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*News* (London College of Bible and Missions). (Christmas 1965)

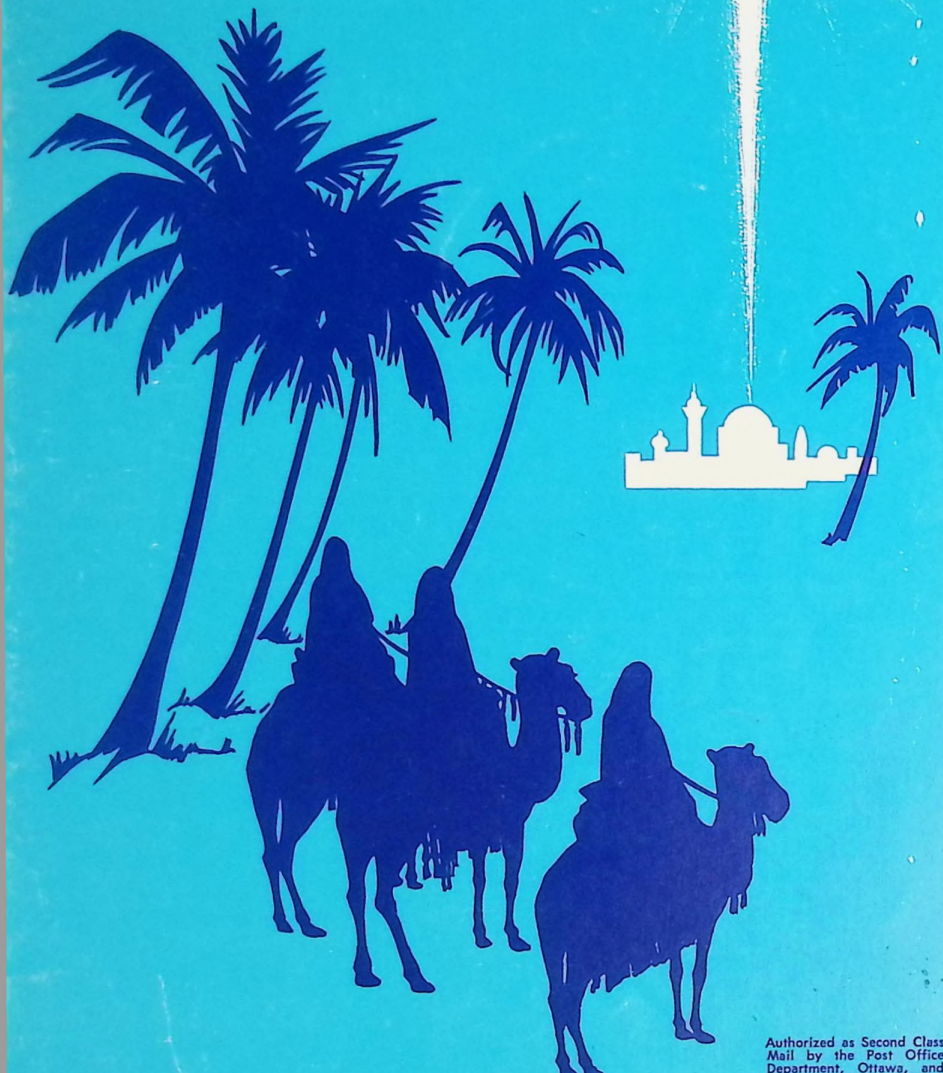
# LCBM

## News

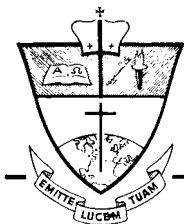
CHRISTMAS ISSUE, 1965

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# London college OF BIBLE AND MISSIONS

518 QUEENS AVENUE, LONDON, CANADA

December 8, 1965

Dear Friends of LCBM:

If we could gather together the board, the faculty, the staff, and the student body, I am sure they would unanimously ask me to express to you their deep appreciation of all your interest in the ministry committed to us, manifested in your prayers and your gifts. You are sharers with us in this ministry, and as we think of our graduates heralding the good news of Christ in many and various situations, we want you to realize that your faithfulness has made this witness possible.

God has blessed us in a variety of ways this past year. The fruitfulness of student ministry has been most cheering, both in summer positions, and in the regular course of Christian service assignments. The requests for teams and music groups have greatly increased, enlarging the scope of our ministry. More of our recent graduates have become missionary appointees and candidates. Our conferences — the missionary conference in the spring and the spiritual life conference with Major Ian Thomas this fall — have proven to be major spiritual events, with enduring impact on many lives. The increase in enrollment this fall, while not spectacular, was still encouraging (an increase from 125 to 142).

Income from donations has considerably improved this year, though not to the extent required to meet the demands of the budget.

These mercies of God are some of the "all things" which our heavenly Father has added to "His unspeakable gift", the gift of His own beloved Son, our Saviour, and they call us who serve Him here to renewed and deepened consecration. At this Christmas season, when we remember God's great Gift to us, we invite you to join us in this consecration, and to be partners with us in prayer that God will supply every need of the school and so maintain this instrument that He has raised up for the spreading of His glorious Gospel. If you are constrained to share your Christmas bounty with us, we shall be profoundly grateful.

May the Lord make this, for each one of you, a most blessed Christmas-tide, filling you with that peace of God of which the angel of Bethlehem spoke.

