members that with a sense of stewardship they set apart money both for Church work and equally adequately for our missionary work.

When Billy Graham was in Madras, one of his co-workers, a layman, the Treasurer of Park Street Church, Boston, U.S.A., was at the N.M.S.Office when he mentioned that at one time the Church was interested only in its own local work, to make the congregational life attractive, the worship edifying with fine music etc. and foster fellowship through social meetings in the parish hall etc. But they came to feel that this was not dynamic Christianity, and then as a result of a new awakening they decided that they would set apart only 50% of their income for work in America and send the other 50% for Mission work in the various parts of the world. The result was that news came from the various parts of the world which challenged individual members to active Christian witness with the result that Church members began to seek the un-churched people and soon the membership had a phenominal increase and the income also was greatly enhanced.

What the N.M.S. stands for is evangelism. The Church has a two-fold programme: (i) Our Church members should be keen on local evangelism. This task belongs to our congregations, its component parts, and all its individual members; (ii) At the sametime, we dare not forget that the Lord has other tasks for us and He has definitely called the Lutheran Churches in India to evangelise new areas in Mid-India, and also the West Balipara area of the Himalayas. Cf.Romans 10, 13-15. Unless we send out missionaries and they preach the Word and the listeners believe and worship the Lord, how can they be saved? Ziegenbalg continually remembered the words of Prof. Breithaupt of Halle, "When one leads one soul of such nations righteous to God that is equivalent to winning a hundred souls in Europe since these have sufficient means and opportunities for repentance while those are without such means and opportunities" (Chapter 2 of Beyreuther's Ziegenbalg page 11 lines 5-9). This second task of taking the gospel to new areas is the special task of the N.M.S.

(Our appeal is that having received forgiveness, peace and the new life as God's gift to us, we should be active, dynamic Christians in all aspects of our life. In the first place,) the local Church needs our wholehearted unstinted ministry. Alongside with local evangelism, the Lord places on the heart of every one of us the need of distant areas where we have to send the gospel through missionaries commissioned for the purpose. Through the N.M.S. we have accepted responsibility for fields in Mid-India, and since 1955 we are called to enter the North-East Frontier Agency (NEFA) Himalayan area. To carry out these responsibilities effectively, we need your immediate help ~~in two matters:~~

Weneed

~~1. The most important request is for~~ new money for our growing work. We established a new N.M.S. centre at Bijuri where an experienced evangelist Sudha Ram, trusted by Missionaries S.Gnanabaranam and B.J.Krupadanam was installed to begin work in and around this railway station which is to be an important railway junction the terminus of a new railway line to Bihar. Dr.(Miss) Ramabai Gopal has decided to begin medical work at Sahdol from 1st June 1957. Negotiations are being carried on to begin work in the Himalayan area of West Balipara (N.E.F.A. - Assam Border) as soon as this area is assigned to the N.M.S. to be worked by the L.N.M.S. Our medical work needs Rs.500/- per mensem for salaries of the doctor, nurses and other workers, and other recurring expenses ~~are also to be provided for~~. Therefore we request that from now on those who are not yet enrolled enrol as regular monthly subscribers. Subscriptions are to be collected every month through the Church Fund Book or a special register by the Sexton along with the Church Fund Contribution. Our N.M.S. members should get information about the work at least once a month from the pulpit; and the Sunday School, Youth, Women's samaj and other organisations may get a member to give brief news once a month in their meetings. The work in our N.M.S. Field should become a dear object of love, and be remembered in prayer in the Church, in the home and in individual devotion.

2. Though we completed and dedicated on 18th December 1955 as N.M.S. Golden Jubilee Memorial Christ Church at Kotma, our first centre in Rewa, and we have built a dispensary and two houses up to thebasement, we are anxious that by the end of this year at least the larger house should be completed and therefore special Kotma collection sheets may be given to some volunteers, men and women, so that donations may be collected from a limited number of those who can help and as we engage also in nation-building activities through our educational and medical aid efforts, donations could be solicited even from non-Christian friends who appreciate the good work that Missions do in the field of social amelioration and uplift. This Kotma appeal is only a restricted appeal, and if a few individuals could help, the L.N.M.S. will be most grateful. If this collection can be completed within three or four months, that will enable us to carry out this objective soon.

Our Lutheran Church monthlies bring us occasional news and also news is published in the N.M.I., ~~N.M.S. DEEPIGAI (Tamil)~~ and the GOSPEL WITNESS. The annual subscriptions for the N.M.I. ~~and DEEPIGAI are~~ is Re.1/- per copy ~~each.~~ Pastors are requested to enlist subscribers who can get the copies mailed directly to their addresses and a few copies could be subscribed for from the local N.M.S. collections so that copies may be made available to the various departments of congregational activities for circulation. Pastors can write directly to the N.M.S. Office, Royapettah, Madras-14 or could write to the Secretary.

Yours sincerely,

J.D. ASIRVADAM
President Emeritus

G. DEVASAHAYAM
President

29.8.1956.

D.T. CHIRANJIVI
Treasurer

J. KUMARESAN,
Secretary

L.N.M.S.

"Arulagam", Tambaram,
12th August 1956.

A circular letter to those to whom copies of THE LUTHERAN WORLD are being mailed on instructions from the Geneva Office.

...

Dr.Bolewski, Editor of Lutheran World and the Office of the L.W.F.Dept. of Information at Geneva desired that all remittances from India be sent through the Federation Treasurer, the Rev.H.W.Mayer, Puttur, Chittoor Dist. Andhra. He has sent me two lists of subscribers so far received and I write this to those from whom subscriptions are still due.

Vol.3 No.1 was rather late in coming, but it would have reached our subscribers at the beginning of August. Some have received Lutheran World or Lutherischer Rundblau from earlier numbers. If any number does not reach the subscribers, they are requested to write to me and as I am sending regular reports every fortnight to the Geneva Office I could inform them immediately and see that the missing number is supplied.

Usually a subscriber to a journal is enrolled as such only after receipt of the subscription in advance, but with a view to make this valuable journal known to prospective subscribers, it was arranged that those who enrolled themselves will have their names and addresses forwarded immediately so that at least on receipt of the first issue the subscription might be sent to the Treasurer of the F.E.L.C.

May I, therefore, request you to let me know (a) from which number L.W. or L.R. is being received by you, (b) whether you would pay the subscription in advance for one year or two years (rate for one year is Rs.8/6 and for two years is Rs.14.6.0), (c) if you wish to have your name off the list of subscribers, kindly notify so that later issues may not be sent to you. In such an event the subscription for each number received is £.0.50 (i.e. Rs.2.6.0) and the subscription for the odd issue or issues may kindly be remitted immediately to the Rev.H.W.Mayer and a post card be sent to me so that I could inform the Geneva Office.

J.B.Asirvadam.

Madras,
19th Aug.1956.

THE MEMBERS OF THE LUTHERAN N.M.S. EXECUTIVE:

A meeting of the Lutheran N.M.S. Executive will be held in Madras on Saturday, 22nd September 1956 in Madras at 9 A.M. The exact place of meeting will be notified later. Members are requested to keep that day free as many important questions come up for discussion and decision.

Tentative Agenda.

1. Report of the special committee's conference with Dr.(Miss)Ramabai Gopal - vide minutes by separate post.

2. Statement on the Niyogi Report

3. Balipara negotiations and Rev.Tiga's tentative report

4. N.M.S. Sunday arrangements

5. Field matters

6. Audited accounts 1955

7. Statement of receipts and expenses for the half-year ending 30th June and for the current quarter

8. Visit of the General Secretary and the Rev.J.D.Asirvadam to Kotma, Sahdol and Bijuri

9. Ranchi Committee's action in appointing an N.M.S. Committee of 3 and a visit to Ranchi in connection with the Federation Committee on Calcutta work

10. The Rev.Asirvadam's suggestion that the President, L.N.M.S. after the Federation Executive meeting at Calcutta, visit Surguja and Rewa

11. The Sahdol project budget and publicity.

12. Other subjects that members and missionaries may send in.

J. Kumaresan,
Secretary.

Minutes of the Lutheran [illegible] Sub-Committee to confer with Dr.(Miss) Rambai Gopal.

A meeting of this sub-committee was held at Chirala on Sunday, 29th July 1956 at 4-30 P.M.

There were present: The Rev.G.Devasahayam (Convener)
The Rev.J.B.Asirvadam
Mr.M.Isaac
Dr.(Miss) Rambai Gopal.

The meeting began with prayer.

1. Statement on behalf of the Committee: At the request of the President of the LMMS, the President Emeritus in charge of the Sahdol project made a brief statement of the importance of the medical work to be opened at Sahdol and the preparatory work so far done. The LMMS Council felt at its meeting on April 14th that decisive steps could be taken only after the sub-committee met Dr.Rambai Gopal after she finishes her course for the Diploma in Opthalmology, and hence this conference on the outcome of which depends our plans for the medical work at Sahdol.

2. Dr.Rambai Gopal's response: Dr.Rambai Gopal referred to her looking forward for many years for ministry in Rewa, and the committee with great joy and thankfulness recorded her wholehearted desire to become a missionary to Rewa and to begin the medical work at Sahdol from 1st June 1957.

3. The scale of salary: Dr.Gopal accepted the scale as proposed by the committee. It was learnt that her present salary is more than what the Council had suggested for her as her salary on the proposed scale. She also mentioned some of the commitments which were considered.

4. Recommendations of the committee: RESOLVED to recommend the following to the LMMS Executive for necessary action:

(a) that the LMMS request the AELC to release Dr.Rambai Gopal for service as medical missionary to Rewa as from 1st June 1957.

(b) that it be recommended to the AELC that her services as missionary in the LMMS Field be reckoned as service in the Church in respect of the arrangements for refund of study loan.

(c) that Dr.Gopal's actual salary on the agreed scale be the same as what she would draw at the time of her release from the Church for service as medical missionary to Rewa.

5. Budget of needs: (a) Recurring: It was pointed out that Rs.500/- would be needed for salaries and an additional sum of Rs.500/- for other recurring expenses per month and therefore this additional sum of Rs.7000/- in 1957 budget and Rs.12,000/- in 1958 budget be provided for by larger appropriations from each Church.

(b) Non-recurring: (i) The medical missionary designate is requested to draw up a budget of needs in regard to equipment (instruments, furniture etc). This list drawn in consultation with other doctors may be finalised at a conference with Dr.Zigler, a member of our Sahdol Committee. The list of equipment needed with cost of each item noted will be placed before the LMMS Executive for necessary action for special appeals being made to secure the various items of equipment needed.

6. Our Field Missionaries: Though medical work will be a separate department of work with the medical missionary in charge, the need for co-ordination of the work of all missionaries was stressed. Reference was made to the Field Committee in the MMS Constitution, which "shall elect one of their number as Sevak." The Constitution further states, "The group shall prepare and submit annually a budget for the field to the Area Committee."

The Field Committee shall consist of the missionaries on the field. Rewa and Murwahi constitute one field, and its Area Committee is the LMMS.

Thanks to the host and hostesses: RESOLVED to thank Miss M.Meissner, Dr.& Mrs.Joseph and Dr.Gopal for arrangements for the meeting and for hospitality.

Guntur, 17.8.1956.

G.Devasahayam,
Chairman.

No.9, Thambusamy Road, Madras-10
21st June 1956.

THE PRESIDENTS OF SUPPORTING CHURCHES:

Rev. & Dear Sir,

In accordance with the resolution of the Lutheran N.M.S. Council, I request all Lutheran congregations to observe July 8th or 9th as Mission Festival Day this year in remembrance of Ziegenbalg's landing at Tranquebar on July 9th 250 years ago. To your Church 200 copies of a printed appeal endorsed by Bishop [illegible] Manikam, President of the Federation, have been despatched from the N.M.S. Press, Madras. May I request you to be so good as to distribute them through your Church Office with an endorsement of your own. I had sent a preliminary notice regarding this making a few suggestions and I would earnestly request that the missionary work done by the All India Lutheran Church in our N.M.S. fields may be specially remembered and a strong love and zeal for the work may be created through the remembrance of the great event of 250 years ago.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,
Jacob Kumaresan
Secretary, L.N.M.S.

Copies to the Presidents of Regional Councils
& Santal Mission.

The Lutheran National Missionary Society of India

(Organised January 1916 and affiliated with the N.M.S.)

President Emeritus :
RAO SAHIB
THE REV. J. D. ASIRVADAM, M.A., L.T.
TAMBARAM, S. RY. TEL. NO. 80751. EXTN. 40

Treasurer :
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President :
THE REV. G. DEVASAHAYAM, B.A., B.D., S.T.M.
CHURCH OFFICE, POST BOX 2,
GUNTUR.

Secretary :
THE REV. J. KUMARESAN, M.A., B.D.,
LIC. THEOL. (LUND).
9, THAMBUSAMY ROAD,
KILPAUK, MADRAS-10.

"Expect great things from God :
Attempt great things for God."

18-9-56

Dear President Tiga,

I am writing this from my son's place. Dr Poonnah came here on Sat. evening and left on Monday by the Bang. Exp. I learnt from him that the best medicines are being given to eliminate completely the poison in the system. We need to surround your son with much prayer

Rev. Raman had a slight stroke because of his diabetes, & he struggled for some days before he could bring all his thoughts. Now he is steadily improving. My daughter, one of the Med. Officers here wrote to say that much prayer surrounded him that those days with God's

So the Lord is able to bring recovery to Jesus' sick ones

by whom Dr Poonnah spoke very lovingly as a really fine young woman. So do ask your returned friends to pray for him, and I shall every morning between 7 and 8 plead with the Lord for him. If you have time to know

Bishop Pakenham Walsh, ~~For~~ C. S. Ashram, Tadagam, Coimbatore (Madras State) ~~be~~ please write to them. Even if you do not see any work for your

him by reason of age, nature of ailment she to him and he will appoint a time when dear ones could pray in prayer. Ps. 50 vv. 14-15.

I am at Ranchi from Sept 27 – 30 c/o
Christian Council Lodge and at Katwa (W. Bs)
via Burdwan Junction, from Oct 1 – 10. I shall
c/o Rev. Raymond Hawkes leave on the 4th night and travel from Bhagalpur
to Calcutta by day and reach Calcutta on the
5th afternoon or evening. Kindly inform
me what arrangements have been made as
Calcutta & to what address my letters should
be sent. I shall be ready to leave Calc. for
Ranchi on the 8th night, & I must ask to be
put to reserve a lower berth (I must claim)
by the Ranchi Mail or Exp. (Night train).

I shall look for some home programme
in Ranchi fixed from the 9th till the 16th. I attend
Ed. Exec. on 17–18. I have asked Mr. Sorley
& 19th will arrange for a course of lectures & Mr Hawkes
with N. Baptist people.
Earnestly hoping you will write to
me all arrangements,

Yours truly
J. C. Chatterjee

As you will be away when I am at Ranchi
shall I ask my letters to be sent
c/o The Treasurer, Bazar Road Church.

JCC

On my returns to T B H, I read Rev Dev – m's letter to you – to leave the Calcutta Co. after the Ed. Exec. I have written to him that as the Comm. is to report to the Ed. Exec when more local people could be at the discussion, the Calc. Work Comm must meet before members go to the M C O on 11–16.

It is important the Comm. meets the Congregations on Sunday – separately, especially in the forenoon at their morning worship at different times, and then hold a joint meeting for reports. in the afternoon or evening. OR our Church Service could be in the forenoon, and the other at 4 – 5 pm or so, and the joint mtg could immediately after – or half an hour later – giving a half hour or so for discussion with the various Congregs – before the joint meeting for reports is held. If we meet on 6–8 as planned, I could stay on for the 9th or even 10th if your mtg urge Rev. Dev to join the Comm matters on 8th if possible – leaving on the 9th evening or at least on 9 or 10 pm. Please

N.M.S.
Jharsuguda, Orissa.
Apr. 21st.,1939.

Dear Rev. Tiga,

It is some time since I have truly wanted to write to you,but let me assure you I am not in the least exaggerating when I tell you that even now I hardly realize I am acctually at the typewriter! I just cannot give account of my time, but truly I am so preoccupied that I shall be gla d when by next week at this time I may breathe a little more nomal! However I am happy and thankful too, that it is so, for it has been because of added opportunities in the town among high caste people, especially the Brahmins. It seems to me there is a very definite opening in this particualr phase of the evangelistic work, and how I wish our workers could experience the thrill that comes to one when witnessing for the Master! In my Intercessory prayer time a little while ago,this was the burden of my heart that we all might serve with a passion and burden for souls- a passion to save the lost. Only this morning two Brahmins came in and I had a full hour with them, then a Gujerati who too, has been opening his heart with a realization of the soul's need. I often think if we could help our workers-imbibe in them this blessed burden,Satan would never find the loophole he does to stir them up to so unncessary care and frictipn.

You are aware of the fact that this year we are again having our "Mahasabha," which begins on the 26th. morning. I have since weeks been praying definitely for this,planning,etc. and worked out a letter for each of our congregations with a self addressed envelop stipulating a certain date by which the questionairss must be sent in so that the program could be more practically and profitably be planned. This has been done, and I am attributing it to prayer alone - "Prayer changes things," - that I find only a very small number of subjects and practically all the same by the different congregations,which are to be brought before the Conference for discussion. I am truly expecting that this will be done within the two days alloted for same. I have been thinking and praying along the line of the reviving slogan in our Evangelical-Lutheran churches in America at this time, namely, "Lets get back to the Bible." For I have had a conviction that too much has been and is being done in man's own wisdom. The reformation brought to us this blessed Treasure,but even God's Ambassadors have gotten away from it,and so it is my heart' desire that we solve our troBbles in the light of His Word which so clearlt reveals to us His will. I do believe that even God's blessed and sacred service can be done in the wrong way when done in man's own wisdom, while it should be, God's service in God's way. So I covet your prayers to this end for us.

Much to my shock and horrow quite recently it came to me indirectly that there is again a wrong impression created as to our standing in relation to the C.C. May I assure you that I have had absolutely nothing to do with this, and that in so far as I can see there is absolutely nothing in the minds of our people as to so radical a change. I am convinced after much prayer and thought that some one or ones have gotten quite wrought up most unnecssarily and most propbably by a definite misunderstanding. And it is because of this I didn't write sooner, but I wanted in

place of acting hastily and upon first impulse to think the matte through prayerfully. Then in the mean time I had some very weight matters to settle in Sambalpur and Cuttack, and having this Conference to plan for and what not all, I just did not get to writing before this. But I want to tell you that there is absolutely nothing to be disturbed about, nor that there is any movement on foot as to getting the members stirred up to make a definite decision about what order to affiliate themselves with. Thinga are moving much in the same way as when you were here last. However I have thought that if perhaps a personal conversation would help you the better to see things for yourselve, you are as formerly stated most heartily invited to come at any time, or now for the Conference. Personally I would much rather that we have the Conference as planned without stirring up the people again by a "delegate" or visitor from Ranchi. I would much prefer that if you decided to come at this time you would come say by Thursady or Friday the 27th. or 28th. We hope to finish by Friday night. Then if I found anything to verify what to me seems a false impression, it could still be brought before you for discussion while all the delegates are here as well as the workers and Pastor. I shall leave it to your discretion as to when or whether you want to come. I would not mind the opportunity to explain to you that only harm and much misunderstanding was wrought due to the visit however innocent the motive may have been- by the last delegation which came during my absence from the station. I think you would see through it, and as I value your understanding spirit there would be nothing I'd like better that to have this opportunity. Then too, as you would see that there is no movement whatsoever on foot as to trying to get the people to swing over as it were to the N.M.S. other than per the present agreement, I am sure you will see the foly of all this excitement. I am truly not in the last disturbed, and can prove the fact that whenever any disturbance did take place it was due to the people being having been stirred up by someone who unjustly and unwisely made socalled "investigations" in the field.

You will not necessarily have to inform me of your coming or the date of same, as I shall have the guest room ready any way. I have just received a letter that Rev Gnanabaranam will not come, nor will Mr. Asirvadam. But I shall appreciate your visit if you can see your way clear to come., that is, if you think it necessary, I shall in the mean time further pray for enlightenment for both your self as well as for myself.

As for the Kutripali case we lost out, but that was due to that fine Brother not bringing the very paper you asked for until five weeks later when it was too late. It was the most saddest and most embarrassing situation I ever experienced in Sambalpur. Nevertheless I am working through another in trying to get land but it is a very slow proceedure as the Gaontia is and to a great extent justly so- worked up to a high pitch agains our christians there. A real spiritual insight is what is needed now to clarify matters, but that is not an easy matter.

With all good and prayerful wishes,

I am, As Always, Yours in His glad service,

Emma Schiche.

P.S. Please overlook typing errors - there wasn't time to correct!

The Rev. J. Kumaresan, M.A., B.D.,
Theol. Lic. (Lund)

No.9, Thambuswamy Road, Madras-10
29th August 1956.

The President,
C.E.L.C. & Editor,
The Garbandhu.

Dear Rev. Tiga,

We are exceedingly anxious that our circular letter prepared for the N.M.S. Week of Prayer should go into the October issue of every Lutheran journal. I therefore enclose a copy with the earnest request that this may get your priority consideration. If you wish to take reprints of this article, please let me know how many copies of the reprint would be needed and we shall be willing to pay for the reprint.

I also enclose a copy of the Topics for Prayer (Lutheran N.M.S.) to be published in the October issue.

Yours sincerely,

J. Kumaresan

Secretary, Lutheran N.M.S.

A letter to Pastors and Church Members.

Dear Friends of the N.M.S.

The Lutheran N.M.S. is facing widening opportunities which can be taken hold of effectively for the expansion of the Lord's Kingdom only if our Churches, congregations, homes and individuals are fully aware of the magnitude of our opportunities and take decisive action to provide the wherewithal to carry on the work. Apart from the regular work entrusted to the Officers of the Society certain special tasks have been undertaken, viz., the Kotma Building programme, Sahdol Medical work, the Balipara (Himalayan) Mission Exploration, and monthly subscription enrolment on which the expansion of our work depends. These tasks have been entrusted to our President Emeritus. Due publicity has been given in the English and vernacular magazines of the N.M.S. and in our Lutheran journals, but far more effective publicity could be given orally from the pulpit and through Church organisations of individual congregations. At least once a month Sunday school children could be given some simple news about the work at the general assembly by one of the teachers. Mission work is primarily a witness of individuals, and we need to pray that God should raise dynamic personalities to carry on the work within the Churches and in the N.M.S.Fields: "The harvest is plentiful but the labourers are few. Pray ye therefore to the Lord of the Harvest to send forth labourers into His harvest." (Matt.9, 37-38).

With reference to the work in the N.M.S. Fields, we particularly request our Church members to make N.M.S. work an object of special prayer. Where there is prayer, there is earnest dedication and along with it a sense of stewardship and only money contributed from this sense of stewardship will be blessed money. We would appeal to all our Church members that with a sense of stewardship they set apart money both for Church work and equally adequately for our missionary work.

When Billy Graham was in Madras, one of his co-workers, a layman, the Treasurer of Park Street Church, Boston, U.S.A., was at the N.M.S. Office when he mentioned that at one time the Church was interested only in its own local work, to make the congregational life attractive, the worship edifying with fine music etc. and foster fellowship through social meetings in the parish hall etc. But they came to feel that this was not dynamic Christianity, and then as a result of a new awakening they decided that they would set apart only 50% of their income for work in America and send the other 50% for Mission work in the various parts of the world. The result was that news came from the various parts of the world which challenged individual members to active Christian witness with the result that Church members began to seek the un-churched people and soon the membership had a phenominal increase and the income also was greatly enhanced.

for

What the N.M.S. stands/is <u>evangelism.</u> The Church has a two-fold programme; (i) Our Church members should be keen on local evangelism. This task belongs to our congregations, its component parts, and all its individual members; (ii) At the same time, we dare not forget that the Lord has other tasks for us and He has definitely called the Lutheran Churches in India to evangelise new areas in Mid-India, and also the West Balipara area of the Himalayas. Cf.Romans 10, 13-15. Unless we send out missionaries and they preach the Word and the listeners believe and worship the Lord, how can they be saved? Ziegenbalg continually remembered the words of Prof.Breithaupt of Halle, "When one leads one soul of such nations righteous to God that is equivalent to winning a hundred souls in Europe since these have sufficient means and opportunities for repentance while those are without such means and opportunities" (Chapter 2 of Beyreuther's Ziegenbalg page 11 lines ~~Ø~~ 5-9). This second task of taking the gospel to new areas is the special task of the N.M.S.

Our appeal is that having received forgiveness, peace and the new life as God's gift to us, we should be active, dynamic Christians in all aspects of our life. In the first place, the local Church needs our wholehearted unstinted ministry. Alongside with local evangelism, the Lord places on the heart of every one of us the need of distant areas where we have to send the gospel through missionaries commissioned for the purpose. Through the N.M.S. we have accepted responsibility for fields in Mid-India, and since 1955 we are called to enter the North-East

Frontier Agency (NEFA) Himalayan area. To carry out these responsibilities effectively, we need your immediate help in two matters.

1. The most important request is for new money for our growing work. We established a new N.M.S. centre at Bijuri where an experienced evangelist SUDHARAM, trusted by Missionaries S.Gnanabaranam and B.J.Krupadanam was installed to begin work in and around this railway station which is to be an important railway junction the terminus of a new railway line to Bihar. Dr.(Miss) Rambai Gopal has decided to begin medical work at Sahdol from 1st June 1957. Negotiations are being carried on to begin work in the Himalayan area of West Balipara (N.E.F.A - Assam Border) as soon as this area is assigned to the N.M.S. to be worked by the L.N.M.S. Our medical work needs Rs.500/- per mensem for salaries of the doctor, nurses and other workers and other recurring expenses are also to be provided for. Therefore we request that from now on those who are not yet enrolled enrol as regular monthly subscribers. Subscriptions are to be collected every month through the Church Fund Book or a special register by the Sexton along with the Church Fund Contribution. Our N.M.S. members should get information about the work at least once a month from the pulpit; and the Sunday School, Youth, Women's Samaj and other organisations may get a member to give brief news once a month in their meetings. The work in our N.M.S. Field should become a dear object of love, and be remembered in prayer in the Church, in the home and in individual devotion.

2. Though we completed and dedicated on 18th December 1955 as N.M.S. Golden Jubilee Memorial Christ Church at Kotma, our first centre in Rewa, and we have built a dispensary and two houses up to the basement, we are anxious that by the end of this year at least the larger house should be completed and therefore special Kotma collection sheets may be given to some volunteers, men and women, so that donations may be solicited from a limited number of those who can help and as we engage also in nation-building activities through our educational and medical aid efforts, donations could be solicited even from non-Christian friends who appreciate the good work that Missions do in the field of social amelioration and uplift. This Kotma appeal is only a restricted appeal, and if a few individuals could help, the L.N.M.S. will be most grateful. If this collection can be completed within three or four months, that will enable us to carry out this objective soon.

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Yours sincerely,

J.D. ASIRVADAM
President Emeritus

G. DEVASAHAYAM,
President.

17.8.1956

D.T.CHIRANJIVI,
Treasurer

J. KUMARESAN,
Secretary,
L.N.M.S.

TOPICS FOR PRAYER.
(Lutheran N.M.S.)

PRAISE: 1. for Susheel Kumar, a Gond 20 years old, who was the first adult to be baptized in the newly built Christ Church at Kotma (Rewa, Vindhya Pradesh);

2. for a new station Bijuri having been opened on July 9 to the east of Kotma with a trusted experienced worker, Sudha Ram;

3. for the decision of Dr.(Miss) Ramabai Gopal, M.B.,B.S., D.O., to begin medical work at Sahdol (Headquarters of Sahdol District, Vindhya Pradesh) in June 1957;

4. for keen missionary interest aroused in the Ebenezer and Gossner Churches of Assam to begin work in the proposed N.M.S. field of west Balipara, North-East Frontier Agency;

5. for the good work of the Rev.Messrs.T.Spencer & Raymond Martin at Kotma and Mrs.B.J.Krupadanam at Murwahi;

6. for the appointment of the Rev.B.Ananda Rao, B.A.,B.D.,B.Ed., as National Missionary in charge of the Surguja Field with over 3,000 new Christians, who withstood persecution these four years with strong faith and courageous witness.

PRAYER: 1. that Susheel Kumar may love his parents with a deeper and holier love (News has come that his people are quite friendly, and that he reads the Bible to them and prays for them);

2. that our workers in Vindhya Pradesh and Murwahi be guided and blessed at every step in their evangelistic witness among the people;

3. that Rev. and Mrs.R.Martin be sustained by the Lord in their bereavment of their first born after two days;

4. that the Lord Who has guided us in a marvellous way step by step to interest Christians in Assam in the Balipara effort may guide us further in negotiations regarding the assignment of this area to the N.M.S. and negotiations with Government;

5. that in all the preparations that have been made for the medical work to be started at Sahdol, the Society be guided and blessed to receive the needed support to begin the work with adequate facilities;

6. that the Church in India, thankful for the privilege given by the constitution to all Indian citizens to 'profess, preach and propagate' their religion, inspire our people wholeheartedly to share in all the efforts of our Government and people to promote the interests of the nation and goodwill among all nations of the world and that the Church carry forward the work of the gospel with a deeper love and concern for our fellow-citizens, leading to dynamic service and sacrifice.

Tambaram,
29.8.1956

J.D.Asirvadam.

For Ghanshyam Das

TOPICS FOR PRAYER.
(Lutheran N.M.S.)

PRAISE:

1. for Susheel Kumar, a Gond 20 years old, who was the first adult to be baptized in the newly built Christ Church at Kotma (Vindhya Pradesh);
2. for a new station Bijuri having been opened on July 9 to the east of Kotma with a trusted experienced worker, Sudha Ram;
3. for the decision of Dr. (Miss) Ramabai Gopal, M.B.,B.S., D.O., to begin medical work at Sahdol (Head-quarters, Sahdol Dt. of Vindhya Pradesh) in June 1957;
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5. for the good work of the Rev. M/s. T. Spencer & Raymond Martin at Kotma and Mrs. B. J. Krupadanam at Murwahi;
6. for the appointment of the Rev. B. Ananda Rao B.A., B.D., B. Ed., as National Missionary in charge of the Surguja Field with over 3,000 new Christians, who withstood persecution these four years with strong faith and courageous witness.

PRAYER:

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3. that Rev. and Mrs. R. Martin be sustained by the Lord in their bereavment of their first born after two days;
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5. that in all the preparations that are made for the medical work to be started at Sahdol, the Society be guided and blessed to receive the needed support to begin the work with adequate facilities;
6. 'that the Church in India, thankful for the right of all citizens to profess, preach and propagate' their religion, inspire our people wholeheartedly to work for all-round national progress, and goodwill among all the nations, and that the Church carry forward the work of the gospel with a deeper love and concern for our fellow-citizens, leading to dynamic service and sacrifice).

L.N.M.S

Rev.M.Hemrom.
G.E.L.Church, Tezpur.
Assam.

Calcutta,
The 27-10-55.

To

The Rev.J.J.P.Tiga.
President.
G.E.L.Church, Ranchi.

Dear Rev.Tiga,

The ather day I arrived in Calcutta quite safely. I was just in time for the N.M.S.Meeting. Your letter was duly handed over to Rev.J.D.Asirbadam. He was very sory for your inability to attend the meeting. However the meeting was quite successful. Now an appointed Committee will visit Assam sometimes in February—March 1956. Then there will be another Meeting where the report of the Committee will be discussed, and the work in the field will be begun not before 1957. The work of the N.M.S.I definitely pointed out, would be in Balipara Foreintier Tract which is absolutey untouched by the Missionary or the Gospel we may say, till this day. This area is inhabited by Dafla, Aka and Miri tribes. The work for this proposed work would be Tezpur as decided in the meeting. Let us hope and pray the Lord to turn this vision to reality in His appointed time.

In conclusion may I be allowed to, write that I was very grieved to hear from Rv.K.D.Soy that he has not been paid for the last three months. The honour of house is troubling him for rent of the house like any thing which has become quite unbearable. I would on behalf of the Rev. K.D.Soy request you to see into it and every effort be made to pay the Bill of Rev.Soy which is lying in outstanding without any further delay as the life in the town like Calcutta is worth considering all the time.

P.S. Kindly to see the matter as urgent.

No.9, Thambuswamy Road, Madras-10
16th September 1956.

THE MEMBERS OF THE L.N.M.S. COMMITTEE ON RELATIONSHIPS;

The President Emeritus and I had a conference with Bishop Manikam, Convener of the Committee. The dates proposed for the Committee by the Bishop, namely September 13th and 16th did not suit the L.N.M.S. President and therefore this preliminary discussion had to be held with a view to get the report of the Committee ready for the F.E.L.C. Executive meeting to be held on October 17th to 18th.

~~The~~ A draft prepared regarding (i) relationship with the N.M.S. and (ii) relationship with Lutheran Churches in India and with the F.E.L.C. was discussed and it was agreed that the meeting of this Committee should be held in connection with the Executive meeting to be held on the 22nd. I shall send a memorandum on the subject to reach you, if possible, along with this notice. Prof.N.Isaac, Convener of the N.M.S. Committee of the A.E.L.C., Mr.M.Devasahayam, Convener of the N.M.S.Committee of the I.E.L.C. and such of the members of the Executive who will be in Madras on that day and who are not members of the Committee are also requested to be present.

This Committee will meet at 4 P.M. on Saturday, the 22nd at the Fabricius High School, Purasawalkam, Madras 7. As this is a matter of very great importance, all the members are requested to be present. The Bishop is not free on the 22nd, as he is going to Chhindwara and after that he has to go to the N.C.C. and F.E.L.C. meetings, and so he has asked me to convene this meeting though he could not be present. He has given his point of view to be incorporated in the memorandum that will go with this.

J.KUMARESAN
Secretary, Lutheran NMS.

Copy to the Rev. D. D. P. Tuga,
Member of the L.N.M.S Exec

The Rev.J.Kumaresan, M.A., B.D.,
Theol.Lic.(Lund)

No.9, Thambuswamy Road, Madras-10
31st August 1956.

The Rev.J.J.P.Tiga,
President, Gossner Church,
Ranchi.

Dear Brother,

October 7-14 is the Week of Prayer, Sunday October 14th being the Day of Prayer. We have asked the N.M.S. Office to send you directly thirty copies of the English Call to Prayer and two hundred copies in Hindi. But the Lutheran N.M.S. every year sends out some special news regarding our LNMS work along with the Call to Prayer. I have already sent you a typed copy of the circular and a typed copy of the topics for prayer. We do earnestly request you to see that these two items go into the October issue of the Garbandhu. I have already stated that if reprints could be used with a view to create greater interest, kindly advise us as to how many copies of reprint you would require. If we know that these two items go into the October issue, we can send fifty copies of reprint to each of the M.P. Church and you may probably use 150 or more copies according to your requirement.

I have heard with interest that you have appointed an N.M.S. Committee of 3 to creat deeper interest. You know that my father will be at Calcutta for a meeting of your Committee on Calcutta Work and we thank you for having invited the L.N.M.S. members who go to Calcutta to visit Ranchi. I understand that Rev.G.Devasahayam cannot do so as he has to proceed immediately to Allahabad even if he is able to join you for the Calcutta meeting. So my father would be the only person who could visit Ranchi and he is willing to stay in your field until the Federation Executive meets on the 17th.

My father has also suggested that in case the Assam Christian Council Officers and representatives of the Baptist Churches interested in the matter could meet you and Rev.Mosahary and my father for preliminary discussions at Calcutta, an exploratory meeting could be held at Calcutta immediately after the Calcutta Work Committee meeting ends. October 9 or 10 would be a suitable time as the N.C.C. does not meet till the 11th. I understand my father has already written to Mr.Pugh and he is also writing to Bishop Amritanand and Rev.W.S.Sorley suggesting that a preliminary meeting be held at Calcutta at which he, Rev.Mosahary and you could be present.

I wonder whether you have received any further news about your son. I am also anxious to know whether you are planning to come to the South about the 20th so that you may attend our Executive meeting on the 22nd.

Yours sincerely,
Jacob Kumaresan

P.S. The L.N.M.S. Executive meets at the Fabricius High School at 9 a.m. on 22nd Sept. 1956.

31st July 1956.

Please make the following corrections in the matter sent for publication under the heading "LUTHERAN NMS WORK" dated 22nd July 1956, and then publish the correct text.

Line 1 - Please delete "Sahdol District" and insert "Kotma"
Line 2 - The words "are to" be struck off and "will" be inserted.
Under the sub-heading "Bijuri" line 11 the first word "the" be deleted and replaced by "a".
Under the sub-heading "Kotma" line 10 the clause "but Missionary Gnanabaranam....school studies" be struck off and the words "at Ambikapur" be added.
In the same para line 10 the first words "tried to" be omitted and replaced by "could not".
In the same para line 20 the word "now" be inserted in between "Susheel has" and "taken"
On page 2 first para - line 6 "the" be added in between "evangelists in" and "close".
In line 7 the word "and" be struck off and "but" be inserted

L.M.M.S. NOTIFICATION

An office typewriter is needed for the L.M.M.S. Office. Friends are requested to donate money or secure a standard typewriter for the use of the L.M.M.S. Office.

Treasurer - Prof. D.T.Chiranjivi of Meston Training College, has been appointed Treasurer, Lutheran M.M.S. and the Bank account is being transferred to the State Bank of India, Mount Road, Madras 2 with effect from 1st July 1956. All remittances to L.M.M.S. Treasury are requested to be sent by cheque, draft or money order to Prof.D.T.Chiranjivi, M.A.,L.T., Royapettah, Madras-14. Cheques and drafts are to be drawn in favour of"The Treasurer, Lutheran M.M.S" and sent to the address given above.

The L.M.M.S. requests all congregations of the supporting Churches to observe July 8th as Missionary Festival Day in remembrance of the landing of Ziegenbalg at Tranquebar 250 years ago. The special Jubilee prayer published in English may be kindly translated or used in a suitable form as a part of the general prayer read from the altar on that day.

Madras-10. I
7.6.1956. I

J.Kumaresan,
Secretary, L.M.M.S.

The Editor, Gharbandhu

Financial Autonomy: In view of this growing demand for financial autonomy the N.M.S. Executive subject to confirmation at the Triennial meeting of the N.M.S. Council allowed the L.N.M.S. to operate on the 1950 budget. The N.M.S. Council that met at Hyderabad in 1950 ratified the action.

