Light for the Line,
THE SOUTH AFRICAN CHURCH RAILWAY MISSION MAGAZINE.

South African Church Railway Mission.

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Light for the Line.

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LETTER FROM THE HEAD.

Grahamstown,
November 25, 1920.

Dear Friends,

Now that I am safely back and see in print what a terribly long letter I wrote for the October issue I feel almost ashamed to write anything more, and should not do so but for the kindly way you received my last. So I begin again. First I should like to thank everybody, the Staff in the Office, Archdeacon Rogers, the Workers on the Line and you all for the splendid way things were kept going while I was away: how many people have had to go away either for pleasure or work and then return to find things neglected or turned upside down? I am glad to say this was not my lot and I am grateful for it. I want also to thank very heartily our good friends at Port Elizabeth, ably led by Mr. Ball and Miss Keith, for the splendid and acceptable response they have made to my appeal: £115 is certainly the high-water mark so far. I understand that our friends at Pretoria, Yeoville and other places are making an extra effort to help us weather our present financial storm, so that if you, to whom our Workers minister, take to heart what I wrote in our last issue and play the game individually, not being content with the ordinary small contribution by offering to God what you don't want but giving as freely as you possibly can, then we shall not be so badly down at the end of the year as seemed likely at one time. And in this connection I should like to say that the Lady Workers will always be pleased to receive and to forward to us at the Office any contributions you can make to help us, whether small or great, quite apart from the services which are held. It is possible that some of you who have the pleasure of these ministries or who appreciate what the Mission is really out for, would like to contribute regularly monthly, quarterly or yearly to our Funds; the Lady Workers will always arrange this if you will kindly mention your desire to them.

I was glad to be able to see Mr. Rossborough before he sailed to say "goodbye," to thank him for his devoted work and to wish him happiness in the new life which he hopes, with Miss George, to enter on before Christmas. You will be glad to hear that his successor, the Reverend Edward Herbert, hopes to sail on the 3rd of December.
so that he should be with us by Christmas.

I am also glad to be able to tell you that we are expecting two extra workers out early in the New Year; Miss Alexander who we hope will take over Miss Beckwith's work, and Miss Short who will probably work on the Lines in the Diocese of George. Both will come with the very best credentials from England, so we are looking forward to welcoming them and we can promise them plenty to do.

The Memorial Cross erected over Mr. Willmott's grave in the South End Cemetery at Port Elizabeth has now been completed and looks well: it is a fine piece of work. The Memorial Windows to be placed in All Souls' Church, Naauwpoort, to the memory of Miss Burt and Mr. Willmott, are expected out at any time now; such work today costs nearly three times pre-war prices, but I was fortunate in securing the services of an excellent firm to make them, and I think those of you who are privileged to see them will agree with me that they are very beautiful works of art: Miss Burt's is a picture of St. Mary and Mr. Willmott's of St. John. The same may be said of the window for Broken Hill Church, given in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Rawson's little son: the subject is "The Good Shepherd." I brought out with me for Broken Hill a very handsome Arms-dish kindly presented by Mr. Bently, of Bulawayo.

We shall all share a feeling of pleasure in the fact that the new Governor-General is now Patron of the Mission, and we offer him a most hearty welcome and are grateful for the honour he is doing us. Usually one is not too well pleased to find a train upon which you are depending "does not now run," but last week such a state of things practically compelled me to be at Bloemfontein when the Prince's train arrived there on its way to Pretoria, and in consequence I was able to join in the welcome to T.R.H. Prince and Princess Arthur and the Earl of Maud, a dear little fellow who won all hearts though he was upset because he was not allowed to ride on the engine; he expressed his determination to be a farmer when he grows up—possibly he has passed the "policeman" stage.

When I arrived that morning there were few signs or tokens of welcome, but by 4.30 the whole Station was transformed; and by the time the train arrived all the "life and beauty" of Bloemfontein was gathered, everybody doing his best to appear to feel that he was used to meeting Royalty every day, but there was no need for this for with a charming, graceful informality we were all received, when, to our astonishment, with half an hour to spare, off went the Prince with General Hertzog, the Administrator and the Mayor, for a joy ride and nobody knew where, but they got back safely.

Mr. Esdaile's friends will be glad to know that he is out again and well in the swing of his new job at St. Mary's, Johannesburg: 32, De Villiers Street, will find him.
We are all rejoicing at the splendid way the Railway Orphanages have been set going and especially so as they are being provided and kept going by the Railway Community themselves: they were indeed badly wanted and will serve a great need; we trust they may have for many a year to come a prosperous career: they certainly have our good wishes and the assurance that anything we can do to help them will be gladly done. Writing of Orphanages reminds me that last week I was able to look in and see Mr. Skey at his job: it is a fine business and he is doing it right well; some 112 boys kept going day in and day out all as happy as the day is long and all learning to develop into fine, clean, useful healthy men.

I was not able to see many of our old friends who have returned to the Old Country, but I did see Mr. H. B. Ellison, Mr. Moxon, Mr. Hands, Mr. Swinnerton Weston, Vivian More, Miss Attlee, Miss Minto and Miss Glasier, and how they pumped me for information about everybody and everything, but there, I only hope you will never hear half of what I told them.

I was intending to give you some account of my trip to France: in August I was feeling the need of some rest which was not possible for me in England, so I decided to go to France for thirteen days and visit some of our sacred spots there; but I have already written at too great a length, so it is "crowded out" for the time being: perhaps later on I may have an opportunity of telling you something about it.

Yours sincerely,

R. THORNELEY JONES.

P.S.—Mr. Edward Herbert arrived at Waterval Boven in time for Christmas Day. We all give him a very hearty welcome.

Letter from Mr. Rossborough.

1, Park Hill,
Moseley,
Birmingham,
Dec. 8th, 1920.

My dear Friends along the Line,

I have been back again in the Old Country rather more than a fortnight and am already pining for the South African sun! Soon after we arrived at Southampton down came one of the densest fogs I have ever seen and it has been consistently raw and cold ever since; though on one or two days the sun has vouchsafed to show himself!

I left Port Elizabeth on October 31st, just managing to see the Head before I sailed, much to my delight. He arrived by the Llanstephan a few hours earlier than the Norman, on which I had taken my passage, left. With him was Mr. Esdaile, whom I was delighted to see again. The Head brought the good news of Mr. Herbert having joined the Staff of the Mission, and before this reaches you he will have started his work on the Transvaal Section. I need not say that I am sure he will be happy amongst you. That is a foregone conclusion, judging from my own experience. May I take this opportunity of again thanking you all most heartily for the great kindness you have shown to me all through my time on the Mission and not least for the various delightful farewell parties and kindly gifts (most acceptable at this time) as well as the words and
letters which accompanied them? I do appreciate it all so much and I shall never forget my happy time amongst you all, for happy it certainly was, in spite of the physical strain and other difficult conditions which are inseparable from a Railway Missioner's life. I often wonder whether I shall return to South Africa some day for settled work. Time will show, but at present I have arranged for work in the town of S. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands. Jersey has the merit, I believe, of being the sunniest place in the British Isles, a fact which commends it in my eyes, naturally enough, after my South African experience!

I should be very glad indeed to hear from any of you; the address given above would be sufficient to find me. And so once more, Goodbye and God bless you all.

Your very sincere friend,

Vernon Rossborough.

DIOCESE OF GRAHAMSTOWN

Naauwpoort, December 10th, 1920.

My dear People,

The great event of the last three months has been the return of our Head, Canon R. Thornely Jones, from England, and we are glad to have him back among us. The Head has already seen Naauwpoort on several occasions, but so far Naauwpoort has not seen him. We hope it will not be long before he is able to give us a Sunday.

By the time this is in print Christmas will have come and gone. We greet you all with the compliments of the season and trust that the joy and message of Christmas will be an inspiration for the New Year, whatever it may bring forth in our personal, family, social or national life.

The New Year brings with it the excitement and seriousness of a General Election. In recording our votes we shall be called upon to make a decision and a momentous decision. Pray for wisdom; pray for the candidates; pray for your elected representatives. For theirs is no easy task, and the responsibility of the government of the Union needs the grace of God to guide it.

As I am writing these lines with Christmas still ahead it is difficult to write about Lent, which seems so far off. Yet it is not so far away, for in two calendar months Ash Wednesday will be here. The date is February 9th, 1921, and Easter Day is March 27th.

