

Light for the Line,

THE SOUTH AFRICAN CHURCH RAILWAY MISSION MAGAZINE.

NO. LIV., QUARTERLY.

JANUARY, 1912.

2/- PER ANNUM, 2/6 POST FREE.

South African Church Railway Mission.

STAFF.

<i>Head of the Mission:</i>	<i>Postal Address:</i>
REV. F. A. ROGERS, M.A.	Auckland Park, Johannesburg.
<hr/>	
Rev. T. de Laune Faunce, B.A.	Naauwpoort.
Rev. S. R. Griggs	Bishopsbourne Cottage, Grahamstown.
Mr. J. J. Coombs	Bishopsbourne Cottage, Grahamstown.
Mr. G. S. Harris, B.A.	Bishopsbourne Cottage, Grahamstown.
Miss Beckwith	The Hermitage, Grahamstown.
Miss Holmes	Rosmead.
Miss Glasier	The Hermitage, Grahamstown.
Nurse Marlande	Rosmead.
Nurse Brownlow	Railway Hotel, Cookhouse.
<hr/>	
Rev. O. W. L. Skey	51, Solomon St., Vrededorp, Johannesburg.
Rev. I. H. Boon	Auckland Park, Johannesburg.
Rev. A. R. Thurlow, B.A.	Auckland Park, Johannesburg.
Rev. R. G. Hopkyns, M.A.	Auckland Park, Johannesburg.
Mr. A. C. Bickerdike	Auckland Park, Johannesburg.
Mr. W. P. Renaud	Box 2875, Johannesburg.
Miss Attlee	White House, Richmond, Johannesburg.
Nurse Roberts	44, Railway Cottages, Germiston.
Nurse Borradaile	2, Jorissen St., Johannesburg.
<hr/>	
Rev. R. E. Thomas, M.A.	Cathedral Cottage, Bloemfontein.
Rev. W. M. Austin	Cathedral Cottage, Bloemfontein.
Miss Ramadge	7, Monument Road, Bloemfontein.
Miss Watson	7, Monument Road, Bloemfontein.
<hr/>	
Rev. C. G. Douglas	P.O. Box 616, Bulawayo.
Rev. W. F. Lack	P.O. Box 616, Bulawayo.
Rev. J. H. Toy	Francistown, Bechuanaland Protectorate.
Mr. H. J. Coles	P.O. Box 616, Bulawayo.
<hr/>	
<i>Native Catechists and Preachers:</i>	
Johannes Magxaka	Cookhouse.
Jonathan Thukani	Cookhouse.
Samuel Susela	Alicedale.
Samuel Kula	Alicedale.
James Makambi	Naauwpoort.
<hr/>	
<i>Hon. Editor and Children's Secretary:</i>	
Miss Burt	The Hermitage, Grahamstown.

Bishopsbourne Cottage,
Grahamstown,

Dec. 11th, 1911.

My dear Friends,

This is just a word before I sail for England to wish you one and all "God-speed" not only for the New Year, but for the years that may lie in front. So long as we can count on you as our "friends" indeed, I know that neither Mr. Rogers, nor any of us who care for the Railway Mission need have much anxiety for the future. Friendship of a true sort means *prayer* and *ready help* when needed. My last word to you shall be to ask you to give this to the Mission and to the workers as freely as you have in the past, and as freely as we have tried, at all events, to give it to you.

Anyhow, you and the old Railway Mission will have it constantly from me in every and any way that may be possible, and I ask your prayers at times for the new work that I go to in England.

Always your friend,
H. B. ELLISON.

LETTER FROM THE HEAD.

Grahamstown.

Mr. Ellison told you in his October letter that he had sent in his resignation to the Archbishop and by the time this reaches you he will probably be in England.

The Archbishop and Bishops of the Province have asked me to take over the work and for the last month I have been acting as Head of the Mission. This month has taught me two

things:—First, how much we all owe to Mr. Ellison and his brother. We have most of us felt, I expect, that the Head might have looked us up a little more; that he never seemed to be able to give much time to our particular sections of the line; and we have wondered perhaps how he "put in" all his time. Well, if you will act as Head for a month, you will soon find out.

When you find out what it means to keep in touch with 28 workers, scattered over nearly 8,000 miles of line, each of them, of necessity, constantly out of reach of letters for days at a time; to find new workers to supply their places as they give up the work; to find £3,000 or £4,000 a year to pay our way; and to carry on the endless correspondence involved in the work; the question is not "How does one man put in his time at it?" but "Is it possible for one man to do it effectively?" Mr. Ellison has managed to do it for three years, but he has paid heavily for it in health and strength, and for our own sakes we may be glad that he is going to have a change of work for a bit.

I say for "our own sakes" not because we shall be immediate gainers by the change, for I fear that, as so often happens, we shall only realize what we are losing when we have to do without him; but if that "two or three years in the Old Country" that he talks about makes it possible for him to come back for another "good spell" we may hope that we shall eventually be the gainers in spite of temporary loss.

And the second thing I have learnt this month is one which follows from the first, and that is how much the new Head and the Mission generally will want your help if things are not to slip back.

Mr. Ellison kindly saved me from the unpleasant task of starting my work by a financial letter; but may I just say that the need of local help is even more urgent than it was three months ago? When we ask people in England to help us their first question is "What do the people to whom you minister do to show their appreciation of the work?" If your reply has to be that the contribution from about 100 miles of line, including several camps, amounts to £50 in return for the work of one of our clergy, they naturally do not feel inclined to do much. However I will only ask you to read that letter in the October *Light for the Line* once more, and to act on it to the best of your ability.

Apart from the loss of Mr. Ellison our record of clerical workers during the last three months has been one of clear gain. The Rev. W. M. Austin and the Rev. S. R. Griggs have arrived from England, the former to work at present in the Orange Free State, and the latter, I hope for some time to come, to follow in the steps of Mr. Kinch and Mr. Barnes along the Midland.

