

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Altona, M. S.,
South Africa,
16th July, '50

Dear Highway:

Greetings in Jesus' precious name. Truly His name is "Wonderful" which again He has proved to us. We had a season of prayer, at the close of the service, to praise God today, for the great surprise which Brother Kierstead brought to us yesterday—can you guess? Yes, it was Sister Gladys! They stayed over-night and left this morning. When Sister Gladys left here, one year and nine months ago, she had to be carried out to the car. Today she walked out and, though her strength is very small, it is wonderful to see how much she has improved. Praise the Lord!

On June the 3rd I asked God's brown, hand-maiden to pray for me. (The Altona Bible Woman.) God undertook for me and I am much better. On the 17th I went to Hartland to help with the home and children as Myra was convalescing in Vryheid, at the Kiersteads. The preparations for entertaining the Quarterly went forward well. We had a fine session, and God blessed. A goodly crowd came to stay all through. Sister Myra and Mary; Brother Kierstead and Glendon and Reggie were present, and Bro. and Sister Parks, so we had a full house. I was able to attend only one business-session and the closing service on Sunday. My heart was blessed to see eight infants and children brought to be blessed, and six given the right hand of fellowship who had followed the Lord in Baptism. One of these seems to feel a call to preach though just a lad. After the service Bro. Kierstead took a load to Altona and Piet Retief and returned from Vryheid on Tuesday to bring me over. He had a native man, Glendon and Kennie with him. The native man built the brick-kiln putting in coal as he went. When Bro. Kierstead arrived yesterday to fetch him he hadn't finished—planning to complete the job tomorrow. After a little clever manoeuvring things began to hum. Soon there were a string of men, headed by the Missionary, hurrying to the tap for water. Our Altona Preacher carried a drum on his head very ably. Bricks and mud were flying in the air and, presto! the job was finished, and the kiln fired. I just went up to see it before supper and what a heat! Already some of the bricks are red-hot. In the past the bricks have been burned with wood—a hard job. A man has to work two or three days and nights to keep the fires fed. Soon the church building can be continued.

I had a call for medicine for a sick child, one day in June. The face of the woman seemed familiar. After a bit I remembered her. What a change! She no longer wore heathen clothes! She told me she has just recently "chosen the Lord" at Klipvaal. She was one of my confinement cases at Hartland seven or so years ago. I asked, "What made you want to seek God?" She replied, "It was the words which you spoke to me while I was in the Hospital. I had no living child, having lost three at birth. You told me that if I would "believe" and follow God, He would bless me with living children. I have two now, so I think it is time I took my stand for the Lord." We had a nice talk and I prayed for her. This incident was indeed an encouragement. From the first I

have made it a point to try to speak to every one who comes even though just a few words. God has promised that "His Word shall not return unto Him void."

As I sat down to write I remembered it is the last day of the camp at Beulah! About 2 p. m., so, as daily, I asked God to be with you in a wonderful way, giving blessing and victory, far exceeding, abundantly above what we can ask or think."

Though absent in body we're present in Spirit. God bless you all.

Yours for souls,

GRACE SANDERS

Altona Mission Station

Dear Highway Friends:

The time passes so quickly as we continue the survey of our South African field, and the gathering of information so vital to the present and future progress of our denominational effort here. It is important not only to visit the Mission Centres and their outposts, but we find it very essential to get close to the natives by visiting them in their kraals and huts. This we are endeavoring to do as much as possible. Such contacts already are doing much for the work here. The map of our Mission Field Area with all possible information thereon is all but completed. A large pamphlet of information to inspire our people's investment at home is being prepared and this with a map will be made available to each Society on my return to the homeland. These should provide in a great way a closer co-operation in Foreign Mission ventures. Also we are keeping our movie camera busy catching as many views of the work in its different phases as possible for your study and information.

At present wife and I are located at Hartland Mission Station, enjoying the kind hospitality and effective co-operation of Rev. and Mrs. C. D. M. Sanders. Brother Charles and I are appreciating the values of a fine Christian fellowship in the work. The travelling by bicycle, on foot and by horse-back and visiting many kraals through the week is interesting. We contact on the average nearly two score people per day and hold some 5 to 8 services daily on this venture. It is a privilege to thus minister and the responses are encouraging indeed.

Sister Grace Sanders seems to be much improved in health and is carrying on at Altona, getting packed up and ready for her furlough.

All over the Field notable progress has been made in this past year. Truly God has done great things for us whereof we are glad and thankful to Him. To God be the glory.

In closing let me leave these few thoughts with you: One often hears the statement that Foreign Mission work entails great sacrifice. This is especially the view of those who do not live close to the Lord. The more consecrated and yielded our lives are to the will of the Lord, the less thought there is of sacrifice in Christian service. As the word of God becomes more precious to us and our lives more committed to His will, missionary investment in "giving" and "going" is not regarded as sacrifice. It is an eternal investment.

The following scriptural passages should help us in our investment in souls for His Glory: "Lay up for yourselves treasures in Heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth

corrupt." "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." "Every one of us shall give an account of himself to God." "He that winneth souls is wise." Precious believers, invest yourselves, your talents, your possessions in abiding values in ventures for God. So many Christians try to take advantage of this privilege of salvation and fail to see the accompanying responsibilities.

Beloved, let us arise and meet the challenge of our Foreign Field as never before in worthwhile investments. God is depending upon us. Some **must** "go," others **must** "give," and all **must** "pray." Jesus said, the Gospel **must** be preached among the nations." Let us hasten to the work. The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers so few. "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the Harvest that He will send forth labourers into His Harvest."

Yours on the Foreign Mission Front,

R. H. and MRS. PARKS

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Highway:

Millville, N. B.,

Aug. 8th, 1950

Just a few lines this beautiful summer morning. We have just closed the Tent Meeting at Nortondale, and we are glad to report a real good meeting. The tent was full every night, and on Sundays there were as many outside as were inside. People came from many distant points, and sought the Lord. There were 30 seekers in all either for salvation, sanctification or reclamation. Brother and Sister Mullen preached with unction, and their singing, together with Paul's good music, drew many to the Gospel tent. We would liked to have gone on longer, but Brother Mullen felt he must rest a few days before going on to his next meeting. Sunday afternoon at Nortondale, we had a baptism, when between two and three hundred people thronged the bridge and river banks to witness four candidates follow their Lord in this way. The presence of the Lord was felt in a marked manner. We feel God is with us and helping in every way on this circuit. In June, fourteen candidates were baptized here in Millville with five uniting with the Millville Church and six with the Maple Ridge Church; also at Lr. Hainesville, two were baptized and two others united with the church there. We are looking forward to another baptism at Lr. Hainesville in the near future.

The church here at Millville has been newly finished inside and out, and a rededication service is being planned for August 13th with Rev. Mr. Brooks as the speaker at this union service.

We have had already three successful D. V. B. Schools at Nortondale, Hawkins Corner and Lower Hainesville, and one planned for here at Millville. Brother Fred McCormick is the director with others helping him.

Brother Wm. Morgan, Jr., has been assisting us on this field this summer. He and the Y. P. S. have been holding services at Cloverdale in addition to the regular services at Hawkins Corner and Nortondale, and D. V. we expect to continue to minister in that community after he leaves and goes back to Bethany. Pray for us. There is much work to be done. The harvest is great and labourers few.

Yours for Holiness,

J. A. & MRS. OW