South African Church Railway Mission.

**STAFF.**

*Head of the Mission:*  
The REV. CANON R. THORNLEY JONES, M.A., P.O. Box 133, Diocesan Office, Grahamstown.

*Vice-Head:*  
Venerable Archdeacon Rogers, M.A. ... P.O. Box 1131, Johannesburg.

Miss M. J. Beckwith ... ... ... The Haven, 7 Henry St., Grahamstown.

Miss G. E. Holmes ... ... ... On leave, for special work.
Miss E. Andrewartha ... ... ... 7 Henry Street, Grahamstown.

Rev. Vernon Rossborough, M.A. ... ... Waterval Boven.
Miss M. Attlee ... ... ... On leave, for special work.

*Native Catechists, Readers and Teachers:* Johannes Magxaka, Solomon Gitywa, Miriam Mdyesha, David Mgeni.

*Hon. Editor and Children’s Secretary:* Miss Blundell, Box 133, Grahamstown.
Letter from the Head.

Naanupoornt,  
December 15th, 1919.
Dear Friends,

When I last wrote to you I was up in the Congo and out of touch with things for the moment, but I was able to forecast something of the future. Mr. Hobson had already sailed for England and since then I have had news of his safe arrival: he expects very shortly to be settled in his future work and hopes that he will not be without opportunity for doing something from time to time to help us. We are grateful to him for the part of his life he has given to us and, knowing him as we do, feel sure that his interests and prayers in and for the Mission will be ours continually. By the time this issue is in your hands Miss Glasier will probably be on the water on her return to the Old Country. It is not given to everyone to be able to stand two periods of three strenuous years of work with the Mission, but in spite of a not over strong constitution Miss Glasier has managed to accomplish this, but towards the end it has been a real struggle, a struggle made all the greater by the very heavy calls made on her during the influenza visitation. She will be greatly missed by her many friends along the Line in the Free State and her place will not be easy to fill; we are most grateful to her for all she has done for us during these six years and we trust that her return to England will soon restore her to health and strength and so enable her to continue in good works wherever she may be. But one of the greatest losses will be the going of Mr. Esdaile—we hardly dare to think of it; at the end of 1915 I asked him to leave his Transvaal Section, where he had made many friends, and take over the new job in South-West Africa: I pointed out to him what a difficult job it would be and what drains would be made on every part of him—body, mind and soul—few men could have been asked to undertake such a job with absolutely nothing material to gain and nearly everything to lose, but being the man we expected, he counted not himself but cheerfully agreed to my wishes. Well, most of us know the result of the first year's work—six or seven months' illness; he might well have asked to be relieved of so heavy a task, but no, he was always looking forward to the time when he would be strong enough to return and, eventually, return he did and has continued right on till now. I have most carefully thought
over the position—as, for the present, I cannot find a man to carry on; and if one cannot be found and Mr. Esdaile goes then the job must just stand—and have come to the conclusion, much against my own wishes, that it would not be right for us to allow him to continue after January: he will therefore be sailing for England quite early in the New Year to the great regret, but also with the very deepest gratitude, of us all. It is not right, whatever the need, to overstrain the willing horse: during the war most people had to live abnormal lives and carry on in such a manner that would be neither right nor reasonable in normal times, and I venture to think that few people have had greater demands made on them than those made on Mr. Esdaile. But now, thank God, the war is over and although we have not returned to "normal times" still the great demand is over and it would not be right for us to continue as we have been doing. It is with the greatest possible regret that we say goodbye to him, and the gratitude we feel towards him is almost more than words can express: but we make the best attempt we can and fortunately he knows that we really are grateful to him, which makes up for a lot. He will go with our best wishes for a very pleasant trip to the Old Country and a happy reunion: we also pray for him that God’s blessing may be with him in his future life and work: it eases off our parting somewhat to know that he is hoping to come back to sunny South Africa.

Soon after our last issue Mr. Willmott’s illness began to take a much more serious form, so much so, that, acting with the advice of his doctor at Bedford, it seemed best to take him down to the Provincial Hospital at Port Elizabeth: on arrival there what little hope we had was soon dispelled and then we knew that it was only a matter of time. On Tuesday, December 9th, in his sleep he passed peacefully to his rest, after being laid aside from work for just six months: fortunately there was not very much intense pain, but great weariness and weakness borne with real Christian fortitude; I shall never forget how he took it when, at his request, I gave him the doctor’s verdict. It was a real mark of the man that, no longer in any sort of doubt, but with all that the truth involved—not only to himself but to those near and dear to him—he slept better that night than any night during the previous two or three weeks. It was indeed noble of him at his age—he was then 53—to respond to the Mission’s call and join our Staff: he knew that it was not possible for us to get young men during the war, so he came to us, and now after two years he is with us no more, having put in some splendid work, work which we feel sure will bear its mark for many years to come. He was one of those quiet, steady workers never making any sort of show but all the time making progress: we can in all truthfulness say of him that he was never out to seek his own—he was one of “God’s good men.” God bless him.
may he rest in peace. Our affectionate sympathy will be with Mrs. Willmott and his three boys. Very, very much kindness was met with at Naauwpoort, along the Line, at Bedford and at Port Elizabeth during Mr. Willmott's illness, and I should like to take this opportunity on behalf of the family, the Mission and for myself, to thank most sincerely any and all who shared in this manifestation of love—by no means the least Dr. Leith, the Matron and Staff of the Hospital, and Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Middleton. His body rests in the South End Cemetery at Port Elizabeth, where he was not well known: it would be well, I think, for us to mark the spot by placing a stone cross over his last resting place. If any of you would like to help me in this matter I should be grateful to you if you would let me have your contributions, or let me know what you would like to contribute, as soon as possible, so that the matter may be taken in hand without delay: if it is more convenient, contributions may be spread over two or three months; they may be sent direct to me, given to one of our Lady Workers or one of the Church Officers. I should be grateful if someone in each centre would, on his own, make himself responsible for helping me in this matter: please do not wait to be asked. This brings to mind a matter which ought to have been mentioned long before and that is something to remind us of the life, work, devotion and example of Miss Burt, who gave her life during the influenza visitation: she was a friend and helper to all, but chiefly we looked to her as the "Children's Friend," and the children at Naauwpoort have made up their minds to provide the means to purchase a Memorial Window to be placed in the Sanctuary, All Souls' Church, Naauwpoort, to her memory—they have a matter of some £10 in hand. It would be nice if we could fill the other window to remind us of Mr. Willmott and of what he was to us. I think we ought to have something to remind us of Miss Burt in the Cathedral at Grahamstown—the "spiritual centre" of her wonderful life. If you feel as I do on these matters and will help me in contributing and collecting for these objects, they will be done and I shall feel grateful. If you feel that you can act on your own, please do so; if you would rather first communicate with me, I shall be very glad to hear from you.

We are very glad to have Mr. Rossborough back again on his old Section, and from the welcome he has received everybody else seems to be happy about it too. Unfortunately so far we have not been able to obtain accommodation aboard ship to bring out our new Workers who are waiting, not being Jews, but perhaps it is as well, seeing the means sometimes employed, but it is weary waiting, still we must not lose hope.

