Light for the Line,

THE SOUTH AFRICAN CHURCH RAILWAY MISSION MAGAZINE.

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South African Church Railway Mission.


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LIGHT FOR THE LINE.

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LETTER FROM THE HEAD.

Grahamstown,
June 7th, 1922.

Dear Friends,

I had the following story sent to me lately and am wondering if you have heard it: An Irish Jury, all new to their job, were told to take their "accustomed places." All went straight to the dock! Then there is another: A gentleman was—but no, I must not tell you that one. Writing of stories reminds me of a book, lent me not long ago, in which Bishop Walsham How's son records some of the tales his father used to tell; among them is the following: One of the Bishop's Curates was astonished by a man saying to him that it was a pity the owner of a certain property was not a better man. Asked "Why?" he replied that "no good man would build houses in pairs or so close together." Asked to explain this, he said: "Because in the Bible it is written, 'Thou shalt not add house to house'; and nothing the Padre could say to the contrary would convince the man that he had given to the words a wrong meaning, and his last words on the subject were that "no doubt the thing was condemned in the Bible because next-door neighbours always quarrel." This discussion took place probably over fifty years ago: if this good man had lived today he would have known only too well that it is not necessary for the houses to be built "in pairs or close together" to get the neighbours on edge, misunderstanding almost every word and action of each other, and to be "always quarrelling," would he? Being close together, or miles apart, does not seem to make much difference: it does take two parties to make a quarrel, and how childish and trivial it all seems to an outsider, and what must Almighty God think of it all? How does it appear to Him? when He knows that these neighbours, all over the country, profess the Faith, and possibly together have been keeping some special Feast of His Son, Who is the Prince of Peace, and Who said, "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." It looks at times as if there is precious little love for oneself if that is our standard: this bickering and quarrelling is a thousand times worse than the influenza, and blights the joy and happiness of life in all parts, and in every part, of this land of sunshine. It certainly does more than kill all we do, or desire to do for God, or for the increase of His Kingdom: How can we pray "Thy Kingdom come," when all the time just to gratify some childish petty spite we are doing all we can, and in the best way, to hinder it? In the same book there is this story: A certain Calvinist met a neighbour who had seceded to the Church of Rome, and afterwards thus described the inter-
view: "I met — yesterday, and said to him, 'Not a day of my life passes that I do not pray for you!' And what do you think he said? Why, 'And not a day of my life passes that I do not pray for you!' The impudence of the fellow!" There is not much difficulty in seeing the other chap's black face, is there? Some seem to think it is lack of humour, while others think it is lack of something else. Jealousy is one of the most horrible things which can take possession of us and eventually will destroy anything that is good, and worth keeping alive. Now, I know that, unfortunately, I am neither tactful nor discreet, and if you think I am wrong and you are right, do please tell me when next we meet, so as to save me making the same mistake in the future. Quite recently I came on one place where there has been a real mighty struggle, and at one time it looked like being a touch of hell on earth for everybody concerned, but finally the principles of the Faith and the Spirit of God prevailed, and now everyone is glad, and it is a truly delightful spot to visit.

Just one more story from that book; then I must get on, or the Editor and I shall be having a scrap. A certain Archdeacon was visiting a parish and while inspecting the buildings was informed that something very bad was the matter with the pump: "It stinks horribly, Mr. Archdeacon, if you will put your nose to the spout, I will pump." But the Archdeacon was too old a bird—or he would not have been appointed Archdeacon—and he replied, "No, I depute the Rural Dean to put his nose to the spout, and I will receive his report, and, if needed, pronounce an ecclesiastical censure." But it's fatal to begin telling stories when one ought to be getting busy.

The last news of Mr. Hobson is that he hopes to be with us some time in July*: he will probably sail by the East Coast Route, which makes the date a little uncertain, but it will probably be towards the end of the month. We shall be delighted to welcome him back and are indeed grateful to him for his coming: he will have his old Section and his Headquarters will be at Kimberley.

The Bishop of Grahamstown has asked the Mission to take over, once more, the ministrations on the Section south of Cookhouse, as it has proved almost impossible for the Diocese to provide ministrations for the more isolated and scattered members of the community living on that Section. Mr. Banks has been holding services at Alice-dale, Sandflats and Addo for some little time, but it was manifest that at his age it would be wrong to ask him to attempt to do the rushing about necessary for the working of the Section. Just when the Bishop was in communication with me on the matter I heard that the Reverend G. H. Thorne was thinking of returning to South Africa from Australia, and eventually I got into touch with him and as a result he has been put in charge of the Section from June 1st. Last week-end I was at Alice-dale with him: on the Saturday night the good people there gave us a welcome in the Institute: Alice-dale has very many old associations with the Mission, and it was a great pleasure for me to meet old friends at the gathering and also to make new ones. Many quite big boys and girls came to re-
mind me that I had baptized them: that must have been more years ago than one always cares to remember. The father of one said that he was now 70, and that I was not so old as that: he put me down for 65. Mr. Thorne is not new to the Mission work, for he was on the Staff and worked, as a layman, with us on the construction of the line during the war from De Aar to South-West, till his health gave in owing to the continual feeding on tinned food, which, in those days, was all that could be obtained. He is affectionately remembered by many he met then, and also by many with whom he came in contact while working under our old friend Mr. Anstey at De Aar. We are glad to welcome him back to the Staff and hope his stay with us will be for his own happiness and the well-being of those committed to his care. The regular services on the section will be: Alicedale on the first and third Sundays; Sandflats on the second, and Addo on the fourth.

Miss Andrewartha sailed by the Guildford Castle, and news was received from her that she was already feeling rested, enjoying the voyage and entering into the general life of things on board.

Canon Wyche, our Treasurer, sailed for a well-earned and much needed rest on May 7th: we trust that he will gain great benefit by his trip to England and so return built up in health and strength to carry on the good work he has so much at heart. It was a real pleasure to me to be able to see him off at Capetown and to know that at last he had gone, because we shall miss him so much. That is the worst of it with folk who are so whole-heartedly with us.

Our old friend Mr. Hands does not forget us or our needs: he has recently sent out for the Mission’s use a portable organ and a few other useful things put in as packing; and such was his kindness that it was sent to us free of cost. It was just like him, for he does not improve even if he gets older. It is cheering to know that he remembers us, and he is affectionately remembered by many of us out here.

News has been received from Mr. Rossborough, and such a letter too, all about—well, what could it be about? The garden? Yes, of course, but mostly about the new plant in it—their little son: there never was such a son before. He rejoices in the name of Robert John Beauchamp, and “everything in the garden is lovelier than ever”: no wonder, when Mrs. Rossborough reports that our old and highly respected friend makes a “very obedient husband.” I must not say all he puts in his letter or there will be more trouble, but he specially wishes to be very kindly remembered to all his friends of the Eastern Transvaal.

I had an encouraging trip to Waterval Boven and later to Machadodorp during May, and it was delightful to meet Mr. Herbert and Miss Gardner and to get a glimpse into their activities. At the former place—well, I mustn’t tell you all that happened there and of the hardships and discomforts I had to endure, but at the latter place it was a great pleasure to meet many old friends. Mr. and Mrs. de Graaff were, as ever, overwhelming with thoughtful hospitality—even to remembering my favourite pudding, only they expected me to eat too much: what a trial friends are who
think one's capacity is absolutely unlimited; and there are such a lot of them along the Line. In the evening we had a splendid meeting of the Church Building Committee, real red-hot stuff, and no need for gingering up there: I wish I could tell you all about it, but space forbids; I can tell you they mean to have a church to offer to the honour and glory of God, and it isn't to be a tin shanty.

