

REV. KARL GORMAN WRITES

Dear Highway Friends:

Once more it is a privilege to greet you this way and report of the Mission Work in this part of the South African Field.

We are rejoicing in the way that God works things out, to His own Glory, and in His own time, as our recent District and Church Dedication at Opuzane demonstrates.

We have had a work at that Outpost for 40 yrs. at least, and possibly longer, and the old Church Books show a Membership of between 60 and 75, before difficulties arose and things began to decline. Because of people moving away, dying, back-sliding, etc., and the painful events of the early forties, we were left with just about nothing. Rev. Charles Sanders sought to revive the Work there, and did some kraal visitation, held services, etc. but in January of 1960 our last Member died and nothing more was done until 2 years later. Bro. MacDonald was in ill health and unable to carry on his services or attend to other aspects of the work there, and asked us to take it over and carry it on. The elderly Bantu preacher who had actually done the work of constructing the present building about 16 yrs. ago, was also desirous of the church returning to the Mother Denomination, (Reformed Baptist) and agreed to our cash offer for the building. The site had been granted in the name of the Church of The Nazarene, and in due course it was transferred to us. Minor repairs were made and regular services resumed.

Early this year it was necessary to replace the grass roof with corrugated iron, replace some window frames and sashes, repair the plaster, and repaint the interior with whitewash. The second-hand iron had a new coat of red paint, and everything was ready for the District Meeting which began on Thursday, April 23rd. People came on foot, carrying bedding and dishes on their heads, and singing hymns all the way. The Mission Tent was pitched to provide additional accommodation for eating and sleeping, and many more arrived on Friday and Saturday, to fill the Church for the preaching services.

Sunday was a wonderful day in the Lord. The attendance was swelled by a bus load Paulpietersburg Location, plus cars from other places bringing Members and friends from other Churches for the Church Dedication. Rev. J. Nkosi baptized 11 converts in the nearby river, and these were later taken into Membership along with 3 others who had been Workers 25 yrs. ago. The crowd was so large that we were able to be inside the Church Building for the Dedication Ceremony only, returning outside for a 3 to 4 hour Service in the open air. As is the custom, the people marched around the Church 3 times, singing hymns, then stopped before the door for a short prayer by Rev. A. Sibiyi, after which Lic. Andrew Mtetwa officially opened the door and invited everyone inside. The Prayer of Dedication was offered by Rev. Amos Mbokazi, and the Act of Dedication conducted by Rev. E. Kierstead.

In the Open Air Service, Rev. W. Morgan preached to several hundred from the text "Choose ye this day whom ye will serve", and the message was well given and well received. Others who spoke briefly included Rev. Karl Gorman, Mrs. Faith MacDonald, Re. E. Kierstead, and Rev. C. Sanders. Rev. Grace (Sanders) Titlestad offered prayer at the Baby Dedication Ceremony. The offering, for which the people had been collecting for some time, was presided over by Rev. Alfred Methula. He first called the roll of Reformed Baptist Churches, then visiting Churches, then invited everyone else to bring their offering to the table. It amounted to approx. \$100.00, and left a Debt of less than \$50.00 on the Church. (The Mission Board had earlier sent \$150.00 as well.) The pulpit, incidentally, was made

The King's Highway

"TIME OUT" FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT

The crucifixion-resurrection events initiated by God for man's redemption were revolutionary in their outreach. Yet Jesus on the eve of His ascension announced another event quite as far reaching and indispensable to the evangelization of the world: "Behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high" (Luke 24:49).

"It is expedient for you that I go away," were His words to the disciples, "for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you" (John 16:7). At this juncture of God's program for His kingdom it was more important for the Comforter to come than for Jesus to remain in the world.

Jesus called "time out" for His disciples until the Comforter came with cleansing and enduement for their lives. He had commanded them to go into all the world and preach the Gospel. But before going, they were to take "time out" for the coming of the Holy Spirit.

"Tarry ye until . . ." said Jesus. The only time limit placed on their tarrying was "until." In response to His command, one hundred and twenty disciples tarried in an upper room for ten days, until the Holy Spirit came with His mighty baptism. But the time pattern set by Jesus for the Spirit's coming was not ten days; the time pattern was "until."

"Until" has always been the secret of the Spirit's baptism. The Holy Spirit never comes into the lives of Christians who are too busy to take time out for His coming. When Christians spend more time in committee meetings than on their knees, the Holy Spirit does not come. We must take time out for heart searching and complete consecration in every phase of life before the Holy Spirit will make His abode in us.

Nothing is more urgent in this present crucial hour of human history than that the church take time out for the coming of the Holy Spirit. We are to be dependent upon the Holy Spirit for vitality in all Christian activity, whether it be teaching, witnessing, or preaching. "For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance," was the testimony of the Apostle Paul (1 Thessalonians 1:5).

Jesus clearly reveals that we become dynamic Christians only through the Holy Spirit. These are His words: "But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come unto you" (Acts 1:8)

—The Herald

from parts of an old organ brought to Hartland by Mrs. H. C. Sanders many years ago. Benches were made by our Bible School students and cost only \$1.50 each for materials and labor. Rev. H. Persson, of a Swedish Baptist Mission, closed the Service with prayer, after which a Communion Service was held inside the Church, conducted by Rev. Glendon Kierstead. There were 76 communicants, in spite of the fact that some people had to leave early.

It is difficult to express the feelings we had, and quite impossible to properly assess the significance of that particular Church Dedication. It was a great victory for the Lord's Work in general, and a boost to our Work in particular, as we have seen the hand of God in the events leading up to it. Please join in prayer that the fires of revival would burn higher still, so that hundreds of other souls would be won in that HARD and NEEDY area. We need, urgently, a resident pastor there, as the work is now tended from Hartland, 17 miles distant by road. There are 2 other Outposts nearby, and the 3 would make a good Circuit for a bantu preacher. (If one becomes available and a little house could be built.)