Present relationship with the N.M.S: (a) The L.N.M.S. is carrying on its work in accordance with the aims and objectives laid down by the N.M.S. Constitution;

(b) Though the initiative in appointing missionaries, opening new fields etc. is taken by the L.N.M.S., missionary is accepted as N.M.S. missionary so that he comes into a wider relationship. When difficulties arose in regard to Surguja being occupied by the L.N.M.S., the N.M.S. General Secretary was of substantial assistance in pressing the Lutheran claims for the Surguja field. In our present negotiations to enter West Balipara, the N.M.S. is taking the responsibility for negotiating matters with the Assam Christian Council and the Churches in Assam. Even in this matter, the General Secretary, Miss K.Sircar is acting in closest co-operation with the L.N.M.S. and though the main initiative has come from the L.N.M.S which held an exploratory meeting at Calcutta in connection with the N.M.S Council Jubilee celebrations, the association with the General N.M.S. is a matter to be thankful for.

(c) Publicity through the N.M.L. etc.

(d) Sharing in the wider fellowship of the whole Indian Church in respect of our concern for carrying out the missionary task of the Church in India and the neighbouring lands. Our participation in the N.M.S. Council meetings, conferences etc. has been of very real value.

II. Relation with ~~the~~ individual Lutheran Churches in India and with the F.E.L.C.

(a) The backing of Lutheran bodies for this missionary work: The All India Lutheran Conferences in 1908, 1912, 1921 and 1925 took a warm interest in this missionary project. Rev. Gnanabaranam was accepted as missionary and the N.M.S. proposal to assign the Central Indian area between the Swedish Mission Field and the Gossner Field was endorsed by this All India Lutheran body.

F.E.L.C: F.E.L.C. at its first session in 1926 and later sessions in 1929 etc. always received a report from the L.N.M.S. on the work. The F.E.L.C. provided a valuable forum for bringing the problems of the L.N.M.S. to the leaders of all the supporting Churches.

(b) Relation to individual Churches: Every co-operating Church has accepted the Lutheran N.M.S. Field as its own missionary field, and has been appointing representatives to serve on the L.N.M.S. Council and meeting their expenses from their Church budgets. Reports have been given to the Churches by their respective members at Church conferences, Synod, Convention etc. Deputation work has been done from time to time. The N.M.S. Sunday and Week of Prayer have been regularly observed and along with the N.M.S. Call to Prayer went also information regarding the work and the problems of the Lutheran N.M.S. ~~work.~~ ~~The~~ Church papers have given due publicity to L.N.M.S. matters. The connection with each Church has been intimate and the L.N.M.S. has been recognised constitutionally. The four Churches in the South, A.E.L.C., S.A.L.C., A.L.C., and T.E.L.C. have borne the main burden but the Churches in Orissa and Bihar and Assam are beginning to take a deeper interest. The West Balipara proposal is creating a new interest in the Churches of the North. The T.E.L.C. and the A.E.L.C. have had their own N.M.S. Committees in addition to the members that serve on the Council and these meet regularly every year and consider the L.N.M.S. problems and take action to bring the responsibility home to individual parishes, institutions etc. We are happy that the G.E.L.C. has recently ~~xxxx~~ appointed the N.M.S. Committee for the Gangpur area and has authorised the L.N.M.S. to make efforts to raise special money for its projects. Especially the Boro Council of the Ebenezer Church has come very close to the L.N.M.S. because of the ~~XXXXXX~~ Balipara project for which we need to use the Mongolian Boro personnel largely.

Need for Special Committee ?

members that serve on the Council and ... and consider the L.N.M.S. problems and take action to bring the responsibility home to individual parishes, institutions etc. We are happy that the G.E.L.C. has recently appointed the N.M.S. Commission for Evangelism and has authorised the L.N.M.S. to make efforts to raise special money for its projects. Especially the Boro Council of the Ebenezer Church has come very close to the L.N.M.S. because of the Balipara project for which we need to use the Mongolian Boro personnel largely.

In regard to the FELC, it has to be acknowledged that the FELC conferences have afforded the greatest encouragement for our work but so far the FELC has held that the L.N.M.S. is a matter for the individual Churches and the LNMS Council composed of its representatives, and it has given such advice as was needed from time to time and has encouraged the work in every possible way. The Gospel Witness has been of special assistance in getting the news to reach all the Churches at the sametime and reprints have been taken from time to time and sent to the various Churches especially in connection with the annual Week of Prayer. But so far the FELC has not given any constitutional recognition to the LNMS work and has not established a constitutional connection with the LNMS.

NMS Golden Jubilee discussions at Calcutta: The Jubilee Conference greatly stressed that there ought to be a very close connection between the NMS and the Churches and the Council has endorsed this idea very strongly. Apart from the LNMS constitutional connection with each individual Church, it would be well to have a constitutional relationship with the FELC which is our authoritative All India Lutheran body. The LNMS Council has asked that the LNMS should be considered to be a Mission operating in India in the same way as the ULCM, ALM, LELM etc. and that the President of the LNMS should be an ex-officio member of the Enlarged meeting of the Executive Council. This matter has been before the Council.

To sum up: The LNMS is the Lutheran response to the NMS Call to evangelize India. The LNMS maintains a constitutional relationship to the NMS and is considered to be an affiliated body of the NMS. Independent in many ways but conforming to the aims and policies, the affiliation of the Lutheran and Syrian fields belongs to Category A having been initially started by the NMS fields under the affiliation of the B Categor like the Ashram, Parakal (Travancore-Cochin Diocese of the CSI), Nirmal (the former South India Provincial Synod of the Methodists) and St.Andrews Mission(C.L.P.E.&.C)of Pakistan are fully autonomous. They have only a spiritual connection and no constitutional relationship.

Though the LNMS was started leaning heavily upon the NMS, the LNMS has through all these years shown a high sense of responsibility both in finance and in creating real missionary interest. The NMS gave us autonomy for all practical purposes even as early as 1930 and since January 1951 it has had complete financial autonomy.

Conference with Bishop R.B.Manikam, Convener of the Committee of the LNMS appointed last April to clarify this question of relationship: In drawing the LNMS even more closer to the Federation, we shall be acting in accordance with the main findings of the Jubilee Conference at Calcutta last year. There have been two types of missionary societies. Some have had a direct relationship with the Church; for example our two American Missionary Societies and the Church of Sweden. Other Mission bodies operating in India have had very close spiritual ties with Churches; for example, Leipzig and Berlin with all Lutheran Churches in Europe but these societies have functioned as independent missionary organisations. Bishop Manikam very strongly pleaded that in ecumenic thinking it is recognised very widely that the Mission should be closely linked up with the Church. He informed us that even the I.M.C. is becoming a department of the WCC. So Bishop Manikam would very much desire that the LNMS becomes the Mission Board of the FELC with branches functioning in every constituent Church of the FELC. He also recognises that this missionary organisation should have its own set up drawn as now from the Churches. The LNMS could be officially recognised as the FELC Board with as great autonomy as the Surguja Board but regularly reporting to the FELC. Bishop Manikam also recognises that as the NMS represents a wider fellowship of all Churches interested in missionary work, the LNMS should continue its affiliation with close links which will be mutually beneficial. Bishop Manikam would like the Committee to send up its report to be first discussed at the FELC as our Committee was appointed in view of the discussions at the Renigunta meeting last April and in the light of further discussion at the FELC, the Committee with Bishop Manikam as Chairman can meet again and formulate definite proposals which with the backing of the Lutheran NMS Council could be presented at the Triennial Conference of the FELC.

J.Kumaresan,
Secretary, L.N.M.S.

The Presidents of Churches.

Rev.& Dear Sir,

I am sending advance copy of a Lutheran N.M.S. notification which is to appear in the July 1956 issue of the Gospel Witness.

In this connection may I quote the following action of the Lutheran N.M.S. Council at its meeting dated 14th April 1956:

> "RESOLVED to propose July 8th or 9th as a special Mission Day to be observed in the congregations of all the supporting Churches and the Officers of the L.N.M.S. are requested to send out a circular to the Presidents of the Churches regarding the celebration of this day in consultation with the President of the F.E.L.C."

I shall send you printed copies of the appeal as soon as it is ready. In the meanwhile may I suggest a collection being taken for the Lutheran All India missionary effort in Murwahi, Rewa and in Assam which will be a very appropriate offertory on that day. Copy of Jubilee Prayer is enclosed for translation and publication.

Madras-10
13.6.1956

J.Kumaresan,
Secretary, LNMS.

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An office typewriter is needed for the L.N.M.S. Office. Friends are requested to donate money or secure a standard typewriter for the use of the L.N.M.S. Office.

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The L.N.M.S. requests all congregations of the supporting Churches to observe Sunday, July 8th, or the actual date of landing, viz. July 9th, Monday as Mission Festival Day in remembrance of the landing of Ziegenbalg and Plutschau at Tranquebar 250 years ago. The special Jubilee prayer published in English may be kindly translated or used in a suitable form as a part of the general prayer read from the altar on that day.

Madras-10 I
13.6.1956 I

J.Kumaresan,
Secretary, L.N.M.S.

THE JUBILEE PRAYER.

LORD GOD, our heavenly Father, Thou art the God of yesterday, of to-day and of tomorrow. Thou didst 250 years ago move the heart of the King of Denmark ~~My~~ to send out the first Evangelical Missionaries for work in Tranquebar. Thou didst move the hearts of Ziegenbalg and other Missionaries to offer their lives for this service. Thou didst move Christian leaders in Halle and other places in Germany and in other countries in Europe to support this Mission. And when we now look back at Thy work during this Quarter Millennium we find that it has spread from little Tranquebar throughout the length and breadth of India and beyond. The little seed has become a large tree. It became the beginning of the modern world-wide missionary movement bringing the Gospel to all nations. To Thee be praise for this Thy work during the past.

Thou art the God of to-day. As we come before Thee we see that we have not always been faithful to this great heritage. We see that through our indifference, laziness, pride and other short-comings we have many a time rather hindered Thy work. But in spite of it Thou hast prospered it and given Thy blessing to it. Forgive us, Oh Father, our slowness to see and follow Thy will and lead us all now afresh to dedicate ourselves to seek first Thy Kingdom and to serve Thee wholeheartedly in the task to spread Thy Gospel. Let this Quarter Millennium Jubilee, connected with Tranquebar, be a new call to us to praise and serve Thee, both as individuals and as members of Thy world-wide Church.

Thou art the God also of tomorrow. We ask Thee, Father of all good gifts: Let Thy blessing still rest upon this Thy work. What has been achieved so far through the work of Thy servants during 250 years is far too small a fruit to place before Thy feet. Thou art able to achieve still greater things. For the sake of Thy Holy name pour out Thy Spirit upon all our workers and all Thy scattered children on earth so that we may be true witnesses of Thy salvation in our Lord Jesus Christ. Strengthen our congregations, and make Thy Church grow in faith, hope and charity so that we valiantly fight against sin and all evil within us and outside. Awaken amongst us Thy Spirit. Build and unite Thy Church that we all may be one, as Thou art in Christ and Christ in Thee, that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Christ.

To Thee be blessing and honour and glory and power now and throughout eternity. Amen.

...

The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, M.A.

Camp.9,Thambuswamy Road, Madras-10
14th July 1956.

The Rev.J.J.P.Tiga,
President, G.E.L.C.
Ranchi.

Dear President Tiga,

I enclose a copy of my letter to Missionary Raymond Martin wherein I suggest a possible tour programme. As you will see my movements from Nagpur via Bilaspur to the Calcutta meeting will depend on the dates you have fixed for the F.E.L.C. Calcutta Committee meeting. I can stay longer or for a shorter period to suit the dates that you have fixed for the Calcutta meeting. In case the programme as detailed could be carried out, I shall be glad to camp at Ranchi for a few days and contact our leaders and especially the two other members of our NMS Committee and try to work out some definite proposals to be implemented formally by the Gossner Church Committee of our L.N.M.S work.

I fear you will have a very strenuous time on account of the Calcutta committee, N.C.C. and the Federation meetings, but it is my earnest desire that if by that time you have secured the consent of the Assam Christian Council leaders, ~~and probably even visited Tezpur,~~ we can have a conference with Dr.Manikam and President Devasahayam, and see how matters stand. If on account of disturbed conditions in Assam in the North-East Frontier Agency this meeting cannot be of much value, then we shall give it up but you as Convener of our Team of Investigation would probably be eager to raise a few questions with the Federation President and with our LNMS members, who happen to be there. I wonder whether you are taking the responsibility for arranging for the Federation meetings also at Calcutta and if so, I would like to know whether you are making arrangements for the meeting and for the board and lodging.

I had a talk with Miss Sircar about her joining the team. The Headquarters NKS Committee has warmly endorsed the LNMS invitation to her to join the team. At the meeting held at the NMS House on Thursday, the 12th, she said that she would be willing to join you any time after the NCC meeting. Probably she could rest at Allahabad during the time you are busy with the Federation meetings and if you time your team's visit to Tezpur later, she would be glad to join you, for she is in South India till the end of September but in October and probably in November (even December) she would be in the North. That might be a suitable time for you to fix up a meeting for the team of Investigation. I think that a meeting of the team earlier than October may not be possible.

I fear you are constantly touring and therefore have had no time to reply to my letters. So I take the privilege of sending your letters enclosed with any letters that I write to the Secretary or the Treasurer so that the letters may not wait for you ~~here~~ at their headquarters but could be forwarded to reach you expeditiously. I hope you are agreeable to this arrangement.

With cordial greetings,

Yours sincerely,
J. D. Asirvadam

N.E. Horo.

Camp: Calcutta.
c/o. 5/1/1 Gope Lane, Entally.
Calcutta 14. July 8, 1956.

Rev.J.D.Asirvadam,
"Arulagam",
Tambaram.

Dear Reverend Asirvadam,

I must apologist for not replying you earlier than this. I had promised you to let you know earlier about the action our Church is taking in regard to the Assam Border Mission. We had our Executive from 3 to 5 July and we have now constituted a Committee (Gossner Church's LNMS Committee) which will do all the works in connection with the NMS work. The same committee will arrange to raise collections for the Kotma Chapel and Sahdol Hospital. This committee will also organise regional or let us say, synodical committees in order to create interest and tell people about this great work and also to raise donations and subscriptions. President Tiga is the Chairman of this Committee.Treasurer C.M. Horo and one more Pastor Rev.S.Surin are itsother members. Please do send them all necessary informations and literature required and be in constant touch with this Committee.

I would suggest that some of you from the LNMS visit our field here in Bihar and in Assam and give our people an idea as how this LNMS work is vigorously carried out. A constant touch with the people who pray and contribute for such missionary work is more than essential. I would suggest also that some opportunities be made available for our Pastors and other lay workers to visit such areas which covered by the LNMS so that they see with their own eyes how God's work is done amidst non-Christians and with what difficulties and handicaps. Pastors visiting will, I believe, come with determinations to do some thing in their own parishes which will directly or indirectly help mission work in evangelistic field. I would also want, of course, these are my feelings, that either the FELC(I) or the LNMS should arrange for travel of our pastors in different churches of India and give them opportunities to study various methods of evangelism. This will continually be creating an interest in the common task of evangelising.

Next year we are expecting to organise a church rally in Ranchi. This is not yet an officia thing, but some of us are talking on this project. We shall let you know. That will be an opportunity to tell people about the LNMS work.

I have come here in connection with my passport. I am hoping to get it tomorrow. I shall be leaving Ranchi either on 10th or on 11th July for Bombay en route to Mainz-Kastel, Germany. My boat is leaving Bombay on 17th July, which reaches Marseilles on 29th July. I expect to attend the meeting of the Department of World Missions/LWF in Hurdals Vark near Oslo. Dr.Birkeli and Dr.Han Lokies have asked me to come there. In my absence the President and other officers will look to my work.

I am keeping well and hops this will find you in cheers.

With compliments,

I am,
Yours sincerely,

sd N.E.Horo.

/true copy/

The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, M.A.

Camp: Madras.
14th July 1956.

The Rev.Raymond Martin,
N.M.S. Missionary,
Kotma P.O., Via Bilaspur-Anuppur Jns.,
B.N.Rly., V.Pr.

My dear Raymond,

I came here for a wedding on Wednesday afternoon. On Thursday I had to meet Miss Sircar at 9 A.M. and later attend the NMS Committee at 6-30 to 8 P.M. So I spent the whole of Thursday, the 12th at Royapettah and for a visit of a few friends and talk over NMS matters. Tomorrow the L.N.M.S. audit will take place at Guntur and your bills for July will have to go to the new Treasurer, Prof.D.T.Chiranjivi, M.A.,M.Ed., Meston Training College, Royapettah, Madras-14.

Sometime ago I wrote to you in connection with matters regarding Susheel Kumar. Mr. Julhusson while writing on other matters, enquired about Susheel Kumar, but I am unable to give him any definite information until I hear from you.

At the NMS meeting held last evening, we were informed that the half-yearly meeting of the NMS Executive will be held at Nagpur on September 28-30 from where I may have to go to Calcutta for a meeting of the Calcutta Committee which might be held about the 7th of October or so. In that case I would be happy to visit Kotma and have a conference with all our people. It may not be necessary for me to go to Sahdol unless Miss Sircar accompanies me and on my way back to Bilaspur, I can spend a day with Papaji. But I shall be willing to give 2 or 3 days at leisure for Kotma. Nothing helps our work so much as personal contacts with workers. Miss Sircar is equally anxious to see the field. I shall also ask if Rev.G. Devasahayam can make a trip as he is to be in Calcutta in any case on the 7th or 8th. If Rev.Devasahayam make this trip, I would suggest that he ~~gives~~ goes first to Ambikapur and spend four or five days in Surguja and later joins us at Kotma. In that case we could all go to Sahdol also. We shall be very happy if Rev.T. Spencer by that time will settle down at Sahdol.

I am enclosing a copy of a letter from the Gossner Church. I was very happy to find both the President and the Secretary very co-operative and we shall be very thankful if the programme now envisaged can be properly worked out. From Calcutta Rev.Devasahayam has to go to Allahabad for the N.C.C. meeting on October 11-16. I would like to spend that time with our people at Ranchi and try to implement the proposals made by the Gossner Executive. A mere paper resolution will not do. There must be some persons who will be able to implement it. Even though Rev.Tiga would not be at Ranchi, as he has to be at Allahabad, I could meet the other leaders during the interim period.

Also the Federation Executive is to be held at Calcutta immediately after the N.C.C. So I could go to Calcutta straight from Ranchi and be present as I have to report as Convener of a Literature committee. ~~Though~~ I am anxious to be of the utmost help for our NMS cause, and I shall value your earnest prayers that the Lord may give me the strength and the wisdom to serve him acceptably and with good results for our work. I am sending a copy of this letter to Rev.G.Devasahayam, Rev.J.J.P.Tiga and also to Mrs.B.J.Krupadanam and you may kindly share your copy with Rev.Titus Spencer.

As I am now with my son, he shared with me Mrs.Krupadanam's letter to the L.N.M.S. President of which a copy has been sent to h: She is also asking for leave for two days Saturday and Sunday when she had to be at Ambikapur. In regard to Karhani, kindly write to the President and send copies to the Secretary and if possible to m so that I may know how matters stand. We have the needed money for putting up the school and the teacher's house at Karhani in the ½ acre site that has been leased to us in the hope that later on it could be made over to the Samaj. I shall be thankful if you could read through my earlier letters and send me such information as you think will be helpful. With love and earnest prayers for you and also for Sarojini,

Yours affectionately,

J.D.A.

Copies to.1.Rev.G.Devasahayam,
2. " J.J.P. Tiga. 3. Mrs.B.J.K.

The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, M.A.

"Arulagam", Tambaram,
12th July 1956.

The President & Treasurer,
Gossner Lutheran Church.

Dear Friends,

In his letter dated Calcutta 8th July, Mr.N.E.Horo, Secretary G.E.L.C. has informed me of the action of the C.C. Executive in appointing an N.M.S. Committee for the Gossner Church. I wish to thank you most cordially for this action.

He also recommends that there should be more contacts of the L.N.M.S. Officers with the Gossner congregations and also of Gossner leaders with the L.N.M.S. fields. He has made a personal suggestion that exchange of personnel from various Churches will be of great value and I think we should push forward this idea through the F.E.L.C. All that the L.N.M.S. can do is to foster gospel teams from one field to another; for example one of the Officers of the G.E.L.C. and an Officer of the Ebenezer Church like Rev.K.R.Ghose, President, Bengal Church Council who could give messages in English fluently could tour South India. I would like to discuss this matter more fully with you both.

I trust that Rev.Tiga as Convener of the Calcutta Committee will indicate the dates for the meeting and the arrangements for stay at Calcutta. In connection with this Rev.G.Devasahayam and I could visit Ranchi and meet with the L.N.M.S.Committee probably before Rev.Tiga holds the Calcutta meeting or immediately after the Federation meetings at Calcutta. These matters also may be kindly considered and some definite plan be worked out so that Rev.Devasahayam and I could work out a programme to suit your convenience.

With cordial good wishes,

Yours sincerely,
Asirvadam

Enc.
Copy of the C.C.Secy's letter to/d/-
Calcutta 8.

me

Dear Treasurer Horo,

When you wrote to Rev N.E. Horo kindly tell him that I got his letter only on the 11th, otherwise I would have left Ranchi by the 10th or 11th as he stated, I wrote at once to his Calcutta address, but he might have gone by the time my letter reached Ranchi - so that it could be re-directed to reach him at Bombay. He gave only the date of his sailing - but not the name of his boat or his shipping agents. Kindly give him my cordial good wishes. I am glad he will attend the LWF - CWR meeting. Bishop Ramseam has a fractured foot and is still doubtful if he could fly to attend the meeting.

1956. NMS grant - Have requested you to advise the LWF Financial Secy to transfer Rs 1000/- to the new Treasurer, LNMS (Prof D.T. Chiramyuri M.A. M.Ed, Western Training College, Rangapahar, Assam 14. He is this year acting as Principal, & we are keeping his our treasurer)

Joe

13-7-56

L. B. M. S

No. 833/56

17th July, 6.

To

Mr.Thaneswar Bosumatary,
Gaorang Mission,
P.O.Haltugaon,
Goalpara, ASSAM.

Dear Mr.Bosumatary,

I thank you very much for a copy of your letter to Rev.J.D.Asiryadam dated 10-7-56. This letter has given me the direction which I wanted. I am sure nothing can be achieved without the co-operation of the Assam Christian Council and the Boro Church Council. I thank you for the addresses of the President and Secretary of the Assam Christian Council. I am now waiting to hear from Rev.Asirvadam the attitude of the National Missionary Society and also about the person whom they nominate to be on the team.

The Council of the G.E.L.Church has agreed to take part in this effort of the L.M.M.S. and has also allowed me to be the Convener of this team.

With all good wishes.

Yours sincerely,

President,
G.E.L. Church, Ranchi.

Memo No. 834-36/56

Copy to :-
1) Rev.J.D.Asiryadam.
2) Rev. Jacab Kumaresan.
3) Secretary F.E.L.C.

DT.

1

Dear Mr. Boommalary,

I thank you very much for a copy of your letter to Rev. J.D. Doirvadam dated 10.7.56. This letter has given me the direction which I wanted. I am sure nothing can be achieved without the co-operation of the Assam Christian Council and the Boro Church Council. I thank you for the address of the President and Secretary of the Assam Christian Council. I am now waiting to hear from Rev. Doirvadam the attitude of the National Missionary Society and also about the persons whom they nominate to be on the team.

The Council of the E.E.L. Church has agreed to take part in this effort of the L.M.S. and has also allowed me to be the Convener of this team. With all good wishes

Yours sincerely

Copy to:
1/ Rev. J.D. Doirvadam
Local Kumarsan.
2/ Sec'y E.E.L.C.

जी० ई० एल० चर्च छोटानागपुर और आसाम।

गोस्सनर कलीसा के सब भाई बहिनों के पास।

प्यारे भाईयो और बहिनो,

आप लोगों को मैं प्रभु यीशु खृष्ट के नाम में चिताता हूँ कि,

१ झूठे उपदेशकों से चौकस रहें —

ऐसे लोग आप को आप के उस पवित्र त्राणकारी बपतिस्मा के बिषय सन्देह में डाल कर आप को यीशु मसीह से अलग करना चाहते हैं। ऐसे लोग आप को आप के उस पाये हुए उद्धार के विषय सन्देह में डाल कर आप के उद्धार कर्त्ता के गुणकारीकार्य्य को जो बालकपन में आप को हुआ त्याग कराने के द्वारा यीशु मसीह का निरादर करने को चलाते हैं। क्या आप यीशु का निरादर करेंगे ?

२ अपने बिश्वास में स्थिर रहें —

पवित्र दृढ़िकरण के समय आपने अपने त्राण दाता को खुद ही अपनाया। क्या अभी आप डगमगाने को जोखिम में रखे गये हैं ? पवित्रात्मा की आवाज सुनिये जिसको उसने आप के बपतिस्मा के समय सुनाया—"क्रूश का आकार इस चिन्ह के लिये ग्रहण कर कि तूभी क्रूश पर मरे हुए खृष्ट के द्वारा मुक्त किया गया है।"

फिर आप के दृढ़िकरण के दिन प्रभु मुक्तिदाता ने आप से कहा "तू मृत्युलों बिश्वास योग्य रह और मैं तुझे जीवन का मुकुट दूंगा"।

३ गाली देनेवालों से चौकस रहें — देखिये २ कोर.६:१०

गोस्सनर कलीसा प्रभु यीशु मसीह की कलीसिया है, प्रभु यीशु उसका सिर है उसको गाली देना पाप है। वह आप की आत्मिक माता है। उसको गाली देनेवालों की मंडली में होके यदि कोई इस गाली का सम्भागी होगा तो वह अपना प्रतिफल पावेगा। यदि कोई गोस्सनर कलीसा को यह कह के गाली देता और निन्दित करता है कि उसमें फूट फाट हैं तो वह गोस्सनर कलीसा का वैरी बन के कहां तक मेल मिलाप के जीवन में रहता है ? वह तो आप भी अपने साम्हने एक वैरी बना रखने की कोशिष में है और उसपर द्वेष, ईर्ष्या और डाह की अग्नि का लहर फैला रहा है जिससे सीधे सादे लोगों का जीवन बिगाड़ा जायगा। गाली देनेवाला चौकस रहे। गाली देने वाले की संगति रखने वाला भी चौकस रहे। लाल दीन के अनुगामी बनकर जो गोस्सनर कलीसा से निकल गये उनपर कोई सजा नहीं दी गई। पर गोस्सनर कलीसा को गाली देने वाले को पीछे हो लेने वाले अपनी आत्मिक माता को गाली और निन्दा करने और लाथ मारने वाले ठहरेंगे और वे अवश्य बिचाराधीन और दण्डनीय होंगे।

प्रश्न उठता है कि लालदीन साहब कहां चले गये ? उनका क्या हो गया ? उनके अनुगामियों का क्या जबाब है ? आगे प्रश्न है कि इसी प्रकार ऐसे आने जाने वालों का क्या हिसाब है अथवा क्या ठिकाना है ? जहां उनका दिन रात रहना होता वहीं के बासिन्दे जानते होंगे और वहीं की जनता कह सकती है कि वे कैसे व्यक्ति हैं।

भला, आप को भी प्रभु ने अपना आत्मा दिया है तो आप भी उनके फलों से उनको पहचानेंगे।

अपनी अपनी आत्मिक माता को याद रखिये, पाये हुए उद्धार को धरे रहिये, अपने बिश्वास और प्रतिज्ञा पर बने रहिये। यीशु कहता है, "तू मृत्यु लों बिश्वासयोग्य रह और मैं तुझे जीवन का मुकुट दूंगा"।

आप का शुभाभिलाषी

जे० जे० पी० तीगा

प्रेसिडेन्ट, जी० ई० एल० चर्च ॥

रांची २५-४-५६।

From :-
Thaneswar Bosumatary,
Gaorang Mission,
P.O. Haltugaon,
Goalpara, ASSAM.

Date. 10.7.56.

Dear Rev. Asirvadam,

Very many thanks for sending me the copies of your letters to Rev. D.Westborg, and to Rev. Maguram Mosahary which I have to acknowledged with deep gratitude.

I am really glad to learn that you have taken a great interest in the National Missionary enterprise as,a native pioneer worker. The number of letters you have been writing to people at many places concerned in terms of correspondence re. N.M.S. shows that you have a burning zeal for this new adventure which is likely to create opportunities for furthering the kingdom of God.

I do really appreciate your plans and programmes for undertaken such hazardous activities although it is not yet begun. Personally I want to tender my hearty congretulation to you for this work,because it is first going to be introduced in Assam,where thousands of people,especially, the tribals steeped in ignorance, have been groping in the dark, and marching along the velleys of death. We want all those people come to Jesus and know Him as their personal Saviour.

In the last meeting of our Boro Church Council held in May, we have talked about the N.M.S. matters seriously,and the decision taken at the council was quite favourable,although not in all case active. As you know for truth that the Boro ch. council is constitutionally weak almost in every function due to the fact that we haven't got many trained leaders in our society. Secondly, we must admit that our financial sources are very meagre and limited. Almost more than half of the Budget made for a year for the expenses of the ch. council, comes from the western churched which we can not deny in fact. So it is a pity to say that the Boro christians are badly lacking both active personnels and finance, and this has deeply been felt to be crying needs of the church for a long long time. And unless something is undertaken to do away with these grievances our church can not go ahead. However, we leave everything now before the future of the church.

This is in no case, a crux of the problem to our noble attempts for expediting the N.M.S. work in Assam,as it is a matter of co-operation only,but our church council feels that it has to do something in order to sharethe burden of the works which lie incumbent on us as a co-operative agent. We shall see how far we can help you in this initial stage of the proposed plan.

It is true that the Boros can pick up others languages within a short time. It may however, not be etymological, but whatever they learn they can manage to talk with the strange people wherever they go. It is indeed a matter of interest, and all people can't do the same unless they are interested in it. The problem is now - "Whom shall I send?" as Isiah said, and "Who shall go for us?" and there is no answer in affirmative. It is because of lacking trained leaders amongst us. And unless there are some willing personnels who are ready to sacrifice their life and time for God's kingdom, and unless they boldly can reply to the querry- "Here am I, send me " the Boro ch. council can not force any one to go. We have to create such men from now on who can stir up the whole church for seeking the unique privilege in this competative world for expedition the Missionary enterprise for the extension of God's kingdom.

I am looking for the day of the Investigation committee to be held held shortly in Tezpur if they have settled any, where we can talk smoothly and successfully concerning things in question with the help of the Almighty Father.

I had the privilege to attend the committees meetings of the A.C.C. this fall held in May 2-8th. at Shillong. The council decided fairly that the proposed plan of the N.M.S. for working in Assam,should duely be recommended by the A.C.C. before undertaking any active measures, and all kinds of negotiations concerning the N.M.S. work have to pass through the proper channel, the A.C.C. officers. This was the only decision taken at the A.C.C.in favour of the N.M.S. so far I know.

Please therefore address all correspondence to the officers of the A.C.C. from now on, so that nothing unexpected happens in the long run in working out the plans successfully.

The following persons are the president and the secretary to whom you can write for negotiations:

(i) Rev. J. Amritanand, Bishop of Assam, president .

(ii) Rev. B.D. Pugh . secretary, ACC. Office, Dinam Hall, SHILLONG.

We shall all remember you in our daily prayer, especially for the Balipara Mission work which is our binding target before the pace of the Lutheran Churches throughout India.

Thankyou,

Sincerely yours,

Thaneswar Boswmatary
(acting. Secretary, B.C.C.)

Copy forwarded to

1. Rev. J. J. P. Tiga
2. Rev. D. Westborg.

Minutes of the Officers' meeting held at Central Station, Madras, on 3rd June 1956 at 5-30 P.M.

Those present: The Rev. G. Devasahayam, President, L.N.M.S.
The Rev. J.D. Asirvadam, President Emeritus, L.N.M.S.
Prof. D.T. Chiranjivi, Treasurer, L.N.M.S.
The Rev. J. Kumaresan, Secretary, L.N.M.S.

The meeting began with prayer by the President Emeritus.

1. DISTRIBUTION OF WORK AMONG OFFICERS: RESOLVED that reports and all correspondence from the field be addressed to the President with a copy to the Secretary, who on instructions from the President will take necessary action.

The Secretary shall be in charge of correspondence with the Churches and of publicity work. He shall also arrange for deputation work in consultation with the President.

Special tasks with regard to preparation for Sahdol Medical, exploration of Assam work and raising of extra funds needed for our growing work through monthly subscription sheets and donation lists for Kotma Building Fund are entrusted to the President Emeritus.

The Treasurer will be in charge of accounts and connected matters

2. THE L.N.M.S. BANK ACCOUNT: RESOLVED -

(a) that Sri D.T. Chiranjivi, Treasurer, L.N.M.S. be authorised to operate on the Current Account with the State Bank of India, Mount Road, Madras with effect from July 1, 1956 and that Rev.G.Devasahayam's power to operate on the account be cancelled with effect from 30th June 1956.

(b) that the L.N.M.S. accounts standing with the State Bank of India, Guntur, be transferred to the State Bank of India, Mount Road, Madras.

The Treasurer reported that he would visit Guntur to take over charge of L.N.M.S. accounts and at the same time audit the accounts for 1955 along with Mr. J. Paulus.

The Secretary is requested to arrange for publicity in the Gospel Witness and other vernacular papers regarding the transfer of accounts.

(c) Loan to Teacher Surin: RESOLVED to sanction a loan of Rs.250/- to Tr.Surin from his Provident Fund Account.

3. FINANCIAL MATTERS: (a) Pending Bills: RESOLVED to pass for payment the following two N.M.S. Press bills:-

500 copies of reprint on Balipara Mission Work.	Rs.6 12 0
200 copies of reprint from the Tamil Deepigai on Sahdol Project.	4 6 0
	11 2 0

(b) Typewriter: The Secretary is asked to notify in the Gospel Witness and the N.M.I. the need for a typewriter for L.N.M.S. work.

(c) Clerical allowance for Surguja Board work: The Chairman of the Surguja Board is requested to claim the sum of Rs.15/- sanctioned by the Surguja Board in its 1953 minute towards the L.N.M.S. President's office expenses.

(d) Letterheads: The Secretary is authorised to print L.N.M.S. letterheads - 1000 copies of the small and 500 copies of the big size.

(e) Advance for office expenses: The Treasurer is requested to make advances every quarter on the basis of average expenses.

(f) Advance to Treasury: The Rev.G.Devasahayam reported that Rs.2000/- has been received as A.E.L.C. advance to the L.N.M.S.Treasury.

(g) Monthly Remittance: Monthly remittances for Kotma and Murwahi shall be sent to concerned missionaries: The Rev.Raymond Martin for Kotma and Karhani: Mrs.B.J.Krupadanam for Murwahi and Usad.

4. BOOKPOST RESTRICTIONS: In view of Postal Regulation No.57(7) it is advisable to send all typed communications as letters unless these be sent 20 at a time.

5. FIELD MATTERS: (a) Murwahi - (i) Hostel and Night Schools: Read letter of Mrs.Krupadanam. Noted with satisfaction that the dispensary building will be used as hostel for boys from Usad etc. RESOLVED that Evangelist Kandulna help in establishing a night school at a suitable centre.

(ii) Additional worker: RESOLVED to give an additional worker to Mrs.Krupadanam and he shall live at a village within easy reach of Evangelist Kandulna and plan for joint evangelistic work by visits to neighbouring villages according to agreed weekly programmes. He will establish a night school at another centre.

(iii) Mrs. Krupadanam: RESOLVED to appoint Mrs.Krupadanam as Correspondent of the Usad School.

(b) Karhani: In view of Rev.Raymond Martin's letter regarding the monsoon having set in already, RESOLVED that the construction at Karhani be postponed till after September.

(c) Kotma Construction: The President Emeritus is requested to raise money to complete the construction of the quarters for the married missionary as soon after the rains as possible.

6. SURGUJA: The President, L.N.M.S. as Chairman of the Surguja Board reported that on the recommendation of the Surguja Board and the action of the A.E.L.C. Executive, the Rev.B.Ananda Rao is released for work as missionary in charge of Surguja work. RESOLVED that he be appointed as L.N.M.S. missionary for the Surguja Field. Further RESOLVED that this action be communicated to the General Secretary, N.M.S. so that the Rev. B.Ananda Rao be accepted as N.M.S. missionary assigned for Surguja work.

NOTE: Confirmation of L.N.M.S. members to the appointment of Rev.B.Ananda Rao as L.N.M.S. missionary for the Surguja Field may be communicated to reach the Secretary within a week of receipt of this letter.

7. ASSAM WORK: The President Emeritus reported on the progress made with regard to the Assam exploratory work. Read correspondence of the Secretary and Bishop Manikam regarding the L.W.F.-C.W.M. grant of $.75.00 per quarter for Assam exploratory work. RESOLVED to authorise the Treasurer, L.N.M.S. to draw the needed amounts from the L.W.F. Financial Secretary as need arises.

8. DR. RAMABAI GOPAL: It was reported that L.N.M.S. references to the A.E.L.C. will be considered by the A.E.L.C. Executive in July. A.E.L.C. action and subsequent report of the Special Committee appointed by the Council are awaited.

9. CELEBRATION OF JULY 9th: RESOLVED to authorise the Secretary to arrange for the printing of 1000 copies of a call to commemorate the Ziegenbalg Jubilee in consultation with the President, F.E.L.C. and to distribute the call through the Presidents of Constituent Churches.

10. N.M.S. COMMITTEES OF THE CONSTITUENT CHURCHES: The N.M.S. Committees of the T.E.L.C. and A.E.L.C. are requested to send the minutes of their meetings to the Secretary, L.N.M.S. for information, and the Secretary, L.N.M.S. is requested to circulate the minutes among the Officers and report on relevant matters to the members of Council.

11. STUDY HELP FOR MR. B.J. OPHIR: The President and Treasurer are requested to look into the matter regarding the help so far obtained for Mr.Ophir's last year of study at the Andhra Christian College andmake proposals for any further help.

12. BAPTISM OF SUSHEEL KUMAR: Letter of the Rev.P.Juliusson dated Kodaikana 1st June 1956 urging early action, and the reply of the President

(3) Monthly Remittances: The Rev.Raymond Nesbitt reported that remittances to date amounted to $2,500.00. Need continues for generous contributions.

Emeritus. RESOLVED to refer the matter to the Rev.Nesbitt for immediate advice.

4. BOOKMOBILE RESTRICTIONS: It is Postal Regulation that no person may receive more than 4 books at one time. The Librarian explained that this regulation was necessary to avoid the possibility of contagious diseases being spread through the use of books. The meeting ended with prayer by the President. Time 8:15 P.M.

Motion to adjourn by Mrs. Bigelow (1) - Second by Miss Lafleur (1) - Motion carried unanimously. Respectfully submitted,

Secretary, L.W.M.S.

