

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

"Altona"

Dear Highway Friends:

The days go swiftly by and what are we doing for Jesus? I constantly ask myself that question. Nearly two months of the new year have gone and they have been busy days for us as well as for you too, I expect. One doesn't always see results for their labors but if we are working for Jesus and doing our best we can leave the results with God. In reading about Carey, Judson, etc., and hearing how long they laboured with no visible success, it gives us courage to go on even if we do not see all that our hearts desire, doesn't it?

Measles are still around us. Many children are still sick. One of the girls who is staying here, has been very sick with measles too, but we are glad that she is better now.

Our boys are better now for which we are grateful.

Eugene was to Piet Retief on Wednesday and had a tooth out. The doctor was an hour and a half getting it out. As a result Eugene is having a painful time but we trust that the worst is over.

Last week we had real good crowds at our Thursday class meeting and real good services too. This week the people went up to a kraal, near the store, and had a special service there.

A letter from Brother Charles Sanders says that he was leaving with Sister Grace for Pietersmaritzburg, where she was to have her tonsils removed. We trust that she will get along nicely and have a speedy recovery.

It has been a very rainy week, but many sick people have been here, also many children with wood, etc. One night, several little girls arrived in a pouring rain storm. I gave them salt and they waited and waited but had to leave in the rain. No clothes except little shawls. Poor little children! They were from kraals where all are heathen and do not desire their children to become Christians.

One day two women came with a baby that was covered with sores. The mother of the child said little, but the old grandmother told all about how it started, etc. We gave her medicine and told her to wash her blankets but she said that washing the blankets would not help, for this child had been bewitched by an evil doer. They think that all sickness comes because of being bewitched.

When you try to explain about germs, they have a great laugh and think it is a very interesting fairy tale indeed.

One day a little boy was very shocked to see Glendon pointing at a bird, with his finger. He cried, "You must not do that—point with your fist or you will receive little food from your garden." Glendon laughed and said that Daddy said that it wasn't true. The next day the little boy came back and said that he had told his father that the Umfundisi had said that such things were not true. Then he said, "Father says it is just because the Umfundisi doesn't know the wisdom of the Bantu."

This is only a little sample of the superstitions that the natives have been taught for generations. Some are of not such great consequence but most of the superstitions are a decided hindrance to spiritual growth.

Pray for the work here, dear ones: it needs your support in prayer.

In closing I want to thank the friends who

was so kind so that I could write directly. Also I want to thank the friends of Sandford and Port Maitland for gifts that have recently arrived. Everything is such a help and we are grateful. May God bless you all.

Yours, in His love,

GLADYS KIERSTEAD

A LETTER TO THE CHILDREN

Dear Children:

"Altona"

We are writing this letter, to thank the children who were at Beulah 1943, and who sent the money to us. We received it at Christmas, so your Beulah gift came as a Christmas present to us and we all join in sending our thanks to all who gave towards it.

By the time this letter reaches you, it will be nearly time for Beulah again, and we hope that you will have a good time there this year. There is so much to do for Jesus that we hope you will do your best in the homeland, while we do our best here in Africa. We all remember, even little Kenneth, to pray for you, every day and we hope you will remember us, in prayer too. And please especially remember to pray for the little black boys and girls, who also need Jesus very much.

We all love Jesus and all but Kenneth are able to pray and testify in Zulu.

Thank you again and may God bless you all.

Yours truly,

Harold, Glendon, Reginald
and Kenneth Kierstead

AFTER FIFTY YEARS

Rev. H. C. Archer

It is only a few weeks now before we will meet at Beulah Camp Ground for our Annual Alliance and Camp Meeting. We trust that many may be privileged to meet there, as this is our fiftieth anniversary, and a service is to be held to commemorate that event. I have been asked to write something in connection with it.

When we look back to the year 1893, and think of the piece of land at Brown's wharf which was late that year purchased, to be used as a place for our yearly meetings—what it was then in its rough state, and what it is today, we cannot but say: "See what God hath wrought."

It was early the next year that work was begun. A hotel was built, with dining room and kitchen on lower flat and sleeping rooms above, which after the new hotel was built became Cedardale Dormitory. A few cottages were built that first year, and several tents were put up to accommodate the people. Then a large tent was purchased in which to hold the services, which was used for a few years until the tabernacle was erected. Then later Riverview Dormitory was built, followed in a few years with Wiggins Dormitory. These, with the large hotel and the many cottages, make it possible to accommodate the large number of people who come each year to the Alliance and Camp Meeting.

Then through the work of the late John Bullock so much has been done to beautify the grounds, in way of gates, gravelled walks and avenues. Flowers and shrubs also have been planted which add much to Beulah. This year should be a red letter year in our denominational history. It is true that in some ways it will be a season of sadness, as we

All the ministers who were with us then, with the exception of one, have passed to their reward. And of the delegates there are only three left who were at the first Alliance at Beulah, and we trust that they may be present this year. There no doubt will be a very large attendance this year and we are looking for much of the presence of God upon both Alliance and Camp Meeting. Let us unite in prayer that Beulah of 1944 may be a place of much blessing.

WESLEY AND FREE METHODISTS
DISCUSS UNION

Last year the Wesleyan Methodist Connection and the Free Methodist Church appointed a joint commission to consider the possibility of the union of their denominations. The commission, comprised of ten men, six ministers and four laymen, has met and studied the proposal. Various recommendations have been made by the commission to encourage the spirit of unity between the two groups. They voted that the executive body of each denomination elect two persons to function as a joint committee to which all matters of church extension in all territory where one or the other body is functioning, to the end that encroachments upon each other's territory should be prevented. The commission also voted in favour of a change of speakers for revival meetings, youth rallies, conferences, etc., co-operation in publicity items in church papers, etc.

The Commission adopted a resolution stating that there appeared to them no unsurmountable barriers to ultimate organic union of the two churches, and that, believing the work of God could be more effectively promoted by the closer co-ordination of the two groups, they would "urge upon our administrative bodies that in all matters of common interest there be the closest collaboration."

Certainly all those interested in the advancement of the cause of holiness will pray that these two groups will have Divine guidance and blessing in the consideration of this vital matter.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A memorial service for the late Norman E. Mooer was held in the Reformed Baptist Church at Marysville, Sunday, May 7th, at 3 p. m. Gunner Mooer gave his life in the service of his king and country, in Italy, on March 3rd. He was the son of Brother and Sister Wm. Mooer, of Marysville, and is survived by his wife, formerly Miss Della Hagerman, of Bear Island; also one brother, Wm. Mooer, jr., and two sisters, Aletha (Mrs. Cecil Emery, of Fort Fairfield, Maine) and Mary (Mrs. Joseph White, of Marysville).

The service was conducted by Rev. F. A. Watson, assisted by Rev. W. S. Loring (United Church) and Rev. A. B. Crowe (United Baptist Church). Favorite hymns were sung by a trio.

The largest attendance testified to the esteem in which Norman was held in the community.

A detachment of soldiers and a bugler from No. 7 Military District were present. Last Post was sounded at the close of the service.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the sorrowing loved ones.

"We sorrow not as those without hope."