



Mr K.H. Osborne – 1942 (Edition 1)

Wiremu Street assembly, Auckland, and Tory Street, Wellington, commended Mr Kevin H. Osborne and in April 1942 he left for India. En route the ship on which he was travelling was captured and sunk by an enemy raider and Mr Osborne was interned in Japan until the end of the hostilities. He was repatriated to New Zealand in October 1945. He set out again for India in July 1946 and engaged in language study at Narsapur, while helping in assembly teaching. In 1948 he moved to Dowlaisheram where he was active in school teaching and village visitation.

He married Miss Jean Fitzgerald from Wellington on May 27th 1949. Mr and Mrs Osborne made their home at Chagallu, taking Mr Adam's place. He had died in U.K. on furlough so they had responsibility for the printing press and the schools' supervision. They maintained an interest in gospel activities in various surrounding places, particularly Kovoor. In 1951 they moved to Koyalagudem some 20 miles away but still supervised the printing press. There was an almost insatiable demand for literature at that time and each year they were printing more than the year before.

A new press was obtained in 1954 and by the end of the year more than 1,000,000 tracts in Telugu had been printed. Other activities engaged in were visits into the jungle areas with the gospel and teaching in Bible schools. 1956 was a record year with the press and 1 3/4 million tracts were despatched. Systematic visiting of every assembly in the area for teaching was also quite an assignment.

In 1961 in one month they sent out ¼ million tracts in Telugu. The tract "Taste and See" was translated into Telugu and orders received for ½ million. However there were 40 million Telugu people to be reached. That year, too, they extended the printing building and they printed their first Tibetan tract. The camps amongst the jungle people were still being maintained with increasing interest by the tribespeople.

During the next two years, Mr Osborne made the time to visit Indian full time workers in North India to encourage them in their outreach and subsequently sent them 100,000 tracts. In 1962 a Bible School for Telugus was held in Madras and in 1963 and 64 many preaching engagements and teaching assignments at Bible Schools were undertaken as well as the printing press responsibility. Tracts in other languages were also added to those printed in Telugu.

In 1965 Mr and Mrs Osborne returned to New Zealand. After several years of study and ministry amongst the assemblies Mr Osborne took a teaching position in Wellington.

[Source entry includes one uncaptioned photo of Mr and Mrs Osborne and son, two with the collective caption "Some of the printing equipment in use in Chagallu", and one captioned "Some of the thousands to be reached at Festivals."]