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COASTAL RESERVATION



A TREATISE ON
INDIAN COASTAL
RESERVATION WITH
PARTICULAR BEARING
ON PROPOSED
LEGISLATION

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List of Missionary Societies

1. A.B.B.M. American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (American Baptist Burma Mission).
2. B.C.M.S. Bible Churchmen's Missionary Society.
3. B.F.B.S. British and Foreign Bible Society.
4. C.L.S. Christian Literature Society for India and Africa.
5. M.E.Ch. Foreign Mission Board of the Methodist Episcopal Church.
6. S.A. Salvation Army.
7. S.D.A. Seventh-Day Adventists.
8. S.P.G. Society for the Propagation of the Gospel.
9. W.M.M.S. Wesleyan Methodist Missionary Society.
10. Y.M.C.A. Young Men's Christian Association.
11. Y.W.C.A. Young Women's Christian Association.

Summary of Statistics, 1926

Burma

Area	..	..	..	..	..	233,707 square miles.	
Population	..	..	..	..	..	13,212,192.	
Density	..	..	..	..	..	57 persons per square mile.	
Protestant foreign workers	..	..	..	..	..	351	
Protestant native workers	..	..	..	..	..	3,538	
Protestant missionary residential stations	..	..	..	..	..	47	
Protestant Christians (Census 1921)	..	..	..	..	..	170,384	
Protestant Christians (Mission returns)	..	..	..	..	..	192,027	
Protestant Mission schools	..	..	..	..	..	972	
Pupils in schools	..	..	..	..	..	40,539	
Hospitals	..	..	..	..	..	5	
Dispensaries	..	..	..	..	..	11	

APPENDIX I.

(Figures taken from 1921 Census.)

1. RACES AND LANGUAGES. (Certain population areas not included.)

Races.		Languages.	
Burmese and Talaing	9,116,010		9,007,000
Karen	1,220,356		1,220,099
Shan, etc.	1,746,737	Shan	1,018,000
		Chin	289,000
		Kachin	147,000
		Palaung Wa	157,000
		Others	147,000
Indian	878,236		887,000
Chinese	149,060		149,000
European and others	58,700	Indo-Burman and others ..	148,000

13,169,09913,169,099

2. MOSLEM POPULATION.

Zerbadis Moslems ..	93,482
Arakan Moslems ..	23,775
Arakan Kamans ..	2,163
Indian Moslems ..	366,271

485,691

3. CHRISTIAN POPULATION (Protestant, Roman Catholic, etc.).

(a) From Indigenous Races.

From the Burma group	14,611	or 5.7 per cent. of total Christians.
" " Karen "	178,225	" 69.3 " " " "
" " Chin, Shan, Kachin and Talaing groups ..	14,924	" 5.8 " " " "

207,760

(b) From Indian Races.

From the Tamils ..	17,737	or 6.9 per cent. of total Christians.
" " Telugus ..	2,124	" .8 " " " "
" other Indians ..	2,741	" 1.1 " " " "
" others ..	1,456	" .6 " " " "

24,058

Total Christians from Indigenous and Indian Races .. 231,818

(c) From other Races.

Europeans	8,630	or 3.3 per cent. of total Christians.
Anglo-Indians	16,658	" 6.5 " " " "