I have received from Miss Glasier for the Church at Broken Hill a very beautiful white Altar Frontal and Superfrontal—her own handiwork (which, by
the way, took first prize at the last Johannesburg Show) and the result of countless hours of labour done not infrequently under trying conditions, especially when travelling. Another kind gift for the Broken Hill Church has been received from Miss Brocklehurst, the Headmistress of the Public School at Mazabuka, Northern Rhodesia: the children under her care have contributed £3 towards the cost of a Font; and I hear the Broken Hill children—who now have a going Sunday School of their own—as a result are taking up the lead thus given.

I should like to thank all of you who responded to my appeal for toys for the children at Christmas: generous contributions both in money and toys have been received from many directions and I am grateful for this generous response, but, while our thanks are due to many old and new friends, our greatest debt is to Mrs. Monaghan and her sisters at Port Elizabeth: between them they secured, packed and despatched all the toys needed for the children on the South-West African Lines. The real thanks for all who have helped in this matter will be the knowledge of the amount of pleasure they have provided for the little ones scattered over parts of this vast country.

The books provided by friends at Naauwpoort for presentation to Mr. and Mrs. Odoire, on the occasion of their transfer to Port Elizabeth, as a token of appreciation of the devoted and consistent way they had always taken their part in anything and everything connected with All Souls' Church during the past sixteen years, arrived soon after Mr. Willmott went to hospital, and while on his bed of sickness he was able to make the presentation he felt was so well deserved. The money for the books was very kindly collected by Mrs. Williamson.

At Port Elizabeth on December 1st, and at Pretoria on the 8th, we had our annual gatherings of friends and supporters at these respective places: at the former our old and long tried friend Mr. W. F. Savage presided and we were fortunate in being able to have the Bishop of Grahamstown to help do the talking, and we had quite a good meeting. At Pretoria we had Mr. Hobson, Rector of Arcadia, as Chairman and fortunately our very old friend Mr. Skey came over from his busy work at St. George's Boys' Home at Cleveland to help with the talking. Unfortunately the day was terribly hot and trying, so that not very many were able to turn up, and at one time it almost looked like disaster: the Bishop of Pretoria hoped to have been with us, but as he had to go up for Confirmation two days later, and as he was greatly pushed owing to his coming departure for his new Diocese—St. Alban's, London Over the Border—he found it impossible to get there. Mr. Rossborough was coming but, well, I'm sure he could not have got there or he would have done so. I learned on the 'phone, to my great joy, that Mr. Skey was coming by the 2.15: I went to the
Station at 4 p.m., to meet him—the meeting was at 4.30—and found that train runs “on Saturdays only.” But Mr. Skey, I’m thankful to say, got there—at the time it little interested me how—and we were very glad to have him. Some of the “Old Horses who once ran” do get “there” and are useful. We are all grateful to our old and tried friends Mr. Savage at Port Elizabeth, and Lady Wessels at Pretoria, and our new Secretaries, Miss Savage at the former and Mrs. Bate-man at the latter, for the devoted work they put in for us and the job we have in hand. It is really encouraging to see the tried friends sticking to us, and it is hopeful to have these new keen friends to fill the gaps caused by the going away of those who have helped us in the past. We missed very greatly Miss Stella Smith at Port Elizabeth and Miss Bristowe at Pretoria.

Now I must stop for I have trespassed more than I ought on your patience, but most of the things, at any rate, needed writing. May I ask for your interest and help in the future as we have received them in the past? We shall need even more of your prayers: you won’t let us down, will you?

R. THORNEILY JONES.

Galway,
Ireland,
Sept. 12th, 1919.

My dear friends along the Line,

Out of sight is not out of mind, so let us have a wee talk with you as if I were with you in the flesh. I would like to get hold more and more securely of that truth that in our Lord Christ there is no real separation—those who are abiding in Him are one with each other. In the Heart of Jesus, that is where you dwell, at least I trust so, and that is where I dwell, at least I trust so. It’s a great meeting-place, a common rest-house for all who are plodding through this life in every continent and island.

I got back to this country, I mean England, last week, after a very successful trip of 21 days on the water. The Llanstephan Castle is a comfortable ship, but not speedy. I was one of a ten-berth cabin, and as we should always look on the cheerful side of things I must say it was not so crowded as if there had been twenty in it. We were three Irishmen, two Dutchmen, two Belgians, and the other three mostly English, so Babel hadn’t got a look in. It was a treat to get on shore at Madeira after that long stretch of water from Cape Town. It’s a beautifully picturesque island. We went up on the mountain-railway some 3,000 feet, and then descended in little toboggans down a cobbled-stoned path. Quite exciting!

Then after spending a few days in the south of England with my parents, my brother and I came over here, and we are enjoying the air and scenery of our native land for a couple of weeks. He had been saving up his summer holiday for my arrival. Judging by the newspapers you would think Ireland
was in an uninhabitable condition for any ordinary peaceable people, but when you get here there seems very little excitement and everyone seems to be just pursuing his ordinary ways. And the ordinary ways of the Irish, at least in the West, seem to be not having too much to do and going about it in a cheerful and contented manner.

The religion of the great mass of the people is Roman Catholicism, and it is quite extraordinary and fascinating to see how intimately it enters into the daily life of the community. I have seen services on week-days as well attended as Sunday Services in England, and the churches have an air of being in constant use from morning to night, people dropping in and out continually to have a word of prayer, so entirely at home in the House of God. It all strikes one as being just exactly what God wants our religion to be, an every-day affair, intimate, homely and happy. Taken as a whole the people bear the aspect of poverty as far as this world's goods go, but they seem rich with goods of the imperishable type. I only hope and trust these few lawless agitators who are stirring up all the trouble will be put down with a heavy hand, and not allowed to destroy the peace of this dear land.

Coming along in the train to-day through wild mountainous country with abundance of lakes and rivers, I could not help wishing for the power to lay on some of this superfluity of waters to some of you who are thirsting for a drop more moisture on your land!

I am very grateful to Canon Jones for letting me have the opportunity of sending you these few lines. Goodbye, dear people, and may the Divine assistance remain with you always.

Your affectionate friend,

ARTHUR HOBBSON.

Home address:
51, St. Clement's Road,
Bournemouth, England.

[This was received on October 9th, too late for insertion in the October number.—Ed.]

PRETORIA DIOCESE.

ELANDSHOEK,
Dec. 10th, 1919.

My dear Friends along the Line,

It doesn't seem like three months since I wrote my last letter for Light for the Line. I was in Johannesburg then, you may remember, just getting ready to go back to my Section after returning from over-seas and anticipating some difficulty in picking up the threads of Railway work again after more than two years' absence. It has not, however, been as hard to do this as I had anticipated chiefly because I found that so many keen and devoted souls all up and down the Section had been keeping the flag flying! True, it had not been found possible, owing to the depleted numbers of the Diocesan clergy, for them to be provided with regular Services in the majority of cases, a very occasional visit to the larger centres being all that was usually practicable, but this was of course unavoidable. Again in a few cases I found that Sunday Schools had had to be dropped, but as a rule this had been due to the fact that the usual teacher had left the neighbourhood and there was simply no other to fill the gap.
For the rest I found that real keen efforts had been made in most places to prevent existing organisations from falling through, e.g., if a Sunday School had had for a time to be suspended, it had been revived again at the earliest opportunity, while in every case the collectors of the Sustentation Funds have manfully stuck to their posts all through and the contributors have also stuck to theirs, which is obviously quite as important!

Since I have returned to the Line it has been such a pleasure to notice that congregations almost everywhere have been exceptionally good, in some places breaking all records.