Miss Batcham, not content with a huge task on the Line, has been getting busy in Bloemfontein itself and, with the kind help of the Bishop and Mrs. Carey and other friends, she arranged a meeting for us at Bishop's Lodge on May 16th: if the weather was cold, the keenness certainly was not, and the room was full. We were specially pleased to have with us three Dutch Reformed Ministers, Mr. Koeleman, with his Chairman and Secretary, who wished to be present to show their interest and sympathy with us. It was also a pleasure to have our old fellow-worker, Miss Glasier. Unable to carry on the old job, she has not lost interest in those with whom she used to be, but has obtained a house in Bloemfontein which she hopes will provide a home there for any of the girls of our friends along the Line who go to find work in Bloemfontein: she wants it to be a home from home for them and is trying to so work it that it will be within the range of those whose pockets are not bulging. The Bishop, Mr. Potter, A.G.M., Miss Batcham and I spoke, and as an outcome of the meeting a small Committee is being formed with Mrs. Potter as Secretary and Miss Celliers as Assistant Secretary: we are hopeful that some material and needed help will be forthcoming. The Diocese has granted £10 from a Special Fund, and has sent on £21, which has been standing to our credit, for some years, at the National Bank.

Towards the end of April we had a very, very happy time at Lobatsi: the Bishop of Kimberley and Kuruman very kindly made it possible to go there for Confirmation. On the Friday afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Tramper, whose guest the Bishop was during his stay, spread themselves out in their usual hospitable manner and invited us all out to the Homestead, and a jolly time we had. On Saturday afternoon we had the Confirmation in the Schoolroom, which had been specially prepared for the occasion by willing hands: Mr. and Mrs. Jepson, Amy Kluckow and Doris Schroeder were confirmed and few of us who were present will soon forget that service. On the Sunday we had a real uplifting Eucharist and the Bishop preached at both morning and evening services which were held, as usual, at the Hotel, kindly placed at our disposal by Mrs. Kluckow.

I am grateful to acknowledge three or four new personal subscribers to our Funds, while our old friends at Port Elizabeth, guided by Mr. and Mrs. Ball and Miss Keith, are as keen as ever, and the C.O.V.s at Yeoville, under Mrs. Beckingham, have broken out in a new place and have sent us a special gift of £10, while a new friend, Miss Bull, has been getting busy at Benoni and she and her League of the Helping Hand have sent us £11. Then kindly disposed friends at Tweespruit, gingered up by Miss Batcham, have sent us a very wel-
come sum of £17. All this is indeed encouraging: in 1921 we went down over £500: in 1922 we went down £104: this year we want to come out; please do what you can to help. I know reductions, and heavy ones, have taken place and things are not what they were, but where there is a will there is a way, if there is the desire. If the ministrations of the workers is worth having; if the work is to be done—and I do know how very greatly it is generally appreciated—it must be paid for. It is not encouraging to the workers to slog in a whole full month for which period the offerings were £7/10/6 and the cost £30/6/11; it is not possible to make both ends meet that way. To say one cannot "afford" to help on a good work is one way of putting it, but too often that is not a correct use of the English word: the right way would be to say we prefer spending our money on something else, then there is nothing left. A friend of mine, a few days ago, said he could not afford to go to a certain entertainment: he was quite serious about it and thought it was true: but that day, to my knowledge, he spent more in whisky and cigarettes than would have paid his entrance to the show, but—he "couldn't afford it."

I am sorry to have written at such length, but one so often hears it said: "Why don't you tell us of what is going on, so that we may know and be interested?" Well, I have tried to tell you just a little and dare not take up any more space: but for the way I am pushed on I should not do it.

Yours sincerely,
R. THORNELY JONES.

I am often asked about those who have worked on the Mission Staff in the old days, where they are and what they are doing. Some day I hope to publish their present addresses as far as possible, and in the meantime give the list of those who have been called to their rest.


Holy is the true Light and passing wonderful, lending radiance to them that endured in the heat of the conflict: from Christ they inherit a Home of unfading splendour, wherein they rejoice with gladness evermore.

Alleluia—Holy is the true Light.

Amen.

Idutywa, 12th January, 1922.

Dear Editor,

Although I have not the honour of being on the Church Railway Mission Staff, I ask you to allow me to express my good wishes to all the Railway people on our Amablele-Umtata Line for 1922, especially to the Gangers and Sub-Gangers and their families. During the past year I have sent these as many magazines and picture papers as I have managed to collect, and during 1922 I hope to continue to do so. The Cottages look so lonely as we pass them in the train, that it is a pleasure to have even a few papers to send to the occupants.

Yours, etc.,

E. L. COAKES.

This letter was inadvertently omitted from last quarter's Light for the Line; still I feel quite sure that all readers would like to have Archdeacon Coakes' kind wishes, though somewhat late.—Editor.
SOUTH AFRICAN CHURCH RAILWAY MISSION QUARTERLY.

DIOCESE OF GRAHAMSTOWN.

Naauwpoort.

The Parsonage,
Naauwpoort,
8th June, 1922.

My dear Friends,

It is good to see the same old faces as one goes here and there for services along the Line. Yet it is more than a touch of sadness comes over one as one observes the number of empty seats—left empty time after time by the same folk. Before the depression set in the excuse was “On duty,” and so could not come to church. But as there is very little Sunday duty in these days, we must look elsewhere for the non-attendance; for we see now that “on duty” was a mere excuse and not a reason. The real reason, we venture to think, is indifference to the love of God—not that men deliberately mean to reject God and His love; but that selfishness—love of ease and self, loom large, although unperceived by ourselves.

We are a curious people: when there is no service we complain the Church has neglected us; when there is a service, we find some excuse to stay away.

Thank God in every place there are a number of keen souls who “love the place of God,” who are always in their places, and who are constantly reminding their friends about the services. There is much to be thankful for. But we do want a forward movement—a big push. We can get it by prayer, more prayer, earnest prayer. “Revive Thy work, O Lord.” Here is a prayer which will help. Cut it out and use it every day:

“O Lord, look down in mercy upon this Parish, and forgive us our grievous sins. Root out from among us especially the sins of drunkenness and unchastity. May many souls be turned to Thee. Bless those who love Thee, and do Thou keep all those who are walking in the way of life steadfast unto the end. Give patience to the sick and afflicted, and make their sufferings a blessing to them. Bless to us all the means of grace. Prosper Thy servant in his holy work. And in Thine own good time heal all our divisions, and make us one; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

DIOCESAN GIFT. We are glad to report that the Diocesan Gift was, on the whole, well responded to along the Line and that this section contributed over £23.

NAAUWPOORT. We find an idea more or less prevalent in Naauwpoort that All Souls’ Church is not in need of funds. Perhaps this is due to the fact that the outgoing churchwardens handed over a handsome balance of £100. This balance is due very largely to the successful bazaar held last July. From this balance must be deducted £5 for organ tuning and £20 due to S.A.Ch. Railway Mission January to March. And another £20 is due on June 30th. So that a big hole has already been made in the balance.

We need roughly £160 per annum at the present rate of expenditure, and we can only come out on this by the strictest economy. The Sustentation Fund last year brought in £59 and the collections in church £45, leaving about £60 to be provided by “other means.” We are, however, convinced that “other means” would be unnecessary if all our people, without exception, subscribed to the Sustentation Fund and gave according to their means, liberally, systematically and regularly. There is, then, a need for us not to give less, but to increase our contributions both in the church and towards the Sustentation Fund. This would leave “other means” of raising money to be used for purposes not directly connected with the maintenance of Divine Worship.

Our Vestry Meeting was held on Sunday, May 7th, when Messrs. Comley and Hewitt were elected chapelwardens in the place of Messrs. Ehrich and Green. The sidesmen for the ensuing year are Messrs. Hitchcock, Herbsch, Steinhofel, Fawdry, Green and Norton.

At the Vestry Meeting expressions of
appreciation of Miss Andrewartha's work in Naauwpoort were voiced, special reference being made to her splendid efforts during the interval between Mr. Willmott's decease and the present chaplain's arrival.

Mr. Ehrich has written from Kimberley acknowledging his parting gift—a case of fish knives and forks—a recognition of his and Mrs. Ehrich's services in Naauwpoort. Their departure came sooner than we expected, and consequently we could get only a few friends together to say "goodbye" to them at the Parsonage.