During Advent we have been looking forward through Christmas to the Second Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our thoughts have been filled, primarily, with Him. In Lent we turn our thoughts inward to self, in order that we may discover how near we are to, or how far from, God; what are our chief hindrances and besetting sins; what progress we have made in the way of holiness during the past year. But we must do it all in the light of the Cross, remembering that our Lord spent forty days in fasting and prayer in the wilderness. The days of Lent are days of fasting and abstinence—a time to deny ourselves some of the pleasures of life in order to bring our bodies into subjection, to reinforce self-control, and, in some measure, to enter into the sufferings of our Blessed Lord. Discipline is always irksome, but nevertheless useful. Deny yourselves, give up something during Lent for the Saviour's sake, Who gave up so much for you and who came not to be ministered unto, but to minister. It is through the sorrows and discipline of Lent that we pass through to a joyous Easter.

NAAUWPOORT. At Naauwpoort we have held the usual Services and the usual congregations have been present. It is a joy to see the old faces in the old places. But where are the absentees we
should so much like to see occupying
the empty chairs? Will not somebody
start a "bring your pal" crusade?
Please make a note of the following
time-table:—

Holy Communion at 8 a.m. on the
First and Third Sundays in the
month.

Evensong and Sermon at 7.30 p.m.
every Sunday.

Sunday School at 3 p.m. every Sun­
day.

Children's Service at 11 a.m. every
second and third Sunday in the
month.

The attendance at Sunday School has
been rather better of late, but there is
still room for improvement.

We are happy to report that the
church roof has been repaired at last
and at a reasonable cost as it was not
such a big job as we anticipated. We
hope soon to fix in the Memorial Win­
dows to Mr. Willmott and Miss Burt.
The Head was able to procure them
while in England and they may arrive
at any time now.

During the past three months we
have been busy raising funds by various
means.

Sept. 9th. A dance arranged by Mr.
Bhrich, assisted by the Church-
officers' wives and Mesdames
Williamson and Lear. Nett pro­
cceeds £13 19s.

Oct. 4th. A Children's Social, for
which the senior class of the Sun­
day School and Miss I. Paton and
the Misses Deacon were respon­
sible; and also a "Dip" managed
by Olive Fawdry and Muriel
Harris. Net proceeds £9 11s. 9d.

Oct. 9th. A small social arranged by
the choir boys and thoroughly
enjoyed by all present (5/-).

Oct. 29th. An enjoyable War Bridge
Tournament, promoted by Mes­
dames Williamson and Ehrich.
Nett proceeds £7 12s.

Nov. 25th. Another War Bridge
evening, at which so many friends
turned up that we had to convert
it into an ordinary Bridge Drive.
This was Mesdames Juby and
Hitchcock's evening and they
agree that its success was in no
little measure due to a third lady
who wishes to remain behind the
scenes. Nett proceeds £8 9s. 6d.

We have but briefly mentioned the
chief promoters of these social events
and to them we offer our thanks and
congratulations; not forgetting the
many kind friends in many homes who
willingly supplied the delectable cakes,
tarts, fruits, etc., for refreshments.

The past quarter has not been with­
out its changes. Mrs. Albutt, who
was Railway Nurse for many years, left
us in September and took with her her
daughter and grandson. We wish them
well at Port Elizabeth and pray that
Nurse will soon recover her health.

We are glad to welcome in our midst
Mr. Hewitt, who comes to us from
Grahamstown as vice-principal of the
School.

We offer our congratulations and
best wishes to Mr. Archibald Baird and
Mrs. Preston on the occasion of their
marriage, and also to Mr. Harry Clench
and Miss Alice Snijman, of Hanover
Road, for a similar happy event.

"COOKHOUSE. The usual monthly
Services have been held, but welcome
rains on two occasions considerably
thinned the evening congregations.

We hear that the School is to lose
two of its teachers at the end of the
quarter, so we lose Miss Page, our
organist. As we go to press we do not
know their new sphere; but, wherever
it may be, they will carry with them
our best wishes and our thanks for
many little services rendered.

The Native Church and School was
closed for some weeks owing to an out­
break of typhoid fever. The outbreak
is now over. The Camp has been
cleansed, the huts fumigated, and many
prickly pears cut down. It was a time
of hard discipline. But now that a
clean bill of health has been given, we hope it will be maintained.

CYPERGAT and STORMBERG were visited on September 26th and again on November 28th. We are glad to see Mr. Hind about after his return from Hospital and wish him a rapid recovery. In the loss of his son, who was laid to rest after a lingering illness on November 26th, we pray that he and his daughter may be comforted and see God's hand working for good.

We extend a welcome to Cypergat to Mr. and Mrs. Ashbourne and family, who have just come from the Old Country.

THEBUS. November 29th found us for the first time at Thebus for Evening and a Celebration on St. Andrew's Day. Very happy services, and we look forward to the next, which (D.V.) will be January 23rd.

TAABOSCH. Mr. Bishop kindly entertained us and on two occasions lent his dining-room for Evensong, viz., on October 12th and November 9th. It was good to see one or two friends from a long distance.

HANOVER ROAD. Native Services are held regularly by Mr. John Tshantslana and I have been able to give them a monthly Service.

I hope soon to be able to arrange a Service for the Europeans on the Station.

In conclusion, I commend to your prayers the Confirmation candidates scattered up and down the line.

Yours very sincerely,
EDMUND D. SMITH.

DIOCESE OF SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

Poste Restante,
Bulawayo.

My dear Friends,

Once more the time has come to write an account of the quarter's happenings.

During the month of September I had Services at St. Cyril's, Cement Siding, Essexvale, Gwanda, West Nicholson, and the biggest places along the line to Wankie.

At ESSEXVALE we had Service in the little church for the last time. The Post Office authorities require it again for postal work, and so the altar and other things have been removed, until such time as another place can be found.

At WANKIE it was a great pleasure to meet Mr. and Mrs. Thomson—everyone was glad to see them back after their nine months' trip to England. I happened to be there for the "welcome" which was given in their house by the people on the mine. It was a real homecoming, and showed genuine gladness, to have back again the General Manager and Mrs. Thomas at Wankie, where for a number of years they have lived.

During October, after taking the usual Services at St. Cyril's and Cement Siding, I went for the bi-monthly trip south. I went to MARULA for the first time; we had a very nice Evening Service in Mrs. Shone's dining-room. I was immensely struck with the school children and the splendid and intelligent way in which they answered my questions. It is good to know that religious instruction is being given so excellently. Many thanks to Mr. Swartz at the store, for so kindly putting me up. At TSESSEBE I stayed with Mr. Griffiths at the cottage. I was able to see a few of the farmers round there, by trekking round in an ox-cart. We had Mass in the cottage the morning I came away. Next time I hope to be there when there is a farmers' meeting; in this way I will be able to meet everyone and have a big Service.

At PALAPYE ROAD we had splendid Services as usual. The Waiting-room is not nearly big enough, so next time we are going to try a different arrangement. I am grateful to Mr. and
Mrs. Krige for looking after me; it is an awkward hour to arrive at a place, 2.45 a.m.!

I arrived at MAHALAPYE about 12 p.m. I was sorry that Mr. and Mrs. Hoare were waiting up for me. I had the usual Services there, and came up to SHASHI, where I had Service in the schoolroom there for the coloured children.

As the Bishop was in town on October 17th, I gave NYAMANDHLOYU the Sunday. We had a very good attendance indeed, at the 10.30 Service.

On October 18th the Bishop confirmed about 80 candidates in St. John’s Church, Bulawayo. It was a very impressive Service, and we pray that they all will “ continue in the things which they have learned” (II Tim. 3: 13). After this I went my monthly trip north, touching MALINDI, DETT, WANKIE, etc.

Early in November I went to the JESSIE MINE and WEST NICHOLSON. I always feel at home on a mine; I love the sound of the mill and the stamps—it seems so much like home. I enjoyed my stay at the Jessie; many thanks to Mr. Henley. As I wanted to get back to Bulawayo to give Figtree a Sunday, and as Mr. S. Rogers was motoring into town from West Nicholson, I availed myself of the kind offer to join him. It was a delightful trip, taking about eight hours. The road for miles winds in and out of the tremendous kopjes, really the Matoppo hills. The scenery cannot be described; there is nothing exactly like it anywhere. Great sentinels of granite defying time and change, allowing here and there bush and trees to grow within their shelter—the everlasting hills of that great Master Mind.

After FIGTREE, where, again, a goodly number mustered for worship, I returned on the Monday to GWANDA. The first heavy rain of the season came on the night appointed for the Service, spoiling what otherwise would have been a big congregation.

The “pillbox,” too, that night shipped a huge quantity of water, leaving my bed in a sorry plight. Mr. Walters, however, took compassion on me, and next day everything soon dried again.

From Gwandha I went to ESSEXVALE. This time we had Service in Captain Hoste’s office. All the people there, only about thirty in all, are very keen on erecting a church of their own. It will be a big thing in these expensive days, but where the will is, the way will be opened. All honour to the people of Essexvale.

I paid another visit to MARULA after this, where, as before, I took Services in Mrs. Shone’s dining-room, and spoke to the children in the day school.

