

## MISSIONARY PAGE

### FROM LOUWSBURG, NATAL

Dear Young People:

Greetings in Jesus' name.

We enjoyed the very interesting letter sent us by your Secretary from Beulah. It was good to get this news. Not being able to attend ourselves it is appreciated when some one sends us some of the good news. Beulah holds a sacred place in our memories and we are glad that this year's camp was a time of spiritual uplift and salvation for all those who were of honest and receptive hearts.

Last Saturday evening and Sunday forenoon I was at our Gobeni outpost. When I arrived I found that the members of this kraal were not expecting me to come till Sunday. The man of the kraal had just left, to follow most of his five wives, who had gone to attend a heathen wedding. So the old mother did not know just how to entertain me till the "monarch" of the kraal arrived. First she invited me to come into her kitchen, which was a small hut, bee-hive shaped, and with another old woman, and quite a few babies. Two small babies were being bottle-fed while the rest were nicely asleep on the floor. The smoke from the fire in the center hearth was so strong that I did not stay long in this kitchen. I was next shown to the "school-house," this time a larger house with a door that one could enter without getting down on hands and knees.

It was a long wait before the man of the kraal arrived. During this time I taught the eager and curious group of children (about ten of them) the story of the Good Samaritan and the verse that tells us how to treat other people as we would like them to treat us. By this time they grew sleepy and hungry, and left me, they knew this story, and that verse pretty well.

Finally the man arrived and before entering the house I was now in, he called out: "Who is in here?" He did not seem to recognize my voice so I had to tell him who I was. When he understood that I was the Missionary, and George's brother he began to act very kindly and gave me a warm welcome for the rest of my stay. He was pretty well filled with beer, and still more was waiting his pleasure in this, his kraal. We had a sermon and prayers before retiring. Or I should say, we had two sermons, for this man believed the Bible enough to have a lot to say to others about it, though he himself is a backslider. His sermon lasted till he lost quite a few of the listeners.

That night I got to bed about midnight and could not sleep much before 2.30 in the morning for all the noise that this man and several others made, enjoying the beer. They talked, argued, nearly came to blows; sang and danced, prayed to God and prayed to ancestral spirits, till I suppose they were tired out, so went to sleep. Some of their singing harmonized beautifully in the combination octave keys they pitched their voices to. But beer was the big thing, and SELF was the idol of the hour, and the man of the kraal did not believe in allowing any other person to get above him in noise, or argument, or I suppose, beer drinking.

### AN URGENT APPEAL FROM SOUTH AFRICA

Dear Christian Friends:

In recent letters to the Foreign Mission Board is an urgent appeal from our Superintendent of "The Native South African Reformed Baptist Churches," Rev. E. A. M. Kierstead, laying our next Foreign Mission venture before us, namely the erection of a church at Mfene, right down in the Pongola River Valley. The South African Government granted us a new site of one acre on which to build a church building. This must be done in a now specified time limit of six months so we need \$750.00 for this venture now.

If each of you could realize what the erection of a church and school building means to a backward and near-heathen community who are receiving such privilege and opportunity for the first time, I am sure the funds would be soon forthcoming and these needy outposts would soon have their soul-saving stations and their centers of enlightenment.

Such Government sites are hard to get and we have been striving for this site for a building area for years and now that opportunity has come, do not let us down or this needy area of soul famished and undeveloped people. Oh, how your help is **needed now** in this venture. This is the outpost where Paulina has been working so faithfully for some time and opportunity is ripe. Let us meet this challenge in support of our Foreign Work in Transvaal Province, South Africa.

We must not risk the danger of losing this opportunity. Please send all funds for this project to Rev. F. A. Watson, Marysville, Treasurer of Foreign Mission Board.

Our missionary on furlough, Miss Mary Campbell, is returning to South Africa, January 20th, D. V.

Yours to venture in His will,

R. H. PARKS,

(Secretary F. M. Board)

After breakfast I had three teeth to pull and one of them was so far gone that it was very difficult to get out intact. By this time we were ready to start our last meeting of the day, and once again there were two sermons, only my friend took the hint and got to the end a bit earlier this time.

The morning Sunday School took place before the meeting just mentioned. There were about 15 children present, and our native teacher taught them the lesson, which was composed of a few of the first verses of John 14. I showed the children some pictures I had and gave the teacher a supply of old Christmas cards, both of which have been sent to us from Canada. The teacher herself is only a seeker and not saved yet, but this is the best we can do for having a regular Sunday school at this outpost for the present.

### VRYHEID, NATAL

Dear Highway Friends:

Another Sunday has well begun. I have just returned from our College Sunday morning prayer meeting. A good number of the students was present and the presence of the Lord was real.

The last few weeks have seemed to be especially busy and have necessitated a great deal of travelling, especially over the week-ends, carting building materials, supervising building operations of the new church at Entungwini and visiting the outposts.

Last week-end was especially busy and interesting as my travels took me to Hartland, Entungwini, Altona, Piet Retief and Msobotsheni, a distance of over three hundred miles.

At Hartland I found that the re-modelling and re-building of the Mission House was going along fine under Brother Morgan's supervision and labour. When the house is finished it will be much more convenient to work in, and what is more important, it should be much cooler as the new walls are nearly two feet higher than the old ones. The Entungwini building operations had not gone on so well as the builder had been away.

The Saturday evening and Sunday services at Msobotsheni were times of real blessing and refreshing from the Lord as we met together and worshipped and fellowshiped with nearly 100 souls, many of whom were new to us and our work. Of these ten were given the right hand of fellowship, thirteen were accepted as members-on-trial, and five or six babies were dedicated. You can well imagine how our recently settled workers there rejoiced over these new additions. As one expressed it today, our lonesomeness and feeling that we had been sent far away from our other churches and fellow Christians has been taken away. Some of you may remember that it has been less than two years since we sent two workers to live in that area and work up an absolutely new work. The results so far have more than justified our faith and venture. There are at least four preaching places in that area now. If we had missionaries and funds for building to spare we could no doubt have a new Mission Station and a flourishing work in a large and needy area. This area is about seventy miles from Altona and thirty miles to the west of Piet Retief.

May we express our gratitude to the Moncton Sunday School which is making possible the building of the new church at Entungwini, and to the Wood Island Church which through the Eugene Wilcox Memorial Fund will enable us to build a church at Msobotsheni. May the Lord richly bless your giving.

Yours in Him,

E. A. M. KIERSTEAD

We now have four Sunday schools being taught in this area, and another two should begin soon, we trust. The one at our Kotongwini outpost was very interesting. It is taught by one of our young Christians who lives there. These children and young people seem to be very eager and earnest. I had a good talk with one young boy as we went to and back from his grandfather's home to have prayers with the old man. This boy is seeking salvation, but his father is not willing for him to  
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