

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Altona M. S.

Dear Highway Friends:

Recently we were so glad to receive a goodly number of letters from home; also two Highways. As I eagerly read them I was reminded that it was time to send another letter to you.

Our schools closed the first of July and we are enjoying the month of winter holidays.

The July Quarterly Meeting at Hartland, that we had talked and planned so much for, is now history. I was unable to attend, due to bad roads caused by the recent rains and also the car was not going well.

We packed up and started but when we reached the store Mr. Sunkel advised us to return, so we did. It began to rain again, a regular cloud burst, and I was truly grateful to reach home safely.

Early the following morning, Eugene left by bicycle, and the weather began to clear and was very nice all through the meetings.

I stayed alone, at Altona, with our boys and a little native girl. It was lonely, especially at night, but I was not alone either, for the presence of the dear Lord was very real and precious to me.

A very sad thing happened during the services. The wife of one of our workers on trial, Johane Sangweni, was drowned in the Pongola River. She was on her way to attend the meetings. She had her baby strapped onto her back, her clothes, etc., on her head and a child by the hand. The current was strong and the crossing none too good. She slipped and was unable to help herself. The current caught her and she disappeared and was not seen again.

On Sunday the body of the older child was found but when Eugene returned on Monday they had been unable to find the mother and baby. Johane was tending sheep for his white man so was not at home. We do pray that God will graciously undertake for him, in his time of grief and sorrow.

The next Saturday Eugene started by bicycle to go to Mbcu to visit Johane and family and try to speak words of comfort, but he was forced to return as he was not well. However, early this morning he started again. This time he also took his bicycle, but went by bus as far as Moolman.

From Moolman he intended to go to Mbcu and then on to Alfred Metula's where he will spend several days in visiting the people and helping with the brick making, for a new church, in that section. On Sunday Johannesi also intends to be present there for a special service.

Metula has a good congregation and it seems to be in a healthy spiritual condition, and we are praying that God will mightily use this worker to help many more of his own people into the light and liberty of Christ Jesus.

My work is so commonplace that I cannot find much of interest to write about it. I just stay at home and keep the home fires burning and care for the Mission when Eugene is away. I seem to find lots to do, in fact most days are not long enough for all that seems should be done, but I try to do the most important things, and other things have to wait.

Recently I kept account of all who visited the Mission in a week, but not counting those who attended services and classes, and it numbered about one hundred and fifteen.

Sometimes we think how nice it would be if

we could have just one day to do some needed work, without the many interruptions, but then we think of the opportunities to speak a word for Jesus to those who do not know Him. I pray that God will help me to be able to be a blessing to Him in this way. Oh, to be more useful in His service, is my prayer.

Tonight is very cold and just about dark. Four children came with pieces of wood and asking for salt. One dear little thing had only a little old thin cotton shawl around part of her body so I hurried to give them salt and start them on their return journey. I thought how I wished I had a good warm sweater or coat for her. And while I so often see how much they need clothing for their bodies, I hope I shall never forget how much they need Jesus, the Light of the world, to come into their hearts and lives with salvation.

Beulah is also past and we are looking forward to receiving news of the services. Still we know we must be patient for some months yet.

May the God of Love be with you all.

Yours in His service,

GLADYS KIERSTEAD

COMMENDABLE ACTION

The United States National Catholic Women's Union says that the styles of women's clothes in the last few years, and especially since the war began, "have become progressively more offensive."

In resolutions adopted at its annual meeting in Springfield, Illinois, recently, they declared that "costumes for sport and play are shamelessly brief. Skirts have long been raised above the limits dictated by modesty and common, ordinary decency; fabrics are diabolically employed to create a sensual allure."

Speaking of the attitude that such clothes are patriotic because of the saving of material they said: "So specious a claim could come only from corrupt minds contributing directly to the moral breakdown of the people in an act of treason, not one of patriotism."

"Immodest fashions and dress of today offend against the sixth and ninth commandments, and are condemned by numerous passages of Scripture. Sad indeed to note that Catholic women, particularly young women, have not hesitated to adopt the prevailing mode of dress."

An appeal was made to all Catholic organizations to "join forces in a campaign for decency in dress."

The group further urged all Catholic women to pledge themselves "to dress decently at all times" and refrain from attending public beaches "where men and women wear the scantiest bathing suits."

This resolute stand should be respected and welcomed by all. It all but puts Protestantism to shame for failing to take definite action in so acute a problem, and reminds the people of the holiness churches of the moral responsibility of arraying themselves as becometh holiness.

AN IMPORTANT MEETING

A meeting of great interest and importance to the holiness people of Canada and the United States, will be held in Toronto Nov. 22-23. Representatives of the various holiness bodies in the Dominion will meet to discuss "how best we can make the great cause for which we stand effective by co-operative effort." Revs. H. S. Dow and G. A. Rogers will represent our Denomination at the conference.

THE PRICE THEY PAY

The present world war is known as "total war," since the battle front may be any city or factory in any country liable to invasion by the air forces. And when the lists of deaths come back to the homes of the nation, we shall know with ever increasing pain the cost of war. We think of the armaments of this great conflict as a long line of men and supplies, beginning back on farms and in factories, and reaching out to hundreds and thousands of battle fronts throughout the world involved in war. Since the men in service cannot have "life as usual," there rests upon all the procession of the line back to the home front a responsibility to stand by them in true soldier fashion. We saw some time ago a magazine picture of a lone soldier, prostrate in death, with his right hand clutching the ground where he fell face-down, amid the implements of war. That soldier, alone, amid the roar of battle, died over there in the cause of liberty. He died heroically, seeking to defend the country worthy of his death, and the least that we can do is to live heroically, and help to make the future worthy of these sacrifices.—Wesleyan Methodist.

A SOLEMN DEATH NOTICE

Sister Old-time Prayer Meeting died at the First Neglected Church. She was born many years ago in the midst of a great revival. She was a strong, healthy child, fed largely on testimonies and scriptural holiness.

She soon grew into worldwide prominence, and was one of the most influential members of the famous Church family. But for the past several years Sister Prayer Meeting has been ailing in health, gradually wasting away until she was rendered helpless by stiffness of knees, coldness of heart, inactivity, weakness of purpose and will power.

The last whispered words before she passed away were inquiries concerning the strange absence of her loved ones. She was told they were busy in the marts of trade, some in places of amusement, some had labored hard and had to stay at home, and some had lost their first love for her. It was more than she could bear so she closed her eyes, folded her hands, and was no more. Experts, including Dr. Reform, Dr. Joiner and Dr. Preach-easy disagreed as to the cause of her illness. They administered large doses of socials, contests, membership drives and religious education, but to no avail.

A post-mortem examination showed a deficiency of spiritual food, a lack of faith and heartfelt religion, the desertion of her loved ones, and non-support of her members as the cause of her death. There were only a few present when she died, sobbing over memories of her past beauty and power. The unsaved people will wonder why the doors of her home must be closed on Wednesday night, and why she died. A few doses of loyalty would have saved her life.—Selected.

God's ways are not like human ways,
He wears such strange disguises,
He tries us with His long delays,
And then our faith surprises.
While we with unbelief deplore,
And wonder at His staying,
He stands already at the door
To interrupt our praying.