25,288

Total number of Europeans 25,288

GRAND TOTAL 257,106

APPENDIX II.
Areas, Populations, Foreign and Native Workers, 1926

Division.	District.	Area. Sq. Miles.	Population.	Station.	Mission.	Foreign Workers.				Indige- nous Workers
						Men.	Wives.	Women	Total.	
Arakan.	1. Akyab	14,807	909,248	Nil.	Nil.	—	—	—	—	—
	2. Hill Dist. of Arakan	5,136	576,430	"	"	—	—	—	—	—
	3. Kyaukpyu ..	1,500	20,914	"	"	—	—	—	—	—
	4. Sandoway ..	4,387	199,873	"	"	—	—	—	—	—
		3,784	112,029	Sandoway	A.B.B.M.	1	1	2	4	42
Pegu.		13,707	2,309,293							
	5. Rangoon	76	341,962	(Ahlone P.O.)	S.P.G.	1	—	—	1	—
					S.D.A.	3	3	1	7	—
				City	A.B.B.M.	21	17	10	48	403
					B.F.B.S.	1	1	—	2	31
					C.L.S.	1	—	—	1	—
					M.E.Ch.	4	4	7	15	96
					S.A.	6	3	4	13	13
					S.P.G.	3	—	2	5	28
					Y.M.C.A.	5	4	—	9	4
					Y.W.C.A.	—	—	3	3	4
	6. Insein	1,904	293,083	Kemmendine	A.B.B.M.	—	—	3	3	2
					S.P.G.	2	—	6	8	127
				Insein	A.B.B.M.	4	4	2	10	5
				Taikgyi	S.D.A.	1	1	—	2	4
	7. Hanthawaddy ..	1,866	364,624	Syriam	S.P.G.	1	—	—	1	—
					A.B.B.M.	—	—	—	—	5
					M.E.Ch.	1	1	—	2	28
					M.E.Ch.	1	—	—	1	—
				Twante	M.E.Ch.	1	1	2	4	—
				Thongwa	A.B.B.M.	—	—	2	2	—
	8. Tharrawaddy ..	2,863	492,429	Tharrawaddy	A.B.B.M.	—	—	—	—	141
				Thonze	A.B.B.M.	1	1	—	2	—

AREAS, POPULATIONS, FOREIGN AND NATIVE WORKERS—Continued

Division.	District.	Area: Sq. Miles.	Population.	Station.	Mission.	Foreign Workers.				Indige- nous Workers
						Men.	Wives.	Women	Total.	
Pegu—contd.	9. Pegu	4,083	445,620	Nyaunglebin Pegu	A.B.B.M. A.B.B.M. M.E.Ch.	— 1 1	— 1 1	2 1 —	2 3 2	185
	10. Prome	2,915	371,575	Sittang Prome	M.E.Ch. A.B.B.M. S.P.G.	— 1 —	— — —	— 1 —	— 2 —	22 15
Irrawaddy.		13,437	2,030,044							
	11. Bassein	4,127	489,473	Bassein	A.B.B.M.	3	1	3	7	555
	12. Henzada	2,872	550,920	Henzada	A.B.B.M. S.D.A.	2 2	2 1	2 —	6 3	256 2
	13. Myaungmya	2,650	370,551	Myaungmya	Vacant	—	—	—	—	—
	14. Maubin	1,640	330,106	Maubin	A.B.B.M.	—	—	2	2	90
Tenasserim.	15. Pyapon	2,148	288,994	Pyapon	A.B.B.M.	—	—	—	—	17
	16. Toungoo	85,788 6,135	1,613,523 381,883	Thandaung Toungoo	M.E.Ch. A.B.B.M. S.A. S.P.G.	— 3 1	— 2 —	2 5 —	2 10 1	— 228 —
	17. Salween	2,666	50,379	Kamamaung	S.D.A.	3	2	1	4	103
	18. Thaton	4,831	471,100	Nil.	A.B.B.M.	—	—	—	—	5
	19. Amherst	7,059	417,910	Moulmein	A.B.B.M. S.P.G.	5 1	5 —	12 —	22 1	189 28
	20. Tavoy	5,308	156,786	Tavoy	A.B.B.M.	2	2	—	4	92
	21. Mergui	9,789	135,465	Mergui	M.E.Ch.	1	—	—	1	—
		21,040	1,447,530							
	22. Thayetmyo	4,750	255,406	Thayetmyo	A.B.B.M.	1	1	—	2	13
	23. Pakokku	6,210	465,771	Pakokku	W.M.M.S.	1	1	1	3	17
Magwe.	24. Minbu	3,293	274,302	Salin	W.M.M.S.	2	1	—	3	7
	25. Magwe	3,687	423,252	Nil.	S.P.G.	—	—	—	—	—
	26. Pakokku Hill Tracts	3,100	28,799	"		—	—	—	—	—

