

The South African MISSIONARY

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The Needs of South Africa

AFTER giving the above subject much thought, I am fully convinced that it is neither more men nor more money that is necessary to make our work advance. We have an army of forty-three persons holding credentials and licences. Besides these, there are several teachers, medical missionaries, and canvassers, making a total of about seventy persons who are devoting their entire time to this work. A band of workers of this size is not to be despised. Surely we have workers enough to scatter the light of present truth in this country. Then why does not the work go faster? What is the hindering cause, and where is the remedy?

In speaking of these days the Lord says, "It is time to seek the Lord, till He come and rain righteousness upon you." Hos. 10 : 12. This scripture points out a time of special seeking after the Lord for the rain of righteousness. Again the Lord says, "Ask ye of the Lord rain in the time of the latter rain; so the Lord shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain, to every one grass in the field." Zach. 10 : 1. I am sure that we will never "seek" nor "ask" according to His idea of so doing, till we really desire. Israel was not desirous to leave Egypt at first, but later they were glad to go. It is when we really desire anything that we earnestly seek for it. The disciples did not receive the Holy Spirit till they had spent many days seeking for that one thing.

When will we receive the same blessing that is to heal all our weaknesses? for "it is the absence of the Spirit that makes the gospel minis-

try so powerless." The disciples had an outward form of unity, but it was not till they "were of one heart and of one soul," and had sought diligently and unitedly, that the blessing came. The conditions are the same to-day.

Some have said that individually we should seek and receive the blessing, but I feel sure that when the blessing comes to our Conference, like the disciples, we will with "one accord" seek for it. And before this can be done many sores and breaches must be healed.

I ask my brethren, is it not time to seek the Lord? Shall the coming camp-meeting be a time when unitedly we ask for rain? The sunburned and parched earth must have rain to make it bring forth fruit; and, just so with our army of workers, they must have rain to make them fruitful. And when the showers fall upon the church, Conference workers and people, then "every one" will bear fruit to the glory of God. Again the Word of the Lord speaks to us in these solemn words: "Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly: gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children," etc. Joel 2 : 15, 16. Here again we see God's people, young and old, seeking the Lord with fasting; and the minister weeping because of the existing condition of things. Verse 17. If our churches will take up this work according to the Word, then we will see happy results. Brethren, why not?

I wonder if our people believe that the coming Conference is by far the most important meeting ever held in South Africa? If ever we made a

sacrifice to attend a meeting it should be now. Young and old need God's salvation. Many of our young people are travelling earthward and some parents are halting between two opinions. In the name of our Saviour I urge our people to realise the importance of this camp-meeting, and not only come themselves, but bring as many with them as possible. Ask that young man or young woman to attend. Invite those who are interested to spend their holidays at the camp. Make every effort to make this gathering a success, both for yourself and others.

W. S. HYATT.

Arrangement for Camp-meeting

WE expect to hold our camp-meeting at Claremont (top of Warwick Street), January 4 to 20, 1907. We have a beautiful location for the camp. The grounds are surrounded by oak trees which will afford an abundance of shade and good protection from the wind. The place is easily reached, since it takes but five or six minutes to walk from either the tram or railway station.

We hope to be able to afford our people more comfort at this meeting than at any previously held in this Conference, and so far everything appears to be favourable to this end. Plans are being laid whereby we can furnish the needful furniture at reasonable rates, and our camp-meeting committee will do all in their power to provide for our brethren. However, I would advise all to bring mattress covers that can be filled, as it may be difficult to secure the mattresses. The Conference tents will be furnished at the following rates:—

(Tents 12 x 14 feet, with fly, 20/-)
 (Tents 14 x 16 feet, with fly, 25/-)

We have thirty of these tents, and when these are ordered Brother Gibson will then secure others from the city and furnish them at cost. Please order your tents and furniture at once. Send orders to T. J. Gibson, 56 Roeland Street, Cape Town.

The accommodations for food will be all that can be desired and expected. Food will be served on the European plan, and this will enable the campers to secure such things as they may desire. It is a little difficult to state prices for every thing, but let me assure you, we are seeking to furnish things as cheaply as possible, for we realise that times are hard and money is scarce. This meeting was appointed at the close of the holiday season so that all our people could have the benefit of the reduction offered to the public. Brother O. O. Fortner has charge of this matter and will give full instruction, so that all who desire can secure reduced rates to the meeting.