25 Feb. 1956

5. DR. MANABAI GOPAL: If Miss Peterson has not reported that L.W.M.S. references to the A.E.L.C. will be considered by the A.E.L.C. Executive at July. A.E.L.C. action and suspension of the special Committee appointed by the Council are awaited.

6. GENERATION OF LOVE OFF: REQUESTED to authorize the Secretary to arrange for the printing of 5000 copies of a call to commemorate the Niagara 25 in consultation with the President, L.E.L.C. and to distribute the call through the President of Conservation Churches.

10. L.N.S. COMMITTEES ON THE CONSTITUENT CHURCHES: The L.W.M.S. committees of the L.E.L.C. and A.E.L.C. are requested to send the minutes of their meetings to the Secretary, L.W.M.S. for information, and the Secretary, L.N.M.S. is requested to circulate the minutes among the Districts and report on relevant matters to the members of Council.

11. STUDY HALF FOR MR. B.L. OHIN: The President and Treasurer are requested to look into the matter regarding the need to set aside funds for the Canadian College students presently at the Gurukula Research Institute, Kodaikanal for any further help.

12. PAYMENT OF SUSPENSE ACCOUNT: Letter of the Rev.P.Mullinsson dated Kodaikanal, June 15th, 1955 regarding the matter recently settled, and the reply of the President

Tamtaram
20-7-56.

Dear President Tiga,

Thank you for your letter of 17th July to Mr Thanesharan Basumatary. I agree the first thing to be done is to secure the Consent of the A.C.C. The N.R.S. also is anxious that this should be secured first. I had written on this matter again and again, and requested from the Contact lay Correspondence Assam Church Leaders known to you, ~~and~~ and particularly the Secy of the A.C.C known to you. The N.R.S long ago Communicated the resolutions of July 1956 to the Heads of Churches in Assam, & to the President & Secy A.C.C.

The Gen. Secy Miss K. Sircar is the N.R.S representative on the Team and she will be free in Oct, Nov and early Dec. If you fix a date in advance, that will help everybody to keep the dates free. All are eager to ~~go~~ attend the meeting of the Team. I had suggested that Rev D Westberg the Hon Pres. of the Boys Church Council, the President of the Santal Church Council ~~also~~ Could also be invited as special visitors at their own Cost — and also the President of the Assam Synod who would be at hand at Tezpur. To give the Churches behind this enterprise, all Assam Church Presidents Could be invited to Cooperate in the work of the Team. In the absence of a definite word from you, it is just only a proposal. Only Jesus

as Team leader can regularize it.

In my letter to the LWF-CWM, I have outlined the three aspects of the work immediately ahead of us, and I trust you will elaborate on them or modify them in the light of the information you gather in the preparatory work. Anything I have stated in my article in the N.M.I. or in this letter to the LWF is purely tentative, and only as the Team meets and grapples with the problem, the actual plan will emerge, and when the LNMS has considered the report of action on it, the Team's plan becomes authoritative.

The LNMS Secy is sending to all the LNMS members a tentative proposal I make to CWM to set a paul as small budget from 1957 for training missionaries. For the present, I shall be happy if a graduate B.A, B.D, or B.D. is appointed missionary to be helped by Boro evangelists. As the Boro persons you suggested is not available, it would be Groom's privilege to minister this great work - which keeping in view our permanent objectives of getting Akas & Dugas personnel trained as quickly as possible. Till Rev. let us take Boro persons & train them also for this large leadership side by side with the Garo men & women who by that time would have gained very valuable experiences.

Have you some one who can lead the Legion 7 evangelistic plan for the next 2 or 3 years to Garo Hills? I am glad you are coming to the Garo Hills Conference. I am expecting you. I trust most of 29/4 etc have reached you.

Yours sincerely
D. D. Aswani

The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, M.A.

"Arulagam", Tambaram,
20th July 1956.

The Director,
L.W.F. Commission on World Missions.

Dear Dr.Birkeli,

In regard to the Assam Border explorations, the following minute was adopted by the Lutheran N.M.S. Council at its meeting dated 14th April 1956;

> "Minute 10 Assam Border Work: Rev.J.D.Asirvadam traced the developments connected with Assam Border work and reported that when the Team of Investigation sends its proposals definite action will be taken to select the needed workers and vote the budget for this new work. He also reported that the Boro Church Council of the Ebenezer Church and the Assam Synod of the Gossner Church are willing to co-operate.
> RESOLVED to accept the report with deep gratitude to God for the new door that is opening.
> Further RESOLVED to express hearty thanks to the L.W.F. Commission on World Missions for its grant of ₹.300.00 for Assam Border work of which the first instalment has already been received by the L.W.F. Financial Secretary. So far only a sum of Rs.100/- has been drawn on this account towards the expenses of the exploratory meeting held at Calcutta on October 25, 1955."

A copy of the minutes of the exploratory meeting held at Calcutta has already been forwarded to the Director of the Commission on World Missions and also a reprint of an article that has appeared in the National Missionary Intelligencer in its May issue.

Owing to the monsoon having broken out earlier than usual, the Team of Investigation has not yet held its meeting in Tezpur which is being looked forward with very great interest by all those who have been appointed to serve thereon. The team consists of representatives of the Gossner Church-The Rev.J.J.P.Tiga, Ranchi, the Rev.M.Hemron, Tezpur, Assam; representatives of the Ebenezer Church-The Rev.Maguram Mosahary, Assam, Mr.Thanishwar Basumatory, Assam; a representative of the National Missionary Society-Miss K. Sircar, General Secretary, N.M.S., Allahabad. In addition to the above members of whom the Rev.Tiga has been appointed as Chairman, the President of the Assam Synod and the President of the Santal Church Council of Assam of the Ebenezer Church are being invited to be present.

Gossner

The Rev.M.Mosahary who has recently been appointed as the President of the Boro Church Council regarding whom the former President, the Rev.David Westborg has written in the highest terms of appreciation of his earnest missionary spirit and who has been keenly interested in carrying the gospel to Bhutan, writes as follows:

> "I have with great joy spread the news abroad the Boro congregations as soon as I received your communications concerning N.M.S. matters.....We have keen interest and ambition to join and co-operate in expediting missionary work among the Akha and Dufla tribal brethren in Assam. A couple of years ago, we were led to investigate the possibilities if we could enter the Dufla Hills and start missionary work there,but owing to some political complication that was going on in that particular area none was permitted to go in. The way is however open now. I thank God for all His miracles. .....My heart really becomes sad whenever I notice the curious faces of the Dufla brethren rambling up and down the Hills seeking for peace in their hearts. The burden of witnessing Christ as Saviour of souls and planting His rule in the very hearts of the people is now resting upon us which we must not delay to carry on. If we co-operate in this great work from the beginning, I have no doubt that the work we do for God

must bear fruit in the long run. Please pray also for the ministry held up in Bhutan and for the people there. Regarding the Tezpur Committee, I have to state that the communication to reach Tezpur is not easy due to rain this summer time. So I from my point of view would say that it would be more convenient for all if this meeting be held right after the rainy season."

In regard to the Gossner congregations in Assam, the Rev.M. Hemron had reported earlier that prayer groups were being formed in various centres in preparation for this work.

At a recent meeting of the Gossner Church Council Executive held at Ranchi before Secretary N.E. Horo left for Europe, a special N.M.S. Committee has been formed which besides co-operating in the work in Mid-India will give its full support for the proposed work in Assam Border. The matter came up also before the Headquarters Committee of the National Missionary Society in Madras on 12th July and Miss Sircar said that she was planning to go to the North in October and therefore she would be ready to join the Team of Investigation at any time. The whole Committee strongly backed up the proposal that she should be associated in the work of this Committee. We are in the meanwhile trying to secure the consent of the Protestant bodies working in Assam and the Assam Church Council on which all these Churches and Missions are represented, will be the body which will take decisive action on the request of the National Missionary Executive Council.

As early as February 3, 1956, the National Missionary Executive at its half-yearly meeting adopted the following resolution:-

"The N.M.S. is in favour of the recommendation of the Lutheran N.M.S. that work be opened in the western area of the North-East Frontier Agency with Tezpur (Darrang Dt) as temporary base for seeking to enter the tribal area of Balipara (inhabited by the Aka tribe and the western section of the Dufla tribe). RESOLVED that the Society communicate the proposal to the Baptists, the United Church of North India and the Church of India, Pakistan, Burma and Ceylon in Assam and obtain their consent and goodwill for work in this western section of Balipara being started by the N.M.S. through the L.N.M.S. as its agency, as the Agency (North-East Frontier Agency) area to the North of Tezpur is nearest to both the Ebenezer and Gossner Churches in Assam."

The programme of the N.M.S. in regard to this enterprise is as follows: (i) to secure the consent of the Assam Christian Council for this area being assigned to the NMS to be worked in the interests of the Lutheran Churches in India; (ii) to get detailed proposals from the Team of Investigation as to the actual villages ~~on~~ in the section of West Balipara where the work is to be started, the personnel to be selected for immediate language training with a view to enter the new area within six months. ~~and~~ Also the need to select ~~if possible at least~~ two well educated men to help to lead the work after some years of training. As the missionaries and national leaders of the Boro Church particularly stress the extreme importance of selecting and training people, this will be an important item in the budget for the next 3-5 years. (iii) to be in friendly contact with administrative officials so that besides missionary work, the N.M.S. can co-operate in the governmental programme for tribal uplift.

We in India are grateful for the warm interest that the Officers of the C.W.M. have shown in this project and in the interests of the work, we wish to make the support for this work come from our Churches of the Federation in India as was strongly

recommended by the F.E.L.C. Executive in 1955. The Federation minute which gives full backing to the L.N.M.S. to make this an indigenous effort and the C.W.M's point of view that ~~this money~~ will be available only for the exploratory work, has made it clear that in the exploratory period of the next five years, there is distinct advantage to get the work proceed purely as an indigenous effort and await further developments. So while thanking you for the initial help that you have given and promising you to keep you fully informed of the progress of our effort from time to time, we do not wish to make any financial demand for the work when it is actually started. We shall value the prayers and the warm interest of all behind the work of the Commission on World Missions in this enterprise with its very special challenge to the Lutherans not only in Assam but throughout India.

its grant

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Copies to Bishop R.B. Manikam
The Rev.J.J.P.Tiga

An exploratory letter - Early Mss to NMS on the Tezam's re Commendations
Lapse of official archives

The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, M.A. "Arulagam", Tambaram,
4th August 1956.

The Rev.Maguram Mosahary,
President, Boro Church Council.

Dear Rev.Mosahary,

Your letter has given us all very great joy and I have quoted it in my letters to the N.M.S. and the Lutheran N.M.S. Council members and to Geneva, Bishop Manikam and many others. I am exceedingly grateful for your warmhearted missionary zeal and I would very much like to have an opportunity to meet you and talk things over. I may be at Calcutta for the Calcutta Work Committee meeting. I wonder whether you could come there and if so, what it would cost for you for the journey to and fro and have you a friend with whom you could stay at Calcutta. I am due at Calcutta on October 6-8 and I would like to meet you all these three days. I shall try to find the needed money for this journey.

There are several questions I would like to put before you arising out of your earnest plea for leadership training and I was remarkably struck by what Mr.Basumatary has also said in regard to this. I shall also write to Mr.Basumatary and send you a copy and both you and he will have to consider these problems. I would very much like that Mr.Basumatary comes with you to Calcutta, but I do not know whether money could be found for both. I shall be really happy to be able to meet both of you for to me the future of our Balipara work rests entirely with the Boro Church Council.

Leader of the Balipara work: We had hoped that your L.Th. member recommended both by Rev.Bjerkestrand and Rev.Tiga could become our first missionary to Balipara, but Rev.Westborg has said that the Church has other plans for him and that he would not be available. So I have asked Rev.Tiga to give us a theologically trained person with some experience also in ~~this~~ work. But the aim of the Lutheran N.M.S. is that sooner or later we should get a Boro missionary and if you could select a man with S.S.L.C. or Inter qualification I would like to explore the possibility of his completing the B.A. and then taking the B.D. at Serampore if not at Gurukul. The next Gurukul class will begin in 1959 and unless a man passes his B.A. he would not be admitted at Gurukul at Madras which is a B.D. College and a theological research centre. If you have a man who is now in the second University class and if he is a good student and can finish the course without any interruption, then he would be available, we could get a scholarship for him at Gurukul; otherwise the only possibility is Serampore. Serampore takes even S.S.L.C. men for L.Th. training but it is better that he is at least an Intermediate so that he may do the preliminary B.D. and afterwards the three year B.D. which would mean four years theological course. If he is a B.A. only three years are needed.

In view of your and Mr.Basumatary's statements, I feel very burdened if such persons could be found. I have specially stressed this need in my letters to Dr.F.Birkeli. If you have a Matriculate or an Intermediate whom the Church could recommend to become an L.N.M.S. missionary, we can consider possibilities of providing the needed training because we believe that to win Mongolians, we must use Mongolian personnel. Rev.Tiga also feels that though for the time being we shall have to use one of the Gossner men, an Uraon or a Munda, we should aim at a Boro missionary for the Balipara work. This problem is immediate but we may not get a Boro missionary till after three to six or seven years.

Boro Evangelists: Immediately we need Boro evangelists. My thought is that we should select six men of the L.Th.grade. If they are married we should train also the wives so that they may work among the women. I would very much like that the

Boro Church Council selects after much prayerful consideration persons with a missionary zeal willing to endure hardship. Do you think bachelors would be better or married people? To work both among men and women we should have married couples though there may be one or two bachelors. We cannot train single women as Bible Women, and send them to lonely places. Single biblewoman can go only when there are congregations and life is more settled, but for pioneering work it is better to send either bachelors or married people. If you can select 6 people, then the problem is to give them training. They must get a regular course at least for six months in Bible knowledge and in evangelistic methods. I would very much like that this course is given at Haltugaon where we have Rev. Westborg, Mr. Basumatary and probably other Christian teachers who can share in the training. I know that all these have their own work, but I would appeal to each of them to do this as a special service until the Lutheran N.M.S. is later able to establish a regular seminary to give training for Boro and other Mongolian personnel.

As you are evidently in a more distant place, I would very much like you to give about a week, a month, or ten days in six weeks to share your pioneering experience with them and tell them about the proper methods of approach. Your personal contact with these men will be of very great value and even when the work begins, I would like the Boro Church Council to have a little share in the work by sending its President for visits once in three months for which the expenses will be paid by the Lutheran N.M.S. because the men whom we send would need continual fellowship and encouragement. In addition to Bible knowledge and evangelistic methods, I am anxious that during the six months training these evangelist candidates should learn the Dufla language. I hear that there are some Dufla Christians. Will it be possible for us to use the Dufla Christians, to teach the Dufla language to our Boro evangelists? If there are Duflas in Haltugaon who are having some work of their own, we could give them some remuneration for teaching Boros the Dufla language. I take it that it is not yet a written language and it has to be learned only by conversation. On this matter I am absolutely in the dark and I shall value your information.

I am sending copies of this letter to Rev. David Westborg, the Acting Secretary and also the Treasurer because we need the co-operation of all the Officers. The Lutheran N.M.S. works in closest co-operation with the co-operating Churches and in respect of the Balipara work we want the wholehearted support and co-operation of the Boro Church Council.

The success of our work in Surguja has been due to giving the gospel in music and in selecting the evangelists I would suggest that they should be men who would be able to sing Dufla songs to the accompaniment of Dufla instruments for the story of the Cross, the creed and the prayer could be more effectively taught in songs than by mere word of mouth. We have found this very helpful in every N.M.S. field to sing the gospel and the story of the Cross into the hearts of the people.

With loving greetings and earnest prayers for the Lord's blessing upon the implementation of the desire that He Himself has put into our hearts in respect of taking the gospel to the Duflas and Akas,

Yours in His Service,

D.E.

The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, M.A.

"Arulagam", Tamberam,
7th August 1956.

Mr.Thanishwar Basumatary,
Haltugaon.

-S-

Dear Mr.Basumatary,

You have already received Rev.Figa's letter and the warm reaction which indicates the warm response that your letter has evoked in NMS circles. I enclose a copy of a letter to the President, Boro Church Council which was written in the background of the problem of leadership training which both you and Rev.Mosahary raised in your recent letters and regarding which we have been conferring with various people.

As yours is the educational field, you are doubtless in touch with the young personnel that would be available for being trained for our missionary task in Balipara. Immediately we shall aim at having six evangelists trained. Our minimum should be 4 and in this matter we shall look to you and the President and other members of the Boro Council to select suitable men who will not only have the missionary zeal but also be able-bodied men who would stand the rough life that lies ahead of them. The first batch of 4 to 6 people will have to be given a speedy training not only in Bible study and evangelistic methods but also in the language. We thought of sending two men to the Akas and 4 men to the Duflas, but it may be that we have to begin with the Duflas to start with. At first we thought of Tezpur as the place of training them but I begin to think that it would be better that these Boros are trained at Haltugaon and therefore we would request you to be the honorary Warden of these evangelist-candidates and suggest to us a course of training and especially secure someone to teach them the Dufla language.

Another problem that we will have to think of is that even though immediately the prospect of a Boro missionary cannot be realised as we at one time thought was possible, we should not lose time to give higher leadership training to one or two. We would need to select at least a well-qualified Matriculate who has finished his High School training with good success for he must be one who would profit by College education. If you have already an Intermediate man that would be even better. But you would be able to tell us immediately if even a Matriculate is available for being sent for College training in July 1957. We feel that this call has come from God and therefore He is leading us and He will provide the men but we shall have to seek His Guidance at every step and be willing to make the sacrifice needed to carry out His will.

You and Rev.Mosahary with Rev.Westborg will form a team for preparing the ground for starting the work. For one thing we want all the Boro congregations to stand behind this work in prayer. The second Sunday in October is our NMS Day of Prayer and I hope that that Sunday will be observed in all the Boro congregations and I am writing also to the President of the Santal Church Council so that they may also observe the day as the Christians in the Gossner Church in Assam will do. I think we should begin to ask people from now on to give an offering for this Balipara work. In Gossner homes they give one handful of rice for every meal they cook. Can such an offering be thought of in the homes of the Ebenezer Christians in Assam, but the main thing is to give the news and make them interested and ask them to pray for the work and then the gift will follow.

With regard to people with monthly salaries, we are asking every Church member to give a regular monthly subscription and I am sending you a copy of the printed form that we circulatein our parishes. There may be very few people among the Boros who have monthly salaries but they could learn to give regularly every month and others could give in kind. Both of you have referred to the poverty of the Boro Christians but yet the poor in the eye of the world may be rich in giving for the Lord and that brings a rich blessing to our work and therefore we shall ask you three to consider how to create this interest among the Boro people and make them hand over individual donations and in their family worship and also in their congregational worship at least once a month to pray for and remember this Balipara work in earnest intercession.

I have not much to write to you but I feel I have much to learn from you and therefore I shall be grateful if you would consider me as your own brother in Christ and write to me as fully as possible. I am happy that the Goalpara Boro Baptist Church Union Secretary has written very warmly in reply to the General Secretary's letter which was drafted by me and sent to the heads of all Churches in Assam and to the Officers of the Assam Christian Council.

With cordial greetings,

Yours sincerely,

Copies to the Boro Church Council Officers.

Recd. H.T. 27/7/56

L.N.M.S

5

No.9, Thambuswamy Road, Madras-10
22nd July 1956.

The Members of the L.N.M.S. Executive:

With reference to Minute 5(d) of the Officers' meeting dated June 1956 on Surguja Board, the N.M.S. Officers feel that with a view to accept Rev.B.Ananda Rao as N.M.S. Missionary the last clause "RESOLVED to inform the General Secretary" is to be modified as follows: "Further RESOLVED to recommend that the newly appointed L.N.M.S. missionary, the Rev.B.Ananda Rao be appointed as N.M.S. missionary". I am submitting this modified minute in consultation with the President of the L.N.M.S. Your vote is requested.

J. Kumaresan.
Secretary

The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, M.A.

"Arulagam", Tambaram,
21st July 1956.

-2-

Mr.Thanishwar Basumatary,
Assam.

Dear Mr.Basumatary,

I am sending you a copy of my letter to Mr.Mosahary. Yours of the 10th came a few days earlier. Probably the copy of your letter sent to Rev.Mosahary has expedited his letter to me. I am grateful for all that you say in appreciation of what the L.N.M.S. has done to bring the challenge of Assam border to our Lutheran Churches in India. I am also grateful for all that Rev.Westborg and the whole Boro Church Council has done for us.

Both you and Rev.Mosahary have drawn attention to two serious handicaps (1) the lack of trained personnel and the other availability of adequate money resources for the work. I think in both these matters we must in faith go forward and plan for the future. The fact that you and we shall co-operate in the N.M.S. work must be a source of mutual strength for us all. From what you say I take it that the Boros can easily pick up the language of the Akas and the Duflas. I wonder whether the Akas and the Duflas follow a special script. The Department of Education of the Government of India is anxious to introduce the Nagari Script in preference to the Roman Script, but I wonder whether there are books for the Akas and the Duflas, as I believe there are for the Boros in the Roman Script.

Rev.Westborg stated that there may be Dufla evangelists among the Baptists but I wrote to him that we in the Lutheran N.M.S. feel that it is better to train up our own people and if we get some Dufla converts we could take the young people and train them and in that way have our own evangelising agency. It will be easier for us to take any other non-Baptists than Baptists. I do not know what your experience is. I did write to Rev.Westborg that if there is no other way of reaching the Duflas except by getting some Baptist Dufla evangelists, then it is better to have the Baptist evangelists and start the work than not start the work at all. As you are in the educational work, we shall look to you for detailed advice in regard to how to train our Boros to learn the Aka and the Dufla language. We would be quite willing that the men who are trained in the Aka and the Dufla languages take up work as even Government school teachers in Balipara and we could use that money thus released for training more Boros to enter Balipara and also take up Dufla boys and give them training. For example, if we can have two Boro evangelists in the Dufla area, we could even give them money to gather Dufla boys and their wives could gather Dufla girls andkeep two boarding homes say for 6 boys and 6 girls to start with which can be steadily increased or if Government is going to give these facilities, our people with proper training could be sent to Government schools. When Government is looking for teachers for Dufla villages, I think they would be willing to take these Boros who have learned Dufla to become Government school teachers. Along this line we could explore possibilities and we shall greatly value your advice and detailed proposals. When the Team of Investigation meets at Tezpur, I am very anxious that Rev.Westborg also should be present and share in the delibrations.

Now I have some special questions for you with reference to the Assam Council meeting. I wonder whether you could quote the exact minute on this Balipara proposal from the N.M.S. If you have a copy of the minutes, I shall be glad to get an extract of that particular minute. I am also writing to Rev.B.D.Pugh, Secretary, A.C.C. But more than that I would like you to tell me whether there was a friendly response or whether there were expressions of doubt and difficulties. The President of the A.C.C. is a Vice-President of the N.M.S. Executive and probably he may be present at the second half-yearly meeting of the N.M.S. Executive to be held at Nagpur on September 28-30. If he comes there, we shall also meet him and get to know things personally from him as to the attitude of the various bodies in the A.C.C. with reference to the N.M.S. request that West Balipara be assigned as NMS field to be worked by the Lutherans.

It has been most encouraging to get such a warm response from you to this effort and you have stated the handicaps very clearly and frankly, and in regard to the A.C.C. discussion I would like to get a little more clearness as to the various points of view that might have been raised there. We are very happy that the Boro Church Council has appointed you as a member of the Team of Investigation and we shall look to your advice especially from the point of view of training our workers.

With cordial greetings,

Yours sincerely,

Copies to
The Rev. David Westborg
The Rev. M. Mosahary.
The Rev. J. J. P. Tigga

9, Thambuswamy Road, Madras-10
20th July 1956.

THE MEMBERS OF THE LUTHERAN M.M.S. COUNCIL.

The President Emeritus in charge of the Balipara Mission Exploration in the light of recent letters from the Boro Church Council representatives on the Team of Investigation dated 13th and 14th July, has made a proposal to the Director of the L.W.F. Commission on World Missions. Whereas the Lutheran M.M.S. will take care of actual expenses in the West Balipara Field when the work begins, it might be helpful if the question of leadership training goes before the said Commission and as it is essential for us to secure Mongolian personnel for leadership in the work at least after six or more years, I am circulating a copy of the letter that is going to Dr.Birkeli for your consideration and endorsement. As our Council will meet only early next year and as the matter of policy of this importance should receive the backing of the full Council at least in correspondence, I shall be grateful if your reply is communicated to me within three days after receipt of this letter. Non-receipt of a reply within a week from the date of issue will be taken to mean that ~~there is~~ there is no objection to this proposal.

J. Kamarason,
Secretary.

The Rev.J.P.Anirvadam, M.A.

"Arulagam", Tambaram,
20th July 1956.

The Director,
L.W.F.Department,
Commission on World Missions.

Dear Dr.Birkeli,

Recent letters from the two representatives of the Boro Church Council, one a keen evangelist and the other a layman Headmaster of a school who is also a member of the Assam Christian Council, have set me to thinking the situation in Boro which has a direct bearing also upon the future work in Balipara. Both have pointed out two very serious handicaps, (1) that in the Boro Church leadership training has not gone on as fast as it should have and secondly the people are poor. Rev.P.Westborg who is certainly known to you has been known to me from the days of the Second World War and I have been particularly impressed with his keen missionary eagerness to enter Bhutan which is still a closed field being ruled by an independent King. Though in regard to foreign affairs, the Government of India controls the situation, the King of Bhutan is independent in regard to internal administration and he is still against Christian work being permitted in the State. He has a warm appreciation of his Boro colleagues and I am sure ~~you~~ will endorse what these two Officers of the Boro Church have written to me in their letters of 10th and 14th July.

With reference to our Balipara work, I have been in correspondence with Rev.Westborg and told him that we would need six men of the middle school grade with some Bible training to learn the Aka or the Dufla language and be ready after six months to enter the Balipara villages. The L.N.M.S. will take care of their training for six months, but there is also the problem of a higher type of leadership. There was only one person who had taken the L.Th. course at Serampore. He had not completed his three year theological course but Rev.Bjerkestrand and Rev.Tiga had both suggested that he would be the right man to lead this Balipara Mission as L.N.M.S. missionary. But Rev.Westborg has said that he is being sent to America for further theological training.

It might be possible for us to take a Goesner trained worker to lead the Mission. But I believe that it would be the right policy to use Mongolians to win Mongolians and therefore I feel that the immediate problem that we may have to face will be to take two men of the High School grade and send them to Serampore for a degree course in Arts and also make them later take the B.D. Course. That would mean a period of 7 years. It may be more easy for us to get scholarships for the B.D. course, but for the Arts Course the first intermediate years and the next two B.A. years the full cost will have to be met. The thought occurs to me that while we shall not ask for any help for the actual work in Balipara, would it not be possible for the C.W.M. to take care of this leadership training? We would on the recommendation of the Boro Church Council select the men and they would be sent to Serampore which is a very good centre for Christian training. Dr.Manikam is better acquainted with the Assam Christian College but whichever institution would be considered better for our Boro youngmen we must find the needed money for training them. I do not want this money to be given to the L.N.M.S. but could any scholarship programme that the C.W.M. or any other Department is handling be persuaded to make this a definite matter of policy to foster leadership in our backward Churches? If for the year 1957 you could provide for two men being supported for six months July to December, the money being made available to the Treasurer of the Boro Church Council for two students already in March 1957, the cost per student for the first six months might be ₹.100.00. If you could get ₹.200.00 voted for this leadership training, we can get the scheme started. Next year it would mean ₹.400.00 for these two students until they complete the course in four years. I am making this suggestion purely on the earnest plea of the two Boro leaders for leadership training, and when the Assam Border affair comes up for discussion, we would very much like that this particular problem is put before the C.W.M. and if they support this plea for the leaders to be trained to win new areas for

Christ, I am sure it will be a very great step forward. In the meanwhile the report of the Team of Investigation will be available and also the Boro Church Council will be asked to select two people for being trained as future missionaries to Balipara. It is my own hope that if the C.W.M. gives this help to provide the needed missionaries for Balipara, the Church itself would appeal to the Santal Mission of the Northern Churches and get the scheme worked out. With a view to gain time, I am making this as my own proposal as the member in charge of Balipara Mission exploration and I shall in the meanwhile circulate this proposal among the members of the Executive and request Bishop Manikam who has always been eager to push forward leadership training in every Church to take it up personally with you at the meeting of the Council. I shall get this matter formally communicated to you before the Commission meets.

Yours sincerely,

The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, M.A.

"Arulagam", Tambaram,
22nd July 1956.

The General Secretary,
N.M.S.

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Dear Miss Sircar,

I hope you have received the copy of my letter to Rev.Raymond Martin, N.M.S. missionary at Kotma. He has been very agreeably surprised that both you and I could visit the field immediately after the N.M.S. Executive meeting at Nagpur. I trust you will keep those dates free for this visit. I intend to leave on 1st October for Kotma via Bilaspur and Anuppur and if we could both travel together, that would be very good indeed.

Could you plan to give a week for this field? We may spend 3 days to visit Kotma, Bijuri, a station that was opened only on July 9th as soon as an old experienced worker, Mr.Sudharam was available to initiate this work and later Sahdol, which is to be our medical centre. To the South of Sahdol, we have the area where we have the largest Adivasi element in the whole of Vindhya Pradesh. When once our medical work and evangelistic work are formally established at Sahdol, we wish to concentrate on this area preparing proper Adivasi personnel for this evangelistic effort. Rev.Raymond Martin has also reported that the Ranchi Church Council is sending an evangelist to help him at Kotma, as former Evangelist Kandulna having been sent to Murwahi to help Mrs.Krupadanam. I have already sent to the N.M.S. House some information for being inserted in the August N.M.I., namely, (i) the inauguration of the new station Bijuri on July 9th, the Ziegenbalg Jubilee Day. Bijuri is to the east of Kotma and the last railway station in Vindhya Pradesh on the branch line from Anuppur to Chirmiri in former Korea State. Bijuri is to become the terminus of an important railway line which is to be constructed to open up the mining areas in Surguja.and Bihar and we hope that one day it would become an important missionary station; (ii) the baptism of Susheel Kumar at Christ Church, Kotma on 15th July. After passing his primary school from the N.M.S. School at Karhani, he studied at the Disciples Mission Middle School at Pendra Road, Rev.S.Gnanabaranam having provided a shed for these boys from the Murwahi Field to cook their own food and attend classes in the Christian Middle School. After he passed his middle school examination, late Rev.Krupadanam could not get him admission in the High School and therefore sent him for Bible School training and Principal P.Juliusson, Swedish Mission, Betul has spoken very warmly about Susheel's character and firmness of faith. Theproblem regarding him is that he was married when he was 4 or 5 years old and the L.N.M.S. Officers had strongly urged that every possibility should be explored not only to win the goodwill of the parents but also of the parents of the girl before he received baptism. We have proposed that if the girl is willing to become a Christian, she would be sent to Shahpura, the Bible School for women very near Betul where our missionary, Miss E.S.Vedanayakam is working at present and she could then become literate and probably spend a year at least in the Bible School and not only get a grounding in Christian doctrine and Bible knowledge but also come into the joy of Christian fellowship with the fine group of workers at Shahpura. I have not heard whether the information that I sent on has found a place in the Augus issue, otherwise I shall be very grateful if the Editor would reserve space for an article to appear in the September issue.

We have informed Rev.Tiga that you haveebeen appointed as the N.M.S. representative to serve on the Team of Investigation. Probably this should have been recorded in the minutes of the Standin Committee. Every other organisation has appointed its representatives and the L.N.M.S. Council had also requested the N.M.S. to appoint its representative and we are very happy that our General Secretary with her background of the work in North India will be of very great assistance. Even though I have in the meanwhile communicated to Rev.Tiga, the Convener of the Team of Investigation that this matter came up before the meeting held on 12th July for consideration and everyone felt happy that the General Secretary could go there in October or November and the members unanimously felt that you would be the obvious person to give help, I think it would be appropriate that in response to the LNMS request there is a definite

minute appointing you as N.M.S. representative on the Team of Investigation which Rev.Tiga's Committee and also theLN.M.S. will greatly appreciate. If this matter is not so minutted at the July meeting, may I request you to bring up this question to the August meeting and have it minutted and communicated to the Secretary, L.N.M.S.

The Rev.Maguram Mosahary, the President of the Boro Church Council has also urged that the meeting should be held after the rains. I take it it would mean October or November.

With cordial greetings,

Yours sincerely,

Copy to Rev.J.J.P.Tiga.

MATTER FOR PUBLICATION.

LUTHERAN NMS WORK.

Just a few developments have taken place in our Murwahi and Sahdol District Fields which are to be read with interest by our supporters.

MURWAHI: Mrs. B.J. Krupadanam has been able to start a night school with the help of Evangelist Kandulna. She had contacted educational authorities at Bilaspur and has secured the facilities Madhya Pradesh Government makes available for such schools.

Our N.M.S. friends will be happy to know that Ophir Krupadanam the eldest son has completed his B.A. and is now working with Missionary Reynolds of Pendra Road with a view to take up a more permanent work later. John passed his High School examination in First Class and has secured a seat in Saugor University. He is in contact with our good friend, Dr.Tirumalai at Saugor in charge of the Christian hostel and with President K. Raman. Jeshuran has gone back to Ambikapur to finish the final year High School course and Amsani is in the hostel of the Mission School at Bilaspur. The last two children are with the mother at Murwahi. Maya, the daughter of the Surins at Umad has also passed her High School examination from the Katni Girls' School and is now with the parents. She is also helping the women at Umad and hopes to go for teacher's training next year.

BIJURI: We have for sometime been anxious to station a good evangelist at this centre. Bijuri is to the east of Katma and is the last railway station in Vindhya Pradesh on the Branch line running from Anuppur eastward to Chirmiri of the old Korea State. Bijuri is to become the terminus of an important railway line which is to open up the mining areas in Surguja District and in Bihar. If our work develops, Bijuri will one day be a missionary station. We are happy that on 9th July, the Ziegenbalg Jubilee Day, our missionaries Spencer and Raymond Martin held a dedication service in the newly rented house asking for special blessings on the work now entrusted to the resident Evangelist Sudharam, who was the trusted helper to Missionaries Gnanaberanam and Krupadanam. As he had been House Father at the Berar, Beoni and Karhani hostels, he has been in contact with the then resident Rewa boys in these hostels of Murwahi. Many of these boys are now known to be in and around Bijuri. From the station between Katma and Bijuri, Malga the largest village within Rewa where our missionaries had made very intimate contacts, is not very distant and practically all the families in Malga are known to Evangelist Sudharam. Apart from evangelistic activities and immediately around Bijuri Sudharam will be contacting our former N.M.S. school boys. We request the prayers of our people for the evangelistic efforts that are now made possible by establishing a new centre at Bijuri.

KATMA: On Sunday, 15th July Susheel Kumar was baptised at Christ Church, Katma. He is the first convert from our N.M.S. School at Karhani. Passing the primary school examination from Karhani, he went for his middle school education to the Mission School at Pendra Road. Rev.S. Gnanaberanam had set apart a little cottage for boys from Murwahi staying with him cooking their own food as in the Murwahi hostels and attending the school. It has always given much joy for Rev.Gnanaberanam to be in contact with these boys from Murwahi. Once there were as many as seven staying with him. After finishing his middle school, late Rev.Krupadanam tried to get him admission in the High School, but Missionary Gnanaberanam felt that he might not make good in his High School studies and so Missionary Krupadanam sent him for Bible School training. We were very fortunate in securing him a seat at our Madhya Pradesh Lutheran Church Bible School under the leadership of Rev.P.Juliusson, B.D. He and the other members of staff took great personal interest in Susheel and the Principal has often written in very appreciative terms of his character and strong faith. Though he was urging for baptism and even Principal Juliusson was willing to baptise and confirm him already a year ago, the LWMS Officers wanted him first to gain the goodwill of his parents and relatives. The courageous step that Susheel has taken is bound to cause a great deal of anxiety to his parents and also raise the opposition of many who are not very friendly to the Christian Church. Our N.M.S. friends are requested to keep Susheel Kumar on their prayer list and earnestly intercede for him and for his dear ones so that they may view Susheel's action with sympathy. We need to pray also for our workers who are guiding Susheel and we are earnestly hoping that the family ties may be hallowed and deepened because of his dedication to Christ, the Lord

of love

Since Kanduna was transferred to Murvahi, Rev.Raymond has been in need of an evangelist. For sometime Bahore Singh could help him but now that Bahore Singh has re-started the school at Karbani, we are happy that the Gossner Church Council officers have secured us the services of another evangelist, who enters into the work at the end of July. It is our desire to have two evangelists in close neighbourhood of each other living in two different places and going together on their evangelistic visits. So we would need additional evangelists for Bijuri, Kotma Murvahi and also Sahdol where Pastor Spencer has to take up his residence.

SAHDOL: On August 7th a meeting is to be held in Guntur to plan for the work being started at Sahdol early in 1957. As this is very vital for the future of our work, the prayers of our people are requested. This important work as well as the new work to be started in West Balipara would need steadily growing income and an appeal is being made to all the congregations so that every member may give an adequate share of the income set apart for the Lord's work for the support of our N.M.S. work as for the support of our local parish work. Pastors and N.M.S. friends are earnestly requested to enlist the prayerful interest and active sympathy of all our Church members so that the Lord's work may not suffer for lack of adequate support.

BALIPARA WORK: The N.M.S. is trying to secure the consent of the Christian bodies in Assam for setting apart West Balipara as NMS field to be worked by the Lutheran N.M.S. The Rev.Maguram Moshary, President of the Boro Church Council and Mr.Thanishwar Basumatary, Headmaster at the Haltugaon School who have both been appointed as members of Rev. Tiga's Team of Investigation, have written most warmly about the need and prospects of the work among the Akas and Duflas and the former has suggested that the meeting should be held soon after the rains, i.e. in October or November. The Gossner Church Council also has appointed its members, viz., the Rev.J.J.P.Tiga and the Rev.M.Hemron of Tezpur and the N.M.S. has appointed its General Secretary, Miss K.Sircar as its representative on this team of five. The Gossner Church Council has also appointed a small N.M.S. Committee to create interest and solicit support from the whole Gossner Church for the work in Mid-India and in West Balipara. This team will not only lay out a plan for starting the work but also take steps to enlist the workers needed and to train them so that learning the new language they may be ready to go into West Balipara within six months. We are hoping that the Gossner Church will provide the leader for this work and at the sametime we would like that Mongolian personnel should also get higher leadership training to equip them to share in planning and developing the work in the area we have to be responsible for.

J.D.Asirvadam.
Tambaram 22nd July 1956.

Copy to The Editor, The Garbandhu.

"Arulagam", Tamburam,
8th September 1956.