The monthly meeting of the church officers takes place at the Parsonage on the Tuesday after the third Sunday in each month. We are getting to grips with the problems that confront us and are looking forward not only to greater financial help from you, but also to an increased participation in the Church Services. There is plenty of room for everybody and all the chairs have been repaired. The church, too, is warm on cold evenings: much warmer than the Hutchinson Hall, with its new brick lining, where Mrs. Comley held a successful War Bridge evening on Union Day, and as a result hopes to hand over £10 to the churchwardens.

Stationmaster Martin and his family are now on leave in England. Mr. Dowson was relieving for a time and now Mr. Knott and his family are here.

COOKHOUSE. Cookhouse said goodbye to Miss Andrewartha on Wednesday, April 12th, and if the weather was none too warm it did not chill the expressions of goodwill and sincere regret at her departure.

The Vestry Meeting on Sunday evening, May 14th, elected Messrs. Wise and Robson as chapelwardens, and Messrs. Hubbard, McIntyre, Viljoen and Woods sidesmen.

As at Naauwpoort, the formation of a Parochial Church Council was deferred to a subsequent date.

We extend a welcome to Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard from Somerset East, Mr. and Mrs. Homan from Naauwpoort, and Mr. and Mrs. van Rensburg from Rosmead.

Your prayers are desired for the Confirmation candidates. The Bishop has kindly promised to come to us in August.

ROSMEAD. Services have been held regularly at Rosmead. On two occasions bad weather—if welcome rains can be so described—reduced the attendances.

Canon Jones took the services on May 28th, and writes "We had nice services." Please keep it up. Rosmead!

CYPHERGAT. As the Head took Rosmead, I was able to get down to Cyphergat once more and had a pleasant week-end, being the guest of Mrs. Phillips. Mr. Hind being in England, I could not be motored to Stormberg and so spent the whole day there. The services were well attended. We were glad to see Mr. Hogg back again on duty after his operation in hospital at East London.

STORMBERG. On Monday morning I took the first train to Stormberg and visited every cottage except one (the occupier being out), but very few responded to the invitation to public worship.

HOFMEYR had the Sunday after Easter and we had good services. My hostess was Mrs. Ogilvie, of Karree Kloof.

HANOVER ROAD, TAAIBOSCH and NORVALS PONT have all been visited during the past quarter and I hope to get round again very soon.

Yours sincerely,

EDMUND D. SMITH.

Addo, C.P.,
June 9th, 1922.

Dear Friends,

Though I only began officially on the 1st, and came to the section on the 3rd—so really have very little to write about—I am sending these few lines in good time (not as a matter of virtue, but of necessity). For before joining, I had awful warnings of what would happen to me, if I did not write in time! Being of a timid nature, I am seeking to avoid the vengeance which awaits the remiss Mission worker at the hands (or pen) of the Hon. Editor, on this occasion at least: as for the future—-!
Most kindly the Head came with me to the section, and on Whitsunday conducted the services at ALICEDALE. The services were well attended, especially Evensong: if only people will come as well in the future as they did that day, it will be most encouraging to the workers, and make the services far more joyous for the congregation. And why not?

At Alicedale we were joined by Miss Short; and together we attended a Welcome which was very kindly arranged for us. Mr. Bert Harvey was in the chair, and we had a most enjoyable evening.

On the Monday we came to Addo in the caboose.

I would take this opportunity of thanking those whom I have already met, for their welcome to me, and the kindness shown. I trust that before very long I may meet all the rest on the length. If I miss visiting anyone, please just let me know, and I will come along as soon as I can. Or if you see Miss Short, and don’t care to inform me direct, I feel sure she will be kind enough to let me know.

In conclusion, I would ask you to pray each week—each day if you will—that the Holy Spirit may inspire and direct Miss Short and myself, in our work amongst you and for you; as also the workers of the Mission in general, and the Head in particular in all his arduous and responsible work. In his first general order to his brigade, Brigadier-General Bathurst (who died of wounds at the age of twenty-six), said, “There are more things accomplished by prayer, than you or I dream of.” Let us pray.

Yours sincerely,

G. H. Thorne

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DIOCESE OF PRETORIA.

Waterval Boven,
Transvaal,
May 24th, 1922.

My dear Friends,

My last letter ended with an exhortation to prepare ourselves for the Inaugural Mission. This month the Mission must come in the foreground. It is uppermost in my thoughts now and will be until it is over, and I trust we shall have profound spiritual benefits from it. I sincerely hope that our friends at Boven and Komatipoort are trying to do their share through prayer, meditation and Bible reading to prepare themselves. Those outside these places can remember the Mission in their prayers. Although we are scattered over some 800 miles of railway, still we are one body, one parish, and we can be confident of the fact that all sincere prayers will bring their own blessing.

The Bishop has arranged to spend a week from July 10th to 16th with us at Komatipoort and Waterval Boven. The 10th and 11th we hope to spend at Komatipoort, the 13th-16th at Waterval Boven.

During the last week we have had the company of our Head, Canon Jones, at Waterval Boven and Machadodorp. We were all pleased to have him with us again. It was good for us to have him, and receive encouragement and counsel on various difficulties with which we are faced. The Canon took the services at Waterval Boven on the 21st May. We all enjoyed the helpful sermons and I think the preacher enjoyed preaching to the full church in the evening. He proved of great assistance in discussing the building of our church at Machadodorp. The Church Council adopted one of the plans submitted to us by Canon Jones. The whole subject was freely discussed and finally it was decided to proceed with the building as soon as possible, which means within the next month. By the time the rains start we hope to have the building completed and paid for. Various efforts are being made to raise another £50 which we hope, together with what we have, will meet all the expenses of the building. Well done, Machadodorp! The way you have all worked to raise the money required is exemplary. During the last 10 months that you have been working for your own church, it is noteworthy that your duty to the
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Mission, by collections and sustentation fund, has not flagged. Do not rest at ease now thinking you have done enough but push forward the work until the church is completely furnished.

I have written so much about Machadodorp and Boven that I'm afraid readers will think my work begins and ends there. Since writing my last letter I have been over my section from Komatipoort to Koeboespoort, Abor to Eloff, and from Breyten to Trichardts, Leslie and Kinross. We have had excellent services at most of the places; Rayton excelled, no less than 57 turning up for our evening service. At Wilge River we roped in some folk on holiday and so increased our congregation considerably. The holiday makers were from Pretoria, and some of the men were wondering what their wives would say to them when they told them they had been to church. I hope they remembered the text and sermon so that they could bring it forward as evidence of the fact. I further hope that they will continue going to church in Pretoria.

After the service at Wilge River a musical evening was spent at Mr. W. McCall's, which all enjoyed immensely. I should like to comment on all the visits I have made, but if I do this letter will certainly not be in time for the next issue.

I must not omit to mention that Delmas is having a bazaar on the 27th of this month. Mrs. Vickers has very kindly organised it and has been ably assisted by her friends. We wish them every success in this effort. In our next issue we shall have a little more to say about it. I trust we shall be able to report it as a huge success.

Yours faithfully,

E. Herbert.

NORTHERN RHODESIA AND BELGIAN CONGO.

Elisabethville,
June 7th, 1922.

Dear Friends,

Very much might be written about the actual life and experiences of the chaplain on this section which would come as real news to many—especially those in South Africa. Only a few who have acted in that capacity are really able to tell these. That, however, is not my object in writing this letter, nor do I propose to write about those happenings which normally appear in a parish magazine because they are to be found in the dailies and weeklies. I simply want to write about those things about which I am most frequently asked.

1. There are no headquarters at Broken Hill and, under the present system, they would be of little use. They would merely serve as a storehouse for my large baggage and be used during the stay of four or five days I make there every month.

