

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Hartland Mission Station, Af.

January 9th, 1949

Dear Friends:

I have just been reading in Acts 8 about the revival Philip had in Samaria. We need one just like it out here. We need the Holy Ghost if we are to accomplish anything for God. In our own strength we can preach our heads off, and accomplish nothing—with the Holy Ghost nothing is impossible. My heart longs to see a revival and the ingathering of these souls who sit in darkness and the shadow of death. When Ezekiel saw the valley of dry bones and the Lord asked him if he thought those bones could live, he said: "Lord, Thou knowest." Then the Lord told him to prophesy to them and I think that as he prophesied his faith increased. The Holy Ghost came and soon the dry bones became an "exceeding great army." "According to your faith be it unto you," said Jesus. May my faith be great enough to believe for the dry bones here in Africa. Our prayer is that this year we may see an "exceeding great army" come out of heathen darkness into the marvellous Light of God. Join with us, friends, in praying and believing.

Christmas is now in the past. For the cards, letters and enclosures, parcels and good wishes, we all join in sending grateful thanks. God bless you each one. You certainly do not forget us. All these remembrances help to make our Christmas happier. Pamela, especially, could hardly wait until the parcels were opened; her war-cry seemed to be "Open. My see!" (Let me see!) You can imagine our joy when Brother Kierstead arrived the Wednesday before Christmas, bringing George and Grace. They stayed until Monday, and we had a very happy time together. On Monday Brother Kierstead came and took George, Grace and Charlie to Altona to the Quarterly. On Friday we had a small celebration for the Christians here who wouldn't be getting over to Altona for the Big Christmas. George brought the message, which all enjoyed. We had special songs by three of the families who live on the farm. We tried to get a goat, but couldn't find one anywhere, so we gave them all a cup of coffee and a match-box. I had parcels of clothing, kindly sent from you folk at home, and Grace gave out lots of soap while Charlie and George donated neckties to the boys. Really, they did enjoy it, and we also received a blessing in trying to make their day a happy one. Grace is holding the fort at Altona, and George has returned to Johannesburg Hospital for further treatment.

This week-end Charlie is at Lujowwanu, one of our needy outposts. The new plan for this year has very few free week-ends; pray for your missionary as he takes these trips. Pray for me as I try to minister the word here Sunday by Sunday, that souls may be helped. My Zulu is poor, but God can use even poor Zulu, if we are faithful in giving out the Word. There is one old man who attends quite faithfully. He is the father of Kelina Mtetwa, one of our workers. He is almost persuaded to become a Christian, but when there is beer around he just can't stay away from the beer-pots. But God is able to break every fetter. He is just one of the many in this section who need God. Pray for him.

We need rain, "showers of blessing," upon the souls about us; we need rain for our crops.

We believe God is going to give us both.

In Christian love,

MYRA SANDERS

Vryheid, Natal,
January 22, 1949

Dear Highway Friends:

Greetings to you all in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

How true it is that "Time and tide wait for no man." Already another Christmas Day has passed and we have entered a new year. May the Lord help each one of His children to purpose by His grace to make this year 1949 a much more profitable year in every way than was the year 1948. We do praise God for all that was accomplished during the preceding year, but we must press on to hold the banner of Holiness higher, and so live before men that it won't be quite so difficult for them to believe in our Christ who died that they might live.

Looking forward to Christmas, none of us feel too cheerful this year. Just a few days before Christmas Sister Gladys was so very ill, how could anybody enjoy himself while there was in the house one almost sick unto death, and especially the mother of the home, and beloved by all? But God overruled and gave Gladys some extra strength for that very day. We celebrated our Christmas in Sister Gladys' bedroom, and everybody pronounced the whole day a great success. Brother Eugene carried Gladys out to the dining room couch for the Christmas dinner and even it was successful, much to the relief of the cook. None of us failed to remember the lowly Nazarene, whose birthday we celebrated. How wonderful it is that we as His followers can enjoy such Christian fellowship!