MEMBERS OF THE L.M.M.S. EXECUTIVE:

Dear Friends,

I have to attend the meeting of the M.M.S. Executive at Nagpur on September 28-30. The Federation Committee on Calcutta Work meets at Calcutta on October 6-8. As I shall have a few days at my disposal en route from Nagpur to Calcutta, I intend to break my journey at Bilaspur and visit Kotma and Sahdol. Our new General Secretary, Miss Sircar is anxious to visit our field and has arranged to accompany me

Also when the Calcutta meeting is over, President Tiga invited Rev.G.Devasahayam and me to visit Ranchi. You will be glad to know that though our efforts for many years to get the Gossner Church appoint a special M.M.S. Committee has not been successful, the new interest created in the Gossner Church by the Balipara proposal has led to a more enthusiastic response to our appeal and President Tiga and Secretary Horo have evinced great interest and had a special M.M.S. Committee appointed. Rev.G.Devasahayam, I understand, will go from Calcutta straight on to Allahabad for the N.C.C. meeting and then return to Calcutta on the 17th for the Federation meeting. In the meanwhile it is my intention to visit Ranchi and do some deputation work for the M.M.S and see how at least in important centres M.M.S. groups could be organised and the Secretary has written that the Sahdol and Kotma projects as well as Balipara affair could be presented and funds solicited therefor. I, therefore, write this to get the Executive's consent for the visit with the General Secretary to our Field in Mid-India on October 1-5 and then to the Gossner Church on October 9-16.

We are also planning to have one or two representatives from the Boro Church Council so that Rev.Tiga and I could confer with them on these problems and the LMMS sanction would be necessary for their expenses being met from the special fund for Assam Exploration work.

(Assam Work)

With cordial greetings,

Yours sincerely,

J. B. Aswathanarayana

The Rev. D. D. P. Tiga

No.9, Thambuswamy Road, Madras-10
8th September 1956.

Members of the L.N.M.S. Executive

Dear Friends,

This is to confirm my previous intimation that the Lutheran N.M.S. Executive meeting will be held on 22nd of this month at the Fabricius High School, Purasawalkam, Vepery P.O., Madras 7 at 9 A.M. You are kindly requested to be present.

Yours sincerely,
J. Kumaresan.

"Arulagam", Tambaram,
8th September 1956.

THE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE:

I perused the Minutes of the Surguja Board meeting held on July 27, 1956 and there are a few points on which it would be well for the Executive to have some definite opinion.

Appointment of Secretary - The aim of the Surguja Board Constitution was that the L.M.M.S. President as Chairman of the Board should be responsible for all relationships (a) with the three co-operating bodies and (b) with the Field missionary. He will be the Executive with regard to the above relationships.

Though the Surguja Board Constitution does not stipulate that one of the missionaries should be the Treasurer, the Board of its own accord adopted this because the money comes from the Mission, and it is good to have one of the two Mission representatives to control the purse. In financial matters, the Mission has a predominant voice because we agreed to set up a financial committee consisting of the two missionaries and the Chairman of the Board, but I feel uneasy about the second member of the U.L.C.M. becoming the Secretary and thereby taking away from the Chairman the main executive responsibility for leadership of the Board. I realise that the present incumbant being the President of the A.E.L.C. has enormous duties to attend to, but after all the work of the Surguja Board is not too difficult just now as it has all been well organised and things are moving well. Especially at this juncture when there is so much agitation in the country in regard to missionary leadership, I feel that this step is not a very wise one. The second missionary because of his residing close to the Chairman could be the recording Secretary and, if necessary, send out the copies of the minutes approved by the Chairman to the members, but to make him the Secretary of the Board is in the first place to overweight a small committee of six with four Officers, the President, Treasurer, the Field missionary as Executive Officer of the Field and a Missionary Secretary. Though I do not want this to be reversed immediately by the Board or by a suggestion of the F.M.L.C., I would request the Chairman of the Board to keep the main objective in view and see that this office be not continued. The Chairman of the Board is really Chairman-Secretary of the Board, and it would not be constitutional even to call him President of the Surguja Board, which would suggest that the Surguja Board is an independent body, and not a Board (though fairly autonomous) of the F.M.L.C.

Bible Training School- It is a matter for satisfaction that Rev. Tiga on behalf of the Surguja Board has helped to organise the course in Hindi in the absence of a theologically well-trained leader at that time in our Field. What has been so far achieved is the training of full-time workers, which is good in itself. In this connection I wish to raise a very earnest concern that Missionary Krupadanam had which the Board of that day fully shared, namely, the raising of village leaders to serve as voluntary Church workers in village congregations. It was Rev. Krupadanam's wish that some promising men should be given some training so that they may go back to their villages and earn a livelihood by cultivating lands or in other ways, and give honorary service as village catechists. In our first M.M.S. Field-Montgomery- this system was tried with great success by Rev. James Williams and his colleague Rev. Prem Chander, and their successors Rev. Inayat Khan and Miss Sircar in their reports in later years acknowledged the great asset that they had found in what they called "the chowkidars" or honorary leaders of congregations Some of them had received the licence from the Bishop of Lahore to be Lay Readers. We should from the very beginning be concerned about giving these village congregations their own indigenous leadership. If necessary a small remuneration of Rs.5/- a month was thought of by Rev. Krupadanam. I believe in the Gossner Church also many of the village workers receive very little as salary and get their main living from their own lands. Also the new land policy of Government would foster the growth of small farmers in each village. Further, Sadhu Sunder Singh very earnestly recommended that as in the case of the Sikhs and the Hindus religious services in the M.M.S. Fields he was acquainted with in North India should be rendered primarily in a honorary capacity. This is a matter primarily to be worked out more by the new missionary-in-charge when he has studied local conditions in the Field, but we can request the Chairman of the Surguja Board kindly to keep this in view as a desirable policy to be encouraged.

Appointment of Rev.B.Ananda Rao as missionary for Surguja Field:

Minute 5 (ii) reads: "VOTED that the Rev.B.Ananda Rao be appointed as missionary to Surguja from 1st June 1956 for a term of five years."

The constitution of the Board says that the L.M.M.S. will have two representatives on the Board, namely, (1) the L.M.M.S. President as the Chairman of the Board and (2) the L.M.M.S. Missionary as the Executive Officer in charge of the Field. The right to appoint a person as Missionary in charge belongs to the L.M.M.S. Council. This particular matter has to be cleared up by the Federation in view of a reference that was made in the previous minutes, but until any new action is taken, I think the correct procedure would have been that the Chairman of the Board who is also the President of the L.M.M.S. reported as follows: "The Special Committee of the Surguja Board having recommended the appointment of Rev.B.Ananda Rao as missionary and the A.M.L.C. having agreed to release him for service in Surguja, the L.M.M.S. Council in accordance with the recommendation of the Surguja Board appointed Rev.B.Ananda Rao as missionary in charge of the field from 1.6.1956. Accordingly the Rev.B.Ananda Rao is welcomed as L.M.M.S. missionary in charge of the Surguja Field. VOTED.

Items 2-4 will read 1-3.

Minute 5 (dii) reads: 'Rev.J.J.P. Tiga reported that Mr.Samuel Tiga was ordained by the C.M.L.C. in January 1956 and placed in charge of Kusmi Parish.' Mr.Tiga's report would cover only the first part, and the second part, I believe, should read: "The Chairman reported that after ordination the Rev.Samuel Tiga was placed in charge of the Kusmi Parish."

I would suggest that some of these points be taken up for consideration at the meeting of the Executive. Copies of the Minutes are sent to the members of the Executive for reference.

J.D. ASIRVADAM.

(First draft for criticisms and suggestions).

THE NIYOGI REPORT.

This report has received very wide publicity throughout India The report indicates an extreme view regarding missionary work in India, and large sections of the Indian population are far more tolerant and would by no means desire to restrict missionary work in India. Though this many represent only a minority attitude, the criticisms offered in the report is a call to the Church to clarify (i) what its objectives are and (ii) how to avoid any cause for misunderstanding even by those who are rather antipathetic. From the point of view of the Lutheran M.M.S. we have also to consider the particular criticisms that have been offered in regard to the work that the Lutheran M.M.S. initiated and though it is now under the Surguja Board which functions under the auspices of the E.L.C., the Lutheran M.M.S. through its President and through its missionary are playing a significant role in the administration of the work side by side with representatives of the Gossner Church and the U.L.C. Mission.

(1) Our Objective: The task of the Church is to bring the new life that is offered in Jesus Christ to all nations and all races. India has always been hospitable to all religions and the continued existence through many centuries of Christians, Jews and later Parsis is an unmistable testimony to the catholicity of outlook of the Hindu population. The Christian claim that the revelation of God in Christ, Who died for us and rose again and offers all men forgiveness of sins, the life of victory and the power to serve men in love and sacrifice. The Christian view does not accept the Indian thesis that all religions lead to the same goal, and that causes a strain in relation to the adherents of other religions in India. The attitude of our present secular Government has been expressed with clarity and definiteness by Shri Vallabhbhai Patel. He concedes the right of Christians to propagate the Christian religion, but all that he is concerned about is that those whoare Christians should consider India as their motherland and must work for its well-being and prosperity. Judged from this point of view, the Christian community by and large has been thoroughly nationalistic. Christians in India are as proud of their citizenship as any other class of people. It is in regard to this matter that the report seeks to create a good deal of controversy and the arguments advanced by the report in Chapter III of Part I that the West is trying to obtain world domination and that the ecumenic movement within the Christian Church endangers the national interests of India is a thoroughly untenable position and vitiates all its conclusions and recommendations in Part IV.

In the first place we would like to state as the definite objective of the Church in India that it stands for a sharing of the good life brought by Jesus Christ with every one. The Bible stands for a person's wholehearted commitment to the Lord so that his character may be transformed by fellowship with the living Christ. It is this biblical standard that judges every action of the Church and every method that its adherents may use. The Bible stands for real conversion, turning to Christ as the one in whom pardon and peace and the power of a victorious life could be obtained. Without this conviction the Christian religion cannot be the power that it can be.

A distinction has been made between proselytisation and conversion. The Niyogi Report does not concede the possibility of conversion at all, and labels all conversion as a change of religion for worldly reasons. There have been outstanding instances of people who have given up everything for the sake of Christ. Not merely converts from the educated high caste communities but also from the middle classes and even from the lower classes. In the History of the Tranquebar Mission and so of every other Mission, there have been notable personalities even from humble life who have been so overwhelmed by the reality of their religious experience and the greatness of the change wrought in them that they were able to witness to others and lead them into the Church. Pandita Rama Bai of Poona, Sadhu Sunder Singh, Kali Charan Banerji and Dr.Imamudin,

Prof.F.Sirajuddin are all irrefutable instances of coming to Christ making great sacrifices. In the mass movement areas, the objective of the Church has been to present Jesus as the one who will deliver them from their sinful lives, from habits of drink, indolence etc., and usually such have often been drawn by the life and witness of other Christian people and though the desire for social and moral uplift has also been there, we have to affirm that that the primary impulse of the Christian evangelist has been to present Jesus Christ as the Saviour of man and where this is accepted, then more instruction is given so that the entrants into the Church through baptism can grow in Christian experience through faith in Christ who is a transforming power in their life.

The programme of the Church is essentially a religious programme. It calls every individual who has entered the new life of fellowship with Christ to share his blessings with others and bring cheer and happiness and the fulness of life to all their fellowmen. The deepest fact about the believer's service to his fellowman has been that it is an outflow of religious life nurtured in the believer and without this fundamental experience there can be no missionary service. In all humanitarian activities of the Church, the primary motive has been love in answer to the divine love that men have experienced.

The Christian who seeks to serve through education or medical aid throws himself into his task with devotion and where his service has brought cheer and happiness and a deeper insight into the problems and responsibilities of life, the good result has been his reward. When Dr.Albert Schweitzer sits by the African patient who in gratitude looks up to him, he tells him that it was the love of Jesus that has sent him to Africa and this witness is an inevitable part of a Christian's life.

Financial help from abroad: The Church in India has undertaken enormous tasks in the field of education, medical relief etc. and Christians being a small minority community drawn not from the richer classes of the community have had to receive money from the West. Many devoted Christians of the West have considered the money that they send to India as something that they are constrained to give because Christ wants them to serve not only their own advancement but also the under-privileged. When America offers financial aid to Government or certain national health and educational programmes, India does not declines these gifts provided they are given in a disinterested way without any strings attached to it, and the broad fact is that the poor millions of India have profited enormously by these financial gifts that have come from the West. Truly, as Dr.Hare Krushna Mahtab, Governor of Bombay has put it, any opposition to this help "was a disservice to the unsophisticated people whom we profess to serve and ~~he would commend~~ more such work ~~being~~ undertaken even by other religionists....There should be competition between religions in their generosity towards the poor and whoever is capable of helping the poor should hold the field. Let us not compete in small-mindedness."

The Constitution: Along with their fellow-citizens belonging to other religions, the Indian Christians are proud of the Constitution of the Indian Union. The Christian community has been thankful for the generous appreciation by the leaders of the Congress Party of their identification as a community with the nation in its struggle for freedom. The Christian community did not seek to put a spoke in the wheel, but on the contrary availed itself of every opportunity to urge the Churches in the West to do justice by India. The religious right given to all citizens is one of the glorious elements in our Constitution, and we, as Christians, deeply appreciate this privilege. Though a minority community, Christians have conscientiously stood for national interests. Any attempt to counter the noble spirit of the constitution would not only let down a loyal section of the nation, but also bring down the honour of the nation.

Methods of evangelism: Everything that the Church has done has been done openly. The biblical demand for true conversion has always been put forward and methods have had to be adapted to the different levels of the people. But the Church has always done its work in a spirit of love and compassion for the poor and the handicapped and also in a spirit of true service to equip the sons and daughters of India to play their part in the home, in society and in public life worthily.

How to avoid cause for misunderstanding: The Niyogi Report reflects the view of the Hindu Mahasabha, Jan Sangh and the R.S.S. This represents the militant aggressive programme of a section of people who fail to appreciate the great benefits of Christian missionary activities in various fields of social, educational and moral uplift.

A criticism which not merely the Niyogi Report but even Christians have advanced against themselves is that having on account of caste rigour been driven out of Hinduism, the Christian community became in some ways an isolated community. Whereas Christians in China, Japan and similar lands have not been ostracised by their relatives, Christians in India have not been so fortunate and on that account the Christians have in a large measure found themselves separated from the main cultural currents of the majority community, and the Church fellowship brought them into closer contact with foreign missionaries, who have appreciably moulded their outlook and tastes. In the matter of worship, Christians have followed modes of worship which are foreign to our people. In regard to architecture, music etc. the Church has not been related to the culture of this land. This isolation and the consequent foreignness is regretted by the thoughtful on both sides and both have to work together for remedying this unsatisfactory situation. Still from the very beginning there has been a persistent effort on the part of the Indian Christian Bakthas as well as discerning foreign missionaries to relate the message of Jesus Christ to the Indian environment, especially in regard to music and literature. In Tamil we have two great classics one composed by Father Beschi, Thembavani and the other by a national, R.A.Krishna Pillai of Palayamkottai, Rakshanya Yatrigam. Also Christian lyrics set to Indian ragams have always had a place in the worship of the Church. Still very much more needs to be done to take away the foreignness of our set-up

Missionary work in Surguja: Reading through the report, a few things become clear in regard to the work in Surguja. It was the success of Missionary Krupadanam's work in Surguja that led the ex-Maharajah and others to create a great agitation against Christian missionaries and the work of Christian evangelists in villages, the main force of evangelists in the early days having been Gossner evangelists who gave their service free for 3 months at a time. Instead of condemning the incitement by responsible leaders to attack and harrass Christian preachers, the report defends their action. We have every reason to be thankful for the work that has been initiated by the Lutheran M.M.S. in this area. From the very beginning, emphasis has been laid on proper instruction and this instruction is given not only by word of mouth but also through Oraon songs which appeal to their emotion and strengthens their will to eschew evil and to follow what is good. Our workers have always stressed that coming to Jesus means to be holy as God is holy and to give up whatever has been evil in their past life including the drink habit and live a clean life ~~in body, mind and spirit~~. One wonders how these illiterate people once having committed themselves to Christ have stood loyally by their decision. Some have not only been molested but have had broken heads, and limbs bandaged. They were persecuted in many ways. The report admits one of Rev. Krupadanam's contentions, namely, that in Surguja there has been harrassment of Christians by thepeople and by officials. Not a single case is mentioned of any warning or police action in the report.

against the Christians within the jurisdiction of the E.M.S.missionary. There has been some adverse references to Missionary Christy of Palamou District whom the Supreme Court has exonerated. Also various Roman Catholic individuals and groups have been punished or warned, but it is noteworthy that not a single person belonging to the Lutheran Church of Surguja is mentioned in the Report of having misbehaved or been punished.

The Surguja work had to be taken away from the E.M.S. and the L.E.M.S. administration and put under a special Board under the auspice of the Lutheran Federation of Churches, because the policy is to build up missionary work with Indian money and Indian personnel. The Board of 6 members of whom the L.E.M.S.President is the Chairman and the E.M.S.missionary is the Executive Officer for all work in the Field has tried to ensure that things were done strictly on evangelical lines and also in purely legitimate ways. The E.M.S. missionary of Surguja from the very beginning had set his heart on training indigenous leaders who would go back to the villages and carry on honorary work. His aim was to build up Church life progressively on indigenous leadership and local responsibility for congregational administration.

Tambaram,
11.9.1956

J.B. ASIRVADAM,
On behalf of the L.E.M.S.Committee appointed on the initiative of the President and the Secretary.

Lutheran N. M. S.

President Emeritus:
RAO SAHIB
THE REV. J. D. ASIRVADAM,
TAMBARAM. S. RY. TEL. No. 80751, EXTN. 40

President:
THE REV. G. DEVASAHAYAM.
CHURCH OFFICE, POST BOX 2.
GUNTUR.

Secretary:
REV. J. KUMARESAN,
9, THAMBUSAMY ROAD,
KILPAUK, MADRAS-10.

Treasurer:
PROF. D. T. CHIRANJIVI.
MESTON TRAINING COLLEGE,
ROYAPETTAH, MADRAS-14.

Date... 12-9-56...

Dear Rev. Tige,

How are you? any further news about your son. I shall meet you on the 16th when Bishop Manikam is in Madras for our Church Council meetings. Rev. Sorley has written a second letter - is willing to meet us at Calcutta but he has some Mission meetings. He asks for another date than the 9th or 10th. you can be free only after the Jed. mtgs on 17 & 18. Shall I ask him to come on the 19th to Calc. I had invited Mosahary for Oct 6-8 & 9, but he could come for Oct 17-19 & attend also the Jed. meeting.

What are your hours arrangements for 6-8.? Probably Rev. J. Asir - in Conjunction only you the 8 or 9th. Let us stick to the dates because of the intervening Sunday when we could meet both the Congregations separately or jointly. And I write to you that I agree to your Calling the pastors at the request of any 3 then you may be invite. They could be appointed as Pastors, if the approval of the Synod is to be extended only by us three. But if they receive gives us the right to Co-opt members. Then more than full members of the Committee. They have the right to become members.

over your a Hundring the L N M S Exec.

Re Sangaya Rumbes, I feel that we should not have more than 2 officers + the Treasy as Field Exec.

also I am keen on Voluntary workers. With much joy & thankfulness I accept the invitation to Randsa. I shall miss your & the Secy. But the Treasurers will be there, pastors & other leaders. Could I get to meet Mr Bowden. If he comes to Randsa & can accompany me to centres easily reached by train or by bus on good roads, I would be happy.

Kindly do give me a precis. with invitations naturally for Randsa.

With greetings & best wishes to you & family & looking forward to meet & get to know Mrs Tiga & the Children of the home

Yours ever,
Jasmuradam

Rev. Raman has pulled thro' an operation at Tampakan Swedish Missionary Hospital.

Is the L N M S Exec. appointment ever an annual one or for 6 yrs. Shall we know? Kindly have a resolution & send 50 copies to the Asst. Gen. Sec. Rev P. Juliusson
Bethel, M. Pr

Lutheran N. M. S.

President Emeritus:
RAO SAHIB
THE REV. J. D. ASIRVADAM,
TAMBARAM. S. RY. TEL. No. 80751, EXTN. 40

President:
THE REV. G. DEVASAHAYAM.
CHURCH OFFICE, POST BOX 2,
GUNTUR.

Secretary:
REV. J. KUMARESAN,
9, THAMBUSAMY ROAD,
KILPAUK, MADRAS-10.

Treasurer:
PROF. D. T. CHIRANJIVI.
MESTON TRAINING COLLEGE,
ROYAPETTAH, MADRAS-14.

Date. 12.3.57.

Th Treasurer
Ly. E. L. C.

Dear Treasurer,

Thanks for good reports from Jeevan regarding your devoted efficient service for our dear Jeevan Church. I look forward to meet you on or about 2nd April in connection with the annual meeting of the officers to visit the field in the interests of the Lutheran N. M. S. I am happy to remain my Contact with Jeevan people always very close to my heart.

You will be the only member of the newly appointed N. M. S. Com. of the E.L.C. But we can meet, plead and work out a plan for the field. I can stay on the field till the 16th at them return to Calcutta.

Com. request. The Secy. said you plan to give only Rs 1000/— to the L. N. M. S. this year. Could you kindly arrange to remit Rs 1000/— to our new Treasurer Vide address above

With Cordial greetings God all good wishes for your ministry,

Yours truly
J. D. Asirvadam

The Presidents of Co-operating Churches in India:

October 7-14 is the N.M.S. Week of Prayer. The Church in India is facing many challenges. There has been much discussion recently about Christian activities. Those who do not know the power of the gospel to transform the lives even of the illiterate cannot assess the supreme value of the missionary task of the Church. We, therefore, need to awaken and nourish a concern for those who have not heard the good news of a loving Saviour and unless our Church becomes a revived Church and a praying Church, the great task of evangelism cannot be done with all the power that should be behind it.

The General Secretary of the N.M.S. is particularly anxious that in all congregations prayer groups should be organised and could we get our people to spend an hour in prayer on 7th October, and also get groups of Church members meet in a common place or in homes every day of the week for an hour in prayer so that the longing for God's special grace and guidance, and blessings on our work may be brought to a focal point at the central Church worship on the N.M.S. Sunday of Prayer, October 14.

Besides the Call to Prayer issued by the N.M.S., the Lutheran N.M.S. is sending out prayer topics and also a circular letter bringing the special challenges they are facing at present. Sahdol medical work is a stupendous project, but because the Lord has opened the way for it and provided the personnel for it, we are fully confident that the Churches will rise to the demand and provide the wherewithal needed. We need a special effort during the coming months so that we may be ready to start the work in June 1957.

The Himalayan work has had a special appeal for the Gossner and Ebenezer Churches and especially the Bore Church Council of the Ebenezer Church along with our Gossner friends in Assam have shown the keenest interest and are calling for special prayers by their own Church members. We face two problems one to carry on the work with the goodwill of the neighbouring Churches and a meeting is soon to be held to consider the request of the N.M.S. that West Balipara be assigned as N.M.S. Field to be worked by the Lutheran N.M.S., this conference being called by the Officers of the Assam Christian Council and also we have our own Team of Investigation to work out details and present a definite plan for being acted on by the Lutheran N.M.S. Council in January. So we have definite things to pray for and work for and we, therefore, shall value your issuing an appeal for news being given in every congregation regarding the work and for earnest missionary interest being created and for prayer and generous gifts being mobilised for this work.

9, Thambuswamy Road, Madras-10
8th September 1956.

J.Kumaresan,
Secretary, L.N.M.S.

Material Supplied

1. By the N.M.S. The Call to Prayer in English: 30 copies
" in Hindi : 200 Copies

2. By the Lutheran N.M.S: Prayer Topics: 200 Copies in English
Officers' Circular: 200 Copies in English.

May I take the liberty of suggesting a draft to indicate the main objec-jectives of the N.M.S. to be kindly brought out in the circular letter which the Presidents are very earnestly requested to draft and send to the pastors and heads of institutions in their respective areas.

J.Kumaresan.
Madras-10: 8.9.1956.

The Pastors and Managers of institutions:

The N.M.S. has issued its annual Call to Prayer and the Lutheran N.M.S. has provided information regarding work for which the Lutheran constituency is responsible. In view of the great challenges that the Church in India as a whole and particularly we through the Lutheran N.M.S. face, it is necessary that information is given every month from the pulpit and also in the ordinary meetings of Church auxiliary. The Lutheran N.M.S. in view of the medical work and of the new Himalayan work asks for new money being raised by monthly subscriptions especially from the lay members of our Church. I commend the request for special prayers during the Week of Prayer and special efforts to raise the needed additional money for the new tasks that the Lutheran N.M.S. is undertaking.

President.

23

Ranchi
3.5.56

Thekkan.
Greetings.

Dear Mr. Horo.

Pl. find enclosed a copy of a letter from Rev. D. Westbrook to Rev. J.V. Arivadam for circulation.

Yours in Jesus
Rev

Encl: a letter from
Rev Westbrook to Rev. Arivadam
dt- April 20, 1956

Lutheran N.M.S

23/

STATE ~~IMPERIAL~~ BANK OF INDIA

INCORPORATED IN INDIA UNDER THE IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA ACT 1920
THE LIABILITY OF THE MEMBERS IS LIMITED

ALL LETTERS TO BE ADDRESSED TO
THE AGENT
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS
"ASIAN"
MADRAS—MOUNT ROAD

POST BOX No. 342,
MADRAS No. 2

MOUNT ROAD 20th August 19 56

No. REM 163

INSURED.

The Rev. J.J.P.Tiga,
President,
G.E.L.Church,
Ranchi, Bihar.

Dear Sir,

At the request of Lutheran, N.M.S., we send you herewith currency notes for Rs.250/- receipt of which please acknowledge.

Yours faithfully,

Agent

G
Enc:100 x 2
5 x 10

Contents of the remittance in excess of Rs [illegible] have been insured against loss with the Commercial Union Assurance Co., Ltd.

The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, M.A.

"Arulagam", Tambaram,
10th June 1956.

NML

The Rev.David Westborg,
Garong Mission,
P.O.Haltugaon,
Dist.Goalpara,
Assam.

Dear Rev.Westborg,

I am grateful to you for your letter of May 30th. I hope you have received The Lutheran World already. You have been enrolled as a subscriber for 2 years as that is cheaper in the long run.

I have to thank you most cordially for the warm interest you have taken in the Balipara proposal and for the matter having been brought up before the Church Council for its favourable action. I am also thankful for the information that the Rev.Maguram Mosahary has now been chosen President of the Boro Church Council and that you consider it a fortunate choice and also for your assuring me that we can count on his full co-operation in regard to the work of the Investigation Team and also of implementing the proposals in due course and starting the work. I am very anxious that you and Rev.Maguram Mosahary and Mr.Thaniswar Bosumatory should be on the look out for suitable people to be trained for this work. As I wrote to you already, my first choice would be Boros to be given six months training in Aka or Dufla language but if it is absolutely essential to start with Duflas of the Baptists persuasion we shall act on the advice of the Team.

I am also grateful for having passed on the article on Balipara Mission to the Editor of your Church paper. I also sent a copy of that article for publication in the Santal paper and I believe the Santal paper is published at Benegaria. I trust that Rev.Bjerkestrand has already returned from the Hill Station and I shall soon be writing to him.

In the meanwhile may I make a few requests to you? 1. Kindly let me have the address of the President of the Santal Church Council in Assam. I enclose a copy of a letter to be kindly passed on to him directly by you and when I get his address, I shall also send further letters directly to him. I am sorry that I did not send this letter to him earlier through you. 2. Who are the Officers of the new Boro Church Council and also the Officers of the Santali Church Council? 3. Could you kindly let me have the names and addresses of the missionaries and pastors assigned for the Boro work and also missionaries and pastors assigned for the Santal work in Assam. You may take time to reply to the above at your leisure but kindly pass on the enclosed letter and if possible send me a post card giving me the address of the President of the Santal Church Council in Assam.

Correspondence with you on the Balipara question has been a matter of great joy to me and I thank you for the warm-hearted way in which you have received and helped forward the proposal. Soliciting your continued interest and co-operation and advice and your encouragement to get prayer groups started in all the Boro and Santali congregations in Assam,

Yours sincerely,

JDA

Rev H Pugh,

Copy to the ~~LNMS Secretary~~.

Chairman, Team of Investigation

...vadam, M.A.,

"Arulagam", Tambaram,
10th June 1956.

The Rev.Maguram Mosahary,
President, Boro Church Council,
Pankijuli Mission,
...moka P.O., Kamrup Dt.
...sam.

Dear Rev.Mosahary,

The Rev.David Westborg, former President of Boro Church Council, has informed me that you have been elected as the new President and I wish to say how much I appreciate the action of the Council in giving leadership to an Indian of much experience especially in pioneering work. I wonder whether you will continue to reside in the same place and whether I can forward all communications to you to your present address. Kindly also let me know who the other Officers are, the Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

On account of the monsoon having set in early, I have not had any communication from President J.J.P. Tiga regarding the proposed meeting of this Team of Investigation. I am sure he will contact you in due time. In the meanwhile our parent body, The National Missionary Society of India which is to negotiate with the Assam Christian Council and other missionary bodies regarding the assignment of the area to Lutherans has asked to delay matters for sometime. I have written to Rev.Tiga to contact the Officers of the Assam Christian Council. I believe Mr.Thaniswar Basumatory was a member of the Assam Christian Council and I am sure he will know when the Assam Christian Council is meeting or its Executive. I have asked Rev.Tiga to secure favourable action by the Assam Christian Council or its Executive as early as possible.

and he may still be a member

I hope my letter of the 29th April reached you all right. If it did not, I shall be glad to send you another copy of that letter. I wonder whether you know of any Boros who are in touch with Akas and Duflas. Will the language of Akas and Duflas be very different and what time will a Boro take to learn these languages? Rev.Westborg suggested that we could take some Dufla workers from the Baptists Churches, but as a matter of policy the Lutheran N.M.S. Council would like to use Lutheran workers from the very beginning, and especially to use Baptists workers will create future difficulties, but if you think that we should in the beginning not hesitate to use Dufla Baptists, that would be a matter for the Team of Investigation to recommend. I shall be very happy to hear from you from time to time.

or can speak their language,

In the meanwhile the Lutheran N.M.S. requests you to organise N.M.S. prayer groups in every congregation and tell them about these new projects. If you and Mr.Thaniswar Bosumatory can talk this matter over and advise me, I shall be grateful, for from the very beginning we wish to get the whole Boro community as well as the Santalis and the Gossner people in Assam behind with this missionary enterprise of the entire Lutheran Church of India.

During your tours, we shall be thankful if these missionary prayer groups are started in all the Boro congregations.

Rev.Westborg to whom a copy of the article that appeared in English in the National Missionary Intelligencer on Balipara Mission was sent, has stated that the article has been given to the Assistant Editor of the Pungai Hathorki, who will publish it in instalments. I shall be grateful for the co-operation of your Church paper in this matter. I shall be glad to write to the Assistant Editor if I know his address.

With cordial greetings,

Yours sincerely,

DAC

Copies to: 1. The Rev.Tiga
2. The Rev.D.Westborg
3. Mr.Thaniswar Bosumatory
4. L.N.M.S.Secretary.

The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, M.A. 23

"Arulagam", Tambaram,
14th June 1956.

The Rev.J.J.P.Tiga,
Chairman,
Team of Investigation,
Balipara Mission,
Ranchi.

NMS

Dear President Tiga,

Herewith I enclose a copy of my letter to the Rev.David Westborg and a copy of another letter to the new President of the Boro Church Council, viz., the Rev.Maguram Mosahary.

I am exceedingly anxious that this matter should be pushed forward with as much vigour as possible. I have to request you kindly to write to the President and Secretary of the Assam Christian Council and send me a copy of the same, and if you are also contacting any others, I shall be grateful.

Also I would like to get from you some indication of the present situation because of the monsoon. If it is impossible to hold a meeting at Tezpur just now, I wonder whether you could indicate how soon this could be done.

With cordial greetings,

Yours sincerely,
J. D. Asirvadam

Copies to 1. The General Secretary, NMS
2. Officers of the LNMS.

July 9 ke bajaye Sept 9, 1956 Etwar ko samasht Goswer Chhetra mein manaya jaye.

JULY 9th, ZIEGANBALG JUBILEE DAY.

23/

The L. N. M. S. Council which met in Madras in April 1956 adopted the following Minute :

> " RESOLVED to propose July 8th or 9th as a special Mission Day to be observed in the congregations of all the supporting Churches and the Officers of the L. N. M. S. are requested to send out a circular to the Presidents of the Churches regarding the celebration of this day in consultation with the President of the F. E. L. C."

The F. E. L. C. arranged for special celebrations in January when leaders of the L W. F. etc. could take part, special sessions of the L. W. F. Executive and Asia Lutheran Conference having been arranged to take place in connection therewith. The actual day of the first Protestant missionaries landing in India was July 9, 1706 and to suit the convenience of foreign visitors from the West and the East, the international celebrations were held in the cold season. It is, however, appropriate that congregations in India observe the actual day July 9th as will be done in all the congregations of the Tamil Lutheran Church which observes July 9th every year as Mission Festival day, or observe July 8th (Sunday) as the special Mission Festival Day in India. It will be appropriate that a special programme be worked out by each congregation or institution, and that the special prayer for the Jubilee already issued in January be translated and widely used. The Jubilee Day Prayer is being printed in the *Gospel Witness*, and it is requested that translations be printed in all Lutheran vernacular journals and read from the altar on Sunday, July 8th, or at a special jubilee service on Monday, July 9th. Homes, Boarding Homes etc. are also requested to remember July 9th in a special way at the family worship.

J. D. Asirvadam,
President Emeritus.

Madras :
7—6—1956.

G. Devasahayam,
President.

The above appeal is warmly commended

D. T. Chiranjivi,
Treasurer.

R. B. Manikam,
Bishop of Tranquebar,
President, F. E. L. C

Jacob Kumaresan,
Secretary.

N. M. S. Press, Madras-14.

N.M.S.

Extract from the minutes of the L.N.M.S.Council meeting dated 14th April 1956.

23(iii)RESOLVED to request the Church Council of the G.E.L.C. to take steps to get a small N.M.S.Committee appointed to organise and strengthen missionary interest in the tasks of the L.N.M.S., and particularly in the new work to be started in Balipara.

(iv)RESOLVED to request the Churches to arrange for enrolment of monthly subscribers in parishes and institutions through the pastors.

Madras-10
12.6.56.

sd/- Jacob Kumaresan,
Secretary, L.N.M.S.

Memo No. 2109/56
Copy forwarded to (i)The President, G.E.L.Church and (ii)the Treasurer, G.E.L.Church for information and needful.

21/6

Secretary,
G.E.L.Church, Ranchi.

The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, M.A.

"Arulagam", Tambaram,
17th May 1956.

The Rev. J.J.P. Tiga,
Chairman,
Balipara Mission Team of Investigation.

NMS

Dear President Tiga,

Mr. S.J. Duraiswami, Associate General Secretary, N.M.S. writes: "Your communication to hand. Miss Sircar asked me to communicate to you that she would be very glad to attend the commission along with Rev.Tiga provided she knows the dates in advance and the time suits her Kindly write to her at 5, P.D. Tandon's Road, Allahabad."

I do not know whether it is not now too late to attempt a tour in the Brahmaputra Valley when the river and its tributaries seem to be in full spate. In any case Miss Sircar, as I indicated in one of my letters, is joining the Team of Investigation in regard to NMS work being started in Nepal in close co-operation with the United Christian Mission to Nepal. As Miss Sircar is probably already in Nepal at this time, I had hoped that your visit also could be arranged in connection with her visit to Nepal.

Since October 1955 we have been constantly asking the NMS to appoint a representative to serve on this Team of Investigation and I am sorry that the Society had not appointed its representative at either the meeting of the Executive Council or in one of the subsequent meetings of the Standing Committee. That was why I had to suggest that with a view not to delay your investigation, you could go ahead with the investigation even if the Society's representative could not join you.

Mr. Martin Henry informed me that the second instalment from Geneva for the work of exploration has been received and therefore you have the needed money to meet the expenses of the Lutheran members of the Team of Investigation, viz., yourself as Convener, Rev.M.Hemron as Gossner representative and the two appointed by the Boro Church Council. I have invited the Chairman of the Santal Church Council of Assam and the President of the Assam Synod of the Gossner Church to attend the meeting at Tezpur as representatives of the respective Councils and at their own expense. If the President of the Santal Church Council of Assam does not have the needed budget for this trip, you may feel free to give him any travel help.(If necessary, his full expenses may be met). I shall be glad to have a communication from you as to your plans to carry out this task of investigation.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,
Jacob Kuruvilla
for
Rev. J.D. Asirvada

Copies to
The President, FELC
Miss K.Sircar
Associate General Secretary, N.M.S.
Members of the Team
Chairmen of the three Councils invited to attend the Tezpur meeting /as additional members.
Officers of the LNMS

Extract from the Proceedings of the T.E.L.Church Council No.416: 16(a) d/-4th & 5th May 1956.

L.N.M.S. (a) Letter of the Lutheran N.M.S. Secretary dated 22.4.1956 requesting the C.C. to give Sri D. Devapriam work.

Not possible. The L.N.M.S. is requested to make arrangement for his work.

sd: I.Pichai Robert.
Secretary, Church Council.

Copy of Mr.M.Anantham, Secretary, S.A.L.C's letter d/- 1st May 1956 addressed to the Secretary, L.N.M.S.

***

"I herewith forward you the resolutions of the Executive Committee of the S.A.L.C. for your information.

"Resolved that we inform the Executive of the I.L.M.S. that, according to the constitution the President of each Church of the Lutheran Federation if he is an Indian or another officer (Indian) to represent the Executive of the Church," as Rev.K.J.William the Vice-President of the S.A.L.C. was elected by the S.A.L.C. and since he is an officer we feel that he is eligible to serve as representative of the SALC."

(true copies)

Vice-Presidents:
THE RT. REV. S. K. CHATTERJI,
MODERATOR, THE UNITED CHURCH OF NORTHERN INDIA, CALCUTTA.
THE MOST REV. H. SUMITRA,
MODERATOR,
THE CHURCH OF SOUTH INDIA, GOOTY.
THE RT. REV. J AMRITANAND,
BISHOP OF ASSAM.
MRS. MOHINI KRISHNAYYA, POONA.
DR. G. ZACHARIAH, MADRAS.

President:
THE RT. REV. S. K. MONDOL,
HYDERABAD, DECCAN.

The National Missionary Society of India

(Bharat Christya Sevak Samaj)

(ESTABLISHED 1905)

"Expect great things from God,
Attempt great things for God."

