Notice to our Readers.

Owing to transport difficulties we are obliged to go to press without the English portion this quarter. We are already late in publication and it is no use waiting any longer for it. We hope to issue a double number later on.
South African Church Railway Mission.

**STAFF.**

**Head of the Mission:**
The Rev. R. Thornely Jones, M.A.  
Postal Address: P.O. Box 1131, Johannesburg.

**Vice-Head:**
Rev. O. W. L. Skey  
The Rectory, Germiston.

Rev. G. A. Lejeune, M.A.  
Naauwpoort.

Miss M. J. Beckwith  
The Hermitage, Grahamstown.

Miss P. Glasier  
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Nurse Deeks  
c/o Mrs. Loscombe, Cradock.

Miss M. E. Watson  
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Miss M. Heddy  
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Rev. Vernon Rossborough, M.A.  
Waterval Boven.

Miss G. E. Holmes  
Machadodorp (?).

Rev. E. F. Winnington Ingram, M.A.  
P.O. Box 616, Bulawayo.

Rev. E. G. K. Esdaile, M.A.  
(Probably) Windhuk, S.W. Africa.

Native Catechists, Readers and Teachers: Johannes Magxaxa, Moses David, Miriam Mderka, David Mgeni.

Hon. Editor and Children's Secretary: Miss Burt (on furlough).

Acting ditto.  
Miss Holmes.
LETTER FROM THE HEAD.

Am I brave or foolish for falling in with the Archbishop’s wish and accepting the Headship of the Church Railway Mission? For a long time I tried my best to get out of it—not that there could be any question of the need for, or pleasure of, the work, but because I was doubtful in my own mind whether I was the man for the job. But there, that opens up a long story—too long for the Editor’s patience to allow me to tell in these pages—so I will just say that, as time went on, it seemed more and more clear it was God’s will; so I put my own fears aside and accepted the position: now I am right in it and hope to do what is possible to carry on the good work which is so needful and has been so nobly done by those who have gone before me. Our workers are few—terribly few for the amount of work which needs doing—but I am very thankful to know that they are of the right sort and have their hearts in the work. But we cannot carry on alone; we need all our friends along the Line to help us, even more than they have done in the past, to put in more “horse-power.” The most kind and hearty welcome I have received makes me feel sure that we shall not look in vain for the backing which is so necessary. If any of you have suggestions to make which will enable the Mission to be more helpful to you I sincerely hope that you will not hesitate to tell one of us. We very greatly need your prayers, and I am confident that you will give what financial support you can to enable us to carry on and keep out of debt. It is not right to take God’s money for War funds, however necessary, whatever their claims; if we support them—and we ought to do so to our fullest power—it must be with our own money; let it be a cheerful and loving sacrifice. To support the Mission is not a charity: it is a manifest duty, if we value the ministrations of those who give their lives to minister to our needs.

We are all grateful to Archdeacon Rogers for what he has been to, and done for, the Mission during his years of office, first as Layman, then as Chaplain, and more recently as Head; and we shall greatly miss him from our number: we are sure that we shall continue to retain his abiding interest in our welfare. We offer him our grateful thanks and wish him God’s richest blessing in his new duties and Office. Personally I wish to offer him my hearty appreciation and gratitude for all his kindness and help during these months of “taking over.”

A new broom is said to “sweep clean”: at present I am feeling rather like an old broom put to do the duties of a new one, and do not profess to be able to keep all the dirt away. Of our future plans I do not intend to write very fully at present: I am just preparing to visit South-West Africa to try to make arrangements for our work there: this will keep me busy for some
time and so I want, as for as possible, the rest of the work to go on as usual.

We are glad to know that Miss Glasier has returned to us after her stay in England, and we trust that she is feeling all the better for her rest and change; however much we look for new ones, we are always conscious that “old friends” are best. She will, for the present, be working south of Cookhouse.

Miss Beckwith will have said “goodbye” to her many friends in the south as she is relieving Miss Holmes and working north of Cookhouse.

Miss Holmes is going to begin work along the Eastern Transvaal—Mr. Esdaile’s section—and we are sure she will receive a hearty welcome and that her labours there will be appreciated as they have been in the past. Miss Holmes will continue her duties as Acting Editor of Light for the Line.

I am very glad to be able to tell you that we have been able to secure the services of a trained and experienced nurse for work in the south. Nurse Deeks hopes to sail some time during December and will make her headquarters with Mrs. Loscombe at Cradock. She is only one to serve so many, but, as far as possible, she will be ready to accept engagements along the Midland and Eastern Lines. Please make a note of this and remember it when you are in need of help.