AREAS, POPULATIONS, FOREIGN AND NATIVE WORKERS—Continued

Division.	District.	Area. Sq. Miles.	Population.	Station.	Mission.	Foreign Workers.				Indige- nous Workers
						Men.	Wives.	Women	Total.	
Mandalay.	27. Mandalay	28,788 2,117	849,361 356,621	Mandalay	A.B.B.M. S.P.G. S.A.	1 3 1	— — 1	4 4 —	5 7 2	43 28 —
				Maymyo	W.M.M.S. A.B.B.M. S.A.	2 1 1	1 1 1	2 2 —	5 4 2	23 — —
	28. Bhamo	6,903	112,960	Bhamo	S.P.G. A.B.B.M.	— 3	— 3	— —	— 6	— 53
	29. Myitkyina	10,651	118,382	Myitkyina	A.B.B.M.	1	1	—	2	19
				Mohnyin	B.C.M.S.	1	1	5	7	10
				Hkapra	B.C.M.S.	3	—	—	3	—
	30. Katha	8,917	253,725	Nil.	Nil.	—	—	—	—	—
	31. Putao	200	7,673	"	"	—	—	—	—	—
Sagaing.		35,058	1,358,082							
	32. Shwebo	5,714	391,284	Shwebo	S.P.G. A.B.B.M.	1 1	— —	— —	1 1	— 11
	33. Sagaing	1,825	326,908	Sagaing	A.B.B.M.	1	1	1	3	—
	34. Lower Chindwin ..	3,480	342,880	Monywa	W.M.M.S.	1	1	1	3	11
	35. Upper Chindwin ..	16,037	186,881	Mawlaik	W.M.M.S.	1	—	—	1	1
	36. Chin Hills	8,000	110,079	Haka	A.B.B.M.	1	1	—	2	24
				Tidim	A.B.B.M.	1	1	—	2	—
Meiktila.		10,491	1,197,771							
	37. Kyaukse	1,282	142,677	Kyaukse	W.M.M.S.	2	2	2	6	12
	38. Meiktila	2,287	289,897	Meiktila	A.B.B.M.	—	—	1	1	30
				Pyinmana	A.B.B.M.	3	1	—	4	—
	39. Yamethin	4,176	323,189	Pyawbwe	W.M.M.S. A.B.B.M.	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 42
	40. Myingyan	2,746	442,008	Myingyan	A.B.B.M.	—	—	1	1	21

AREAS, POPULATIONS, FOREIGN AND NATIVE WORKERS—Concluded

Division.	District.	Area. Sq. Miles.	Population.	Station.	Mission.	Foreign Workers.				Indige- nous Workers
						Men.	Wives.	Women	Total.	
Specially Administered Territories.	41. Northern Shan States	60,593	1,497,892	Namkham Kalaw	A.B.B.M.	1	1	—	2	247
	42. Southern Shan States	20,156	585,924		A.B.B.M.	1	1	—	2	
		36,157	847,618	W.M.M.S.	1	1	—	2		
				Kengtung	2	2	1	5		
				Mongnai	1	1	—	2		
				Taunggyi	2	1	4	7		
				Loikaw	1	—	—	1		
43. Karenni						4,280	63,850			
Additional workers (A.B.B.M.) (1926)						128 12	84 18	104 5	316 35	3,338 200
Totals						140	102	109	351	3,538
Roman Catholic Workers						Priests.	Lay.	Sisters.		
						86	26	188	300	945
Protestant and Roman Catholic Grand Totals						..	..	..	651	4,483

APPENDIX III.

