



## THE CHALLENGE OF THE REEF

H. Paul Sanders

Dear Friends in the Homeland,

This is the REEF calling again and Mary and I send you greetings in the Blessed Name of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

"KALFONTEIN", meaning in Afrikaans, a bare open fountain, is a brand new Native Township just getting under way. This is a new center of activity in your REEF work.

The Zulus have given it a name of their own as they usually do "Kwa vuka u zenzele", "Arise and do for yourself." This name aptly describes the place and its opportunities. The Germiston Municipality lends each family a wood and iron room 10 feet square and they are allowed to add to this. Later they will be supplied with brick, timber, and iron for roof, at a low cost, to build their own houses according to good plans supplied. Otherwise the Municipality will build for them, as they have in Daveyton.

We have held open-air services here since the first twelve or so families were moved in. Already there are several hundred, and more arriving all the time.

I'll try and paint a word picture of how we got on in Kalfontein yesterday. First, we drove the five miles to Wattville, and went calling "Sunday School" with our P.A. outfit up and down the streets around Elias Knosi's home. This is where we have been having open air services since we started here on the Reef, about three years ago. Between 75 and 100 gathered and we left Malia, Elias' wife (who was appointed to be a Bible Woman at the church opening) in charge. She has become really good, especially in teaching memory verses.

It's a pleasant drive to Kalfontein, about 23 miles from Wattville, the tarred road takes us over undulating hills towards Pretoria. At the "turnoff", we cross the electrified train line and, plugging in our P.A., start calling, as we turn left up into the Zulu section. Here one of our men from the Hartland area has recently moved in. Johane Knosi is a very earnest preacher, Christian and soul seeker. About 200 gathered on the corner opposite Johan's little room. They listened well to the Gospel of salvation.

There were about 25 grownups, and one of these, a tall old woman, came forward when we gave the altar call. Johan spoke so earnestly, testifying to salvation and the witness of the Spirit.

Next over to the Basutu area, where we first held these open-air services. What a difference we found here! A great many more have moved in and it wasn't long before at least 250 were seated on the ground listening and learning by heart the words of life. Mary taught them 1 John 1:9: "If we confess our sins He is faithful and just to forgive our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

When asked who wanted to give their hearts to Jesus, to confess their sins, so many hands went up all over the crowd, I decided just to have them pray in unison where they were. I think all would have come forward if given opportunity for they are young and free, unhampered by hardened sinning and really want to follow Jesus.

If only we could build a church there right now, gather them in, teach them more fully the way of salvation, what a fine number we could expect to follow on to know the Lord. No wonder Jesus said "Suffer the little

children to come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven." They come unhampered in their childhood, God speaks to their hearts, they receive His wonderful gift of Salvation and become His followers for life. Then some of their elders follow on, but many of them are hardened and set in their sinful ways, and only the power of God can free them.

Since this was written a pall of sadness and deep disappointment has fallen over the bright start we had made in Kalfontein. When Johan Knosi, our earnest Christian worker and soul seeker, was on his way to work early the next day, a motorist ran him down killing him on the spot, and sped on his way. Fortunately, another saw what happened and followed hard after the culprit, overtook and brought him back. What a shock it gave us to hear the terrible news!!!

Dear friends, let's not take this as a defeat, but rather as an urge to press forward with the gospel of salvation among the teeming thousands in these REEF NATIVE TOWNSHIPS.

Our open air work is really encouraging, but falls short in follow up. Our crying need is for new churches. This would mean a good start of one for each Native Township where we're working.

The populations planned for are as follows:—

Daveyton. Where we have the Church and preacher's house and Andeliase Kumalo our good preacher. At present 46,000 to be doubled in time.

Wattville 31,000, living there now.

Natal Spruit 41,000 now, extending rapidly to reach 85,000 or 90,000. This is just for Germiston.

Natal Spruit for Boksburg, is being planned—not started yet.

Kalfontein now well started is to accommodate 125,000.

This Native Township is to be five miles long and two wide.

How many churches do you feel we should eventually have in this great Township? Well, we are needing one at present.

Now dear homeland friends, "where there is no vision the people perish". If you are alive to the needs of the work on the REEF, you will pray. We do know of the depression you are suffering and would not do anything to discourage you, but pray you can; and this is an appeal for special prayer for the REEF work, and for us. Our God is not limited and we are looking for more blessing in this work, where opportunities are so large.

May the Lord bless you each one and bring you through these hard times with a song in your hearts to Him.

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### KREISLER'S STEWARDSHIP

Fritz Kreisler, famous violinist, said: "I was born with music in my system. I knew musical scores instinctively before I knew my A B C's. It was a gift of Providence. I did not acquire it. So I do not even deserve thanks for the music. Music is too sacred to be sold. And the outrageous prices the musical celebrities charge today truly is a crime against society.

"I never look upon the money I earn as my own. It is public money. It is only a fund entrusted to my care for proper disbursement. I am constantly endeavoring to reduce my needs to the minimum. I feel morally guilty in ordering a costly meal, for it deprives some one else of a slice of bread—some child, perhaps, of a bottle of milk. My beloved wife feels exactly the same way about these things as I do. You know what I eat; you know what I wear.

(Continued on Page 6)