

## MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Hartland Mission Station,  
October 10th, 1948.

Dear Friends:

It is rather a cool, dull day. Charlie left about 8.00 this morning for our Lujajwane outpost. I wanted to go with him but have had a cold and sore throat, so thought it best to stay home this time.

Two weeks ago to-day, our Quarterly closed. It was a good meeting, we all thought. Brother Kierstead arrived on Wednesday. We missed Gladys, Mary and George very much, but they were much in our thoughts and prayers. We received a telegram from George yesterday saying that he was to go to Johannesburg the following day for further treatment.

I did not get to all the meetings but did enjoy the ones I attended. Grace led the Wednesday and Thursday morning Bible classes, Bro. Kierstead the Friday class and I the Saturday class. In the afternoon various native preachers and workers preached. Sunday morning we had a good Y. P. service. The Lord did bless us and two young boys stood up and gave themselves to the Lord. I was quite thrilled because it's the first service I've had charge of where anyone gave themselves to seek the Lord. I do pray they may really get rid of sin and go there with Jesus.

Two were baptised later on that morning—and both united with the church in the afternoon service. Bro. Kierstead and Rev. Alfred Metula preached in the afternoon service, three babies were dedicated and the Lord's supper was administered. The Lord's blessing was upon the service and upon the Quarterly as a whole.

About a week ago, Charlie and I went calling on two sick people. We only walked about 3 or 4 miles, but the sun was so warm it seemed about ten. One of our members, Joanna, has been ill for some time with sciatica or something of that nature. We found her a bit improved, and she seemed comforted and encouraged by our visit and the words and prayers. The other old lady whom we visited did not seem too inclined to talk of things spiritual. We wondered if she had gone back to beer-drinking again.

On Wednesday the doctor was out for a vaccination clinic but we had very few to be vaccinated. That same day a woman came with a small baby who had been severely burned on its arm and side. The day before, a man and his wife came for treatment for burns that they received from a grass fire. Their neighbors kraals and food were destroyed by this same fire.

The word that reached us telling of Brother Rogers' death caused us to sorrow—not for him, for he has gone to his reward, but for us as a denomination and for Mrs. Rogers. He will be greatly missed. Truly Bro. Rogers was a man who walked with God, and now God has taken him home.

We are getting some lovely spring rains now, and everything has a clean, washed look. The mulberries are ripe, and we are enjoying the green vegetables from our garden. The hills are still brown except for the places that have been burned—they are beginning to have a touch of green.

The people come and go here at the station. We speak to them of repentance, of forsaking sin and of following Jesus. Many agree that what we say is right. O that more would step

out and trust God. Continue to pray for us and for the work here.

"O for the showers on the thirsty land,  
O for a mighty revival,  
O for a sanctified holy band  
Ready to hail its arrival."

Yours in Him,  
MYRA A. SANDERS.

Hartland M. S.,  
October 9, 1948.

Dear Highway Friends,

I visited the Lujajwane outpost yesterday and enjoyed a good meeting with the few that gathered in the Native hut in which we have our meetings there. The man of the kraal is still a heathen, though he is very loyal to us and is willing to co-operate in many ways. The mother of the home is one of the few faithful ones in this section, and it seems that her children are inclined to follow her example and become Christians too. The three eldest children are already baptized members of our church.

There was a fight at the last heathen wedding about a quarter of a mile up the hill from the above mentioned kraal. The next morning a man was found nearly dead, not far from this kraal in which we have our meetings. This injured man has died since, and a second one seems to have escaped death by a narrow margin. So the police have been busy trying to get the ones responsible for these things, and this Wednesday there is to be a court-case to try those suspected. So our Christian woman takes this opportunity to press home the claim of the Gospel, on her husband, showing him that if he were a Christian he would not have attended that heathen wedding, and as a result would not be mixed up in the circumstances of the fight, etc., etc. He on his own, had spoken to his fellows that the Christians were fortunate for they were at their homes when this affair took place. So here is a man who is not far from the Kingdom, but on whom Satan has staked heavy claims: our united prayers may be the instrument of setting him free. Let us pray for him.

