

**AUNER, REV. ORVAL M. AND MRS.
(NELLIE A.)**

LAYMAN W. F. M. G. SINGLE WIFE TEACHER MEDICAL PUB. ^{U.S.} ^{EDUCR} ^{W.F.M.} ^{S.}

Present Address *Anna Mrs Nellie A. Wilson* Birth *S. 25 '88* Appointed *July 1913* Withdrawn Death No.
 From *Springfield, Mo.* Arr. on Field Cut Miss. Soc. House

Wife or Husband *Wife of Anna 17 Feb 16* Education—Degree *Springfield High School 1904-07*
A.B. Drexley College 1907-11

Conference Relations *Absent From Field*
Mar. 21 - Aug 22;

FIELDS OF LABOR
Central Prov.

BIOGRAPHICAL
Spaught lives in Iberia, Mo
Academy.
Student Vol. Feb 1912

INTER OFFICE ROUTING

EMALD	1534	ROSE C	1424	HOLSTEIN	1312
CORBITT	1536	PERSONS	1402	PARSELL	1372
Area Secy	B Chase 1541	PERRYMAN	1348		
FIELD	INDIA				

PLEASE RECORD THE FOLLOWING CHANGE OF ADDRESS OF WORLD DIVISION RETIRED MISSIONARIES

FROM:

TO:

(WIDOWER)

Rev. O. M. Auner
Route #10
Box 1167
Springfield, Missouri

DECEASED 6/20/73 letter 6/26/73 Cecil R. Auner

EFFECTIVE DATE: 6/20/73

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA
For the Recording Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions
150 Fifth Ave., New York

Name Nellie A. Auner (Mrs. O.M.)
Address Jagdalspur, Bastar State, E.S.A. India.

1. Work (since 1934):

Place	Kind of Work	Date
Khairdwa	School & Boarding Church work	1934 - '35
Jagdalspur	Boys' Boarding, Church work district work	1936 - '38

2. Children (names only)

Thomas Wilson Auner
Philip Marvin Auner
Cecil Ray Auner

OCT 3 1938

3. Nearest relatives and friends to be notified in any emergencies.

Name (relation)	Address
Mrs. H. M. Rector	P. O. Denver, Iowa, U.S.A.
Mrs. O. K. Gillespie	P. O. Milledale, Mo. U.S.A.

4. Further information as requested:

Planning to sail from Bombay for further
Nov. 30, 1938.
We expect to spend some time in Chicago with
our son Thomas and then spend the summer
probably at Springfield, Mo.
(Use other side of the sheet if necessary) (over)

We hope there will be opportunity for
some study, preferably along the
line of rural sociology.

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA
For the Recording Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions
150 Fifth Ave., New York

Name Orval Marion Auner

Address Jagdapur, Bastar State, C.P. India

1. Work (since 1934):

Place	Kind of Work	Date
Phandwa	Principal Fisher A.V. Middle School	1934- 1935
Jagdapur	Superintendent Bastar District	1936 to 1936 inclusive

2. Children (names only)

	Date of birth
Thomas Wilson Auner	September 10th 1917
Philip Marion Auner	April 3rd 1923
Cecil Ray Auner	November 27th 1926

3. Nearest relatives and friends to be notified in any emergencies.

Name (relation)	Address
Mrs. W. W. Rector (sister)	R.F.D. Denver, Iowa U.S.A.
Mrs. C. D. Gillespie (wife's sister)	R.F.D. Willard, Missouri

4. Further information as requested:

Sailing from Bombay on furlough, November 30th 1936.
The first part of our furlough will be spent in Chicago where
our son Thomas will be attending Northwestern School of Medicine.

(Use other side of the sheet if necessary)

July 1931

I was to speak in Harry Street Church, Wichita, Kansas on a Sunday evening where the Rev. W. W. Owen is the pastor.

On Sunday morning he announced my coming. There is an old lady who is a member of Harry Street Church whose name is Mrs. McDaniel. Her yearly income is less than \$100 a year. When the pastor announced my coming Mrs. McDaniel said to herself "What can I do"? "I have no money to give". She went to her home with a heavy heart thinking she could do nothing, but when she reached her one little room where she lives she said again to herself, "I have pieced three quilts. I will give one of them". She took the three quilts out of her drawer and spread them over her room. They represented hours and days of tedious labor. They were a part of her life. Then she debated in her mind which one she would give. Finally she said, "I will give the best one".

