

**GOSSNER EVANGELICAL – LUTHERAN CHURCH
IN CHOTANAGPUR AND ASSAM**

GELC ARCHIVE

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REPORTS

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- **Reports of Supervisor & Memorandum**

REPORT OF SUPERVISOR OF THE RANCHI ILAKA TO THE COUNCIL.

I beg to report to the Council as follows:-

Because of the pressure of work I was unable to attend the meeting of the Ilaka workers for June, but I attended the meetings for July and August in part. Both my poor knowledge of Hindi and my unfamiliarity with the work and its details (since I have little or no contact with the village congregations) have hindered me in my efforts to get a clear understanding of the work of this Ilaka and its problems. In this report I can only give a general ~~rough~~ idea of this Ilaka. I am only now learning my work as Supervisor.

My general observations may be stated as follows:-

1. The attendance at the workers' meetings is poor, but the interest and intelligence of the workers are encouraging.
2. I am informed that 'centralization' has never been accomplished in this Ilaka. The reasons for this as given me by the Padris differ somewhat from the reasons given by lay workers.
3. I have examined some of the accounts and they seemed to be kept in good order.
4. For August all the workers received only part salary as per the scale and still there was a deficit. However, the accounts of two out of the five Pastorates were not included. I was told that those two Pastorates keep their own accounts and keep the funds with themselves.
5. If full salaries were paid, according to the scale, then the monthly deficit in this Ilaka would be very large, say, Rs. 200/.
6. The newly-elected Treasurer told me that it was the aim of the workers to make this Ilaka entirely self-supporting--whether according to scale or not, I do not know.
7. My opinion is that this scale so-called is of very little value; in fact I think it is often a hindrance, because it cannot be carried out and the workers grumble when they do not get their full pay, as they think.
8. My opinion is that instead of a fixed scale there should be simply a rule to the effect that the monthly income, whatever it may be, should be divided proportionately among all the workers, whether Padris or lay workers. Later on, when self-support has made more progress, a scale should be introduced.
9. In answer to many inquiries I made about the moral, spiritual and material welfare and progress of the Christians in the village congregations I was assured that our people are progressing in all these lines. The Ilaka Chairman is of opinion that the ~~the~~ spiritual life of the church in his field is as good now as it was before the war. If this be true, it is most encouraging.

Ranchi,
25-9-25.

JC

August 1925-

Amdani

Rs 271/9/1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Kharch

Rs 290/4/3.

Deficit Rs 18-11-1 $\frac{1}{2}$ p.

3 Pastor	Scale (40/-)	Rs. 90-0-0
2 servants.		16-0-0
Candidate & Catechist		151-0-0
		<hr/> 257-0-0

MEMORANDUM.

Ranchi

By invitation and permission of the Elaka Chairman (Rev. Rufus Lakra) I met with him and Revds Nikodin Lakra and Laurentius Ekka on the morning of Sept 10th in the Church Office. I made many inquiries about the work in this Ilaka and the following is the gist of the replies to my questions:-

1. What is a Mandli? A mandli means all the Lutherans in different villages under the charge of one Pracharak.
2. What are the statistics of the Ilaka?
 - (1) No of Pracharaks at work now--39(40 reported in 1919).
 - (2) No of vacant Pracharakpans--9. Chief cause of decline in the number--lack of money.
 - (3) No of Mandlis--39.
 - (4) No of Villages--276(in 1919).
 - (5) No of Lutherans--7438(in 1919).
3. What is the work of Pracharaks?
 - (1) Visiting villages and homes.
 - (2) Burying the dead.
 - (3) Conducting Sunday services(AM & PM).
 - (4) Conducting Prayer Meetings on week days.
 - (5) Instructing Inquirers & Catechumens.
 - (6) Preaching to non-Christians.
 - (7) Helping in every ^{way} and all ways possible.
4. What offerings are made?
 - (1) Those at regular Sunday services.
(Grain Offerings)
 - (2) Ghara Sirni--Monthly or Weekly.
 - (3) Nawa Khani(first-fruits)--Sept--Oct.
 - (4) Katni Parbb(Harvest Festival)--Nov--December.
 - (5) Prabhuprit(Contributions from Threshing-Floor).
 - (6) Offerings ~~xxx~~ ^{at times of} (a) Baptisms, (b) Confirmations, (c) Holy Communion, (d) Marriages(Rs. 2-1/2 for Bride Groom; Rs. 1/4 for Bride; others under d free-will offerings).
 - (7) Special Thank Offerings.
 - (8) Mandli Paisa--House-to-house collections @ As 4/ per house.
(This last not now in force).
5. How are the Collections Kept? All collections in the Pracharakpans are made over to the Treasurers of the Padri-Xpan Panches; these Treasurers in turn make over all

collections to the Ilaka Panch Treasurer.

6. What Panches have been established?

- (1) Pracharakpan Panch--composed of three officers (Chairman, Secretary & Treasurer) and other members.
- (2) Padripan (Parish) Panch--composed of three officers (as above) and one member from each Pracharakpan.
- (3) Ilaka Panch--composed of three officers (as above) and members from the Padripan; in this Ilaka a total of 32.

7. August Salaries--How Paid?

- (1) In Lali Padripan--Rufus Padri's salary acc to scale, Rs 40--received only 30/; one Candidate, Rs. 20--received only 15/, 7 Pracharaks--all received only part salary. Total amt due Rs. 160, but only Rs. 90 paid.
- (2) In Chiur Padripan--Rs. 148 due, only Rs. 61 paid.
- (3) In Ranchi Padripan--Rs. 60 due, only Rs. 46 paid.

8. Further Questions to be asked--(1) What do the different Panches do? (2) What is the total membership of each and how elected? (3) How often are regular services conducted in each mandli? in each village? (4) How often is Lord's Supper given to each mandli? (5) How is discipline carried out? (6) How many active and intelligent laymen are there in each Mandli? (7) Has the spiritual life of the people declined? (8) Has drunkenness increased? (9) What measures should be taken to ^{create} ~~XXXXXXX~~ self-support? (10) Is Sunday work common? (11) Are there many factions in the mandlis? (12) How should the mission lands be used--by Church workers or others? (13) Are necessary repairs made? (14) Are irregular marriages made?