



Ranchi, Bihar, India

February, 1967

Dear Friends in the Homeland:

May God's richest blessings be yours during this year. We thank you for your faithful prayers and support during the past five and a half years, also for your generous Christmas offerings. Now that we are booked to sail in March we ask you to especially remember us in prayer. We will disembark at Los Angeles and hope to see a bit of the west before proceeding to Wisconsin.

On New Year's day our church was dedicated by Bro. Paul Schoonmaker. Since the family spent Christmas week with us this was possible. He is well known as Bro. Paul over the Friend of Truth programs beamed from Manilla five times a week. He spoke several times at the church and on Christmas morning to a full house. After a service we proceeded to the pastor's compound for a baptismal service. Three took water baptism including Sister Alice, the pastor's wife, who recently also received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. A love feast followed and a slice of our Christmas cake also for each.

The dedication service was proceeded by a tea at four p.m. outside of the church. We served at least two hundred guests who then filled the church for the five p.m. dedication service. Our blind boys with their instruments and good singing were on the platform and added greatly to the occasion. The Service was in Hindi with several giving brief messages and explaining what Pentecost is. Later we showed a Moody Science film, "God of Creation" in color and greatly enjoyed by all.

Do pray for the pastor, Bro. Shanti Khachchap who is an Adavasi or tribal, same as most of the people are. His wife Alice, also a teacher, is a great help to him. The enclosed photo of them standing in front of the church. Bro. Shanti is a science teacher so keeps busy teaching all week, refusing to take any support from the church. Since the people are poor and income insufficient this is a fine gesture. He has a younger man as his assistant pastor—Jaipal Singh—who has had one year of Bible training. He is a Hindu convert from the hills and very zealous. He lives at the Youth Center with another convert, George Stephen, and together they are contacting boys there who came to read or play games.

You may write to us in care of the Missions Department if necessary. We hope to visit each one of you so kindly let us know when convenient. Then we can show slides and tell you of God's faithfulness to us. "The Lord He hath triumphed gloriously." Exodus 15:1

Your Missionaries,

James Paul Grace Thoddelee