2. My postal address is:

Broken Hill P.O.,
N. Rhodesia,

and the postal officials there kindly keep my correspondence until I call for it, and this accounts for the fact that sometimes I see people who have written to me before I have received their letter. It's rather unsafe to have this forwarded to me, since a small change in my programme may mean that my letters miss me, and then it may be four or five weeks before I receive them.

3. I am sorry that I cannot get to some places more often than I do, but time spent in travelling is the determining factor. Every month I am at Broken Hill for the first Sunday and at Elisabethville for the second, and every other month I go about 100 miles further north to Panda. My movements last month were therefore as follow: I was at Magoye on May 3rd; Broken Hill on the 7th; leaving there at 9 a.m. by goods train on the 8th, I caught the mail train at Sakania on the morning of the 9th; that evening I reached Elisabethville and, leaving there on the 17th, reached Panda in the late evening. The length of stay at Elisabethville, though very acceptable and welcome, is governed by the railway timetable.) I left Panda on the evening of the
22nd and, travelling by mail train as far as Lusaka, I arrived at Mazabuka on the morning of the 26th, and about 11 p.m. of the 30th I was back at Broken Hill. If you want a Baptism or private celebration of the Holy Communion, I shall be glad to let you know, if you will write to me at Broken Hill, on what date I shall be at a place on the railway near to you.

4. It's the untiring kindness and consideration of the Railway officials, all along the Line, which makes it possible for me to move as much as I do.

5. It's a matter for grateful thanks that people not only lend, but, in many cases, prepare their private room, their dining-room, mess room or schoolroom for services. One of the suit cases I carry with me, when off the coach, is not fitted with personal clothing but books, robes, altar fittings, communion set, etc.

6. A very wide stretch of imagination is required to describe a railway caboose as "home."

7. To sleep on a bed which is free from jumps and bumps and which does not run over the sleepers; and to sit at a table which is not likely to pitch its burden into your lap, are real pleasures and extraordinarily welcome to a railway chaplain. I am extremely thankful for many such kindnesses.

8. It's impossible to write whilst the Mission caboose is in motion and, when it's stationary, there is office work to be done as well as parochial duties and walking or cycling round to do the latter must often take the place of other exercise. As nice as it would be to accept all the invitations to join in shooting trips or other pleasurable excursions, we have to remember that a padre's time is not his own and his free time may not coincide with that of others.

9. Some places contribute far more proportionately to the Mission funds than others and have far more heartening services as a result of their keenness and enthusiasm in offering their prayers and praises as a congregation.

10. "The Congo," I visit, is "The Belgian Congo," and everyone who goes there must be prepared to respect, first of all, Belgian laws, rules and regulations, and secondly, though in no less degree, his own particular national pride. It's right to expect, also, that Belgians should give their own people the first refusal of a billet in their own territory.

11. I consider it nothing less than an insult to the name of Cecil Rhodes to try to cloak a multitude of sins under the term "Rhodesian" and, also, to the man who does not forget but acts up to the noble traditions of a true Englishman or Britisher though he may be proud to call himself a "Rhodesian."

12. Likewise, it is wrong to call yourself a "Pioneer" when you generally travel by railway, sleep at hotels, have brick houses, stores, and garages about you. It's well to remember that the term "Pioneering" by no means implies or includes moral laxity.

13. Finally, I consider, white skin is more vulnerable than black and shows up more distinctly in the shade. Tanned leather wears out, and a soleless boot is as useless for advertising the superiority of a certain make of boots as a soulless and wanting white man is for advertising the superiority of the white races. It is as foolish to imagine that the mere possession of a white skin will always be a sort of magic charm and a sufficient and satisfactory protection against the moral, economic and (probably) political advances of the natives—just as foolish as it would be to imagine a bottle of whisky an adequate protection against the rush of a roaring lion or the silent approach of an anopholes. The result of every attack will depend upon the extent we are prepared to meet it. To court such attacks is foolish, but not to meet them, when they come, is cowardly.

Yours sincerely,

J. W. Peppercorn.
My dear Friends,

It seems ages since I last wrote anything for our magazine, but you know the reason for my neglect last time; however, here's to make up for all shortcomings!

I think the first thing of interest to be recorded is the wedding of Mr. Dunbar Kidd (Compound Manager of Wankie Colliery) to Miss Mary Griffiths (Wankie). The wedding was at St. John's on March 30th. All of us who know the bride and bridegroom were asked to the reception at Mr. Gough's house in Bulawayo, where toasts were drunk and good wishes were given to them.

After this I paid a visit to the JESSIE MINE, GWANDA, etc., as owing to my illness I had to return previously without taking services. At Jessie I was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Heely. I am sure that everyone who knew Mr. and Mrs. Heely will be sorry that they have left the Jessie Mine, where they have been for nearly five years. Wherever they go we wish them happiness and good luck.

I was at Gwanda for Palm Sunday and, as usual, we had very good services. Gwanda has changed a lot these days. First of all Mr. and Mrs. Paxton have gone to the Old Country for six months' holiday and do not expect to go back to Gwanda; then Mr. and Mrs. Watters must trek off to some unearthly spot 126 miles from Gwanda, called Mteengwe, on the borders of the Limpopo! And, as if we hadn't lost quite enough of our congregation, Mr. Gordon (Stationmaster) with Mrs. Gordon and family are transferred to INYAZURA! I shall miss them every one, for they were all worshippers at our services. Gwanda too will miss them, for they all contributed to the social and sporting activities of the town. Mr. Arnott of the B.S.A.P. will not altogether be lost to us even though he is now at Livingstone. We must take this opportunity to welcome heartily Mr. Hick, the new A.N.C., and Mr. Cowley, the Stationmaster. Mrs. Cowley, we understand, will shortly be returning from England.

Canon Jones had a very busy week-end at Eastertide. He took services at BALLA BALLA, BUSH TICK and ESSEXVALE; at the last-mentioned place on Easter Day there was a wonderful turnout at the Morning Service. Everyone was delighted to have the opportunity of services and of meeting the Head.

On Good Friday I took a service at CEMENT, and on Easter Day I was at ST. CYRIL'S and BELLEVUE. I'm sure residents of Cement and Bellevue will not mind my saying that the attendance at services are poor. Won't you all try to bring in a spirit of corporate worship? It is sad, too, that with about 20 children in each place no one can be found to take a regular Sunday School. It is deplorable that little ones are to grow up superficially taught the things that really concern the spiritual life. Can't we bring about a new state of things?

After this I went up to WANKIE, DETT, VICTORIA FALLS, FULLER and MATETSI, taking services at each place. After the usual monthly services at St. Cyril's and Bellevue, where at the latter place I baptised the infant son of my host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Minter, I went down to TSESSEBE. There after the Farmers' Meeting I had a splendid service, a nice number of the farmers taking the opportunity and staying over for it. Next morning, after Holy Communion, the 3 down picked up the coach and put it off for me at MARULA. Here I stayed three days, visiting the farms around SANDOWN and SYRINGA. It's some "sebenza" (hard work) on a push bike, but the wonderful hospitality that is given and the welcome makes the journeys worth while. I was glad I was able to get to see Mrs. Fraser of Syinga before she died. May the God of all Comfort be with those who mourn her.

At Marula we had good services and, as is always the case here, the children distinguished themselves well in all questions
asked them.

I omitted above to mention that Tsessebe has now a regular Sunday School under Mrs. Tarr; several children are getting ready for the Victoria Bible Reading Examination, though, as I explained to them, they have had very little instruction as compared with other places.

The Bishop of Southern Rhodesia visited WANKIE at the end of April and while there Confirmed Mr. Ormerod and Mr. Fletcher.

I have just returned from FIGTREE, where I had quite good services; this time I stayed at Caterham Valley as the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Williams. I thoroughly enjoyed those couple of days on the veld. Mrs. Woods has been ordered a trip home by the doctor. We wish her bon voyage, and shall look forward to her return, and hope she will in England pick up renewed health and strength. Miss Muriel White has kindly undertaken the “organ” duties while Mrs. Woods is away.