That evening she could not attend the church herself but she sent this quilt. At the close of my missionary address the pastor of the church held up the quilt and told the story and of Mrs. McDaniel's sacrificial offering. One man sitting at the left side said, "I will give the price of the quilt". Then a man sitting at the right side said, "I will give the price of the quilt" and then the pastor said, "Let us spread the quilt out here on the platform and those of you who want to make a sacrificial offering to help the Auners back to India at the close of the service come and place your offering upon the quilt and approximately

\$40 was placed upon the quilt.

I have been in many churches since then and in every meeting the story of the quilt has been told and approximately \$1400 has been placed upon the quilt. The story has never failed to bring a response and it is safe to say that our going back to India hinges upon the gift of this old lady whose yearly income was less than \$100 a year.

W. W. Reid
Board of Missions and Church Extension
of the Methodist Church
150 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Nine Missionaries Arrive From India

Nine Methodist missionaries have just arrived in Los Angeles from India on a United States government transport, according to announcement made today by the Board of Missions and Church Extension of the Methodist Church. They came on regular furlough after six years of continuous service on the field. The trip on the Indian and Pacific Oceans was reported "uneventful."

The party includes: Prof. and Mrs. Marvin Harpor of Leonard Theological College, Jubbulpore, India, whose American residence is Albany, Georgia; Dr. and Mrs. Frank Felt, of Jubbulpore, and Ocean Beach, Calif; Cecil Auner, son of Rev. and Mrs. Orval M. Auner of Central Provinces, India, and Winfield, Kansas; Miss Lucille Colony, of Jubbulpore, and North Liberty, Iowa; Miss Hilda Swan, of Pakaur, India, and Chicago; Miss Judith Ericson, of Belgaum, South India, and Galesburg, Ill.; Miss Cortrude Becker, of Jubbulpore, and Egan, S.D.; and Miss Lola M. Green, of Sironcha, India and Shawnee, Oklahoma.

W. W. Reid
Board of Missions and Church Extension
of the Methodist Church
150 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, N.Y.

released upon receipt

Recently returned to the United States on furlough after thirty-four years of service in the heart of the "jungle conference" of Central Provinces, India, the Rev. Orval M. Auner, missionary of the Methodist Church, will be the guest-speaker at _____ on _____

After a brief stay in America, Mr. Auner expects to return for further missionary work in India.

The region in which Mr. Auner carries on evangelistic and educational work is one of the areas of central India that has not as yet been reclaimed from the jungle. As superintendent of work in Bastar State District, he travels over a field that is 160 miles from north to south, and 130 miles from east to west. Yet in this area there are only scattered small native villages, and in these there are about 5,000 people who have been baptized as Christians and have become affiliated with the Methodist Church.

"During the war years, semi-famine conditions existed, and fear was in the minds of the village people," says Mr. Auner. "Many went hungry, and because of their hardships some reverted to devil-worship. Yet through the years, new families were added to the Christian church."

Mr. Auner first went to India in 1913, after ordination as a Methodist minister, and after two years as a schoolteacher in Kansas. He has served as pastor and superintendent at Jubbulpore and Khandwa, as well as at Jagdalpur, Bastar State, his present station.

Born in Denver, Iowa, Mr. Auner spent much of his American life in Kansas. and was educated at Southwestern College, Winfield, Kansas.

MAR 30 1949

W. W. Reid
Board of Missions and Church Extension
of the Methodist Church
150 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, N.Y.

Missionary Finds "Spirit of Confusion" in India

The Rev. G. M. Amos, of Kharol, India, Methodist missionary in Jabal-
pore, Central Provinces, India, recently arrived in New York City to resume work after a
furlough spent in the United States.

"The thrill of reading books, newspapers, magazines, says Mr. Amos. "Thirty-
six years ago the call came to dedicate our lives to service in India. That call
has remained with us throughout the years and in return for even a greater joy as
we begin our last year of service in New York."

"While our last year of service in India was not the best, but things
now seem to be looking better. A few months ago we had to part with some non-
believers, but on the whole we find a great deal of interest in the Christian message.
The church in Kharol is doing well. The church of Kharol had a
great opportunity. We were able to have the church, the Kharol church had
and the church."

"The church in Kharol is doing well. The church of Kharol had a
great opportunity. We were able to have the church, the Kharol church had
and the church."

REV. ORVAL M. AUNER

Orval M. Auner was born in Denver, Iowa, February 22, 1884. His family were active Christians of the farm lands of Iowa and Kansas. There was the usual attendance at the Sunday school and church services, and at the age of eighteen, Mr. Auner made a public confession of Christ, and joined the Methodist Episcopal Church at Curtis, Oklahoma.