I am very grateful to Fr. Wilse and Fr. Scroggings for taking Service at the Victoria Falls while on holiday.

I was up at WANKIE while they were at the Falls. Our congregation there is not exactly big; possibly this time it was the heat, which really was very trying, which prevented the usual number from turning up: 110 deg. in the shade certainly doesn’t leave one with too much energy.

I returned to DETT and had a very good evening Service in Mr. O’Sullivan’s dining-room.

I left Dett at 10 o’clock at night to reach Bulawayo on Thursday, December 2nd, as I knew the Head was coming through. It’s quite a thrilling time to travel in a goods in a nice shut van, without your blankets, for twelve hours: but it’s wonderful how you learn to sleep through it all!

It was very nice to see and chat with the Head after his visit to the Old Country. I hope to see him again for a few hours as he returns from the North.

It will be too late to send you wishes for Christmastide. But I hope for you all it has been a happy and a holy season. May the New Year be one of joy and peace and a looking forward, a great and glorious progression of all
that is best within us, an offering of ourselves, our souls and bodies to that Great Father-Soul, to Whom we all belong.

All of us at St. Cyril's will be sorry that Lytton Ingles is leaving us to go to school at Rondebosch. He has served at the altar regularly since I came and is a regular attendant at the Sunday School; he will take our best wishes with him in his new school career, for prosperous and happy days.

Your sincere friend,

C. W. S. STENSON.

P.S. I do wish all subscribers to the Light for the Line would, at an early date, send their subscriptions direct to the Secretary or give them to me when I am round. I have been trying for some time to collect subscriptions long overdue, and it is not an easy or pleasant thing to do.

Another important thing to bear in mind is, on changing an address, to send a p.c. to the Secretary notifying him of the fact.

WOMEN’S WORK.

DIOCESE OF GRAHAMSTOWN.

During the last quarter of the year there seem many things worth recording. A most successful Children's Concert (aided by many kind friends) took place at Sandflats in the Michaelmas holidays with a view to adding to the funds of the Sunday School. Special applause was given to the bright little band of fairies, the club drill of the boys, and, among the adults, to the clever solo on a bougainvillea leaf and the brilliant playing of the Jazz Band.

In October I visited the Avontuur Line and was glad to find old friends at Loerie Station as well as to make the acquaintance of new ones at the School there. At Thornhill it seemed sad to hear the small School might be shortly closing, but if any case Miss Nightingale will be greatly missed by her pupils and many friends after her long sojourn there.

This month was also marked by the long-looked-for arrival of the new Rector of Jansenville and his first Services at Klipplaat and Wolfefontein, were both well attended.

The Rev. T. T. Perry has only just concluded his War service among the troops in India and elsewhere, and we hope soon to be able to congratulate him on the safe arrival of his bride from England, where she has also done good work in nursing, so should be a most valuable asset to this country.

At the end of October a combined G.F.S. Festival was held at Alicedale for that Camp and Sandflats. An address on “The Ten Virgins” was given at the special service by the Rev. H. Banks, who also admitted girls from both places to the Society.

After tea in the Church Hall came an entertainment, to which the public were admitted, and the proceeds were subsequently divided between the Diocesan Boys’ Hostel and the G.F.S. Sick Fund and an adopted blind member.

On the following day Festival Services for All Saints were held in Alicedale Church.

The coming of November brought us the happiness of welcoming back our good Head, Canon Thornely Jones, to Grahamstown, whence, however he quickly departed again to tour round the different sections of the Line and discover how the Mission affairs had prospered in his absence. Only a few days later I had the pleasure of being one of the party present on the jetty for the landing of the Lord Bishop of the Diocese with Mrs. and Miss Phelps. In the following week the Confirmations took place in the Deanery of Port Elizabeth and several Railway candidates were presented at St. Paul’s and St. Agnes’, Zwartkops, and all will, we
feels sure, long remember the impressive Services in those churches.

Afterwards I paid some most enjoyable and long due visits on the Alexandria Line, and am most truly grateful for the ever ready hospitality shown me there as in many other places. Already, as I write, we are full of preparations for the great Festival of Christmas, practising carols and hoping to have some simple Bethlehem Tableaux in several places to assist in impressing on the minds of all something of the solemn joy which this wonderful season should always bring to our hearts.

Grateful thanks for papers and magazines from Mrs. Dor, Miss Valentine Magnaia, Miss W. Cox, Mrs. van der Vyfert.

M. Josephine Beckwith.

P.S. Already the first set of Bethlehem Tableaux are over, and we can thankfully record that the Alicedale performers and audience alike showed an intense interest and most reverent spirit throughout. Grateful thanks are due to many kind helpers, especially to the soloist who sang "Sleep, Holy Babe," the Choir-boys who helped in every possible way, and last, but not least, to those who undertook the fixing and lifting of the curtain. The Rev. Helmore Banks read the Scripture passages and also gave a short and admirable address on the approach of Christmas and the spirit in which that Festival should always be observed in "our Father's House." The hymns were heartily sung by the congregation, and at each chorus of "Come, let us adore Him" small parties of tiny children approached the Manger scene and knelt around the Cradle.

Finally, "Holy, Holy, Holy" was sung by the whole congregation on their knees as an act of adoration before the Blessing was given.
Confirmation classes have been held regularly during the quarter, and we would ask our friends in Cookhouse to pray for the girls preparing for this Sacrament.

The G.F.S. Company of the Girl Guides is going on steadily, and we hope that soon the members will be ready for their Tenderfoot test; also we are in great need of a keen girl who will be Lieutenant to keep the meetings going in my absence. The Sunday School has increased its members, and the attendance is good each week. Mrs. Wise, our Sunday School Superintendent, has done much good work for this school, and we are all sorry that she has been ill and hope that quite soon she will be well again. Little Gracie Eve has showed tremendous improvement lately. The Doctor has advised that she should be taken to a specialist in Johannesburg, and because of the anxiety of the journey, I have offered to go with her mother and give a hand with all the arrangements for her comfort. There has been much sickness in the Camp. We have to give thanks for the recovery of Mr. Weddell from a very serious illness.

THORNEGROVE. What a wonderful place to work! Accidit in puncto quod non speratur in anno: only last month I was at the Brown's house, when we had such a happy time showing them a set of War slides on the lantern, and singing "Tipperary"; and in a flash they are transferred to Miller Station, where I have no doubt that they are nicely settled down in their new home. But it is all so sudden, and I shall miss them. One thing, they will be well looked after by Miss Beckwith, and that cheers me on.

WITMOSS. I paid a short visit to this siding to meet Mr. and Mrs. Bell soon after their transfer from the south. I was glad to meet them, but I little realised that within a few weeks I would hear of Mr. Bell's death after a very short illness. We extend to his widow our sympathy in her loss. May he rest in peace.

CRADOCK. We held a meeting of the Girls' Friendly Society in our old friend Mrs. Bratchell's house on the Camp side, and now that we have Miss Florence Taylor in the Camp we can expect big things. Some of the members have expressed a wish that they might become a G.F.S. Company of the Girl Guides, and it is my intention to see the Captain of the Town Company and get the G.F.S. attached to them; this will be a good thing and will save any pressure on my time; one day in the month will be G.F.S. only. If anyone has suggestions to make as to plans for keeping in touch with the girls in the Camp I will be glad to receive their ideas.

ROSMEAD. During the quarter we have been able to have Services on the third Sunday in the month, and this has been greatly appreciated by all in the Camp. The Sunday School was not well attended and there was no excuse for the children. Next time I hope parents will see that their children are ready dressed, and in time for Children's Service at 11 a.m. The old church building has been sold, and until the new brick church is built we shall have to depend solely on rooms available for Service. Mr. Lilley would be glad to have the help of keen workers to raise a further sum of £100 and then he will be able to undertake the building at once. We were all very sorry to hear that Mrs. Drysdale, who had been failing in health for the last six months, had passed to her rest last month. To her daughter (Mrs. Milne) we extend our sympathy and love. Mrs. Drysdale was 89 years old on Whit-Monday, Empire Day, 1920, and it was a constant joy to me to sit and chat about her experiences in Scotland; she was always so bright and cheerful. May she rest in peace.

DE AAR. During a long wait on one occasion I made use of my time here and visited some of my scattered
G.F.S. members; and Mrs. Cowling, who was leaving De Aar after twenty years' faithful work at the school. I was very glad to have met her, and to be able to bid her God-speed after all the interest she has taken in the Church Railway Mission. Our good wishes will go with her in her new home at Plumtree, Rhodesia.

TAAIBOSCH. Here our kind friends are always so ready to minister to the Missioner's needs. They put me up on several occasions, and I thank them. Service was held last month in Mr. Bishop's house and it was a happy time for all those present; several came from down the Line.

