

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Natal, S. A.,
May 19, 1939

Dear Friends:

"Your Father knoweth what things ye have need of before ye ask Him." (Mat. 6:8). "But seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness; and **all these things** shall be added unto you." (Mat. 6:33). "There is no man that hath left house, or brethren or sisters, or father, or mother . . . for my sake and the Gospel's, but he shall receive **an hundred fold** NOW in this time. . . . "Truly God is abundantly fulfilling the "Promise of the life that now is," a large token of which is the lovely gifts sent to me by many dear, homeland friends. A number penned messages of cheer, encouragement and loving, prayerful support which these much appreciated gifts will constantly remind us. Thank you very, very much. You will likely never know how much this has already meant to me. Thank you also for the cards, pictures and old calendars; the bags and the variety of articles sent for Sunday School prizes, etc., and the baby clothes and children's frocks for the Hospital which have come in good time and are such a help.

God bless the hearts of each one of you.

As time and strength permit, I shall try to write personal letters.

Gratefully yours, in Christian love,

GRACE M. SANDERS

Natal, So. Africa

Dear Friends: May 9, 1939

The reinforcements have arrived in the persons of the Kierstead family, and we were all very glad to join in welcoming them to this needy field. May God bless and use them to the salvation of souls and the glory of His name. Quite a few of the older Natives remember Rev. and Mrs. I. F. Kierstead, who worked on this field in the early years, and are delighted to again see their son, and to be introduced to his family. Already there have been two welcome services held in their behalf, and there are yet two more to be conducted before Rev. and Mrs. Kierstead are properly introduced to the new work they are to take up; each of these services is held in a different place. Last Sunday the welcome meeting was held at Altona and those of us who were privileged to attend, enjoyed the service very much. The church was the fullest I have yet seen it; and still there were a few outside who were unable to have proper seating room in the church.

"The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth labourers into His harvest." The better I get to know this work, and its possibilities of expansion, the more I feel that we should pray this prayer.

All your missionaries were well remembered by the dear friends in the Homeland and were sent useful presents. In closing I take this opportunity to say: "Thank you very much, and may God bless each of you."

Yours, happy in the Master's will,

CHARLES D. SANDERS

Natal, So. Africa

Dear Friends: May 15, 1939

Others will doubtless write, telling of the wonderful service at Altona last Sunday,

when the natives of that section of our field met to welcome their own new Mfundisi and family.

I just want to give you two little incidents which to my mind show how God has set His seal upon their coming.

Help is not so good nor so easy to get on that side of the river as it is here. While Eugene and Gladys were with us that first week, Jona Tabede, husband of Esther Hadene, a girl who worked for the Sterritt Sisters many times, came to us saying, Esther had sent him to ask the new Nkosikazi for the job of her washing for this, his young wife, Esther, who lives near Altona. Thus Mrs. Kierstead has the laundry question settled first thing . . . and this is quite an item where water has to be drawn from a little spring and good laundresses are scarce.

Grace tells me that Jumaïna, one of our good church women living now near Altona, came to her on Saturday, saying that she has a nice little girl who would take care of the baby while Gladys is in the meeting. The next morning she brought this little seven year old darkie, saying: "I have washed her clothes and given her a good bath, and now she can care for Nkosikazi's baby while she is in the meeting." Reggie was sleepy and rested in his mother's arms during the first part of the service. His little volunteer nurse waited patiently at the Nkosikazi's feet till the little fellow waked. She smiled at him, he smiled at her, she motioned for him to come, stood up and started down the crowded aisle . . . he slid from his mother's lap and followed.

This is just like they did with us when we were in revival meetings in 1932, and I had to leave the babies home with our nurse girls. Our good farm women planned the thing so that one of them came each evening to be with the girls when I had to leave, so our babies would have proper care.

In the heart of these dear brown people there is a wondrous love and gratitude to those who have brought them the light of life. Many, many are the instances such as the above, which we could tell of their tender care over their missionaries. They have taken these new ones, the children of their beloved Mfundisi Kierstead right into their hearts, like that.

Many still are in great darkness. Let us pray for these.

Yours for souls . . . the souls of these dear Zulus.

FAITH MacDONALD

Natal, So. Africa,

May 13, 1939

Dear Homeland Friends:

The coming of our brother and sister and their dear little family somehow seems to bring you all very close to our hearts just now. They have told us about you . . . some things that we know any way, and some things we did not know. What they have told us makes us love you more than ever and praise God for your faithfulness and sacrifice. If we are to win souls, it calls for sacrifice and faithfulness. God has called each of us to have a share in this. You in the Homeland by your love and interest and prayers and gifts, and we here as your representatives, by personal contact, daily ministry, preaching and praying and living for Jesus in this dark land.

We did have a nice visit together in Durban while the men were going through all

the difficulties and trials of getting goods and car through the customs. Others will doubtless tell you of that. The journey home was one of times of anxiety and praying our way along. The Spirit in which disappointments were accepted, difficulties and dangers faced, delays endured and trials borne by the Kiersteads during these days gave us an opinion of their value as Missionaries, which grew with the passing hours. We take fresh courage and thank God for sending them out here, and look forward to greater victories and advances in the near future.

The welcome service here on Hartland Mission Station was well attended. Rev. Jonsses, Swedish Missionary from Paulpietersburg, who well remembers Rev. and Mrs. I. F. Kierstead while out here, was present, and Zondo, the Zionist leader who, before he left us used often to travel these hills with Mfundisi Kierstead as one of our good preachers, and many others.

Both new Missionaries spoke very acceptably. Gladys won their hearts by giving her testimony in Zulu. The key note of the meeting was this: These are the children of our leaders, following in the footsteps of their fathers . . . two years ago came Grace and Charles, also children of our Mfundisi, and George, who has worked so faithfully alone for two years at Altona, and our Mfundisi MacDonald and his wife . . . where now are our children who are following in our footsteps to carry on the work when we have to lay it down? WHERE ARE OUR YOUNG PEOPLE?

This is a growing vision and burden. In spite of the gospel being preached in this District for over forty years, many have remained heathen, and many more are growing up for the devil. Many of those presented as babies to the Lord are off on the hillsides watching the herds and flocks instead of being in school, and many are wandering the ways of sin and shame instead of attending the church of their mothers . . . I do not say fathers, for so many of these children have Christian mothers but heathen fathers. We need a movement here in this African work, like unto that which He has given you there in the Homeland.

I have rejoiced and thanked God as we have read in the Highway and heard from Grace and Charles of the way God is blessing, advancing and using the young people in our denomination in the homeland, and that even the children have their special organization.

The time has come when a similar movement is needed here in Africa. We face circumstances and conditions so different here that what would succeed in the homeland would fail here. Other methods are needed. The Captain of the Lord's Host has the campaign all planned. Pray with us that like Joshua of old, we may meet our Leader and get the directions from Him.

He has said: "What things soever ye desire when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." Let us pray a believing prayer for these young Zulus, and claim them as we never have before for Him.

Yours for all His will,

FAITH MacDONALD

"Machines work best under restraint. Unbridled power is destructive. Character is controlled by the same law. We are most free and most useful when we work within the will of another—the will of God."