

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

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into other churches, and a few have fallen away. But we are still three times what we were.

Now we thank God for all the growth that we have seen and are seeing in this work. We thank God for the New Missionaries who have come to us during these years, for all of them as well as for George who has continued with us for the whole of this time. We thank God for the Kiersteads and that they are taking over the work as they are, and for the increased opportunities due to the newly formed reservations in the Transvaal.

The Transvaal offers a greater opportunity than ever, and we feel that the Kiersteads are the right people for that work. They with George are doing splendidly. Two of the churches that they are now to build in the Transvaal are at outposts where a new and larger building became necessary owing to the great increase in attendance.

The separation of the Transvaal from the Natal Work will in time prove a blessing to both, but there is still much work to be done to complete our new church books, so separate reports will not be possible this year.

We rejoice because of the unity and cooperation that we have in our work today, and for the sweetfellowship we enjoy with both white and black.

I thought you might find it interesting to follow the progress of the work in one or two outposts. These are bright spots.

No. 1. The Pevaan Branch. Eleven years ago there were only four members here, including the preacher and his wife. It is a most difficult place, mountainous, and all manner of opposition. It has shown a constant and healthy growth, and today represents about a hundred and twenty-five souls, about fifty of whom are members in good standing, the others seekers. Another twenty odd have died in the Lord, and today instead of one preaching place in connection with this outpost there are four, and as many prospective and promising new workers, and this work covers an area of over twenty square miles with bright prospect of future growth.

The difficulties with which this devoted worker and his good wife have had to contend would fill far more space than I have here to write, but he has proved true in every test, at the cost of great sacrifice on their part.

No. II. Grootspuit—a hard, hard section, with surrounding churches, members and preachers beer drinking, and the men with many wives. Yet today we have there a prosperous church and two schools, the prospect of another church in the near future, in a needy field. Our workers and church members in this district command the respect of both white and black. This man also has had to stem a constant tide of opposition, yet has won through, and built up this healthy work, many of the members of which are helpers.

No. III. Ngenetsheni—one of the most difficult and mountainous sections of our work, hard heathen all around, and still it is such. Yet out of this we got two splendid young preachers, one, Johanisi, at Altona, doing fine work, and the other, Paul Nkosi, his cousin, who now is carrying on the work at this outpost. When Doctor Sanders first sent Philimon over there he felt it must be because he loved

him the least of all his workers that he gave him this inaccessible and stony field, where he toiled for some time before he began to see fruit. There were five or six here when we arrived. Now about their losses through death, etc., there are twenty-six good members, six of whom are "Bajoini" or prayer helpers, besides a good number of seekers.

The year after I came we secured a Government site and built a church there. Now the evangelist lives on the Government farm and a flourishing young school has been established.

The journey to this outpost is so mountainous and rugged that the first time that I went there with my brother-in-law, night came on as we travelled through the mountains, I was so played out that I pleaded with him for us to just sleep where we were. He would not and we plodded on, arriving at our destination at nine o'clock at night. My horse fell over me once and I had many narrow escapes. It was simply a miracle that we arrived at last after such a rough journey. However, we had a good church opening and service the next day. We returned in the day time, over this mountainous pass four miles of which is down a mountain side climbing over boulders and walking over stones that roll from under your feet. I reached the bottom, every nerve and muscle quivering from the strain, so worn I could hardly stand and almost discouraged, realizing that I must climb this awful path at least four times a year. I claimed victory, and trusted the Lord to enable me to do it every time it is necessary. Since then we have been able to clear a number of boulders from this road, making it safer to travel.

This outpost is only fifteen miles from Hartland M. S., but half of this way is the most dangerous that we have to travel. This is just part of the picture of the difficulties and dangers your evangelists have to face . . . but it has paid, and we are not sorry for any effort put forth.

Now Filimon has been moved from that section, because these young preachers have taken over, and he has been placed in another section where the difficulties, though different, are as great, and where he is, under God, building up a good work.

IV. Lujojwana. Here Aaron Mkonza has laboured for years and for a long time had very little success. Now good fruit is beginning to show, a little school has started. We have not yet a church in this place, but trust soon to have one. This has been a very hard section, but God has given Aaron a wonderful ministry among the sick and dying, and though he may have fewer church members to show today, I do not believe that any of our preachers have been the means of leading so many to find salvation on their death beds as he has, right through the years. His faithful prayer ministry to the sick has done much to build up the local work.

These are a few of the many tokens of His favour which rejoice our hearts. We are praising Him for what we see, and for what we are believing yet to see, in all sections of the work.

Yours, glad to be in His service here in Africa.

D. M. MacDONALD

In Japan a law forbidding boys under twenty-one to purchase or consume cigarettes or alcoholic beverages has recently gone into effect.—Michigan Christian Advocate.

Temperance Column

Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging. Whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.—Prov. 1:20.

FRUIT OF REPEAL

Consulting nearly 4,000 high school seniors in thirteen communities in eleven states, W. Roy Breg, executive secretary of Allied Youth, Inc., a national movement for alcohol education, announced recently an extensive, growing use of alcoholic beverages by high school youth. Forty-nine per cent of the seniors reached in the survey are using liquors, beers and wine to some extent. For 419 of the number, "hard stuff," or distilled liquor, is the favorite beverage. The Allied Youth survey follows closely the trends shown in a survey of the youth of Maryland, conducted by the American Youth Commission of the American Council on Education, in which 13,528 young people were consulted, and 52.9 per cent reported that they drank, just another of the beneficial results of the repeal of prohibition.—Methodist Protestant Recorder.

WOMEN AND LIQUOR

Martin Nelson, secretary of the Keeley Institute of Dwight, Illinois, in a recent interview, told how in the olden days, folks thought that any woman who went into a barroom was a good woman to stay away from. But that is evidently old-fashioned today, he contends, if we believe figures he gives us. Quoting Nelson, we read, "Repeal returned drinking to the barroom and the wives followed their husbands there. Today public complacency about women drinking at bars is making the problem of the women inebriate tragically serious." The article concludes with these graphic words: "Mr. Nelson should know; seventy-four per cent of the patients at Keeley are housewives."—Selected.

TRUTH ABOUT ALCOHOL

At first all drunkards were moderate drinkers.

Old men are drunkards, because young men drink.

While the saloon door is open, every home is in danger.

It is not the last drink that makes the drunkard, but the first.—Selected.

KEEP IN MIND

That we have nothing which we did not receive, therefore it is folly to boast or become lifted up with pride.

That we are stewards of what God has entrusted to us. As stewards we will be called to give account to God.

That the prospects are as bright as the promises of God.

That faith honors God, and God honors faith.

That we are not serving men, but the Lord Jesus Christ.

That our bodies are the temples of the Holy Ghost.

That God expects much of us who have the light of true holiness and the New Testament Church of God.

That we are on the winning side, if we are on the Lord's side.

That we are our brother's keeper.

That now is the day of salvation, but the door of mercy may be shut at any moment.—Adapted from Exchange.