On Ascension Day our Bishop held a Confirmation at St. John’s Bulawayo. Five candidates from “The Line” were presented. The church was crowded and the service was truly a very impressive one. We pray that the Bishop’s words will make a lasting impression on all those who were Confirmed that night and also on those who attended the service. It was a message for all of us.

The Whitsuntide message is that we pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit that He may in all things give us a right judgment. That’s just what God’s Holy Spirit is doing for numbers and numbers, and will for us, a right judgment of the Way of Life, if we only ask Him.

Yours very sincerely,
C. W. S. STENSON.
cannot leave their Station on the Sunday. Mr. Thorne has our best wishes for every joy and happiness in the work.

We do miss Mr. Banks among us. He had endeared himself to many, and one hears expressions of regret at his departure on all sides. We wish our old friend much happiness and we trust that life may be less strenuous for him in the years to come.

I was glad to be present—quite by accident—at Miss Andrewartha's farewell at Cookhouse on April 12th, and I was able to go on board with her at Port Elizabeth on the 21st. She was in her usual good spirits, and a letter from her last mail speaks of a most enjoyable voyage to England.

During the quarter, visits have been paid to ALICEDALE, BELLEVUE, SANDFLATS, MIMOSA, CORNEY, ADDO, BARKLY BRIDGE, COEGA, ALOES, RIPON, and MIDDLETON, and Lantern Services were held in most of these places. I had a most delightful stay in ALEXANDRIA last month, and I was so glad to meet the Mothers' Union members there. We had a Lantern Service in the church one evening, and repeated it the next night in the Native Mission.

KLIPPLAAT. March 27th was a red-letter day for the Girl Guides at Klipplaat, when the Divisional Commissioner, Mrs. Seale, came all the way from Grahamstown to inspect us and to enrol five new recruits, one of whom came a seven hours' journey to be enrolled and to spend a very happy week-end as the guest of two other Guides.

We had a very happy time and finished up the day with an Entertainment, which was a very creditable performance considering that the Guides themselves sustained the whole programme. I think the "Ambulance Sketch" was almost the best item: there was one moment of breathlessness when the Commissioner walked up to the platform to examine the knots, and equally one of relief when she pronounced them "All correct." We offer our best thanks to all who helped to make this Guide week-end a success. The Klipplaat Company has accepted the kind offer of the 2nd Y.W.C.A. Company, Port Elizabeth, to link with them by correspondence, and in this way we hope to encourage and cheer each other to greater efforts.

HOLIDAY COMPETITION. The results of the January Holiday Competition are out now and most of the children have received their prizes. There were thirty-four competitors and nineteen prize-winners. I was much pleased with the work the children sent in, especially with the needlework of the girls and the woodwork of the boys. There is not room to print a list of prize-winners, but the articles which deserve special mention are the bonnets made by Gertrude Pretorius, Georgenia Selley and Aileen Slabbert, also Agnes Dewar's doll, and Jack Anderson's knife-box. The children gave the things they made to the Mission, and they are either being sold for the Mission funds, or used to help on the work in other ways. I am most grateful to the friends in Port Elizabeth, who kindly judged the work.

VICTORIA BIBLE EXAMINATION. Writing of the children's work reminds me of the Bible Examination which has just been held. Some of the little ones on this section showed me their papers before sending them in, and I was struck with one failing about most of them. They were patchy. Parts of the paper were well done and other parts were in a hopeless muddle, and I think the reason is that some of the children have got into a bad way of dropping a quarter's questions here and there. Well, if they do that the work is bound to be patchy and also the total marks on the year's work will be considerably lessened.

Parents, won't you point out to the children the importance of doing well and thoroughly whatever they undertake? Far more serious than the loss of marks or position is the damage done to the character by careless, slipshod ways. It is better not to undertake the work at all than to do it fitfully. "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might."

There have been many changes of late. It was a great shock to jump off 26 Up
one night at Sandflats and to be greeted by Mrs. Anderson to say “Goodbye” as they were leaving on the next train for Somerset East! Mrs. Anderson has been a steady, faithful friend, not only in Sunday School and Church life, but all over the camp, and we greatly miss her and the Stationmaster and their family. But it is not all sadness. Cookhouse gains friends in S.M. and Mrs. Hubbard and their family from Somerset East, and we welcome an old friend in Sandflats in the person of Mr. Kirkup from Hanover Road. S.M. and Mrs. Rothero have come to Zwartkops from Maseru, and Mrs. Rothero is already much better for the change. Our old friend Mr. Harrison, of Aloe, has retired—to Grahamstown—and we welcome Mr. and Mrs. Smitherman from Witmoss at Aloe. S.M. and Mrs. Darrell, senior, have removed to Bluecliffe and their place at Aberdeen Road has been taken by S.M. and Mrs. Smith from Longhope. Our friends Mr. and Mrs. Bell of Roodehoogte are now at Longhope. Foreman Knoetze has left Bellevue for Carlton.

It seems a very long time since I saw some of you and I am afraid you will think I am neglectful, but the reason is that I have had a holiday. I thoroughly enjoyed it too, and I feel much rested and refreshed. Now I am in the coach and coming along as fast as I can. The Head has asked me to visit in Cookhouse camp in the future. I have already found friends there and I shall be glad to come along as often as possible, but don't expect too much of me! I want you all to remember that I can always be got at through the post, and if you want me specially I will come at once. I often arrive at a place to find that I had been wanted a week or two ago, and when I enquire why they didn't write or wire, the reply is usually, “Oh, we didn't exactly know where you were.” Of course you didn't! but my address is always the same (2, Cuyler Crescent, Port Elizabeth), and the folks at my headquarters generally know where I am.

Our congratulations are offered to Mr. and Mrs. Plumbridge, of Paterson (Sandflats) on the birth of their second daughter, Dorothy Alice, and we welcome another little girl into the home of Ganger and Mrs. Howell at Klipplaat.

And so we have come round to another anniversary of the Church's Birthday, and as we set out on another year's pilgrimage let us stir ourselves to fresh effort for our Master. If each one of us resolved to undertake one new thing for Him this year, what a lot could be done! We have plenty of energy for our sports and entertainments and that is all right, but so often our efforts for Church work are weak and anaemic. Do let us get some glow and enthusiasm into things. Let us pray that the gift of "boldness and fervent zeal," given to the Apostles on that first Whitsunday, may be renewed in us, zeal to persevere with ourselves, boldness to witness for "Christ and Him crucified." I am sure each one of us can lay our hands on some thing quite near at hand that wants doing to help on the cause of Christ, if it's only the church door handle that needs mending or the palings, or an overworked Sunday School teacher needing a helping hand. Haven't you often been struck by the wonderful way in which the world of Nature keeps the Season in the Christian Year? In England now there are the wonderful chestnuts with each candle aflame, and the fields are aglow with purple clover and golden buttercup, while here in our own country the scarlet aloes are setting the world ablaze with God's message—the message of the Comforter, the Spirit of Power and of love.

Yours sincerely,

NORAH W. SHORT.

29, Ebden Street,
Queenstown,
June 5th, 1922.

My dear Friends,

I have just returned from a most delightful holiday and am feeling ready to tackle anything that comes along. First of all I spent ten days by the sea and then my
sister and I went to the Victoria Falls. We had a compartment to ourselves all the way; it seemed as if the ticket examiners knew we had not had a real holiday together for twelve years! Since last writing I have visited KEI ROAD, where we had a very beautiful Confirmation service, and after the service we met the Bishop of Grahamstown at the Rectory, where Canon and Mrs. Brown-Ellis entertained us all for tea. The following morning three of the newly confirmed made their first Communion before returning to their homes. On the Sunday morning at 8 o'clock all the newly confirmed from Amabele came to Kei Road to make their Communion, so it was a very happy time for us all.

IMVANI meant a very busy time as usual with Guides, Scouts, Sunday School and visiting. We are very sorry to lose Mr. and Mrs. Bowker and family and trust Mr. Bowker will have better health in the future.