Mr. Esdaile has very kindly undertaken to go to South-West Africa: many of our friends have already gone there at the call of duty, and they will be delighted to know that we are doing what we can for them; it is a big job but we are confident that Mr. Esdaile will do all that is humanly possible until we can send others to help. We are grateful to him for what he has done in the Transvaal and are truly sorry to have to take him away, but we feel sure those who have valued his ministrations will be the first to see the need of sending to S.W.A. one with Colonial experience.

I am glad to be able to tell you that the Rev. Vernon Rossborough has joined our ranks: he comes to us with the highest praise of those who have known him and his work in England. You will, I am sure, give him a real South African welcome: he will take over the work at present done by Mr. Esdaile in the Transvaal.

Mr. Ingram is still pegging away single-handed in Rhodesia, but we are hoping Mr. Seacombe will sail in February to relieve him of the work in Southern Rhodesia.

This Christmas the children will have missed the visit of “Father Christmas” and the presents he usually brings them: he has been calling only on those children whose fathers are away on war work. We are of course very sorry for the children to be disappointed, but “Father Christmas” does not want them to grow up selfish, and he thought that if they had their pleasures just as usual, quite regardless of what is going on in the world, it could only mean selfish pleasure to them.
Please explain to them that he has not forgotten them, and tell them why there were not presents: with all the sorrow and suffering of hundreds of thousands of little ones, many of whom have lost everything—father, mother, brothers, sisters, home—everything in this world, it is not right that we who are being protected at the price of life and blood should be rejoicing selfishly: I feel sure the children will understand if you explain it to them, and they will feel they have been permitted the privilege of bearing some share in the sorrows of this sad time: this is the only way to share the joys of victory if, as we feel sure we shall be, we are allowed to have it.

I wish you all a happy New Year—a year full of real happiness: as 1914 will for ever be known as the year of the war, may 1916 be for ever blessed as the year of victory and peace.

R. THORNELY JONES.

DIOCESE OF GRAHAMSTOWN.

NAAUWPOORT.

Since I wrote last quarter, a new Bishop of Grahamstown has been consecrated, and a new Head of the Railway Mission has taken up his duties. The latter we have had the pleasure of seeing two or three times, and although we cannot expect him to visit us in the future quite so frequently, yet we hope that these visits he has already paid us are the forerunners of many more.

The Bishop hopes to come up to Naauwpoort in three or four months' time for a confirmation. He has many more important places to go to first. The Diocese of Grahamstown is a fair size, and it takes a considerable time for the Bishop to visit all the different centres. He will be very welcome when he can find the time to visit us.

I am glad to say that the church finances are improving by degrees. Both sustentation and offertories have been better. But we still have to raise nearly £100 by Easter, 1916, if we are to be absolutely free of debt by the end of our financial year. I appeal to every member of the Church to do his or her best. It is not a question of charity. It's a simple question of duty—a duty that we owe to God and His Church—to help the Church, financially and otherwise to the best of our power. The claims of the various war funds are urgent, but the claims of our Church are as great. It will mean sacrifice on every one's part. There are many who still indulge in luxuries, and those luxuries could well be given up, and the money thus saved given to the Empire and to the Church.

I am also glad to say that a long-felt want at Norval's Pont has been supplied. A Sunday School has now been in full swing for the last few weeks. As regards our Sunday School at Naauwpoort, several of the children who have been coming for years regularly, are now really too old for it. I have therefore decided to start a Bible Class—or rather two—one for girls at 10.30 a.m., the other for boys at 11 a.m.—both on Sundays in the Parish Hall. The classes will begin on the first Sunday in January. The minimum age will be 15. No maximum age is fixed as yet! I hope that advantage will be taken of the opportunity by many of the older boys and girls.

I have been able to put in several visits up and down the line during the last quarter: Cookhouse (3 times), Norval's Pont (twice), Hanover Rd. (twice),
Arundel, Sherborne, Plewman and Taalbosch.
Two more old All Souls' choirmen are now on active service—Bramwell Stiles and Derrick Damant. To them and to all those other Nauwport men on active service, our good wishes, our gratitude, and our respect go out. They are fighting our battles, and we are proud of them and grateful.

G. A. Lejeune.

COOKHOUSE.

I have just returned from a week's visit to Cookhouse. It was, in one particular, a memorable visit, for in three days I baptised 19 children and five adults.