If we can serve you in any way, we invite you to make your wants known. We want you to attend the meeting and receive the blessing awaiting you, and we are anxious to assist our brethren in every way possible. Address all requests to either O. O. Fortner, Kenilworth, Cape, or T. J. Gibson, 56 Roeland Street. Now is the time to begin to plan for the meeting.

W. S. HYATT.

Closing Our Books for the Year 1906

As our camp-meeting begins the fourth of January, it will be necessary for us to close our accounts some days sooner than usual in order that our reports may be completed by the time of the meeting. Therefore I would suggest to the churches in Cape Colony Conference that they hold their quarterly meetings Sabbath, December 15, and that the tithes be collected and sent to the office the following week; also that the church clerk and Sabbath-school secretaries send in their reports at the same time. If these reports are promptly sent we

will be able to close our Conference books and have everything complete for the Conference. Please allow me to offer another suggestion. Would it not be a very proper thing if we make Sabbath, December 15, a special day of prayer and fasting, that the blessing, of heaven may rest upon our camp-meeting? I make the suggestion and our brethren can act upon it as they believe God would have them do. I know that many of our people will consider it a privilege to unite in a day of fasting and prayer.

W. S. HYATT.

Rates to the Conference

In last month's issue, it was stated that as the Conference and camp-meeting would be convened near the time of the holidays, our people would be able to take advantage of the usual holiday rates without the use of certificates; but we have since learned that it will be cheaper and better to use the Synod certificates. The holiday rate is a single fare for the double journey, but the Synod rate is half of the return fare.

We have made application to the Government for the usual concession to the meeting over all Cape Railways, and the Central South African, and the Natal Government Railways. We are certain to receive the benefit of the concession over the Cape lines, but as regards the Central South African and Natal lines, we have not yet received reply. We believe, however, they will grant the concession also. As soon as we receive a definite reply we will send a supply of the Synod certificates, with our signature, to the offices of the Cape Conference and Natal-Transvaal Conference, and all who expect to come by rail may be supplied with these certificates by applying to their Conference office.

For those who live near Durban, East London, and Port Elizabeth, and who might prefer to come by boat, we have applied to the Union Castle S. S. Co., for a concession of 20 per cent., and they have granted the request, stipulating that intend-

ing passengers must be supplied with certificates to show that they are delegates to the meeting. If all who intend coming by boat will write me at once, I will send them the certificate that will secure the 20 per cent. concession. We believe this route will be an advantageous one, especially to those living in Natal.

O. O. FORTNER,

Sec. S. A. U. C.

LATER.—Since making up our forms, we have received word that the Synod rates to the Conference have been granted over all the railway lines. We are thankful for this.

O. O. F.

Orange River Colony

I was unable to attend the last quarterly meeting season at Heisterbach. Yet from letters received I am glad to learn there was a good attendance and that the blessing of the Lord rested upon the efforts of the church elders and others, and the same experienced by every one during the three days' meetings.

I am at present at Fauresmith, assisting Sister Bourne in her work. I find that notwithstanding she is being tied to an onerous duty, she is continually giving the people of this town the message in various ways. I was glad to meet several people with whom she is in contact, and a promising company of young people and children who numbered (yesterday) thirty-two, with whom she labours. These meet on Sabbaths for study of Sabbath-school lessons at a friend's house.

Sister Bourne has contrived to enlist the willing services of several of the young people in the work of selling the *Sentinel*. Surely the good seed this devoted sister is sowing will grow and yield fruit. I am sure that if English and Dutch tracts (new) could be sent her by those so disposed to supply, including the postage or railage, could be used to great advantage by her in free distribution.

I hope (D. V.) to leave here for Koffeyfontein District to find Brother Naudie, about twenty or twenty-five miles distant.

J. M. FREEMAN.

Kolo Mission, Basutoland*(Concluded)*

MR. VAN ROOYEN and Mr. Brophey, at Morija, had been constant smokers, but on Sabbath morning I noticed that neither of them had their usual morning pipe. It was very windy and dusty in the village during the day, so we went out to a sheltered place among the rocks and had our Sabbath-school. We saw no smoking that day, nor since then. Mr. van Rooyen afterwards showed us the fragments of his broken pipe.

