



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

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Hartland Mission Station,
Natal, South Africa

Dear Christian Friends:

I have been thinking that I should get at my writing for several days now, but sometimes my thoughts do not materialize. These seem to be busy days, and due to illness among my girls, I have been kept quite busy with household tasks, as well as other things.

Today was clinic and it began to storm about time for the doctor to arrive; as the storm had been coming up for some time, I hardly expected him. There were quite a number of people at the hospital, some waiting for the doctor, some wanting me to examine them, and some had taken refuge there from the storm. I examined three children and found that they all three had pneumonia. I gave them medicine, but was able to get some sulpha tablets from the doctor when he arrived as I have had several people who needed them, and ours were finished. I also had the doctor examine the largest child and one of our girls who has been very ill with pneumonia. There is much sickness about now. One of the sick babies is staying overnight. It is a lovely little child. The mother and the girl who accompanied her are both in heathen dress. They need our prayers. I noticed the mother had tobacco in her bundle. So many are held by the things of the world, not seeming to care that Christ can make them free.

Sunday, December 1st, was "Big Sunday" here at Hartland. On Wednesday we started revival meetings, having the two regular services here on that day. On Thursday afternoon Charlie went in one direction and George went in another to have meetings in different kraals. I wanted very much to go, but as it was clinic day, I thought perhaps I should stay at home. I had a very busy afternoon, ending up by having a boy brought in to the Hospital who had been gored in the leg by an ox.

Charlie had a service in Johanna Mndiniso's kraal and one young woman gave herself. George had service in a Gabela kraal and an old lady gave herself to seek the Lord.

On Friday afternoon Charlie and I went to the kraal of Befu Kunene for a service. On the way there, Charlie killed quite a large snake that had got an unfortunate toad. The crying of the toad warned us that there was a snake somewhere near. I'd much rather see a dead snake than a live one anytime. Befu lives on the Government Farm, and we climbed and climbed over rocks and more rocks, and my knees were tired when we eventually reached the kraal. There were fourteen present and

we had a very good service, and about everyone present testified.

We reached home about 6.00 p.m. and found that Rev. Paul Nkosi had arrived. Charlie had invited him to come help. He was tired from his long trip, so we had only a short service in the evening.

Saturday morning at 6.00 a.m. Charlie and Paul held short services in two nearby kraals. As they were leaving nine people from Paul's section arrived to help in the services and stay overnight. Then I had to hurry about and get them food, medicines, and a place to sleep. Some of them hurried and drank their coffee and followed the workers to the kraals for service. Others, tired from the long walk, stretched out on the grass and rested.

Saturday night a service was held here in the Church and one boy gave himself, and another girl re-consecrated herself. Our hearts were made to rejoice because of this.

Sunday as we came out of Sunday School, our preacher from the Location in town arrived, Hezekiah Mdhloose. Service went in early and both Paul and Hezekiah preached. The Spirit of the Lord was present as we gathered about the Communion Table. We do praise the Lord for these few days of meetings, and for the four who gave themselves. We are encouraged to ask greater things, and trust that this is only a foretaste of what we shall see in the days that lie ahead.

I have been making candy and getting little things ready to give to the Sunday School children on Sunday. We are also preparing for our own Xmas which we will probably hold on Tuesday, as the Quarterly starts at Altona on Wednesday. We hope to have a small celebration here on New Year's Day for those who will not go to Altona for Xmas. Some of the older people were inquiring yesterday about their Xmas as they cannot go across the river.

We trust you have all had a very Merry Christmas and that the New Year will be one of great blessing, and advancement in the work.

We rejoice at this time because of the love of God, and say with the Apostle Paul: "Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift."

Yours in His glad service,

MYRA SANDERS

Hartland M. S.,
South Africa

Dear Friends:

We are almost through with the old year and about to begin 1947. As I think of the year that is coming to its end, one thought impresses itself upon me is: how very grateful we should be to God for His presence and

blessing, which has been as necessary as the very air we breathe and which has been the reason for what success we have seen.

Yesterday afternoon I reached home in time to escape quite a heavy rainstorm, another similar one had passed while we were preparing to leave Dolongwane outpost, where a few days special meetings had just ended. It seemed to be a fitting way of closing the old year: to have a few days of special meetings.

This work is in great need of a revival and I am glad to say that during the past year some effort has been put forth in the right direction, paving the way for a revival. And when you begin to pave the way for a revival that in itself is the beginning of the revival. We have had twelve or more special meetings at various points in Natal during 1946. Just previous to the one above mentioned we had a few days of special effort at this Mission Station and about it.

It has been stated that the best form of defence is attack, provided there is the necessary backing to do this. It seems that one outstanding characteristic of the world of today is lawlessness. A spirit of letting down and not keeping to old established principles and laws. This has made great inroads into the churches, and has invaded the lives of many Christians. So, to defend himself against Christ and His servants, the devil has attacked the foundations of christianity. And now it is up to us to defend ourselves. How shall this be done? By attacking him and his strongholds, in the church first, and then outside. It is this type of effort that we find necessary out here on the Mission field and I believe it is the same in the homeland. To get the church members to feel their responsibility to God; in living up to our church covenant and the Bible standards and then to get the church members to feel their responsibility to the world: to feel a burden for lost sinners and to "GO" to try to help them to the Saviour. I trust that by the help of God, and by the convicting power of the Holy Spirit, we out here and you there, shall see even greater thing on this line during 1947 than we have been able to see in 1946.

There have been losses and gains in the past year in numbers of membership and seekers; but I feel that on the whole we have struck several good blows against the enemy of souls: by refusing to compromise with the devil's plan of forcing us to let down to the world lawlessness. Many of the churches about us are allowing themselves to be used to rediscover heathenism and dress it up so that it will be suitable for the modern native.

As I walked home yesterday I heard a low vibrating sound which seemed to be so continuous that I thought perhaps it was some