The Lujajwane section reaches down to the end of the easterly corner of the Paulpietersburg district. This corner is formed by the junction of the Pongolo and Pivaan rivers. Our outpost in this section is about eight miles from Hartland and can be worked most easily by horse-back. The Government supervisor of these farms has a plan to bring in 50 new families (Natives) into this section. It is a very mountainous section with few level places suitable for ploughing. It is a section with a dark history of tribal jealousy, witchcraft, and murders. It seems that many of the people who were not willing to stay and work on the European farms found a retreat in this section. At one time there was a native who lived by robbery, hiding in the wooded thickets and cliffs: coming suddenly upon some defenceless person or taking advantage of some kraal when the inmates were absent or asleep. He was supposed to carry a revolver, and was eventually rounded up by a strong force of police. To the Missionary it is a section of deep need and a challenge to the message of the Gospel. The gospel message has been sounded forth in this section for many years. Old Aloni Mkonza, who has gone on to his eternal reward, preached and visited and ministered to the people of this section. Quite a few women and children became Christians but the men seemed to keep their hard hearts

shut to the Gospel appeal. It still is considered as a hard section, and I think that the men pride themselves in this fact. Even the few women Christians we had there seem to have weakened and some are not attending services now. So we need to put forth new effort in the Lujajwane section. To revive the weak ones, to bring back the backsliders and to push into new territory. There are more kraals down beyond the lofty and proud "Sibhobo," the mountain that has a small hill on its summit. There are to be 50 more kraals sometime in the future, if the above mentioned plan goes through. Here again is a good opportunity for definite prayer and hard work.

Yours happy to be in His service,  
C. D. M. SANDERS.

Altona M. S.,  
December 1, 1948.

Dear Praying Friends,

"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man (woman, boy or girl) availeth much." This is another appeal to you, beloved "prayer warriors," to gird up your loins and pray still more fervently; more effectually; more earnestly and persistently—may be with fasting to "lay upon the horns of the altar" in greater faith still for those I mentioned in my last appeal. Oh, I know you did pray and letters tell of so many praying, but, beloved, the "cloud" of the token of the fulfillment of God's promise has not yet appeared. Can't you just picture Elijah praying the rain down? Time after time, again and again he prayed and after each prayer he sent his servant to scan the most distant horizon for a cloud. Then with more zeal and desperation he wrestled in still more fervent pleadings with God, until he had prayed thus seven times. And only then was the mighty faith of that great man rewarded. Daniel, the Praying Saint of old, draws the curtain aside for us to catch a glimpse of the awful powers we have to contend and wrestle with; they are not "flesh and blood," but "principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness of this world and 'wicked spirits'," (marginal reference). But, thank God, "the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty through God (or 'to God'—marginal reference) to the pulling down of strongholds." Before Daniel actually got down to praying, the heavenly messenger was sent with the reply. But just see what happened! Had Daniel not fasted and prayed on he may never have had his prayer answered. When Christ came down from the mountain he delivered a lad of an evil spirit which disciples failed to do. (Mk 9:14-29). In reply to their question as to why they failed, Jesus replied, "This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting."

I have felt assured that God wills to restore Sister Gladys, and Bros. George Sanders and Paul Nkosi to health and to His work. And yet the first and last are not getting better, and George's leg has not healed completely yet. It has come to me with force of late, it is not that God does not hear our prayers but that the Devil may be hindering the answer like in the case of Daniel. And unless we persevere and travail in prayer and with fasting the Heavenly Messenger may not get through with the answer. May God help our faith to increase a hundred-fold that we may successfully wield those "mighty weapons" that the "strongholds" may collapse, the answer get through, and Jesus will be enabled to "take these by the hand and lift them up." Oh, we need your prayers. Sister Mary is tenderly ministering to Gladys (in Vryheid) who is