

MISSIONARY PAGE

Evangelical Holiness Bible School Opens

By William E. Morgan

Drenched with rain and the Mission pick-up covered with mud the students arrived on Thursday and Friday, Feb. 3rd and 4th, for the taking up of their new activities. We were glad to have succeeded in having everything in readiness for their arrival. The church building was ready for the week-end of special services and the rooms had been cleaned and given a coat of fresh, clean paint.

On Friday the missionaries also arrived from their several stations. The roads were terrible, the sky was black and prospects for a sunny week-end were very dim. The first meeting on Friday evening was not very largely attended due to the rain, but was owned of the Lord. We had engaged a native evangelist of the Evangelical Alliance Mission as special speaker for the occasion. His messages throughout were clear, helpful and blessed of the Spirit. Several people found definite help and victory over inner troubles in their Christian lives.

On Saturday morning we were glad to see signs of the weather clearing, which it did to the extent that no more rain fell over the week-end although it began again on Monday and continued scarcely without letup all that week.

A welcome service was held for the students on Saturday morning in which they were greeted and given words of encouragement by several of the missionaries and native leaders. Saturday evening an evangelistic service was held.

On Sunday morning we had communion service and then the closing service on Sunday evening. We were sorry that all the missionaries felt they had to leave on Sunday afternoon and so were not here for the closing service in the evening. The services of Shadrac Nkosi, one of our Christian young men studying at E. T. T. C. to become a teacher, as song leader from Friday until Sunday afternoon were much appreciated.

Though we saw no particular outstanding move toward God by the unsaved, we feel that the week-end meeting did a great deal toward introducing ourselves and breaking down prejudice, so prevalent among the churches here in Louwsburg. On Sunday especially we were visited by quite a large number of outside people. Several people of our own church and from others sought and we believe found, definite help from the Lord at the altar.

Monday, Feb. 7th, was registration day. Six students were registered, three men and their wives. After nearly two weeks of school life we are sure that we have begun under the blessing of God. Though the first few days were rather disjointed until we could work out a suitable routine every student has taken up cheerfully the responsibilities placed upon him. The quickness with which these people, to whom time has never meant anything, have settled down to schedule and routine is amazing and their eagerness to learn is very encouraging. Pray for them. They have not much to start from. None has had the opportunity of completing even one year in school.

Continue to hold us up in prayer. We are sure that God is answering. The devil does not like Bible Schools. But through the blessing

of God in answer to your prayers at home as well as those of the missionaries out here and of our native church we don't expect the devil's hatred of Bible Schools to have opportunity to express itself.

FROM P. O. PAULPIETERSBURG

Dear Highway Friends:

Greetings from your Mission Field in Africa. 1955 has arrived and we trust will be a very blessed year for us all both in Canada and out here.

The past year has been a year of great challenge for our mission work, many new areas seem to be opening up and our prayer is that the Lord will lead in all ways to the extension of His Kingdom and the glory of his name.

We would like to take this opportunity of extending a big THANK YOU to all of the kind friends who gave us such a blessed Christmas. We received many cards and thoughtful gifts that are beautiful as well as useful. We may never have met you yet but we are friends all the same and the Lord bless you richly.

Just after Christmas was Quarterly and Church opening here at Paulpietersburg. The Lord was really present and many of us were blessed—full and overflowing! The finances for the completing of the building had only arrived a few days before and it was finished with only two days to spare. The last few days were a mad rush with five native builders and myself running around in square circles. However it was finished on time and is a beautiful building.

For years our Mission had been asking for a site without success and now at last it had been granted and a church built. What more could we ask for? Only that it will be a Holy Place where many souls will find their Saviour and King for now and eternity.

Then last month was the opening of our Bible School at Louwsburg a step forward in our work that I am sure we will never regret, and something that many of us have been praying for, for many years, in one case at least 20 years.

Now we face the future with renewed confidence, and there is no doubt that if we keep in His will the Lord will continue to bless our efforts, small though they may be.

Since moving here Shirley's health has been much improved and we thank the Lord for His help in this way. Jennifer is three now (nearly) and very upset because she cannot go to school as yet.

Rev. Absalom Sibya down at Hartland is not very well at this time and needs your prayers. Remember also the work in this area, we are not gaining ground and are hard pressed to hold our own. False sects are rampant and would deceive the "very elect" if they could.

Ermelo Church and parsonage are nearly completed. Rev. P. Malaza is already there although his sole furniture is one chair, not even a bed and we are waiting for a permit before his family can join him with the only (single) bed. Natives cannot move freely in this land without permission from the government.

The new mission truck (or was new 18 months ago) has been a big help with all the building that is taking place and still is. It carries most of the materials, men, etc., and

more than pays its way.

We are looking forward to the Sanders' return before too many more months, and pray that the Lord will bless them as they come back to the work they are called to do.

Keep praying for us, you may not be in the front line of the South African Crusade but you can pass the ammunition along and keep the forces of evil at bay, and Christ's army victorious seven days of the week.

May His Kingdom come and His will be done in our lives today.

Harold, Shirley and Jennifer Kierstead

A TROPHY OF GRACE

By Eric M. Haywood

The death of a dear old Zulu lady, named Anna Zita, age 77, occurred February 26th. She was one of our oldest members here at Altona. The day before her death she was heard singing a well-loved hymn of hers, "My trust is in Him."

Yes, she has gone, gone to be with Jesus. I attended a part of the funeral. I was called, but at a late hour. When I arrived at the kraal the procession was just leaving. However, as I came in sight I noticed bent forms about the hut. What were they doing? They were weeping and crying in loud, shrill noises. They were wailing for one who had died. This is the custom of the Zulu.

When the rough board casket left the hut, carried by stalwart men, the women arose and followed. I then joined Timothy, one of the preachers. We walked along, slow of pace, singing as we approached the place of burial. Here all the men were seated some distance from the grave when we came to the grave we circled it, and then all squatted on the ground, the women the south and the men on the north and west sides. Timothy, our preacher, spoke and prayed; I read appropriate scriptures. The casket was then opened for those who wished a last look. This was a sad sight. They came, old and young; heathen and Christian. When the casket had been lowered into the grave the men laid heavy stones on the entire length of it, and the women covered them with grass mats. They also deposited some worn pieces of clothing and broke Anna's old earthenware cooking pot. Timothy then read from the Scriptures, and two men took shovels filled with mud and stood like sentinels as the people filed past, each taking a handful of mud and casting it upon the now covered casket. When the people had returned to their places men filled in the grave while a number of hymns were sung. Rocks were then placed in a large heap over the grave, and the people left, some for a feast, some heavy of heart, and some with no care or worry.

Anna has gone, gone to be with Jesus, which is far better. She has gone to join that countless host of the redeemed. A trophy of grace, dark of skin, with heart made white in the blood of the Lamb.

ITINERARY OF MISSIONARIES

The Itinerary of our Missionaries continues with "OPEN DATES" from April 18th to May 12th with the exception of April 26th-28th inclusive. There may be some time "OPEN" also in June for remaining churches.

For booking dates ahead, please contact Secretary Foreign Mission Board, Rev. R. H. Parks, Calais, Maine.

Note.—Mrs. Myra Sanders and Miss Uta Chase only will be available for this tour.