

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

## MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Altona M. S.

October 20, 1946

Dear Highway Friends,

We have just enjoyed a refreshing shower of rain. How very welcome it is! Everything looks so clean and green.

Since my last letter we have had some special services at Altona. Not special services, as we think of them in Canada. The services started on Wednesday in the Altona church. Several preached, there were many who testified, there was much singing, praying, etc., and the service ran well into the night.

On Thursday a number of the workers, etc., went toward Predentia. About half past five part returned but the others went to three other kraals. I think they visited eight or nine kraals and had a little service, prayers, etc., in each. It was dark when they returned and as they neared the Mission they began to sing and sang until they entered the church. Then they all knelt and prayed together for God to bless the people they visited. Then they ate and went to bed.

On Friday morning the "impi ye vangel", "army of the gospel" as they said, were out again in another direction. The object was to visit as many of our people as possible, especially those who were in trouble, had become cold in their Christian experience, etc. It was dark when they returned but they had a service in the church again that night. It was a lovely service and I believe many received help.

Saturday morning, very very early, most of our workers went to have prayers with some sick people. Our teacher's wife went through the week and on Saturday both teachers went too, making that many more, and I'm sure they were a blessing.

Saturday afternoon they had just one long service in a near by kraal and everyone was too tired for an evening service that night.

We had a blessed service on Sunday. Eugene and Absolom Seluija preached, many partook of Communion, the collection was nearly \$5.00 and everyone felt it had been a good day in the Lord. Unfortunately I had a headache all that week and didn't get to a service until Sunday. I was sorry but at least I was here so Pauline, the girl who works for me, was able to go to the services. I have tried very hard to plan my work so the girls were never kept home from services, at any time, but it would have been difficult had we all been away for all day, especially with the school. Well, we did praise God for the way the workers helped out and we do believe that

good seed was sown and pray that it will spring up and bear forth fruit unto His glory. Eugene was present to most of the services and went alone, on Sunday morning, and had prayers in four different kraals.

October 1st we started for Hartland. We arrived in good time and that evening attended the monthly hospital meeting. We missed Sister Grace but she had left the week before and is taking a course in midwifery in the Boksburg-Benoni Hospital.

Quarterly Meetings started Wednesday morning. I will not give a report of the services I attended as I expect you will receive that from the Hartland missionaries, but both Wednesday and Thursday were days of blessings. School closed on Friday for 10 days of holidays so we left early that morning, got our boys from Comondale and Piet Retief and reached home shortly after noon. We had a heavy rain storm in the afternoon but very early Saturday morning Eugene and the teacher went back to Hartland. The teacher's wife walked over on Thursday and the girl teacher on Friday, so I was all alone, with our boys, on Saturday and Sunday as all the native children went home on Friday too.

I was glad to be here on Sunday for the service. Only about twenty-five were present, but the spirit of the Lord was present with us and we had a good service.

I enjoyed having a week with the children but they returned to boarding school last Monday. They were glad to be present at our Young People's service on Sunday. Reginald was one of the speakers and we had a very nice service.

The Doctor was very busy on Tuesday at the Clinic, and didn't finish until seven o'clock in the evening. One very sick woman they brought on a drag, for seven or eight miles. It was late and they couldn't return that night so they slept at the hospital. The following day they saw she would surely die so asked Eugene to take them as far as he could go by car. This he did and the poor soul died on Thursday. She was a heathen but Losaya says she has had the gospel preached to her and always laughed and said she wouldn't be a Christian now. She ceased to speak on Monday and was brought in an unconscious condition. So many sad things happen!

About the time of the Hartland Quarterly Meetings a Mahlaba boy was killed, several miles from here. A large truck loaded with sacks of corn and several natives on top of the sacks, was going down a hill. A cow jumped out into the road but the driver's brakes refused to work, so the lorry ran over the cow, overturning the truck, killing one boy and injuring the driver and several others.

The Mahlaba boy's mother, brother and sisters, belong to our church, but he was a heathen and had no time to prepare to meet God. It isn't a good idea to put off the day of salvation. It's much better to make our preparations while we have time. I am praying that God will help the old mother Ellen and the young widow. Philemon, the only son left, has been very ill and nearly died and while he was still very ill the heathen brother's wife had a little baby and it died and Ellen was feeling very badly, when I last saw her. She surely needs the dear Lord to help her, in her sorrows.

We are looking forward now to Christmas and beginning to make preparations, as it's Altona's turn for Christmas for the natives and Quarterly Meeting, this year.

May God bless you all and make you a blessing and may you all have a very happy Christmas Season.

Yours, in His glad service,

G. M. KIERSTEAD.

## WEeping PROPHETS

All great preachers of the Gospel of the English speaking world were men of the Bible. Their preaching was saturated with Scripture. We need these desperate days, more Bible preaching.

Among the great soul-saving evangelists of America stands D. L. Moody. He was a great Bible preacher. He said, "I take the Bible, I pray over the texts as I go along until the thought of His infinite compassion overpowers me and I can only lie on the floor of my study and with my face in the open Bible cry like a little child."

A preacher who can cry before his open Bible is going to make other people cry over their sins.

## JOY TO THE WORLD

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! the Saviour reigns:  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,  
Repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessing flow  
Far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love. —Isaac Watts