

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE.

Hartland P. O.,
Paulpietersburg,
Natal, South Africa,
Dec. 1st, 1918.

Dear Friends:

Today's meeting revealed much about these humble black folks and their difficulties in serving Jesus. It was only this, white or black, we every one have our troubles and trials and no one of us is able to overcome them in his own strength nor ever to stand up under them.

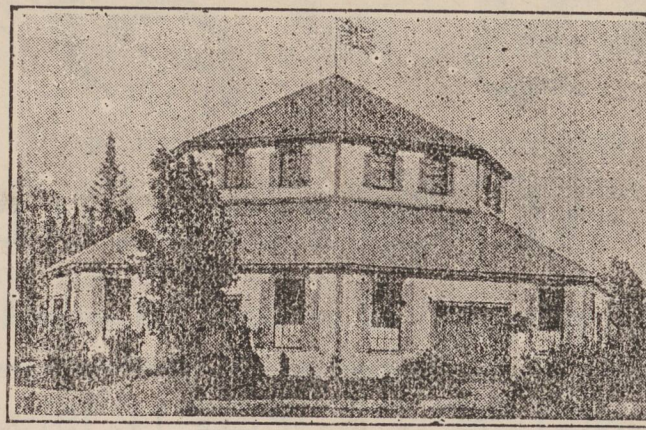
The Spanish influenza has swept over our country like a grass fire, leaving a long trail of sorrow in its wake. Scarcely one but speaks of some loved one or friend dying and some of the cases are very sad. Jostina had a sister and her child died nearly as the same time. They lived about 25 or 30 miles from her and as near as she can find out died of neglect, as there was no one to cook for them, nor tend them. This makes Jostina feel so keenly their death. If only some one or she herself could have been near to minister to them in their need.

Hers is not the only case I fear as I have heard of others having very poor care. So many down at one time, there was no one left able to do for them all. In fact some Europeans were in like manner sufferers too. One family of our acquaintance, a Dutch family, father, mother and three children (quite small) all save the eldest boy down at once and he alone to do for them. However, the mother sent for her brother, about 30 miles away, who went and cared for them, but had to do everything—cooking, etc., as no servant was able to do any work.

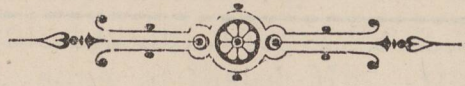
Well, about our meeting. It was a good one and the lesson Heb., 3:17-19, seemed to be just the one for the occasion and the testimonies though revealing testings and difficulties had also notes of triumph and trust in God. And setting in their midst I could realize somewhat the power of God to save the heathen. Nothing is too hard for him absolutely. Environment may hinder, but it cannot keep God from saving souls if they will meet his conditions. Behind these Christians are countless generations of heathen darkness with no ray of gospel light. Yet, in a few short years these have found Jesus, come out into light, life and liberty. They have come in touch with God, know he can and does hear prayer and gives them strength to live for him even if one stands all alone in his home, as the rest are all heathen. Surely that environment is not conducive to Christianity. There were many requests for prayer, as all present told of fiery trials and of their need of God's strength to help them to overcome.

Some in our church are still ill with the epidemic and unable to come to meeting but sent in requests for prayer. So we prayed and God blessed and drew very near us.

I am glad to say our family are all well at present, save Faith, who has been very ill indeed but steadily gaining in strength day by day. Such times make me think of the sea breezes and how nice a few days of change there would be. The way may open up for such soon.



Beulah Tabernacle.



Beulah Camp Meeting

JUNE 27—JULY 6, 1919.

EVANGELIST JOSEPH OWEN,
Boaz, Alabama.

Riverside Camp Meeting

AUG. 8-17, 1919.

EVANGELIST DAVID ANDERSON,
of Houghton, N. Y.

The summer has been very hot, much lightning and quite a few deaths from it in Natal already. Our district is very hilly, almost mountainous and these hills are full of iron, some richer than others. Often we find places where lightning has struck and ploughed up a furrow or dug holes in the ground. In the midst of these tempests God has kept us in safety and we trust him.

One of our young men, Solomon Nkosi, had a very narrow escape from death by a kick from a young horse. I was to see him today. No bones were broken but his chest is still very bruised and sore. We are all anxiously awaiting the results of this armistice and hoping things will work out satisfactorily, but there seems great need for all Christians to pray much for those in whose hands lies the power to mould these turbulent nations so they may have peace. May God have his way and the nations remember him!

Brethren, pray for us. Our work goes on, but much work lies before us at the beginning of this new year. "More things are brought by prayer than men dream of."

Yours in Jesus,
MRS. H. C. SANDERS.

TALK UP THE MINISTER.

Years ago there was trouble in a certain Presbyterian church over the young pastor. Many members insisted upon his leaving. His few ardent friends insisted with equal zeal upon his remaining. Much bad feeling had been generated. The case was critical.

Finally two prominent officials called the congregation together and gave this counsel: "It is true our pastor is not a great man. He does not preach learned or eloquent sermons. But we all know that he is a good man, and that he is doing all in his power to promote our spiritual interests. Let us all agree to bear with him, and instead of talking him down, let us go out from this meeting resolved to talk him up."

The advice was accepted. The result you can guess. He remained in that church nearly half a century, and remarkable success attended his ministry to the close.

A good many people talk the minister down. They discount all his doings. They misunderstand his plainest sayings. They credit him with unworthy motives. They

predestinate his failure. An angel from heaven could not succeed under such circumstances.

That is unwise. It is unfair. And it is wicked.

How much better to "talk up" the minister. The world will accept him according to the measure of your own respect.

Talk up the minister in your home. Help him to win and save the children. Lift up the minister among the young people. Raise not a finger to break the spell of his uplifting influence.

Talk up the minister among your fellow-members. Be his solid friend. Suffer no tongue of malice to speak against him in your presence.

Talk up the minister in the social circle, on the street, in the cars, in the factory, store or office. Magnify his strong points. Minify his weak ones. Speak kindly of him or speak not at all.

Do you know what such loyalty to the minister will mean? In nine cases out of every ten it will mean success.—The Christian Intelligencer.

Note.—We have heard another side to this idea of "talking up the minister," viz., if you want to get rid of him, talk him up and some other churches will want him, talk him down and nobody will want him, and he will either still be on your hands or on the scrap heap.

SHOULDER TO SHOULDER.

By Clinton Scollard.

Shoulder to shoulder! Each man in his place!

Shoulder to shoulder, and "right about face!"

We've a duty to do ere we grow a day older,

And the way we can do it is—shoulder to shoulder!

Shoulder to shoulder! Each man in the line!

Shoulder to shoulder! The flag for a sign!
Yes, let us not weaken, but let us grow bolder,

And rally and sally with—"shoulder to shoulder!"

"The Church will be what its ministry makes it."

"Faith can be lost among the very energies of faith, and men grow small as work grows busy."