We had a really fine service on the Sunday afternoon up at the Native Church, when I baptised 15 children and five grown-ups.
The Sunday School continues to flourish. I hope Church parents will encourage their children to attend Sunday School. It is held every Sunday in the Church at 11 a.m. I should also like to see more communicants present at the celebrations of the Holy Communion. I can only come down to Cookhouse once a month, so that it would only seem right for communicants to seize all the opportunities they can of being present at that Service. There are always two celebrations—one at 8 and the other at 10.15. The latter is specially for those who, owing to distance from the Church, or for some good reason, find it difficult or impossible to come at 8.

G. A. Lejeune.

PRETORIA DIOCESE.

Waterval Boven, December 11th, 1915.

My dear Editor,

My last letter was full of plans, which I suppose was “tempting Providence,” as I now find myself sitting down to write a farewell letter to this section of the Railway Mission, which will only reach my many friends after I have paid my last visits up to the end of the year. It is with many regrets that after two years and four months I find myself transferred to a new piece of pioneer Railway Mission work in S.W.A. (previously German). A Railway Chaplain's time is all too short in any case; as soon as he is really getting to know people, either the place is handed over to a parish priest, or he is removed to pastures new. I only hope that the Rev. Vernon Rossborough, who is taking my place, will fall in love with the Transvaal as soon as I did and will make as many friends.

I have a good deal to report this quarter.

At WATerval BOven we were all greatly saddened on October 6th at the passing away of Norah Jessie Morris. We had hoped against hope that she would make one of those amazing rallies which children often do make. But it was not to be. And one of the dearest and gentlest little girls, that it has been my happiness to know and teach, passed away from amongst us, patient and brave to the last, and with an unclouded faith in her Heavenly Father and loving Saviour. The whole community tried to express its sympathy with the bereaved family. The first part of the Burial Service was read in Church, and the children lined the Church path and made a most orderly and picturesque procession from the Church to the cemetery, where after the interment I gave a special address, as there had not been room for all in Church.

In a similar sad duty at ALKMAAR, where a little boy of two years old, John Iliffe Brown, was laid to rest, and the sorrow of bereavement was accentuated by the many hundred miles that separated father and mother, I was
somehow impressed with the idea that the mystery and puzzle of human suffering and sorrow is the same whether in peace or in war, that no sacrifice can be made without fruit, and our sorrows can only be illuminated and explained through the Cross of Christ. It should help us in the hour of sorrow to contrast our private grief with that great burden of sorrow falling upon the homes of Europe.

On November 28th, Rev. J. C. Nunns of Witbank and I exchanged duties, and I think he had the best of the bargain, as I came in for a frightful storm on the night of the 27th, and he had a larger congregation at Boven on Sunday evening than I had at Witbank.

At MACHADODORP, on the eve of Diocesan Synod, I managed to put in a Sunday evening service which was well attended, and I am arranging to do so again on December 12th, as I shall have the rare fortune to possess a colleague for the last three weeks of the year.

I am glad to say that the seven candidates, whose preparation was well advanced, have all been confirmed, four at Pretoria on November 18th, one at Ermelo on November 28th, and two at Bethal on November 30th. I shall be greatly disappointed if the many others who are thinking of being confirmed give up the idea because I am going away. Mr. Rossborough will be very soon round expecting them to make time for talks and instruction. It needs a great deal of grit and perseverance on the part of both Railway Chaplain and candidates, when visits have to be so few and far between, and the difficulties of getting to the Confirmation service are so many.

There was a fine Scout Parade service at RAYTON on November 7th, when I dedicated the Troop Flag, over 50 people being present. I shall be very sorry to resign the Scout Chaplaincy, which I hoped to fill successfully in time.

At DELMAS I have had several happy visits with more congenial weather, and at my farewell visit on December 7th, beside the happiness of an S.A.R. Christening, after the evening service we had an enjoyable little social with tea and music as a parting sign of affection, which I appreciated very much. The very threatening storm, which arrived a few minutes after the prudent ones had reached home, and the uncertainty of my own arrangements (through having to meet Mr. Rossborough) kept some people away. Saturday morning classes for the children have been well attended both here and at BETHAL Station, when my coach accommodated twenty-three!