A new priest for Rhodesia, the Rev. Walter Lack, is due on Christmas Eve, and Mr. Toy returns to Bechuanaland in February.

But there is another loss to record. Miss Fuller has gone home after two

three-year spells of devoted work on the Midland, for which the Mission as well as many a man, woman and child along the line owe her our most sincere gratitude. May she too some day feel the "call of veld" and come back to us! Fortunately we were able to get Miss Brownlow to take over her work at once, and you have only got to get ill to find that she will be able and willing to do everything possible to get you well again.

Then Miss Ramadge has returned to her work in the Free State and Mr. Bickerdike to the Railway Lads' Club at Fordsburg, so we are all ready for work.

We are therefore all hoping to meet in Grahamstown early in January for a Conference about the work, the result of which I hope you will see in renewed efforts and improved methods.

Just one more thing:—It is difficult to please everybody and no one with any sense tries to, but a good many causes of complaint might be removed if the complaints were made in the right quarter, namely, to the person who gives the cause of complaint. The writer of the book of Ecclesiasticus gives some very wise advice: "Admonish a friend, it may be he hath not done it; and if he have done it, that he do it no more. Admonish thy friend, it may be he hath not said it; and if he have, that he speak it not again. Admonish a friend: for many times it is a slander, and believe not every tale. There is one that slippeth in his speech, but not from his heart; and who is he that hath not offended with his tongue?" So if you want to

criticize us please do it to our face and we may improve; otherwise we may never know our failings.

There is a shop at my home in Bournemouth which prints at the top of every bill: "We want to please you! If we do, please tell your friends; if we don't, please tell us."

The Railway Mission is not a shop and our first object is not to please you, but as the Prayer Book says, "to please Almighty God and to profit you"; but at any rate we wish you to carry out the last part of the notice, and if we don't please you, tell us!

And I need hardly remind you that there is even a better way of removing all cause of complaint, and that is by praying for us. To begin with it will considerably lessen your desire to criticize; but, what is much more important, it will make a difference to us and will by God's grace make us less ineffective.

With every best wish for a happy New year,

Believe me, your very
sincere friend,

FRED A. ROGERS.

DIOCESE OF GRAHAMSTOWN.

I have been asked to give my first impressions of the Railway Mission. Considering that I only arrived from England on November 18th, it will be readily understood when I say that I have very little to write. However my first "tour" of ten days pleased me much, and you shall have a brief account of it for what it is worth.

"You are to be Priest-in-charge," said Mr. Rogers, "of the line from Port Elizabeth to Rosmead exclusive of both these places and also Cradock, Sandflats and Addo."

COOKHOUSE. On the Friday after my arrival I made my way to Cookhouse. Can I ever forget my first impression of this place with its acres of prickly pears? I think not, but there is much to compensate for the dreariness of the place by the kindness of the people. With regard to Church matters there seems to be a want here of "definiteness" among many of the people—I mean the habit of going

round to whatever place of worship happens to be open. I do very strongly feel that every person ought to decide for himself whether he is a Churchman or Nonconformist—to be indefinite, is to be unfair to both parties. God forbid that there should be any ill-feeling between them—I admire the man of conviction whatever he may belong to, but I never yet found a person who patronises every place of worship that is available, to be a zealous Christian. Lukewarmness is one of the evils that every community and individual has to fight against—it is the great barrier to the extension of Christ's Kingdom. It was this state of lukewarmness that evoked Christ's sternest words to the seven Churches as recorded in Rev. iii. Let us be definite, it is the first step I feel sure towards keenness.

The body of Native Christians at Cookhouse seem to be in a very healthy state. Johannes Magxaka must have put in much good work to have brought this about. Twenty-six at the 6 o'clock Eucharist and a "crowded" and withal most reverent congregation at a Baptistal Service were pleasing sights. A

nice number are receiving instruction preparatory to Confirmation.

SHELDON. I have seen as yet very few people along the line. A visit was paid to Sheldon and a Celebration of the Holy Communion held at Mr. Parry's farm.

ALICEDALE. I then travelled down to Alicedale to take a wedding, and spent a day or two in getting to know a few of the people. I look forward to Services here next Sunday. Four or five female candidates will be going down to Port Elizabeth from here on the 13th for their Confirmation. The *Light for the Line* will not be in your hands till after the Sacrament, but not too late for these newly Confirmed to find a place in your prayers.

COEGA. A very happy time was spent here. By the kindness of the Station Master, Evensong was held in the Waiting-room and an address given to eight or ten people, and a Celebration held the next morning. I paid a visit to five houses within a radius of five miles, one of which—a farm—has not been visited by the Railway Mission Staff before, most probably through ignorance of its existence; a Celebration was asked for on my next visit.

SANDFLATS and ADDO. I took Services here on Saturday and Sunday for Mr. Fisher.

I have arranged to hold Christmas Services at Cookhouse on Sunday, the 24th, and at Alicedale on Christmas Day. Within the octave I hope to get to some of the other stations. Many people therefore will have an opportunity of sharing in the Christmas Feast and of worshipping the Babe of Bethlehem in that Service which He Himself instituted.

With all good wishes for a happy and blessed Christmas.

SYDNEY R. GRIGGS.

MIDLAND SECTION.

Work during the last Quarter has been of an irregular, not to say spasmodic, nature. The inclusion of Naauwpoort and its district in a section already more than sufficient to keep one out of mischief, has played havoc with one's best laid plans. In the face of this one can only apologize to all and sundry along the line for the little that has been done. With three Sunday Centres so widely separated as Naauwpoort, Cookhouse and Alicedale and with certain unavoidable visits to Grahamstown, it has been found quite impossible to do justice to many a place which desires regular monthly attention, and where, I may add, it is a real pleasure to go—while, as for the cottages along the line, well—a blank can only express my feelings on that head. Please accept my plea, "not want of inclination, but lack of opportunity." It only remains for me to thank all those whom I am now leaving for their unvarying kindness in what I know to be a very imperfect ministry of $4\frac{1}{2}$ months.