HANOVER ROAD. Mr. and Mrs. Kirkup have taken the place of our friends the Robertsons, and we wish them all happiness in their stay here; we have also to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Clench to their home in the Station buildings.

NAUWPOORT. My visits here are only once in the month, when I do not make a long stay, and during my time there I am kept very busy with the children's work and can give but little time to visiting.

The G.F.S. and children's classes are held each month, but the attendance has gone off considerably, and I should be glad to hear that the parents were helping me in this necessary work for the children in the Camp. Every second Sunday in the month there is Children's Service at 11 a.m.

THEBUS. It was a very happy day when I was at last able to pay a visit to Thebus, on the Eastern. Mrs. Clark kindly offered to put me up, and this made it possible for me to have a Lantern in the schoolroom in the evening; a good number of people attended and we had a happy time. It was nice to meet so many old friends of the Mission in this little out-of-the-way spot. Service was held in the schoolroom by the Chaplain later in the month, and I am sure that everyone did their best to turn out. The children of the school have been made members of the Guild of the Good Shepherd, and intend to do the Victoria Bible Reading questions. Miss Payne has started a little Sunday School, and I hope that cottage children will be able to attend each week.

Visits have been paid to STORMBERG JUNCTION and HENNING. At BARODA I found that Mr. and Mrs. Munro had been transferred from Halesowen, and this change made it convenient to visit, so a Lantern was held in the waiting-room for the first time this year.

Lantern Services have been held at COOKHOUSE (natives and whites), ROSMEAD, BARODA, THEBUS, CYPHERGAT, HANOVER ROAD, TAAIBOSCH, THORNGROVE and SHERBORNE.

I would ask parents to help us in the great work that we are trying to do for the children, and get their children to go in for the Victoria Bible Reading questions and to take an interest in the Children's Page which is published in Light for the Line.

You will receive this long after Christmas, but it brings you all my best wishes for the great Feast of Christ's Birthday, and for the New Year.

ELSIE M. ANDREWARTHA.

St. Monica's Home,
Queenstown,
Nov. 29th, 1920.

My dear Friends,

As we begin another Christian year, I suppose all our hearts are full of love and gratitude to our Heavenly Father for all His many blessings which are the unending proof of His all-embracing love for us, and at the same time, just because of this, we all feel the need of true sorrow and repentance for the scanty service we have given Him in return. May the Christmas message of "Glory to God, peace on earth and goodwill to men" spur us on, each and all, to try and make the New Year a
happier and more truly peaceful one by looking into our own lives and making a fresh effort to conquer sin, that besetting sin of gambling or drink or bad temper, etc., which is so weakening to our own character and above all so unChristlike. Of course we can only do this by the Grace of God and daily prayer to Him, the Author of all good things. The Rev. Vaughan Jones, Rector of Maclear, has been the generous donor of a splendid lantern, which has already earned for him the thanks of many along the Line as well as from myself. The slides lent by the Dean of Umtata have been a real help to many of us, most of them are illustrating the Life of our Lord. I have had a Lantern Service at Ndabaka, Sihota, Toleni Bridge, Imvani, Tylden, Carrickmore, Bailey, Sterkstroom, Essex, Bowker's Park, Blanev, Thomas River, Toise River, Amabele, Dohne, Kubusie, Waku, Cathcart, and Fort Jackson. At Toise River we had a most delightful musical evening thanks to Mrs. F. Tudhope, who took up my suggestion so keenly. At Imvani we had children's sports on November 13, and owing to the untiring efforts of Mrs. Witte and Miss Dell, we all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

Our sympathy will, I am sure, be extended to Mr. Hann, S.M. at Umtata, who, after serving the Railway so faithfully for over forty years, has developed serious eye trouble. Our best wishes to him for his recovery. Also Mr. Slowgrove, S.M. at Idutywa, who, we are sorry to hear, has been suffering from his eyes and we hope he will have a thorough and speedy recovery. Surbiton will miss Mr. and Mrs. Enever, who take with them good wishes for health and happiness to Indwe, where Mr. Enever is taking up his duties as Station Master. Mrs. de Conning has passed to her rest after many months of suffering borne with great patience. Her husband and children have the sympathy of many friends in their sad bereavement. Mrs. Koppier's death, at Tylden, came as a shock to many of us, and her husband and seven children will, I feel sure, have our sympathy and prayers. Miss Edith Cavanagh was married on November 18th. All good wishes for true happiness to the young couple. Mr. Bowker, of Imvani, is having a bad time in hospital; we hope he will soon be stronger and that his wife may be comforted and helped during his long absence from home. On Advent Sunday twelve Railway children and young people received the Holy Spirit through the Laying on of hands with prayer at the Confirmation by the Bishop of Grahamstown in Queenstown Church. Please pray very much more regularly than before for all young communicants and also for those waiting for Confirmation, the sick people and those who do not love or serve God but call themselves Christians. Prayer for others not only helps them, but helps us even more because it makes us realise that we cannot live for ourselves alone, but we are just members of one family; it widens our view of life and deepens our love for God and our neighbour.

All good wishes for God's blessing in the New Year.

Yours very sincerely,

DIOCESE OF PRETORIA.

December 5th, 1920.

My dear Friends and Children,

This will bring you all my best wishes for a very happy New Year.

Almost all over the Section children have had notice of our Christmas gift plan for the orphans in Observatory Home, Johannesburg, and we have already had some of our Children's Christmas Thanksgiving Services, at which some really splendid home-made toys have been given. We are glad when the boys and girls can make their own toys because those are real gifts of
time and love to the little ones who are less well off than themselves, and who have no toys at all. We are also, I hope, going to remember those gifts which each is preparing for a special offering to the Cradle of Bethlehem—the gift of some fault overcome, or of some new habit for good to be begun at Christmas and carried through our life, growing with us, as our Lord Jesus Christ grew, "in wisdom . . . and favour with God and man." I want in Lent to have a three days' mission for boys and girls—a special time for learning to grow as God expects us to. Each place on the Section will have notice of their own special days in good time, and I hope all the little ones will come together, and that the bigger boys and girls, all over 10, will come at their special time. We want everyone to come, and everyone to help make those days, days to be remembered always.

The Sunday Schools have each their own teachers who are doing faithful work amongst the children.

Rayton, Hatherley, Waterval Boven, Trichardts, Delmas.—Miss Middleton has just taken charge of the Trichardts school and Miss Charlotte Higgins of the school at Delmas. At Waterval Boven we still want one or two more teachers. Miss Martin is carrying on splendidly, but it is not easy for one to take the work, needing, in so large a school, three or four teachers. Machadodorp, in spite of its size, has still no teacher, and, to my great regret, Miss Edith Marshall has left Waterval Onder, so that her little school, started and run by herself, is now one of the vacant ones, and joins the number of "Week-day Sunday Schools" to be taken by the Railway Missioners in its turn.

In this letter I am glad to be able to welcome our new Chaplain, the Rev. Edward Herbert. His coming is most eagerly looked forward to by us all, and we are indeed glad not to be left too long by ourselves! He has our best wishes for all happiness in this country.

Everywhere Mr. Rossborough's leaving is spoken of with regret. He has been much loved, and many of us hope to see him and Mrs. Rossborough in Africa some day.

I must finish with a few words of gratitude from Mr. Rossborough for the great care taken of our little church in Waterval Boven by Mrs. Taylor, also for the ever-willing and unfailing help given in so many ways by Miss Mason, whose leaving at some future date will be a very great loss to us.

We are indeed glad to welcome back our Head, Canon Thornely Jones. His return to Africa has made a very great difference to me, as I had not met him before.

Wishing you every happiness for the New Year and always,

Yours very sincerely,
Kathleen Gardner.

DIocese of Bloemfontein.

Cathedral Cottage,
Bloemfontein,
Nov. 24th, 1920.

Dear Friends,

It has been most cheering having a visit from the Head of the Mission, just as these notes have to be written. May this New Year be one of great happiness and progress in our Mission work together, and to you all:

On Sunday, 21st, Canon Thornely Jones addressed the newly-formed branch of C.O.V.s in St. Michael's Chapel, and preached in the Cathedral in the evening. I wish you could all have been there to listen to his appeal for more prayer, more interest, more money, on behalf of God's work up and down the Line—an appeal which was not in vain, for it moved one to give £5, and another to make up a spontaneous collection amounting to £3 3s. after the Service—but that is of material wealth.

May we this year pray more sincerely "Stir up, we beseech Thee, O' Lord,
the wills of Thy faithful people, to love, serve, honour, and give to Thee,"—perhaps meditating on the story in St. John vi. 5 and following verses. One truth we can grasp there with our wills—that each one of us can be used to bring God's gifts to satisfy the needs of others, if we will.

