

MISSIONARY PAGE

FROM REV. W. MORGAN

Dear Highway Friends:

New Year's greetings and Best Wishes!

We trust the Christmas season has been one of rich blessing to each of you.

For us it was both a happy and busy season. The many lovely gifts and greetings were very gratefully received and helped to add to the joy of this blessed season. Thank you and may the Lord bless each of you. Elsie and I spent Christmas with Eric and Nina Hayward this year and greatly enjoyed our time of fellowship together.

We have now just returned from the Christmas Native Conference held at Paulpietersburg this year and it is concerning this that I want to write and especially concerning developments in connection with the Bible School. Personally, I feel that God gave us one of the best conferences that I have yet attended. Attendance was exceptional and blessing was abundant. We were glad that so many of our young people were able to attend, especially those who have been away to school and are seldom able to be home for the Conferences.

We thank God for the new, soundly constructed church building which was dedicated on the closing Sunday and for the thirteen followers of the Lord who were admitted to membership. I could go on at length about different interesting events which happened during the conference but I trust others may also write so I will confine myself now to matters concerning the Bible School.

We have been grasping in our mind for a suitable name for the new Bible School for some time with the result that at the Conference a list of 22 names was presented from which we might choose one most suitable to all. The names were presented by the missionaries but the final choice was actually made by the natives themselves. Thus the counterpart of Bethany Bible College will be known as "Evangelical Holiness Bible School."

We have set the date for the opening for Feb. 4th. An evangelist from the Evangelical Alliance Mission has been engaged as special speaker for a week-end of services at the opening. At Easter we plan to have a church dedication and the official opening of the school also.

We are glad to be getting some educated and consecrated young people in our work and one of them, Miss Minah Nkosi, will be serving on our teaching staff this year. Besides she and myself we are grateful to have our superintendent come every second Saturday for certain courses. Also Miss Campbell will give a course in Sunday School work during the month of May. From time to time we will probably have others come for short courses.

We were disappointed to learn that three of the expected students are not going to succeed this year due to different troubles. That brings our total down to five as far as we know to date.

A continued interest in your prayers is earnestly requested that God may use the Bible School as a great strengthening force in the accomplishing of his purposes for Africa.

Yours for Africa,

William Morgan

Paulpietersburg Church Dedication

Mrs. E. A. M. Kierstead

Sunday, Jan. 2, dawned cloudy and hot.

I awakened at 5.30 and began to wonder if I should attend the dedication of the new church at Paulpietersburg. It was all true, what my husband had been saying, that in the nearly 16 years I had been in South Africa, I had never attended a church opening. Some one was sick, or for some other special reason, I had always had to stay at home.

I thought about it and then turned to the Lord for help and guidance. After I had committed it to the Lord, I turned to my Bible. I had been reading in Ezra, so my book mark opened it to Ezra 10 and my eyes saw part of verse 4 "Be of good courage and do it". So I went to Paulpietersburg.

After a drive of thirty miles we came to the Mission Station. There everyone was getting ready for the long service of the day and soon we were on our way again—this time to the location.

The people were arriving, in their best clothes and so happy over the conference that had been held all week and especially over the new church. I was so grateful to have a short time to see many of my old friends. Some had had victories during the recent services, some were in trouble and needed prayer, etc.

The crowd was so great there was not sufficient room to hold the people inside the church so benches and table were brought out and plans made to hold the service by a nice grassy place, so the people could sit down.

Soon the time came to start the service and, as is the custom here, they marched three times around the church, singing as they went. I stayed in the car but so happy to be there. Then the crowd gathered at the door, while Rev. Malaza prayed—he has just returned from a year's study at the Nazarene Bible school in Swaziland. Then Hezekiah Mdlalose, our Paulpietersburg preacher, turned the key in the door and many went in, others went to the windows to listen, as there was no more room inside.

Rev. Johnson, a retired Swedish missionary, who has been in Paulpietersburg for many years and knew all our early missionaries, was present and led in prayer. Harold read the scripture after which three of our girls sang a trio. Then Rev. Alfred Metule prayed the dedicatory prayer and all came out to continue the service in the open air, so that everyone could hear.

Johanesi Mdlangamandla was the first speaker, after which a choir of young people from Paulpietersburg sang.

My husband was the second speaker and his message was the evangelistic type of sermon. After that a group of young people from different places, sang a beautiful hymn and then it was time for the collection.

Eugene spoke a few minutes about the cost of the building, etc., and thanked the friend overseas who made the church possible, etc. Rev. Absalom Sibiyi also spoke a few words and when the collection was all in and counted it came to over \$100.00.

Rev. Shabangu of the Swedish Mission pronounced the benediction.

APPRECIATION

Mary Campbell

What does this word mean? Oh, I know you one and all are quite capable of looking it up in the dictionary or perhaps you can string off a list of meanings. But, do you show by your actions that you not only have a head knowledge of the meaning of appreciation, but that they, your actions day by day, prove to those round about that you really appreciate what others do for you?

Have you not remarked at one time or another: "It is easy to do things for Mrs. So and So. She appreciates every little thing one does for her." On the other hand, I have heard remarked: "Oh, I don't know what to get for her! She never appreciates anything one does for her anyhow!"

This is a good time of the year to make notes on such a subject as this, all having been remembered so well during the Christmas season.

As for myself I feel at a complete loss for appropriate words to express to my dear friends overseas my heartfelt appreciation. Such lovely gifts I did receive! Everything was appreciated so much, wearing apparel, toilet articles, sweets, etc. Really, such a feeling of unworthiness crept over me as I was opening parcels that I almost wept.

This note I'll send by air to The Highway as I may be some time getting the letters off to different individuals.

I am in the midst of summer D. V. B. S. work and am praying for a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the different schools. May God grant it.

So pleased to hear that the Lord is undertaking for the health of Brother and Sister Wilson. Praise Him!

Please continue to pray earnestly for the work in these parts, and as you pray, obey. If the Lord calls you to go, be quick to respond to the call. If He calls you to dig deep into your pockets and give, obey. Obey at all cost. Pray! Pray!

THE AGE OF DECISION

Dr. Horatius Bonar once examined the records of 253 converts. He found that over half of them (138) had given their hearts to Christ under twenty years of age; eighty-five had been converted between twenty and thirty; twenty-two between thirty and forty; four between forty and fifty; three between fifty and sixty; and only one between sixty and seventy. There were none who had been saved after reaching the age of seventy.

Someone has said, "Life begins at forty," but only eight out of 253 could say their spiritual life began after forty. Every day that a person delays surrendering his life to Christ lessens the likelihood that he ever will do it. No wonder the Bible says, "Now is the day of salvation."—Pentecostal Evangel.

After saying good-bye to the people, we all gathered at the Mission Station for a nice lunch. The service had been long and it was then about 3.30 p. m. We stayed a little while and then left reaching Vryheid about six o'clock, tired but feeling we had had a full and happy day, in the Lord.