Now to pass in rapid review the events of the past quarter: Naauwpoort, Cookhouse and Alicedale have had their regular Sunday services. Of Naauwpoort there is not much to chronicle, but the loyal support of the Church officers, the quiet sticking to their posts of the various Church workers, and the good attendance of the faithful at the Services—all this too during the trying time of transition, speaks volumes for the thorough way in which God's work has been carried on here in the past. This was especially apparent (as was only natural) at the Services of the Dedication Festival. A very enjoyable evening, from which unfortunately I was absent, was given in the Parish Room to the Choir boys in Saturday, November 11th. Turning to Cookhouse and Alicedale it is pleasing to note that these first strongholds

of the Railway Mission bear the same refreshing witness to careful teaching in the past. At Cookhouse the Guild of the Good Shepherd has been going strong—good attendances at the fortnightly meeting, active preparation for a concert, and the enrolling of several new members all point to a revival of interest in this most excellent of institutions. On Saturday, October 21st, the Commadagga members, under the kindly leadership of Miss Hider “as she was,” joined forces with us at Cookhouse and a most enjoyable day was spent together. On Friday, October 20th, Nurse Fuller left us. On the previous afternoon some of us (many more, I am sure, would have been present if possible) assembled at the Croquet ground to wish her God-speed and to welcome her successor, Nurse Brownlow. Here tea was served and Dr. Jones voiced the feelings of all concerned in a few well chosen words. A bouquet of flowers and a locket subscribed by some of the Mothers were then presented to Nurse Fuller by two of “her babies,” Miss Marjory Wise and Master Ronald Macdonald.

Our congratulations and best wishes go to Mr. and Mrs. Price, who were married in the Cathedral at Grahams-town on Saturday, November 11th. Mrs. Price will be much missed at Commadagga.

Services have been held during the quarter at the following places: Thorngrove, 36 Cottage, Sheldon (Natives and Mr. Parry's farm), Middleton, Ripon, Commadagga, Conway, Hanover Road and Cypress Grove.

T. DE LAUNE FAUNCE.

THE RAMBLER.

I am afraid there is very little of interest to write about this quarter. Of course I have been very busy, but it has been chiefly in the camps. Of Naauwpoort I will let Mr. Faunce

write. Alicedale still flourishes and it is gratifying to see how the numbers keep up at all the services. The children's services are indeed a great pleasure to take. There are now nearly 60 children's names on the book; some of them will be looking for prizes soon, yet I am quite sure that none of them come with the idea of getting prizes, but because they love to come. The Guild of the Good Shepherd grows; we have a little service in Church and afterwards Miss Beckwith entertains them in the Church Hall. Visits have been made to Colesberg: this was to enable the Rev. A. Schönberg to take a Sunday at Naauwpoort, and for which we thank him. Conway for Children's Service and Evensong. Stormberg Junction, Rayner and Lower Adamsons Bank, Burgerville Road, Franz, Hanover Road, and Cradock to see some patients in Hospital. I have quite given up promising to go anywhere because I have so frequently to break my promises, but I want my friends to think as kindly as they can of me and believe that I am doing my best. We have another priest in the Midland now—the Rev. S. R. Griggs—and so I shall be set free to get along the line again very soon. I want very much to get all the way round before I think of taking a trip to England next year.

JOHN J. COOMBS.

EASTERN.

Eastern Main Line. The cottages between Burghersdorp and Berlin have been visited again.

At STORMBERG there have been two services, one on a Sunday and one on a weekday. I am glad to say that the attendance has much improved. We were fortunate in securing someone to play the school organ on both occasions. It has been a pleasure to address the children in school with the

kind permission of the teacher. It seems that the camp together with others on the Eastern is to be reduced in size.

At LOWER INCLINE two Sunday services have been held, but owing to Sunday duty few of the men have been able to come.

BERLIN has also had two Sunday services. We always get a good congregation. I must again thank Mr. and Mrs. Pepper for their hospitality and Mrs. Osman, who has always played the organ for us.

At IMVANI we had Children's Service and Evensong on a Sunday. The attendance was very small, while on a former visit no one came for the Service arranged.

At DOHNE a wet afternoon kept people away, so that the congregation consisted of two.

One Service has been held at KUBUSIE. I must thank the S.M. for his great help with the arrangements, and for his hospitality. A second Sunday visit (when the S.M. was away) proved fruitless. No one came to service.

Two fresh places have been started as service centres.

One at CARRICKMORE where there has been a weeknight Service. The other at ESSEX. Twice I had been obliged to postpone the Service, but when it was eventually held quite a number came. Mr. and Mrs. Stone kindly let us have the use of their dining-room.

One Sunday I took Service at THOMAS RIVER for the Vicar of Cathcart, who, like the rest of the parish clergy, is most kind to the Railway Mission.

Stormberg-Rosmead. The cottages have been revisited. Mattins, Children's Service and Evensong have been held at THEBUS and SCHOOMBIE. People have turned up well. Mr. and Mrs. Keating at Thebus are maintain-

ing its reputation for hospitality, and my sincere thanks are due to them.

Amabele-Butterworth. A real start seems to have begun with the extension of the line to Idutywa. The cottages have been visited once more. A Service arranged at Kei Bridge proved a failure.

It is a great pity that we have several failures to record this quarter, all of them at small places which seldom get services.

It does not seem much to ask people three or four times a year to join together for family prayers. That is what our services are. As I have tried more than once to explain, we try to worship God together. We should not come merely to hear a sermon or to spend a pleasant hour, nor should we stay away because we think we may be bored.