And here may I just say how grateful I am to the congregation at Waterval Boven for the exceedingly kind welcome which they gave me in the Railway Institute on my return last September, and I am no less grateful for the individual welcomes given me by so very many people in the different centres of work everywhere throughout the Section. These are things one does not forget and they help and encourage one immensely.

The fact that I was able to have the use of the coach almost as soon as I got back made re-starting a good deal easier than it would otherwise have been. During the last quarter I have been able to hold Services (sometimes more than once) at the following places: Waterval Boven, Rätton, Bronkhorstspruit, Hatherly, Wonderfontein, Machadodorp, Delmas, Kinross, Silverton, Elands River, Malelane, Tomango and Elandschoek, while visits without Services were paid to Dryden, Eloff, Van der Merwe, Trichardts, Wilge River, Forfar, Koedoespoort, Godwan River, Bonnefontein and Nelspruit.

I have not been able to get to places in the Low Veld further down than Malelane, so far, and the Selati Line remains as yet untouched since my return though I had hoped to have been able to get to that far-off corner of the Section. There is, however, on that Line only one train each week nowadays and it is a bit of a problem how to fit in visits under those conditions. The prospect of having to sit down and wait a solid week for the next train to come along and take me on to my next point each time I feel I ought to touch at a place will probably lead to my devising some other means of locomotion down there! Cycling is possible in some few places, but it is a difficult country to get about in from many points of view. I feel fairly certain that in times past I have taken my bicycle into country where such a thing had never been seen before, to judge at least from the evident surprise, not to say consternation of a good many natives in certain particularly remote districts!

Turning to affairs in the settled parts of the Section I found on returning to Waterval Boven that nearly all the members of the Church Council which existed when I went overseas in 1917 had left the place. I was very sorry to discover this, one hates to lose old friends and helpers, but such changes are the normal state of things in a railway camp and have to be endured. A new Council, with Inspector Hollingdale as Secretary and Treasurer, has now been formed, I am glad to say, and I am sure it will turn out to be a very efficient one.

At Machadodorp I found few changes. Our chief difficulties here are the provision of a place for Evening Services (lights are not allowed in the Court House, which we use on Sunday mornings) and also a regular Sunday School for the children. At present no teacher is to be had and nothing can be done between by visits. Both difficulties, however, I hope we may manage to get over soon.

At Bronkhorstspruit congregations have been good as they gener-
ally are considering the small number of British people in the place, and the Sustentation Fund, which was started not long before I left, has been continued ever since. Our thanks are due to the collector, Miss Enid Kidd, for the way in which she has looked after it.

I have been able to pay only one visit to HATHERLY for Services, but our Sunday morning congregation on that occasion was quite a record for the place as regards numbers and the evening ran it close.

The week-night Service which I had planned some weeks later had to be abandoned owing to the partial demolition of the service-room by white ants! It is now undergoing a thorough repair and by Christmas ought to be ready for use again.

Miss Strike's leaving was a great loss to the Sunday School here, where she has carried on so splendidly Sunday by Sunday for years past. For a time no teacher could be found and the School had to be dropped. Now, however, Miss Gertrude Higgins and Miss Elsie Patterson have most kindly taken it on between them and I hear great accounts of the keenness and steady increase in numbers of the children.

Our Sunday morning Service at DELMAS was rather spoilt by a very heavy downpour of rain. However, eighteen people braved the elements and in the evening the congregation was the largest I have yet seen there. We were not able to get the School for Service, but by the kindness of Sergt. Lawless the Court House was placed at our disposal instead.

On each of the two occasions when I have visited RAYTON there have been excellent congregations, the number present in the evening of my first visit being quite a record I think. Rayton has only a small British population, but in attendances at Services compares favourably with any of the High Veld centres. Bronkhorstpruit and Hatherly are perhaps as good in proportion to their populations though none of the High Veld districts seem to quite reach the average of some of the tiny Low Veld communities where in many cases one has come to expect that there will be representatives from every British family as a matter of course! The rule seems to be, generally speaking, that the larger the place the fewer people one gets in proportion! Why? This strange fact has been noticeably illustrated in the case of Waterval Boven for instance. When I was here last in 1917 the British population was very considerably greater than at present and yet congregations in those days were certainly no better than they have been lately, if indeed quite as good.

By the way, when on the subject of attendance at Services in general might I once more draw attention to the dog question?

A dog fight in the middle of a Service is not conducive to reverence, and the sight of two perspiring members of the congregation vainly trying to separate the combatants is calculated to upset the gravity of even the most serious-minded worshipper! I know that, especially in the case of those who have to come across country at night, it is often necessary to bring dogs, but could not such see to it that they come provided with a leash of some sort in order that the animals may be tied up outside?

This matter may seem a trivial thing to mention to those who have had no experience of the disturbance often caused by the presence of our canine friends at a Service, but those who have had such experience will realise that it is not so. This particular disturbing element can be so easily avoided, which is unfortunately not the case with other things which sometimes persist in obtruding their unwelcome presences upon us, such as noisy birds which establish themselves in the rafters and elude all pursuit. In one case I remember a small bush monkey displaying a grin-
ning face at the window, evidently taking a keen interest in the proceed-
ingings!

But I have digressed and must continue my jottings.

At SILVERTON we had a very good congregation on the evening of Nov. 26th, held in Mrs. Schuch's house, but at WONDERFONTEIN members fell short of what they used to be owing to the fact that nearly all the British families who used to live within reach have now left. A good many Dutch, however, attend here. KINROSS too on the Breyten-Springs Line, showed rather a falling off, but this was largely due to temporary causes, such as certain people being away on holiday. The British community here is such a small one that the absence of even three or four hitherto regular members makes a big gap in one's congregation. We were all sorry to hear of the nasty motor accident by which Mrs. and Miss Barable were injured, the latter somewhat seriously, on the day before the Service. It is to be hoped that they have quite recovered by this time.

The fact that Mr. and Mrs. Newham have left ELANDS RIVER is a real loss. Only occasional visits could be paid there for Service, but their house was always available for it and the help and kindness one invariably received will be always something to remember with gratitude.

Turning to the Low Veld I was glad to find that my congregation at MALELANE had doubled since I had been away owing to the influx of one or two new families in that still very sparsely settled district.

At TOMANGO, in the usual cheerful atmosphere of Mr. and Mrs. Hall's farm, Services were held on Sunday, Dec. 7th, and as far as numbers were concerned we beat our previous records by one! ELANDSHOEK has only a tiny handful of Britishers, but I hope to get down there at least once a quarter as nearly all are communicants.

I hope to hold Service at TRICHDARDTS occasionally in future as I find that there is quite a large community of British farmers and others in the neighbourhood. The population of NELSPRUIT has also greatly increased and I shall try and get there sometimes as several regular members of the congregations at other centres have migrated to the place.

I have been very encouraged all over the Section by the way Confirmation candidates have been coming forward and their preparation has occupied a good deal of time during this last quarter. I always feel that the opportunities one gets at these times are specially important. The time has come in the case of these young people for a real decision for God, and one feels that everything else if necessary must be subordinated to the work among them that nothing one can do may be wanting to emphasise His claim on their lives. After all it is above all things a personal religion of which there is such a crying need nowadays, the sense of present union with our Lord. Nothing else can take the place of this and where it is absent there can be no Christian life in its fullest sense. Without it there can be no real joy in religion and it is because so many have not yet learnt the secret of living day by day in the Presence of Christ that the "peace which passeth all understanding" is to them merely an empty phrase. I hope you will remember all the Confirmation candidates in your prayers that they may be led at this solemn time in their lives to make the great decision and surrender their hearts and wills to their Saviour.