Hony. General Secretary:
MISS K. SIRCAR.
Hony. Associate
General Secretary:
S. J. DURAISAMY.
Hony. Treasurer:
J. B. MASILLAMANI.

Headquarters:
N. M. S. HOUSE,
Royapettah, Madras-14

A/6. 21. 5. 1956.

Rev. J.D.Asirvadam,
'Arulagam',
Tambaram, S.R.

Dear Brother,

Your circular letter of the 17th May 1956 signed by Rev.Jacob Kumaresan on your behalf addressed to Rev. J.J.P.Tiga to hand. I am hastening to write to you that Miss K. Sircar's, Hony. General Secretary of the N.M.S., address is 5, Kanpur Road, Allahabad. Kindly note the change.

The Commission which was appointed to explore the possibility of a centre of work for the N.M.S. in Nepal has finished its work and returned. I have not heard from Miss Sircar yet as to the possibility of her joining your Commission for investigating Balipara Mission area. It is stated in the circular that since October you have been asking the general N.M.S. to appoint a representative to serve on this team of investigation. Our hesitation was expense. We hoped that the Society's Commission's visit to Nepal and the L.N.M.S. Commission's visit to Assam could be so adjusted as to make it possible for one of the N.M.S. representatives, after finishing Nepal, to join the other team or vice versa. But it was not possible to make such an adjustment. Now to appoint a special representative to join the Team for Balipara Mission area will be too expensive and the N.M.S. cannot afford it. Anyhow, the matter will be taken up at the next meeting of the Standing Committee which will be towards the end of June or the beginning of July.

In the meanwhile, may I request you to keep us informed of the development or the progress made re: the Commission to Balipara Mission area for investigation.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,
S Devaraj P.T.O

Vice-Presidents:
THE RT. REV. S. K. CHATTERJI,
MODERATOR, THE UNITED CHURCH OF
NORTHERN INDIA, CALCUTTA.
THE MOST REV. H. SUMITRA,
MODERATOR,
THE CHURCH OF SOUTH INDIA,
MADURA.
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A/6. 21. 5. 1956.

Copy to
The President, T.E.L.C.
Miss K. Sircar, General Secretary, N.M.S.
Members of the Team
Members of the three Councils invited to attend the Team Meeting as additional members.
Officers of the L.E.M.S.

Rev. J.D.Asirvadam, 'Arulagam', Tambaram.

Dear Brother,

Your circular letter of the 17th May 1956 signed by Rev.Jacob Kumaresan on your behalf addressed to Rev. J.J.P.Tiga to hand. I am hastening to write to you that Miss K. Sircar's Hony. General Secretary of the N.M.S., address is 5, Kampu Road, Allahabad. Kindly note the change.

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In the meanwhile, may I request you to keep us informed of the development or the progress made re: the Commission to Baliapara Mission area for investigation.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

P.T.O

Appendix I to the Minutes of the L.E.M.S. Executive dated 18th June 1955.

23/

REVISED CONSTITUTION OF THE LUTHERAN N. M. S.

SOCIETY: The Society shall be called the All-India Lutheran National Missionary Society.

MEMBERSHIP: Anyone contributing for the work of the Society shall become a member thereof.

BRANCHES: Members resident in a particular locality shall form themselves into a Branch and administer their affairs through a committee of their own.

COUNCIL: The affairs of the Society shall be under the control of a council which shall meet annually.

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

(a) Elected: (i) The President of each Church of the Lutheran Federation (F.E.L.C) if he is an Indian, or another Officer (Indian) to represent the Executive of the Church.
(ii) one additional member of each Lutheran Church which contributes over Rs.1,000/- per annum, his term of membership being two or three years according to the decision of the committee of the church.

(b) Ex-Officio: the Secretary of the Council

(c) Co-opted: one to four members co-opted by the Council for two years.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: The business of the committee between one session of the Council and the next shall be transacted by the Executive Committee of five members appointed at the annual budget meeting of the Council. The decisions of the Executive are subject to the confirmation of the Council.
The Council shall at its annual budget session elect its President, Secretary and Treasurer. The Secretary/ shall be a full time worker of the Society. The Officers of the Council shall be the office-bearers of the Executive Council.

QUORUM: (a) Quorum for the Council shall be five representing at least three contributing Churches.
(b) The quorum for the Executive shall be three of whom one at least shall be a non-Officer.

-0-0-

The Lutheran National Missionary Society of India.
Tambaram 3.5.1956

23

The Chairman,
L N M S Team of Investigation, Balipara Mission.

Dear Friends,

Today came a letter from the N M S Hqrs. stating that Miss K. Sinclair, our Bengali worker at present in the N M S Rural Service Centre is returned to Madras for medical treatment. She proceeded by the T. B. Express from G. P. with a view to join the Team visiting Balipara. I am sure you would like to know about the same if you have not received it. If you or your Team were to go for the annual pastorate meeting, I am sure Miss Sinclair can do an advance journey to Tezpur & there meet you & help you in the matter. We have only three Christian families & three Rev. Henrichsen & Mr. Lyngkhoi from Boro Christian Council. The Pres. Assam Synod, & the Pres. Garo Christian Council & Khasi Christian Council may be invited to the Pres. Baptist Church Council (Rev. D. Washington) of Boro Christian Council & Mr. Lyngkhoi Secretary Khasi Christian Council.

Enclosed letter of 15 Rev Boro - dealing from Rebong, Landmai P.O. Mission area. I do not know whether you will get all the information you need from this letter. I hope the visit in connection with this work, & this letter may do no harm. In connection with this work, I would like to point out that personnel may be found among our people to help you in the work. At present we have no volunteers who can work among these people. Naturally on visiting any volunteers who can work among these people.

It seems to be the same concern on the part of some of American Christians on the Naga Hills Mission area on the N. E. Frontier. I may be mistaken but all Jesus be praised, there is no opposition to the Gospel. I am sure you will be interested to know that Gauhati, Shillong, Jowai, Nongpoh & Haflong are mentioned that their Leaving Shillong & also remember Rev Tuga Ladak in prayer in touch with the Chairman & Secy of the Assam C. C.

The Rev. D. D. P. Tuga
President, Goshner Church
Council,
Ranchi
(Bihar.

P. C. Reply

No: 212/56

Assam Boarder team

Waiting for the consent of N. M. S. representative. It will not be wise to do without him/her.

J. S. Thyagi
2/6

23

I am sure your ... will
most sympathetically and give us kindly an
opportunity to express ourselves to you personally.

Encl: (1) New Secretary's letter No. 3779/54 Yours faithfully
(2) Your letter No. S.B.1(1)55
(3) C.C. Resolution.

Please refer to your letter No. S.B.1(1)55
dated the 19th January, 1955 in connection with
the request made by our church in a letter
written by our secretary No. 3779/54 dated
20th October, 1954. For your ready reference
copies of these letters are enclosed herewith.

Minutes of the meeting of the Lutheran N.M.S. Council held at the Fabricius High School, Vepery, Madras on 14th April 1956 at 9 A.M

Members present - The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, President Emeritus
The Rev.K.Nathaniel, Acting President
The Rev.G.Devasahayam, Treasurer
The Rev.J.Kumaresan, Secretary
The Rev.J.J.P.Tiga, President, G.E.L.C.
The Rev.A.C.Kondpan, President, J.E.L.C.
Prof.N.Isaac, A.E.L.C.
The Rev.K.J.Williams, S.A.L.C.
Prof.D.Chiranjeevi, S.A.L.C.
The Rev.Chinna David, A.L.C.
The Rev.N.Daniel, A.L.C.
Dr.(Mrs) R.B.Manikam, Chairman, Ladies Auxiliary (Official Visitor)
Mr.N.E.Horo, Secretary, G.E.L.C.(Visitor).

SESSIONS:- FORENOON: 9 - 1 ; AFTERNOON: 2.30 - 6.30

The devotions were conducted by Rev.K.Nathaniel, who based his thoughts on Matt.25,14 ff.

1. WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS: The President extended a hearty welcome to Bishop Manikam, President of the T.E.L.C. who in virtue of his office, as the first Indian President becomes an ex-officio member of the Council according to the L.N.M.S. Constitution. President Tiga of the Gossner Church and the two S.A.L.C. representatives were welcomed as new members.

2. A Nomination Committee was appointed with the following members, Prof.N.Isaac (Convener), the Rev.A.C.Kondpan, Prof.D.Chiranjeevi, and a Budget Committee with Rev.G.Devasahayam (Convener), the Rev.J.D.Asirvadam and the Rev.J.J.P.Tiga. Prof.D.Chiranjeevi was later added to the Budget Committee.

3. THE SECRETARY'S REPORT: The Secretary then presented a report covering the work of the Council since its last meeting which was already circulated in advance. RESOLVED to accept the report.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE SECRETARY'S REPORT: KARHANI: RESOLVED to accept the plan and estimate for a school and a house at Karhani on a half acre plot given by Ramdari(Dhanuram) on condition that the property built on the piece of land thus gifted would revert to the present owner of the land if N.M.S. work is not carried on any longer in the village. The missionary-in-charge hopes that in due course this condition will not be insisted on.

5. MINUTES: The following minutes were recorded:
L.N.M.S. Council dated 22nd January 1955
L.N.M.S. Executive dated 30th April 1955, and
L.N.M.S. Executive dated 18th June 1955.
The Minutes of the L.N.M.S. Executive dated 23rd January 1956 were read and approved.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

(i) N.M.S. Jubilee and Calcutta Meeting: The Secretary reported on the efforts made to celebrate the N.M.S. Jubilee in the various constituent Churches and the co-operation of the constituent Churches in the sale of Bible Book Marks and stamps. He also reported on the All India Council meetings and the Golden Jubilee celebrations at Calcutta and Serampore during October 21-25, 1955.

RESOLVED to propose July 8th or 9th as a special Mission Sunday to be observed in the congregations of all the supporting Churches and the Officers of the L.N.M.S. are requested to send out circulars to the Presidents of the Churches regarding the celebrations of this day in consultation with the President of the E.E.L.C.

(ii) RESOLVED to request the Secretary to secure for the L.N.M.S. Council members copies of the proceedings of the All India Council meetings and Golden Jubilee celebrations at Calcutta and Serampore.

(iii) Surguja Matters: (a) The Secretary reported that the F.E.L.C. Enlarged Executive held at Renigunta on 11th to 13th April 1956 has appointed a special committee consisting of Bishop Manikam, Dr.E.G.Wood and Rev.J.D.Asirvadam (Convener) to look into the text of the Nowrangapur minute (L.N.M.S. Minute 23(a) of January 1955) and the question of the Surguja Board constitution referred by the Surguja Board to the F.E.L.C. in its minute 13(i) dated 30th November 1955.

(b) RESOLVED to vote Rs.200/- as L.N.M.S. contribution for Surguja work.

7. FEDERATION EXECUTIVE REFERENCE ON L.N.M.S. RELATIONSHIP TO THE N.M.S. AND THE F.E.L.C: The Secretary reported on the discussions at the Federation Enlarged Executive at Renigunta on April 11-13, 1956 regarding the relationship of the L.N.M.S. to the N.M.S. on the one hand and the FELC on the other. At the request of the FELC Enlarged Executive, RESOLVED to appoint a committee to study the matter and report at the next FELC Executive. Members: Bishop R.B.Manikam (Convener), Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, Rev.G.Devasahayam, Prof.D.Chiranjeevi and Rev.J.Kumaresan along with the General Secretary of the N.M.S. The following was suggested with a view to strengthen the relationship between the LNMS and the NMS. One LNMS representative on the NMS Standing Committee and one NMS representative to the LNMS Council.

8. SAHDOL WORK: The President Emeritus to whom the exploratory work had been entrusted by the Executive had circulated his report to all the members. A fuller statement had appeared in the January 1956 issue of the N.M.I. detailing steps taken since July 1955. Reprints had been sent to the Council members, Medical Boards, Hospitals, and other institutions and to various supporters.

In stressing the need for starting the work with proper assurances of adequate support, he proposed that monthly contributions raised from the staff of hospitals, and educational and other institutions be earmarked for the support of this medical work in the initial years and that money contributions, instruments etc. be requested from the Medical Boards of our supporting Churches and from Lutheran Hospitals and clinics. The Ladies Auxiliary preliminary meeting has accepted this as their major project.

RESOLVED: (i) that the following Committee be appointed to confer with Dr.(Miss) Ramabai Gopal about the terms of appointment: The Rev.J.D. Asirvadam, Prof.N.Isaac and the Rev.G.Devasahayam (Convener).

Terms of Reference: RESOLVED that the scale of salary for the medical missionary be fixed at Rs.225 - 15- 400 and that Dr.Ramabai Gopal be started in view of her previous experience and special training on Rs.300/- per month with free quarters.

(ii) that the LNMS await the action of the Medical Board of the AELC as to when the services of Dr.Ramabai Gopal would be made available for work in the NMS field.

(iii) that efforts be continued to secure adequate support for recurring and non-recurring expenditure.

(iv) that the Churches be requested to secure the co-operation of their Medical Boards and Hospitals to assist the LNMS Committees in securing funds for the support of this medical project, and that the LNMS Council members be requested to help wherever the Churches have not yet appointed special NMS Committees to assist to implement the programme of the LNMS.

(v) that cordial thanks be conveyed to all those who have co-operated in this preparatory work done by the President Emeritus, including (a) the Medical Board of the American Lutheran Conference which has voted Rs.500/- for initial outlay, (b) Dr.B.J.Ratnam and Dr.Mary Moses for preparing a tentative list of requirements and (c) Dr.George K.Gesler for a preliminary statement regarding the plan for buildings at

Sahdol and that their continued assistance and that of others whose special help is solicited be requested.

(vi) that the Sahdol Medical Account be kept separate.

9. A.E.L.C. SILVER JUBILEE FUND: The Council wishes to re-affirm its former resolution that the A.E.L.C. Silver Jubilee contribution to the LMMS be earmarked for Sahdol Medical Project, and requests that this amount be treated for the present as a loan to the LMMS for the Kotma Building Fund.

10. ASSAM BORDER WORK: Rev.J.D.Asirvadam traced the developments connected with Assam Border work and reported that when the Team of Investigation sends its proposals, definite action will be taken to select the needed workers and vote the budget for this new work. He also reported that the Boro Church Council of the Ebenezer Church and the Assam Synod of the Gossner Church are willing to co-operate. RESOLVED to accept the report with deep gratitude to God for the new door that is opening. RESOLVED to express hearty thanks to the LWF Commission on World Missions for its grant of £.300.00 for Assam Border work of which the first instal-ment has already been received by the LWF Financial Secretary for Asia, Mr.Martin Henry. (It has been subsequently reported that the second quarterly remittance has been received by the LWF Financial Secretary).

11. FIELD MATTERS: (i) Murwahi: RESOLVED to sanction Rs.600/- towards repairs for Mrs.V.S.Krupadanam's house. The school grants arrears received is earmarked for this.

(ii) Usad: RESOLVED to sanction Rs.230/- for Usad School and well.

(iii) Kotma Buildings: (a) Report: Read report from Rev.J.D. Asirvadam regarding the progress of Kotma Building work. The chapel has been completed and the dispensary and quarters for a married missionary and for a single missionary have been completed up to the basement. RESOLVED that the completion of the married missionary quarters be undertaken as early as money becomes available.

(b) The following tentative statement is recorded as receipts in 1955:

TELC	Rs.631	0	0
Loan from TELC	2000	0	0
Transferred from the General Account	1000	0	0
JELC	200	0	0
AELC	74	0	0
ALC	69	8	3
SALC	10	0	0
Mr.J.S.Jewis, Jaffna	20	0	0
Mr.J.N.Das, Rs.10/- : Field Rs.23.4.0	33	4	0
	4037	12	3

Any earmarked amounts included in total remittances from TELC, ALC, SALC etc.shown in the general account as receipts from Churches will be transferred to the Kotma Special Account when details are known

RESOLVED to request the Churches to take immediate steps to rais the balance of their allotment fully as early as possible.

The account for 1954 and 1955 is as follows:

Receipts - 1954 (as in audited statement) which includes loan of Rs.2000/- from the AELC	Rs.3950	7	1
1955 as above	4037	12	3
	7988	3	4
Expenditure as per Treasurer's statement.	7973	0	0

(vi) Requests from the Surins: (a) RESOLVED to record that the Council does not favour any increase in the study help to Tr.Surin's children.

(b) RESOLVED to grant Rs.325/- as Provident Fund loan to Mrs. Sur

(v) Provident Fund Statements: RESOLVED to request the Treasurer to send out to the field workers annual statements regarding their Provident Fund account.

12. MISS EMILY S.VEDANAYAKAM: RESOLVED to record that the Council is not in favour of accepting the resignation of Miss Vedanayakam. The need for women missionary workers is very real. The Council earnestly hopes that she will be able to re-consider her decision and return to the field.

13. MR.D.DEVAPRIAM: The Secretary reported on the work of Mr.D.Devapriam at the Divinity School and read the confidential report from its Principal. The previous actions regarding Mr.Devapriam were also read and the matter of his return to the field was considered.

(a) The Council appreciates the action of the TELC Church Council in arranging for Mr.Devapriam's theological training in the final year 1955-56 at the Tranquebar Divinity School and wishes to place on record its hearty thanks for the financial help extended to him during that tim

(b) The LMMS having considered all the facts placed before it does not feel able to send him back to the field on the expiry of his leave period 31st May 1956. He is granted full salary for April and May only. RESOLVED to request the TELC to give him work from 1st of June 1956 till such time as the Council is able to call him back to the field.

14. S.A.L.C. REPRESENTATION: It was reported that the SALC representatives to the Council were appointed before the constitution of the LMMS Council was made available. On the suggestion of Mr. Chiranjeevi it was RESOLVED that if the President of the Church is not able to attend a particular meeting of the Council, he shall send one of the Officers in his place.

15. THE ACCOUNTS FOR 1955: The Treasurer presented a statement of accoun for the year 1955. The President Emeritus had at the request of the Treasurer analysed the amounts contributed by each Church as he had done in previous years. He stated that Rs.600/- deducted from actual TELC collections and transferred by the TELC Treasury to reduce the Kotma debt from Rs.2000/- to Rs.1400/- should be shown in our audited statement, and the loan account should indicate the reduction of our total liability from Rs.4000/- to Rs.3400/-.

(a) RESOLVED (i) to receive it and (ii) to appoint Mr.D.Chiranjeevi and Mr.J.Paulus as Auditors.

(b) Budget for 1956: The Treasurer presented the budget proposals for 1956. The approved budget is published as Appendix I to the minutes.

16. CONSTITUTION OF THE LADIES AUXILIARY: The Secretary presented the constitution of the Ladies Auxiliary which was passed clause after clause and is published as Appendix 2 to the Minutes.

17. AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION: In regard to the notice of amendment
ESOLVED given by Mr.N.Isaac at the Council meeting in January 1956, the membership of the Executive be raised from 5 to 7 members.
hat

18. NOTICE OF AMENDMENT: Mr.N.Isaac moved that the constitution of the LMMS be revised with a view to include the Ladies Auxiliary representative as a member of its Council.

19. SCALES OF SALARIES: RESOLVED to re-constitute the Salary Revision Committee with the Office-bearers and Prof.N.Isaac as Convener.

20. FULL-TIME SECRETARY: RESOLVED to explore the possibility of appoin ing a full-time Secretary from 1958.

21. PLANNING OF WORK: RESOLVED to request the Officers to prepare a pl

for the next five years in the order of priority listed below - (i) Completion of married quarters in Kotma, (ii) Sahdol Medical work, personnel equipment and buildings, (iii) Assam Border Work, (iv) Hostels, (v) Additional workers (Women evangelistic missionaries 2, nurses 2, man missionary 1), (vi) Surguja self-support and (vii) Full-time Secretary from 1958

22. REPORT OF NOMINATION COMMITTEE: Prof.N.Isaac, Chairman of the Nomination Committee presented the proposals on which the following action was taken unanimously: Officers-President: Rev.G.Devasahayam, Secretary: The Rev.J.Kumaresan, Treasurer: Prof.D.Chiranjeevi. Additional members on the Executive Committee: Rev.J.J.P.Tiga, Rev.N.Daniel, Rev.A.C.Kondpan, Prof.N.Isaac. RESOLVED that Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, President Emeritus be invited to the meetings of the Executive Committee whenever necessary.

23. WORK AMONG CHURCHES: RESOLVED (i) to request Rev.J.J.P.Tiga to visit the Ebenezer Church and present the cause of the LNMS.

(ii) to instruct the Secretary to request the Ebenezer Church to share in the work of the Lutheran NMS and to elect a representative to serve on the LNMS Council. Her co-operation will strengthen our work and be of the greatest value in initiating and carrying through the work of the Balipara Mission.

(iii) to request the Church Council of the GELC to take steps to get a small NMS Committee appointed to organise and strengthen missionary interest in the tasks of the LNMS, and particularly in the new work to be started in Balipara.

(iv) to request the Churches to arrange for enrolment of monthly subscribers in parishes and institutions through the pastors.

24. PUBLICITY WORK: RESOLVED to request the General Secretary, NMS to send out the Call to Prayer sufficiently early for translation into vernaculars and for publication in vernacular journals.

With regard to giving wide publicity to LNMS news the following arrangement is agreed upon: 500 copies of reprint in Telugu (400 for AELC and 100 for SALC); 200 copies of reprint in Tamil for the TELC & ALC; 200 copies of reprint in Hindi (100 for the GELC and 100 for the MP ELC). The Secretary is instructed to enquire if reprints from the Jeypore Church Oriya paper can be arranged, and from the Ebenezer Church papers. The help given by Church Presidents in South India in distributing copies from the Church offices along with their own circulars has been of great value, and we request the same help from other Churchoffice

25. RETIRING PRESIDENT: At the instance of the Chairman of the Nomination Committee, it was RESOLVED to record the appreciation of the Council for the valuable services rendered by Rev.K.Nathaniel as Acting President since last May. The President Emeritus testified to the great interest and detailed knowledge of LNMS matters of the Acting President which have been of great value to our work through many years in the past and during the year he held office as acting President.

26. TRANSFER OF ACCOUNTS: RESOLVED to authorise the new Treasurer, Prof. D.Chiranjeevi to take over the LNMS accounts from the former Treasurer, the Rev.G.Devasahayam, to arrange for the transfer of the Bank Account to Madras, and to operate as Treasurer of the LNMS from the date of taking over.

The acting President led in prayer and with benediction by Rev.J. J.P.Tiga, the meeting ended.

Madras-10 |
23.5.1956 |

J.Kumaresan,
Secretary

K.Nathaniel,
Ag.President

1956 BUDGET.

Expenses:	1. Workers' Salaries	Rs.9540
	2. New Workers	2400
	3. House rent, travel etc.	1500
	4. Stationery & postage	150
	5. Medical aid	500
	6. Repairs	1200
	7. Furniture - Usad & Kotma	150
	8. Study Help	500
	9. Munshi (4 months)	60
	10. Committee, Deputation, Publicity work & Office	1500
	11. Bank Charges	100
	12. Contribution for P.F.	400
	13. Surguja Project	200
		18200
Income:	1. ASLC	6250
	2. TSLC	5250
	3. SALC	1500
	4. ALC(BMS)	1500
	5. MP ELC	500
	6. Ebenezer (Santal)	300
	7. JELC (West)	350
	8. East Jeypore	50
	9. CELC	2000
	10. Field Income	500
		18200

CONSTITUTION OF THE LADIES AUXILIARY AS PASSED BY THE LNMS COUNCIL ON 14.4.1956.

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Lutheran N.M.S. shall be constituted as follows:

1. Committee of Management: The Committee of the Auxiliary shall consist of the following members-

(a) Ex-officio: (i) The Chairman appointed by the Lutheran NMS Council
(ii) The Chairman of the Federation Committee on the Ministry of Women.

(b) Elected: Two or more members elected by each Church of the FELC.

NOTE: If more than two are elected, the Church making the appointment will specify which two members are to serve on the Regional Committee of the Church (vide article 3).

(c) Co-opted: The Ladies Auxiliary may co-opt up to four members. Regarding the travel expenses for co-opted members the Ladies Auxiliary Committee will vote such amounts as may be possible.

2. Object: To create NMS interest in each Church area and parish working wherever possible through existing women's samajas; to form regional Ladies Auxiliaries in each Church area. Where women samajas exist, the Central Women's organisation shall set up a Ladies Auxiliary Committee for its Church; where they do not exist, a separate LNMS Ladies Auxiliary [i] shall be set up by the Church.

3. Organisation for each region: A Working Committee for each Church (region) shall be constituted consisting of the two elected members (vide article 1(b)) and one member elected by the women's samaj of that Church. The Central Committee shall appoint one of the three as the Regional Convener. The Regional Convener's expenses shall be provided for from the women's samaj budget or the regional Ladies' Auxiliary Working Committee.

4. Aim and Method: (i) to foster NMS effort (publicity, prayer and raising needed support) being undertaken in each parish

(ii) to include the NMS needs and programme in annual conferences in each Church or Synod area

(iii) to enlist the co-operation of the full-time women samaj Secretary in each Church and

(iv) to enlist the services of honorary workers for deputation work.

5. Officers: The Officers shall be-A Chairman elected by the Lutheran NMS Council who shall also be Treasurer, for the time being. A Vice-Chairman and Secretary [ii] shall be elected from among the elected members of the Church.

6. Representation on the Lutheran NMS Council: The Ladies Auxiliary will elect a representative to serve on the Lutheran NMS Council. [iii]

NOTE. i. Where there is neither a women samaj nor NMS Ladies Auxiliary set up by the Church concerned, the Central Committee shall appoint an organiser for the Ladies Auxiliary.

Wherever local LNMS Committee already exist, it is recommended that common sessions be arranged with women's auxiliary members to co-ordinate their work.

ii. The electing body of the Ladies Auxiliary is requested to note that the person to be elected as Secretary should be able to meet the Chairman of the Ladies Auxiliary at least thrice a year and plan for the work with reference to Church and local organisations, deputations etc.

iii. Until the Lutheran NMS Constitution is suitably amended, the representative shall attend the Council meetings as an official visitor.

The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, M.A.

"Arulagam", Tambaram,
25th April 1956.

The Rev. O.S. Bjerkestrand,
General Superintendent,
Ebenezer E.L.C., Benagaria,
Santal Parganas, Bihar.

Dear Superintendent,

I am very happy at the good response from the Boro Church Council and its keen Chairman. I am writing to Rev.Tiga to go ahead with the preparations for the meeting at Tezpur. I am also suggesting that the President of the Santali Church Council in Assam be invited to this meeting at Tezpur and I shall be grateful if you would also kindly support this proposal and write to him and send a copy to me. ~~myself~~ to President Tiga

It is our earnest hope that the entire personnel of the Ebenezer Lutheran Church as well as of the Gossner Lutheran Church stand behind this work in prayer and active help and therefore it would be good for the Presidents of the Santali Church Council of Assam, the Boro Church Council and the Assam Synod of the Gossner Church to be present at the Tezpur meeting so that in their tours they might speak with full knowledge of the details of the enterprise.

I am enclosing a copy of an article which is being published in the Gospel Witness. May I request you to be so good as to have it translated and published in the Santali paper. I am sending another copy to Rev. Westborg so that he may arrange to publish it also in the Boro paper. It is also being published in Garbandhu and reprints will be taken and sent for wide distribution among the Gossner congregations. I shall be grateful ~~and~~ if you and Rev.Westborg can arrange for reprints at the cost of the NMS and have them widely distributed. I shall add a short-note to the above article to make it up-to-date.

You will be glad to know that the ordinary meeting of the Federation Executive Council will be held at Calcutta in November and we shall look forward to your being present. I am also hoping to have a meeting of a few people interested in the Assam work to meet at the sametime. The definite dates will be known to you when the published Minutes of the Federation Executive that met at Renigunta on April 11-13 reach you.

I need your help in another small matter. Every year we have been asking the NMS Office to send to the Ebenezer Church the NMS annual Call to Prayer and also Lutheran NMS material sent along with it. Usually our Lutheran annual report accompanies it. Last year we asked that 30 copies in English, 50 copies in Hindi, 20 copies in Bengali and 50 copies in Assamese ~~to~~ be sent of the NMS Call to Prayer and 100 copies of LNMS statement which was issued in English only. I do not know whether you would consider that some of these material cannot be made use of. I shall be grateful if you kindly advise us as to whether these quantities are all right or whether we should increase or decrease any of the above. We donot want to send material which will be of no use. The Call to Prayer is not published ~~as~~ Santali or Boro and therefore we have to be content with Hindi, Assamese and Bengali.

May I take the liberty to mention to you how deeply the LNMS Council appreciated the warm response you gave to the Assam proposal and for the steps you are taking along with Rev.K.R.Ghose to have your Church represented on the Lutheran NMS Council.

<u>Ebenezer Evangelical Lutheran Church Synod's action on the LNMS:</u>
I shall be grateful if you can kindly look up the Minutes of the first meeting of the Synod and send me a copy of your action in regard to co-operation of the Church in the work of the Lutheran NMS.

With cordial greetings,

Yours sincerely,

Copies to: Rev.J.J.P.Tiga
" David Westborg
" J.Kumaresan.

The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, M.A.,

"Arulagam", Tambaram,
25th April 1956.

The Rev. David Westberg,
President, Boro Church Council,
Gaorang Mission, P.O.Haltugaon,
Goalpara Dt. Assam.

Dear Rev. Westberg,

I have to thank you most cordially for your letter of the 7th April received at Tambaram on the 16th and your subsequent brief letter of April 20th received here on the 23rd.

I am exceedingly grateful for your having brought this particular matter to a definite issue. I write this to welcome most warmly your two representatives to serve on our Assam Border Team of Investigation. I am also grateful for the addresses you have given so that both Rev.Tiga and I could contact them even before the actual work of investigation begins.

The main problem will be to select the area. Probably a few villages which could be suggested when later Rev.Tiga interviews the Advisor to Governor at Shillong. and also, select the personnel and draw up the budget say from July to December 1956 or from January 1957. The Lutheran NMS Executive will have to take action, if, as we originally envisaged, the selected team could begin language study but if as you say Dufla personnel may be available from the Baptist's Church that needs to be considered. In our NMS work we have always felt it somewhat difficult to emply Baptist workers, but it may be necessary in the beginning. In any case that is a matter for Rev.Tiga's Committee to advise us on.

I shall be grateful for some further information about your Divinity School at Nimmesare, Malda. I wonder in what language the instruction is given and for what grades of people.

Immediately on receipt of your letter of April 7th I sent you a post card which I trust has reached you. I have sent copies of your letter of the 7th to all the members of the Lutheran NMS Council. I had hoped that we could use Boro personnel for leadership as well as ~~for the~~ helpers. Would it not be somewhat easy for a Boro man to go into the Balipara area than for a Santali or an Uraon or a Munda. So far we have not thought of one from the South unless we are ready to start medical work. We believe that in the beginning we have to go very slow and confine ourselves only to a few villages and then discover possibilities. The Government is going to do its best for education, but there may be scope for a social worker. President Tiga and his Committee will be wide awake to see what would be the best way of making effective contacts with the people. I am suggesting to Rev.Tiga that he invite you and also the President of the Santali Church in Assam and the President of the Assam Synod of the Gossner Church together with your two representatives and the Rev.M.Hemron appointed by the Gossner Church. The L.N.M.S will meet the travel expenses of your two representatives, and we shall be happy if the Boro and Santali Ch. Council budget can meet the travel expenses of their Presidents.

With very cordial greetings and grateful thanks for the wholehearted way in which you have welcomed our efforts and tried to help us,

Yours sincerely,

Copies to: The Rev.O.S.Bjerkestrand
" J.J.P.Tiga
" Maguram Mosahary
Mr.Thaniswar Bosumatary
The Rev.J.Kumaresan.

GARORANG MISSION.

Rev. David Westborg.

P.O. Haltugaon, Dist. Goalpara,
Assam, R.S. Kokrajhar.
April 20, 1956.

The Rev. J.D. Asirvadam,
"Arulagam",
Tambaram, S. India.

Dear Rev. Asirvadam,

Some time ago I sent you a letter informing you that we would call the Executive Committee of the Boro Church Council to consider your request.

The meeting has now been held. Apart from funds the Boros would cooperate in the new enterprise to the best of their abilities.

The following representatives were appointed:

The Rev. Maguram Mosahary,
Parkijuli Mission,
P.O. Menoka, Kamrup Dist. Assam.

Mr. Thaniswar Bosumatary,
The Gaorang Girls' School,
P.O. Haltugaon, Goalpara Dist., Assam.

As soon as Rev. Tiga is ready to go to Tezpur he is free to write and call the representatives mentioned above whom I think he will find a great help.

Rev. Maguram Mosahary would try from now on to collect data that may prove helpful when Rev. Tiga arrives.

If I may be of any further assistance please let me know.

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

sd: David Westborg.

Copy to President J & P Tiga,
Chairman, L.M.M.S. Team
of Investigation,
Balipara Mission. /true copy/

The following letter received at Tambaram on 16th April from Rev. David Westberg, Chairman of the Boro Church Council is full of valuable information. It is a pity that this letter did not come a little earlier. I am requesting the Secretary to send copies of this to members of the Council when the minutes go out.

J.D.Asirvadam,

April 7, 1956.

Dear Rev. Asirvadam,

I thank you for your letter dated April 1, 1956 which I received only yesterday.

The reason why I have not written is that the Boro Church Council has not met. The meeting is scheduled for the month of May as we had one in January. Regularly the Council meets only twice a year, to cut down on expenses, as our representatives live far apart and the travelling budget is rather more than we can carry without extra funds.

However, I shall call the Executive Committee next week to consider your request as time is getting short. We have already had storms and plenty of rain so that the roads are becoming impassable.

I congratulate you on your earnest efforts and your enthusiasm which I am confident will bear fruit in due season.

Apart from funds we are willing to co-operate with you to the best of our abilities, and I hope the Boros will take an active part in the new enterprise. I think it will, as stated by you, be a blessing to the Church in this region.

From now on to November I shall be engulfed in works which I possibly cannot look after as I ought. We are short of missionaries and also of Boro workers. Hence I have two mission stations, 120 miles apart, with bad roads and poor communications, to look after. I am President of the Boro Church Council and acting pastor for 4 congregations situated far apart. Thus you will understand the reason why I have not yet been able to act more fully on your suggestions.

I thank you for the great honour you bestow upon me by wanting me as a member of the investigation committee. But personally I think it would be wise to let the Boro Church Council recommend to our General Superintendent, the Rev.O.S.Bjerkestrand, those who would be best suited for the task. I have two in mind myself. One is the Vice-President of the Boro Church Council, Mr.Thaniswar Boshumatary who is enthusiastic and nationally minded, and the other Rev.Maguram Mosahary in Kamrup District who has proved himself the only Boro in our midst who is really endued with a missionary spirit. Recently he has had success in his work among our Boros in Darrange District and North Lakhimpur where we have several congregations. On account of Comity Rules we are not permitted to build or do any active work as a Mission, but our pastor is looking after the work and carrying it forward. He is also in charge of the practical side of our Bhutanese work, and he knows more about the frontier tract than any one else among us. He is enthusiastic and full of missionary zeal.

As far as the Santal Church Council in Assam is concerned, Rev. James Soren, Joima Mission, P.O.Gossaingaon, Goalpara Dist. is now President. On your advice or request our General Superintendent may approach him for advice on electing a member from among the Santals of our group.

Years ago we also had work among the Bhutias north of Darrang District but turned it over to the North Bank Baptists after the Assam Christian Council gave this field to them. I do not know how much they have been able to do as they may lack workers and the region is only accessible part of the year.

Regarding our Bhutanese work I think it meet to let you know that the Boro Church Council more then 10 years ago proferred their help in men and money. But so far it has not materialised. If the new enterprise also could infuse more of missionary zeal among our brethren we should hail it with enthusiasm.

As far as I know the American Baptist Mission has for some time worked among the Daphlas. If they would let you have one or two men who already know the language I think it would mean a great step forward right from the beginning. But this will also be a matter for the Committee to look into.

The L.Th.referred to by our General Superintendent failed in Greek and was not admitted to the Serampore College because the time had lapsed. He is scheduled for a trip to the U.S.A. for further studies should the opportunity arise. Meantime he may be elected President of the Boro Church Council. He is one of the men I personally would like to recommend as a member of the proposed committee.

We conduct Bible Courses ~~xf~~ here for our elders, but for further studies we send them on to our Divinity School at Benagaria in Santal

The Caravan article speaks about tensions between the Bengalis and Assamese. I wonder whether the possibility of a Bengali Lutheran helping in the work should be explored at least for the initial stages. My own belief is that the work will go much more effectively if the leadership rests with tribal Lutheran personnel and if a suitable leader is not immediately available we ought to take steps to ~~xxxxxxx~~ secure such at the earliest possible time. Our own feeling is that during the next 3 to 5 years, the work will gâ slow. In Surguja which was a new area entered by Lutherans, we have within four years gathered a community of 2800 members but that was because the missionary could immediately mobilise a large force of hill-tribe pastors, evangelists and Biblewomen. We have about 6 pastors and over 100 evangelists all from the same tribal group from the Gossner area and this made the work gather momentum in a short while. Because of the need to train the needed personnel for work among Akas and Duflas, we expect that this work will grow slow, but when once a small community has been gathered we can train that personnel and push forward the work more rapidly, say after five years. We have to plan for the first five years to use available personnel and the next period for which the proper tribal personnel should be selected and trained from now onward. Not knowing the area, some of my suggestions might not appeal to you but we ~~xxxxxxxx~~ who belong to the All India National Society are definitely convinced that the main responsibility for this work must be laid upon the people in Assam.

Apart from this work of exploration as to where and how to begin and what step should be taken to prepare the needed personnel for the future, there is another important work to be done, viz. to get the Churches behind the work. I am very happy that Pastor M.Hemron, Vice-President of the Assam Synod of the Gossner Church who was with us at the Calcutta exploratory meeting of which I enclose a copy for your and Mr.Bosumatory's information, did during his limited tours in his own area speak about the work and ask for the prayers of the people. One of the things that this Team of Investigation has to consider is to mobilise the entire Lutheran personnel of the Ebenezer and Gossner Churches in Assam and also in Bihar to stand behind the work in earnest prayer and active help. We would appeal to every congregation to form a missionary group and to remember the Balipara effort in prayer and also raise the needed support for it. Though in the beginning the money help may be very little, it has to be organised from the very beginning. With a view to help forword the Balipara work and also the medical work we are opening at Sahdol, Vindhya Pradesh, we are now asking our Churches to enlist every earning member to give regularly monthly subscriptions so that enough money may be raised to take hold of new opportunity to maximum effectiveness. We would like that besides what the congregation do for self-support, we should aim at a more comprehensive programme for every congregation which should doubtless include progress of the work of the Balipara Mission and every family must give something for this work and I think one of your main tasks would be for you both together with Rev.Westberg to work out a simple programme of missionary action for the congregations. An appeal will be for prayer and for sacrificial giving which will also include a readiness to send its own sons and daughters who are immediately available for the work and also be ready to get them trained for the work.