VISITING. It was possible to carry out the plan to have Lantern Services in September at places where Services are seldom possible as a rule, i.e. GLEN, BRANDFORT, VET RIVER, EENSGEVONDEN, KROONSTAD, CAMP, VILJOEN'S DRIFT, WOLVEHOEK, TWEESPRUIT, VENTERSBURG ROAD—here Mrs. Killoran kindly lent her dining-room, which gained a crowd of about seventy. Everywhere the attendance was good and most reverent, and one hopes that these sacred pictures will leave their permanent mark.

Other places, visited for the first time this quarter, have been MASERU STATION HOUSES, COALBROOK, KARREE, WESTLEIGH, WELGELEGEN, PHILIPPOLIS ROAD, SPRINGFONTEIN, ROODEVAL, GREENLANDS, and 15 groups of G.C's and labourers' cottages.

At Viljoen's Drift I spent two or three days in the Camp, through the kindness of Mr. Miles, who put me up. Now we have formed a Guild of the Good Shepherd band of 16 girls. The religious aim is to train youngsters in the habit of prayer and Bible reading, and by way of "service," they are working for a sale of work early in the winter, when we hope to do well and divide the takings between the Church Railway Mission and the Railway Orphanage. Mr. Hutton, the schoolmaster, who is keen on all children's work, has promised to back up the effort—and I shall be glad of anything "saleable" from our friends in the O.F.S. section of Line.

THE CHILDREN. Sunday classes are really well attended monthly at the following places: and I am so glad that there has been response for volunteers to keep the classes going on the Sundays I am not there. I only wish I had time to help and encourage them more.

1. Tweespruit has 27; 6 are preparing for Confirmation—a jolly, keen little group.
2. Brandford has 30, and 9 Confirmation candidates, and Guild of the Good Shepherd members which must soon be set to work. Freddy Webb helps.
3. Kroonstad Railway Camp, 18 Church children who attend regularly, and I am helped by Mrs. Renton and Miss Darlington, when elsewhere.
4. Wolwehoek just started with 9, and carried on by Miss Johnson.
5. Glen Cottages. Miss Brown keeps this little class of 15 going, and I get there when I can.

At Kaffir River I have managed to give the children one class whilst they were waiting four hours for the train. This work amongst the children is most cheering and most responsible. I hear a good deal about the children, what they are and what they are not. Well, let each home regard as its motto "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God," and the first step is not to "joke" about sacred things—and all the facts of life are sacred.

Now for the next two things—
1. I am going to try and get into and keep in touch with our Church-people along the Line: this will mean more time spent in travelling, but they must be our first care wherever they are.
2. Is practical: The Head of the Mission thinks there is enough work on this section for three workers: and the fact is, we can only afford one, so how can we have three? I have talked to one or two about the possibility of starting a Sustentation Fund, or free-will offering for the funds of the Church Railway Mission. One said "People will be willing," and another said "You will get nothing if you don't ask." So I have come to the con-
clusion that we ought to trust our people sufficiently to ask them to share in keeping the work going—and to "give" is to "live" in the truest sense; it is when the heart wishes to give, and cannot, that it hurts. From July to December I have sent up to the Mission Fund £5:8:1 for Lantern collections; £2:4:7 Children's Classes collections; and 15/6 donations, and 6/4 from C.O.V.s at White's. Total for six months £8:14:6, and each month the bill for board and lodging alone comes to £9, and would be much more were it not for the kind hospitality I have received at the centres where I have to put up, especially Messrs. Suter, Lodge, Miles, Horn, Killoran, Spears and others at odd times.

So lastly, Contributions for the Mission Fund. Until I find someone to help in this—will each one of you think over, whether you think it worth while, and willingly give something monthly—and will those of you who can, save my time this next month, by sending what you wish to give as a monthly contribution? Others I can ask as I go along. Do not say "We never see a Railway Missioner." All who pay into a sick fund do not see the doctor, but some very sick see him a lot! I expect you will do what you can.

JULIENNE BATCHAM.

DIOCESE OF S. RHODESIA.

Bulawayo, S. Rhodesia,
December 3, 1920.

To all of you, my friends, a happy New Year, for although it as yet seems so far away, by the time you have your quarterly Light for the Line it will be 1921.

May you all have had a holy and happy Christmastide. No doubt many minds travelled back (as they will) to other years. Some perhaps longed and yearned to live again a glorious and holy Christmas with some dear one now gone before, called to higher service for Him our God and King; yet, although the gap is still big, and nothing on earth could fill, ye rejoice in the knowledge of the Resurrection.

"And when our time comes,—again.
We'll meet them face to face; again
We'll see the stars shine; and again
They'll greet us with their soft
'Come here!'"

On St. Luke's Day, October 18th, at 8 p.m. in St. John's, Bulawayo, the Lord Bishop of the Diocese held the Confirmation. Eighty candidates presented themselves. To me it seemed wonderful and that Service will ever remain in my memory. Mr. Stenson will no doubt give the names of the St. Cyril's candidates, so I will refrain from so doing; but I do ask your prayers for all the candidates, that they may be given strength to go forward; they are upon the right way, but remember we all slip, and life is not easy.

I have been visiting quite a number of spots up and down our Section since I last wrote for our magazine.

GWANDA, where now (thanks to Mrs. Perkins) we have a regular Sunday morning school for the children. There are 17 or 18 children there, all dear little friends of mine. Also I have one or two "Lone Guides" now working hard for their "Tenderfoot" which I hope to be able to pass them in when next I am down.

May I say "thank you" to Mr. and Mrs. Walters for kindly putting me up, and to all in GWANDA who were good to me?

NYAMANDHLOVU. Here, too, I have visited the school and have formed three "Lone Guide" recruits, and they are enthused with Guide spirits and ideas! I have also several Guild of the Good Shepherd members. Unfortunately the children are all too scattered for them to have a regular Sunday School formed, so I hope to visit them once a month at their day school.
At NYAMANDHLOVU I am always so grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Jonies for their kind hospitality. Unfortunately the children are losing their mistress, Mrs. Keith Robertson. I am sorry too. The last time I visited here (when I had to wait practically all day until 12.30 a.m. for a "goods" which did come in the long run and landed me in Bulawayo at 2.15 a.m.) how she watched while I slept upon her camp bed in her little school house, and gave me hot coffee at this awkward hour. I shall not forget her goodness.

CEMENT SIDING. I hope to run down again on Sunday next and see my Guild of the Good Shepherd Band. I shall miss my friend Mrs. Cagwell, who is away at the Cape, for not only does she put me up, but I have my Children's Service in her dining-room. However, Mrs. Ray will fill in this gap valiantly, and so things will go on as usual. Here, too, I have two "Lone Guides."

MARULA SIDING I visited this week and there stayed with Mrs. Shone at the farm school. It was my first real visit, although for some time I have had 12 Guild of the Good Shepherd children there out of the 17 children. I enjoyed my stay there so much, and after my address to the school, through the courtesy of Miss de Wet, their mistress, we became quite good friends. After dinner at night we all danced in the big dining-room. It was jolly!

From MARULA SIDING I caught the mail train to PALAPYE ROAD, where I landed the next morning at 2.45 a.m. Mr. and Mrs. Reegie were there to greet me in the moonlight, and after a brief sleep I was up and we visited everyone in Palapye.

I was able to get a Kindergarten Sunday School formed, Mrs. Reegie and Mrs. Faulkner undertaking this every Sunday from 2 to 3.30 p.m. The willingness to be of use is so encouraging, and I feel so happy about it for the little ones' sakes.

I caught the mail train back at 8 o'clock the same night, on which train the Head, Canon Thorneycroft Jones, was travelling for the North. It was nice to see him again after his absence. The following morning we arrived in Bulawayo, where my brother met us from somewhere North, and we all enjoyed a thorough talk of work and plans. The Head then left at 1 o'clock for Northern Rhodesia.

Before Christmas I hope to give St. Cyril's Sunday School their yearly picnic. Mrs. Townsend is away at present and we really cannot manage without her. I do hope it will be a nice day, though the rains are near and we do want them!

The first week in January I expect to be down at St. Peter's, Grahamstown, for the Missionary Conference. Apart from the Conference, to which I am looking forward, I shall meet all our Lady Workers of the Staff, which will be a joy and, I feel, a help.

I think now I have told you all, and it is "Nightfall."

The sun is in the West.
The night draws on.

Your friend,
OLIVE STENSON STENSON.

RELIGIOUS TRAINING OF THE CHILD.