Mission and Church Statistics

Figures for Protestant Missions, 1926

Divisions and Districts.*	Christian Community.			Villages in which Christians live.	Census number of villages.
	Communi- cants.	Others.	Total.		
Arakan Division.	593	600	1,193	28	1,442
1. Akyab	—	—	—	—	870
2. Hill District	—	—	—	—	41
3. Kyaukpyu	—	—	—	—	354
4. Sandoway	593	600	1,193	28	177
Pegu Division.	26,834	21,239	47,873	614	2,273
5. Rangoon	9,785	7,341	17,126	10	—
6. Insein	8,394	4,512	12,906	302	375
7. Hanthawaddy	391	470	861	87	468
8. Tharrawaddy	2,884	1,538	4,422	50	549
9. Pegu	4,220	5,796	10,016	111	438
10. Prome	960	1,582	2,542	54	443
Irrawaddy Division.	39,571	28,400	67,971	422	2,580
11. Bassein	19,721	9,955	29,676	260	688
12. Henzada	6,053	3,018	9,071	105	621
13. Myaungmya	8,008	7,605	15,613	—	588
14. Maubin	3,954	4,600	8,554	50	311
15. Pyapon	1,835	3,222	5,057	7	372
Tenasserim Division.	19,787	22,232	42,019	352	1,708
16. Toungoo	11,519	13,300	24,819	236	560
17. Salween	204	511	715	1	89
18. Thaton	52	21	73	4	385
19. Amherst	4,682	3,800	8,482	70	348
20. Tavoy	2,280	1,050	3,330	41	179
21. Mergui	1,050	3,550	4,600	—	147
Magwe Division.	834	668	1,502	33	2,489
22. Thayetmyo	625	498	1,123	17	641
23. Pakokku	85	41	126	11	742
24. Minbu	24	11	35	5	339
25. Magwe	100	118	218	—	465
26. Pakokku Hills	—	—	—	—	302
Mandalay Division.	4,769	4,809	9,578	85	2,352
27. Mandalay and Mandalay City	2,332	2,733	5,065	43	332
28. Bhamo	1,882	1,440	3,322	25	555
29. Myitkyina	455	510	965	17	771
30. Katha	100	126	226	—	685
31. Putao	—	—	—	—	9
Sagaing Division.	1,158	806	1,964	89	2,219
32. Shwebo	84	165	249	13	632
33. Sagaing	30	36	66	—	282
34. Lower Chindwin	122	84	206	22	361
35. Upper Chindwin	19	21	40	9	465
36. Chin Hills	903	500	1,403	45	479
Meiktila Division.	1,450	1,011	2,461	61	1,228
37. Kyaukse	36	37	73	4	277
38. Meiktila	466	514	980	6	400
39. Yamethin	807	420	1,227	32	356
40. Myingyan	141	40	181	19	195
Eastern States.	6,202	11,264	17,466	83	18,714
41. Northern Shan States }	6,202	11,264	17,466	83	6,610
42. Southern Shan States }	—	—	—	—	11,412
43. Karenni Hills	—	—	—	—	692
	100,998	91,029	192,027	1,767	35,005

* For Areas and Populations, see previous table, p. 85.

NOTE.—Since these schedules have been prepared there has been a rearrangement of districts and divisions made by Government.

APPENDIX IV.

Recent Statistics of 'the Four Principal Missions *

1. AMERICAN BAPTIST BURMA MISSION.
2. SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE GOSPEL.
3. WESLEYAN METHODIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY.
4. AMERICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

1. AMERICAN BAPTIST BURMA MISSION.

Foreign workers.

Ordained men	..	..	..	53
Unordained men	..	..	..	24
Wives	..	..	..	66
Single women	..	..	..	63
Doctors and Nurses	..	..	..	(10)
Total				206

Burmese workers.