TYLDEN has, I think, the keenest Patrol of Guides you could find anywhere. They are doing splendid work and are developing in the four directions for which the movement stands: (1) Character and intelligence; (2) skill and technical knowledge; (3) service for others; (4) physical health and development.

THOMAS RIVER. Mr. and Mrs. Hurford were as hospitable as ever. We had a good attendance at the Lantern, and in the morning, in spite of wind and rain, Miss Pinkham walked with me to Cottage 22. I am sorry Miss Pinkham is leaving us so soon and sincerely hope the children will continue to do the Bible Competition in which they have taken such a good place owing to her enthusiasm.

AMABELE kept me busy all the time teaching and visiting. The Staff seems to be dwindling there as in most places.

BAILEY. A hurricane blew all the day, so it was impossible to get up the Line, but we had a large number at the Lantern in the evening. It was so nice to see Miss Owen once more. She has a dear little cottage and was busy boarding up snake-holes! Having trodden on one rinkhals and been chased by another, she did not want any uninvited guests!

CARRICKMORE. Mr. and Mrs. Els gave me a warm welcome. Little Ivy is developing into quite a wonderful musician.

CYPHERGAT I visited for a few hours. Mr. Hogg was on the sick list, I am sorry to say. Mr. and Miss Hind were off to England. The passenger train was six hours late, so a goods took me to STERKSTROOM, where I was glad to find Mrs. Turner rather better. I hope the transfer to Natal will be a beneficial change. The good wishes of all will go with Mr. and Mrs. Turner, and many of us feel we have lost a very good friend. Mr. and Mrs. Wheatley have been transferred to Molteno. It does not do to be selfish, but I don't like losing so many real friends from my section. Mr. and Mrs. Klemp have gone to Blaney, where I hope to see them before long.

BOWKER'S PARK. Mr. Cooke is the complete staff now, I think! I spent a few hours there and went over to Flower's Halt as well, then joined the train and went to DOHNE, where I arrived in the very early hours of the morning. Saturday was taken up with Guides and Brownies in the morning and visiting in the afternoon. On Sunday we had Sunday School and Service. On Monday I went to CATHCART to say goodbye to Mr. and Mrs. Aschman and family. We are very sorry they have gone so far away—Aliwal North—and hope they will be very happy there. I shall miss Thurl and Ivan very much and Miss Aschman's kindness too. A hearty welcome to Mr. and Mrs. Campbell, who come from Molteno. I hope Mrs. Campbell has made a thorough recovery from fever.

BUTTERWORTH. I enjoyed my visit immensely. The Reverend and Mrs. Yates made me very welcome, and how nice to have Cubs to meet you at the station and also to bring your luggage down when leaving! The Lantern was very well attended and much appreciated. Mr. and Mrs,
Schäfer have also been transferred and gone to Fort Beaufort, I think, so have left my section too. We all hope Mrs. Schäfer will have better health.

IDUTYWA was a delightful bit. I stayed at the Rectory with the Reverend Sydney and Mrs. Barrett and had a full time-table. On the Monday afternoon I spoke to a meeting of the ladies of Idutywa and in the evening had a Lantern Service. Besides visiting and speaking to the Sunday School, I was very pleased to have the opportunity of getting in touch with some of the good people along the Line, and soon I hope to visit them. Mr. and Mrs. Slogrove have been transferred to George, and I do hope it will mean renewed health to Mr. Slogrove and Grannie. Mr. Keating from Dordrecht has taken his place—all good wishes.

UMTATA. Mr. Hann is now pensioned, but at the time of my visit was away on sick leave. I hope he will be able to enjoy the rest after so many years of splendid service. I came back again to Imvani for the week-end, and then to ELLIOT for a couple of days and on to RYNO, where we had the usual happy gathering in Mr. Wilkinson's large room. Then back again to Dohne for the usual week-end and on to TOISE RIVER, where the Scouts are doing well, also the Bownies. I hear Mr. Macdonald has been transferred to East London. Flora and Willie will go on with their Scout and Brownie work there, I hope.

WAKU was the last place I visited before my holiday, and as I had a bad cold I did not return to Amabele for the week-end, but Mrs. Hopkins bossed me up and spoilt me!

I cannot end without a word of sincere sympathy with Mr. and Mrs. Muller in the tragic death of their son William through accident. His sufferings were only for a short time when he passed over to the other side.—R.I.P.

Mr. and Mrs. van de Waldt also have our sympathy I am sure in the death of their eldest daughter.—R.I.P. "God gives us Love, something to love He lends us," and He alone can heal the broken heart.

Your sincere friend,

MILLICENT PORTER.

Diocese of Pretoria.

Waterval Boven,
Ascension Day, 1922.

My dear Friends,

As my notes arrived too late to be put in the last magazine, I should like just to mention the children's work at Christmas and during Lent.

A few toys were sent to St. Mary's and St. George's Homes from Hatherley—the rest, from the Section generally, to the Leper Homes, Pretoria. Amongst these were a few scrap books which the Matron, Miss Whiteman, was so delighted that it gives us an idea for Lent work. Other toys were given to the little leper children on Easter Day, to mark that Festival. Money collected at Children's Christmas Services went to St. Joseph's Orphanage Building Fund; to anyone wishing to know more about the need for this orphanage for coloured children, I shall be glad to give papers.

During Lent our children made scrap books for the leper children and bedridden invalids, and they all found pleasure in helping as they could, to bring a little more happiness to those who suffer.

A new Sunday School has been started at Silverton with Miss Johnstone as teacher; it is a great thing to have a regular Church Sunday School in this scattered district, and we wish it all success. A number of candidates are preparing for Confirmation. I want to ask your prayers for them. We hope that several may be confirmed during the next few months.

The Bishop of Pretoria will be holding Missions at Komatipoort and Waterval Boven from July 9th to 17th. I believe many of us who cannot be present, will think of our Bishop and of those able to
take part in the Mission, that in prayer we may be united—longing that the glory of God may be manifested by lives strengthened and refreshed with the Holy Spirit, daily increasing in His Power, shown in the increase of Love, Joy, Peace, etc., in our dealings with others, that all may be living members of the living Church, Christ Himself being our Master and our Head.

Machadodorp Church Building Fund is growing—and the church soon to be begun to be built. We are all delighted, but more work has yet to be done to enable us to be out of debt when the last nail is knocked in! I have still several hundred cards of “Bricks”; please ask for some. I find friends in England are glad to help that way, and the Sunday School children in various places have done splendidly in selling bricks. Orders for needlework also will be gladly carried out, if sent to Mrs. de Graeff, Machadodorp, or to me to pass on!

With all good wishes.

Your sincere friend,

Kathleen Gardner.

Diocese of Bloemfontein.

Travelling,
June 8th.

My dear Friends,

I am gathering inspiration for these notes from the snow-capped Malutis! Such a lot has happened this quarter, I scarcely know where to begin. I managed to be in Bloemfontein for a Quiet Day in May, so pass on some thoughts from the Bishop’s address. They may help someone. In the first address it was pointed out to us how we can gain from regular Bible reading—taking the Bible as our basis we see how God trains nations and individuals. That training involves:

a. (1) Obedience, because God is Supreme Ruler; (2) Holiness, because God is Holy; (3) Love, because God is Love.

b. Because God is the Supreme Ruler of the Universe. He cannot be wrong and we right. Therefore if we are to fulfil our destiny, i.e. the purpose of our creation by God, and become eventually like Him in character we must obey His laws.

c. If we believe that God is sovereign ruler we must acknowledge our dependence on Him, and our own instability and weakness apart from Him.

Lastly, it is as we develop spiritually, and aim at Obedience, Holiness, Love, that we are able to get a clearer vision of the disparity between the standard of God and the standard of the world.

This year I got back for Easter—it helps one to realise the need on the veld to be in on great Festivals for the Cathedral services.