There is at the present time great interest taken by a large number of parents in the Camps in the education of their children. Immense sums of money have been spent on school buildings, which are well equipped, and well staffed, and yet, with all this outlay and all this effort, our schools have not yet been able to grip, and to fit the growing girls and boys to take their part in the great family of the Kingdom of God. This should not be. We ought to take
our stand with Mr. Balfour, who says, 'Education is an ‘indivisible whole,’ not to be separated off into water-tight compartments of religious, secular and the like, any more than you can determine the boundaries of man's body, soul and spirit.'

We should all see to it that our children are taught Religion in the schools by those who are qualified to teach this subject. Bishop Creighton maintained that religion must not be studied in a different way from other knowledge, for "it is not a separate and remote part of human knowledge into which those who go need not carry the rest of knowledge they possess . . . it is concerned with the sciences of the life that you and I have to lead from day to day, the actual problems from which no human being can escape . . ." God is the centre of all education, and it is every parent's duty to see that the child receives what is due to him.

As I go from place to place I see that the present-day boys and girls have strong characteristics. As I look around the camps I see them ready for anything, always on the alert. Their bodies are well developed, their minds well-informed, yet what is it that prevents them developing still further? It is that their souls are so often starved and undeveloped. Is it not a dreadful thing that we, who live in the twentieth century, have to plead that in teaching our children, the knowledge of things divine should not be regarded as an "extra subject," to be taken or left? I say with perfect truth that not 10 per cent. of the children in our schools have even a rudimentary knowledge of the Bible, nor do they get any sort of regular home teaching in this respect. Most of them have never heard of Judges or of Isaiah, and when asked to find a Book in the Bible are completely at sea. In many homes religious practices, such as churchgoing, family prayers and grace before meals are entirely absent. Yet we know that the centre of everything is God. Leave Him out and all education collapses. There are many examples of what kultur was without faith, and we are still up against brute force divorced from love and sympathy. It is our plain duty to see to it that our schools are ready and prepared to give this sound religious training to the child.

Apart from school training it is the mother's duty to lead her child in the heavenly way. The soul of a child cannot respond to the love of God if left to itself. It must have the guidance of its parents, and it is a mother's great right and privilege to teach her own children, and it is for the mothers first to discover the central truth that Christ is King, and to remember "that the attitude of the child to religion depends on the atmosphere of the home." Don't be afraid that the instruction will be difficult; children are always eager to learn, and they love the sound of beautiful words and fascinating Bible stories, and quickly gather their meaning.

Do not therefore deprive the children of their heritage in the Holy Catholic Church of which they were made members in Baptism. A good brain and strong body do not satisfy all the children's needs; they need besides all the love and prayer that we can give them. Little children look to us to guide them, but if we leave it too long it will be too late. I would therefore ask all parents to take the opportunity offered in the Light for the Line by the questions for the Victoria Bible Reading, and if each parent read, and helped the children in this work, they would be training them, and fitting them for heaven as well as for earth.

We cannot blame the schools for not teaching religion if the parents have not done their part in the home training and given them a firm foundation in the Faith of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Elsie M. Andrewartha,
LENDING LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND.

To the Editor Light for the Line.

Sirs,

I wonder if your readers could put me in touch with blind people who have not access to the Johannesburg or Durban Libraries, but who would be glad to get books from a Braille Lending Library circulated by post?

I appeal now for two reasons: Firstly, because, with the exception of some 40 people who borrow books from this library, very few blind people realise that postage within the Union on “Literature for the Blind” has been reduced since June 16th last. It is now ½d. up to 2 oz., 1d. up to 5 lbs., and 2d. up to 6 lbs. (Most of the books weigh under 5 lbs.) Those outside the Union, in Rhodesia, Swaziland, etc., would still have to pay the old rate of 5d. for 6 lbs.

Secondly, because the National Institute for the Blind (of which Sir Arthur Pearson is President and Hon. Treas.) has made a generous gift of books amounting to 140 volumes, which are shortly expected from England.

I am, etc.,

(Miss) J. E. Wood.

Woodbourne,
The Drostdy,
Grahamstown.

CHILDREN’S PAGE.

My dear Children,

We were glad in November to welcome back our Head, Canon Thornely Jones, and I wish you could have seen his offices; they were splendidly decorated, for we all wanted him to know that we were glad to have him back with us. Besides the decorations, the Grahamstown C.O.V.s sent him a beautiful bunch of flowers, so I think he must have felt that he really was “home” again.

We have been doing the Victoria Bible Reading questions for nearly two years now, and the progress made by those who have done the questions regularly is most marked. The writing is neater, the method of answering the questions more intelligent, and this quarter the map set the Seniors was very well done; the Christmas cards too were in most cases beautifully done. I would very much have liked the Head to have seen what artistic work some of my little friends can do.

It is most encouraging when other people not directly connected with the Church Railway Mission take an interest in us. Mr. Watkins, the principal of Cyphergat School, has kindly offered at the next examination of the Victoria Bible Reading to present two Bibles as prizes. One will go to the one who obtains the highest marks at the Cyphergat Public School, and the other to a candidate not connected with Cyphergat. I am sure we are all most grateful to Mr. Watkins and the lucky winners must not forget to write and thank him when they receive their Bibles.

I was disappointed that there were not more entries in the Post Card Competition. What happened? I expected dozens; perhaps some got lost in the post!

Francis and Florence Killian, I was very glad to know that you were pleased with your prizes, also Willie Growdon. I hope, Willie, that you are quite well again and that you won’t have to miss another quarter’s questions on account of illness.

My letter is much longer than I meant it to be, so I must say goodbye and a Happy New Year to you all.

Your affectionate friend,

The Editor.
P.S.—Special marks (10) were given to those who made good Christmas cards, and marks were taken off in those cases where there was insufficient postage, or no Christmas card.

Results of Postcard Competition.

1st Prize. Most original. Subject: Cockscomb Mountain, to Winifred Ferreira (Kareiga).

2nd Prize: Flower. L. Killian (Commadagga).

1st Prize: Copy: K. Badderly-Richards (Sandflats).

2nd Prize: D. Veitch (Coega).

Highly Commended: Stoffel Welfaad.

"And there, standing by the Cross, was His Mother."

During the last quarter's questions we have had to do as many as we could of the great events in Our Lord's life of healing and teaching, so that this set of questions could be devoted to the last week of Our Lord's earthly life.

On Palm Sunday we think of Our Lord coming from Bethany, where He had spent His last week with His friends, Martha and Mary. What a wonderful triumphal entry into the city, when the little children hailed Him the King that should come—their Redeemer and King. May we not think that during those days, from Tuesday to the Thursday evening, Jesus was gathering strength for His mighty conflict? He must also have spent some of those precious hours with His Mother, knowing how soon her heart would be wrung to the uttermost.

How she must have suffered when she knew that He had been betrayed by one of His own disciples, denied by another, and that the others had fled and forsaken Him in the hour of His greatest need. Yet she must have been strengthened by the knowledge that her prayers would help Him and that His Heavenly Father would be with Him to the end.

Let us take our stand at the foot of the Cross beside the Mother of Jesus, and learn some of the lessons which the Crucified Lord would teach us. Everyone has a witness to bear to Jesus Crucified, and we can all share with the mother of Jesus her faithful watch beside the Cross.

Joseph of Arimathea, when he saw the dying Lord on the Cross, lost no time in going to the Roman Governor to beg the body of the Lord. The request was granted, and Jesus' Body was laid to rest in the sepulchre belonging to Joseph of Arimathea.

Picture that evening scene, a wide and beautiful landscape on the three sides of the garden, with the beautiful old city of Jerusalem stretching out towards the East. When all had been done that love could do, can you not see the two walking sorrowfully back to the city to the house of St. John for it is there that the Mother of Jesus rested, after her long hours of watching at the foot of the Cross. In our hearts let us say:

O Jesus, my Saviour, I love Thee because Thou didst love me and died for me on the Cross.

(In Dutch.)

Ik heb U lief O Heere Jezus Christus, waarachtig God en mensch, en ik zal U liefhebben en alles wat Gij liefhebt om Uwentwil o oneindige oorsprong van alle goed; want Gij zigt alle liefde waardig.

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.

VICTORIA BIBLE READING.

SENIORS OVER 12.
January, 1921.

1. Read St. John xii, 1-8; St. Matthew xxvi, 6-13; St. Mark xiv, 3-8.
   (a) Tell me where Our Lord spent the last week of His life on earth?
   (b) What happened there, and what did Jesus say?
   (c) Draw a little outline map showing the position of Jerusalem and Bethany.

2. Read St. Matthew xxi, 1-17; St. Mark xi, 1-11; St. Luke xix, 29-40; St. John xii, 12-19.
   (a) Give me a full account of Our Lord’s triumphant entry into Jerusalem and what do we call this great day?
   (b) Print the words of praise used by the children.
   (c) What did Our Lord do when He got to the temple, and who were in the temple that needed His help?
   (d) After this, where did Jesus go?