During the quarter I also visited the cottages on the Midland between Rosmead and Bushman's River, and was at COOKHOUSE for one Sunday. I hope to go up part of the line to Maclear before Christmas.

The following is a list of places where services have been held, and the collections are here acknowledged:— Lower Incline (3/3 and 2/-), Berlin (8/9 and 9/9), Thomas River, Kubusie (3/1), Thebus (5/9), Schoombie (16/4½), Carrickmore (2/-), Cookhouse, Imvani, Stormberg (6/3 and 4/10), Essex (6/-), Dohne.

G. S. HARRIS.

WOMEN'S WORK.

Our quarterly report is called for at such an early date this month that there does not seem much to record. I have revisited many old familiar scenes on the Midland Line from Cookhouse (the northern limit of my district now) down to Port Elizabeth, and also for the first time travelled along the Alexandria and Avontuur branch

lines, where it was a great pleasure to find a few old friends as well as to admire the lovely scenery of their present surroundings, where they seem so happily settled.

The Alexandria Line might be aptly called the Cheshire of this country, while the Avont Hills reminded me of the Malvern range on a much more extensive scale.

In October we had the pleasure of welcoming Nurse Brownlow to this district (in the capacity both of Mission Worker and G.F.S. Member) and the same week the pain of parting with an old friend, Nurse Fuller, who had been well known by so many both in hours of joy and sorrow. The latter however was considerably lessened by the thought that she had indeed well earned a time of rest by her long and strenuous six years' service, also that she was returning to an aged Mother, who at last claimed her care after bravely sparing her so long to this country. It will be a satisfaction to her numerous friends to hear that after a somewhat stormy voyage she had a "blissfully happy home-coming" and finds "Home very lovely from every point of view"—even the elements having been favourable, as she adds, "though it has rained every night the days have been mostly fine" since her return. Those who could not be present at the farewell Tea-party given by the Cookhouse Mothers on October 19th will like to learn that (after appreciative speeches by the Rev. T. Faunce and Dr. Jones) a presentation was made in the name of all the Babies nursed by Miss Fuller by two of the eldest among them—Marjorie Wise, who carried a beautiful bouquet, and Ronald Macdonald a pretty green stone pendant. Quite an ovation also awaited her all along the Line. At Alicedale an impromptu tea-party was arranged on the Station and friends saw her off from most of the stopping places on the way down to Port Elizabeth, where

some more were ready to accompany her on board the "Saxon." During October I also attended the Diocesan Councils of the Mothers' Union and G.F.S. at Grahamstown, and should like to add that a Recreation-room has now been opened there at a convenient centre (next door to the S.P.C.K. Depôt in Hill Street), where members of both Societies will always be welcomed on their visits to the Cathedral City. In November I gave a series of Lantern Lectures, including one to the coloured children, of St. Mark's Mission, North End, where the Sisters teach—a most appreciative audience. I also visited the Mothers' Meeting, presided over by Sister Emily, where a goodly number attended. Meanwhile our own meetings in the Camps are still small and scantily attended. Do the members forget the blessings promised to united prayer? May we not hope that the New Year will find us not only ready to make fresh resolutions but also to carry them out in God-given strength which is always at hand for those ready to receive it and trust in its power? Perhaps the German motto, "Courage conquers the world," may suit some of us for 1912, especially if we compare it with the words of St. John, "This is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith."

M. JOSEPHINE BECKWITH.

This has been a quarter of many changes. We have regretfully said good-bye to Mr. Ellison, and we have welcomed Mr. Rogers as our new Head.

Naauwpoort is to be congratulated on having again a resident Priest. Mr. Faunce is getting to know that part of the Line now.

At Stormberg I fear the Guild class will be reduced by about half owing to all the changes there. And at Sterkstroom I shall miss several friends.

The scattered Confirmation candi-

dates are going quietly on with their preparation, so as to be ready when there is a Confirmation within reach. May I take this opportunity of giving my very best New Year wishes to all my friends on the Railway?

G. E. HOLMES.

PRETORIA DIOCESE.

N., S.W., and VOLKSRUST LINES.

The chief thing we have to record this quarter is the Confirmations. Candidates have been presented at two Confirmations. The first, arranged specially for us, was held on Tuesday, September 26th, when ten candidates were presented. Some of these candidates got up soon after four o'clock in the morning, which was earlier than there was need; still, when you live some distance from the station it is better to have some time to spare. It is encouraging to see the effort made in overcoming difficulties and we trust that those who have begun so well will not cease to make efforts to fulfil their religious obligations. Miss Attlee, the lady-worker of the Good Shepherd Church, kindly undertook to look after the girl candidates while in town. The second Confirmation, at which three candidates were presented, was held at St. Mary's Church, Johannesburg, on All Saints' Day. The Bishop gave us most helpful and valuable addresses and no one we feel sure could go away without being deeply impressed by the solemn and spiritual character of the Service. We are sorry so few of our people were able to get in, not only because of the great benefit and blessing to themselves but also that the candidates might have received the benefit of their united prayers. Many, no doubt, who had to stay at home did

pray for them and we trust will continue to do so since Confirmation is only a beginning and not an end. By Confirmation we approach God to offer Him that worship which He Himself has commanded us through Jesus Christ and we receive grace, the gift of God's Holy Spirit, to enable us to perform it worthily and to receive back from God the holy Gifts which have been pleaded before Him, even the Body and Blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Most of the candidates have already made their first Communion, some of them coming in three miles in order to do so. May they all be kept faithful to the end and grow in grace. Let us see that more of us who are older Communicants put no stumbling block in their way by being careless in our preparation or irregular in making our Communion.

There are still some other candidates whom it has not yet been convenient to present and a few on the Fourteen Streams Line who are still preparing. Do not forget them in your prayers.