Your sincere friend,

Vernon Rossborough.
Otavi,
December 10th, 1919.

My dear Friends in S.W.,

I am afraid this will be the last letter I shall write to you all in the Magazine, as in a month's time I am due to leave for the Union and shortly after that for the Old Country for six months' leave. Whereabouts I shall be in South Africa after that I do not know at present, but it will not be on the Railway, and the German Caboose, which has been my happy home since April, 1917, will know me no more. I have received a great deal of kindness and much generous hospitality all along the Line, and it is with great regret that I am saying goodbye to a great many in S.W. I have sometimes been absent for a long time, three to six months lapsing between my visits, but you have patiently borne with me and accepted my excuses, also my apologies or lack of apologies for non-appearance through unexpected changes of plan. I am hoping to become less casual and to acquire improved manners when I get a more settled and stationary piece of work.

As our kind friends at Port Elizabeth and elsewhere have sent up a fat consignment of toys in excellent time, I shall have the pleasant task of combining the work of Santa Claus with that of saying goodbye. I have already completed the distribution up the Narrow Gauge Line, where there are over forty Railway children. There seems to be need of some little boarding school up this line, as there are a number of children of school age not attending school. I seized the opportunity of spending a day at Otavi, a visit long overdue considering the many hospitable invitations of the S.-M.

In September I continued my journey south, visiting KALKRAND, NARIB, MARIENTHAL, ORAB, where I saw the sorrowful sight of many goats drowned in the first rain of the year, GIBEON station and village, ASAB, TSES, BRUKKARDS, and WASSER.

In October, I went some way down the Luderitzbucht line, visiting GARUB, where Mrs. Combrink very kindly put me up. If only I had not had to get back to Windhuk by the 12th, I might have had the time of my life. A train every day each way between Garub and Luderitzbucht, due to the condensers being idle for some weeks. Consequently Garub had to supply the water, which must have been pretty strictly rationed to go round. However, I had just time to visit KULIBIS, where I was wanted for a Christening, and AUS, where I had the pleasure of marrying a young couple, both of whom I had known for some time—Mr. Gravenstein and Miss van Niekerk. Their friends will wish them every happiness in their new home at HAALENBERG. I was also delighted to see Mrs. Simpson with her daughter and little grandchild. We all know that when Mrs. Simpson is away from Haalenberg, the sky is dark indeed. No tea, and no coffee, and no cakes! Cakes that Bishops have desired to eat, and have eaten in considerable quantities! I can bear witness that at least on this occasion she was not away on a joy-ride—that is to say it was not a joy-ride until the duties of grandmother were successfully undertaken.

After a short visit to Port Elizabeth, where I was sorry to find our Nauwpoort Chaplain in hospital, and Grahamstown, I returned to Windhuk to relieve the Archdeacon for his work at the Cape Town Provincial Synod. I am glad to say he has just returned after a busy and successful time. I hope sufficient funds will enable him to proceed to the building of churches, but every member of the Church in S.W. will have to put his or her shoulder to the wheel, if the work is to be tackled successfully. Everything has to be done, we begin on the bare
veld, and Heaven preserve us from having too many of the slackers, who find any excuse good enough to prevent them from doing their bit for the Kingdom of God.

As the Sundays in November had to be spent at Windhuk, I was only able to pay hurried mid-week visits to USAKOS, OMARURU, where at last I rediscovered my old friends from ARANDIS, Mr. and Mrs. Keightley, KARIBIR, ALBRECHTS, WALVIS, where the tale of my black kitten “Vagasha” had three interested audiences, and OKOHANDJA.

On my last trip through I am hoping to pay goodbye visits to USAKOS, ROSSING, STINGBANK, Christmas at SWAKOPMUND, NARIB, MARENTHAL, KALKFONTEIN SOUTH, and KLEINKARAS. I am afraid I shall miss some through night traveling, but they must take this as of necessity and not of choice. I am hoping to find and persuade the right man in the Union to come and take my place, but, if he won’t, the sooner I get to England to find another the better. It is still not too late to send a small subscription to the toys, and though a good many of the Magazine subscriptions have come in, there are still a fair number, who have received reminding postcards, whose outstanding subscriptions leave the Mission poorer by some £3. Please send these direct to Canon Jones, P.O. Box 133, Grahamstown, and also notify him if the Magazines do not reach you in January, April, July, or October.

Now I must finish, so with best wishes for a happy Christmas and a bright New Year and with many prayers that you may persevere in the Christian Road of Prayer and that, as loyal soldiers of Christ, you may serve Him faithfully in the work of His Kingdom.

I remain,

Your sincere friend,

EVERHARD ESDAILE.
of the Sunday River Settlement), where they have already undertaken the Sunday School.

At Sandflats we heartily welcome the return of Mr. and Mrs. Walker to their old abode, and Mrs. Walker with her usual energy has revived both the Choir and Sunday School with Mrs. Theron and Mrs. Richard as assistant teachers. It was an encouraging sight on All Saints’ Day (the Dedication Festival of this Church) to see such a goodly band of communicants at the early Service. On that same evening the Reverend G. A. Lejeune kindly held a special Service for G.F.S. members and candidates at Aliedale.

During the month of November I visited the Eastern Line and gave Lantern Lectures at Middledrift, Blaney, Toise River and Amabele Junction. I also spent a fortnight’s holiday at the Cape and thoroughly enjoyed the exquisite scenery there after four years’ absence. During the first week the Provincial Synod was sitting, so I was able to attend some of its meetings and meet many old friends there, and the second week went out to Muizenberg, where passenger flying was added to the many other attractions of the seaside, but felt quite satisfied to watch this at a distance. One day I accomplished a long-planned expedition to Robben Island to visit the Leper Settlement there. The All Saints’ Sisters have charge of the Children’s Home (only fifteen inmates at present, fortunately), where everything possible seems done for the comfort and amusement of the poor little inmates (they even go to the bioscope twice a week), and it is cheering to know that some cases recover. There are two Churches for the use of the lepers, as of course none of them can walk far, and on the mainland a farm has been recently started for the convalescents by the Chaplain, who had previously resided on the island for over twenty years.

Early in December the children at Aliedale gave a most charming performance of “Aladdin,” under the able auspices of Mrs. Lejeune, with original songs and music by this talented authoress. The scenery, costumes and general staging and acting certainly reflected great credit on the dramatic company of this Camp, and resulted in a substantial sum on behalf of the Diocesan Boys’ Home at Southwell.

I was also fortunate in being present at the Christmas Mystery Play at Cookhouse, arranged by Miss Andrewarth, where the scenes from the New Testament story were specially striking ones, and both audience and performers alike seemed to be imbued with a reverent spirit suited to the occasion. Such performances should do great good if entered on and carried out in the right spirit.

The Girls’ Club at 13, Donkin Street, Port Elizabeth, continues to flourish and increase in numbers. An average of thirty take advantage of it during the luncheon hour, and several members are Railway girls.

Please note in conclusion my change of address. Although only on the other side of the road, it was quite a wrench to leave the “Hermitage,” my happy headquarters for many years past, thanks to the kindness of Mrs. van Heijst and her sisters.

M. Josephine Beckwith.

P.S.—Grateful thanks are due for gifts of books, papers, etc., from Mrs. Hayes, The Union Book Co., Mrs. Warner, Miss Savage.

