

## MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Hartland M. S.,  
Paulpietersburg,  
Natal, So. Afr.,  
May 17, 1937.

To the Highway—

Dear Friends: In the stress and strain of the last few months letters have had to be laid aside again, and we are away behind with all correspondence. For three months Faith has been away from the Mission Station, and during this same period the Sterritt Sisters had to be away for two months. George and I were alone, and I had three trips to Durban in that time. In the meantime, between Altona M. S. and this Station, we have been kept going. There has been no time for letter writing, and we trust that you will understand and forgive.

First of all we thank the Lord that Helen and Faith are both better, and that Faith is home here regaining strength, while Helen also gaining, is now facing Homeward. We thank the Lord for the way that He has already undertaken in regard to the operation which Faith had to have, medical treatment, etc., and while it has cost about fifty pounds for these expenses alone, if we had had to pay the ordinary prices, we could not have done it, and she would have had to go without her hospital treatment. We thank the Lord that He has raised up friends who would wait for the money, and we trust that the Lord will send it in and enable us to meet our obligations.

We want especially to thank the Lord for the safe arrival of Charley and Grace, and we believe that they have come to us in the fulness of the blessing and are assured that God will use them in this needy field.

Now just a word for reports. Owing to the shortness of time as above stated it will be impossible for us to prepare our regular yearly reports for the Alliance in time, therefore we are giving a few facts here in place of this usual report.

The progress of a work, or organization is largely measured by the number of leaders it produces. Eight years ago, when we came here there were twenty-six Native Workers, who were preachers, or probationary preachers. Two of these have died in the Lord, five have had to be dismissed from the preachers list, but only two of these from the church. The total shrinkage therefore, by failure is only five which speaks for itself. Three of these, though counted unworthy to continue as preachers are still considered worthy of membership in the Church. In the past eight years, thirty-one more of these workers have been added to this list. Five of these have fallen by the way . . . that is proved unqualified for preaching, two by sin, and three by mentality and circumstances. That is, out of fifty-seven, a shrinkage of ten in eight years, and a total gain in these eight years, of twenty Christian workers, with other promising prospective workers coming along.

Few denominations, white or black, can show such a healthy condition as to their workers. Of the fifty-seven, only three lost to our denomination through sin in eight years time.

Another point, for which we are grateful; in view of the fact that this is a polygamous country, to unite with our Church, men must choose God rather than many wives. We have, among these workers, almost an equal number of men and women, while among our membership there are more women than men. For an example . . . one of the widows who was a member of our church, was one of forty-seven wives . . . so

naturally among the older members, there is a larger per cent of women. The son of one of these widows, has only one wife, though he is a heathen, and he is now seeking the Lord.

Another thing for which we thank the Lord, is that of these forty-seven workers, the greater number are self-supporting, working for the Lord at a real sacrifice, and overcoming great difficulties and hardships. Many of these should be supported, or at least receive aid, but there is no support for them. May the Lord lay it upon the heart of some of His children to send in extra funds for the help of these in emergencies and special times of need.

Our Schools are also most encouraging.

We thank God for the unity among our workers, and loyalty in our church, and for a spirit of revival which is apparent on every side, just now. Despite disappointments in the work, the future was never so bright since I came here as it is just now, and we are looking for victory.

We trust that the Lord will bless you abundantly in the Homeland and especially at your Camp-meetings.

Yours rejoicing in the Lord,  
D. M. MacDONALD

## CORRESPONDENCE

West Jonesport, Maine.

Dear Bro. Dow:

I am herewith enclosing money order for the renewal of my subscription to the "Highway."

I feel very grateful for such a fine paper. Each issue is a real source of help and encouragement. I trust that God's blessing shall always be upon every department of our work.

May we never cease to praise the name of Jesus.

"Jesus, oh how sweet the name,  
Jesus, every day the same;  
Jesus, let all saints proclaim,  
His worthy praise forever."

Sincerely,  
MRS. H. L. WOODWARD

Beals, Maine.

Dear Highway Readers:

Our Missionary Society would like to report progress. We have had our annual business meeting and elected officers for the coming year.

On our last meeting night we had a roll call. Each one answered with a verse of Scripture as their names were called. Some who were absent sent Scripture verses to be read in answer to their names. This was an interesting service and it was voted that we have a roll call the last meeting of each year.

Our Young Girl's Sunday School Class have a Penny Fund and recently have presented the Society with four dollars and thirteen cents for which we are thankful. A few new members are being added and we feel encouraged.

May the Lord bless us who serve Him in the homeland and those who labor for Him in far away Africa.

BLANCHE ALLEY,  
Reporter.

Beals, Maine.

Dear Brother Dow:

I am enclosing \$1.50 for the renewal of my Highway. I enjoy reading this paper very much. I am glad that Jesus saved me; He is very near and dear to me and by His help I mean to press onward.

Your sister in Christ,  
RUTH BEAL.

Amherst, N. S.

Dear Highway Readers:

Our Highway of May 31st announces the near-at-hand Camp Meeting, where we expect God's rich blessing that has followed these gatherings from the first. It will be good to see our faithful Sterritt Sisters, who come as delegates, representing nearly one-fourth of our church-membership.

God has honoured us, as a people, in giving so many of the "heathen" for our "inheritance." (Ps. 2:8). May this coming year be our most blessed both in the homeland and in darkest Africa. We know that it is our privilege and duty to walk with God and to enjoy "the fulness of the blessing of the Gospel of Christ," whether He leads us to come to "The feast of Tabernacles" or to remain at home. It is well to remember God's promise to Israel when every male was to attend their three annual Camp Meetings: "No man shall desire thy land." All therefore, who are at Beulah, in the will of God, need have no anxious thoughts as to how things at home are going—God will care for all that.

"Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it," (Ps. 127:1) is a good text for us all to remember in connection with our work at home or in the foreign field. With this thought in mind, I have been reviewing some of the highlights in the foundation history of our African Mission. Let me mention how God showed us where to find our "Promised Land" in Africa. The first two years there, were spent in studying the language and customs of the Zulus, and in mission work for the South Africa General Mission. Then came the command from God to move forward. In a vivid dream He showed me a little stone house and clearly revealed that this was to be our abode for a time. Soon I had bid good-bye to wife, saying, "Look for me back in, perhaps, three weeks, with news that the little stone house had been rented." In ten days I was back with the agreement of rental, signed and witnessed.

We occupied that house for nine months and then moved about one eighth of a mile on to Balmoral farm where our Central Mission Station now stands.

We own this farm because GOD gave it to us. A month before we were forced to move from the "little stone house," God awakened me in the night and, by a strong mental impression, revealed His plan for us to rent Balmoral. I was to go to the owner and offer him, as rental \$10 (£2) per native hut. The next day I felt like hurrying off, but found that Providence prevented. The day following the way was open, so I started to visit the owner of Balmoral, thirteen miles distant. He lived off the main road leading to Paulpietersburg, but our meeting was so timed by God, that I met him just as he was about to leave the main road and take the one to his own house. I knew just what to say and also what he would answer, for God had shown me. Yes, I forgot to say that the day before he had been to Vryheid, thirty-six miles distant, and was now on his way back home. I said to him in Zulu, as I could not speak Dutch nor he understand English, "I want to rent your whole farm." "Yes," he replied, "How much money will you give me?" "How many native huts are there on your farm?" "Twenty-five." "Then I will pay you £50 per year." (For 2£ per hut each year is what a native must pay his land-lord if he gives him no labour.) "Alright," he replied, "I will go home with my donkey-team and later meet you at the Agent's in Paulpietersburg, where the agreement will be made and signed."

As truly as God led His Israel into the