The Gossner Church gives one handful of rice for every meal for Church work. I do not know whether you have a similar practice in your own Church, but if such a practice does not obtain, it would be well for your Church to adopt this for missionary work, one handful being put into the Balipara Mission pot. In that way the dedication of every home will be deepened and the spiritual impact of such a dedicated Church on the work of the Balipara Mission will be a very blessed one. If it is not rice dhan for mission work, some other method more suited for your area could be thought of. We have been convinced that this call is from God and the way we have been led to it has been marvellous. We need the prayers of our people that in every step we may be guided by Him and our prayer shall be for light and know His will and for obedience to do His will and for a perfect heart to love His will.

With very cordial Christian greetings,

Yours in His service,

President Emeritus, LNMS

copies to: The Rev.O.S.Bjerkestrand, The Rev.D. Westborg, Mr.T.Bosumatory, President Tiga, President, Santali Church Council of Assam, The Rev.Ghose, Officers, LNMS Council, General Secy.NMS.

The Caravan article speaks about tensions between the Bengalis and Assamese. I wonder whether the possibility of a Bengali Lutheran helping in the work should be explored at least for the initial stages. My own belief is that the work will go much more effectively if the leadership rests with tribal Lutheran personnel and if a suitable leader is not immediately available we ought to take steps to make sure he is such at the earliest possible time. Our own feeling is that during the next 3 to 5 years, the work will go slow. The Burgula which was a new area entered by Lutherans, we have within four years gathered a community of 2800 members but that was because the missionary could immediately mobilize a large force of full-time pastors, evangelists and Bible women. We have about 6 pastors and over 100 evangelists all from the same tribal group from the Guntur area and this made the work rather momentum in a short while. Because of the need to train the needed personnel for work among Khas and Mundas, we expect that this work will grow slow, but when once a small community has been gathered we can train that personnel and push forward the work more rapidly, say after five years. We have to plan for the first five years to use available personnel and the next period for which the proper tribal personnel should be selected and trained from now onward. Not knowing the area, some of my suggestions might not appeal to you but we [illegible] who belong to the All India National Society are definitely convinced that the main responsibility for this work must be laid upon the people in Assam.

Apart from this work of exploration as to where and how to begin and what step should be taken to prepare the needed personnel for the future, there is another important work to be done, viz. to get the Churches behind the work. I am very happy that Pastor K.Heron, Vice-President of the Assam Synod of the Gaunar Church who was with us at the Calcutta exploratory meeting of which I enclose a copy for your and Boumatory's information, did during his limited tours in his own area speak about the work and ask for the prayers of the people. One of the things that this Team of Investigation has to consider is to [illegible] mobilize the entire Lutheran personnel of the Gaunar and [illegible] per-

[illegible] ver and active help. We would appeal to every congregation to form a missionary group and to [illegible] the Lenten effort this year and also raise the needed support for it. Though in the beginning this money help may be very little, it has to be organized from the very beginning. With a view to help forward the Bellary work and also the medical work we are opening at Cudda, Indore Pradesh, we are now asking our Churches to enlist every earning member to give regularly monthly subscriptions so that enough money may be raised to take hold of new opportunity to maximum effectiveness. We would like that besides what the congregation do for self-support, we should aim at a more comprehensive programme for every congregation which should definitely include progress of the work of the Lenten Mission and every family must give something for this work and I think one of your main tasks would be for you both together with Rev. Weatherby to work out a simple programme of missionary action for the congregations. An appeal will be for prayers and for each festival giving which will also include a readiness to send its own sons and daughters who are immediately available for the work and also be ready to get them trained for the work.

The Gaunar Church gives one handful of rice for every meal for [illegible] ... [illegible] ... [illegible] ...

The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, M.A.,

"Arulagam", Tambaram,
29th April 1956.

The Rev. Maguram Mosahary,

Dear Pastor Mosahary,

The Rev.David Westberg, President, Boro Church Council, in his letter dated 16th has spoken warmly about your interest in pioneering work and also about the great interest that Mr.Thaniswar Bosumatory of Haltugaon takes in the missionary task of the Church. It has, therefore, been of very peculiar joy and satisfaction that you both have been appointed as representatives of the Ebenezer Church -and of more particularly the Boro Church Council which has been invited to appoint representatives to serve on the Team of Investigation which has to work out detailed plans for the proposed Balipara Mission. The Rev.J.J.P. Tiga, President, Gossner Church is its Convener. The Assam Synod of the Gossner Church has already appointed the Rev. M. Hemron as its representative to serve on the Team of Investigation. We are awaiting the action of the N.M.S. Standing Committee to appoint a representative of our parent body, the All India Inter-denominational National Missionary Society. We are also inviting the Presidents of the Santali and Boro Church Councils in Assam as well as the President of the Assam Synod of the Gossner Church to help the team in its investigation. As soon as Rev.Tiga appoints the date, the members of the team will meet at Tezpur and draw up a plan for action.

When some of us met in Madras at the time of the Tranquebar Jubilee celebrations, we had the hope that one of the Boro L.Th. men would be available to become the executive head of this Balipara Mission, but I now understand that there are other plans for him which might not make that possible and that makes it even more necessary from now onward to be on the look out for a proper leader. We would very much like to have only Lutheran personnel to carry on this work to begin with on the southern border villages of Balipara and we need our Lord's guidance as to where exactly we should begin and also how we should carry on this work. It is necessary to assure the Government that we are eager to share fully in the national programme for the uplift of the people of NEFA and we have to study carefully the Government programme for the uplift of the area and see how far we can co-operate in those activities as a non-governmental agency and this could be done with the definite primary aim of bringing Christ to the people Who alone can bring about the maximum all round development to the tribal people in the area.

We shall, therefore, value your and Mr.Bosumatory's preliminary investigations and your advice as to where and how we should begin and even more important is the choice of the right personnel. I wonder whether our Boro evangelists would not be able to pick up Aka and Dufla languages. The April issue of Caravan mentions that a kind of Assamese is spoken in parts of NEFA and that might prove a link between the Lutheran personnel of Assam and the non-Christian tribal personnel of Balipara, but yet for effective missionary work we ought to give proper language training in one or both of the languages. What language should be learnt first will depend on what area is selected for this work. It has been suggested that Dufla personnel from the Baptist Church could be made use of in the early years and if we take two Baptist Duflas to start with, we should associate with each of them one Boro from the Ebenezer Church in the hope that he would soon pick up the language from his fellow evangelist of the Dufla tribe.

The Lutheran N.M.S. has from the very beginning hoped that the leader of this Mission could be found from our Lutheran Churches in North India. We are willing to select one with University training and give him theological training for three years and then make him the leader of the work, unless we have already selected a proper person who can continue to be the leader and the youngman could assist him, for this ministry will demand not only wholehearted devotion to the missionary cause of the Church but also discerning enthusiastic co-operation with Governmental agencies for national uplift in NEFA.

The Rev.K.R.Ghose was hoping to spend May and June at Darjeeling and if the meeting of the Team of Investigation at Tezpur is at a favourable time, he himself would be happy to join and help in the planning for the work. I am, therefore, sending a copy of this letter to Rev.Tiga, the Chairman of the Team so that he might keep in touch with Rev.Ghose.

Though immediately this organisational work should be made effective for the Assam area, we should also keep in view the deepening of N.M.S. interest in the Ebenezer and Gossner Churches in Bihar. This later programme could be very well tackled when the Federation Executive has to meet at Calcutta in November. At that time Rev.O.S. Bjerkestrand also will be present and we could invite Rev.David Westborg and a few others who may have their own budget for this travel to Calcutta.

After the Team of Investigation has carried out its work, it would be necessary for you to visit Shillong along with the General Secretary of the N.M.S. and get the definite backing of the Agency Administration to open work in a few villages where our workers will be willing to throwthemselves heart and soul into the governmental programme of uplift activities.

I shall be grateful for an indication of your programme in regard to the Team of Investigation.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

J. D. Asirvadam

Copies to
The General Secretary, NMS
The Officers of the LNMS
The Representatives of the Boro Church Council
The Representatives of the Assam Synod
The Rev.K.R.Ghose.

The Rev. J. D. Asirvadam, M.A.

"Arulagam", Tambaram,
29th April 1956.

23

The Rev. J. J. P. Tiga,
Ranchi.

Dear President Tiga,

A copy of the first letter from Rev. David Westborg was to have gone to you from the Secretary's Office along with the L.N.M.S. Council minutes, but as the draft sent to the Officers for approval has not come in time, I understand that the minutes and the enclosures have been delayed. In the meanwhile I have sent you by book-post a copy of Rev. Westborg's letter d/- 20th together with copies of my letters to him and Rev. Bjerkestrand dated 25th April. I am now enclosing a copy of my letter to Pastor Mosahary and that will give you a complete picture of all that has happened since we last met. I am sorry that the N.M.S. has not yet appointed its representative.

Miss Sircar, our new General Secretary, is scheduled to visit Nepal in May and I am sending a copy of this letter to her so that she might advise you about her programme in connection with that visit. Rev. Westborg felt that the work of the team should be completed before the rains set in in full force and therefore it may be necessary for you to go ahead with the investigation even if it does not become possible for a representative of the N.M.S. to join the team. I would very much like that Miss Sircar joins you at Tezpur and it would be much more practical to have the General Secretary share in the work than any other who does not have the same wide contacts and the same experience.

May I request you also to get into touch with Rev. K. R. Ghose, President, Bengal Church Council, Ebenezer E.L.C., Lutheran Mission, P.O. Suri, Birbhum District, Bihar, and find out if he is going to Darjeeling as he was planning to do when we met at Madras for the Ziegenbalg celebrations. He has very great influence within the Ebenezer Church and it may be that he would be helping us in regard to finding someone to lead the Balipara work in the early stages. As many of the officials in NEFA may be from Bengal, I wonder if there is a suitable pastor in the Bengal Church Council who is willing to learn the language and who could be thought of for preaching the gospel. It is acceptable co-operation with the Government officers that would open the door more effectively for our gospel work and I believe Bengali personnel might be of very great help. Even when Rev. S. Gnanabaranam altogether failed to get an opening in Rewa, Dr. S. C. Goswami, a Bengali convert who was working at the Mission Hospital at Gwalior offered his services and he was able to open up new doors in many places. It was he that obtained permission from the Rajah of Sahdol for us to set up a dispensary at Anuppur Junction, and through his help it was possible for Rev. Gnanabaranam later to visit Rewa, the Capital City and other places.

I have had in mind that Probably Kujur who was trained at Gurukul might prove helpful, but if the Church has already other plans for him I wonder whether you can think of other persons now under training in Germany to turn to this work. I feel very strongly that ultimately we should get a first rate leader for this work like Rev. Gnanabaranam in Rewa, Rev. Krupadanam in Surguja. He must be a man of University training and good theological equipment and I think we should first explore the possibility of a Boro being trained for this work or if your Team of Investigation can find a Dufla Christian and send him to Gurukul for training, that might be even better. Probably we may not be able to get educated persons yet from the Dufla tribe and we have to content ourselves in the beginning with securing Dufla and Boro helpers.

This is really a matter for your team, but I am only thinking aloud in the matter and it is my earnest prayer that in these important days of preparation for the meeting of the team, the members may be guided by the Holy Spirit to think along His lines and discover His will jointly and unanimously when you come together at Tezpur.

As we have already thought it over and as I have stated in my letter to Pastor Mosahary we have two problems to face. (1) Preparation for the Balipara Mission - (a) Where, when and how to begin; (b) personnel to be selected; (c) budget for 1956 and 1957 (d) theological study help for any to be trained as a leader or even as a helper. (2) Work among the Churches - (a) Publicity - The Presidents of the Synods would be the right persons to carry the message of a detailed plan to all the congregations in their areas. (b) Organising mission interest in every congregation and home. The Presidents would need the assistance of volunteers including those selected for the Assam Team of Investigation.

L. N. M. L.

NATIONAL CHRISTIAN COUNCIL
NAGPUR-1, M. P.

Rev. J.J.P. Tiga
Bihar Christian Council
Lutheran Theological Seminary
RANCHI, Bihar

Dedication of Christ Devalay, Kotma

18-12-1955

23

To The Rev. & Mrs. T. Tiga,
President, Ranchi.

The honour of your presence and kind prayers are requested at the dedication of Kotma Chapel. Rev. S. Anandabanam will dedicate the Chapel on Sunday the 18th Dec. 55 at 11.00 a.m.

Kindly announce this on Sunday in your Church. We are grateful to you for your fervent prayers for us in this service.

Yours Raymond
for President.

Dear Mr. President.
Very sorry for
Didn't write to you
after we left Ranchi.
Sorry to inform you,
We both as well as our
servant fell ill due
to Influenza fever
soon after we were
back to this place.
We are indeed Debt
Debt of gratitude
you and to Mrs.
for so received much
loving kindness from you
in Ranchi. Please give
my love to the Secretary &
Treasurer. With love to you
Raymond.

DELHI
13 DEC. 55

पोस्ट कार्ड
साथ का कार्ड जवाब के लिए
केवल पता

नाम The Rev. T. Tigga
पता President
E.L. Church
डाकखाना Ranchi
जिला Bihar

10 DEC 1955

It is a matter for thankfulness that this challenge has been well received wherever the proposal has been considered. An old tried friend of the N.M.S. when he read the proceedings of the exploratory meeting was thrilled by the new opportunity and immediately wrote to say that this is the kind of challenge that needs to be placed before the Churches in India. Though the Lutheran N.M.S. is about to establish medical work which is going to tax all its resources, it has been felt that this call to Salipara is a call from God, and ~~as~~ Rev. S. Gnanaberanam, our pioneer missionary stated at the exploratory meeting that when the Master calls us to what seems to be staggering to our faith He assures us that it is He Who calls us and therefore He will be with us and carry it through. With God nothing is impossible. Friends of the Samaj are earnestly requested to bear this burden on their hearts and seek the Lord's direction and guidance to ~~the Society~~ us at every stage that He may lead us step by step to go the way He has planned for us, and in obedience to His will lie our joy and satisfaction, and even more the realisation of His purposes and His objectives through the ministry of our Samaj.

"Arulagam", Tambaram,
1st April 1966.

J.D. ASIRVADAM.

For circulation Signatures 5
1. President Tiga. 6
2. Secy Nayak 7
3. Treasurer 8
4. Rev. Joel Lakra 9
10. Back to President Tiga for his file

Gossner Exec members of Ranchi

Tambaram, 26.2.1956.

MEMBERS OF THE LUTHERAN N.M.S. COUNCIL:

There are a few matters on which I wish to report to you:

1. ASSAM PROJECT: Since I last wrote to you, I was able to meet the Presidents of the Ebenezer and Gossner Churches at which time some of the FELC members who were residing at the Baptist Guest House were also present. Rev.Tiga, who happened to spend Christmas Week in Assam visited Rev.J.J.M.Nichols-Roy at Shillong and also contacted the Deputy Adviser to Governor on North-East Frontier Agency matters. He happens to be a Muslim convert and in a series of articles written by Dr.K.Subbarayan once a Chief Minister of undivided Madras on the Sentinels of North East Frontier Agency he pays a very fine tribute to this Deputy Adviser, Mr. Ali. It was, therefore, fortunate that Mr.Tiga could contact him. Rev.Bjerkestrand, the new President of the Ebenezer Church, when he saw the map and got to know all the facts he grew most enthusiastic about this project and both he and Rev.Tiga spoke of a Boro L.Th.trained person who may be suitable for this work. The LNMS Executive that met in Madras on the 23rd recommended that this matter be placed before the NMS Executive and the Executive that met at Hyderabad on February 2 & 3 took the following action:

"The NMS is in favour of the recommendation of the Lutheran NMS that work be opened in the western area of the North-East Frontier Agency with Tezpur (Darrang District) as temporary base for seeking to enter the tribal area of Balipara (inhabited by the Aka tribe and the western section of the Dufla tribe.)

RESOLVED that the Society communicate the proposal to the Baptists, the UCNI and the CIPB & C in Assam, and obtain their consent and goodwill for work in this western section of Balipara being started by the NMS through the LNMS as its agency, as it is nearest to both the Ebenezer and Gossner Lutheran Churches in Assam.

The NMS appeals to the other Churches in Assam to help to organise similar work in affiliation with the NMS.

The NMS further requests the NCC to undertake a survey of tribal areas which may be recommended by the NMS to such sections of the Church in India as will be likely to undertake missionary work therein."

The Executive is hoping that Mr.Tiga together with a representative of the NMS and representatives of the Assam section of the Gossner-Ebenezer Churches will make a further survey and draw up a definite budget for this year. It is felt that as this work was bound to go slow, we might be able to raise the needed money within India. Especially if the Gossner and the Ebenezer Churches will stand by this work with real enthusiasm the money needed for this work will be forthcoming and the LNMS will have to supplement this with some grant.

2. THE SAHDOL PROJECT: The LNMS asked me to do some preparatory work with a view to get this work started in October. I took advantage of my visit to Hyderabad and as Rev.Paradesi and some of his children are there, I was able to organise a group to raise regular monthly subscriptions for this new project. Three persons have promised Rs.5/- per month each and one immediately sent a cheque to our Treasurer for Rs.60/- being advance payment of a year's subscription. At Dornakal also a few Lutherans have been found who would help this work. At Vijayawada the pastor wanted me to speak to the congregation on Sunday morning and after that a few people stayed behind and they not only promised Rs.11/- per month on the spot but two of them, one a High School Headmistress and the other the P.C. Secretary promised to take round the membership list to every member of the Church and also five individuals have taken the Kotma appeal to raise money from their friends-Lutheran as well as non-Lutheran. President G. Devasahayam is backing up the effort to raise monthly subscriptions from every earning member. If he and Prof. N. Isaac will push forward this work, it will become a very effective means of raising the needed money. Similar efforts are being made in the Tamil area and on the members of Council much of the responsibility will have to be placed.

3. MISS RAMABAI GOPAL: In response to my letter to the Medical Board of the A.E.L.C. I was informed that she has to give five years to the A.E.L.C. and later Rev.Krupadanam's suggestion that she should take a special course in eye work was endorsed by the Medical Board and Dr.Ramabai Gopal will be finishing her course for the Diploma in Ophthal-mology in April. Dr.A.N.Gopal had told me that by July she would have finished her five years and therefore we can plan on starting the work in the latter half of 1956. SALC had voted Rs.500/- towards equipment and I had also written to the AELC Medical Board and I have not so far known their reply. The request is that every hospital and the Medical Board as such may share in finding the needed equipment. Dr.Ramabai suggested that if in the early months Dr.Kanthaiah could help it would be very valuable. Any considered request from the LRMF on this subject, will, I trust, receive sympathetic consideration by the AELC. On the one hand delay to start the work will be a set-back and on the other hand we must be sure of our ground with a view to start the work if not in October at least early next year and for this a strong effort should be made to get our lay people to give regular monthly subscriptions and we should not be content with the mere annual effort. More of publicity and persistent deputation work is needed. While at Guntur I heard from a very influential missionary that this annual effort is in the villages a sort of festival than a real missionary dedication. This criticism must lead us to work to lay deeper foundations for the missionary appeal and for missionary dedication based on real knowledge, deep love and wholehearted consecration.

The LRMF has appointed a small Sahdol Committee and I shall convene a meeting at Rajahmundry to work out a preliminary proposal for our Council's consideration.

J.D.Asirvadam,
President Emeritus

N.M.S. Officers :
President:
THE RT. REV. S. K. MONDOL
Resident Bishop, Hyderabad
DR. G. ZACHARIAH
Chairman, Exec. Committee
General Secretary:
S. J. DURAISAMY
Hony. Treasurer:
J. B. MASILLAMANI

Bharat Christya Sevak Samaj

(The National Missionary Society of India 1905)

LUTHERAN N.M.S. ORGANIZED 1916

BHARAT CHRISTYA SEVAK SAMAJ (N.M.S)

GOLDEN JUBILEE 1905 - 1955

'Expect great things from God;
Attempt great things for God.'

Officers of the Lutheran National Missionary Society of India
President Emeritus:
RAO SAHIB
THE REV. J. D. ASIRVADAM,
Tambaram
President (on leave):
THE REV. DR. A. N. GOPAL, U.S.A.
Ag. President:
THE REV. K. NATHANIEL,
Gudur, S.R.
Secretary:
THE REV. JACOB KUMARESAN
Madras 10
Treasurer:
THE REV. G. DEVASAHAYAM,
Church Office, Guntur

"Arulagam", Tambaram,
6th April 1956.

The President
& The Secretary,
G.E.L.C.

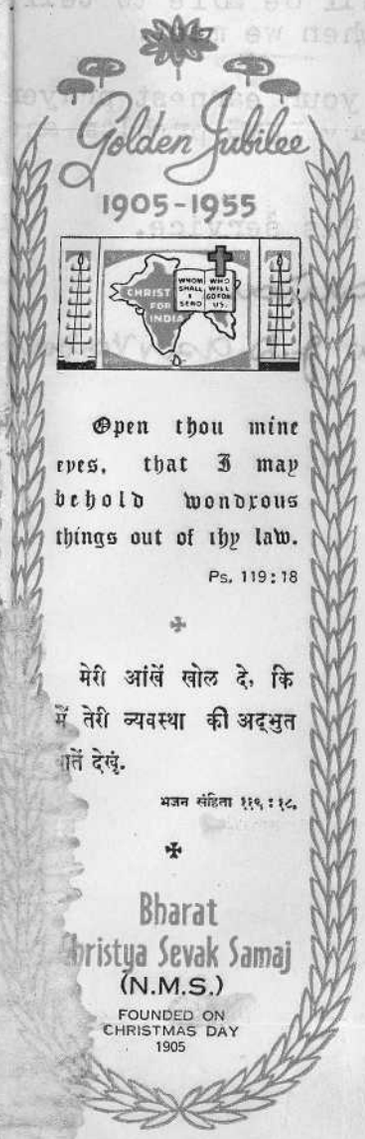
Dear Friends,

We are looking forward to your visit to the South. The LNMS Council is to meet on the 14th and I hope you will not rush away the very same evening but spend the 15th with us. Though I am planning to spend the 15th in Madras and go to Tambaram only on Monday, I would be quite willing to take you to Tambaram if you wish to see the College. It is already becoming hot and I may not be able to move about but my son can take you round and I can be at Tambaram when you join us at lunch.

I shall be happy to be able to discuss the Assam affairs with you at greater length. I am sending you a copy of the article that will be published in the Gospel Witness and the N.M.I. I am anxious that this article should be translated and pushed into the May issue of Garbandhu. Even if you are leaving for the South very soon, kindly entrust it to a competent person and see that this is included in the Garbandhu. If for any reason it is difficult to manage it for the May issue, let it go into the June issue. In any case it will be good that publicity is given to it as early as possible even before the team of investigation headed by President Tiga visits the place.

I have recently written to Rev.Bjerkestrand and Rev.Westborg and asked for some definite information of which we shall talk over when we meet. I have enquired if that L.Th. person could be released from July 1956 so that he with a few evangelists may reside at Tezpur and learn one or both of the languages of the two tribes amongst whom we have decided to work, viz. the Akas and the Duflas.

if our negotiations with N.F.E.A. Officers are favourable, we may select a few villages and begin work already in January or February 1957 according to what was decided at the Calcutta exploratory meeting. $.75.00 has already been received from Geneva and I have asked that the second instalment should be sent early and I shall



Book Mark: each for a donation of Re 1.
The reverse side is written:
each day with morning watch, etc.
The Bible Book Mark with Ps. 119 : 18
various Indian Languages, and the Seal,
to the Gen. Secy., N.M.S., Madras 14.

ask the L.W.F. Financial Secretary to remit the needed money directly to you. Apart from an advance of Rs.100/- taken for the Calcutta meeting and other preliminary expenses, the entire amount will be available and the third and fourth quarter amounts may be made use of for the support of the workers together with a grant from the NMS. That could be decided on only after the report of the investigation committee can be considered by the Executive in July or so and definite decisions taken.

I am writing this in advance so that President Tiga may form his programme accordingly. It may be that Miss Sircar will be deputed to go to Assam and that will be very good. I shall be able to tell you more definitely about the NMS representative when we meet.

With very cordial greetings and soliciting your earnest prayers for the Lord's guidance and blessings to us in every LNMS problem and in our new effort to take the gospel to Balipara,

Yours in His service,

Vasumanian

for Rev. J. D. Asirvadam

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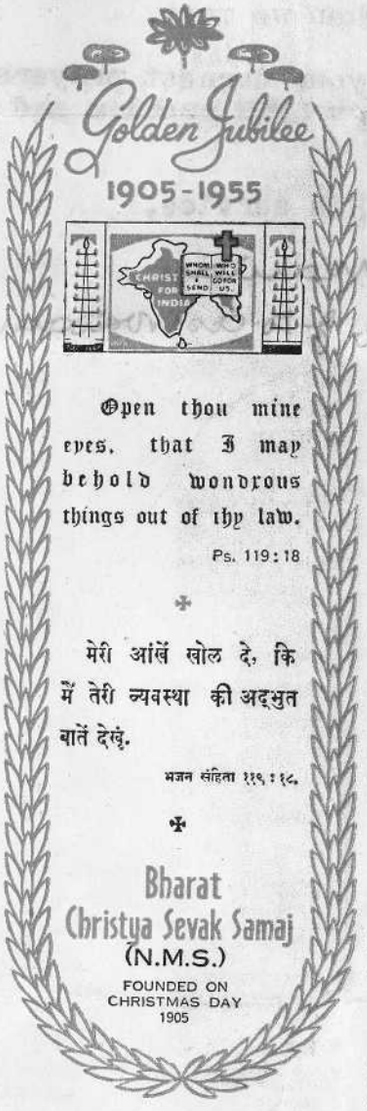

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Yours in His service,

for Rev. J. D. Asirvadam

Copy to The Secretary.GELC

The Lutheran N.M.S. had more than 20 years' experience of working from the borders of an area where Christian work was still taboo and the years of their waiting have now been well rewarded when with the passing of the new Constitution the Lutheran N.M.S. was able to enter the Sahdol District of Vindhya Pradesh, the Manendragarh and Baikuntpur Taluks which constituted the old Koren State, and large parts of what was formerly the Surguja State. As the outcome of the work started by Rev. B.J. Krupadanam in June 1951 around Ambikapur, the Church which had a membership of 59 in December 1951 had 2791 members at the end of December 1955 and this Church in Surguja has with courage withstood remarkably well the organised opposition initiated by the ex-Maharajah of Surguja, which has been later vigorously pursued by Jan Sangh, Hindu Mahasabha and R.S.S. personnel.

The minutes of the Calcutta exploratory meeting were communicated to the N.M.S., the Presidents of the Churches in Assam, and to the President and Secretary of the Assam Christian Council as well as the Lutheran bodies interested. In the meanwhile at the time of the Ziegenbalg Jubilee Celebrations held in Madras, a conference was held by a few L.N.M.S. and Federation members with the Presidents of the Ebenezer and Gossner Churches, and both of them have welcomed this as an opportunity which the Churches in Assam should not fail to avail themselves of, and they are both hopeful that a Boro young man with the Serampore L.Th. qualification will be available for initiating this work. The Lutheran N.M.S. Executive that met on 23rd January 1956 gratified at the progress of negotiations resolved to recommend to the N.M.S. that missionary work be started in Balipara in 1957, and that a goodwill agreement with the Christian bodies in Assam be secured so that the Lutheran N.M.S. may make immediate steps to prepare workers to be sent to the Aka and Dufla tribes inhabiting the western part of Balipara. It is the intention of the Lutheran N.M.S. to select a leader, and four or more evangelists to learn ~~these two~~ languages making Tezpur in Darrang (one or both) temporary headquarters from July 1956. It is our earnest hope that apart from the backing of the Christian bodies in the area, the work will be carried on with the backing of Government and the assistance of Government personnel in the villages selected for our work. We are deeply conscious that this constitutes a challenge to the Christian youth to render acceptable service both to our Government and to our Lord.

The newly constituted All India Executive of the Samaj considered the proposal and adopted the following resolution on February 3, 1956:-

> N.M.S. EXECUTIVE RESOLUTION ON ASSAM BORDER MISSION: The N.M.S. is in favour of the recommendation of the Lutheran N.M.S. that work be opened in the western area of the N.E. Frontier Agency with Tezpur (Darrang District) as temporary base for seeking to enter the tribal area of Balipara (inhabited by the Aka tribe and the western section of the Dufla tribe).
>
> RESOLVED that the Society communicate the proposal to the Baptists, the United Church of North India, Pakistan, Burma & Ceylon in Assam, and obtain their consent and goodwill for work in this western section of Balipara being started by the N.M.S. through the L.N.M.S. as its agency, as the Agency (N.E.F.A) area to the north of Tezpur is nearest both to the Ebenezer and Gossner Churches in Assam.
>
> The N.M.S. appeals also to the other Churches in Assam to open work in affiliation with the N.M.S. in the extensive region of the North-East Frontier Agency to the north and north-east that will still remain unreached by the Gospel.
>
> The N.M.S. further requests the N.C.C. to undertake a survey of tribal areas which may be recommended by the N.M.S. to such of the Churches as might be willing to undertake missionary work therein.

The above resolutions have been communicated to the Churches concerned in Assam and also to the National Christian Council. In the meanwhile the Lutheran N.M.S. is appointing a team of investigation to visit the area as early as possible. The Rev. J.J.P. Tiga is the Chairman of this team, and our Samaj has been requested to appoint a representative, and also the two Lutheran Churches in the North are also requested to appoint one person each selected from the Assam area of their respective Church.

Tuesday
Urgent
possible 6.4.56

The Editor, Ephphatha

BALIPARA MISSION - ASSAM BORDER (N.E.F.A).

When the Prime Ministers of India and Burma visited Nagaland in March 1953, it became very clear that with a view to accelerate the integration of the Himalayan tribes into India's life and culture, foreign missionaries would not be permitted to work anywhere in North-East Frontier Agency. This wild Himalayan territory extends from the eastern borders of Bhutan to Manipur on the North-western border of Burma. Indian citizens who enrol for various Government services in this wild area do so at considerable lack of comforts and almost in a spirit of missionary service. Our Bharat Christya Sevak Samaj (N.M.S.) instantly felt that the exclusion of foreign missionaries from this area (not for religious but for purely political reasons) constituted a special call to it to enlist for the service of India and the Master the sons and daughters of the Church in India. There is wide scope for national service which should appeal to the youth of India, and there is the further opportunity of bringing the good news of our Saviour to the various tribes of this area.

In Naga Hills, there is a considerable Christian element in the Naga population, and so the withdrawal of American Baptist missionaries led to national missionaries undertking the work of carrying the gospel to new areas. The Assam Gospel Team, organised by the Christian Endeavour Union (Assam), which toured certain parts of India under the auspices of the Assam Christian Council in the summer months of 1955, testified to the work of Missionary Longri Ao, who had graduated from Serampore, and he was able to reach new tribes farther to the west and gather a Christian community of 10,000 in the course of two years. Whereas the parts around Naga Hills have such possibilities of spontenous expansion, the Balipara, Abor and ~~even most parts of Sadhia~~ tracts on the extreme north are untouched by the gospel, and it is to this area that ~~the B.C.S. Samaj~~ our directed the Churches of this area.

The N.M.S. Call to Prayer already in 1953 and the N.M.S. Golden Jubilee Call to Prayer last year drew pointed attention to this imperative need which Indian nationals alone could meet. There are four main Churches which have congregations in the northern part of Assam immediately to the south of North-East Frontier Agency through which the Brahmaputra flows. It is the hope of our Samaj that every Church will take a share in this challenging piece of national and Christian service.

On the initiative of the Lutheran N.M.S., the two Lutheran Churches of this Assam area are being mobilised to undertake missionary work. The Ebenezer Church formerly called Santal Lutheran Church and the Gossner Church have each 16,500 members. Of the former, 6000 belong to the Boro (Mongolian) Himalayan tribe. Whereas the former Church has its congregations mainly in Goalpara and Kamrup and partly in Darrang, the latter has its congregations in Darrang, Lakhimpur, Nowgong and Sibsagar Districts.

The Lutheran N.M.S. has been able to interest its constituency for this work. Much goodwill has been secured not only from the Federation of Lutheran Churches in India but also from the East Asia Lutheran Conference which met in Madras in January 1956, and earlier through the good offices of Bishop R.B. Manikam from the L.W.F. Commission on World Missions that met in Finland in July 1955. In view of growing responsibility that the Lutheran N.M.S. is undertaking in the Sahdol District of Vindhya Pradesh, the earlier proposal was that this work could be entrusted to a separate Mission which could function under the auspices of the Federation of Evangelical Lutheran Churches in India, which would certainly welcome also the co-operation of the Lutheran N.M.S. But when the Federation Executive Committee met in Madras in September 1955, it strongly urged that this task properly belonged to the N.M.S., whose Lutheran section has been accepted by the Federation as its missionary agency. Thus the Lutheran N.M.S. was urged to go forward with arrangements for opening this work with the full assurance that the Churches of the Federation will stand behind it and assist the undertaking in every possible way.

Strengthened by this encouragement given by the Lutheran Federation in India, an exploratory meeting was held at Calcutta on October 26, 1955 in connection with the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Society. This meeting, comprising 12 members of the N.M.S. and Lutheran N.M.S., includin two missionaries from the Lutheran Fields very strongly endorsed the proposal, and suggested that work be opened in the western area of Balipara as it could be reached from Tezpur, the district headquarters of Darrang which district was the meeting point of the two Lutheran Churches along the far-flung Brahmaputra valley.

Further, the Lutherans working in Goalpara and Kamrup have been making efforts to enter Bhutan, and give the gospel to her people, and wes

THE MEDICAL WORK TO BE STARTED AT SAHDOL.

The L.N.M.S. had in 1949 and early in 1950 contemplated the opening of two stations in Rewa, one at KOTMA, 15 miles to the north of Murwahi, a small colliery town with 4000 inhabitants on the Branch Railway line from Anuppur to the coal mines in Chirmiri (former Korea State), and the other at Sahdol a larger town of 9000 inhabitants with 5000 people in the neighbouring small town of Burhar, both on the larger Branch line connecting Bilaspur Junction (on the Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta main B.N.Railway line) with Katni Junction (on the main G.I.P. Railway line Bombay-Jubbulpore-Allahabad).

Sahdol, the headquarters of the largest of the eight districts of Vindhya Pradesh, was to be our main station from which to reach Rewa, Sidhi and Satna Districts, the three other districts of the former Rewa State, now constituting one half of Vindhya Pradesh. During the period of exploration for establishing new stations in Rewa, Rev.S.Gnanabaranam stayed at Sahdol for some months and making contacts with the people. Toward the end of 1950 the more immediate prospects in Surguja led to our decision to have only one station in Rewa, viz. Kotma from which our old work could be supervised, and to open our main station at Ambikapur (Surguja) to which centre Rev.B.J.Krupadanam was transferred to begin the work among Uraons. We had the responsibility for this work until in 1952, the work was transferred to the F.E.L.C. and its Surguja Board which continued our substantial connection with the work through our two representatives thereon, the President of the L.N.M.S. being ex-officio Chairman responsible for organisational work, correspondence with the F.E.L.C. and the three co-operating bodies and publicity with a view to realise the basic aim of this o-operation as stressed by Dr. Erb of the U.L.C.M. viz. that this should be the joint effort of all the Churches of the Federation whose interest and prayers should be fully secured for the work in Surguja.

When the financial responsibility for the Surguja work was taken over by the U.L.C.M., the L.N.M.S. was free to turn its attention to its earlier proposal for making Sahdol its main centre of work. In view of the fact that Dr.(Miss) Ramabai Gopal had already taken her medical degree, finished her training as an intern at Vellore Hospital, and was already in the service of the Medical Board of the A.E.L.C., the L.N.M.S. Council at its meeting dated 20th Jan.1953 resolved 'to send a request to the A.E.L.C. so that the services of Dr.Gopal be transferred to the Lutheran N.M.S. on the same terms as those of Rev.B.J.Krupadanam to the N.M.S.' It was 'further resolved that the possibility of special training in eye work be explored.' At the same time a special committee was appointed to deal with the problems of the Sahdol medical work. Members: Dr.V.E.Zigler, Rev.A.N.Gopal, Dr.Ramabai Gopal, Mr.E.Burral and the President L.N.M.S. (Minute 12(a) & (b).

The A.E.L.C. and its Medical Board having considered the request, the following was minuted by the L.N.M.S. Executive when it met on July 18, 1953:

> "Minute 9 - Dr.Ramabai Gopal: As reported already in the President's circular to the members dated 21st May, the AELC Executive has resolved that Dr.Ramabai Gopal continue to help in AELC till she completes five years of work in view of the need for medical personnel for AELC hospitals and in the meanwhile it has been arranged that she receives special training in hospital administration. Miss Lucy Kamala, a staff nurse at Rentichintala Hospital and Miss Meerabai Abraham in the third year of the nursing course at Vellore Hospital belonging to the Arcot Lutheran Church have signified their willingness to accompany Dr.Ramabai Gopal when she begins work at Sahdol. RESOLVED that the President take necessary preparatory steps to plan for the building for which a suitable site is being acquired at Sahdol."

As I fell ill at the end of November 1953, this matter could not be immediately pursued. Only an emergency meeting of the Council was held in January 1954 in connection with the FELC Triennial Conference at Rajahmundry, and at my suggestion the Executive that met at Gurukul on July 24, 1954 appointed Dr.A.N.Gopal 'as member in charge for preparation (for starting medical work in 1955) so that the budget for the work, recurring and non-recurring may be prepared for consideration at the next meeting of the Council(vide Minute 4). As Dr.Gopal was busy with preparations for the A.E.L.C.Convention, and as Dr.Gopal was to undergo a year's course in Ophtholmology, the following minute was adopted, Dr.A.N.Gopal presiding.

> Minute 11 (viii) of the L.N.M.S.Council dated 4.9.1954: "As Dr.(Miss) Gopal will not be available for starting medical work in Sahdol until July 1956, Resolved to postpone the Sahdol project for sometime."

At the meeting of the Council in January 1955, which had a heavy agenda, this matter was not taken up, but the Executive that met on April 30, 1955 felt that preparatory work should be taken on hand immediately and adopted the following:

"Minute 13-Sahdol Work-Our Second Centre in Rewa: (a) Sahdol Building and Equipment Planning Committee: Dr.Ramabai Gopal being available for starting medical work at Sahdol in the latter part of 1956, it is important that a committee be set up to make the needed preparations for initiating this work: RESOLVED to re-constitute the Sahdol Medical Work Committee as follows: (vide minute 12 (a) dated 20th January 1953).