WOMEN’S WORK.

DIocese of BLOEMFONTEIN.

I am most truly sorry that with the end of the year my work on the Railway Mission comes to an end—at least as far as I can see at present. Seven years is quite a good time to be knocking about on the Railway without a fixed home and I have managed just over that altogether. Very happy years
in spite of the discomforts, in spite too of the fact that there is very little to show for all one's effort. A small measure of success in one Sunday School balanced by a steady dwindling in the numbers somewhere else, a Confirmation candidate here valiantly fighting for Christ and another allowing the merest trifles to keep her from being confirmed. If the work were one's own it would often seem useless, and impossible to keep it on. Strength lies in the knowledge that one has been sent, your work is only a part of the great whole and the results are in God's hands. And so you are free to enjoy all the good things that come in the way. The almost unfailing welcome wherever you go—fellowship with all you meet who are also trying to prepare the way for Christ, and the love of those amongst whom you work. Thank God for it all.

It has been a busy quarter, as at present no new worker is coming to take my place and everything had to be cleared up before I left. At Kopjes, where the school has almost doubled its roll, the work will go on, at first under Miss Bell Robinson and later under Miss Beverley. It is a great relief to know they will keep it going. In November twenty-six children came to the class and over thirty belong—almost all are from the outside districts. At Viljoens Drift "shifts" have reduced my G.F.S. class to a very few. One of our members, Grace Pierce, passed away just after my last visit. She was always very regular in attendance and her death is a great shock to her family. At Natalspruit and Klip River the numbers will not warrant Sunday visits any longer, and the same applies to Thunnissen. Kopjes and Bethany both had picnics for the children, the latter a great success. All the labourers' children came with me to Riet River and we had a lovely day. There wasn't any river as the drought was still on, but the dry sand was ideal for games and races and the willows for shade and rest. These children do not have a regular visit, but they never miss coming for my lesson when I do go, and I was very glad to be able to give them the treat.

I have the Coach again now for a short time, and am having Lantern Services at most places, showing the Christmas pictures. I expect to leave for the coast on Dec. 23rd and sail on Jan. 2nd by the Armadale Castle. If anyone likes to write to me my address in England will be:

Miss P. Glasier,
19, Belvedere Grove,
Wimbledon, London, S.W.,
and I shall be very pleased to hear, though I can't promise to write to everyone myself.

Miss Biden, St. Michael's Home, Bloemfontein, will be sending out the magazines; will you let her know when you change your address as she will not be able to hear any other way and so you will lose the book. Subscriptions due in January should be sent to Grahamstown.

So one must say goodbye, yet remembering that

There is a place where spirits blend  
And friend holds fellowship with friend;  
Though far apart on earth, they meet  
Around one common Mercy Seat.

Your friend,

P. GLASIER.

On the Line,
December 15th.

My dear Friends,

Although I write this before Christmas, you will not receive it until the New Year, so I take this opportunity of wishing you all a very Blessed and Happy Christmas and New Year. I am very sorry that I have not been able to cover my Section during the quarter. With Mr. Willmott's long illness my time has been taken up with the work in the larger Camps, so I fear there will not be many places about which to write,
COOKHOUSE. The chief event of the past three months has been the work in preparation for the Advent and Christmas Mystery Play which was staged on December 11th in the Church of St. Paul the Traveller. There were many disappointments by members being hurriedly transferred, others taken ill and not able to come to the practices, but by the evening of the performance their places were filled and everything went off wonderfully well. For this I am most grateful to those who so kindly helped to fill up the gaps at the last moment: amongst them I particularly wish to thank those who helped with the music and singing, Miss Page, Miss Williams, Mrs. Percy Weddell, Miss Rogers, and Bobby Weddell. To all the children I wish to say a word of appreciation. Often I am told that it’s not worth the trouble to get up a play, but I feel that whatever anxiety we had during the practices, we are more than repaid by the children’s simple acting and reverent attitude throughout. That is just what I wanted—nothing could have been better, except as some people said, “It could have been longer.” I hope that in the future more may be done for the children in this way because it is one of the greatest means of teaching. I hope that during Lent we may stage the first part of The Pilgrim’s Progress. Early in the year there will be a Children’s Tea Party and Prize-giving to the children of the Sunday School. Some portion of the money made by the play will be spent on something for St. Paul’s Church as a visible memorial, to the memory of Miss Agnes Burt, who did so much for the children on the Line as the Children’s Missioner.

Another event in the life of Cookhouse has been the hasty departure of Mr. and Mrs. Dobell and family. Although we have often heard of their moving, I never expected they would really go. We can never thank them enough for all they have done for the Church of God in Cookhouse. For some time past the girls have been in entire charge of the Church cleaning and dusting, and one always felt there was never any need to be anxious when the Sunday for services came round. The girls and James would be in their places at Church. Our very best wishes will go with them in their new home at Sydenham.

We have to welcome—since last I wrote—to Cookhouse Mr. and Mrs. Cross, our new foreman, and Mr. and Mrs. Doyle and family, and we do hope that they will be very happy in Cookhouse. I am very glad to tell you that Mrs. Doyle’s two daughters, Thelma and Violet, have offered to take the work that the Dobells did so faithfully. During Mrs. Wise’s absence on holiday, Miss Page kindly undertook to take the Sunday School; we are all grateful to her for giving up her only free day from teaching.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Percy Weddell on their marriage and we wish them both prosperity and a long and happy life in Cookhouse. Already Mrs. Percy has been able to contribute to the local talent. A gift of beautiful crochet lace has been presented to the Church by Mrs. Percy Weddell—its history is that it was picked up by a soldier friend of Mrs. Percy Weddell’s in West Africa; it was felt that this lace was made for one purpose, i.e., to be used to the Glory of God in His House, and so Mrs. Weddell gave it to be used for this purpose.

ST. BARNABAS’ MISSION. There has been a lot of sickness in the location and the Mission has lost several of the community and many have been dangerously ill. Johannes, the Catechist, has been laid up, and I am thankful to say that he, with the others, are well and able to get to work. The women’s meetings have continued throughout, and I feel that these meetings are a great source of strength to the people.
THE MISSION SCHOOL. Prizes were offered for the best set of answers to questions on the Catechism, and I was agreeably surprised to find such a number of really good answers.

ROSMEAD. I have not been able to give much time to the Camp for visiting and the children's work, but have taken every opportunity offered by the train, and got a number of visits in between train connections. We are very sorry to have to say farewell to our Sunday School teacher, Miss Marx, who has been transferred to Upington, and we hope that she will be able to find some work to do in the Sunday School. We have to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Wood on the birth of a son; Matthew was baptised by the Rector of Middelburg on Monday, 15th December. The Scripture game caused a great deal of interest and a greater number took part in the last game.

NAUWPOORT. Since last I wrote Mary Ann Morey (née Goodyer) passed to her rest on September 16th, and was buried next day by our Layman, with the Rev. B. Pienaar and Mr. Hepburn taking part in the Service. Mary had been a member of All Souls' Church for years, and was confirmed on Feb. 22nd, 1907. The All Souls' Choir led her body to its last resting place. She suffered for months and as the end drew near one gave thanks to Almighty God for giving her rest and peace. On October 28th a very old resident in the person of Isaac Newton Crittenton passed to his rest after months of failing health and was buried at Naauwpoort. May his soul rest in peace.

