

## MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Altona Mission Station,  
August 2, 1950

Dear Highway Friends:

Our Missionary effort as a denomination continues to make progress. Many changes have come to the work here in the last few years and all for the betterment of our Foreign Mission effort.

Generally speaking the pioneer phase of the work is all but finished except of course in our extension program. There is much the same sort of indifference here as to vital salvation as in the homeland. The natives are not running over the hills to hear the Gospel as perhaps in days of yore. Many have come face to face with the "Light of Divine Truth" and chosen their own way. Many are interested in just the loaves and fishes" or indirect material benefits of our Great Salvation.

As a body of investors in our African Church effort we need to keep in mind we are investing not for time alone but for eternity. There is a great competition on in the religious realm here between denominations for building sites, etc., as in the homeland. We have the work of building for permanence on our old sites in such a way as to place us in a position where we can carry on at least on a favorable comparative basis with other denominational efforts. Hence the need instead of grass huts for church services. We find it important in our well established centres to build permanently and just off the original primitive scale not only churches but school houses and church school combinations these buildings of burned brick, steel window frames and corrugated iron roofs, thus using the standard building materials here of our day. These buildings thus equipped by your generous giving place us on a material par with other church efforts. Our old mission homes are very primitive in construction and equipment and as we build new missionary homes in our new centres we plan to build so as to have homes for our missionaries as good as the average European home. However, in the plans out here our extension program is first and the erection of churches and schools with permanent materials comes as a balance.

Wherever our missionary and native workers have gone our prestige has been high as a denomination in the proclamation of Scriptural Holiness and even heathen people are proud to have their kinfolk active Christians in our great church effort.

Now we come to your investment greatly privileged and thus greatly obligated folk in the homeland. There are 8,000,000 natives in the Union of South Africa for whom Jesus died and He asks us to invest in them as He has given to us so largely. As workers here we need within the next two years \$7,000 for our building and extension program, actually \$3.50 per member outside of your regular Society giving. The co-operation of all interested in the salvation of souls in heathen darkness is needed now. We appreciated the generous response from our January last Highway letter, from a Friend of \$1,000 which made possible the clearing of the church and school project of Altona Mission Station for the next five years. Also the gift of \$100 from our Maple Ridge Church for a church building here. These investments speak of the co-operation needed now in our Foreign work. Of the above mentioned investment to be made, we suggest the following places for your invest-

ment in this immediate future:

Louwsburg Mission Station:

Church Building and Mission House....\$2,000  
Msobotshem:

Preacher's house, and the people also are calling for a church and because of competitive forces we also call for \$750 for permanent type buildings on this our property of 20 acres.

How is your love for souls? We prove our love by our works. You can have a great eternal investment if you will.

Yours for souls to His glory,

R. H. and MRS. PARKS

P. O. Box 33,

Vryheid, Natal,

August 4, 1950

Dear Highway Friends:

Greetings in Jesus' name!

Sometimes Africa seems oh, so far from Canada, and pangs of loneliness creep into my heart. Christmas and Beulah are perhaps the worst times. Isn't it blessed at such times to know our Saviour as a companion and a friend "that sticketh closer than a brother"?

During the month of July I was in D. V. B. S. work. Friends in the homeland must have prayed much about this even as we did because it seemed that the enemy fought my going away up until the very last moment. Sister Gladys had been improving slightly, and her faith and zeal for this phase of the Lord's work was such that whether or not she would manage without me for that month, when we learned that the doctor and dentist were having a consultation with her about having her teeth extracted. Such would indeed be a major matter for one in her state of health. Then Sister Charles Sanders suffered a severe setback after a minor operation, peritonitis setting in, and she was here in the Vryheid Hospital very sick for a period, coming to the Kiersteads afterwards to convalesce and to take further treatments. Some might say that these were signs that I should not go, but, knowing that our foe is very subtle we kept praying and believing and God did open doors. Praise Him!

God does honor any honest efforts put forth for the advancement of His cause and kingdom. In Piet Retief, due to the Quarterly and the way the holidays occurred we only had D. V. B. S. from Monday until the following Tuesday. The first day, despite the fact that it had been well announced, only 20 were out. We, Joanna Bembe and I, taught from 10-1 and then in the afternoon we went from kraal to kraal visiting. The second day the attendance trebled and the third day, half as many again, reaching as high as 99. Pastoral calls pay, don't they?

'Tis a different task here from that in the homeland. Even the simplest lessons have to be taught in Zulu. This is very difficult for us newer missionaries. When it comes to explaining clearly and in Zulu, the way of salvation and of holiness, I feel great insufficiency in myself. Then to have any older children attend, we must also have all the baby brothers and sisters. Have you ever tried to preach or explain something amid the din of howling infants? Or with older children running in and out after baby bottles, etc.? This scene was usually enacted while we were endeavouring to get all the names written down and giving out the cards. After the opening exercises, all of the babies under school age were sent outside under the capable leadership of one of our church girls, Monacia, Johannes's daughter.

She taught them choruses, Bible verses, etc. Every day we had a time for altar calls and made a special effort to lead children to the Saviour. And we did have the joy of seeing faces contorted with conviction, light up with peace as the Holy Spirit wrought works of grace in hearts. At the closing, several new voices were raised in definite testimony.

After the Quarterly we went to Paulpietersburg. There the work was much the same but more difficult. More "babies" came and we didn't have a very competent teacher for them. Too, mothers and grandmothers came and sat through the whole morning, occupying seats that were so badly needed. And the kraals were farther apart necessitating much more walking. Still the Lord did wonderfully undertake as we had some real victories in this wicked native location. At the first we didn't hear one voice raised in the testimony, but at the close several testified that they had been saved. To God be the glory. They need our prayers as many came from wicked kraals, have drinking parents, etc.

Now I am back at my old job for a short period. Sister Gladys' teeth were so badly infected that the poison from them has affected her kidneys, liver and bladder, so she is back to the breathless, sleepless nights. Praise God for the privilege of being able to help in this time of need. Soon she will be better and by that time we may have more recruits and we may know how to more efficiently form "the line of battle." God bless you one and all.

Yours for souls,

MARY

### WHAT IS HOLINESS?

The question is sometimes asked, "What do you mean by holiness?" Holiness is the human heart emptied of sin and filled with the love of God. It is nothing more than that, nothing less than that, and nothing else than that. It is to the soul what good health is to the body. It means wholeness and completeness spiritually. It is a beautiful word from the scriptures describing a wonderful work of grace whereby believers enter into this moral quality of being. It results in a closer fellowship with the Holy Spirit and a deeper Christian experience. Such a state is possible in this present life through the blood of Christ, by the Holy Spirit, through a study of God's Word, and as a result of a simple act of faith. Such a condition can be your experience. It is possible of one's humanity, yes—of one's divinity, for the excellency of this treasure we have in earthen vessels. Holiness has outlived the mistakes of its well meaning friends, and the persecution and bitter hatred of its enemies. It is not confined to any one denomination for there are holy men and women in all churches. Men, far distant, separated by time and space, in every age, without any possibility of, or motive for collusion, have witnessed to it.

What do we mean by the holiness movement? It is the effort on the part of all who hold this doctrinal position to spread the teaching to others. Many lesser known and little known organizations are built up about it. In the statement of faith of most old line churches there is a reference to sanctification. They may disagree on when one gets it or how one gets it, but all insist that it is a pre-requisite for getting into the better world than this one. Since spiritual liberty is the very essence of democracy, the fertile soil of Americanism seems to have given rise to the spread of the holiness teachings.—Selected.