Sincerely, in our Saviour's grace,

*J. E. Macaulay*

## SPIRITUAL CONFERENCE

"How is it that I have not heard this before? The teaching concerning all that Jesus Christ wants to do for me NOW is what I've been looking for over the past ten years."

"In my four years at LCBM this has been the most helpful and practical series of meetings we have had."

Such are typical of the comments about our Annual Spiritual Emphasis Week, November 8 to 12. There is no doubt in the minds of students, staff and faculty that the British Keswick speaker and author, Major Ian Thomas, was God's messenger. With a minimum of emotional build-up he led us into a wider discovery of our current resources in Christ. Without detailing the sins that plague us as believers, He was enabled by the Holy Spirit to show us how the Lord Jesus can and will deal with the sin-principle rooted deeply in our hearts.

We thank God for sending us "the Major" . . . and . . . we thank **you** for praying for God's presence during the Conference. Certainly He heard and answered!

## COMING EVENTS

**Sunday, January 23 - Wednesday, 26, 1966** — Missionary Conference. "Dit" Fenton of the Latin America Mission will be the main speaker. The theme will be "Evangelism: Every Believer's Responsibility!"

Mr. Phil Armstrong, Rev. Peter Stam and Rev. Paul Roffe will be the guest speakers. Many of our missionary alumni on furlough will be reporting on their work during this four day conference.

**Monday, February 28 - Wednesday, March 2** — Academic Lectures will be conducted at the college each morning at 10:40 a.m., 7:00 p.m. Monday and Wednesday and at 8:00 p.m. Tuesday evening.

**Dr. Eugene Nida**, Executive Secretary, in charge of translation work of the American Bible Society, will speak on the subject of **Cultural Anthropology**. Dr. Nida, a foremost linguist and anthropologist, has worked with missionaries for over 20 years solving their translation problems.

The purpose of the Academic Lectures is to expose our students to Christians who have made significant contributions in various Academic fields.

## STUDENT LOANS

LCBM has been approved by the Department of University Affairs as eligible to participate in the Canada Student Loan Plan. Full-time students enrolled in the Diploma, Bachelor of Theology, Bachelor of Religious Education and Bachelor of Sacred Music Courses are now eligible to receive loans for school expenses from the Federal Government.

This plan will be of valuable assistance to our students in completing their education.

### A SPECIAL "THANK YOU"

We want to say "thank you" in a special way to this month's donors. Dr. Macaulay has made it possible for us to send you a copy of his Christmas hymn "Christmas Vision". We know you will appreciate having this selection in your home during this Christmas season.

## ALUMNI NEWS

—**Norma Jean Cameron '58** left December 7 to return to Kenya for her second term with the Africa Inland Mission.

—**Rev. Clifford Hall '52** and **Rev. Wallace Stephenson '62** received the B.A. degree at Waterloo Lutheran University in October.

—**Harold Stainton '61** was ordained on September 14 at his church in Aylmer.



## CHRISTMAS EXPECTATIONS

by DR. J. C. MACAULAY, President

God takes time to prepare His mighty movements and His cataclysmic events. Four millennia were required to make all things ready for the coming of His Son into our flesh.

The political preparation was the raising up of the Roman power with its all embracing law and its system of roads reaching out in all directions and knitting the scattered nations into one great whole. Greek had become so much the **lingua franca** of the civilized world that some of the Roman writers feared the total eclipse of the Latin. The religious condition of that day has been described thus: "To the people all religions were equally true; to the philosophers equally false; to the rulers equally useful". An age of invention had only added new luxuries to the sensuousness of living, and moral conditions were deplorable. The privileges of the Jews hung on the tenuous cord of imperial whim.

Over against all this were the promises of God which filled the Holy Scriptures, and upon which devout souls fed, "waiting for the consolation of Israel", and "looking for redemption in Jerusalem". So it was that "in the fullness of the times", when all preparations were made and godly hearts watched and prayed, into a scene of uttermost need, the Saviour was born. Christmas expectations were fulfilled in the Babe of Bethlehem.

New Christmas expectations stir in the hearts of the saints. God's preparations seem to be ripening again. World movements are drawing the larger world of today into such close relation that practically every de-

velopment has universal repercussions. The means of communication are almost instantaneous. Tensions increase, and the world seems to seethe with unrest. Confusion characterizes the nations. Religiously, morally, and socially we would seem to be ripe for a new breaking-in of God. What form will such a breaking-in take? Students of Holy Writ believe it will be "the glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ." No lesser event would seem to be an adequate answer to the confused conditions of our world. While we are conscious of "the sea and the waves roaring", and sense "men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking at those things which are coming upon the world", we hear our Lord's comforting voice saying, "Look up, and lift up your eyes, for your redemption draweth nigh".

Our Lord reproved the religious leaders of His day for their inability to discern "the signs of the times". We do not want to be in that category. The parallels between the political, social, religious and moral developments of today and the Biblical descriptions of the last times are too clear to escape notice. While not seeking to pry into matters which the Father has kept in His own power, we cannot be oblivious to situations which, if given a voice, would cry out, "Behold the Bridegroom cometh".

As we approach another Christmas season, and prepare to celebrate our Lord's advent in human flesh, let the expectations of a better Christmas stir our hearts. "I will come again", He has promised, "and receive you unto myself". "Even so, come, Lord Jesus".