For months past our one thought has been for our Chaplain, the Rev. Edgar Thomas Willmott, and his wife who tended him until the last.

On Monday, October 13th, Mr. Willmott was taken to Port Elizabeth Hospital with the hope that he would soon recover his strength. The night had been a bad one for the patient, but the morning was glorious and spoke to him of health. I will not forget his last act of thankfulness to his fellow-men for their part in making it possible to bring him to the place where he hoped to regain his strength. Mrs. Willmott and I walked on each side of him along the platform, and as we passed the engine this fragile man looked towards the driver, touched his hat, with a cheery "Good-morning," which sounded to me—"Thank you, thank you, for bringing me safe to the place where I shall regain my strength for more work amongst the Railway people." It was work he loved and even to the last his thoughts were with his people, for he said to me, "I wish I could have done more for them." Let us all pray that we may follow his example and join with him in the company of the Blessed.

The Memorial Services held on Sunday, 14th December, were well attended. All tried to be present to pay their respects to the memory of a faithful Priest and friend. Our love and sympathy goes out to those whom he loved.

SUNDAY SCHOOL. For the past quarter the School has been well attended, and I hope that the children will continue to be regular. With the Church's new year we have started new schemes of lessons and also a new method of marking for the older children. Each child in the upper school is now the possessor of a stamp book, and receives a stamp each Sunday of attendance, and these stamps become a guide to the lesson the Church has to teach us on that day. When children attend the Children's Monthly Service they will receive a Saints' Day stamp, which is coloured more beautifully than the usual Sunday stamp. In the senior class questions printed on a paper will be given to each child, and they are required to learn the question and to answer the question in books that will be provided. At the end of the year a prize will be offered to the boy or girl who has done his best to answer all
the questions. The infant school will continue with the card system. It is my desire to have a little entertainment on Monday, 29th December, in the Railway Institute, to which parents will be welcomed, and prizes gained in the Sunday School will be presented.

To our regret both Miss Fockens and Miss Ellen Kelly have left Naauwpoort. Our best wishes go with them in their new work. It will be no easy matter to replace them in the Sunday School. We have to welcome as junior teachers Misses Ivy Paton, Annie Deacon, Elizabeth Deacon and Annie Randall, and I hope that they may learn more of the joy of service for God. From time to time we will have 'teachers' meetings of preparation for the Sunday work and so learn more of the wonder of the Catholic Faith.

On All Souls' Day we had special Services with memorial prayers for all the departed; and in the afternoon it was the children's intention to decorate the soldiers' graves (of which we have about 300 in Naauwpoort), but unfortunately a storm prevented all the arrangements being carried out. However, the water did not spoil the beautiful flowers, and next morning I went down to the graves and arranged the flowers that bear witness to the truth of the Resurrection of the Dead, and of which our Church of All Souls at Naauwpoort is a living witness.

During Mrs. Hitchcock's absence in Pretoria, Mrs. Juby has kindly consented to officiate at the organ. It is a real joy to have her, and we are all very grateful to her for giving up the only free day from teaching music.

We have to congratulate a number of parents on the birth of sons and daughters.

On Sunday, October 5th, the infants of Mrs. Paton and Mrs. Green were baptised, and on December 14th the children of Mrs. Victor, Mrs. Steinhoeft, Mrs. Russell and Mrs. Willett were made members of Christ at the Font.

As I write sad news comes to me that Mr. Comley, our Loco. Foreman, has been taken to the Bloemfontein Hospital; we hope that before long he may be amongst us again.

The Railway Institute Committee is arranging a huge Christmas tree for the children in Naauwpoort, and I do hope that they will all have a really jolly time and enter into the wonder of the great Festival of Christ's Birthday. I shall be up and down the line giving a few toys to the lonely children, and I ask you to remember at this time all children in your prayers.

My thanks are due to Mrs. Osborn Allen, Mrs. Day, Miss L. Laishley, Mrs. Girand, Mrs. Payne-Gallway, Miss L. Phillimore and Miss Powell for the papers and books which they send each mail; also for the gift of books for the children along the Line from C.O.V.'s, Grahamstown, Mrs. Drury, Mrs. Everett, Mrs. and Miss van Heijst, Dr. and Mrs. Fox, and Miss Booth. I wish the donors could see the joy of the lonely people along the Line when I throw out the parcels.

Elsie M. Andrewartha.

CHILDREN'S PAGE.

My dear Children,

A happy New Year to everybody for 1920. I have a new idea for the New Year. I want every little girl and boy to be able to get the Children's Page of Light for the Line. At present only those whose parents or teachers get the Magazine can do the questions, so I am having a number of the Children's Page printed separately, and anyone who wants it must send two penny stamps to The Editor, Box 133, Grahamstown, and I'll send back a leaflet. I hope that lots of you will get the leaflet.

We are very sad at losing our Chaplain, Mr. Willmott, from Naauwpoort. He suffered greatly and was very brave,
I am afraid he must often have felt dreadfully ill when he had to go to places along the Line, but still because it was his duty he went and did a lot of good work. Let us try and remember his brave example when we don’t feel inclined to do something that we know we ought. We must think of Mrs. Willmott in her loneliness and sadness.

The C.O.V’s in Grahamstown have been doing great things. A few weeks ago they had a sale of work and two little plays. Unfortunately it poured with rain (though we liked the rain it would have been even more welcome if it had come on another day); still they got £27, which delighted everybody. I wish you could all have seen the plays. Doreen Seale was excellent as Miss Trotwood (David Copperfield) and Eileen Dowsley as Mr. Dick. Since this Doreen Seale has paid in a further £1:0:3 which she has collected from members and friends.

I was greatly disappointed that only four entered for the Essay on The Life of General Botha—and only ONE arrived in time. Wilhelmina Ferreira’s was the best essay and also was the one to arrive on the 10th. I allowed Wilhelmina to choose a book and she chose a Prayer-book. The others who entered were Poppie de Lange and Aletta Enslin, both from Zuney, and Dorothy Ferreira from Bathurst.

Before I stop, I want to ask you all to read the little descriptions of the Feasts which I am having printed. One hears the terms “Epiphany” and “Ash Wednesday” and hasn’t a notion what they mean. Read these carefully and next time the day comes round you’ll know all about it—I hope!

Your affectionate friend,

THE EDITOR.


This is the Octave of Christmas Day—to make its meaning clear to you—perhaps you learn the piano, and know that a space of eight notes is called an Octave. The great days in the year—such as Christmas, Easter, Ascension Day, Whitsunday, and all Saints’ Days have octaves, that is the Festival is kept for eight days. On this day we keep the circumcision of our Blessed Lord. Circumcision in the Jewish Church was the type of Baptism.

THE EPIPHANY, January 6th.

On this day we think of those first Gentiles to whom our Lord was made known. They were the men from the East, who had seen the Star in the Heavens and followed it to Bethlehem and offered the Infant Jesus gifts most rare.

ASH WEDNESDAY, February 18th (this year).

Is the first day of Lent, and it is called Ash Wednesday, because on this day, in old times the Priest used to sprinkle the people with ashes to remind them that the body is, after all, only dust, and will, when we die, return to dust. On this day we should always think seriously of how we may make a good preparation for the great Easter Day.

January 25th.

THE CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL.


On this day is kept the Festival of St. Paul—we remember the greatest thing which happened to the Apostle. You should read the story of his Conversion, and ask God to draw us nearer to Himself and, like St. Paul, let us say, “What will Thou have me to do?”