3. Read St. Matthew xxvi, 36-75; St. John xix, 19-40; St. Matthew xxvii, 1 to end; St. Mark xiv, 12-26, xix, 16-37.
   (a) What do we specially think of during this week—Holy Week?
   (b) What did Pilate think of the charges brought against Jesus?
   (c) What do the words “Our Lord’s Passion” mean?

   (a) Print the seven words of love which Our Lord spoke from the Cross.
   (b) What does Our Lord’s Passion teach us about sin, and what does it teach us about God’s love?
   (c) Who else in Scripture used two of the words from the Cross?

5. Read St. Matthew viii, 20; St. Mark xi, 12; St. John iv, 6.
   (a) Give me examples of how Our Lord suffered in His body during His ministry.
   (b) Read St. Mark iii, 5; St. Luke xix, 41; St. John xi, 33-35.

6. Tell me some of the ways in which Our Lord suffered in His Soul, giving the story of each.

7. (a) Our Blessed Lord’s chief sufferings were connected with His Death; give me some account of the sufferings in His Body.
   1. St. John xix, 1, 2.
   (b) Give the occasions for His sufferings in His Soul.
   1. St. Mark xiv, 33, 34.
   2. St. Mark xv, 34.

8. (a) What do we learn from the sufferings of Our Lord?
   1. 1 Peter ii, 23; St. Matthew v, 44.
   2. St. Matthew xxvi, 39; Philippians ii, 8.
   (b) What is the practical lesson St. Peter gives us?
   1 St. Peter ii, 20, 21.
   (c) What is that great example Our Blessed Lord sets before us?

Write out Isaiah lii, 3-8, and learn by heart.
JUNIORS UNDER 12.
1. Read St. John vi, 1-14; St. Matt. xiv, 13-21; St. Mark vi, 30-45; St. Luke ix, 10-17.
   (a) Where did this miracle take place?
   (b) For what purpose had Our Lord gone there?
   (c) What food had the disciples near at hand?
2. Read St. Matthew xxii, 1-11; St. Mark xi, 1-11; St. Luke xix, 29-40; St. John xii, 12-16.
   (a) Tell me in your own words the story of Our Lord’s entry into Jerusalem.
   (b) What is this Sunday called in these days?
   (c) Print in colour the children’s song of welcome.
   (a) Who was Pilate, and why had Our Lord been sent there?
   (b) Tell the story of Judas, and what he did.
   (c) What happened to Our Lord at the hands of the Roman soldiers?
   (a) Tell the story of St. Peter’s denial, noting carefully the following points:
      1. Peter’s promise to follow.
      2. He follows behind.
      3. Sits and warms himself.
      4. The denial.
      5. His sorrow when Jesus looks on him.
   (b) What did Peter do after Our Lord looked upon him?
   (c) Make up a prayer which you would pray to God for having thus denied Him.
5. Read St. Luke xiii, 1-26; St. Matthew xxvii, 15, 26, 32; St. Mark xv, 6-21; St. John xviii, 38, xix, 16.
   (a) Give the details of Our Saviour’s last appearance before Pilate.
   (b) Whom did they release, and who was this man?
   (c) Tell me about the man who was called to help Jesus carry His Cross.
   (a) Where did they crucify Our Lord, and tell me the words of any well-known hymn that describes the scene of the Crucifixion.
   (b) Who were crucified with Our Lord? Tell me what you know of one of them.
   (a) What great feast was approaching?
   (b) What were the words Pilate used to show Our Lord that he had power over His life? and what did Christ answer? What effect did Christ’s words have upon Pilate?
   (c) Print the inscription which was placed over the Cross of Jesus.
8. (a) What happened to the garments of Our Lord?
   (b) Who stood at the Cross of Jesus, besides the great crowd?
   (c) What were the words of Jesus to His beloved Mother? and who is “the disciple whom Jesus loved”?
   Write out the hymn “When I survey the wondrous cross.”

ST. POLYCARP, Bishop of Smyrna.
January 26th.

Polycarp was Bishop of Smyrna, and it is said that the Apostle St. John gave him that Diocese. He was born A.D. 70 and knew some of the disciples, and others who had seen Our Lord. His martyrdom was one of the last. Though urged to leave the city of Smyrna, he would not. Soon his
hiding-place was discovered, and the officer who was to take him said, "What harm is there in saying 'Lord Caesar' and to sacrifice and thus save your life?" When brought before the Judge he said to him, "Swear, and I will dismiss you. Revile Christ." Polycarp answered, "Eighty and six years have I served Him, and He never did me wrong. How can I blaspheme my King and Saviour?" He was sentenced to be burned alive, and the great crowd collected materials for the fire. When he was bound to the stake he prayed, "Father of Thy well-beloved and blessed Son Jesus Christ, I bless Thee that Thou hast thought me worthy of the present day and hour to have a share in the number of the martyrs and in the cup of Christ, unto the resurrection to eternal life. . . . Amen."

St. Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch. February 1st.

St. Ignatius, it is said by some scholars, was the child whom Our Blessed Lord took in His arms and showed to the disciples as a type of humility. Another name for him is Theophorus, which means 'one who carries God in his heart.' He succeeded Evodius as Bishop, who in his turn succeeded St. Peter. Eusebius tells us that he was carried to Rome in the reign of the Emperor Trajan and thrown to the wild beasts. On his way to Rome he wrote letters to his friends, full of advice and instruction, and in them we see a picture of Church government under bishops, priests and deacons: for he says, "I am heart to heart with those who obey bishops, priests and deacons; with them may I take my place by God."

St. Veronica. February 4th.

Once in the time of Our Lord there was a woman named Bernice or Veronica who lived in a house on the way to Calvary, and as Our Lord passed on the way of sorrows, He fell under the weight of the Cross just in front of her door. She was full of pity for Jesus, and she ran to Him and gently wiped His Face with a napkin. Afterwards she found that His likeness was imprinted on the napkin. That picture was always sacred to her, and she took it wherever she went until she brought it with her to Rome, the place where she died.

The Epiphany, or the Manifestation of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles. January 6th.

On this festival we think of the Gentiles who came to worship the infant Jesus and to whom He showed Himself. They were the Wise Men from the East, who had seen the star and followed it to Bethlehem. Read for yourselves the beautiful account in St. Matthew, chapter ii, 1-15. We see in the Scripture story that when the wise men came to the place where Jesus was they were full of joy, and got down from the camels, taking in their hands the gifts most rare, gold, and frankincense, and myrrh. When they had entered into the place they fell down and worshipped the Child Jesus, and gave him their gifts.

St. Antony the Great. January 17th.

St. Antony was an Egyptian, born of noble Christian parents, who, having died when he was quite a young man, left him a lot of property. Soon after his parents' death he heard in the Gospel for the day these words read: "If thou wouldest be perfect, sell all that thou hast, and give to the poor." These words made such an impression on him that he gave away all his possessions, and lived as a hermit. He died at the age of 105, the greatest of the hermits, and the founder of monasticism.

St. Agnes. January 21st.

St. Agnes was a Roman, and suffered for the faith at the age of thirteen, during the terrible persecution of Diocletian. She was very beautiful and
naturally had many suitors; one of them was the son of the Prefect of the city. She refused to marry him because she had promised to give up her life to the service of Jesus Christ. When the Prefect heard of it he was very angry and ordered her to give up this faith, saying, "Remember, you are but a child." She answered, "I may be a child, but faith dwells not in years, but in the heart." After many trials she was condemned to be burnt. In the flames she prayed, "I bless Thee, O Father of my Lord Jesus Christ." When she had finished praying, the fire went out, and as the fire had not killed her, she was slain with a sword.

ASH WEDNESDAY. February 9th.

This is the first day of Lent. We must all try to keep this as a time of preparation.

GOOD FRIDAY. 25th March.

On this day Our Blessed Lord offered up Himself upon the Cross that we might be saved. While Our Saviour was hanging on the Cross He spake the seven words of love. Read the account of that suffering in the Gospels.

The seven words of love were:

"Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."
"Verily, I say unto thee, to-day shalt thou be with Me in Paradise."
"To His Mother, "Woman, behold thy Son," and to St. John, "Son, behold thy Mother."
"My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?"
"I thirst."
"It is finished."
"Father, into Thy hands I commend My Spirit."

As we think of these words of love, let us pray that when God calls us to Himself we may thus give ourselves into His hands with trust and love and say,

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, Have mercy upon us,

(In Dutch.)

O Lam God, dat de zonden der wereld wegneemt, ontferm U onzer.

EASTER DAY. March 27th.

Our Blessed Lord has won a great victory over the grave, and opened unto us the gates of everlasting life. Think how happy we should be on this day: Christ has risen from the dead and we are risen with Him. And because our hearts are so glad we come to Church and join in heartily with the beautiful Services. Let us all praise God for this wonderful victory by saying:

Praise the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me praise His holy Name.