During Holy Week and Passion Week I had Lantern Services on the Passion at LINDLEY ROAD, VENTERSBURG ROAD, KAALAAGTE, WOLVEHOEK, MODDERPOORT and KARREE.

Archdeacon Hulme was able to give Easter Communion to those at VILJOEN’S DRIFT, DOVER, MARSEILLES, PETRUS, VENTERSBURG ROAD. Father Amor went to MILNER BRIDGE Cottage.

Children’s Classes have been held at DOVER, VILJOEN’S DRIFT, TWEESPRUIT, LINDLEY ROAD, KAALAAGTE, VET RIVER, WHITE’S SIDING; and Confirmation Classes at PETRUS, MILNER BRIDGE; and VILJOEN’S DRIFT, BRANDFORT, WELGELEGEN, THEUNISSEN, RIET RIVER, BETHANY, have had ordinary visits, and HEILBRON one by request.

Up the line Cottages and groups 65, 23, 343, 168, 185, 101, 104, 106, 57, 121 have been visited.

Much the same thing happens week by week—there have been many changes on the station staffs, and I have consequently had to visit new places.

WINBURG had its first visit this quarter, and it is so cheering when one finds someone who will act as god-mother to new communicants. I am grateful to Mrs. MacLennan for her help in this way. I have
looked up S.M. and Mrs. Gubb at MASERU, and found another Church family, Driver and Mrs. Valentine; on the way I stopped at VINE'S SIDING. Mrs. Jordaan will put me up next time, so that I can see more of them.

At VIRGINIA I stayed with Mrs. Stokes and promised a Lantern Service later; here there is one communicant, one of the many scattered ones.

VIERFONTEIN was a fruitful visit. I stayed the week-end, and visited all the people. There is a regular weekly Sunday School and three teachers. The principal asked me to take a Children's Service on the Sunday. There were about fifty, and it was most inspiring. S.M. Mackenzie still thrives. On Monday I went on to Botha-ville, and found everyone there well too.

WOLVEHOEK has not had many visits this quarter. On several occasions I have arrived to find Dutch, Wesleyan and Weeder Dooper services advertised, so leave the ground to them.

We offer our sympathy to S.M. and Mrs. Johnson—their youngest daughter Dolly passed away during their holiday at Durban after a short illness.

On May 16th we had a meeting in Bloemfontein to revive the Mission Association. I have always felt the need of a central body of people to back up the work. Mrs. Potter's keenness and interest gave the necessary impetus. We had a happy and useful meeting—and one result of it is the regular monthly intercessions for work and people along the Line, combined with those of the Cathedral Missionary Intercessions.

MOTHERS' UNION. The Diocesan Secretary is anxious for the Railway Branch of the Mothers' Union to be started again. We have no record of old members; and if anything is to be done, I shall be glad to have sent to me the names of those who are members. It is not much use starting with new members, if old ones have been allowed to lapse.

GIRL GUIDES. I have, after thinking out ways and means, decided to work up a Company at Viljoens Drift. There we have a good number of girls, who can be helped by this, for it is a society which does develop its members morally, physically and spiritually. The boys are keen too. At Tweespruit there are two Guide companies and two Brownie packs going strong, under the leadership of Miss B. Taylor.

Now a word about the Tweespruit Social on 6th May. We had talked about it before S.M. and Mrs. Lodge departed. In April I received a note: "If you want anything for that sale, send us an official list of what you want." Result, Mr. Nicholas and Mr. Taskar collected subscriptions, Miss Jansen and the children's parents and friends made toys, cakes and useful articles, and we had a very happy social evening of games and music—and there is not much doubt about such efforts being blessed. The Sunday School is making headway—twenty-five, including the four-year-olds, and sometimes the cat!

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Finally, thanks to those who provided the refreshments for the Bloemfontein meeting—Mesdames Potter, MacLennan, Linnington, Duke; Misses Glasier, Foster; Mr. Kerr. Also to Miss Littlewood for sacks of old library books, which are being greatly appreciated by those who have no libraries along the Line.

Oh! I must not forget to say I paid a visit to S.M. Wadmore and family at LOVAT. They say they always read what I say. I never said anything about Welgelegen! They say Lovat is the jolliest place they have ever been in—their S.M. to the youngest member of the family they gain weight weekly; only of course they
too are cut off from Sunday services. To cheer them Mr. Falkener hopes to visit them next time he is at Lindley Road.

Before beginning my third year of work amongst you, I am going to the coast for a sea-breeze, so you will not see much of me before August.

Yours sincerely,
Julienne Batcham.

Diocese of Southern Rhodesia.
The Cottage, Bulawayo, S.R.,
June 5th, 1922.

Dear Friends,

Having at last a really free moment, I will begin my letter to you. Life is really full, and yet how splendid it is to be busy. How difficult it is to retrospect; one is generally at a loss where to begin.

I have visited Gwanda, Essexvale, Balla-Balla, Cement Siding, Belle Vue, Marula Siding, etc., several times since my last letter to you. To-day I have been to Cement for a Girl Guide meeting. We have now five keen Guides there. We spent the whole morning doing knots, flag-work, etc. Mrs. F. Cummings, who is the President of the movement there, is giving lectures in first aid, invalid cooking, and home nursing. I am sure the Guides are grateful and need not be told what an advantage it is, and something not to be missed. In this country women and girls cannot know too much about these things, as well as domestic subjects. I have found so many girls know so little, and really, in the Colonies you know one should be thoroughly capable and adaptable. We who are keen Guides and Guiders are naturally wishing all our Guides to go in for all the badges possible, such as needlework, cookery, children's nurse, Red Cross, etc., and so be useful and help others.

Yesterday I spent at Belle Vue, but owing to the holidays many children were away, so most of my time was spent in visiting.

On Ascension Day the Bishop of Southern Rhodesia confirmed over 100 candidates in St. John's Church, Bulawayo: among them from the Line were Dorothy Hill and Florence Hill, Gwanda; Peggy Coulson, Balla-Balla; Nancy Scott-Roger, Bulawayo. We ask your prayers for them, that they may ever be Christ's faithful soldiers and servants unto their lives' end.

On the 13th I go to Kennedy Halt, and on the 19th to Gwanda, after which I hope to go to West Nicholson, Balla-Balla, and touch at Essexvale.

Some time in June or July I want to get out to Tuli to see the Native Commissioner, Mr. Walters, and Mrs. H. Walters and their family. The Walters family have left Gwanda, where I stayed with them so often. Their camp is right in the wilds. It all sounds a perfect adventure from the Walters' description! On the 29th of April Mr. and Mrs. Goslin, of Kalomo, N.R., left Bulawayo for England. Fortunately, I was able to see them at the Grand Hotel and wish them bon voyage.

The St. Gabriel's Brownie Pack are getting on wonderfully; all second class work will be through by June 20th. I wish it over as they go to St. Aidan's for their holiday. The Town Brownies are minus a Brown Owl, so I am doing my best to help their very efficient Pack Leader, Linda Macdonald, until such time as the return of Mrs. Cecil Roberts from her holiday in the Home Country.

On May 23rd Miss Porter arrived from her trip to the Falls. It was good to see each other and have a good talk, only all too short, because she left for Plumtree on Ascension Day by the 5 p.m. mail. Still, in all our spare moments we did talk, I assure you!

This week I have a dance for S.A.C.R.M. funds at Ralton, and on Thursday an Investiture for Guides and Brownies at the Drill Hall, Bulawayo. Lady Chaplin is to enrol new Guides, etc. I hope to take St. Gabriel's and the Town Brownies, No. I and No. II Packs.

Bulawayo Show is now a thing of the
past. In spite of the terrible drought, the cattle, and also provisions were surprising; and it was all very jolly—we try not to be downcast by the prevailing depression and to remember—God is ever good.