Mr. Auner was educated in the William Jewell College Academy of Liberty, Missouri, and at Southwestern Academy and College of Winfield, Kansas. He was graduated from Southwestern College in 1913, with the degree of B.A.

An able, agreeable and tactful man, with just the right touch of reserve, Mr. Auner is also a practical man, and can take a limited set of facts and do a large work for the Kingdom. The ability to do this is one of the reasons why Mr. Auner fits so perfectly into the work he is doing in India.

Mr. Auner sailed for India in October 1913 to become the pastor of the English Church of Jubbulpore in the Central Provinces. In 1916, he was transferred to Khandwa, where new duties were heaped upon him - he became district superintendent, pastor of the English Church, principal of the Bible Training School, head of the Boys' Middle School and Hostel. In 1920, returning to India after his second furlough, Mr. Auner was again located in Jubbulpore as superintendent of Jubbulpore District.

Jubbulpore is a commercial and industrial city, with a population of about 150,000. It is a cantonment city, and is fast becoming one of the great centers of Methodism in India. Round about the city, in the outlying districts there are hundreds of villages. In these villages there are opportunities without number.

It is here, perhaps, that Mr. Auner does his finest and greatest work. His large sympathies, keen understanding of human nature, and his practical helpfulness, enables him to get close to the hearts and lives of the villagers. His own life is a shining example to these people. Many of these village Christians give as much as fifteen cents a month toward the support of their Indian pastor. When you realize that these villagers are living on six cents a day, you can appreciate the genuineness of their understanding of, and their love for Christ.

In one of his letters, Mr. Auner tells how a well organized, self-supporting and self-propagating indigenous church comes into being. Opening his door, early some morning, Mr. Auner will find a delegation sitting on his door step. There will be fifteen or twenty persons. Mr. Auner will greet them in his natural, friendly fashion, and ask what it is they desire.

The spokesman will name the village from which they have come, announce their desire to become Christians, ask for a teacher.

Mr. Auner asks them many questions, testing their motives. If he finds a spark of sincerity, he goes with them to their village, and baptizes from fifty to one hundred persons. Out of this group will come a well organized church - it may even have an official board. Yet, not one in the entire village can read. They are of the untouchables and scarcely know that they have a soul. Day laborers, working for an average of six cents a day, they never have enough to eat.

But a teacher is sent to the village. The process is slow and difficult, but gradually these poor, ignorant people learn the meaning of Christian fellowship. They understand that they are a Christian band. From this point their development is more definite. A place of worship is established. This may be just a small raised place in the open, with the Cross lifted for all to see. Humble and crude, it is a place of worship, and is sacred to the villager.

And so the organization grows. The missionary, the old, old story, the little group of ignorant villagers, the yearning to know more, the teacher, time and the development of the individual, then lo! the miracle - a church comes into being.

It is to such worthwhile work that the Auners are giving their lives. They give with willing, capable, and spiritually guided hands and feet and brains, and the material with which they build is not brick and stone and wood, but an imperishable material that goes into the building of Christian character of human beings.

Mrs. Auner is a graduate of Drury College of Springfield, Missouri, B.A., class of 1911. She was already on the field when Mr. Auner arrived, having sailed in July 1913 as a missionary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. Although, she is from Missouri, she needed no outsider to convince her that she should marry Mr. Auner when he asked her three years later. There are three boys in the Auner family - Thomas, Philip, and Cecil. All three were born in India.

November 18, 1932
MAN

W. H. Reid
Board of Missions and Church Extension
of the Methodist Church
150 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, N.Y.

JAN 5 1947

Missionary's Son Decorated

Dispatches from New Delhi, India, report that Lieut. Thomas Auner, son of the Rev. and Mrs. O. K. Auner, missionaries of the Methodist Church in the Central Provinces, India, has been decorated with the Distinguished Flying Cross for his work in flying supplies to China over the Himalaya Mountains from India. This is said to be the most dangerous air route in the world.

Lieut. Auner, born in India and a candidate for missionary service after the war, is a flyer in the Air Transport Command. The award was given, according to the citation, for "extraordinary achievement by participating in more than fifty flights in heavily loaded transport airplanes through the combat zones of Upper Assam, Burma and southwest China, where enemy interceptions were probable and expected."

Photographs from this
file have not been
included but are
available upon request.
For more information
please contact
research@gcah.org