On Sunday we went down to Morija, and held a meeting at Mr. Brown's place, according to previous arrangement. There were five white men, one woman, and two children present, and I gave a talk on the law of God.

From Makeneng we went on and held a few meetings in some villages. On Tuesday, Mrs. Chaney, who had contracted the influenza, was so ill that we turned toward Kolo.

The following Sunday, I went over to Morija to hold another meeting with the white people, but as Mr. Brown had been called away on business, and as a terrible dust storm was raging we had no meeting. I went on to Makeneng and spent the night with the van Rooyens.

Monday morning, on calling at Morija post-office, Mr. Louis Mabile, who is in charge of the Morija French Protestant mission station, invited me into his study and inquired about the meetings I had started at Mr. Brown's, and informed me that he would deem it his duty to oppose any attempt on our part to start a work at Morija. I replied that while we did not court opposition, we expected it, and that it was my purpose to give God's special message for this time to whoever would listen, wherever I found them. We talked for almost an hour. This man can no doubt make plenty of trouble for us, as he was born and reared in the French Protestant mission work here in Basutoland, and has great influence with the natives. But while he can make it hard for the workers, he cannot stop God's work.

He has been talking with the people here, and I understand he has been to the chief to have our meetings stopped, but from what I can learn the chief is not willing to join him to "run us out." His attitude has stirred those whose attention has been attracted to the truth, to express themselves in favour of giving our message a hearing. Every one of them say, "Come on, and hold meetings, and we will attend; and we will bring as many others as we can."

Yesterday, a native, one of the leading men in the French Protestant church, and who was educated in the Colony and understands English, came and listened to my talk on the second coming of Christ.

A door seems to be opening wider and wider here in the French Protestant stronghold. I only wish that I was better prepared to give the message. I know that you will pray for me that I may lift up the Saviour and give His message with no uncertain sound, and with His love pulsating in every sentence.

Yours in Christ,

J. A. CHANEY.

Frazer's Camp

AFTER this place was decided upon for a Kafir mission I brought my family here the last week in August and began work, quarring stone for the building. This had not proceeded very far when we were blessed with bountiful rains, so I was able to plough and sow some mealies. Besides this, work has been done in opening the fountains on the place and making water-furrows. A garden has been started and fruit trees planted—twenty-one choice apple and five orange trees. As it is now too late for planting other fruit trees, we hope to do a good deal of this next season.

In all this, I have been very short handed as I only had one hired man and a small boy for a month. At present writing, we have no servant. We wish to remind all those who love the appearing of the Lord that we need your prayers and means which the Lord has intrusted to you as stew-

ards. Very few of you who remain at home realise the discouragements, inconveniences, and roughings of those who pioneer the work among a suspicious, ungrateful heathen people.

Yet we can say, none of these things move us, for we are buoyed up by the blessed hope (Titus 2 : 13), and the Captain of our salvation "shall not fail nor be discouraged till He have set judgment in the earth." We regret rather our own shortcomings, but trust in the mercy of Him who "taketh pleasure in them that hope in His mercy."

At present we are occupying two rooms kindly placed at our disposal by Brother Sparrow. We have ordered a tent sent up, which is doubtless on the way. We will use this till the permanent building is put up, which will no doubt be begun after Conference.

Yours in the blessed hope,

G. W. SHONE.

College Notes

—BEFORE the next number of the MISSIONARY reaches you, our present school year will be in the past, the students will have returned to their respective homes, and quiet again will reign throughout the College buildings.

—The closing exercises of the school will take place in the Claremont church on Monday evening, Dec. 10, at 8 P.M. During the afternoon there will be an exhibition of school work in the different class rooms. All parents and friends are cordially invited to inspect the work of the students, and to attend the exercises in the evening.

—Our next school year will open Jan. 28. It is none too soon to plan for it. Precious opportunities are given to the young people in securing a Christian education, and many more should be availing themselves of these opportunities. The Lord has openings for all consecrated young people as soon as they are qualified to step into them. The new calendar will shortly be issued. Write for it, and send us the names of friends or relatives to whom you wish it to be mailed. The Lord calls upon all the young people of South Africa to fit themselves for earnest work in His vineyard.

H. HAYTON.

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Kenilworth, Cape.

SISTER CHANEY recently went over to Wepener, and in a few days sold £8 worth of our books, tracts, and papers.