Services have been very well attended at HATHERLEY, BETHAL, BRONKHORSTSPRUIT, ARGENT, where the experiment of a Sunday was quite a success, KINROSS and SILVERTON. A Sunday morning at Mr. Hall’s farm at Riverside, NELSPrUIT, was a happy venture, and will I hope be repeated, while the Sunday mail service is interrupted. I have too many hospitable friends to begin mentioning them by name. I hope they know how greatly we Railway Chaplains appreciate the kind and generous care that meet us wherever we go. I will conclude with mentioning places where I have held services or visited staff and gangers: CAIRN, ELANDSHOEK, KOMATI POORT, KRANTZPOORT, BONNEFOI, GODWAN RIVER, MALELANE, ROCKVALE, OORSPRUIT, HECTORSPRUIT, KAAPMUIDEN, PIENAARSPRUIT, VAN DER MERWE, ELOFF, and KOEDOESPOORT.

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all my friends, and hoping they will let me know of anyone in S.W.A. they would like me to look out for,

I remain,

Yours very sincerely,

EVERARD ESDAILE.
Elandsheek,  
December 13th, 1915.

My dear Editor,  
I really feel hardly justified in writing already as I am not yet, strictly speaking, entitled to describe myself as Railway Chaplain on the East Transvaal Section. But as Mr. Esdaile is insistent that I shall write something I suppose I must. One thing I can hardly be thankful enough for, and that is that I am having the inestimable privilege of Mr. Esdaile's help and instruction for the first fortnight or so on the line. He leaves after Christmas for South-West Africa, and then and not till then shall I be running this section "on my own."

I suppose that the "first impressions" string is one which is harped upon ad nauseam by nearly every one who puts pen to paper during their first week's residence in South Africa. For that reason I feel disposed not to say more than that what I have already seen of this part of the country has delighted me. I am at present writing this down on the Low Veld, which I am told reeks with fever. It may do so, but it is a very beautiful district all the same.

Since I came Mr. Esdaile has been taking me up and down the line to inspect and be inspected. Waterval Boven, being our headquarters; I have of course seen most of, and yesterday in Mr. Esdaile's absence at Machadodorp I took services there, viz., a Celebration at 8 a.m., Matins at 11, Children's Service at 3, and Evensong at 7.45, the latter with a congregation of 32.

I am looking forward to falling into my place here twice as rapidly as if I had not had the advantage of Mr. Esdaile's help and experience, and next time I write I shall hope to have something more definite to report than is possible at this stage. The letter space this quarter really belongs to Mr. Esdaile and I must not encroach upon it any further.

Yours very sincerely,
Vernon Rossborough.

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DIOCESES OF SOUTHERN AND NORTHERN RHODESIA.

During the past three months circumstances have kept me more stationary than usual: and instead of being able to work methodically along a stretch of line, I have had to dodge about from one end of the section to the other, which has involved a certain amount of time lost at Bulawayo. Amongst other things I had to be responsible for Bulawayo parish for a week, while the other clergy attended the Synod. Later on I spent a similar week at Livingstone, while Bishop May went up the line in my place. I have also been asked by the Bishop of S. Rhodesia to go to Francistown when I can, during Mr. Lack's enforced holiday. All these things have kept me away from many places for a much longer time than I like to think about. It is good news to hear of another priest joining me so soon, though of course it will involve changes which people must be prepared for. I shall be sorry to have to part with any of the places I now go to: but of course that will have to come, and the whole section will gain greatly, through having more regular visits.

South of Bulawayo, my monthly visits to PLUMTREE have been continued, without very much to record. Last week, the people there did splendidly in raising £200 by a Fête and Concert, for the Red Cross. The School continues to flourish, and its numbers are growing. The new Chapel extension is still unfinished, though the chairs and fittings are on order: it is already a great improvement. Next
term, I hope there will be a good few candidates for Confirmation.

FIG TREE has again sustained its reputation, though I have only been able to go once since last writing. The services were very well attended, and the number of communicants, I am thankful to say, is increasing. Mr. and Mrs. Willsworth had returned from their holiday, so all was well. We have strenuous tennis, I may say, here, which is a great boon.

Down the WEST NICHOLSON line I have been able to break new ground by spending Sundays at the FRED MINE, FILABusi, and also at WEST NICHOLSON itself.

At the former place, Mrs. Welby kindly put me up, and it was a great privilege to be the first priest that had ever visited the place; there are about 30 people, and a few more in the neighbourhood. I drove out the 26 miles in the company's cart, and returned with Mr. Fleming, the Mining Commissioner, who kindly gave me a lift. I found quite a number of communicants, very glad to have a Celebration; but the other service was less well attended. It is very difficult to get everybody together on a mine, where the work goes on every day of the week. Still, it was a visit I was extremely glad to have made.