We wish you all a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

I. H. BOON,
A. R. THURLOW.

WATERVAL BOVEN DISTRICT.

WATERVAL BOVEN. Once again one has to deplore the most trying feature of Railway Mission work, the continual transfers that take place. Among the losses, we especially regret the departure of Mr. and Mrs. Paley to Pretoria. Mr. Paley has for some time been a member of the Church Council, and has done much solid work, while Mrs. Paley has done much service to the Church by acting as organist with the greatest regularity. However, against the losses we can set one gain. Our Secretary, Mr. D. M. Fraser, is getting married in Johan-

nesburg at the time of writing, and will in due course bring Mrs. Fraser to Waterval Boven. We wish them every happiness and prosperity.

From various causes the Sustentation Fund has suffered somewhat lately. Contributors have several times complained to me that no one has called to collect their contribution. Others who are willing to contribute have never been asked to do so. It would be a great kindness if such people would send their names and contributions to Mr. Fraser. I have always refrained from asking for money personally: it is the duty of every priest, I believe, to preach about and teach the duty and privilege of almsgiving, but the actual collecting of money is no part of his work and only interferes with his spiritual duties. The Church belongs to the churchpeople: the priest-in-charge is their minister or servant. Surely then it is wrong that the responsibility of collecting funds for the upkeep of the Church and the ministry should rest on his shoulders, and not rather on the shoulders of those for whose sake Church and clergy exist. The new Font has now been placed in the Church. Our best thanks are due to Mr. Leighton, Mr. Morris and other gentlemen who undertook the work of strengthening the floor, and of placing the Font in position. The Font is simple, solid, and well-proportioned, and will add dignity to what should be a most solemn service, that of Holy Baptism. Very appropriately the first baby to be baptised in it was that of Mr. and Mrs. Geerds, who were, I believe, the first couple to be married in the Church. Mr. Geerds, it should be mentioned, is a member of the Council, and is acting as Secretary, while Mr. Fraser is away on his "honeymoon."

MACHADODORP. The attendance at service shows considerable improvement. Thanks to the exertions of Mr.

Potgieter, the financial position is also improved. Nearly the whole of the amount promised by the Church Council this year has been raised or is in sight.

BELFAST. Both town and station combine to make my monthly Sunday at Belfast one of encouragement. Here one feels that there is a real loyalty towards the Church, a loyalty that is independent of the popularity or unpopularity of the parson, and the brightness or dullness of the service. It is obvious that these are usually very real factors in Church life in the Transvaal. What we want is loyalty to the Church because it is *the* Church, the Church of our forefathers, a true branch of the one, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic Church. Mr. Coster is undertaking the formation of a choir, which will be a real help in our services.

On the first Sunday in November, a memorial service was held at the military cemetery near the station. The graves were nicely decorated with flowers and wreaths, and all felt that it was a right and natural thing that we should commemorate those who died doing their duty.

WORK ALONG THE LINE. A fortnight's holiday, and almost another spent at Synod have made this quarter a short one. The use of the coach by other Railway Missioners has further limited the scope of operations. Sunday services have been held at Bronkhorstspuit, Delmas, Hatherley and Davel. Dalmanutha, Waterval Onder and Kinross have had weekday services. A few visits have also been paid to other places. A great deal has been left undone which ought to have been done. May God forgive all our imperfections, and make the New Year one of real happiness and blessing, in which we may all learn to serve Him better.

T. GRAY HOPKINS.

FORDSBURG. CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

The much-looked-for Confirmation has come and gone and we are all very thankful for the keenness and enthusiasm that apparently it has called forth. As far as the weather is concerned I suppose December 8th was one of the worst days experienced in Johannesburg for some years. A terrible hail storm in the afternoon and pouring rain at night! Within ten minutes of the service we were doubting if some of the candidates would be able to get to the Church, so that the joy was greater when we found that everyone was present. The number presented from Fordsburg, Vrederorp and Brixton was 57 and there was one candidate from along the line, presented by Mr. Boon. The service was bright and devotional and no one took any notice of the rain coming through the roof. The Bishop must have had a trying drive: in fact, he told us that Mrs. Furse hardly liked his coming out in such a dreadful night, but we are all grateful to his Lordship, and his splendid address to the candidates will not soon be forgotten. The Confirmation ought to mean new life to the whole district and we are hoping that in some way or other each candidate may become a *worker*. We were all glad to welcome back Mr. A. C. Bickerdike after his four months' holiday. He looks very fit and says he is up to anything. Needless to say the lads at the Club were very pleased also to see him back.

We had a small Sale of Work on December 6th at which the opening ceremony was performed by Mrs. Benson Watt. It was only a small affair in aid of the general fund. I think we shall clear about £20. I desire to thank most sincerely all who took part. The special appeal which we issued about six weeks ago is meeting with gratifying results. At present we have received the following:—

Anon £5, Mrs. Palm £5, Mr. Rogers £4, Mrs. Bellis £2 2s. 6d., Miss Rogers 10/6, Mrs. T. Dutton 15/-, Mrs. Mills 10/-, Mrs. Boppery £1 5s., Mrs. West £1 12s. 6d. Further moneys will come in at the end of this month.

VREDEDORP. We were all much shocked at the sad death of Mr. Frank Randall, one of our Confirmation candidates. He was 18 years of age and had only been out in this country three years, living with his grandfather. He was ill a week. The funeral was largely attended by members of our Vredefort congregation and some of the lads sent a letter of sympathy to his father and mother in England.

BRIXTON. We wish to express our sincere sympathy with the Ives family in the sad loss of their sister, Mrs. Edith Stokes. It was a great privilege to be able to minister to her in the last few weeks of her life and I must thank Mr. Ives (sen.) for sending his cart for me so often to take me to the mine. We had a beautiful memorial service at Brixton the Sunday night after her death and it was attended by Mr. Stokes, members of the Ives family and many friends.