Dr.V.E.Zigler,
Dr.(Miss) Ramabai Gopal
The U.L.C.M.-A.E.L.C.Architect.
The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam (Convener)

The Convener will be in communication with Dr.A.N.Gopal regarding progress of work and elicit such co-operation as he may be able to secure.

(b) Medical Work Constituency: Rev.J.D.Asirvadam is requested to take steps to build up a special constituency of supporters for this medical work from various supporting Churches and others likely to be interested."

The Executive that met on June 18, 1955 authorised an appeal tothe Medical Boards of the supporting Churches, in addition to the steps suggested in the previous Minute.

"Minute 15 of 18.6.1955: Sahdol Project: The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam reported that the proposal is to begin the work at Sahdol in the latter half of 1956 and as the recurring and non-recurring budget will involve large additions to the budget, the Medical Boards of the supporting Churches may be approached in addition to the Churches for preparatory efforts to secure contributions, recurring and special during the year July 1955-June 1956, in the light of which more definite decisions will be taken by the Council. The President Emeritus is requested to take necessary steps as detailed in the Minutes of the last Executive and as stated above."

Accordingly I met the Chairman of the Medical Board of the T.E.L.C. and with his co-operation a statement was drawn up and issued on 15.8.55 in the first place to medical boards, medical institutions and medical personnel. Lutheran doctors in Madura City including the Medical Superintendent of the American Hospital (a good N.M.S. friend) were contacted, and also the Medical Superintendent of the S.M. Hospital, Tirupattur (Ramnad District), and the Chairman of the Medical Board of the A.L.C.

Wherever the matter was presented, there has been a warm response. One of the medical practitioners in Madura supplied 100 printed copies of the above free of cost.

On September 24, 1955, this matter was presented to the members of the Exploratory Meeting of the L.N.M.S. Ladies Auxiliary, and this work to be initated by Dr.(Miss) Gopal made a special to the members present, and the meeting adopted the following Minute:

"3. The Sahdol Medical Project: Having heard of the indispensable character of the medical ministry in this very orthodox area to win a hearing for the Gospel, the five.year plan putting education outside our sphere of work, the following was unanimously adopted:-

RESOLVED to accept the Sahdol Medical Project as one of the main projects for the Lutheran N.M.S. Ladies' Auxiliary effort.

4. Constitution: RESOLVED to organise the Ladies' Auxiliary under the auspices of the Lutheran N.M.S."

The N.M.S. has for many years counted on Dr.Ramabai Gopal as a missionary candidate, and the General Secretary had the slightly revised statement incorporating the Ladies Auxiliary action printed in the Jan. issue of the N.M.I.

A letter dated Dec.18, 1955 was sent to the President, A.E.L.C., the Chairman of the Medical Board of the A.E.L.C., and to all A.E.L.C. Hospital in the hope that action could be taken thereon already in Januar A reminder has been sent to the Chairman of the Medical Board and the President and Secretary of the AELC so that with the strong backing of our large Andhra Church, this work might be effectively established at Sahdol.

It is a matter for thankfulness that the Medical Board of the ALC has already voted Rs.500/- as a contribution toward initial outlay, and in

my recent visit to Bhimavaram and Rajahmundry, this matter was presented to medical and non-medical, and the need for raising the considerable sum of money needed for the work has been well appreciated, and I have been encouraged by the response to this new challenge from our good friends who through many years of waiting have faithfully supported the Lord's work in the N.M.S. fields, where the Lord is opening new and effective door

The Executive has issued printed Membership Enrolment Sheets, and 400 copies are being distributed by President G. Devasahayam and Prof.N. Isaac(Chairman of the NMS Committee of the AELC) when the 5 AELC Synod meet in the course of this month (April3-20) at which Missionary Raymond Martin will be presenting the NMS cause to the members of the Synod.

For our growing work, we must aim at larger collections every month by enlisting every member to give for the missionary cause as he or she gives for parish support. Till six years ago, we had only one missionary. Now we have 5 missionaries to support even when the medical work is not yet started. The medical work when well established will lead to a strong evangelistic work. Sahdol has the largest adibasi element in the whole of Vindhya Pradesh and they are found chiefly in the fx hilly area to the south of Sahdol where the Narbada, the Sone etc. have their sources. Also along the railway line, and on the trunk road to Rewa and other centres there are great opportunities for service. So we must aim at a progressive income. If our Churches are organised as the Churches in the West are for missionary work, we can find the needed money. We should all be commit-ted to work very actively to get our people to know about our work, love it, pray and work for it.

Proposals - 1. Contributions from Hospital staff and medical personnel to be earmarked for Sahdol medical work
2. Hospitals and private clinics run by Lutheran Doctors to be appealed to for equipment
3. Could Medical Boards help and
4. Non-medical institutions and parishes to aim at finding considerable new money and definite publicity arrangements to be undertaken in each Church area.

Each area to report on results at the end of September. My report of visits to Hyderabad, Bezwada, Bhimavaram and Rajahmundry gives me the hope that from these places about Rs.200/- p.m. can be secured.

The TELC and the ALE have done well not only for the LNMS but also for the NMS Jubilee collections. If Sahdol is considered our Ziegenbalg Jubilee project and we can get the Churches to make Sahdol their Ziegenbalg Jubilee celebrations objective in July, that will augment contributions from each Church.

Equipment - (a) Our senior doctors at Bhimavaram have given us a statement of initial needs.

(b) Dr.G.Joseph and Dr.I.Pitchai Robert will send a similar statement for the eye clinic.

(a) and (b) must be sent to hospitals and clinics for donations.

Buildings:as already reported, Dr.Gesler, AELC architect is working at this and this will be in good shape after the Kodai season. The plans can be finalised only when the doctor has already begun the work in rented quarters. Rs.2000/- is available from AELC Silver Jubilee Fund.

Immediate Problems: (a) Rs.500/- for house rent and salaries (to start with)

(b) Rs.300/- p.m. for recurring expenses other than salaries

(c) Instruments.

"EXPECT GREAT THINGS FROM GOD
ATTEMPT GREAT THINGS FOR GOD"
In obedience to the Call of
the Risen Lord, we dare this!

Tambaram,)
Easter Day 1956)

J.D. ASIRVADAM.

(16)

भारत खृष्टीय सेवा संघ

वा

(नेशनल मिश्नरी सोसाइटी)

इस नेशनल मिश्नरी सोसाइटी की स्थापना १६०५ के २५ दिसम्बर (जन्म पर्व के दिन) को हुई। मध्यप्रदेश के सागर जिला और विहार के रांची जिला के बीच का देश नेशनल मिश्नरी सोसाइटी को १६१३ में काम करने के लिये दिया गया। सागर जिला में स्वीडिश लूथेरान और रांची में गोसनर लूथेरान मंडलियां काम करती हैं। इन लूथेरान कलिशियाओं ने एन० एम० एस० के काम में अपना हाथ १६१६ के एपिफनि दिन से आरंभ किया।

एन० एम० एस० का स्वर्ण जयन्ति (Golden Jubilee) इस वर्ष कलकत्ते में २१-२५ अक्टोबर को मनाया जायगा, पर इसका उत्सव सारे भारत में हर मंडली द्वारा मनाना अवश्यक है। अक्टोवर २ से ८ तक एन० एम० एस० सप्ताह मनाया जाए और ६ अक्टोबर को एन० एम० एस० एतवार मनाया जाय जब इस संघ के लिये प्रार्थना हो एंव दान एकत्रित किया जाय। गोसनर कलीशा की मंडलियों से प्रार्थना है कि स्कूलों, समाजों, गिरजों, युवा-युवति संस्थाओं द्वारा २—८ अक्टोवर एन० एस० एस० सप्ताह मनाया जाय। प्रत्येक परिवार और मंडलियों से एन० एम० एस० के लिये खास दान एकत्रित किया जाय ताकि इन दानों से सुसमाचार प्रचार का कार्य उन क्षेत्रों में हो सके जहां अब तक लोग अंधकार में बैठते हैं। ये दान जी० ई० एल० खजांची, रांची के जरीये लूथेरान एन० एम० एस० खजांची, चर्च ऑफिस डाक वक्स २, गुन्तुर को भेजा जायगा।

इस वर्ष भारत खृष्टीय सेवासंघ की ओर से मार्क रचित सुसमाचार की पत्रियां और एन० एम० एस० टिकट बेचे जाएगे। भाई बहनों से अर्ज है कि सेवासंघ की सहायतार्थ मार्क रचित सुसमाचार की प्रतियाँ १) एक रुपये प्रतिएक के हिसाब में खरीदें। एन० एम० एस० टिकट का मूल्य सिर्फ एक आना है जिसे आप कोट, कमीज या साड़ियों पर पिनअप कर सकते हैं। इनसे जो रकम मिलेगी वह एन०एम०एस० खजांची के पास जी० ई० एल० चर्च खजाँची के वजरिये भेजा जायगा।

१६५० तक सुरवाही क्षेत्र में अर्थात् रीवा और कोरिया रियासतों की सीमाओं के क्षेत्र में सिर्फ दो मिश्नरी काम करते थे। मिश्नरी जे० वी० कृपादानम और पाद्री ज्ञानावरणम। १६५१ साल में हमलोगों ने रीवा, कोरिया और सुरगुजा में सुसमाचार प्रचार के लिये प्रवेश किया। उपरोक्त दो मिश्नरियों के अलावे निम्नलिखित लोगों को इन क्षेत्रों में काम करने के लिये नियुक्त किया गया——पाद्री तीतुस स्पेंसर को १६५१ में (छिंदवाड़ा स्वीडिस मिशन), दानिएल देवाप्रियम को फरवरी १६५२ में, मिस एमली एस० बेदानयागम को मई १६५३ में और पाद्री रेमन्ड मार्टिन को जुलाई १६५४ में। पाद्री कृपादानम की मृत्यु के बाद उनकी धर्म पत्नी को सुरगुजा बोर्ड की तरफ से अम्बिकापुर में काम दिया गया, अब लूथेरान एन० एम० एस० ने उनको सुरवाही और कोटमा के क्षेत्र में काम करने का आदेश दिया है इस प्रकार अब ५ मिश्नरी सुरवाही क्षेत्र में काम कर रहे हैं। विंध्यप्रदेश के सबसे बड़े जिले के हेडक्वाटार्स 'शाहदोल' में हम अक्टोबर १६५६ से चिकित्सा का कार्य आरंभ करेंगे। शहदोल जिला से हम रीवा जिला की ओर बढ़ेंगे। आनेवाले वर्ष डाक्टर रामाबाई गोपाल, एम० बी० बी० एस०, मिस मीराबाई अब्राहम और अन्य सहकारियों की नियुक्ति होगी। इन चिकित्सा कार्य्यों द्वारा अनेकों के हृदयों को मसीह के लिये खोलेंगे, जिसके लिये निरन्तर प्रार्थना की अवश्यकता है।

इस संवाद से हम खुश हैं कि सुरगुजा में २००० से अधिक उरांव और कुछ पंखा जाति के लोगों ने मसीह को ग्रहण किया। इस कार्य में गोसनर कलीशा, लूथेरान एन० एम० एस० और युनाइटेड लूथेरान चर्च मिशन का सहयोग है जो लूथेरान फेडरेसन (भातर) की देखरेख में हुआ। कठिनाईयों और सताहट के होते हुए भी हमारे धर्मप्रचार और धर्मखोजक एवं नये खृस्तानों ने साहस के साथ मसीह की गवाही दी है। पाद्री कृपादानम अब तक १०,००० नये मसीहियों की आशा रखते थे। मसीह अपना महान कार्य इस क्षेत्र में कर रहा है और हमें लोगों को मसीह के ज्ञान में और उसकी आज्ञापालन के लिये सिखाना आवश्यक है।

लूथेरान एन० एम० एस०, गोसनर और एवनेजर कलिशियाओं के सहयोग से आसाम के सीमान्त प्रदेशों में काम आरंभ करने वाला है। इस कार्य के लिये पहली exploratory (छानवीन करने वाली कमिटि) कमिटि की बैठकी कलकत्ते में २६ अक्टोबर १९५५ को होनेवाली है जिसमें गोसनर कलीशा के प्रतिनिधि भी हाजिर रहेंगे। हमें सुसमाचार को हिमालय के उत्तरी पहाड़ी हिस्सों में भी पहुँचाना है। बपतिस्त कलीशा के लोग नागा देश और उत्तरी पहाड़ी हिस्सों में सुसमाचार प्रचार के कार्य में सफल हुए हैं। आसाम में लूथेरान कलीशा को भी मीशनरी कलीशा बनाना चाहिये।

"खेत तो तैयार है पर बनिहार थोड़े हैं। खेत के स्वामी से कहो कि बनिहारों को खेत में भेजे।"

ताम्बरम
९-९-१९५५

जे० डी० आसिरवादम
प्रेसिडेन्ट एमेरिटस, लूथेरान एन० एम० एस०।

गोसनर कलीशा एक्टिंग प्रेसिडेन्ट की शिफारिस—

लूथेरान एन० एम० एस० के अनोरी प्रेसिडेन्ट पाद्री असिरवादम ने उपरोक्त रिपोर्ट दिया है जो लूथेरान एन० एम० एस० के कार्य के संबंध में हैं। मैं इस शिफारिस के साथ उक्त रिपोर्ट को प्रकाशित कर रहा हूँ कि गोसनर कलीशा के तमाम क्षेत्र में २ से ८ वीं अक्टोबर१ ९५५ को एन० एम० एस० सप्ताह मनाया जाय। मंडलियों में, गिरजों, स्कूलों और होस्टेलों में एन० एम० एस० के काम का ब्योरा बताया जाय और सुसमाचार प्रचार की सहायता और आशीष के लिये प्रार्थना की जाय। इन दिनों मार्करचित सुसमाचार की प्रतियां प्रत्येक १) रु; में बेची जाय तथा एन० एम० एस० सील (टिकट) —) आने में बेचा जाय। इससे जो रुपया आवेगा वह सुसमाचार प्रचार के कार्य में लगाया जायगा। ९वीं अक्टोबर को सब गिर्जों में खास प्रार्थना हो और खास चंदा बटोरा जाय। यह इतवार, एन० एम० एस० एतवार मनाया जाय। यह चंदा जी० ई० एल चर्च खजांची के पास भेजा जाय जो सब क्षेत्रों से जमा हो कर एन० एम० एस० खजांची के पास भेजा जायगा।

मैं गोसनर कलीशा के सब भाई बहनों से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि प्रभु के सुसमाचार प्रचार करने के निमित यथाशक्ति चंदा जमा करें। हरएक मंडली उत्साह के सहित एन० एम० एस० के लिए चंदा बटोरने का काम करे ताकि मसीह हमें योग्य दास साबित कर सके। गोसनर कलीशा एन० एम० एस० के कार्य में औरों से आगे बढ़ जावे इस ओर चेष्टा होनी चाहिये।

मार्क रचित सुसमाचार और एन० एम० एस० टिकट जी० ई० एल० चर्च सेक्रेटेरी से लेवें।

H. Topno
एक्टिंग प्रेसिडेन्ट, गोसनर एवंजेलिकल लूथेरान कलीशा, रांची।

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & EXPENSES OF L.N.M.S.
FOR THE YEAR - 1955.

January 1. BUDGET. 1955 Receipts.

Cr. Balance	Rs.	1,693	5	9	
Contribution from Churches		14,639	8	7	
Field Income		721	2	3	
					17,054 0 7
SPECIALS					
Typewriter		100	0	0	
Land		41	14	4	
Sale of Muli Property		123	2	0	
Kotma Building		7,562	11	1	
Sahadole		500	0	0	
					8,327 11 5
					25,381 12 0

1955 PAYMENTS. BUDGET

Salaries and Allowances		8,715	0	0	
Field Incidentals & Travel		996	4	6	
House Rent		648	0	0	
Repairs		30	11	0	
Equipments		433	13	0	
Medicine		70	5	3	
Official Deputation		1,422	6	0	
Bank charges		89	6	0	
Study Help		660	12	0	
N.M.S.History		200	0	0	
Contribution to Pro. Fund		296	14	0	
					13,563 7 9
SPECIALS					
Kotma Buildings		7,973	13	0	
" Land		500	0	0	
Provident Fund Loan		100	0	0	
					8,573 13 0
					22,137 4 9
B.F. Cr. Balance					3,244 7 3
					25,881 12 0

TRIAL BALANCE. AS ON DECEMBER 31. 1955.

	Cr.			Dr.		
Budget	3,490	8	10			
Kotma Building & Land				746	1	7
Typewriter	100	0	0			
Sahadole	500	0	0			
Pro. Fund Loan(To be collected from P.F.)				100	0	0
	4,090	8	10	846	1	7
Net Cr. Balance				3,244	7	3
	4,090	8	10	4,090	8	10

Rs.2000/- to be transferred to Kotma Bldg.Fund Ac/c.

L. N. M. S. PROVIDENT FUND ACCOUNT, AS OF DEC.31,1955.

Late Rev. B. J. Krupadanam	Rs.	774	12	0
Mr. B. Singh		521	12	0
Mr. I. Surin		594	3	0
Mrs. I. Surin		572	11	0
Mr. D. Devapriam		750	0	0
Miss E.Vedanayakam		232	8	0
Rev. Tirkey		87	8	0
Rev. Raymond Martin		240	0	0
Rev. T. Spencer		93	12	0
Interest on S/B Account				
Total	Rs.	4,028	1	6
Balance in S/B Account		4,128	1	6
Less Pr. Fund Loan to be transferred		100	0	0
		4,028	1	6.

Guntur,
12-4-1956.

TREASURER, L.N.M.S.

1955 Receipts

T.E.L.C.	Rs.6432	6	0	(of which 600 goes to part repayment of Kotma loan of Rs.2000)
A.E.L.C.	4044	0	0	
G.E.L.C.	2000	0	0	(for 1954 & 1955, of which 1000 goes to Kotma Fund by LNMS decision)
Arcot Luth. Church	1948	7	6	(of which some amount might be transferred to Kotma Fund if Council agrees
South Andhra L.C.	729	3	10	
Jeypore E.L.C.	200	0	0	
M.Pr. E.L.C.	121	13	0	
East Jeypore E.L.C.	49	2	0	
Through the N.M.S.	159	0	0	(to be distributed among the Churches when the details are known)
	15684	0	4	

Deduct as transferred to other accounts:			
Kotma Fund	1600	0	0
N.M.S. Special grant	159	0	0
	1759	0	0
Available for 1955 budget	13925	0	0
	15684	0	0

KOTMA FUND.

1955 T.E.L.C. contribution	631	0	0	Cr. on 1954	3950	7	1
Loan	2000	0	0	1955 Receipt	4037	12	3
Gossner 1954 contribution transferred to Kotma a/c.	1000	0	0		7988	3	4
Jeypore	200	0	0	Less payments	7950	0	0
A.E.L.C. (including Rs.66/- collected by Luthergiri student Fredericks.)	74	0	0		38	3	4
Arcot L.C.	69	8	3	1956 Receipt	105	0	0
SALC	10	0	0	Cash on 10.2.56	143	3	4
Ceylon (Friend-J.S.Lewis)	20	0	0	1954 & 1955			
J.N.Das (which Church?)	10	0	0	Contributions & Loans	7988	3	4
Field remittances through March bill	23	4	0	Loan 4000			
	4037	12	3	Contrn 1000	5000	0	0
					2988	3	4
1956 TELC Dr.Nallatambi 100 plus 5	105	0	0	1956 Receipt	105	0	0
	4142	12	3	Kotma collections	3093	3	4

Budget 1955 — Expense

		Evangelist	200
		Salaries	9300
ALC	6500	New workers	2760
TELC	5300	Other expen	1300
SALC	1500	Stationery	150
ALC/DMS.	1500	Medicine	500
MP 21	500	Repairs	820
Other rents.	200	Furniture	150
G.ELC	350	Emp help	720
E. Jeypm	30	Hindi study	60
Gossner	2000	Office, Cee. & Deputation	1500
Field	500	Publications	100
Land lease	2.	P.F Contr Bank	350
	18855		18500

AGENDA FOR THE MEETING OF THE LUTHERAN N.M.S.

First Session: 9 - 12.30
Second " : 1-30 - 4.00
Third Session: 4.30 till close of meeting.

Devotions: President

1. Secretary's Report & questions arising therefrom - Karhani land & buildings.

2. Confirmation of minutes & questions arising therefrom
   L.N.M.S. Council d/- 22.1.1955
   " Executive d/- 30.4.1955
   " " 18.6.1955
   " " 23.1.1956 (to be read & confirmed)

   (a) N.M.S. Jubilee & Calcutta meeting
   (b) Surguja matters

3. Appointment of a Nomination Committee

4. Reference from the Federation Executive on LNMS relationship to the NMS FELC & supporting Churches and connected matters.

5. Appointment of a committee to study the above.

6. Treasurer's statement 1955 accounts & 1956 first quarter

7. Report on Sahdol Medical Work

8. Report on Assam Border Work

9. Report on Kotma Buildings.

10. Request from field workers
    (a) Mrs. B.J. Krupadanam (i) Repair of house.
    (ii) Medical Work
    (b) Usad (i) Study help to Surin's children
    (ii) School and well repair
    (c) Circular vote on Provident Fund Loan
    (d) Workers' request regarding Provident Fund annual statements (vide Council minute 12(b))

11. Missionary's proposal regarding additional workers

12. Miss E.S. Vedanayakam's resignation

13. Mr. D. Devapriam.

14. Report on Salaries Revision.

15. Budget

16. Negotiation with the SALC

17. Constitution of the Ladies Auxiliary

18. Amendment to the Constitution-That the article on the Executive Committee be amended to read "The business of the Committee between one session of the Council and the next shall be transacted by the Executive Committee of 5 persons appointed at the annual budget session of the Council" to read ".....committee of 7 members..."

19. Report of the Nomination Committee.

20. Other business, if any.

***

225-75/300

1. IV. M-S.

Five Year Plan

I. Kohima — one house, ~~hostels~~

II. Sahodol — Equipment
Buildings
Personnel

III. Assam Boarding

IV. ~~Kohima~~ — hostels

V. Additional missionaries —

VI. Sangsja —

2000

10000 ½
6 | 50000 | 3200
25 ½ 50

A meeting of a Committee composed of Rev.J.D.Asirvadam, Convener, Dr.Rambai Gopal, Dr.V.E.Zigler, and Dr.Geo.E.Gesler was called for the 10th of March at Rajahmundry. As Doctor Gopal and Dr.Zigler were not able to attend, Rev.Asirvadam came to Riverdale - the residence of Dr.Gesler-and these two held an informal talk.

Rev.Asirvadam suggested that the compound at Sahdol be divided into two parts, one for medical work and the other part for the Church and workers. For the medical work he proposes the following buildings:

Hospital with 20 to 30 beds having an operating room and diet kitchen
Out-patient dispensary
Eye Clinic

Quarters as follows: Doctors' - two double houses
Nurses' - for two
Sergents'
Garage

For the Church work the following: Church,
Two dwellings
One line for four evangelists
Hostel

c/o. Rev.Asirvadam,
Dr.Gopal
Dr.Zigler.

sd: Geo.E.Gesler.

THE MEMBERS OF THE LUTHERAN N.M.S.

As already notified, a meeting of the L.N.M.S. Council will be held at the Fabricius High School (close to the Purasawalkam Tank Bus stand) on Saturday, 14th April at 9 A.M. Lunch & tea will be provided at the school premises.

Tentative Agenda.

Devotions - President.
1. The Secretary's Report and confirmation of minutes.
2. Questions arising from the Secretary's report and the minutes.
3. Treasurer's statement of 1955 accounts and 1956 first quarter a/cs.
4. Report on preparation for Sahdol medical work
5. Report on Assam Border work
6. Report on Kotma Buildings.
7. Request from field workers
8. Miss E.S. Vedanayakam's resignation
9. Mr. D. Devapriam.
10. Constitution of Ladies Auxiliary.
11. Amendment to the constitution - item notified at the last Council meeting, i.e. that the Executive members be 7 instead of 5
12. Report on salaries revision
13. Budget.

J. KUMARESAN,
Secretary, L.N.M.S.
Madras: 1.4.1956.

THE LUTHERAN N.M.S. REPORT FOR THE YEAR JANUARY 1955 - MARCH 1956.

MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE -

The Executive met at Tirukoilur on 30th April and in Madras in June 1955 and again in Madras on 23rd January 1956 in connection with the Madras meetings of the Quarter Millennium Jubilee Celebrations of the Tranquebar Mission. This period is marked by several new developments for which we are grateful to God. The main characteristic is the growing challenge to the N.M.S. as a whole and particularly to the Lutheran Churches co-operating in the work of the Lutheran N.M.S. We are thankful to God for the keen interest taken by the members of the Council, representing our supporting Churches, and the two Regional N.M.S. Committees (T.E.L.C. and A.E.L.C.). During this period the Secretary and the Treasurer who have had not an inconsiderable load to carry have come deeper into the work and we are grateful to the Acting President and the President Emeritus for their valuable advice and co-operation in the light of their wide experience and their much longer connection with the work of our Society.

NEW WORKERS -

Adibasi (Munda) (a) Evangelist from Ranchi - On 2nd October Junul Kandulna, aged twenty-three years, joined our work at Kotma as an evangelist. It was felt that after some training he could be more useful in the field and therefore before being sent to any adibasi village to initiate work under the guidance of the missionary, he had to be kept at Kotma itself.

(b) Mrs. B.J. Krupadanam - In the meanwhile it has been possible for Mrs. B.J. Krupadanam to take up duties in the Murwahi Field arriving at Kotma on 2nd January and shifting immediately to Usad along with Kandulna as her helper, with a view to take up work at the main centre of the old field, namely Murwahi, as soon as the rented quarters were released for occupation. Since January 26th they have both taken up their residence in our Murwahi Compound.

THE MURWAHI FIELD -

(a) Usad - The school work at Usad has been carried on by the Surins. Though the Council at its meeting dated 22nd January 1955 resolved to transfer them to assist as evangelist and Biblewomen at Kotma, Rev. S.Gnanabaranam very strongly urged their continuance at Usad for the following reasons: (i) They are good as experienced teachers, but may not be successful as evangelistic workers; (b) The Government of Madhya Pradesh has notified their intention to give 75% of the salaries to village school teachers plus 50% of the dearness allowance, and so by spending only a third of the salaries we now do, we can continue to have a two-teacher school at Usad.

Though this proposal sent out to the Managements of all private schools throughout Madhya Pradesh has not yet been implemented, it was felt that the present status of the school should not be jeopardised, especially as Rev.Raman informed us that teachers who were released from the service of Madhya Pradesh Church could get jobs nearer their own homes and were not available for work at Usad.

Teacher Surin had asked that the salary of himself and his wife be increased from Rs.60/- to Rs.80/- per head in view of his transfer to Kotma, and the Executive stated that this matter could be decided only by the Council at its regular session, as it would affect all the other teachers as well. But in view of his contention that residence at Kotma would involve larger expenditure for one who has during all these years since 1931 been accustomed to life in very backward villages, the Executive was willing to give a special allowance of Rs.10/- per month in case he was stationed at Kotma Town. As he continues to be at Usad, no such allowance is given him. He gets Rs.100/- as study help for the children, Mrs. B.J.Krupadanam getting Rs.200/- for the year. In the meanwhile the attendance at Usad has increased.

(b) Arrears of Government Grant for Usad School: In February, Mrs. Krupadanam visited Rev. Raynolds of the Disciples Mission at Bilaspur and with his help she had filled in the needed forms and has secured a grant of Rs.723.8.0. Three bills amounting to Rs.220/- are pending payment. The immediate problem at Murwahi is to put the house in proper repair and regarding this a proposal has been made that in view of the materials having to be gathered immediately a sum of Rs.500/- might be sanctioned from the 1954 budget surplus of Rs.1000/- for the needed Murwahi repairs (Rs.1000/-) and for deepening the well and repairing the Usad School (Rs.200/-) to supplement the sum of Rs.720/- which is held in suspense account by Missionary Raymond Martin.

(c) Karahâni- The Lutheran N.M.S. Council members who were at Calcutta for the N.M.S. Golden Jubilee had a meeting with the missionaries, and they recommended that as it was not possible to buy any land from adibasis at Karhani we might lease a site. Ramdhari, the richest farmer of Karhani who has been willing to give us half an acre as an outright gift is prevented by law from doing so. So the members that met at Calcutta on October 25 & 26 asked the missionary 'to explore possibilities of leasing a piece of land with a view to build a school and a house in Karhani'. On this basis we shall have the use of the site so long as we maintain work at Karhani, but if we close down Karhani work, then any property erected on the land will revert to the owner. Rev. Raymond Martin has reported that Ramdhari has set apart half an acre of land for the N.M.S. and he has sent a plan and an estimate for a school and house to be built with free labour that would be available till 15th of May. We need spend only Rs.350/- for buying bamboo and other building materials. In the meanwhile Mrs. Krupadanam on her return from Bilaspur at the end of February halted at Pendra Road, and there she contacted a Karhani man whom she had known in past years, and he is willing to sell his property to us. So this matter will have to be decided by the Council as soon as definite information is obtained from Missionary Raymond Martin after the two missionaries have come to a tentative agreement regarding the price etc. with the person concerned who evidently is a non-adibasi and therefore free to sell his land.

(d) Medical Work at Murwahi: Mrs. Krupadanam asks for a nurse so that she might open a maternity and child welfare centre and a dispensary, but it is better to delay this matter until regular medical work has been established at Sahdol. Nurses may then be more easily recruited, and also supervision would then be possible by a fully qualified doctor, which could secure us Government grant also.

In the meanwhile Mrs.Krupadanam who has been rendering good medical aid in past years both at Murwahi and at Ambikapur will be able to help in regard to minor ailments, and refer more serious cases to the Government Hospital at Kotma and the larger Mission Hospital at Bilaspur.

KOTMA -

On July 7, the Court of the Additional Magistrate, Sahdol District, Vindhya Pradesh rejected objections raised by the Gram Panchayat, and as soon as heavy rains stopped in September, the chapel work was continued and finished in October before the missionary left for the N.M.S. Jubilee celebrations at Calcutta, and Rev.S.Gnanabaranam dedicated the chapel on the Fourth Sunday in Advent (18th December 1955). This gives us a small but very beautiful place of worship, away from the noisy market place where since October 10, 1952 worship was held in the missionary's house.

On urgent request from the missionary who represented that friendly people at Kotma were disappointed that we were not proceeding with the construction of the dispensary and on his recommendation, it was agreed in correspondence that he be permitted to build the dispensary up to the basement. So the dispensary and two houses are yet to be completed. It is a matter of urgency that we should find the money needed for the married missionary's quarters so that the missionary-in-charge may live in the compound and take care of the property and

make it a centre for definite Christian activities besides regular chapel worship.

SAHDOL -

The Medical Board of the A.E.L.C. had resolved that after Dr. Ramabai Gopal completed five years of service in the A.E.L.C. she would be free to take up work in the N.M.S. field. The Medical Board at the sametime very kindly promised to give her in the meanwhile training in hospital management. It was understood that the five year period would be completed in June 1956 and therefore she would be available for work from October within which time both the severe summer and the months of heavy rainfall from July to September would be past. Regarding Sahdol Medical Work, some preparatory work has been done by the President Emeritus who had been asked to be in charge of the Sahdol Project. Vide reprint from the January 1956 issue of the N.M.I.

ASSAM BORDER EXPLORATION -

The proposal regarding a new mission field in Assam Border (N.E.F.Agency) was considered by the Council in January 1955 and the President Emeritus was requested to present the matter to the F.E.L.C. and explore possibilities.' The F.E.L.C. and the L.W.F. Commission on World Missions having taken favourable action, a representative meeting was held at Calcutta on October 26, 1955. The proposal has since then been taking a definite shape. The co-operation of both the Gossner and Ebenezer Churches have been solicited, and the Executive has appointed Rev. J.J.P.Tiga to be a member of the team to visit the field and make a detailed proposal along with a representative of the N.M.S. and one representative each of the Assam section of the Ebenezer and Gossner Churches. Even though the L.N.M.S. proposal envisaged that this work should be undertaken by the F.E.L.C. with a special committee of its own, the F.E.L.C. has strongly urged that this work should be undertaken by the L.N.M.S. itself with the full backing of the F.E.L.C. The Calcutta meeting also felt that it would be good to have it under the auspices of the N.M.S. and not run it on the lines of the Surguja work under the auspices of the F.E.L.C. So though for exploratory expenses Dr.R.B.Manikam was able to secure a sum of ₱.300.00, it is hoped that the work could be built up slowly on Indian money. The N.M.S. Executive at its meeting held at Hyderabad has recommended to the Churches of Assam that the area in West Balipara to the east of Bhutan and north of Darrang District as suggested by the Calcutta Exploratory Meeting be assigned as N.M.S.Field to be evangelised through the agency of the L.N.M.S. After an investigation team visits the field and sends its report, further action can be taken. It has been suggested that a Boro L.Th. man recommended by the Presidents of the Gossner and Ebenezer Churches could initiate this work as soon as a definite proposal has been worked out for the consideration of the L.N.M.S. Council.

L.N.M.S. LADIES AUXILIARY -

The Council at its January meeting endorsed the invitation of the Executive to Mrs.R.B.Manikam to organise an auxiliary of the Lutheran N.M.S. and act as Chairman of a committee of representatives from the constituent Churches of the Federation. Accordingly an exploratory meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary was held in Madras on 24th September 1955. At this exploratory meeting only the T.E.L.C. Arcot Lutheran Church and the Madhya Pradesh Evangelical Lutheran Church were represented. A simple constitution has been drawn up which has been circulated to all the members of the L.N.M.S. Council. Every constituent Church of the F.E.L.C. is requested to send two or more members to serve on the committee of the Ladies Auxiliary. The Chairman of the Committee is to be appointed by the L.N.M.S. Council and the Chairman of the Federation Committee on the Ministry of Women as an ex-officio member of this Committee. The Federation Executive has accepted this latter provision. The tentative constitution thus proposed needs to be ratified by the L.N.M.S. Council at the forthcoming

meeting. It has also been suggested that two elected members from each Church and one member to be elected by the Women's Samaj of the Church should form a working committee for each Church area. When the Ladies Auxiliary Committee has been constituted, this Regional Committee can play a very important part

(a) to foster N.M.S. effort (publicity, prayer and support being undertaken in each parish or pastorate;

(b) to include the N.M.S. needs and programme in annual conferences of every Church or Synod area;

(c) to enlist the co-operation of the tull time Women Samaj Secretary in each area and

(d) to enlist the services of honorary workers for deputation work.

A copy of the constitution is herewith enclosed and it may be brought to the meeting along with this report as the various provisions will have to be ratified by the L.N.M.S. Council with such modification as may be agreed upon.

TASKS ENTRUSTED TO THE PRESIDENT EMERITUS -

As all the three Officers are preoccupied with their own regular tasks, the Acting President being in charge of a parish which keeps him fully occupied, the Treasurer being the President of the Large A.E.L. Church who has to tour a wide area constantly, and the Secretary with his own duties at Gurukul, it has been possible for the Officers only to attend to the regular duties of their offices. In view of the many developments of our work, it has been a matter for gratification that the improved health of the President Emeritus has made it possible for the Society to lay on him such extra burdens which the Officers of the L.N.M.S. could not find the leisure to undertake. He will be reporting on (i) the Kotma Appeal (ii) the preparation for the Sahdol work and (iii) the Assam Border Exploration. It has also been possible for him to help in the Tamil area in the second half of 1955, and in some parts of the Andhra area in the early months of this year. Regarding the latter, he has sent his reports to all the members of the L.N.M.S. Council.

SURGUJA -

I am happy to report that the repeated efforts of the L.N.M.S. to secure an Andhra missionary strongly backed by the President of the A.E.L.C have led to a good result, namely, the Surguja Board considered two nominees at its meeting in November 1955, and the Committee of the Surguja Board that was set up to make the nomination is recommending the appointment of Rev.Ananda Rao of Luthergiri, now on special study leave at Bangalore. It is planned that he will take charge of the Surguja work from July 1956.

We are facing great opportunities, and fresh challenges have come to us through the N.M.S. and Tranquebar Mission Jubilees. We as a Society owe it to the Lord to serve to inspire the Churches to meet the challenges to help to handle great opportunities for the gospel in the areas entrusted to us with wisdom and consecration. It is a very solemn privilege to be trusted by our Lord with these responsibilities, and He Who has called us is faithful. He will give us grace and lead us step by step to get His purposes realised in and through us, and in and through our Churches.

"The Harvest is plentiful, the labourers are few," and the only way to meet the need is to carry out the Lord's injunction to us:

"Pray ye therefore to the Lord of the harvest to send forth labourers into His harvest." Math.9, 37-38, LK.10,2.

9, Thambuswamy Road, Madras-10
25th March 1956.

J. KUMARESAN,
Secretary, L.N.M.S.

President & G P Tiga & 66 L C Secy & Exec members

MY VISIT TO BHIMAVARAM AND RAJAHMUNDRY VIA GUNTUR

On March 4th & 5th Saint Mathews Church, Guntur had its Harvest Festival at which my old friend, Mr. Elija who served with me during part of the tour of the Gospel Team to the Andhra coastal area in 1953, was the main speaker. Rev. Devasahayam also was away from town and returned only on Sunday night. On Sunday I could meet Dr. Ch.S. John and he gave Rs.10/- as contribution to the Kotma Buildings and promised a monthly subscription of Rs.5/-. He was also good enough to put his car at my disposal from 8th - 10th during which time I could visit a few friends. 8-10 a.m.
Mr. J. Rajarao contributed Rs.50/- for the Kotma Buildings, Mr. Manohar Rs.20/-. Mr. E. Elija gave Rs.5/- for the Kotma Buildings and gave also as first month's contribution Rs.5/-. So a sum of Rs.85/- for Kotma Buildings and Rs.5/- for general funds were paid to President G. Devasahayam our L.N.M.S. Treasurer. Besides these amounts collected, there was a third Rs.5/- contribution promised by Mr. V. Devasahayam, son-in-law of Dr.& Prakasam. If properly planned, Guntur can do a great deal for our support.