At WEST NICHOLSON I had the novel and delightful experience of going out on patrol with one of the Police for two days, jogging along quietly on a mule. In this way I was able to visit about half-a-dozen small mines in the vicinity, and though services were out of the question, yet it was satisfactory at least to have looked up people in this out-of-the-way part. Mr. and Mrs. Robinson very kindly put me up one night, at the Bucho Reef Mine; and as a reward of their kindness, I discovered a large puff-adder for them next day, by nearly treading on it! On Sunday, the response of the people at WEST NICHOLSON was really wonderful. I don't think I ever remember a more hearty and enjoyable service than that on Sunday night: out of 25 people, 23 were there, and amongst them, I should say, nearly half-a-dozen old choirmen! So I felt the four days I had to spend down here were far from wasted.

By judicious use of week-ends I managed to visit GWANDA, ESSEX-VALE, and BALLA-BALLA in the space of one week, though there are only two trains a week down here: but since September I have not had time to visit these places, much to my regret, as there are a number of Churchpeople here.

As far as the North section is concerned, I have visited WANKIE about every six weeks, which is all I could manage. This place is rapidly growing, and it is quite a business to get round to everybody. The last time I was there, there were nine communicants, a large number for Wankie, but not as many as there should be. The proportion of Churchpeople is not large, though very fair congregations come in the evenings. It is a pity that the workmen seem to fight shy of attending: but it is the usual drawback of a place of this kind. When the staff attend, the workmen don't: and vice versa. A school has just been started here, which gives us for the first time a really satisfactory room for the Celebration. I have also inaugurated a Sunday School, which Mrs. Smith kindly takes on the Sundays I am not there.

During my week at LIVINGSTONE, when everybody was most kind and hospitable, and the Sunday collections went to swell Railway Mission funds, the Bishop visited a certain number of places as far north as LUSAKA: so although I have not been able to go there for a long time, they have not been neglected altogether. The only place this quarter that I reached was
ELISABETHVILLE, and I had only time to go straight up and back again, without stopping anywhere. Soon I hope this state of things will be remedied.

At ELISABETHVILLE I had as usual a very delightful stay; this time with Mr. Denton Thompson, British Vice-Consul and a son of the Bishop of Sodor and Man. The morning services were quite as good as before, but the workmen's service in the evening was spoilt by rain, which frightened people away. Apart from the actual Church work to be done, I had many pleasant experiences, including a festive evening out in the bush, at a camp made by Mr. Sharp, one of the surveyors. I shall not easily forget the scene, but space forbids further detail.

This I think concludes my experiences for the quarter: it is disappointing to realise how little one sees of the gangers; but it is impossible to do otherwise till help comes.

E. F. WINNINGTON-INGRAM.

WOMEN'S WORK.

DIOCESE OF GRAHAMSTOWN.

Our best piece of news this quarter is the safe return of Miss Glasier, whom I met on board the “Norman” in Algoa Bay on Saturday, Dec. 4th. We visited Alicedale, Middleton and Cookhouse together, and in the latter place enjoyed the Children’s Concert got up by Mrs. Wise and her sisters with much care and trouble. Certainly they were well rewarded by the result, as not only was the crowded audience enthusiastic over the songs, recitations, dialogues, dances and hoop drill given by the children of all ages, but about £6 was raised for Red Cross funds—this sum including the sale of sweets during the interval, which was organised by Mrs. Levine. At the close of the concert our G.F.S. girls entered in procession bearing various banners and flags of different countries, headed by Britannia and looking very picturesque as they sang: “True friends help each other” and the National Anthem. It was quite wonderful the next morning to find how much voice the children still possessed when they sang their farewell songs in school. This was also the occasion of a touching parting with Miss Zahn, who will evidently be much missed by her pupils as well as by other friends in Cookhouse after five years’ residence there.

The competition announced in October produced a fair number of articles from women and girls, though the men and boys only promised and did not perform. The prizes were awarded by Miss Burt of Grahamstown as follows:

1. Patriotic pincushion, Mrs. Levine.
2. Tray cloth, Mrs. Harrison.

Several children from Bushman’s River School sent in well written accounts of the War pictures shown there—the two best being judged by Miss Stella Smith of the Collegiate School, Port Elizabeth, to be Alice Clohessy and John Slater. If any children from other railway camps or schools like to write similar papers they will be received up till March 1st and book prizes given.

Parcels of hospital bags and a few sand-bags have been sent in this quarter from both Alicedale and Bushman’s River, and many have been busy knitting in Addo, Coerney and other places for our troops overseas. Surely all will wish to persevere steadfastly in helping our soldiers and sailors in one way or another while also “continuing instant in prayer” for a speedy and lasting peace.