Ordained men	..	..	..	335
Other men and women	..	..	..	900
Teachers (men)	..	..	..	1,053
" (women)	..	..	..	899
Medical (men and women)	..	..	..	12
Total				3,199

GRAND TOTAL	..	..	..	3,405
-------------	----	----	----	-------

Churches	..	..	1,289	(954 self-supporting).
Church buildings	..	..	1,358	
Church members	..	..	103,346	
Baptisms (1927)	..	..	10,033	
Sunday Schools	..	..	792	
Scholars	..	..	37,286	

* These figures are somewhat more recent than those given in Appendix II. In the case of the A.B.B.M., two stations outside Burma are included, which partly accounts for the difference. The other small differences are due to additions to the staffs.

STATISTICS OF FOUR PRINCIPAL MISSIONS 91

Educational Work.

Theological Schools	4	
Men	175	
Women	25	
Total		200
Colleges	1	
Men	244	
Women	71	
Total		315
High Schools	32	
Boys	4,737	
Girls	2,275	
Total		7,012
Secondary and Grammar Schools	82	
Boys and Girls	8,347	
Primary Schools and Kindergartens	754	
Boys and Girls	28,532	

Total number of Schools and Colleges 874, of which 660
are self-supporting.

Total number of Scholars, 44,570.

Native contributions, \$255,033.

Medical work.

Hospitals	4
Dispensaries	12
Treatments	49,131
Fees	\$13,938

2. SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE GOSPEL.

Foreign workers.

Ordained men	..	..	15	
Unordained men	..	..	3	
Wives	..	..	6	
Single women	..	..	13	
Doctors and Nurses	..	..	(3)	
Total	..	..		37

Burmese workers.

Men—evangelistic	..	..	99	
„ —educational	..	..	132	
Women—educational	..	..	97	
„ —nurse	..	..	1	
Total	..	..		329
GRAND TOTAL	..	..		361

Villages in which Christians live.. 352

Church members 9,049

Other Christians 11,425

20,474

Educational work.

Number of Schools	..	105		
Secondary pupils.				
Christian boys	..	327		
„ girls	..	215		
Total	..			542
Non-Christian boys..		1,052		
„ „ girls..		887		
Total	..			1,939
GRAND TOTAL	..			2,481

STATISTICS OF FOUR PRINCIPAL MISSIONS 93

WESLEYAN METHODIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Foreign workers.

Ordained and lay men	..	10	
Wives	..	7	
Single women	..	6	
		—	
Total			23
			—

Burmese workers.

Ordained men	3	
Catechists	15	
Teachers	44	
	—	
Total		62

Women—Biblewomen	5	
Teachers	19	
	—	
Total		24

86

GRAND TOTAL		109
		—

Church members	784	
Others	457	
	—	
Total		1,241

Educational work.

4 High Schools with
50 Teachers.
239 Students in High School Classes.
1,002 Students in Primary and Middle
Classes.
2 Middle Schools with
13 Teachers.
245 Students.

Women's Mission Schools for Girls.

4 Boarding Schools with
456 Day Scholars and
93 Boarders.

4. AMERICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL MISSION.

Foreign workers.

Ordained men	9	
Unordained men	1	
Wives	8	
Single women	17	
Total		35

Burmese workers.

Men—ordained	14	
unordained	65	
Women—Biblewomen	3	
Teachers	58	
Total		140
GRAND TOTAL		175

Christian community.

Communicants	1,254	
Others	1,405	
Total		2,659

Number of Churches 10

Educational work.

1 Boys' High School	pupils, 1,012
1 Girls' " " " "	" 351
5 Boys' Anglo-Vernacular	" 662
3 Girls' " " " "	" 557
13 Primary—boys and girls	" 540
23	3,122

Teachers in these Schools—131.

APPENDIX V.

