

ready to receive a copy of the Word of God, and so I have come away feeling that something definite was being done for their precious souls, and for the extension of the Kingdom of our Lord. With this new lot, I feel I can go forward sowing the seed in this most vital way."

THE PADRE'S HOUR

is providing a great opportunity to Chaplains to bring to those on service the appeal of Jesus Christ, and many are taking a new interest in religious things.

The NEW TESTAMENTS provided by the Bible Society are the constant companion of many. Over 615,000 Testaments have been distributed at a cost of over £25,000.

GIFTS to the WAR FUND will help to maintain this blessing-bringing work.

The Books are Wanted at R.A.F. Stations.

The Testaments are following the men to the different battle areas. To one R.A.F. Chaplain, who had been of great assistance in distributing Testaments in Scotland, a supply of Testaments was sent to one of the islands of the Mediterranean; it was at a time when important movements were taking place in that area:

"I was able to bring out with me quite a number of the Testaments which you sent to me at —. Now this new lot will spread with the men through another interesting land. . . . Please accept my heartfelt thanks; **these Books are wanted, and His Word will not return to Him void**; of this we are assured."

Another R.A.F. Chaplain writes:

"I have relieved Padre — here, having just returned from the Middle East. The supply of Testaments which you sent to —, R.A.F., Cairo, were very much appreciated, as they were the only New Testaments we were able to get in the Middle East, and **the demand for them was large out there.**"

This valuable contact with the R.A.F. is further indicated in an appreciative letter received from the Rev. A. McHardy, K.H.C., M.C., M.A., Principal Presbyterian Chaplain, Royal Air Force:

"I am just recently back from a long tour of Royal Air Force Stations abroad. I saw a good deal of the results of the great work of your Society. The Padres told me of it in many places from Gibraltar to the Burma frontier."

Reading the Word on Transports.

Supplies are sent on board Troop Transports from time to time, and it is not difficult to imagine how in the times of leisure on board, ere they come to the scene of their fuller activity, the soldiers find many opportunities of reading the Scriptures. One consignment of **1000 Testaments was mainly utilised for distribution to Canadian soldiers**; the Books were sent on board some days prior to the invasion of Sicily, and who can tell what they meant during the days of sailing, for some who would never be able to read the Gospel again? They were much appreciated, as was shown by letters received from the officer commanding:

"I have had two voyages since the one in the summer with the Canadians, and to show that I have not forgotten your Society, I now have pleasure in enclosing £21, which I collected from various sources (part of a larger sum), and which I told the troops I would devote to charitable and religious purposes; and **none can be more deserving than your Society.**"

The captain of this Transport was very happy to accept the gift

of a special Bible for use at the Services on board; it was provided by the children of Errol Sunday School, following the good example set by the "Greathearts" of Mossspark Church of Scotland Sunday School, Glasgow. These "Greathearts" have provided several such Bibles for Transports, and also a Lectern Bible for "the Church in the desert." But these young people, greatly encouraged by their minister and superintendent, continue in their enthusiastic service, and their latest gift is one of £13 5/, "to provide New Testaments for the men of the 51st Division." This most valuable service by these Sunday School scholars is commended to others for emulation!

The Word Among Men of the Merchant Navy.

When a number of men of the Merchant Navy were interned in North Africa, supplies of Testaments and Bibles were sent out to Rev. I. Dunbar, who was working among the Jews of Tunis. He had had quite an exciting time during the six months of the German occupation.

"During that period I was in hiding, and although evidently a sharp look-out was kept for me, both by Gestapo and French Police, I eluded their grasp, and am now able to carry on my own work, and work for and amongst the troops stationed in and around Tunis. . . . You can imagine that the Bibles and New Testaments came in just at the right time. The seamen for whom they were intended had been able to get away home, but the Scriptures were ready for others. **And I can assure you that they have been greatly appreciated, especially by those who have had their own Bibles sunk on the way out or bombed out in the field, or otherwise lost.**"

Among the Forces of the United Nations.

Many Testaments have been distributed among the Forces of the United Nations. Some time ago a supply of New Testaments was provided by the New York Bible Society in order that they might be distributed among the American Forces wherever there appeared to be a need. It was a privilege to co-operate in this way, and Mr. Dugald Campbell, who has done work in so many fields, has been very zealous in his approach to many of those from U.S.A. Many hundreds of New Testaments have been given, and in the giving there has been the personal contact which means so much. A minister in the south, who is also an Officiating Chaplain, has been greatly cheered by the response of many of the coloured American troops who attend his services regularly. He also has been distributing the New Testaments provided from New York. "Last Sunday week, among the eleven who professed to receive the Saviour, and who came into my vestry, were four of our coloured boys."

While the Society has endeavoured to meet the needs of those on the side of the Allies, it has not been forgotten that many Prisoners of War in this country have great spiritual needs also, and New Testaments and Gospels in Italian have been given to them by Mr. Dugald Campbell who, with his long experience with the Italian people, has been specially qualified for this work.

SOME REVISIONS AND SOME NEW TRANSLATIONS

DURING these last months a number of communications have come regarding new editions, revisions, or fresh translations, and although