In connection with the N.M.S. Executive meeting at Hyderabad, I did a little deputation work. At Hyderabad-Secunderabad I was able to organise a small group around Rev.Paradesi and his relatives with three Rs.5/- contributions and also at Vijayavada a group has been formed. Even at that time I was anxious to visit Dr. Zigler and Dr. Gesler and also our doctors at Bhimavaram with a view to work out some details regarding the Sahdol project but as the invitation to Hyderabad meeting itself came rather late, I could not arrange for a visit to Bhimavaram and Rajahmundry at that time. So it was a matter of some urgency that I should be able to report on this matter at our Full Council meeting. Unfortunately my letter to Dr. Zigler sent to Rajahmundry was re-directed to Kodaikanal where he is now helping as Medical Officer at High Clare but when it reached him at that place, he wrote to me at Guntur suggesting that I should meet Dr. Gezler at Rajahmundry as he had already discussed the matter with him. So I was at Bhimavaram on 6th - 8th and Rajahmundry 9th - 11th.

At Bhimavaram our two senior doctors have promised to work out a statement of the requirements for the Sahdol hospital by way of Equipment and at Rajahmundry Dr. Gezler and I talked over the lay out and the disposition of the land as between the hospital and the lay out of roads and plans for buildings. He has noted down the details at which he would work while at Kodai with Dr. Zigler and a few others and that could be finalised especially after an inspection of the site when the medical work has already been started in rented quarters. The more urgent thing is the matter of equipment. When I met Dr.Ramabai Gopal on January 25 at the time of the Billy Graham's meetings, she promised to work out the details for the eye work and asked me to get the general work done in consultation with senior doctors and I am very happy to say that Dr.Jeevaratnam at Bhimavaram in consultation with Dr. Mary Moses will send a statement. The Medical Superintendent of the Swedish Mission Hospital had told me last year that if such a list is sent to her, she would be able to say what she would be able to contribute and such a list may elicit similar contributions from other hospitals also.

Though preparation for Sahdol was my main objective, I took the opportunity to present the N.M.S. news and the new tasks that we are facin to our people in these two centres. On the 6th evening I gave a talk in the school hall to the people of that area. The next morning I gave a talk at the hospital chapel and I spent the day with Dr.Jeevaratnam. At 10-30 I gave a talk to the women section of the High School and at 3-30 I had a conference with the two doctors and the Nursing Superintendent, Miss A.S. Gopal and told them about the L.N.M.S. plan to solicit monthly subscriptions. I think the subscription from the hospitals and other Govt. institutions should for the present be earmarked for the Sahdol Buildings so that we may be able to collect all the needed money for this new expansive work.

The next day I gave a talk at the school assembly and at 12 o'clock Mr.A.Daniel had arranged for a special meeting of the Christian staff to whom I spoke of the new opportunities and the ~~xxxxxxx~~ necessity for regular monthly subscriptions. I am glad to say that they responded very well and Headmaster Daniel has received promises of about Rs.40/- per mont

On the 9th I could give a talk at the training school for men at 9-30 A.M. after which I visited the Synod Presidents, pastors etc. Mr.Paul Narayanarao had arranged with the Schrams for my stay and therefo transport in this big city was made easy. In the afternoon the Schrams

had arranged for a spefcial tea party at which I gave some news and at 7-30 P.M. I spoke to the Luthergiri community.

On Saturday at 9 A.M. I had a conference with Dr. Gexler and at 10-30 A.M. we had a conference with the teachers to which Mr. M. Devasahayam had invited the pastor of Trinity and representatives from the two congregations. Mr. Devasahayam was anxious that an N.M.S. group should be formed here to meet once a month and with himself as President and Mr. Chenna the press proprietor as Secretary a committee has been formed. The pastor of every parish will be an ex-officio member and each parish will elect an additional lay representative and also every institution will send its own representative. Four persons volunteered to solicit collections for the Kotma buildings and Mr. Devasahayam would circulate the membership pledge sheet among his staff. In the afternoon I visited the Sanatorium where the Medical Superintendent and Miss Snyder will take care of the monthly collection sheet. From there I went to the hospital chapel where the hospital staff and the inmates of the industrial and Bible schools were present. Though there was no time to arrange for volunteers, Rev. Kanthaiah is exceedingly keen on the N.M.S. programme and we can safely look for good work being done under his leadership.

On Sunday at 9 A.M. I spoke at the Church in Saint Pauls and after the sermon I had to go to the Schade school. It was a very large and keen group and after I had spoken at the assembly, Miss Gladz had arranged for my meeting with the teachers and they would secure the monthly subscriptions. The two headmasters and six assistants volunteered to solicit donations for the Kotma Buildings during the vacation and I was exceedingly happy about the good response from Schade school.

Miss V. Rita at the end of the meeting told me that she had Rs.100/- which was a part of the bequest money of her mother, Mrs.V. Swarathamma, Matron, Rentichintala. At Guntur Mr. V. Devasahayam had told me about this and said that in about two months he and his sister would try to settle this matter, but I never knew that Miss V. Rita whom I had met on Friday was his sister and therefore this was a pleasant surprise. This sum of Rs.100/- together with three donations for the Kotma Buildings (Miss A.S. Gopal Rs.20/-, Mr. A. Daniel Rs.20/- and a T.E.L.C. member temporarily acting as Agent of the State Bank of India at Bhimavaram Rs.25/-) all amounting to Rs.165/- was given to Dr. Schramm and it would have reached the Treasurer on Monday, the 12th.

I am happy that Rev. Devasahayam is doing his very best to popularise the idea of monthly collections and Prof. N. Isaac also has taken over the four hundred sheets of membership pledge I gave to the President so that he will see that these are distributed at the time of the Synods to all the parishes through the Synod Presidents. We need to work very earnestly if the great opportunity before us is not to be lost. Just at this juncture at Rev. G. Devasahayam's suggestion we have arranged that Missionary Martin should meet all the five Churches and probably at least one of the women's samajs. It is vital for us to push forward our medical work.

Regarding Assam work the N.M.S. Executive has taken the following action and the General Secretary has written to the Presidents of the Churches in Assam so that the area that has been suggested may be considered N.M.S. field to be worked by the L.N.M.S.

N.M.S. EXECUTIVE RESOLUTION ON ASSAM BORDER MISSION: The N.M.S. is in favour of the recommendation of the Lutheran N.M.S. that work be opened in the western area of the N.E. Frontier Agency with Tezpur (Darrang Dist) as temporary base for seeking to enter the tribal area of Balipara (inhabited by the Aka tribe and the western section of the Dufla tribe).

RESOLVED that the Society communicate the proposal to the Baptists, the U.C.N.I. and the C.I.P.B.A.C. in Assam, and obtain their consent and goodwill for work in this western section of Balipara being started by the N.M.S. through the L.N.M.S. as its agency, as it is nearest to both the Ebenezer and Gossner Lutheran Churches in Assam.

The N.M.S. appeals to the other Churches in Assam to help to organise similar work in affiliation with the N.M.S.

The N.M.S. further requests the N.C.C. to undertake a survey

tribal areas which may be recommended by the N.M.S. to such sections of the Church in India, as will be likely to undertake missionary work therein.

Tambaram, J.D. Paul Pirvadam.
17.8.1956.

Extract from the Minutes of the Lutheran N.M. S. Executive held on Mondy, the 23rd January, 1956.

6

2. Assam Boarder Mission: The Rev. J.D. Asirvadam reported on the progress of exploration, particualrly referring to the response from Rev. J.J.M. Nichols-Roy of the Assam Cabinet and a visit of Rev. J.J.P. Tiga to Assam during Christmas Week when he could meet the Minister and the Deputy Adviser to Governor in charge of the Agnecy administration. He further reported that he and Rev. Tiga had conference with Rev. C.S . Bjerkestrand, General Superintendent of the Ebnezer Church, When Dr. C.W. Oberdorfer and Rev. H.W.Mayer of the F.E.L.C. Executive were also present. The President of the Ebnezer Church having learned that the area contemplated is one open only to nationals, has promised to take action in consultation with the Boro Church Council.

The Executive notes with thankfulness to God the progress in regard to the exploration and the good will of the Ferderation and the Asia Lutheran Conference and recommends to the N.M. S. that this proposal to start missionary work in the Balipara part of the agency in 1957 with Texpur as a temporary base be approved and that a good will agreement with the Christian bodies in Assam be made in regard to the area. We further request the N.M. S. to appoint a representative to join the team of preliminary investigation at their cost.

Further RESOLVED that Rev. J.J.P. Tiga be appointed as a member of the investigation team, together with a representative which the N.M. S. has been requested to appoint and one representative each of the Assam section of the Cossmor and Ebnezer Church to be appointed by their respective presidents.

Madras.
28-1-1956.

N.M.S. EXECUTIVE RESOLUTION ON ASSAM BORDER MISSION
(2 - 3 Feb, 1956)

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The N.M.S. further requests the N.C.C. to undertake a survey of tribal area which may be recommended by the N.M.S. to such sections of the Church in India as ~~will help~~ likely to undertake missionary work therein.

Full text translation

Editor, Gharbandhu
Your publication in our
early issue
Dr

THE SAHDOL MEDICAL PROJECT

REWA MISSION

The work done by Missionaries Gnanabaranam (from 1929) and Krupadanam (1942-51) from Murwahi on the borders of Rewa and Korea was among the most significant pieces of heroic missionary service done in any NMS Field. Through the schools and simple medical aid given from five village centres on the borders, a great many villages especially between Murwahi, our old headquarters, and Kotma, our first Mission centre in Rewa became friendly.

Rev. B. J. Krupadanam saw immediate possibilities farther east in the former Surguja State among the hill tribes (Uraons), and from June 13, 1951 till his death on account of cancer on 31st August 1954, he had gathered about 2000 new converts.

Baptised membership in Surguja on 31-12-56 : 2791.

In August 1951, we made Kotma on the B. N. Ry., 15 miles from Murwahi our headquarters with Rev. Titus Spencer as itinerant evangelist. He is a North Indian and an effective preacher in Hindi and Urdu. Mr. & Mrs. D. Devapriam lived at Kotma from August 1952 till Mr. Devapriam left in May 1955 to join the Tranquebar Divinity School for a year's training. Miss E. S. Vedanayakam went in July 1953 for language study and training in evangelistic work to the Swedish Mission and Madhya Pradesh Church Bible School at Shahpura (Betul Dt.), and Rev. and Mrs. Raymond Martin of the Andhra Church have lived at Kotma since February 1955. Mr. Devapriam and Mr. Martin are both Homeopaths, and we are building a small dispensary at Kotma.

Had it not been for the Surguja work, Sahdol would have been opened as our main centre in Rewa already in 1951. We have bought 13 acres of land on the Trunk Road from Sahdol to Rewa, capital of Vindhya Pradesh, 1.3 furlong along the road, and 1 furlong deep from the road. When we bought it in 1953, it was outside the Municipal area, but now it has been brought within the Municipal area. We have long looked forward to medical work being developed at Sahdol, the headquarters of the district. About 4 acres will be set apart for a Church, and evangelistic workers' quarters, hostels for High School boys and girls and later for College students.

In this very orthodox area, medical work is an essential evangelistic agency, and Dr. (Miss) Ramabai Gopal, M.B.,B.S.,

who from early years wished to be NMS Missionary is now working for a diploma in Ophthalmology, late Rev. Krupadanam having particularly urged her to qualify for special eye work, for which there is a wide demand in the whole of that area. It is planned that medical work be started at Sahdol in rented quarters from October 1956, soon after the rains stop in September.

Missionary Gnanabaranam and others who have laboured for Rewa are fully convinced of the need to build up a strong medical Christian ministry in the District of Sahdol, the largest District of Vindhya Pradesh. Though in course of time, medical work may become more and more self-supporting, this medical enterprise will be the largest single enterprise in any of the NMS Fields until now, and will involve a great deal of capital expenditure. We are confident that our supporting churches will stand behind the work in love and generous support. It has, however, been felt that the main responsibility for planning and carrying out the medical work should be laid on a Fellowship of Medical Friends for the Sahdol Project, and it is proposed as a first step to aim at a meeting of the Fellowship in connection with each of the Regional Conferences of the Christian Medical Association of India for the Tamil, Andhra and other areas.

Each area Fellowship will have a Chairman whose main task will be to interest medical personnel (doctors and nurses) and help to draw up a directory of Christian medical men and women in Government and Christian and other hospitals, and in charge of private clinics, and enlist them as members of this Fellowship. An annual meeting of this Fellowship shall, as a rule, be held at a convenient centre in each language area, and once in 3 years a central meeting at the time of the Christian Medical Association Meeting at Nagpur or elsewhere. Occasionally it may be helpful to hold a meeting at Sahdol itself. When a meeting is held at Nagpur, some who can spare a few days could visit Sahdol.

Leaving Nagpur en route to Calcutta, and halting at Bilaspur, the train to Katni passes Sahdol. The Calcutta Mail leaves Nagpur at 9 a.m and reaches Bilaspur at 5 p m. The Katni train leaves Bilaspur at 9 p.m. and reaches Sahdol the next morning.

We should aim at raising Rs. 500/- p m. for salaries, even though the general budget could provide for medicine and other requisites for daily use. Whereas individual members are unable to serve the Lord in the NMS Field, they could according to the subs.ance the Lord provides give every month a

regular contribution ranging, if possible, from Rs. 5 to Rs. 25/- in the case of doctors, and similar regular contributions by other medical personnel according to their convenience. Unless such regular support is secured, this project will be beyond the resources of our ordinary budget.

In regard to the needed equipment, we wish to appeal to individual hospitals to give us instruments; especially when they secure more up-to-date equipment for their use from Europe or America. Also we would request the Medical Board of each supporting Church to give us or secure for us a special money contribution for buying instruments and other equipments in India, and in other ways counsel the Society as to ways to meet the need from outside the annual recurring budget.

It is a matter for thankfulness that the Ladies' Auxiliary with representatives from every supporting Church serving on its Central Committee of which Dr. (Mrs.) R. B. Manikam is Chairman is making the Sahdol work one of its major objectives.

A committee including the Medical Officer has been appointed to work out a proper layout of roads, and plans of the buildings needed to be built in stages. A building appeal will be issued as soon as the plans for buildings immediately needed and estimates have been prepared.

This appeal goes to individuals kindly to enrol as members of the Fellowship, and to hospitals, to the Medical Board of supporting Churches, and to friends of the NMS in other lands.

Tambaram, (Madras).
First Sunday in Advent, 1955.

J. D. ASIRVADAM,
In-charge of the Appeal
for the Sahdol Medical Project.

Reprinted from the N.M.I. (1956 Jan. issue) at the N.M.S. Press
Madras-14.

The Editor, Gharbandhu
(For publication here?)

KOTMA CHAPEL DEDICATION.

The dedication of the chapel at Kotma has been a significant event in the history of the Rewa Mission. Those who have long dedicated themselves for bringing the good news of salvation to the people of Rewa will find in this event an occasion for profound thankfulness to God. Since the passing of the new Constitution opened a way for a free proclamation of the gospel throughout the States formerly closed to the gospel, we have steadily pushed forward in obedience to Christ's call. Already in 1950 we stationed an evangelist in this place and in August 1951 the first missionary to Rewa, Pastor T.Spencer took up his residence at Kotma. He was joined in August 1952 by Missionary and Mrs. D. Devaprisam and on 10th October 1952 the first worship was organised at which Jhurrai Singh was baptised with the name Jai Masih (Victory to Christ) and also four children of Christian parents were baptised and for the first time Holy Communion was celebrated at Kotma and since 10th Oct.1952 the worship was carried on in the missionary's house and from that day plans were laid for acquiring a suitable land and erecting a chapel.

In 1954 property was acquired on the road leading from the railway station to the Bhalumara Coal Mines and with additional property acquired the MMS site measures about three acres. The MMS Council which met in Madras in January 1955 voted the needed money and in March foundation stone was laid by Rev.E.Raman, President, Madhya Pradesh Lutheran Church. On the invitation of Missionary Devaprisam the present missionaries in the area as well as representatives from Baikuntpur and Surguja were present and it was a great joy for our workers and Christians to have Miss E. Lillieland of the Free Lutheran Church share in the celebrations.

Very soon came some trouble and our young missionary, Rev.Raymond Martin took over charge as Mr.Devaprisam had to go to Tranquebar for his theological course. He was able to handle the situation with much tact and overcome local opposition and in due time the court ~~had~~ decided that the MMS had the right to erect a Church and other buildings in the site which it has duly purchased as its own property. After the rains ended, the superstructure was pushed forward and Missionary Raymond Martin had devoted much care and attention to its being properly erected with the result that those who attended the dedication service testified to its being a very beautiful chapel though small. Though at one time it was proposed to have the dedication on Christmas Day in remembrance of the birth of the MMS exactly fifty years earlier, it was felt that many who would otherwise be glad to attend could not leave their stations on Christmas Day and therefore our Missionary in consultation with Rev.B.Gnanabaranam and the local congregation wisely decided to have the dedication on the 4th Sunday in Advent (18th Dec.1955).

Just before the dedication of the chapel, Dr.Nambo, the reputed eye specialist who came on his occasional eye treatment tour to Kotma was very happy to hear of the forthcoming dedication and when a large group of people assembled on the railway platform, he told them about the new chapel to be built and exhorted them to go to the Church on Sunday, the task and hear the word of God and share in the joy of dedicating the House of God for the preaching of the Holy Word. This was a coincidence for which our missionary and others have been very grateful. Rev.Raymond Martin sent out personal invitations to Christians and non-Christians in this area and he also wrote to various friends and also an invitation was issued over the signatures of the Officers of the MMS and of the LWMS and printed copies were sent to MMS friends and also to the Presidents of Lutheran Churches for announcement in the various pastorates and institutions of our supporting Churches who stood behind this work faithfully during many years.

Christian friends and their families and young Hindu men who had received religious instruction from our former missionaries and workers began to come from various directions to Kotma from the 17th afternoon so that they may take part in this joyful event. There was sing song with village musical instruments throughout the 17th evening and night until the early hours of the morning. When the expected bus from Bhalumara Colliery and the train from Chirmiri and Manindragarh had arrived, the ~~The~~ service began as scheduled. Exactly at 11 A.M. a long procession was formed with all who had gathered for the function and th

the ministers who were taking part in the service having gone round the chapel singing Hindi bhajans Victory to Christ, the procession came back to the front of the chapel. Our pioneer Missionary, the Rev.S. Gnanabaranam spoke a few words making a humble appeal to the people gathered to ~~take~~ dedicate themselves to the Lord Jesus Christ. The Rev.Titus Spencer having read psalm 24, the pioneer~~y~~ missionary opened the door in the name of the Triune God. The clergy carried the Bible and the communion vessels which were duly received and placed at the altar and then the congregation sat down and sang a bhajan in Hindi based on psalm 24. The liturgy of the Madhya Pradesh Lutheran Church was followed throughout the service of dedication. Rev.Samuel Gnanabaranam preached the dedication sermon after which he baptised four children of Christian parents. This was followed by Holy Communion administered by the Rev.A.T.Rao of Baikuntpur (Korea). After the service was over and a photograph taken, the Rev.Raymond Martin spoke to the people that had gathered there and thanked them cordially for their participation in this joyful function. He referred also to large number of NMS friends and supporting congregations throughout India whose liberal donations have gone into the building of this Church and the other three buildings which had been completed up to the basement. The missionary in charge ~~xxxx~~ read also telegraphic and other messages received from Presidents of Churches and Officers of the NMS and the LNMS. Miss G.S.Ram, Headmistress of Bardsley Girls' High School, Katni had sent a fine greeting along with a copy of the Holy Bible in Hindi which has been duly placed in the chapel. Another remarkable greeting came from the Katni School signed by the Surin children and Ramkumar, d/o. Daniel Dadan Singh all of Uead Village. The collection on that day amounted to Rs.96.3.6. The congregation was happy that Miss Collisson of Baikuntpur could represent the large number of missionary friends who stand behind our work in love and prayer.

~~NOT UNTO US BUT OH, LORD BUT UNTO THEE~~
Not unto us O Lord, not unto us,
But unto Thy Name give glory
For Thy mercy and for Thy truth's sake. Ps 115,1 J. D. A.

THE PRESIDENTS OF THE CHURCHES OF THE FEDERATION:

In continuation of my letter dated 11th November 1955, I write this to request you to be so good as to consider the tentative constitution proposed by the Ladies Auxiliary at its exploratory meeting held at Gurukul on 24th September 1955. We shall value any suggestions which will be considered by the L.N.M.S. Council before the suggested tentative constitution is approved to be in force till January 1958. But the following two provisions need your special confirmation:

(a) Article 1(b) Elected - Two or more members elected by each Church of the F.E.L.C.

NOTE-If more than two are elected, the Church making the appointment will specify which two members are to serve on the Regional Committee of the Church (vide Article 3)

(b) Article 3: Organisation for each Region - A Working Committee for each Church (Region) shall be constituted consisting of the two elected members (vide article 1(b)) and one member to be elected by the Women's Samaj of that Church. The Central Committee shall appoint one of the three as the Regional Convener. The Regional Convener's expenses shall be provided for from the Women's Samaj budget or the Regional Ladies Auxiliary Working Committee.

This tentative constitution was sent to the F.E.L.C. for its general approval and it has already ratified the provision of the constitution whereby the Chairman of the F.E.L.C. Committee on Women's Ministry becomes an ex-officio member of the L.N.M.S. Ladies Auxiliary Committee. The tentative constitution now proposed will be in force with the approval of the L.N.M.S. Council only until after the Ladies Auxiliary Committee has been formed, the final constitution as drawn up by the Ladies Auxiliary Central Committee is ratified in January 1958. It is our earnest desire that for the time being the constitution should be as simple as possible so that in the light of its working, it might be amended to suit our needs. A copy of the constitution is sent to you again with the following request:

(i) that the Executive of your Church consider the draft constitution and offer any suggestions with a view to improve the constitution;

(ii) to appoint two or more members to serve on the Committee of the Ladies Auxiliary and that in case you appoint more than two kindly designate the two persons whom you would appoint to serve on the Regional Working Committee of your Church;

(iii) to request the women samaj of your Church to appoint another member. In case there is no organised women samaj of your Church, could you get three or more women's meetings in particular parishes each to suggest one member each or even two to constitute a panel out of which either your Church Executive or the L.N.M.S. Auxiliary Committee could select one. If the latter selects the person, the latter will be responsible for her expenses.

In view of the growing work of the N.M.S., it is exceedingly important that the women of our Churches should play not only a casual part as they do now, but a well organised part under the auspices of the Lutheran N.M.S. Ladies Auxiliary and also take an adequate share in the administration. Earnestly requesting early action on the above three matters.

Enc. Copy of the Constitution.

Ruby J. Manikam
Chairman,
L.N.M.S. Ladies Auxiliary.

Tiruchirappalli,
26th March 1956.

Copies to the Presidents of the F.E.L.C.

LADIES AUXILIARY.

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Lutheran N.M.S. shall be constituted as follows:

1. COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT: The Committee of the Auxiliary shall consist of the the following members:

   (a) Ex-officio - (i) The Chairman appointed by the Lutheran N.M.S. Council
   (ii) The Chairman of the Federation Committee on the Ministry of Women.

   (b) Elected - Two or more members elected by each Church of the F.E.L.C.

   NOTE:- If more than two are elected, the Church making the appointment will specify which two members are to serve on the Regional Committee of the Church (vide article 3)

   (c) Co-opted - The Ladies Auxiliary may co-opt up to four members. Regarding the travel expenses for co-opted members the Ladies Auxiliary Committee will vote such amounts as may be possible.

2. OBJECT - To create N.M.S. interest in each Church area and parish working wherever possible through existing Women's Samajas, to form regional Ladies Auxiliaries in each Church area. Where women samajas do not exist, a separate L.N.M.S. Ladies Auxiliary shall be set up by the Central Committee.

3. ORGANISATION FOR EACH REGION - A Working Committee for each Church (Region) shall be constituted consisting of the two elected members (vide article 1(b)) and one member to be elected by the Women's Samaj of that Church. The Central Committee shall appoint one of the three as the Regional Convener. The Regional Convener's expenses shall be provided for from the Women's Samaj budget or the Regional Ladies Auxiliary Working Committe

4. AIM AND METHOD -

   (i) to foster N.M.S. effort (publicity, prayer and raising needed support) being undertaken in each parish;
   (ii) to include the N.M.S. needs and programme in annual conferences in each Church or Synod area
   (iii) to enlist the co-operation of the full-time Women Samaj Secretary in each Church and
   (iv) to enlist the services of honorary workers for deputation work.

5. OFFICERS - The Officers shall be: Chairman elected by the Lutheran N.M.S. Council who shall also be Treasurer, for the time being.
   A Vice-Chairman, preferable from one of the Northern Churches (to be elected from among the elected members of the Church)
   A Secretary (who may be able to meet the Chairman at least thrice a year and plan for the work with reference to Church and local organisations, deputations etc.)

6. REPRESENTATION ON THE LUTHERAN N.M.S. COUNCIL - The Ladies Auxiliary will elect a representative to serve on the Lutheran N.M.S. Council. (Until the Lutheran N.M.S. Constitution is suitably amended, the representative shall attend the Council meetings as an official visitor.)

* * *

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26th March 1956.

Ruby J. Manikam
Chairman,
L.N.M.S. Ladies Auxiliary.

Copies to Chairmen, Women's Samajas
of constituent Churches.

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* * *

SURGUJA BOARD

Proposed that the work in the Surguja Field initiated by the N.M.S in accordance with the decision of the Lutheran N.M.S. Council dated 1st February 1951 and till now carried on by the Lutheran N.M.S. be administered by a Board which will secure in a full measure the values of the co-operation of each of the bodies which enter into this co-operative effort to win this area for our Church viz., the LNMS, the GELC and the ULCM, and this Board shall consist of the President of the LNMS, the LNMS Missionary in charge o f the field, the President of the GELC, one representative of the Gossner workers in the field to be designated by the GELC and two missionaries of the ULCM, and this Board shall work under the general direction of the Federation and shall report to it. The President of the LNMS shall be the Chairman of the Board.

List received from Rev.J.D.Asirvadam for despatch of NMS Call to Prayer.

Rev.J.Christensen Danish Pathan Mission Mardhan (NWFP)	10 All in English 10	E. 6 LNMS 6
Rev.J.Gausdal, General Superintendent Ebenezer Church, Benagaria, Santal Parganas		E.30 A 50 H.50 L 100 B.20
The Secretary, Gossner Church Ranchi, Bihar		E.30 A 50 H.200 L 200
Rev. E.Raman Madhya Pradesh Luth.Church Sagar, M.Pr.		E 10 L 50 H 40
Rev.A.C.Kondpan (If oriya available Jeypore E.L.C. second 0.50 & E.15) Koraput, Orissa		E.20 L.50
Rev.A.Andersen Danish Mission Gunupur, Orissa.		10 each in E.& LNMS.
Rev.C.Devasahayam, Andhra E.L.C. Church Office, Guntur		Tel.300 Eng. 50 L. 300
Rev.A.D.Benjamin President, SALC, Nayudupet, Nellore Dt.		Tel. 50 E. 20 L. 60
The Rt.Rev.J.Sandegren, Tranquebar House, Tiruchirappalli		E. 30 Tamil 85 L. 100
Rev.O.Horlyck Arcot E.L.C. Cuddalore N.T., S.A.Dt.		E. 15 Tamil 35 L. 40

E - English
Tam- Tamil
Tel- Telugu
B. - Bengali
A. - Assamese
L. - LNMS Statement (920 to Churches & 80 copies to J.D.Asirvadam)

***

	Call to Prayer.	Sermon	Ten Years Plan	LNMS Circular.
I. NMS English	225	225	225	
Hindi	290	290	290	
Telugu	350	350	350	
Tamil	120	120	120	

Extract from the Minutes of the Lutheran N.M.S. Executive held on Monday, the 23rd January 1956.

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2. Assam Border Mission: The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam reported on the progress of exploration, particularly referring to the response from Rev.J.J.M.Nichols-Roy of the Assam Cabinet and a visit of Rev.J.J.P. Tiga to Assam during Christmas Week when he could meet the Minister and the Deputy Adviser to Governor in charge of the Agency administration. He further reported that he and Rev.Tiga had a conference with Rev.O.S.Bjerkestrand, General Superintendent of the Ebenezer Church, when Dr.C.W.Oberdorfer and Rev.H.W.Mayer of the F.E.L.C. Executive were also present. The President of the Ebenezer Church having learned that the area contemplated is one open only to nationals, has promised to take action in consultation with the Boro Church Council.

The Executive notes with thankfulness to God the progress in regard to the exploration and the goodwill of the Federation and the Asia Lutheran Conference and recommends to the N.M.S. that this proposal to start missionary work in the Balipara part of the Agency in 1957 with Tezpur as a temporary base be approved and that a goodwill agreement with the Christian bodies in Assam be made in regard to the area. We further request the N.M.S. to appoint a representative to join the team of preliminary investigation at their cost.

Further RESOLVED that Rev.J.J.P. Tiga be appointed as a member of the investigation team, together with a representative which the N.M.S. has been requested to appoint and one representative each of the Assam section of the Gossner and Ebenezer Churches to be appointed by their respective Presidents.

Madras.
28.1.1956.

Jacob Kumaresan

Secretary,
LUTHERAN N. M. S.

The enclosed minutes of the LNMS Executive is for your information. Please send your confirmation to reach the Secretary, LNMS on or before 13.2.1956.

Minutes of the Lutheran N.M.S. Executive held on Monday, the 23rd January 1956.

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The following were present: The Rev. K. Nathaniel, Acting President (in the chair)
The Rev. G. Devasahayam, Treasurer
The Rev. N. Daniel
The Rev. J.D. Asirvadam
The Rev. J. Kumaresan, Secretary.

The meeting began with prayer by Rev. J.D. Asirvadam.

1. Membership - (a) The T.E.L.C. The Secretary reported that Dr. R.B. Manikam having been consecrated Bishop and become President of the Tamil Evangelical Lutheran Church from 14th January 1956, has become an ex-officio member of the L.N.M.S. Council. We welcome him heartily as a member of the Council.

(b) The S.A.L.C. The Secretary reported that the South Andhra Lutheran Church has appointed the Vice-President as member of the Council. As in the case of the Gossner, Madhya Pradesh, Jeypore, Andhra and now the Tamil Evangelical Lutheran Churches, the Indian President becomes ex-officio member of the Council according to the revised Constitution which was passed in consultation with the Presidents of the Federation. At the last meeting of the Council, on January 22, 1955, the Church was represented by its newly elected President, the Rev. A.D. Benjamin, but subsequently the S.A.L.C. Executive has asked the Council to accept the Vice-President as the member. It has been pointed out that this would be in contravention of the Constitution.

Evidently the Church wishes to follow its older ruling that the Vice-President represent the Church on the L.N.M.S. Council. That was constitutionally correct when the President was a non-Indian, but as the President of the S.A.L.C. is now a national, he becomes an ex-officio member of the Council according to the Constitution now in force. Any alteration would defeat the main intention of this ex-officio provision of the Constitution which was made with a view to bring the Indian leader of the Church into the work of the L.N.M.S. Council. RESOLVED that the above resolution be communicated to the President and Secretary of the S.A.L.C. and that Rev.J.D.Asirvadam be requested to meet the Officers with Dr.C.W.Oberdorfer and Rev.K.Nathaniel at Nayudupet to explain the situation and secure their co-operation to implement the resolution.

(c) The Ebenezer Evangelical Lutheran Church: We request the Ebenezer Church to appoint a representative to serve on the L.N.M.S. Council according to the Constitution.

2. Assam Border Mission: Rev.J.D.Asirvadam reported on the progress of exploration, particularly referring to the response from Rev.J.J.M.Nichols-Roy of the Assam Cabinet and a visit of Rev.J.J.P.Tiga to Assam during Christmas Week when he could meet the Minister and the Deputy Adviser to Governor in charge of the Agency administration. He further reported that he and Rev.Tiga had a conference with Rev.C.S.Bjerkestrand, General Superintendent of the Ebenezer Church, when Dr.C.W.Oberdorfer and Rev.H.W. Mayer of the F.E.L.C. Executive were also present. The President of the Ebenezer Church having learned that the area contemplated is one open only to nationals, has promised to take action in consultation with the Boro Church Council.

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Further RESOLVED that the Rev.J.J.P.Tiga be appointed as a member of the investigation team together with a representative which the N.M.S. has been requested to appoint and one representative each of the Assam section of the Gossner and Ebenezer Churches to be appointed by their respective Presidents.

3. L.N.M.S. representation on the N.M.S. Executive: RESOLVED to appoint the Rev.J.D.Asirvadam as member of the N.M.S. Executive.

4. Surguja Board: (a) L.N.M.S. Missionary: We note with satisfaction the appointment of a committee at the Surguja Board meeting dated 30th November to select a candidate and have his name approved and recommended for due appointment. The Acting President is requested to secure early action.

(b) Nowrangpur Minute: Read L.N.M.S. minutes of 22nd January 1955 item 23(a)

and the F.E.L.C. and Surguja Board actions thereon. The F.E.L.C. Enlarged Executive is requested to consider the matter. The correct text as verified by the Federation Secretary from the records was duly published in the appendix to the report of the Surguja Board of January 1954 and incorporated in the N.M.S. pamphlet "N.M.S. Work in Mid-India Lutheran Fields."

(c) Second representative of the L.N.M.S. on the Surguja Board: Read the Surguja Board minutes dated March 1st and 2nd, 1955 item 18(b). Until the L.N.M.S. missionary takes charge of the field, the Chairman of the Board has been requested to invite a representative of the L.N.M.S. to serve as a member with voice but no vote. This was duly acted on at the meeting of the Surguja Board dated November 30th.

5. Kotma Buildings: It was reported that the Kotma chapel was dedicated with the name CHRIST CHURCH by Rev.S.Gnanabaranam on 18th December 1955. The statement of accounts is recorded. The dispensary and two houses built up to the basement are yet to be completed. Action will be taken as soon as the 1955 balance sheet is circulated.

6. Sahdol Project: The Rev.J.D.Asirvadam reported on action taken by the F.E.L.C. Committee to solicit monthly subscriptions from workers and laymen and also the action of the A.E.L.C. President in bringing the matter before the Co-ordination Committees of the Synod. He also reported on the response of the S.A.L.C. Medical Board which has voted Rs.500/- as a grant for initial equipment and of his letter to the Medical Board of the A.E.L.C. through the A.E.L.C. President.

7. Mrs.Krupadanam: Rev.Raymond Martin reported that Mrs.Krupadanam had asked to be taken into the service from the 16th of December but as the missionary-in-charge was not sure of the matter, he asked her to return to the field. But on being informed that the Committee had taken action long ago that she should join duty from 1st July and that she was due in the field at least from after the rains, and that the appointment should be effected immediately, Mrs.Krupadanam joined duty at Usad on 2nd January 1956 with a view to move to Murwahi as soon as the house is vacated. RESOLVED that she be paid her salary from 1st January and that it be recommended to the Council that her salary be paid from 16th December 1955.

8. Mr.Kandulna: The missionary in charge reports that Kandulna has been transferred to the Murwahi field to assist Mrs.Krupadanam.

9. Provident Fund Loan: RESOLVED to grant a loan of Rs.100/- to Mr.Bahore Singh. His previous Provident Fund loan was cleared in October 1955.

10. Publication of the N.M.S. Book: With a view to help the N.M.S. to bring out Book I of the Fifty Year History of the N.M.S. the Secretary and the Treasurer and Rev.J.D.Asirvadam agreed at the time of the Gurukul Council meeting in October to recommend to the Council that a sum of Rs.200/- be voted as our contribution towards this publication as soon as the first three chapters of the book in the final form have been printed. As the work has been delayed, the General Secretary is requested to return the sum of Rs.150/- and odd received as contribution for the L.N.M.S. to the L.N.M.S. Office. The sum of Rs.200/- will be made available when the work is undertaken and completed.

11. Membership enrolment sheets: RESOLVED to authorise the Treasurer to print one thousand copies of the enrolment form and use a part of it for the five Synod areas of the A.E.L.C. The balance may be made available to the Secretary for use in the other Churches.

12. Relationship to the F.E.L.C. RESOLVED to request the F.E.L.C. to recognise the Lutheran N.M.S. as one of the co-operating Missions so that its President may have an invitation to the Enlarged meetings, if he is not an ordinary member of the Executive.

13. Place and Date of meeting: RESOLVED to hold the meeting of the Lutheran N.M.S. Council in Madras two days immediately before the meeting of the Federation Executive at Tiruchirapalli.

The meeting ended with prayer and benediction by the Rev.G.Devasahayam.

Madras-10 }
28.1.1956 }

K. Nathaniel, President
Jacob Kumaresan, Secretary.

No.9, Thambuswamy Road, Madras-10
22nd February 1956.

THE MEMBERS OF THE LUTHERAN N.M.S. COUNCIL:

It is learnt that the F.E.L.C. Enlarged Executive meeting which was scheduled to meet in Tiruchirappalli on 20-22 March has been postponed to a later date in April. As our L.N.M.S. Council has to be convened in connection with the F.E.L.C. meetings in order to have the Indian Presidents of the constituent Churches, we have to wait until the dates for the F.E.L.C. meetings are decided. Information regarding the Council meeting will be sent to you later.

Jacob Kumaresan

Secretary.

Copy to the President, Gossner Church for publication in vernacular journal

NATIONAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Topics for Praise and Prayer

PRAISE - For the inspiration of the N.M.S. Golden Jubilee Celebrations at Calcutta October 21-25, 1955, the challenge of open doors within and outside India, and the fresh call to the Church in India to take the Gospel to new areas.

For the first meeting of the newly constituted All India N.M.S. Executive that met at Hyderabad on February 2-3 and plans to open new fields in Nepal, and in Assam Border where nationals alone can take the gospel to Himalayan tribes.

For the small but beautiful CHRIST CHURCH at Kotma, the first one erected in Vindhya Pradesh in consequence of the religious rights granted to Indian citizens by the Constitution.

For Mrs. B.J. Krupadanam taking up work at Murwahi, which had no resident missionary since June 1951 when late Rev. B.J. Krupadanam began work in Surguja where we now have 2500 new converts.

PRAYER - For the ministry of Rev. T. Spencer and Rev. P. Bertin at Kotma, Sahdol District, Vindhya Pradesh.

For the medical work to be started at Sahdol, District head-quarters by Dr. Ramabai Gopal, M.B.,B.S., in October 1956, and for all the preparations undertaken by the N.M.S. Lutheran Committee.

For the new work to be started among the Aka and Dufla tribes of Balipara in the North-East Frontier Agency, Assam, using the Boro personnel of the Ebenezer Lutheran Church.

For Missionary D. Devaprium who completes his year's theological course in April and for the Lord's guidance regarding his future work.

For Miss K. Sirkar appointed Honorary General Secretary of the N.M.S. and Mr. S.J. Duraisamy, Honorary Associate General Secretary in charge of Gospel Teams, Rural Service Camps etc., and for continued efforts to find a permanent General Secretary for the Society.

J.D. Asirvadam,
Tambaram, 14.2.56.