Languages and Dialects of Burma

- (A.). BURMA GROUP : Sixteen dialects are recorded, the largest of which is of course Burmese, with 8,400,094 speakers. The next largest is Yanbye (250,018).
- (B.) LOLO-MUS'Ō GROUP : Eleven languages are known, the largest is Akha (34,265) and the next Lahu (22,742).
- (C.) KUKI-CHIN GROUP : Forty dialects are known, the largest of which returned are Khami (26,571), then Sokte (27,363), but 130,000 are returned as "Chin" unspecified.
- (D.) NAGA GROUP : Three dialects are spoken, but the largest, Tangkul, has only 236 speakers.
- (E.) KACHIN GROUP : Three dialects are known, but most of the 145,618 Kachin speak the Kachin dialect proper.
- (F.) SAK GROUP : Four dialects are known, of which Kadu (37,710) is by far the largest, 18,594 speaking Kadu only.
- (G.) MISHMI GROUP : No speakers.
- (H.) MRO has 14,324 speakers.
- (I.) TAI GROUP : There are eleven dialects, of which Shan (unspecified) has 326,515 speakers and Shangali 474,878.
- (J.) MALAY GROUP : Two dialects are spoken, of which Malay proper has the most speakers (3,446).
- (K.) MON GROUP : Here there is one language, namely Talaing, with 189,263 speakers.
- (L.) PALAUNG-WA GROUP : There are ten dialects here, of which Palaung and Pale are the commonest, with 117,725 speakers. There are 13,648 speakers of Wa, and 12,853 of Yanglam.
- (M.) KHAN GROUP : No speakers.
- (N.) KAREN GROUP : There are seventeen dialects, of which the commonest are Sgaw with 432,829 speakers and Pwo with 364,705.
- (O.) MAN GROUP : Two dialects are known, the largest, Miao, has only 394 speakers.
- (R.) CHINESE GROUP : There are 55,616 speakers of Yunnanese and 66,546 speakers of other Chinese languages.
- (X.) INDIAN LANGUAGES : 880,406 speakers.
- (Y.) EUROPEAN LANGUAGES : 24,441 speakers.
- (Z.) OTHER LANGUAGES : 1,004 speakers.

APPENDIX VI.

**Comparison of Protestant and Roman Catholic
Work. 1926 Figures**

	Protestant.	Roman Catholic.
Christian Community* ..	192,027	82,078
Foreign Workers	351	300
Native Workers	3,538	945
Stations and Out-stations ..	1,812	940
Schools : Primary	861	217
Middle	84	15
High (and Colleges)	27	9
	972	241
Pupils : Primary	24,917	10,210
Middle	15,622	5,158
High		
	40,539	15,368
Hospitals	5	5
Dispensaries	11	11
Orphanages	2	65
Periodicals	8	2

* Excluding Europeans.

APPENDIX VII.

The Bible in Burma

REV. R. KILGOUR, D.D.

Editorial Superintendent of the British and Foreign Bible Society

BIBLE TRANSLATION

Though Bible work in Burma is rightly associated with the name of Adoniram Judson, the translation and circulation of the Scriptures began even before he reached the country. The first portion of Scripture in any language of Burma was St. Matthew's Gospel, translated by Felix Carey, who in company with J. Chater had been sent in 1808 from his father, Dr. William Carey's Baptist Missionary Settlement at Serampore, to begin pioneer work in Burma. In 1811 they published a Burmese pamphlet containing Scripture extracts drawn from a manuscript version prepared by an Italian missionary at Ava. Then Carey translated St. Matthew's Gospel, of which 2,000 copies were published at Serampore in 1815, the first complete book of Holy Scripture in the Burmese language.

When Adoniram Judson reached the field in 1814, he began a new version of the same Gospel, which was published at Rangoon by the Mission in 1817. The next book issued was the Epistle to the Ephesians in 1821. Then with the aid of his colleague, G. H. Hough, he added by 1826, John, Hebrews, Epistles of John, and Acts, completing the New Testament in 1832. This was published by the American Baptist Missionary Union at Moulmein.

Then they started the Old Testament, beginning with the Psalter in 1834, which was followed by Vol. II. of the Old Testament (1 Samuel to Job) in the same year. Vol. I. (Genesis to Ruth) was published in 1835, and Vol. III. (Psalms to Malachi) completed the Bible in the following year. Judson's version soon became a standard work in Burma, and for almost a century it held the field alone. Many editions, both of the complete Bible and of portions, have been published.