O. W. L. SKEY.

DIocese OF BLOEM-FONTEIN.

Miss Ramadge is back among us once more, and is already beginning her line journeys and finding out the many changes in the last nine months—where old friends have gone to and the places where there are new ones.

The Grahamstown Coach was lent to us for November, but with my usual luck it was commandeered for Mr. Austin, our new Chaplain, before I had had time for more than a "preliminary canter"—and it was very disappointing to have to give it up, the more so that, at the time of writing, it does

not seem very likely that I shall have much more opportunity for using it.

This may reach the hands of some of my friends before Christmas is long past, and at any rate before the New Year is very old. I should like to wish all a very happy New Year and hope that 1912 will see more frequent and regular visiting on my part, and a deeper bond of friendship between us.

Miss Ramadge and I hope to make some Father Christmas journeys again this year, so, if unexplained parcels one day appear on the wayside near a cottage, mothers and children may know that kind friends in the Free State and in England have thought of these far off children who seldom see toy shops or Christmas bazaars, and have sent little presents to remind them that at Christmas time especially all children are brothers and sisters.

M. E. WATSON.

RHODESIA.

Rhodesia on the map is a large enough country, but when you add the Belgian Congo, Portuguese East Africa, the Bechuanaland Protectorate and a small piece of Cape Colony, you may perhaps realise that the Railway Mission is covering (I am afraid very inadequately) a rather large tract of country. So when you read of the list of services which have been held, don't be surprised to find that some places are a few *thousand* miles apart.

We have been able to hold services regularly once a month at Francistown, Plumtree, and Wankies, besides Sunday services at Beira twice, Que Que once, Nyamandlovu, Lobatsi, Broken Hill, Bwana M'kubwa, Magoy and Elisabethville; also weekday services at Lobatsi, Palapye Road, Syringa, and Villa Machado. Many of these services were taken by Mr.

Rogers before he was appointed Head and since then Mr. Coles and I have been struggling along as best we can. We have just finished a trip with the December pay train from Mafeking to Bulawayo, which takes three days and a half, and before that I went up from Livingstone to Bwana M'kubwa with the Rhodesian pay train, and made the acquaintance of many gangers. The difficulties of getting to any places, especially in N.W. Rhodesia, are enormously increased by the exceedingly erratic running of the trains, which are inconvenient enough if they ran in their own times, but when you find "14 up" of Tuesday running as if it was "14 up" of Wednesday, only a bit late even for that, one feels at times a little bit uneasy about arranging any services beforehand. But there is a good hope of some new engines coming out from home, and then perhaps we shall be able to get about more rapidly and more punctually.

It will be of interest to many of his old friends in the South to know that Mr. Goldring arrived in Bulawayo about a month ago to work in this diocese: he has made many enquiries after old friends in the South.

C. GEOFFREY DOUGLAS.

Girls' Friendly Society.

New Members.

Naauwpoort: Evelyn Craddock, Ilvia Juby, Annie Naudé, Alice Salvesen, Lily Thomas, Lily Thorn.

Candidates.

Sandflats: Mavis King.

Parker's Halt, Somerset East: Hannah, Mary and Lily Posthumous.

Bushman's River: Gertrude, Winifred, Thelma and Dorothy Ferreira.

Guild of the Good Shepherd.

New Members.

Queenstown: Violet Venter, Albert Christian Venter, Emily Ann Venter.

Thomas River: Louisa Maria Schwartz, August Robert Schwartz, Minnie Caroline Schwartz.

Tylden: Isabelle Ferguson, Harry Ferguson, Alice Ferguson, Jessie Ferguson.

Thebus: Elizabeth Delpport, Annie Maria Delpport, Johannes Ludovicus Delpport, Johanna Delpport, Percy Keating, Olive Maud Keating.

Imvani: Eric Laver, Rex Laver, Alec Strang, Dorothy Mortimer, John Archibald Beaton.

CHILDREN'S PAGE.

My dear Children,

A Happy Christmas to you all! You will have so much to think of now the holidays have come that I shall not say more than this. I do hope you will all have a very bright time and try to make people round you happy too. When 1912 comes it will bring lots of chances of work and play. I hope some more names of children who want letters from England will be sent to me. Some of you in the Railway Cottages will be getting presents from the children in England and you will have lots to tell those children after Christmas is over—so do try and remember that they want very much to hear what you did on Christmas Day and how you liked the gifts they sent to you. Miss Minto asks that more names may be sent as she has many children asking that they may have a South African boy or girl to write to.

Do not forget that the Victoria Bible Prize Examination will be held in February. Go on with your daily reading and spend some time in going over what you have read before so as

to be sure you have not forgotten it. Some of you must by this time have won four or five of the beautiful books which are given as prizes every year. But I am sure you will understand that the reason those books are given is to help you to read your Bible carefully every day and to go on doing it when you are grown up.

You will all be sorry to read Mr. Ellison's good-bye message in the Magazine this quarter. He is not going to forget all about you, and the best way you can all show him that you care about what he has tried to do for you is by doing the things he has so often asked you to do, and using the helps he has given you, like the *Good Shepherd Guild* and the *Bible Reading Union*.

I should like to have many more names sent in for both of these. I am sure there are still a great many of you who as yet have not belonged to either.

May you all have a Happy New Year!

Your friend,
THE EDITOR.

Victoria Bible Reading Union.

The examination will be held in the last week in February. All names of those entering for the examination must be sent in on or before January 31st to *The Editor of Light for the Linc, The Hermitage, Grahamstown*. Do not forget to give your age and the Standard you are in.

Question Corner.

