

buy and sell their wares, yet all this time the missionary has been successfully shut out.

The men for these trans-frontier posts must be fully qualified doctors, otherwise an occasion immediately arises for the authorities to object to their treating the sick because they do not hold a recognized medical diploma.

Secondly, they must not be accompanied by wives or families for that again justifies the government in interference on the ground that they cannot allow European women and children to be exposed to the dangers that lie across the frontier.

Third, they must have acquired some colloquial knowledge of the Pushtu language, and that means preparing themselves for at least a year at such a base as Peshawar or Quetta for the work that is before them.

Fourth, they must be able to commence their own work independent of the local authorities. For this reason they should mobilize their field hospital and dispensary at the base and carry it forward on mules with them to the field of labour. They ought also to have with them one or two native trained hospital assistants, Pathans if possible, who are to be found in the Punjab.

We may suppose two such medical missionaries with their native hospital assistants and their field hospital packed on mules starting off quietly in the month of May. What should their geographical objective be? If it is any part of Central Asia they could hardly find a more strategic point than Chitral. By what route should they go? It is not at all necessary to go by the Malakand and Dir route. They can start from Abbotabad and march by way of Chilas and Gilgit and Astor down to Chitral. There is a good bridle-path all the way, and by this route no escort is required, as it does not pass through hostile tribes but through territories suzerain to Kashmir.