

Go Ye Into All the World and Preach the Gospel to Every Creature

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Hartland Mission Station,
October 14th, 1946

Dear Homeland Friends:

It is a beautiful spring day, and for the greater part of the day has been very warm. Of late we have had some lovely rains, and last night we had a real thunder and lightning storm with a good downpour. Everything looked very lovely this morning with the drops glistening in the sun.

Our Quarterly meeting ended a week ago yesterday and we all felt that it was a very good meeting and profitable. At first it did not look so good, as we heard that Bro. Kierstead was not feeling well, and Rev. Paul Nkosi had been very ill, and had a relapse and Charlie was suffering from a boil on his arm. The rain was very bad and it looked as though it would keep the people away. But everyone came, the sick improved and we really had a lovely Quarterly.

Brother and Sister Kierstead and Kennie came on Tuesday and we were very glad to see them, and were sorry that Gladys was not able to stay right through. I wonder if you folks realize how good it seems to see our missionaries from the other station. It is just like a family re-union I think, and we always enjoy their visits so much.

On Wednesday morning Brother Kierstead took the Bible class speaking on 'let us go on unto perfection.' Andrew Mtetwa preached in the evening service. Thursday morning Gladys spoke from 1 Kings 18. Johan Naseko took the evening service. I took the Friday Bible class and Rev. Paul Nkosi the evening service. Saturday was given up to business mostly as were the evenings and the sessions were long too. Sunday was quite a full day with Sunday School in the morning followed by a baptismal service when Charlie baptized six candidates.

The afternoon service was one of much blessing. Rev. Alfred Metula was the first speaker followed by Rev. George Sanders. Two babies were dedicated and the six new members received into Church fellowship. An offering was taken and pledges taken for the extension of the work. Before the service ended I was called away to see a boy who had been brought in to the Hospital. He had been gored by an ox and the horn had entered one corner of the mouth and torn the side of his face open almost to the ear. I did nothing but wash and put on clean bandages and sent him on to the doctor. It had been done the day before and they did not get him to town until the next day, so the doctor had quite a time repairing it nicely. As he is being dis-

charged from the Hospital in town soon I expect him back here for dressings.

On Saturday I had another man brought in with a very bad wound from the eye-brow to the hairline. He had been in a fight and his opponent had hit him with a stone. I could see the bone above the eye was broken in about three places. I washed him up and put in three stitches and he was brave. Not a sound while I sewed him up; to-day he returned for a dressing and I was surprised to see the wound looking so well.

The other day I made a very grave mistake and pulled the wrong tooth for an old lady. She didn't have any to spare either. I eventually pulled the right one and did not take the shilling she offered me, as I thought it would be a good way to cry for her or 'kala' as they say.

I had the cutest little girl about three years old come to the hospital the other day. She was so good and kept so quiet while I examined her. Then I gave her a drink of milk of magnesia and my, it tasted so good. So she got a little sugar as a reward. Some of the children scream and kick and one has a time with them; and they are afraid of a white person as Gladys wrote in one of her recent letters.

Charlie was away over the week-end to Cibini, and reported a good service. I had Sunday School in the morning and evening service. The teacher was here so she interpreted for me in both services. There were twenty children to Sunday School and about 18 people to the afternoon service. I tried to speak on the attitude of Joseph toward those who had done wrong to him, and the Lord did help me. Old Lucy Mtetwa was shaking her head when I was telling of the brothers showing the old father the coat and saying that Joseph had been killed.

Just now I have the two little girls from the next farm here. The older of the two goes to the Comondale Hostle and is home on vacation. As they have no piano at home her mother asked if she could come over to practise once in awhile; so now she is playing C scale and seemingly enjoying herself. Her little sister sits and watches and admires Theresa as she plays such difficult exercises. I think she is longing for the day when she too can play the piano.

Now that the rains have come the people are going to plough, so I am having to look for a girl to work in the kitchen. The one who helps with Pam is not to go until weeding time. These girls are sisters and we have been fortunate to have them so long. During ploughing and weeding time it is hard to get labor as everyone is needed at home to help with the gardens.

Time is flying and it will soon be Xmas. Our Quarterly and celebration will be at Altona this year; I do not know if I will go or stay at home while Charlie goes. It is something to look forward to and think about.

We trust this finds you all happy in the Lord's will and work. Thank you one and all for your faithful prayer support; we are sure that it is not in vain in the Lord. We are happy here in our field of labour and our hearts are encouraged by what we see for the Lord is with us and that to bless.

Yours in Him,
MYRA SANDERS

Altona,
October 20th, 1946

Dear Highway Friends,

It is evening. Crickets and frogs have set up a merry orchestra. A nice cool breeze is blowing for we have just had a very nice refreshing rain and it is most welcome.

For a change I have had a Sunday at home. Our sermon text today was, "Behold the lilies of the field how they grow". They grow by obeying the laws of their Creator; they suck up water and food from the soil; they breathe in gases from the air; they absorb rays from the sun. Christians will grow if they obey the laws of spiritual growth but growth will not be complete unless there is an intake of all the spiritual ingredients in their proper proportions—food, water, air, and fire. Eat of the hidden manna. Drink of the water of life freely. Breathe in Holy emanations. Experience the cleansing fire in the heart.

Our Hartland Quarterly was one of the most interesting we have had for some time. The attendance was good. Six candidates, I believe, were baptized and taken into fellowship, two babies were presented to the church, one worker was appointed, and another set aside. Pledges upward of \$70 were taken towards buying a mission site near Grootspuit and several important decisions taken with respect to several troublesome native customs.

There is little change in the number of our day-schools, nine, but the total attendance is greater this term, upwards of two hundred and seventy-five pupils.

Louwsburg is in a fair way of becoming our third European-staffed Mission Station as Brother George Sanders has moved into the three small rooms we recently built on the Mission lots. He has a small vegetable garden planted and some fruit trees have been set out with an eye to the future. Our faith is reaching out for the finances to build a Mission house as the three rooms were only meant for out-buildings. If all goes as planned we shall also have a native preacher stationed in Louwsburg by the beginning of the New Year.