

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

1010 Avenue de Coulonge,
Sillery, Quebec City, P. Q.,
July 25, 1951

Dear Highway Friends:

We have received so many inquiries regarding my mother-in-law's illness, hospitalization, and subsequent death, that I have found it quite impossible to answer each one individually so will you all please accept this letter as a reply to your cards, letters and flowers? Mrs. Keirstead appreciated all the "get well" letters and cards, and the flowers, which she received while in the hospital, and she asked me to convey her thanks to you all. She was unable to write and I was too busy visiting the hospital every day and looking after my home. The hospital is three miles from our house.

Mrs. Keirstead's decline was a very gradual one. Shortly after Xmas she had several attacks of "Flu" of various types which weakened her and started her on the downward trend. After March she seemed to have dizzy spells and a series of falls. She had to choose between staying in bed all the time or moving about and risking a fall. She chose the latter, and in spite of almost constant watching, she had two serious falls. The last one was on May 25th. It did not appear to be serious at first, but after 10 days had passed we noticed that the pain did not subside and the doctor now thought she should go to the hospital for medical treatment and nursing care. She entered on June 3rd.

After a week in the hospital they decided to put on a cast. This was an ordeal in many ways as it was so uncomfortable during the hot weather, but it did lessen the pain. After two and a half weeks the cast was removed and she did not complain of her back again.

She improved for a week after this and was able to sit up by her bed for short periods. She soon became weaker, her eyesight failed, and the week before her death she imagined all her visitors were old friends from down East and the two nurses were her nieces. This made her very happy and was a great blessing.

The day before she died she knew us all, including the children, and around 5 p. m. she slipped into a coma and just slept away without any pain. The minute breath left her body I knew she was in a better land, and as much as we miss her we would not wish her back even if we could.

What this world needs is more mothers-in-law like her. I have compared her with many others and have not found her lacking. I have always heard it said that to know a person you have to live with them. I feel that I knew her well after living with her for twelve years. In spite of the fact that due to her poor physical health she was a great care, her life has enriched mine.

She had a good Christian spirit. She practised what she preached. She was slow to anger and quick to forgive. She gave what she had to others and asked little in return. She looked for the best in everyone and usually found it. She had great faith in God and in man. There was no jealousy in her make-up and no deceit in her nature. She controlled her temper and her tongue. She was charitable and kind to others and appreciated even the smallest kindness or attention from others. She was a saint if ever one lived on this earth.

Her passing has left a gap in our home and in our lives which no one can ever fill, but to live forever in the hearts of those you love is not to die.

Sincerely yours,
ENID MARGUERITE KEIRSTEAD
(Mrs. Karl F.)

Hartland Mission Station,
Via Paulpietersburg,
Natal, South Africa,
August 2nd, 1951.

Dear Friends:

Greetings again from Africa. I won't say "sunny" this time because everyone says it's been one of the coldest winters they have seen. One day while at the July Quarterly at Altona, some of us had occasion to go to Vryheid and we actually saw snow a mile or two away. We had a very good Quarterly and all felt that it was good to be there.

Last week I had a D. V. B. S. here at Hartland. There were 81 names on the roll and the highest attendance on one day was 54. Some of the children listened very intently, and we just prayed that the Holy Ghost would apply the Word to their hearts until they would really yield to the Lord. While I was carrying on D. V. B. S. here at the station, Charlie and a team of native workers were going out in different directions each day, visiting and having an evening service in a different kraal each evening. On Saturday evening the service was held here on the station and during that service, six young people gave themselves to the Lord. How my heart rejoiced when Charlie came home and told me that. Immediately there flashed to my mind the verse, "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you and ordained you that ye should go and bring forth fruit and that your fruit should remain." Join with us in praying that these young people will go all the way through with the Lord.

Mary and Nina had been holding a D.V.B.S. in the Paulpietersburg location, and they came down on Saturday. Mary kindly took the Sunday Young People's service and the Young People did enjoy it. There were between 50 and 60 present. We had a good Sunday p. m. service, with the blessing of the Lord upon us as Nina brought the message, Charlie interpreting for her. We do feel that this week of special revival effort has been worthwhile and continue to pray that the Word that was preached may yet bring forth fruit.

We are glad to hear good reports from Beulah. May the Lord help us each one to be more effective in His service in this new church year.

I am happy and contented in His will here in Africa and mean to do my best for the salvation of others.

Yours, happy in Him,
MYRA SANDERS.

Altona Mission Station,
P. O. Delfkom,
Via Piet Retief,
Transvaal, S. A.,
August 12, 1951.

Dear Highway Friends:

Today is Sunday and what a perfect day it has been. The sun has been shining warmly, the breeze has been refreshing but most of all the sun shine of God's love has been pouring down upon us. We are happy and content in the Lord. This afternoon Sister Nina brought a wonderful message from the words, "Be ye

not deceived". It was a powerful, heart searching message,—blessed with the unction and power of the Holy Spirit. We were also caused to rejoice over the good number out to service. The last two Sundays have shown marked improvement in numbers and we are praising Him for it.

We are also rejoicing over the increase in the student enrollment here at Altona in the day school. We now have one hundred and fourteen students registered and three teachers. Isn't that wonderful? All of the teachers are Christians and we feel that this is a good contact as many of the students are from heathen homes.

Sister Nina and I have been kept busy with the medical work. Many of the cases are very interesting and we are enjoying especially that part of the work. As you know our work is of a necessity limited, to some extent, with our lack of knowledge concerning the language. Sometimes it does tend to make one discouraged, especially when one is seen in heathen darkness, and we so long to tell them that Jesus loves them and can and will save them from their sins. But we are trying to put to use the abilities that God has given us to His honor and glory, although they are small.

Needless to say many of the medical cases have been beyond our abilities and we have had to phone for the district doctor to come from Piet Retief. Yesterday afternoon we were called out to a bicycle accident about a mile away. Both boys were seriously injured and the most we could do was administer First-Aid while the doctor was on his way. After we arrived some of the Bible women arrived and prayed for the boys. I thought, this is another way of reaching the people with Salvation.

This letter for the most part has been one of Praise and encouraging news but while our hearts have been made happy over the church work, etc., it has been made sad because of Sister Gladys' recent set back. Brother Keirstead was down today on his way to Kipunyawo and said that she is very breathless again and gets very little sleep either day or night. How we do long to see her up and about enjoying good health. Jesus is the Great Physician and we are praying that He will make her every whit whole even as He healed the sick when He was here on earth. HE IS ABLE. Let us pray together in faith believing that the work will be done.

In closing, I am happy in Jesus, content in His will, and mean to keep true to His calling.

Yours for Souls,
UTA CHASE.

"ONWARD CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS"

Soon after I was saved, I entered the British Army in World War I. You know a soldier has to be trained. He is taken out of ordinary civilian life, given a special uniform, and put through rugged training. He must learn how to live anywhere, eat anything, sleep anywhere. He expects the end of his soldiering to be a life laid down for his cause. It is a complete dedication. Therefore Paul said to Timothy, "Thou therefore endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please Him who hath chosen him to be a soldier."

While still a young man I had to learn that