M. JOSEPHINE BECKWITH.

Just a line to wish all my old friends a happy New Year and tell them if they have not already seen me they may expect me round as usual, only
perhaps not quite so often. I may find
I can stay longer when I do come.

I had a very quiet holiday in Eng­
land, not attempting to do any war
work. I saw Mr. and Mrs. Griggs
several times, going to stay with them
at Aylesford, and on my last visit just
before sailing was introduced to their
little son Celadon Augustine. He was
baptised on All Saints’ Day. Both of
them sent their kind remembrances to
all the friends out here and Baby’s love
to all Mrs. Griggs’ other “babies.”
They are moving to a larger sphere of
work this Christmas, mainly among
railway employees, and their new ad­
dress is Christ Church House, South
Ashford, Kent, England.

My headquarters will be in P.E., but
the Post Office, Cookhouse or Alicedale,
will usually find me within a week.

P. Glasier.

DIOCESE OF BLOEM­
FONTEIN.

As I think most of my Railway
friends know, I am just about to have
a holiday in Rhodesia and I am writ­
ing this before I start just to wish
every one a very happy New Year, and
to say how I shall look forward to see­
ing all my friends again, to relate my
experiences and show my photographs.
As I have told many, this is not a mere
railway trip to the Falls that I am
taking, but when my friend and I get
to Livingstone we hope to go on travel­
ing five days further up the river
Zambesi to Se-bheke, and after a short
rest for Christmas there to go on for
another three weeks or so travelling on
the river and camping out; so that when
I return, as I hope, at the end of
January, I shall know nearly as much
about river travelling as I do about
railway travelling. I feel that I have
a very great deal to thank my Railway
friends for during this last year, for
very much kinduses and hospitality in
Railway houses and gangers’ cottages,
and also for courtesy from every rank
of Railway official in helping me with
difficulties of train service and also with
shunting of the coach, etc. I can only
say “thank you” once more, and hope
that we shall meet again in 1916.

M. E. Watson.

Many will be glad to hear that some
wall almanacs for 1916 are expected
some time in January from England.
The supply is limited however, so will
those who would like them please ask
for them?—Ed.

CHILDREN’S PAGE.

London,

My dear Children,

A very happy New Year to you all in
sunny South Africa!

It is very cold here, but we get some
bright days, and all the wonderful
things to be seen in England make up
for the rainy ones.

On what is called the Horse Guards’
Parade, at Whitehall, there are lots of
guns, aeroplanes and mines that have
been captured by our soldiers and
sailors from the Germans. Great big
mines that have been hauled out of the
sea. Each thing has the name of the
ship or regiment that took it, and our
sailors and soldiers come and look at
these trophies and long to go back and
get more.

I saw a South African trooper speak­
ing on Trafalgar Square yesterday—he
was very proud to be standing on Nel­
son’s monument, he said.

You would be surprised if you could
see what a lot of difficult work quite
young boys and girls are doing now in
England to make it possible for the
men to go and fight for their country.
There are many girl porters and ticket-
collectors on the railways, and tram drivers. Little boys of 11, 12 and 14 go and do hard work in the munition factories and boys from the schools spend all their holidays in loading up cases of provisions to go to the soldiers who are fighting to save our country from the Germans. These boys give up their football and cricket time and give their labour without any thought of reward. You will wish you could come and help too. But you cannot help in just the same way as they are doing, so you must do your best to help in the only way that you can. You can all do a great deal for the great Empire to which you belong by living good lives wherever you may be and upholding the honour of Britain by doing your duty every day as well as ever you can. And above all do not forget to pray every day for the soldiers and sailors who are away from their comfortable homes, suffering all sorts of hardships that you and all of us may keep our Empire strong and safe against the enemy. I must tell you that one Sunday afternoon I helped entertain some blind soldiers. They were quite young—only seventeen and eighteen years old most of them were—they had lost their sight through gunshot wounds or by shells bursting near them. They are being taught all sorts of trades—one told me he was going to be a poultry farmer and had already learnt to tell what breed a fowl was by feeling it. All the men were wonderfully cheerful and liked to talk of all that they were trying to learn. Not one of them grumbled because he was blind. I am sure you will think as I do that they are very brave to set about learning to work without eyes. But they sing and laugh quite happily and make everyone else feel ashamed to grumble about things.

With all good wishes,

I am,

Your friend,

THE EDITOR.