As long as the Baptists were the only missionaries in the field, Judson's version, which contained definitely Baptist terms, was never questioned. But with the advent of missionaries of other Churches difficulties sometimes arose, not only because of the character of the translation, but also with regard to the supply of books. The first attempts at revision were begun about 1900, when a Committee, on which there were representatives of the S.P.G. and the W.M.M.S., met in Rangoon. The first result of this work was a revised version of St. Mark published in 1902. They continued to issue further portions of the New Testament in the following years.

Then in 1903 a most interesting new version was prepared by a Burmese Christian named Tun Nyein, a Government translator. This was an original translation prepared chiefly from the English Revised Version. Six years later an edition of Tun Nyein's version with slight corrections made by a Revision Committee was published by the B.F.B.S. One of the members of the original Committee, Mr. T. Rickard, S.P.G., died in 1903, and another, the Rev. A. H. Bestall, W.M.M.S., had left the country. The Revision Committee was reformed in 1914 by the inclusion of Saya George and the Rev. C. E. Garrad, both of the S.P.G., along with the Rev. W. Sherratt, Agent of the B.F.B.S. In twelve years this Committee completed a new translation of the whole Bible which was published in 1926.

Shan.

On both sides of the border between North-east Burma and South-west China the Shan tribes speak a language which belongs to the Tai group of the Siamese-Chinese family of Indo-Chinese languages. The editions are printed in the Shan character, which is rounded in form and is closely allied to the Burmese character. Here again the American Baptist missionaries were the pioneers. The first book of Scripture was the Gospel of St. Matthew translated by the Rev. J. N. Cushing and published at Rangoon in 1871. Mr. Cushing is really responsible for practically all the work that has been achieved in this language. After issuing the Gospels in 1880, he completed the New Testament in 1882 and ten years later he finished his version of the whole Bible.

Chin.

Linguistically there are two main divisions of Chin, Northern and Southern. The Northern includes the Kamhow, Sokte, Siyin, Thado-Kuki and Vaiphei dialects, but most of these are spoken by the Chins in the Bengal area rather than by those in Burma. The only version of Scripture in Northern Chin used on the Burmese side is St. Matthew's Gospel in Kamhow, the principal dialect of the Tiddim district. The version was made by the Rev. J. H. Cope and was published in 1915.

In the Southern dialect of Chin, St. Mark's Gospel, translated by the Rev. G. Whitehead, of the S.P.G., was published in 1921.

Karen.

The word "Karen" is the equivalent of the Burmese "Kayen" (signifying "aboriginal" or "barbarian"), a term applied to all tribes—except the Shans—occupying the highlands of Burma. Translations have been made in three dialects: Sgaw, Pwo and Bghai. American Baptist missionaries have prepared the versions in these three dialects. One of their first missionaries to the Karens was Jonathan Wade, who formed the alphabet, adopting Burmese characters, to some of which, however, he gave fresh values, while

others he modified by diacritical marks. When he retired in 1833, his colleague Francis Mason took up the work, and, with the help of a Karen Christian named San Quala, completed a version of the New Testament. After portions of this translation had circulated in MS., the whole was printed at the Tavoy Mission Press in 1843. After completing the New Testament, Mr. Mason proceeded to translate the Old Testament, which he finished in 1853. In 1874 the Rev. E. B. Cross began a revision of Mr. Mason's work. This was completed in 1896, and has frequently been reprinted. In 1921, by the kind permission of the A.B.F.M.S., in order to meet the needs of other Missions, the B.F.B.S. reproduced this Book, with the alteration of the word for "baptize" and its cognates.

Pwo Karen. Soon after the Sgaw Karen New Testament was finished, Pwo Karens themselves began to make versions in their own dialect. These were revised by Dr. Mason and Mr. D. L. Brayton. Matthew and Mark were published in 1852 and the New Testament about 1860. The Bible, completed by 1895, was largely the work of Mrs. A. T. Rose, Mr. D. L. Brayton and the Karen teachers, Kong-Louk and Myatthah. This Pwo Karen Bible also was, by the kind permission of the A.B.F.M.S., issued by the B.F.B.S. with alterations.