A LETTER from Brother Olmsted states that two persons have recently accepted the Sabbath in Uitenhage, and are walking in the light.

A FEW weeks ago, Brother Murray Kalaka, our native teacher at the Basuto Mission, wrote an article on the seventh chapter of Daniel, which was published in the Basuto papers. This is a very good way to get the truth before the people.

ELDER AND SISTER HANKINS have rented a building in Hout Street, Cape Town, in which they will soon establish a vegetarian restaurant. There has been a loud call in Cape Town for a work of this kind, and we hope soon to see a place provided where the true principles of food reform will be carried out.

BROTHER J. S. BLETCHLEY has sold his farm in Beaufort West District, as it was too far from town. He is desirous of securing another farm, well watered, near a post-office or station. If any of our readers know of such a farm for sale, they are invited to correspond with Brother Bletchley, Waterfall, Beaufort West.

ELDER EDMED writes the encouraging news that twenty-five members of the Natal-Transvaal Conference have expressed their intention of coming to the camp-meeting at the Cape, and that he expects the number will soon be increased to fifty. We hope the Cape Conference will do as well in proportion to the membership and distance.

SHORTLY after the arrival of Sister Edie at the Cape, she began to give Bible readings. In a short time she succeeded in getting about a dozen families to take the readings. But a call came for her from the north, and on the 17th of October she left the Cape for the Somabula Mission. Sister Edie expects to remain at the Somabula Mission until early next year, when it is expected that she will proceed to Nyassaland.

SISTER SMITH, who recently came down from Johannesburg, and who now lives near the College, has taken over the Bible reading work which Sister Edie left at the Cape. Sister Smith gives most of her afternoons to missionary work,—Bible readings, selling papers, etc. Are there not others who could spare some time for the Master's work? Have you given the people living in your vicinity every opportunity for learning the truth?

THE sanitarium at Plumstead has enjoyed a good degree of success and prosperity during this year. As soon as the patients recover their health and leave for home, others step right in, so that the institution is taxed to its utmost capacity about all of the time. The doctor and nurses feel that God has greatly blessed them in their work, and they are encouraged to press on in this work of mercy, being used as instruments of Christ to set men and women free from the shackles of sin and disease.

SISTER ANNIE E. GRANT writes encouragingly of the "Young People's Society," which has been organised in Johannesburg. The society has for its object, "Association for Bible study and mutual encouragement in every good work," and for its aim, "The advent message to all the world in this generation." After a glance at the syllabus, we have no hesitation in saying that the society will be a great blessing to the young people of the Johannesburg church, and will teach them how to become a great blessing to all the world.

We are now engaged in getting out the December number of the *Sentinel*. We believe this will be an interesting and profitable Christmas number. Articles will appear on the birth of Christ, His child-life, His mission to earth, His sufferings, death, and resurrection. These are all well written articles, and taken in conjunction with the interesting matter in the other departments of the paper, we believe that this will be a number that every one will want to have a part in circulating. Churches, companies, and isolated members are especially urged to send for an extra number of the December *Sentinel*.

Au Revoir

ON Friday morning, the 2nd inst., quite a large number of our people residing at the Cape met at the Cape Town docks to say good-bye to Grandma Wessels and the members of her family who left South Africa on that day by the S. S. "Persic" to make their home in America. Several years ago members of the Wessels family received letters from one whose counsel is greatly respected, advising them to cut loose from their associations in this country and connect with the work in some other part of the great harvest field. During the past several months Brother John has been working assiduously to arrange his business affairs in order to respond to this call. At last the business matters were arranged and the preparations to go were completed. The party consisted of Brother John Wessels, his mother, his two brothers, Andrew and Dan, his nephew, Peter Wessels, Jr., and Miss Daisy Ingle, who went as nurse to Sister Wessels, and who expects to finish the nurse's course in one of the American sanitariums.

No doubt it was hard for this company to break the ties and associations that have affectionately bound them so long to all that they have left behind, but they left with cheerful hearts and bright hopes, believing that they will receive a blessing for having walked in the light that has been given them. We regret to see them go. We will miss them when we look at the places they have occupied. But they take with them our best wishes and our prayers that God may be with and prosper them in the land of their sojourn until we shall meet again in that bright and happy home where parting shall be no more.