(In Dutch.)

Loof den Heer, mijn ziel: en al wat binnen in mij is, Zijnen heiligen naam.

Victoria Bible Reading Results.

October, 1920.

SENIOR.


Senior (July): Fred Bowker 38.

JUNIORS.

(Out of a possible 50.)

Angus Knipe 36, Edna C. Robertson 40, Francis Killian 45, George Probert 50, Harriet Killian 45, Florence Killian 50, Francis Badderly-Richards 45, Marjory Badderly-
The care of children’s eyes is very important. If there is discharge from the eyes, do not neglect it, but have medical advice promptly. Doctors often order lotion to bathe and ointment to be applied. Now much depends on how this is done.

Take some swabs of cotton wool, or small pieces of clean linen, put out some of the lotion in a small basin (which keep specially for the purpose for the time being), and then add warm water if so directed. Have something to put the used swabs into. Take a fresh swab each time and bathe carefully from the nose outwards between the eyelids. Burn the swabs after using them. Apply the ointment between the lids with a soft camel-hair brush if possible; but failing that put a small swab of cotton wool on a match stick and apply the ointment carefully, also starting from the nose outwards. This is so important, to prevent the discharge from one eye infecting the other one. It is very important to note, when a child is reading or sewing, if there is a tendency to strain the sight by looking too closely. This is an indication of short sight, and attention should at once be paid to it. Possibly glasses are required to regulate the sight and strengthen the eyes. This should not be neglected, as it may lead to lifelong trouble; but if taken in time is easily remedied.

M.C.M., Mothers’ Union.

“I can’t imagine what’s the matter with me, Doctor. I’m continually thinking about myself.”

“Ah! You must stop worrying over trifles.”

“I woke up last night with a terrible sensation that my watch was gone. The impression was so strong that I got up and looked,” said Brown.

“Well, was it gone?” asked Jones.

“No,” replied Brown; “but it was going.”

How Jack Regained His Good Name.

A correspondent vouches for this story.

THE CULT OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD.


Taalbosch: Theises Haggard.


Wolvefontein: Joyce Watson, Victor Watson, Angus Knipe, Walter Killian.


Thebus: Maria van Wijk, Willie Clark, Alice Clark, Stafford van Heerden, Hester van Heerden, Jane van Heerden, Maria Smith, Anna Smith, — Kruger.
A lady who owned a collie named Jack was in the habit of sending him to shop with money for the newspaper.

One night, having no coppers, she wrapped a shilling in a piece of paper and sent him with that. But on his way he met another dog, got into a scuffle, and lost the money.

In about half an hour he sneaked back into the house, looking very guilty. His mistress asked him where the newspaper was, and the money. But he had neither. So she ordered him out at once to look for it.

In about twenty minutes, to her surprise, he returned with the shilling wrapped in the paper. Evidently he had lost it in the scuffle, and during his search had found it.—Children's Newspaper.

**RIDDLE.**

What is the largest rope in the world?

Answer: Europe.

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**CONFIRMATIONS.**

**DIOCESE OF SOUTHERN RHODESIA.**

At St. John's Bulawayo, St. Luke's Day, by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese:

- Robert Turner.
- Ernest Arthur Turner.
- Cecil David Grove Phillips.
- Lytton Robert Elliot Myles.
- Gertrude Helen Mabel Ross.
- Iris Millvina Shinn.
- Nanetta Victoria Louisa Payne.
- Ellen Kathleen Smith.
- Gwendoline Noel Ruth Phillips.

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**SPECIAL REPORTS.**

**DIOCESE OF SOUTHERN RHODESIA.**

At St. Cyril's, Sept. 5:

- Alan Larsen Millership.
- Janneke Marie Smuts.
- John Chatham.

At St. Cyril's, Oct. 11:

- Moyra Joan Philp.
- Cecil John Hawkins.
- Gwendoline Noel Ruth Phillips.

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**BAPTISMS.**

**DIOCESE OF GRAHAMSTOWN.**

- At Nata, Oct. 26:
  - Katrina Mjezu (privately).
  - Lyall Ludwig Arthur Johnson.
  - Daphne Una Cox.

**DIOCESE OF SOUTHERN RHODESIA.**

- At St. Cyril's, Sept. 5:
  - Alan Larsen Millership.
  - Janneke Marie Smuts.
  - John Chatham.

- At Wankie, Sept. 26:
  - Alice Margaret Burger.
  - Lydia Maria Odendaal.
  - Doris Olive Shone.
  - Norman Aubrey Samuel Jameson.

- At 182 Cottage, Shashi, Oct. 10:
  - Jacobus Titus Julins.

- At 1462 Milestone, Ngamo, Oct. 21:
  - Simon John Beale.

- At Dett, Oct. 29:
  - Annie Sarah Chatham.
  - John Chatham.

- At St. Cyril's, Oct. 31:
  - Moyra Joan Philp.
  - Cecil John Hawkins.
  - Gwendoline Noel Ruth Phillips.

At Jessie Mine, Nov. 3:

- Marguerite Smuts.

At St. Cyril's, Nov. 6:

- Clarence Dare.

At Norvals Pont, Sept. 13:

- Norman Albert Hughes, aged 7 months.

At Nata, Oct. 1:

- Johannes van Nieuwenhuizen, aged 9 years.

At Cypheragt, Nov. 26:

- Richard Hind.

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**BIRTHS.**

**DIOCESE OF SOUTHERN RHODESIA.**

- At St. John's Bulawayo, St. Luke's Day, by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese:
  - Robert Turner.
  - Ernest Arthur Turner.
  - Cecil David Grove Phillips.
  - Lytton Robert Elliot Myles.
  - Gertrude Helen Mabel Ross.
  - Iris Millvina Shinn.
  - Nanetta Victoria Louisa Payne.
  - Ellen Kathleen Smith.
  - Gwendoline Noel Ruth Phillips.

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**HOLY MATRIMONY.**

**DIOCESE OF GRAHAMSTOWN.**

At Nata:

- Nov. 11: Peddie Mbeleiko and Amelia Mguqulwa.
- Nov. 12: Dick Mguqulwa and Martha Mjezu.

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**BLESSING OF CIVIL MARRIAGE.**

At Nata:

- Oct. 2: Folo Nkomo and Lucy Bono.
- Dec. 2: Harry Frederick Cleghorn and Alice Louise Shaddick.

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**BURIALS.**

At Cookhouse, Sept. 11:

- William Dingwall Craig, aged 22 years.

At Norvals Pont, Sept. 13:

- Norman Albert Hughes, aged 7 months.

At Nata, Oct. 1:

- Johannes van Nieuwenhuizen, aged 9 years.

At Cypheragt, Nov. 26:

- Richard Hind.
COLLECTIONS, &c.

DIOCESE OF GRAHAMSTOWN.
2/- from two Klipplaat boys for Diocesan Hostel for Boys.

DIOCESE OF GRAHAMSTOWN.

Lantern Services.—Thorngrove, 5/9; Taibosch, 6/8; Hanover Road, 19/4; Cyphergat, 13/5; Thebus, 12/6; Rosmead, 3/11 (Native); Rosmead, 13/5; Sherbourne, 9/-; Rosmead (Nov.), 17/2; Baroda, 6/2; Cookhouse (Nov.), 8/1.

Donation Mr. Kirkup, £1; Rosmead S. School, 1/8.

Local Agents "Light for the Line."

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  Aicedale—Miss Nel.
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DIOCESE OF N. RHODESIA.

Reverend R. J. Gardner.

DIOCESE OF S. RHODESIA.

Reverend C. W. S. Stenson, Bulawayo.

LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Pretoria—Lady Wessels.
  Port Elizabeth—Miss Savage, Park Drive.

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.

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MAKE YOURS A NO DRUDGERY KITCHEN!

Do it with a New Perfection Oil Stove. Think! No coal or wood to carry. No soot or ashes. A kitchen always clean. Cooks perfect meals. Has no equal for baking cakes, bread and scones.

New Perfection Oil Stoves.

They burn best with LAUREL Paraffin Oil. Laurel is best for your lamps too.

Write to Box 685, Capetown, for free Cookery Book.
ENGLISH CHURCH
STUDENTS’ HOSTEL,
CAPE TOWN.

A Boarding House for Boys over 12 will be opened in Cape Town in July for the purpose of providing a Hostel for school boys in connection with the English Church.

A house has been bought in Schoonder Street, Gardens, which will accommodate 30 boys and which has good sized grounds.

Fees: £16 a Quarter.

Full particulars from
THE REVEREND D. PARK,
c/o the deanery,
CAPE TOWN.