

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Altona M. S.,
Dec. 20th, 1934

Dear Highway Friends:

New Year's greetings to you all, and many thanks for the ready response for the building fund. We appreciate this very much indeed, these hard times, when money is so scarce. May the Lord bless the givers. I believe He will.

This outside building was a real need, otherwise we would not have had it built, and when we hired money to have this building made, we were really forced to do so.

It has served as a hospital at times, and as the room for the preacher and others who come to the station. We have a fire-place in it so in cold weather the people can be quite comfortable who stay there. Even some days when it is wet and cold the school children are glad to enter the room as well. It is a stone building and well made, and will last for years, so I am sure you will see your money has not been spent in vain. And now again we thank you all very much. We are having it quiet now as the school is closed for the month's holidays at the Christmas season.

Our fine teacher, Mildred, has gone to her home, but will return again.

We had an extra nice school closing this term—every one said so. There was a wonderfully sweet spirit felt, and we had a very nice time.

Two of the chiefs were present to see their boys' work in the school.

We did not have a Christmas tree this year, but we had a gift for every child and some candy for all.

The school children this year wanted to give a feast all their own, so each child contributed a hen and a dish of corn for stamp. One boy gave a goat. The children and teacher took full charge of this, starting the work the day before, and the closing of the school was ended by this nice feast, the teacher and children serving the parents first. You can imagine the nice number of hens there were, and what a lovely time they had, and we enjoyed it also.

The parents and even the heathen people all have great respect for the teacher who has been with us two years now. Her hard work in the school is appreciated by all, especially the industrial workers. We had a meeting two weeks ago for the people to give their money or pledges or whatever they had to contribute towards their Christmas feast. This is always a very sweet time, as they give of their means. In this service two girls gave themselves to the Lord which was best of all, and made us all rejoice.

Last Sunday I went to Emozane to have a meeting. About fifty-five were present and we had a very nice service indeed.

We are having nice rains now, and everything is so nice and green, the hills are really beautiful to look upon. But the locusts are still making their visits, and while the people are planting they do not know if they will reap or not, but we look to the Lord and trust. Aloni has been with us for ten days but has now gone home. His boy Mose, about twenty years, is with us now again. We are very glad to have him as he is a very capable boy. We had a call for a coffin the other day from one of our church women. Her baby girl had passed away.

I gave this boy three boxes and asked him

to do his best in making a nice coffin out of them. Returning later to him I found he had done good work, so soon we were able to put a lining inside, fix it up nicely, and it was taken home. He is a comfort to us. Our prayer is he may go on with the Lord and not go astray like so many of the young boys do. This is one of the sorrows for the young people—they go astray and then later have to reap. It is the same all over the land.

This is one of the burdens we missionaries all have and pray about. Please remember these young people in prayer.

As we come to the end of this year we can say it has been a sad one in many ways at both mission stations. Those who were with us last Christmas are not with us this year, but we trust and look to the Lord, and look to the better land where there is no death.

We still miss little Herbert at Hartland, and Isaya at this place in the work here, but God is at the helm, and has not left us, but has been our help, and we praise Him today who doeth all things well.

Continue to pray for us, dear ones.

I am yours, glad to be in Africa.

HELEN M. STERRITT

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Brother Dow:

We are much interested at all times in pieces we see in our holiness papers about tithing as a means of carrying on God's work. Some time back Brother Handley Mullen had a series of pieces on this matter in the Highway that seemed to cover the whole ground in all its details.

First of all it is God's ordained way. Away back almost in the beginning, and there are many people who date the beginning of their prosperity from the time they began to tithe their incomes as God commanded. We can say personally from experience that we do not think God's plan can be improved upon.

It is strange how little importance some people who are professing Christians who have their names on church books give to this command of God.

For instance when one has given a tenth of their income for the support of God's work and pledge a certain amount for the support of the pastor on their circuit, there is a sense of responsibility to pay that pledge that seems to be entirely lacking where no tithing is done as instanced by some of the collections in our own church.

On Sunday, Dec. 23rd, the Xmas collection for the pastor was the magnificent sum of \$1.65, one dollar of which had been paid from our home, leaving the amount of sixty-five cents as an offering from the congregation. Again on Sunday, Jan. 20th, the offering was \$1.45, and if the readers will please excuse the reference again to ourselves, as one dollar of this collection came from our home, the balance of 45 cents was the offering from the congregation, in both instances a fair average congregation for a country church.

This offering from comfortable, well-to-do country citizens, who had lived under God's protecting care through the past year, people who had had a good Christmas-tide, with the giving and receiving of presents, good feasts and whatever goes to make up the Christmas cheer.

We remember seeing in one of our Holiness papers that nothing so narrowed "God's Grace" as niggardly giving, and we are won-

dering what our Heavenly Father thinks of a return like this for all his kindness and mercy through the past year. What would an earthly friend think of us if we treated them thus?

Then in a short time this same people will meet at some neighbor's house, gather in some things for the minister and call it a "donation," when in reality it is what they have owed the minister for weeks, and in some instances, for months past.

In closing, there is another type of church-goer we might mention. They are never seen at God's house in daylight service, but at night they will come crawl into a back seat, give not a farthing to the support of the gospel, but expect others to have the house lit, warm and made comfortable for them.

There are members of this type who to our certain knowledge have never put one cent in the plate towards the pastor's salary in the years that the plate has been passed by them.

It seems at times discouraging to "carry on" under conditions like this, but we are glad to know there is One who is taking note of all things that some day "Almighty God" will "balance the books" that each one will receive in full just what they have earned. Till then we are content to leave all in the hands of One who "doeth all things well."

ABRAHAM CRONKHITE

Mid. Southampton Church

Note.—We appreciate very much Brother Cronkhite's interest in the Lord's work. If many more professing Christians would follow his example and tithe their income, and give more to the Lord's cause, they would have more to give: for the promise is, "give and it shall be given to you again."

EDITOR

Lincoln, Maine

Dear Brother Dow:

I wish to express my pleasure in the King's Highway. Sometimes I get so hungry for Christian fellowship and real meat of the Word, and the Highway is such a help, so often I just need a good strong truth to clinch, some thought I am trying to put across, and often find just what I want in the Highway. Early this fall I was asked to speak at the Fall Association, from the subject, "Christian Living for such a time as this." God gave me the message from those words, "Lovers of Pleasure rather than of God." About that time your editorial came out upon the same subject, which helped me so much in making my message clear. I did not try to preach (or steal) your message, but you know how those things are often sent to us in direct answer to prayer.

I am greatly interested in the Young Peoples movement. Oh, how many times as a child I longed for some way of expressing my own energies in the Master's work, and now what an opportunity is open to our young people. I speak of them as "our," for even though I am a Baptist minister, yet my heart is still Reformed Baptist, and often I long to be among my own, but God uses me where I am, and helps me to preach the truth, even though sometimes, and that pretty often, some modern preachers sit and openly sneer, yet God blesses me, and I know has made me a blessing to others.

You spoke of some correspondence course for those who could not go away to attend school. Would you kindly state where a