My dear Children.

You will all be delighted with the Editor’s interesting letter which tells what girls and boys are doing overseas. I am so glad it came just in time:

I hope you are reading carefully for your Bible Examination which will not be so very long in coming now. I have been asked to put a few questions in this time so that you may give yourselves a kind of little examination and see how you are getting on. You should sit down and write the answers as well as you can without looking at the book, and then afterwards perhaps you could get someone to correct your paper for you.

All best wishes for the New Year from

Your friend,

THE ACTING EDITOR.

I.—Describe shortly the battle between David and Goliath. What reason did David give for thinking that he would be victorious?

II.—Who was Absalom? How did he die?

III.—What choice did Gad offer David, and what did David choose?

IV.—Tell shortly the parable of the Sower.

V.—Describe the miracle of the Feeding the Five Thousand.

VI.—Who begged for the Body of Jesus for burial?

BAPTISMS.

DIOCESE OF GRAHAMSTOWN.

Oct.
3—Edgar Samuel Herholdt, at Nauwpoort.
29—Eben Vincent Botha, at Arundel.

Nov.
6—Marjorie Alsace Lorraine Turner, at Nauwpoort.
18—Ethel Gladys Peche, at Hanover Road.

Dec.
10—Nora Marjorie Wood, at Cookhouse.
11—Dorothy Elizabeth Wadmore .
12—James Frederick Green .
13—Eileen Grace Eve .
DIOCESE OF PRETORIA.

Oct.
1—Janet Syson Bell, at Bethal.
2—Gertrude Margaret Snyman, at Waterval Boven.
10—Thelma Kidwell, at Hatherley.
17—Anne Evelyn Butler, at Bronkhorstspruit.
21—Reginald Edwin Forbes-Fennell, at Nelspruit.

Nov.
4—Gert Louis Botha, at Alkmaar.
7—Constance Edna Day, at Rayton.
8—Phyllis Valentine Day, at Rayton.
14—Joan Alastair Mary Murray, at Waterval Boven.
21—Esmé Roberts, at Argent.

Dec.
7—Philip Arthur Staples, at Delmas.

DIOCESES OF N. & S. RHODESIA.

Oct.
24—Noel Bernard Vincent Wentworth Gray, Elisabethville.
26—Margaret Kathleen Walker, Elisabethville.
30—Irene Lilac Link, Wankie.

Dec.
5—Christian Frederick Johannes Ruthenburg, Plumtree.

CONFIRMATIONS.

DIOCESE OF GRAHAMSTOWN.

By the Lord Bishop of Grahamstown.

At Somerset East, on Dec. 12:
Frank Browne, of Bushman's River.

At Cradock, on Dec. 14:
Gladys Cinnamon, of Cookhouse.
Thera Laubmeyer, of Nauwpoort.

DIOCESE OF PRETORIA.

At Pretoria, Nov. 18, at St. Alban's Cathedral Church:
From Hatherley:
Gustav Streever.
Elizabeth Mary Strike.
Gertrude Higgins.
From Pienaarspoort:
Gladys Frances Carpenter.
At Ermelo, Nov. 28:
From Bonnefoi:
Anna Lucia Heukelman.

MARRIAGES.

DIOCESE OF PRETORIA.

At Bethal, Nov. 30:
From Kinross:
Esther Cornelie Coetzee.
Charles Stephen Coetzee.

DIOCESES OF N. & S. RHODESIA.

Nov. 8—Johannes S. Marais to Augusta C. M. S. Groenewald.
Nov. 27—Jacobus Adrian van Aswegan to Kathleen Atherstone Scarie.

BURIALS.

R.I.P.

At Norval's Pont, Albert Edward Roussouw, aged 1 year, 11 months.
At Waterval Boven, Nora Jessie Morris.
At Alkmaar, John Iliffe Brown.

“He shall carry the lambs in His arms.”
“They are without fault before the throne of God.”

COLLECTIONS AND DONATIONS.

DIOCESE OF PRETORIA.