Some interesting papers have been sent this time from the Orange Free State. Taking into consideration that the children are writing in a language that is not their own, the compositions are good. Johanna describes a *moving* picture—the people are all constantly

changing their occupation. I think she must have been thinking of a bioscope instead of a picture hanging on a wall. Hendrik Strydom has put down so many things that he saw in his picture that I am able to see the whole scene quite easily. So Hendrik gets the senior prize this quarter. Marjorie and Jack Allen sent in papers although they no longer live on the Line. Both chose Bible pictures and described them very well indeed. Marjorie only once forgets that in a picture the figures do not move. Jack does not make this mistake; he tells exactly how the people in the picture are looking. I must give a special prize to Jack as the best among the Juniors.

The subject for this quarter is:—
"The happiest day I have spent."

Papers to be sent in not later than February 28th to

The Editor of Light for the Line,
Grahamstown.

BAPTISMS.

DIOCESE OF GRAHAMSTOWN.

July

16—Mabel Leader Horne.

Sept.

17—Constance Isabella Cinnamon.

Oct.

1—Ellen Maria Huebsch, at Naauwpoort.
1—Hannah Alice Steinhöfel, at Naauwpoort.

7—John Main, at Naauwpoort.
11—Hans Billet, at Naauwpoort.
11—Sara Magdalena Maria Bosman.
11—Katie Johanna Fredrica Billet.
11—Annie Meta Johanna Billet.
11—Jacobus William Kasper.
11—Maria Katie Billet.
12—William James Veitch.
15—Albert Kenneth Nosworthy.
23—Maria Wilhelmina Delpert.

Nov.

3—John Edward Peche, at Hanover Road.
3—Isaac George Theron, at Hanover Road.
16—Jim Jali.
16—Africa Nshenge.
16—Annie Mzomba.
16—Barend Mzomba.
16—Martinus Mzomba.

19—Doreen Ellis Jenvey, at Naauwpoort.
26—Frank William Moss, at Naauwpoort.
26—Alex Magxaka.
29—Ivy Geordina Williams.
29—Johanna Hendricka Vorster Williams.
Dec.
3—Edgar Claud Jenvey.

DIOCESE OF PRETORIA.

Aug.

20—Nora Evelyn Gater, Vereeniging.
20—Albert Harry Henshaw, Vereeniging.

Oct.

15—Hala Maria Sasura Jonker, Leeuwdoorns.
29—Alfred John Paterson, Hatherley.

Nov.

6—George Macdonald, Brixton.
7—Edward Edmund Pritchard, Harrisburg.
7—Ethel Florence Hurley, Waterval Boven.
7—Henry Ramsay Wight, Waterval Boven.
27—George Sampson Keen, Elandshoek.
27—Johannes Willem Spies, Elandshoek.
29—George Archibald Harvey Wilhelm, Nelspruit.

30—David Maxwell Curtis, Roodekop.

30—Joseph Thomas, Roodekop.

30—Charles Francis Thomas, Roodekop.

Dec.

3—Henry Talbot Dockery, Fordsburg.
3—Thomas Petersen, Vrededorp.
3—George Bleach, Vrededorp.
4—Elizabeth Johannes van Til, Evaton.
10—William Albert Geerats, Waterval Boven.

DIOCESE OF BLOEMFONTEIN.

Sept.

21—Trevor Charles Morgan, Greenlands.

Oct.

15—Petronella Margarita Pretorius, Viljoen's Drift.
28—Lily Maud Williams, Ventersburg.
28—David Moholo, Ventersburg.
28—Petrus Mossenyeli, Ventersburg.

MARRIAGES.

Oct.

11—At the Church of the Good Shepherd, Fordsburg, William Robert Thomas to Florence Maud Cain.
14—At Viljoen's Drift, Richard George Hudson to Alicia Wilhelmina Selina Reddell.
25—At Waterval Boven, Frederick Charles Hart to Joan Wylie Ferguson.

BURIALS.

Nov.
17—At Fordsburg, Edith Stokes, aged 37.
26—At Fordsburg, Frank Randall, aged 18.
Dec.
3—At Fordsburg, John Reynolds, aged 50.

CONFIRMATIONS.

DIOCESE OF PRETORIA.

Sept. 26—
Charles Richard Beck, Zuurfontein.
Arthur Harold Raison, Zuurfontein.
Beatrice Beck, Zuurfontein.
Jessie McKendrick, Zuurfontein.
Mary McKendrick, Zuurfontein.
Judith Jacoba Hendrietta van der Merwe, Lawley.
Grace Christiana Seegers, Evaton.
Susan Mary Seegers, Evaton.
Louise Sebina Seegers, Evaton.
Annie Maria Ford, Kliptown.
Nov. 1—
Hilda Neale, Nancefield.
Alberta Neale, Nancefield.
Johanna Frances Marais, Zuurfontein.

Light for the Line.

Subscriptions, 2/- per annum, 2/6 post free, can be paid to the Editor or to any of the Mission Staff or Local Agents, or to Rev. F. A. ROGERS, Auckland Park, Johannesburg.

Subscribers are requested to notify any change of address.

Local Agents are asked to send names and new addresses of any removals from their list, or change in numbers required, to the Editor, *The Hermitage, Grahamstown*, also to apply at once to the Editor if the Magazines do not reach them duly.

Members of the Staff are asked to send in to the Editor, every quarter, names of new members of *Guild of Good Shepherd, Mothers' Union*, and *G.F.S.* for insertion in *Light for the Line*.

Local Agents "Light for the Line."

GRAHAMSTOWN DIOCESE.

Grahamstown—Miss Booth, Constitution St.
Sandflats—Mrs. T. H. Bruton.

