

## MISSIONARY PAGE

### ANOTHER GIRL

By Mrs. G. M. Kierstead

"Joanna, it's another girl". These, I expect, were the words uttered by the midwife, when little Mina Nkosi was born. She was the second daughter of Rev. Paul Nkosi and his wife, Joana. Their first little daughter, Lefina, was 2 years old. Zulu wives love to present their husbands with a son, and I can imagine that Joana was disappointed to have the second little daughter.

Mina grew into a healthy, clever, little toddler and when she reached the age of 2 years, another little girl arrived. Life went on much as usual and when Mina was four years old, behold a fourth little girl was born. This little girl they named Paulina and she was Mina's pride and joy. She loved this baby and felt a great responsibility to her. She tended her, part of the time tied onto her back, native fashion, and even tried to wash her little clothes. Little Paulina was a very special baby sister to the little Mina.

Time went on and a school was started at Kwabanakile, Mina's home, where the little native children were taught the first and second grades.

By then I think Mina was about 6 years old and at last a little brother, Isaac, had arrived to gladden the hearts of his parents and little sisters.

It was decided that Lefina must go to school and Mina was to stay at home—I expect to help her mother with the children.

Lefina found school life very tiresome and boring, while Mina longed to be able to read, but Lefina was older and must have the first chance.

One day Lefina decided she didn't want to go to school any more, but as usual, she took her lunch and started off, but when going through the corn field, she slipped in among the rows and spent the day, playing by herself, sleeping, etc. She ate her lunch, when she got hungry, and when she knew the children would be returning from school, she slipped out and joined them. But alas, she couldn't keep that up long, without others finding it out, and at last it came to her father's notice, that his child was missing school. That night Lefina was called, Paul visited the peach tree, for a switch, and poor little Lefina got a beating, that she no doubt still remembers.

Time doesn't stand still and at least the glad day came when Mina was allowed to start to school. Mina didn't want to miss school, she found it all so interesting and soon had finished the two grades, as had also Lefina. Now the problem was "What shall we do to further educate our children?" I expect Paul and Joana talked the matter over a lot and it was decided that Lefina should go over to Paul's cousin, Johannes Nkosi, who was stationed then just above the Altona M. S., and attend the Altona school. Johannes and his wife Trifina, agreed, so Lefina went to Altona.

Mina stayed home, the first year that Lefina was away, but after awhile Paul talked with us and asked if we would take Mina. He said he would bring two sacks of dried corn a year, to help with her food. We agreed and Mina also came to attend the Altona school.

By then Mina was 11 years old and in Grade III. Before she came to us, the little girl, who was two years younger had died, and two more children had been born into the home—a little girl Eileen and a boy Stephen.

While she was still at home, her father taught her to ride a horse, and a time that stands out very clearly, in her memory, was the day her father took her with him, to the store, that was about fifteen miles from her home. On the way home, she fell off the horse, that she was riding, but she didn't get hurt and I expect it was a proud little girl, who climbed the steep mountain to her home, after her first long horse-back ride, with her father.

Another day that she remembers, was the day she broke the big iron pot, in which her mother cooked the family porridge, etc. It was her work to feed the pigs and she had been warned never to use the cooking pot, but to use a large basin. This day the food for the pigs was in the cooking pot and she felt too lazy to pour it out and have two dishes to wash, so she took the pot. It was very heavy for a little girl and she broke it. She knew they cost a lot and she was frightened so quickly set the broken pieces up against the wall of the kitchen, and went out. Of course the first question asked was "Who broke the pot?" Mina said she didn't know but the truth came out and again the faithful old peach tree was visited, a switch was cut and this time it was used on Mina.

A year or two later, Mina was grinding corn in a small hand machine and she broke the handle. This time she was very frightened too, but she went right to her mother and told her what had happened. She was forgiven and began to realize that Solomon was right when he said: "Whoso confesseth and forsaketh (sins) shall have mercy."

Mina got saved, was baptized and joined the church. She was a bright clever child and did well in school. She was with us, until we moved up here in Oct. of 1948. She stayed on at Altona, passed her grade in December, went to her home for a few weeks and came up here the following January and has been here ever since. This year, she entered the Evangelical Teachers' Training College, where the slogan is: "Every teacher teaching Christ," and is a student teacher here. She will be 18 years old the 1st day of October.

Mina is president of our South African Young People's Society and has a bright experience in the Lord.

For those who may be interested in Mina's family I would like to say that Lefina also came to Vryheid, for the last few years of her schooling and is now in her second year of training, for a Nurses' Aid, at the Zululand hospital of the Evangelical Alliance Mission.

Another little sister, Elizabeth, arrived only a few months before the father went to be with Jesus.

Does someone ask, "Do Missions pay?" They do, and we thank God for what our eyes have seen and our ears have heard. God called, someone came, Africans were saved, Paul and Joana among them. Paul was a true Christian gentleman and is today a redeemed by the blood victor, walking the streets of gold. Joana is a true Christian, who has stood true, among

### A LETTER FROM UTA CHASE

Dear Friends:

Greetings in the precious name of Jesus. My letter to the Highway is long overdue and no doubt this will be my last letter to you from South Africa. Most of you know that I have been ill for the past fourteen months. I have gone to many hospitals, have been tested for many diseases, and have taken much treatment, but all to no avail. The doctors are still unable to make any correct diagnosis. I have been getting progressively worse, so my doctor has advised my going home at once. We do not know, but there is a possibility that it might be due to the climate. If so, when I reach Canada it will probably cure itself; if not, further tests will have to be made. Please do not expect to see an invalid when I reach Canada. I have been carrying on at least part of my mission work most of the time.

We cannot understand why I should be called into this work for such a short period of time. However, I do know beyond the shadow of a doubt that I was called, and now I feel definitely the leadings of the Lord in this return home. Although we cannot always understand the leadings of the Lord we can trust, and that is what I am doing today. I feel like Jehoshaphat in his prayer in 2 Chronicles 20:12, 15: Our eyes are upon God, for the battle is not ours but His. This battle against heathenism in South Africa is God's battle, and if He sees fit to remove me from the battlefield then I must be content in His will.

It has seemed impossible for me to get all my "letters of thanks" written to all the churches and individuals for their Christmas gifts, letters and cards. The absence of letters does not mean that I have not appreciated all your many kindnesses. May I take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for any kindness you have shown to me during and following the Christmas season.

If present plans are carried out I will leave Durban on June 14th on the Oranjefontain, arrive in England on July 6th, where I remain until July 16th. I then embark from Southampton on the S.S. Maasdami and should arrive in New York on July 24th. This is a longer way home, but it was the only available passage. I do desire an interest in your prayers as I make this crossing.

Yours happy in His will,  
UTA L. CHASE.

much persecution. Their children are a credit to them. You can nearly always tell the children of real Christian parents. I've never known Mina to tell me a lie.

Mina received much help, two years ago, when a band of holiness African workers visited the college. Since that time her favorite verse has been Prov. 28:13. He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them, shall have mercy."

We are thankful for this young African girl and we are expecting to hear good reports of her, in the future. I'm sure she won't forget the good training of her father and mother and I pray that she will be a credit to them and not a disappointment to God or to us, who are so interested in her. Remember her when you pray.

"A true missionary never knows defeat."—  
A. A. Fulton.