

Miss J. Fleming – Mrs W. Redwood – 1918 (Edition 1)

Miss Jean Fleming, commended by assemblies in Christchurch, was married on June 15th 1918 to Mr Walter J. Redwood, an English missionary visiting New Zealand. Mr and Mrs Redwood returned to Bangalore, India later that year and were associated with Mr and Mrs A. Redwood in the English school and book depot. They set themselves the task of combatting the thousands of tons of literature that the world turned out with evil effect by producing more Christian literature. At the same time the school gradually increased both in the number of students attending and in the facilities being offered. The new building completed in Richard's Town, Bangalore in 1923 was constructed in brick and mortar with teak window frames and doors. Clarence School had an appearance in keeping with the high ideals the founders had set of communicating the Christian message to the alert minds of youth.

In 1926 the printing press added to the possibilities of producing a greater range of Christian literature but necessarily added to the responsibilities being borne by Mr and Mrs Redwood. By 1930 they were producing literature in three major languages using the vernacular script, and tracts alone numbered some 3-400,000 apart from books and booklets. At that time the question of staff for the school was a pressing matter and Miss Wagner of U.S.A. undertook responsibility. In 1931 Mr W. Wilcox came as principal and brought to the school his quality of leadership that enabled it to grow to High School status. When Mr Flack from Australia assumed the role of principal in 1954 the school had over 400 students and had an excellent reputation that he maintained while continuing to modernise teaching methods and equipment.

The total output of the press in 1938 was in excess of 1 ½ million pieces of literature in five different languages. But there were many pressures and the following year it was sold to a mission group and Mr and Mrs Redwood, who went to Britain, found it necessary to remain there. Mr Redwood took a position with the Scripture Gift Mission and it was not till 1948 that they returned to Bangalore. They helped with the assembly outreach in the city, there being English, Tamil and Kanarese assemblies functioning effectively.

They continued in service in India till 1960, maintaining an active interest in the Clarence High School which presented such a wonderful opportunity to influence for good the lives of young people with regular and systematic teaching of the Scriptures.

In May 1960 they retired to New Zealand, taking up residence in Auckland.

[Book entry has uncaptioned photo of Mr and Mrs Redwood. Page 171 has photo captioned: 'Missionary group in 1924. Back: Mr Irvine, Miss Mai, Mr Brewerton. Centre: Miss Sundgren, Mrs Noel, Mrs Black, Mr Noel, Miss Mosley, Mr Revell, Miss Treweek, Miss Townley, Miss Starck, Mr Buchanan. Seated: Mr and Mrs Thomson, Mr Black, Mrs Irvine, Mrs Revell, Miss Dyason, Mrs A. Redwood. Note: Mr Brewerton was visiting India from Malaya.' Photo on p. 224 is captioned 'Montauban Group 1935. Back row: A. AIKEN, D. BURT, G. JUNCK, T. BROWN, Second row: Misses TREWEEK, F. Patient, Bates, MRS A. NOBLE, Miss Patient, Dr Vine, Messrs G. FOUNTAIN, W.T. NOBLE. Third row: MISS WALLACE, MR LYNN, Misses Peebles, SUNDGREN, Conway, Whaxton, Mrs Patient, Misses NICOLL, Adams, Mr Hill, Miss DYASON, Mr and Mrs Smele. Seated: Mr and Mrs IRVINE, Misses Morgan, Thompson, Messrs Thomson, Patient, Misses Clarke, Lynn, Mrs WALTER REDWOOD, Mrs Hill, Miss MOSLEY, A[...] and N[...] Redwood. (N.Z. Missionaries names in capitals.)']