Alicedale—Miss Munro.
Kenkelbosch—Mr. Barnshaw.
Barkly Bridge—Mr. McKinnon.
Conway—Mr. Higgs.
Zwartkops—Miss Austin.
Ripon—Mr. Rothero.
Klipplaat—Mr. Wadmore.
Uitenhage—Mr. Corbett.
Kleinpoort—Miss Grewar.
Graaff-Reinet—Mrs. Robertson, Church St.
Cookhouse—Mr. T. E. Wise.
Cradock—Mrs. Rose.
Rosmead—Miss Holmes.
Naauwpoort—Miss Anderson.
Sterkstroom—Miss Alice Bird.
Mortimer—Mr. Hemming.
Fish River—Mrs. Ware.
Port Elizabeth—Miss Hannam, Park Drive.
Port Elizabeth—Mr. A. Clarke, Railway Station.
Blue Cliff—Mrs. Patterson.
Cradock Station—Mrs. Crosby.
Loerie—Miss Blewitt.
Coega—Mr. West.
Bellevue—Mrs. Harrison.

PRETORIA DIOCESE.

Nylstroom—Mrs. Cawood.
Warmbaths—Miss Driver.
Waterval Boven—Mr. D. M. Fraser.
Machadodorp—Mrs. Button.
Belfast (Station)—Mrs. Wilcocks.
Pretoria—Miss Godfrey, S. Mark's Rectory.
Fordsburg—Mr. Dutton, 7, Juta Street.
Volksrust—Town: Mrs. Pike.
Railway: Mrs. Alley.
Charlestown—Miss Ethel Tindell.
Zuurfontein—Master Arthur Raison.
Nancefield Station—Miss Megum.
Lawley—Miss van der Merwe.
Evaton—Miss Sullivan.
Vereeniging—Miss Bessie Claridge, Mrs. Irvine.
Klip River—Mr. Charles.

BLOEMFONTEIN DIOCESE.

Bloemfontein—Miss Watson, 7, Monument Road.
Ventersburg Road—Miss Pote.
Parys—Miss Edna Sanders.
Edenburg—Miss Cochrane.
Paardeberg—Mrs. Brierley.
Springfontein—Miss Annie Strever.
Viljoen's Drift—Mrs. Davis.

Wolvehoek—Mr. Burnett.
 Bethlehem—Miss Wiggill, Railway Book
 Stall.
 Lindley Road—Miss Lily Burns.
 Waterworks, O.F.S., Mr. Walter Hyslop.

MASHONALAND DIOCESE.

Rev. J. H. Toy, Bulawayo.

**LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES IN SOUTH
 AFRICA.**

Pretoria—Mrs. Wayland, Blake's Cottages,
 Sunnyside.
Cape Peninsula—Miss Birch, The Crossroads,
 Kenilworth.

Bloemfontein — Mrs. Dawson, 4, First
 Avenue.

CHILDREN OF THE VELD

SECRETARIES FOR SOUTH AFRICA.

General Secretary in South Africa—Miss
 Burt, Grahamstown.

Bellevue, Johannesburg—Miss Turner.

Pretoria—Miss Heys, Melrose House.

Cape Peninsula—Mrs. Lawton, Rondebosch.
Grahamstown, C.C.—Miss Anstey, Bishops-
 bourne.

Port Elizabeth—Mrs. Edward Brown; Miss
 H. Hannam, Park Drive; Miss S. Smith,
 Collegiate School.

Bloemfontein — Miss Nicholl, S. Michael's
 School; Mrs. Martin.

DON'T BE MISLED

INTO USING CHEAP AND INEFFICIENT PARAFFINE.

“White Rose Brand”

**HAS PROVED ABSOLUTELY SAFE AND RELIABLE.
 IT IS THE PARAFFINE YOU HAVE ALWAYS USED
 WITH SATISFACTION.**

SCIENTIFICALLY MANUFACTURED TO GIVE A

**MAXIMUM LIGHT
 WITH
 MINIMUM EXPENSE.**

S.P.C.K. AND CHURCH DEPÔT, GRAHAMSTOWN.

BOX 118, GRAHAMSTOWN, C.P.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BOOKS.

Sunday School Lessons ... Series by Canon Watson. ... 1/6 each.

Sunday School Lessons ... By Hetty Lee, O.T. ... 1/9

“Weekly Teaching,” for infants, for younger classes, and for elder classes
By Mrs. Francis ... 1/3 each.

“Peep of Day,” “Line upon Line,” “Child’s Acts of Apostles,” “Children’s
Round of Fast and Festival,” “The Children’s Creed” ... 1/6 each.

“Early Teachings about Heavenly Things” ... 1/3 each.

And many other Sunday School Books.

“Happy Sunday Afternoons” and a large assortment of Scripture Picture and
Reading Books from 6d. each.

Sunday Painting and Occupation Books ... 1/- and 1/6 each.

Stories for Sunday Reading on the Collects, Epistles, and Gospels ... 3/6 ... 4/-
Books for Prizes from 3d.

Children’s Hymn Book with music 3/6, words 1d.

Child Songs with music 2/6, words 1d.

Sunday School Registers, Reward Cards, Wall Texts, Catechisms.

Common Prayer Books with hymns, from 6d.

Hymns Ancient and Modern, with music, from 2/6.

Hymns Ancient and Modern, words (limp cloth), 3d.

Manuals for the Million.

Churchman’s Penny Manuals, Mirfield Manuals, Devout Life Manuals,

Living Seeds (Rev. P. Bull), Prayer Cards, Prayer Manuals.

SACRED PICTURES (framed) from 1/6 ... 40/-.

The celebrated Perry Pictures from 1/6 per dozen.

Service, Burial, Marriage, Baptism, Confirmation Registers, Chant Books, &c.,
Family Bibles, Candlesticks, Vases, Thuribles, Incense, Wafers, Cruets, Alms
Dishes, Kneelers, Prayer Desks and other Church Requisites. Cassocks and
Surplices, Books of Devotion, Theological Works and Bibles and Prayer Books
suitable for presentation. Price Lists sent on application.

Printed by GROCOTT & SHERRY, Church Square, Grahamstown, Cape Province.