Naturally at this season our thoughts turn to all the dear Christian friends and loved ones in the homeland. Apparently, too, many of you thought about us as is evidenced by the many parcels, cards, letters and calendars received and still some are on the way. God bless you everyone. We do thank you from the very depths of our hearts for every token of your thoughtfulness. Some of you I believe really sacrifice to send these parcels. God Himself will reward you. I've said to Gladys different times: "It is the thought behind this parcel that moves me." God loveth a cheerful giver, so there must be many people in the Maritimes, Maine and in other places that He loves.

God's plans and purposes are very often hidden from our eyes so at the moment we cannot understand why Gladys, George and Paul Nkosi have been laid aside, and why I too seemingly am taken away from the work to which He called me. But He doeth all things well. I, on my part, am seeking to make everything that happens to me an opportunity for growth in grace. Never shall we reach the top of this spiritual ladder. There is always with everyone of us some scope for spiritual growth. Let us not be saved, sanctified and petrified, but let us be saved, sanctified and steadily growing into a closer relationship with our Master. How are our attitudes? Are they Christlike or are they selfish—God bless you! I love you all and pray for you.

Yours for souls at home and in Africa,

MARY CAMPBELL

P. S.—We feel sure God is answering prayer on behalf of those now laid aside. There is an improvement in Sister Gladys' condition. Hallelujah!

226 Market St., Vryheid,

February 11, 1949.

Dear Highway Friends:

Greetings to you all in Jesus' name. How I rejoice tonight that I know Him as my Saviour and Sanctifier! Truly He is a Friend that sticketh closer than a brother and I do love Him with all my heart.

Monday, I am leaving for Bremersdorp to undergo an operation at the Nazarene hospital. The doctor says my appendix must come out if I am to be well and these last few weeks I have had reason to believe that he is right. I go with no qualms knowing that all things are in His hands and that I'll be much more efficient in His work after this ordeal is over. The operation will be over next Wednesday, before this reaches you but perhaps even now some of you dear friends have been carrying a special burden for me. Won't all of you please pray that I may have a speedy recovery as we are already short handed in this work due to the illness of Sister Gladys and Bro. George Sanders. Sister Grace has been at Altona but she will have to come here to be with Gladys for a short time and leave Altona in the charge of the native workers. Pray about that work too. After my operation I'll stay two weeks at Hartland with Myra and then come here to release Grace for Altona.

The work of the Lord is progressing in this part of His vineyard despite the efforts put forth by the enemy to undermine it. Young people are making a start in this Christian journey. Rev. Johannesi is now in Piet Retief with his wife and family. Pray for them that they may keep humble and that they may win many souls for the Master. The official church opening will be next month. The Lord has wonderfully answered prayer re much needed iron for the roof of the school room at Altona. When others could locate NO iron Bro. Eugene was able to obtain it. Of course it cost something and the mission funds were insufficient so we have had and will have to tread softly until after next pay day. Pray and give, friends! If you cannot give, pray that God will move the hearts of those who can. In one of our small outposts a whole family started to serve God. Pray that all may soon know that their sins are gone—that the Blood of Jesus has washed them all away.

Sister Gladys won't be able to write for a few days. (Thank God, though, she is able to write some now!) She is improving some in health for which we praise God. We, she and I have been through some hard times together. When we were at Altona and Gladys was so sick, much nearer death than either of us realized and no car at home, Bro. Eugene away and miles from a doctor, we did find a haven of refuge in our Saviour. How much your prayers have helped, you may not know this side of eternity but we know that God is answering prayer. Keep praying. Gladys isn't completely well yet, by any means.

Thanks again, friends for remembering us at Christmas. It isn't the gift or the card so much (as much as we appreciate them) as it is the friendliness and thoughtfulness behind such. It does help to know that so many of you have us on your hearts. God bless you!

The work in the homeland is on our hearts. May God send great revivals in every one of our churches. He will if we will do our part. May He especially bless our Bible College and may He use those graduating this year to win