February 2nd.

THE PURIFICATION OF ST. MARY.

It is on this day that our thoughts go back to the day on which the Holy Child was brought to the Temple at Jerusalem and there to be presented before God. By the Law every mother had to bring her child to God and she
also had to bring a thank offering. The blessed Virgin brought two young pigeons.

Saint Matthias. February 24th.
St. Matthias was chosen to be an Apostle in the place of Judas Iscariot. Read the story for yourselves in Acts i, 21 to the end.

Riddles.
Spell a hungry horse with four letters. M.T.G.G. (empty gee-gee).
What is the difference between an oak tree and tight boots? One makes acorns and the other makes corns ache.

A Thinking Cat.
Madge was a favourite cat who was allowed to come to the family meals and to receive her share of the good things. She noticed again and again that when the table bell was rung more food came to the table, and, thinking the matter over, she resolved on adopting this plan for her own advantage.
When the dinner-table was cleared of all except the bell, Madge acquired the habit of getting on to the table and ringing for more food!
Very naturally the food came!
From The Animal World.

Love of God.
Have you ever noticed the sun's rays through a break in the clouds? Some people call them "Jacob's Ladder," because the bright rays are like paths going up to heaven. They are really caused by the sun's sucking up the moisture of the earth, which is made into clouds, and returns again the soft rain to make things grow. So our love is drawn by God to Himself, and comes back to make all good things grow on the earth.

Your Part.
A missionary writes home:—
"Do remember that your prayers are the best thing you can give to the mission.

"I am afraid your share of the work seems very ordinary compared with mine.
"But remember, if you fail in your part, we shall fail in ours."

The Two Frogs.
Two frogs fell into a bowl of cream. One of them had no "go" at all in him; he did not try to help himself, and was drowned.
The other frog was a plucky little fellow, and tried to swim.
The frog who stuck to it found himself in the end sitting on a pat of butter of his own making, and thus was saved!

A New Invention.
Jimmie entered the large chemist's with a coin clutched tightly in his hand.
"Well, my little man," said the assistant, "what can I get for you?"
"Please, I want a thermometer!" piped Jimmie.
"Did your mother say what sort of thermometer she wanted?" asked the shopman.
Jimmie looked slightly perplexed. Then a bright idea came into his mind.
"Why, just give me the very biggest you've got," he replied, "'cos it's to keep my bedroom warm!"
From Answers.

What is the World?
"'Tis a wearisome world," so I've heard people say;
But the world is just what people make it.
And sorrow and care often end in despair
If the people don't know how to take it.
But the Father of Love, in His mansion above,
Is guarding and guiding their way,
And holding them fast till all danger is past,
To keep them from going astray.
"'Tis a troublesome world," so I've heard people say,
And a world full of warfare and strife:
But the troubles most times are what people make,
And they shadow and darken their life.
But the Father of Light can make all things bright
If they trust in His promises true;
And no matter how dark, the clouds will depart,
And the sky once again become blue.
'Tis a beautiful world, and if onward we go
With a heart that is light as the day,
Then our Father above, with infinite love,
Will make all the shadows decay.
In all that we do and all that we say
Be sure He will grant us His aid,
And we all shall agree that the world that we see
Is the best world that ever was made.

MARY E. BURGESS.

VICTORIA BIBLE READING.

You will see by the printed names that a much larger number have entered for the Bible reading this quarter. I am very pleased, but there are six of last quarter's names missing. I wonder what has happened. Surely they can't be tired already. If it means that they have not been able to get the questions, please just write and tell me and I'll soon fix them up.

The answers were on the whole very well done, and some of the cards were beautiful and original. I hope all the Juniors received back their Christmas cards; the others we are sending to the little orphans at Woodville here in Grahamstown.

One thing, some children over 12 have been doing Junior work, and some under 12 have been doing Senior. This must not happen again.

We have now come to the actual Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ:

"The Word was made Flesh and dwelt amongst us." St. John i, 14.

In the great mystery of the Birth of Jesus Christ, we see Jesus as the Son of God, Root of Jesse, The Messiah that should come, and as Emmanuel—God with us. In this quarter's reading let us see and know Him as the Son-of-Man, the perfect and ideal child, made in all things like unto us except, of course, that He was without sin. Born of a well-known family and nation and of a Human Mother. Just look at that picture of the Nativity! and you will see Him truly man, wrapped in swaddling clothes, and laid in a manger in the stable with the ox and ass standing by, and the Angels of God all around praising God for His birth in the World. The angels were so glad that their heavenly voices are heard by the devout shepherds while they watched their sheep by night, praising God by singing "Glory be to God . . . and peace towards all men." St. Luke ii, 14. Jacob's ladder is set up from earth to Heaven—for in this great mystery God and man is revealed. Flesh and Spirit are united and Earth is linked with Heaven and Heaven with Earth. And as we look, in the stillness of that Holy Picture what do we hear? It is that small sweet Voice that bids each one fall down and worship the new-born King.

First of all, we see the Holy Mother and Saint Joseph meekly kneeling in adoration with the Angels of God. Then come the Shepherds, those lowly-minded men, who at the bidding of the Angel came in haste to worship their God and Saviour. Next come the Wise Men from afar, led by the Star—it took them a long time to get to the Manger Throne, still they come in haste—not empty handed for each had gifts most rare of mystic meaning—incense, gold, and myrrh, which they offer in lowly worship. All in this picture kneel in adoration before their Lord and Maker singing Alleluia, Alleluia. "The Word was made Flesh and dwelt amongst us,
and we beheld His glory." So let us one and all come and worship our God in this New Year.

EASTER DAY.
Little Christian children, say
Why your hearts are light to-day,
Why, with hymn and carol sweet,
You this happy Sunday greet.
Very early Christ arose
Mighty Victor o'er His foes.
In the morning's twilight gloom,
Lord of Life, He left the tomb.

Results for the October Quarter.

JUNIOR.
(Out of a possible 50.)

SENIOR.
(Out of a possible 46.)

VICTORIA BIBLE READING QUESTIONS.

Rules for Victoria Bible Reading.

1. Write clearly your name and address at the top right-hand corner of the page.
2. Below your name give your age, date of your birthday, and the standard you are in at school.
3. In the left-hand corner of the page give the name of your school.
4. Send in your answers before March 10th, to The Children's Secretary, P.O. Box 133, Grahamstown, C.P.

Notice.—Marks will be taken off if there are signs of carelessness in the reading of the questions. Untidy writing and insufficient postage on the envelope (which you must address yourself) will also lose marks. Bibles and Prayer Books may be used when answering questions.

JUNIORS
(12 years of age and under).

Question 1.
Read St. Luke ii, 21-22 to 35.
a. What happened when our Lord was eight days old? How did he fulfil the Jewish Law?
b. What did our Saviour receive on that day?
c. St. Joseph made an offering. What was that offering?
d. Where did our Lord's parents take him when he was eight days old? and why? Verse 22.
e. When was your name given to you?
Question 2.
Read St. Matthew ii, 1-12.
  a. Do you think these men were seeking for God? If so, why?
  b. What prevented these men from returning to Herod?

Question 3.
Read St. Matthew ii, 13 and 19-23.
  a. What did the Angel say to St. Joseph? Print your answer in coloured chalks or pencil.
  b. Why did our Lord's parents not remain in Egypt? Hosea ii, 1.