Bghai Karen. In addition to his work in Sgaw and Pwo, Dr. Mason also prepared versions in the third dialect known as Bghai or Bway, publishing the Gospels and Acts in 1857 and afterwards proceeding to the Epistles of James and John, Genesis and the Psalter in the following years.

Roman Catholics have also made a version of a Gospel in Karen. The Bible House Library possesses a copy of St. Matthew's Gospel translated by G. Conti, published at Toungoo in 1888.

Talaing.

In addition to the principal Karen languages, Talaing or Pegu, although chiefly spoken in Siam, is also used by about 175,000 people in Pegu and other coast-districts of Lower Burma. Here too the American Baptists have all the credit of Bible translation. An early version of the New Testament was made by Sarah Hall Boardman, before her marriage in 1834 to Adoniram Judson. In this task she received assistance from Ko Mam Bok, a Talaing convert, who translated from A. Judson's Burmese New Testament. In 1836 J. M. Haswell, of the A.B.M.U., reached Burma, and took over the work; and in the following year he supervised the publication of a Gospel Harmony which was published in 1837. By 1847 Mr. Haswell had completed the New Testament. Since then the Psalter has been prepared, principally from a version made in the middle of the nineteenth century by Ko Mam Bok.

Taungthu.

Taungthu, which is practically a dialect of Karen, is spoken over a wide district of the Shan Borderland, stretching from Taunggyi

to Thaton. A modified form of the Burmese character is used. The earliest translation was St. Mark's Gospel published in 1912. The version was prepared by the Rev. W. Sherratt, of the B.F.B.S., with the help of native assistants, one of whom, Maung Gyi, was baptized during the progress of the work. Latterly Mr. Sherratt had the assistance of another native called Tun Pe. The four Gospels are now in circulation.

Mawken.

Away down in the Mergui Archipelago a tribe of sea-gipsies, called Selunga, speak a language which is known as Mawken. The Rev. W. G. White, Anglican chaplain at Moulmein, with the help of Mawken assistants, translated St. Mark in 1913. This was published by the B.F.B.S.

Nicobarèse.

In the Nicobar Islands there are several dialects, but only two, Nancowry and Car, possess portions of Scripture. Between 1768 and 1788 an attempt was made by the Moravian Brethren to evangelize the inhabitants of the Nicobar Islands. After twenty years of toil and hardship, during which no fewer than twenty-four missionaries laid down their lives, the mission was abandoned. In 1878 F. A. de Roepstorff, Assistant Superintendent of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, while on furlough in Europe, visited Herrnhut, and there discovered, among the Moravian archives, manuscript vocabularies and a translation of almost the whole of St. Matthew's Gospel in the Nancowry dialect, prepared by the Nicobar missionaries a century earlier. These he deciphered, transcribed, and prepared for publication. The results of his work were published after his death by his widow, C. H. de Roepstorff, in 1884.

In several other Islands, known as the Car group of the Nicobar Islands, the Rev. G. Whitehead, of the S.P.G., assisted by John Richardson, a Nicobarese convert, translated the Gospels and Acts, which were published from 1913 to 1926.

BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

The circulation of Scriptures in Burma has varied considerably during the last twenty-five years. In the War period and thereafter, the figures reached almost 120,000, but for the last four or five years there have been many special difficulties and the reports show somewhere between 70,000 and 80,000. In addition to the languages definitely Burmese, a number of Books, which really belong to the Bengal and Southern India area, are sold by the Bible Society in Burma. These include Tamil and Telugu in considerable numbers, as well as portions in different dialects of Naga. It is interesting also to note that no fewer than 2,400 Bengal, 1,400 Oriya and 1,300 Urdu Books were circulated last year.

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