

MISSIONARY PAGE

FROM THE FIELD

ALTONA MISSION STATION

Dear Christian Friends:

Greetings in Jesus' name from South Africa. I guess it is about time I sat down and wrote a letter to my Highway friends. Upon looking at my little book, I find that I have not written since October. Time seems to go by too fast and I never seem to do all that I had planned.

Miss Campbell was here the past two weeks making necessary preparations for D.V.B.S. She left on Saturday for Piet Retief and will be returning here on Monday. Then she and I will be going to Kipunyawo for ten days of D.V.B.S. the Lord willing. Then we are planning to go to Vryheid for Christmas.

I wish to thank you at this time for your thoughtfulness at this Christmas season. We eagerly await post day, not knowing what surprises it will bring. I find it hard not to open the Christmas gifts at once, but have done pretty good thus far. It will not seem very much like Christmas this year, being my first year away from home and loved ones. Then, too, Christmas coming in midsummer will be very strange.

I praise my blessed Lord tonight for His great love for me—His love that saved me from sin and set me free from the things of the world. I praise Him for the calling He has given me, and He has not left me alone.

We will soon be facing another New Year, but praise God we do not have to face it alone. The past year has brought many changes in my life, but I am glad to be where I am. I would rather be here in Africa in His will than at home outside of His will. He will guide over life's road if we are willing to be led. What a wonderful God we serve! Praise His precious name!

A Merry Christmas to you all and a Happy New Year.

Yours in His service,
NINA SMITH.

HARTLAND MISSION STATION

Dear Friends,

The end of the year is fast approaching, and we are again nearing the beautiful Christmas season. May the Lord help us to understand better just why He came to earth, and what He would have us do about it. There are still so many who have not been freed from the chains of sin. But we are very glad to know that there are many who have found Him as their personal Saviour and Sanctifier, and Keeper.

May this Christmas be a very blessed one to each member of our Denomination. And we trust that the New Year will be filled with new hope, and success for each child of God.

The Christmas Quarterly is to be here at Hartland this year, so we are praying for special help and blessing from the Lord. We look forward to hearing reports of the progress of the work of the Lord from all sections of this field. Yes there will be some problems and difficulties to try to find the solution for but we are glad that God is able to do for us far above what we ask or think. The weather conditions more or less determine how many

will be able to attend. If the rivers are full it is much more difficult for the people from the Transvaal and Lowsburg areas to get here. We are having a dry spell at the present time, so the rivers are low, but we usually get rain at Christmas time.

We have received quite a few parcels of clothing for the Natives recently, and these will find good use for Christmas presents for some of the needy Christians. These things are greatly appreciated by our Native Christians, so we take this opportunity of extending to you their appreciation.

Quite a few parcels have come for your missionaries also, from various churches and individuals. The presents are done up so nicely that they add much to the fruits of the Christmas tree. Esther felt that we should have Christmas right away, after we had opened some parcels. Since then she keeps asking when we will have Christmas. We thank you all for your kind thoughts, the beautiful cards that keep coming, these nice presents and your prayers and support. The Missionaries have some hardships to endure: but they also have many extra blessings, and one of these is the coming of parcels from the many friends in the homeland. May God bless you each one.

Yesterday I was up in our Cibini area visiting some of the new native kraals that have been moved into this area from the Lowsburg district. I invited members of the seven kraals to attend a Gospel service in the kraal of Mr. Mbokazi, whose home was near the centre of this group of dwellings. About 22 people gathered and we had a good meeting. These people seemed more interested than usual. After the meeting I gave out some Scripture Gift Mission booklets—one for each kraal. I trust that the Lord will find some hearts that will respond to His offer of Salvation.

Sunday we had a meeting at our Myeni section. One member in this section has been ill for a very long time and it now seems that the end is near for her upon earth. She was not able to attend the service; so after it was over we went into her little hut and sang a hymn and had prayers for her. She sang too, but her voice is very weak. After we had prayed she testified to having good faith in the Lord and asking that she might keep true to Him. We were encouraged to hear her testimony, and to know that she has consistently refused to accept any of the evil methods of treatment such as demon installation to try to regain her health. There was something that she felt she should settle with her brother, so he was called and came from some distant place. It seems that this brother lost a little board of medicine and thought that she had found it and would use it to kill him with, or bewitch his children; so he stopped coming to her home. She explained to him that she did not find the board in question and that she had no such evil intentions, so he said that the matter was settled, but to confirm this he gave her ten shillings: which I suppose was sort of a means of atoning for his evil thoughts of his sister. There is another old church member in that section and this old lady visits her neighbour regularly and prays with her and does what she can for her comfort. In her testimony she said that she hoped that the ill woman would not steal away when she was not present. She wished

to be there when her fellow Christian took her departure from this world. We are glad for the Natives that Jesus has Redeemed from the night of sin and heathenism.

Yours happy in His service,
Charles and Myra Sanders
and the three little girls.

ALTONA MISSION STATION

Dear Highway Friends;

Greetings in the precious name of Jesus from Altona.

This I think has been the most exciting Christmas season I have ever experienced. Many Christmas parcels, cards, and letters, etc., have arrived—some from intimate friends—some from acquaintances—others from people we do not even know. Everything has been gratefully received and at this time I would like to express my sincere thanks to all who have helped to make my Christmas a merry one. As soon as possible I will be writing each of you, but for the present please accept of my heart felt thanks through The Highway. May the Lord bless you richly for your kindness.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish each one in The Highway family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I pray that each day of 1952 may be a Christ filled day for you.

Christ is very precious to me these days. Truly, every day with Jesus is sweeter than the day before.

Yours in Christ,
UTA CHASE.

THE CALL TO BE A MISSIONARY

David Livingstone

For my part, I have never ceased to rejoice that God has appointed me to such an office. People talk of the sacrifice I have made in spending so much of my life in Africa. Can that be called a sacrifice which is simply paid back as a small part of a great debt owing to our God, which we can never repay? Is that a sacrifice which brings its own best reward in healthful activity, the consciousness of doing good, peace of mind and a bright hope of a glorious destiny hereafter? Away with the thought in such a view, and with such a thought! It is emphatically no sacrifice. Say, rather, it is a privilege. Anxiety, sickness, suffering or danger now and then, with a fore-going of the common conveniences and charities of this life, make us pause, and cause the spirit to waver and the soul to sink, but let this only be for a moment. All these are nothing when compared with the glory which shall hereafter be revealed in and for us. I never made a sacrifice. Of this we ought not to talk when we remember the great sacrifice which He made who left His Father's throne on high to give Himself for us: "Who, being the brightness of that Father's glory, and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high."

"Oh, make my life one blazing fire
Of pure and fervent heart desire;
The lost to find, the low to raise,
And give them cause Thy name to praise,
Because, wherever I may go,
I show Thy power to every foe!"

The King's Highway