Sept. 16—Dec. 8.—Waterval Boven, 16/-, 6/6, £1/5/5, £1/0/3; Machadodorp, 15/-, 13/-, £1/4/-, 10/-; Cairn, £2/0/5; Krantspoort, 4/9, 4/-; Elandsdoek, 13/3, 5/3; Bonnefoi, 15/-; Komatipoort, 13/3; Godwan River, 7/-; Delmas, £1/15/1, 17/3, £1/5/0; Hatherley, £1/6/-, 9/9, £1, 12/6, 3/-, £1/10/-; Nelspruit, £4/10/-, £2/10/-, £1/1/-; Bethal, £1/0/3, 12/9; Bronkhorstspruit, £2/18/7, 2/6; Alkmaar, 5/-, £1/4/-, 5/-; Malelane, 13/6; Rayton, 9/3, 7/6, 4/-, 14/-; Argent, £2/4/-, £1; Kinross, 7/6; Silverton, £1/0/6; Breyten, 4/9; Eloff, 10/6. Total, £42/18/8.

DIOCESES OF N. & S. RHODESIA.

Sept. 20 to Dec. 9.—Gwanda, £1/6/9; Essexfale, £2/6/6; Balla-Balla, £1/1/6; Fred Mine, Filabusi, £4/10/9; Plumtree, £4/15/-; Livingstone, £4/11/6; Elisabethville, £4/18/8; Wankie, £4/13/6; Figtree, £1/12/6; West Nicholson, £1/11/6; Collection per Bishop May, £4/18/9; Plumtree Sustentation Fund, £7; Donations, Offerings, &c., £14/5/4.

GRAHAMSTOWN DIOCESE.

Sale of Needlework and Children’s Dip, £4/4/-.
SOUTH AFRICAN CHURCH RAILWAY MISSION QUARTERLY. 13

Elandschoek, 15/6; Malelane, 14/6; Kinross, 18/3; Davel, 4/-; Karntzpoort, 12/9; Dalmanutha, 12/2; Elands River, 6/6, 5/-; Pan, 8/2; Airlie, 12/3.—Total, £28/15/6.

N. & S. RHODESIA.
June, July and August.—Matoppos, 17/6; Plumtree, £3/4/-; Balla-Bulla, £3/8/-; Nyamandhlovu, 9/6; Malinda, 5/-; Victoria Falls, 10/-; Lusaka, £1/13/6; Kafue, £2/8/3'; Broken Hill, £2/8/6; Ndola, 13/6; Elisabethville, £5; Mayabuka, 6/3; Pemba, 7/6; Wankie, £2/13/-; Figtree, 18/6.
Fees and offerings, £7/16/-. Plumtree Sustentation Fund, £6/5/-.

MIDLAND SYSTEM.
Part collections and articles sold, £3/7/-.

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.
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.


PRETORIA DIOCESE.

BLOEMFONTEIN DIOCESE.

RHODESIA.

MASHONALAND DIOCESE.
Rev. E. F. Winnington Ingram, Bulawayo.

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INTERCESSIONS.

Your prayers are asked:—

That God will guide those who are responsible for the future of the Railway Mission.

For past and present members of our staff who offered their services in the war:—Eustace Hill, chaplain in German S.W. Africa; George Knapp Fisher, chaplain to H.M.S. Chatham; Arthur Austin.

Prayer in Time of War.

O most mighty God and merciful Father, Whose never-failing Providence ordereth all things both in Heaven and earth, we Thy humble servants commend to Thy Fatherly care all who are at this time engaged in warfare. Let Thy holy angels succour and defend our soldiers and sailors. Watch over and comfort all who are near and dear to us. Have pity on the sick, the wounded, and the dying. Guide and direct the Government of our country. Give success to our arms; and grant in Thy own good time, that peace may be established on a firm and righteous foundation, for Thy glory and the furtherance of Thy kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Advocate. Amen.

(Bp of St. Andrew’s.)

A Prayer for Schools In this Time of War.

O God our Father in heaven, strong and full of love to all, we Thy children pray Thee to bless our country in this sad time of war. Watch over all those who have gone away from us to fight in our country’s cause, especially the father or the brother of any of us, or of other children like ourselves. Keep them safe, if it be Thy will, in all times of danger, and bring them home again to us in peace. Be with all the wounded and the sick, and ease their pain. Take care of us also, who stay behind in this quiet land. Thou hast something for us to do; help us to do it. Give us grace to be good and unselfish and loving, that we may cheer those about us who are anxious or unhappy. Look down in mercy upon those who are now fighting against us. And soon, if it please Thee, make glad all the whole world with Thy blessing of peace; for Jesus Christ our Saviour’s sake. Amen.

O God, who lookest down in thy fatherly love upon the nations of the earth, assuage the pains of warfare, restore the sick and wounded, relieve those that are in anxiety, comfort the bereaved, and in Thy mercy forgive the sins of all, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
R. MÜLLER,
91-93 Waterkant St., St. Andrew's Sq.,
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