Question 4.
  a. Tell me what you know of our Lord's going up to Jerusalem.
  b. Why did our Lord's parents go up to Jerusalem? and how often did they go to Jerusalem?
  c. What happened there? Tell me everything you know of that journey.
  d. Tell me in your own words the story of Jesus which is written in St. Luke ii, 41-52.

Question 5.
Describe the Life of our Lord in his home at Nazareth. St. Matthew xiii, 53-57. What trade did Christ learn, and why?

Question 6.
Read St. Luke iii, 23, and Numbers iv, 3.
How old was our Lord when He began His teaching? How many years did His ministry last?

Question 7.
We have to thank God for sending His only Son into the world to be our Saviour. For what else in the world and our lives do we have to thank God?
Learn Nunc Dimittis, "Lord now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in Peace."

SENIORS
(over 12 years).
Question 1.
Read Hosea xi, 1.

How does St. Matthew (ii, 5) fulfil the prophecy, "Out of Egypt have I called my Son"?

Question 2.
Read St. Luke ii, 22, 24-34.
  a. Give the occasion of the Holy Family offering two young pigeons.
  b. Tell me what rite takes place in Christian families to-day which is like the account in St. Luke's.

Question 3.
Read St. Luke ii, 25-39; Isaiah ix, 2; Acts xiii, 47.
Would you say that the prophecy of the Holy Singer has been fulfilled by the Birth of our Lord? Why?

Question 4.
Read St. Matthew i, 18-25, and Chap. ii; St. Luke i, 26-54.
  a. Compare these and tell me if you think the writers of St. Matthew and St. Luke got their information about the birth of our Lord from the same people.
  b. What is the great difference in each story?

Question 5.
Read the genealogies very carefully in each Gospel and tell me how St. Matthew's differs from St. Luke's.

Question 6.
Read Ruth i; Romans i, 3.
Tell me all you know of one of the women mentioned in our Lord's family tree. To what line did St. Mary and St. Joseph belong?

Question 7.
Read Leviticus xxiii, 5; St. Luke ii, 42; Deuteronomy xvi, 1; Exodus xii, 1-14.
  a. When was the Passover instituted?
b. In these days do we ever hear of a people keeping the feast? Tell me what you know of them.

Learn The Magnificat, "My soul doth magnify the Lord."

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**BAPTISMS.**

**DIOCESE OF GRAHAMSTOWN.**

By Rector of Middelburg:

- Hazel Audry Blewitt, at Conway.
- Robert Alfred Switham.
- Thomas Alfred Theron.
- Constance Florence Dobell.

- Matthew Wood, Rosmead.
- John James Paton.

By Rector of Middelburg:

- Hazel Audry Blewitt, at Conway.
- Robert Alfred Switham.
- Thomas Alfred Theron.
- Constance Florence Dobell.

- Matthew Wood, Rosmead.
- John James Paton.

**ARCHDEACONRY OF DAMARALAND.**

- Janies Stephens Rautenbach.
- Richard James Wood.
- Hilda Sylvia Keys.
- Margaret Knouzer.

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**BURIALS.**

- Mary Ann Morey.
- William Danay.

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**HOLY MATRIMONY.**

- Matthew Johannes Gravenstein and Elsie Maria van Niekerk.

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**DEATH.**

**DIOCESE OF GRAHAMSTOWN.**

- Sept. 16th, Mary Morey (née Goodyer).

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**COLLECTIONS, &c.**

**DIOCESE OF GRAHAMSTOWN.**

**DONATIONS.**

- September: Mrs. Clark, Coega, 2/-; Mrs. Allen, Coega, 1/-; Mrs. Dam (Boys' Home), 5/-.

**NAUWPOORT SUBSTENTATION**

- From 1st July to September ... £12 13 6
- October to December ... 14 9 0

**£27 2 6**

- Collection Boxes: Mrs. Ehrich, Nauwpoort, £1/0/3; in Church, Nauwpoort, 5/-; Miss Masson, Nauwpoort, 2/3/1.
- Light for the Line, Mrs. Walker, Sandflats, 2/6; Mrs. Lovemore, Sandflats, 2/6; Mrs. Dalziel, Redhouse, 2/6; Mrs. Veale, P.E., 5/-; Mrs. White, Kipplaat, 2/6; total, 15/6.

**DIOCESE OF PRETORIA.**

**COLLECTIONS**

For Quarter ending Dec. 10th, 1917

- Rayton, £2/19/6; Bronkhorstspruit, £3/2/6; Hatherley, £2/12/11; Machadodorp, £1/16/9; Malelane, £1/7/3; Wonderfontein, 3/-; Kinross, £1/2/5; Elands River, 8/9; Tomango, £2/16/7; Silvertown, £2/4/8; Delmas, £2/1/9; Elandshoek, £2/2/8.

**SUSTENTATION FUNDS**

(excluding Waterval Boven).
- Machadodorp (October), £1/2/6; (November), £1/5/6; Bronkhorstspruit, £3.
- Offerings, £4; Light for the Line, 12/6; Mrs. and Miss Schuch's Collecting Box, £1/11/9.

**ARCHDEACONRY OF DAMARALAND.**

S.W.A.

**COLLECTIONS AND DONATIONS.**

September 9th to December 10th, 1919.

- Kalkrand, 11/-; Luderitzbucht, 7/6; Gibeon, 2/1-Garub, £1; Aus, £1, 2/4/10/-; Omaruru, 9/-; Karibib, 6/9; Okhandja, 13/3; Namib, 5/2; Orak, 1/; Kuibib, £1/2/3; Usakos, 10/-; Onguati, 8/8; Delmas, 1/2/6; Namib, £1/16/10.
- Signal Boxes: St. Paul's Hostel, 6/-.
- Light for the Line, £3/12/6; Sale of Books, £1/16/10.
- Christmas Toys: Albrechts, 5/-; Windhuk, 5/-; 5/6; Godman River, 7/6; Oriel House, £2; Tsumis, 10/-; Omaruru, 7/6; Silverton, 5/—.
In Memoriam.

Edgar Thomas Willmott.
Born Jan. 14th, 1864.
Made Deacon, 1897.
Ordained Priest, 1898.
Entered into rest Dec. 9th, 1919,
at Port Elizabeth.

Local Agents "Light for the Line."

GRAHAMSTOWN DIOCESE.
Grahamstown—Miss Booth, Worcester Street.
Cookhouse—Mrs. Wise.
Cradock—Mrs. Judd.
Naauwpoort—Mrs. Williamson.
Port Elizabeth—Miss Hannam, Sundridge, Park Drive.

PRETORIA DIOCESE.
Volksrust—Mrs. Milton.
Silverton—Miss Louie Schuch.

BLOEMFONTEIN DIOCESE.
Bethlehem—Miss M. Buhler.

DIOCESE OF KIMBERLEY AND KURUMAN.
P.O. Box 133, Grahamstown.

SOUTH-WEST AFRICA.
Box 133, Grahamstown.

DIOCESE OF S. RHODESIA.
P.O. Box 133, Grahamstown.

LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES IN SOUTH AFRICA.
Pretoria—Lady Wessels.
Port Elizabeth—Miss Savage.

CHILDREN OF THE VELD.
SECRETARIES FOR SOUTH AFRICA.
General Secretary in South Africa—Miss Blundell, Grahamstown.
Johannesburg—Mrs Beckingham, 70 Muller Street, Yeoville.
Pretoria—Miss Bristowe.
Bloemfontein—Miss Biden, St Michael’s School.
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