

MISSIONARY PAGE



Thelma Rose Writes From La Victoria, Haita

Dear Highway Friends:

Greetings in the Name of Jesus Who gives us fellowship with one another. My Christmas mail reminded me afresh of this fellowship and the blessing of good friends. I wish to express my sincere thanks to all who remembered me with cards and gifts, the most of which I did not receive until Jan. 17th and after. (We get mail here only once a week). I'm taking care to send personal thanks to all who sent gifts. If any doner receives no such acknowledgment, the matter of donation would bear investigation as to whether such became lost, strayed or stolen.

My co-worker and I enjoyed a peaceful, quiet Christmas together. I had not the least tinge of homesickness. Jesus is not confined to any place or circumstances, but fulfils His promise, "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." At times it would seem that La Victoire is almost at the end of the world as I realize myself surrounded by a thickly settled community of mud huts with grass roofs which inhabit a people of primitive customs. Yet, it is a blessing to be living among a peaceful, friendly people who bear no war-like characteristics toward themselves or strangers. Too, it is a land free from snakes, wild beasts and other objects of fear that many foreign missionaries dread. We are troubled mostly by such pestilences as lizards, rats, mosquitoes, ants, roaches and their associates. Would I have ever thought I could get accustomed to seeing nearly half a dozen lizards at once scramble out of sight at my approach? Their disappearing tails of many colors and sizes remind me the little creatures are more afraid of me than I of them. My co-worker has convinced me they are our friends because they catch and eat many smaller pests. Now I accept these lizards as blessings in disguise, even when I see them streak across our table. Did I ever think I would live where a rat would be so friendly as to chew a hole in my shoe by my bed, and eat the edge from my Bible while I peacefully slept?

Yes, life is full of adjustments, and especially so for a foreign missionary. But it is the marvellous grace of God that helps us make these adjustments, for "He giveth more grace."

When one has received and followed the commission, "Go ye," there are great compensations. One of the greatest is the assurance of being in the center of God's will which is "Home, Sweet Home." As we face a group of expectant people of all ages, sizes and dispositions, and tell them the sweetest Story ever told—this is worth everything. God has been blessing the flannelgraph series on the Story of Jesus, and the old enjoy them as well as the young. We are able to get wonderful Scriptural truths across in this way. My co-worker interprets when it is my turn to speak.

God is working in our midst. It has been a comfort for me to really believe He can work "in spite" of certain things that are not conducive to spiritual progress when souls will obey Him individually. Experience has taught God's people at home and abroad that to avoid discouragement one must not "condition" God according to certain outward circumstances. This is true at La Victoire, and as you would expect, I'm now getting down to matter-of-fact missionary life. After the thrill of adventure has subsided, one faces the day-by-day plodding that it takes to work for the Lord in any place. If we faithfully teach His word by precept and example, line upon line, precept upon precept, He will direct the truth and plant it into hearts and the Holy Ghost will water it and in His own time cause it to bear fruit.

La Victoire is one of the older stations, and you will understand there is fruit here for the faithful labours of missionaries in the past. Here there are a number of true Christians apparently quite established in grace. Here there are promising young people and children. The numbers attending have increased in latter years and we expect the work to continue growing with the Holy Spirit leading.

The Roman Catholic element is strong here. The clinic work helps to break down some prejudice as a result of such influence. We are counting on your prayers. I realize you have made my coming possible, and as I serve I feel I am laboring for God, and for you, to do my part in the "uttermots parts of the earth."

Yours, happy to serve,

Thelma Rose

HARTLAND MISSION STATION

Dear Friends:

Greetings in the name of our Lord!

Our first Christmas in South Africa is now history. We did have a nice Christmas in spite of being a little lonely for our homes and people. If it hadn't been for the generosity and love of our church people in the homeland, our Christmas wouldn't have been such a happy one. We do thank you all for your part in making it such a happy one for us. Of course the Lord is just as real to us out here as He would be at home, but it does seem somehow that we can't get into the same spirit out here as everything is just opposite to our Christmas at home. However, we did have a good time and we do thank the Lord for His love to us.

At the present time we are at Altona Mission Station for the Quarterly. We all arrived on Tuesday, the Quarterly will last over Sunday. The house is really full to overflowing as there are sixteen of us trying to live under one small roof, but it is so nice to get together once in a while because we seldom see the other missionaries. We are also looking for a time of rich blessing and fellowship with the Lord and with one another. But it also seems the devil is extra busy even at times like this.

Of course, besides the white missionaries there are many, many natives here from the different outposts and mission stations. Really some of our Christian natives are so nice and we look forward to seeing them all at times like this. There are some natives who are good,



Mary Campbell Arrives Safely On Mission Field

"Arrived Vryheid Saturday morning (7th). Good crossing, good connections, good welcome. Thanks for prayers. Mary."

steady Christians and we thank the Lord for them. We forget they are black and really have a good time of fellowship together.

Last week, the day before Christmas, we all went kraal visiting. Nina Smith and I took some girls, and Bill took some boys. Nina and I went to a kraal about a mile away. On the way we had to go down into a huge, deep donga and then back up on the opposite side. One side in particular was almost straight up and down. A donga is what takes place in soil erosion. It makes great deep cracks in the earth. We arrived at the kraal out of breath and very hot because although the sun wasn't shining, the weather was very close and hot. We sang a bit and then asked one of our Christian workers, who was with us, to pray. Nina spoke for a few minutes and then we had testimonies. I also spoke a little during the testimonies. Quite a few members of the kraal gathered in while we had the service and we were encouraged to see so many. There was a sick girl there and we went to that kraal especially to see her as she is one of our church people.

The country out here is so beautiful this time of year. The rains have begun to come and everything is so nice and green. The hills and the valleys really look lovely.

We have had some quite hot days lately, but today is quite cool, a very nice breeze blowing. But even the hottest days aren't unbearable.

Again we would like to say "thank you," and God bless you greatly for your gifts to us. We do desire and need an interest in your prayers as we do feel our need daily of renewed strength and help from Him who is always ready to give to them who ask.

Sincerely yours in His Name,
Elsie and Bill Morgan

This letter was sent to the Moncton Church, but we thought some things written would be of interest to all our readers.—Ed.

THE GREATEST MOTIVATION

Sixty per cent of the world cannot read. One reason is because 1,000 tribes still lack God's Word. Moreover this half of the world cares little about learning to read. The desire to read the Bible is the greatest motivation for encouraging illiterate people to learn to read. Translate the Scriptures and you reduce world illiteracy.—Flood Tide.

"We have no right to sing, 'In the Cross of Christ I glory,' unless we are willing to add, 'By whom the world is crucified unto me and I unto the World.'"—A. B. Simpson.

The King's Highway