Shadows o'ercloud for a moment—
Quickly past;
And even the sun the brighter shines
That it was overcast.
And so, cheer up everyone; there is a better time coming, and it is
“To God's own sunshine we emerge,
Through Hopeful Street.”
Your friend,
Olive Stenson-Stenson.

CHILDREN’S PAGE.

Box 133,
Grahamstown,
June 19th, 1922.

My dear Children,
The great excitement this quarter is the results of the Victoria Bible Reading Examination, and I am sure you are all most anxious to see who are the successful candidates. Well, here they are. The examiner told me that he marked the papers very strictly indeed, and that every mark gained was well deserved. I heartily congratulate the prizewinners in the yearly examination. George Probert is first in the Seniors with 120 marks, and Elsie Jones second with 112 marks. In the Junior Examination Winifred Steggles is first with 69 marks and Hester Meyer second with 64.

In the quarterly examinations I was sorry to find that in the Seniors only four have done the questions quarter by quarter through the year. The Juniors are much to be praised, for eleven of them have done the four quarterly papers. Mr. Watson’s prizes will this year go to George Probert (177 marks) and Francis Killian (173 marks), both seniors. In the Junior quarterly examination Clare Robertson obtained the highest marks (173) and Hester van Kerken the second (170).

I must find out what each would like for prizes and send them off as soon as possible. I do hope that next year every child who begins this quarter’s question will do the four quarters’ questions, because it will be good training in sticking to things when perhaps you would rather be doing something else.

I had a letter from Miss Beckwith two weeks ago. She talked of going to the docks to meet Miss Andrewartha when she arrived in England. Miss Beckwith also very kindly enclosed a competition for you all to try. Print the answers on a postcard and send it to The Editor, Box 133, Grahamstown, before September 10th. Please also notice that the address of the Children’s Secretary is altered.

I see the Head has been telling some funny stories to his grown-up friends, so I don’t see why I shouldn’t tell one or two to my little friends. One of the best friends I have is a little girl of four years old, such a tiny little thing, and she gives me lots of fun and laughter over the things she says. A little while ago her mother had a baby girl. When baby was a week old, I said to Tiny, “Baby is a week old to-day.” She said, “How can she be?” “Well,” I said, “she came last Saturday, and it’s Saturday to-day, so she is a week old.” “Well,” says Tiny, “I think she is very small for her age!” Of course Tiny loves to play with mud and water, and does all the things she ought not to. Her mother went away for a few days last month and before she came back Tiny said, “I think I’ll keep my jersey on to-day, so as to be respectable when mummy gets back.” She teases her father a lot and always has some excuse when he wants to kiss her. One morning he said to her, “Well, Tiny, aren’t you going to kiss me good morning?” Tiny’s excuse was, “My nose is too sniffy for words!”

Goodbye now until next quarter.
Your affectionate friend,
The Editor.

P.S.—Poppy de Lange, I am very pleased to see that, though you are at boarding-school, you are still doing the Quarterly Examination papers.
SENIORES. If you went into your mother's pantry and found a row of pots of jam and the jars were labelled "Not fig," "Not apricot," "Not blackberry," "Not melon," and so on, you would say to yourself, "Well, what in the world are they?"—that means that we naturally prefer to know what things are, rather than what they are not. That is what Jesus Christ wanted us to remember about our religion, that it is something we must be and do, and that it does not simply say what we must not be, and what we must not do. During the year your Bible reading said a great deal about the "spirit" of our religion, and by that we mean that we must have at the back of our minds what we are meant to be—that is, to be like Jesus Christ. I wanted to find out in the question, "What are some of the laws of the Kingdom (Church)?" whether you had seen that, and you will find the answer in St. Matthew 5, verses 3 to 9. You will notice that each law tells us something we must be, and not something we must not be, like the commandments tell us) and all of them together mean we must be like Our Lord. Nearly all of you put the commandments as the laws, those of you who did that have got half marks, because you simply said what you must not do, when you might have said what we must do. In the same question I wanted to see how many of you had learnt that every member of the Kingdom has got to spread the good news of the Kingdom, that is your work and mine because it is what our King came to do: very many of you told me that He came to do it, but very few said that that is our work as well. I liked the way you told the parable of the Prodigal Son in your own words and about Our Lord's birthday, but nearly everyone mixed up "The Wise Men" with "the Shepherds"—if you read the beginning of Our Lord's earthly life in St. Matthew and St. Luke you will see that they are different people. You will see from the marks that the first two papers are easily the best, that is because they added explanations to the answers which they were asked to explain. I was very glad to see papers come in from all over the country; most of them got nearly full marks for neatness, and I want to thank you for helping me to mark the papers by keeping them so tidy. Just one last word. St. Joseph was not the father of Jesus: Jesus is the Son of God, and it is because He is Son of God as well as having a human mother that all He did is able to help us in these days.

JUNIORS. The question about the Day of Pentecost was not answered so well as I hoped. I wanted to be told how people received the same gift of God, the Holy Ghost, as the Apostles, only receive Him in a different way—by baptism. Many of you did tell me that, but I had hoped that more would. I was very glad to see how many of you recognised that you had to tell the story of the "Prodigal Son." Some of you told it quite well, but many of you missed out the part which shows that the wandering son was sorry because he had pained his father's love by leaving him and wasting what his father had given him: that is a very, very important part and so marks were lost over that. Look and see what I have told the Seniors about the "Wise Men" and the "Shepherds"—most of you did the same. There was not much explaining of the parable of the "Sower." Jesus Himself gave the explanation to His Apostles, and I wanted to see how many of you remembered that, when a "parable" is said to have a "heavenly meaning" it means that the meaning has something to do with us as "members of the Kingdom of Heaven"; but not many told me that the parable had much to do with you and me: it has. I can see that nearly all of you took quite a lot of trouble to remember things, and to answer your questions, and I am very glad to have had the chance of seeing how much trouble you did take: anything that is worth doing, is worth doing well: and I expect that next year's questions will show that you have taken more trouble than ever. I was
very strict with the marks, so you know that you deserve every single mark you got, so stick to it, and you will get better and better every day. Look at the “last word” I said to the seniors, I say it to you as well.

SENIORS.
George Probert, Toise River ........................................ 120
Elsie Jones, Chiselhurst, P.O. Cambridge ........................................ 112
Georgina Selley, Middleton ........................................ 88
Aileen Slabbert, Sandflats Station ........................................ 87
Florence Killian, P.O. Somerset East ........................................ 86
Frances Killian, Somerset East Stn. ........................................ 85
Irene Cawood, Nylstroom ........................................ 83
Sarah Hartsief, G.C., Marseilles, O.F.S. ........................................ 75
Johanna Meyer ........................................ 75
Marjorie Veitch ........................................ 74
Jacoba le Roux, Middleton ........................................ 64
Poppy de Lange, Riebeek College, Uitenhage ........................................ 63
Jean Jones, P.O. Cambridge ........................................ 62
James le Roux, Saltaire Station ........................................ 58
Willem Kruger ........................................ 57
Henry Crocker, Imvani ........................................ 55
Mathys Loubsier ........................................ 51
Susan Opperman, Stormberg Station ........................................ 51
Maria van Niekerk, P.O. Sandflats Station ........................................ 50
Bertie Rudman, Saltaire Station ........................................ 41
Naomi Diehl ........................................ 39
John le Roux, Saltaire Station ........................................ 34

JUNIORS.
Winifred Steggles ........................................ 69
Hester Meyer ........................................ 64
Rockford Maguire, Kareiga Station ........................................ 63
Edna Robertson ........................................ 62
Harriet Killian, G.C., Somerset East ........................................ 60
Denis Banks, Kareiga Station ........................................ 60
Jacobus Herbst, Wolvefontein ........................................ 54
Theunis Haggard, P.O. Taibosch ........................................ 53
Abel Oelofse, Wolvefontein Station ........................................ 49
John Anderson, Somerset East Stn........................................ 48
Annie Luke, G.C. 101, Tweespruit ........................................ 48
Hazel van Kerken, Barroe Station ........................................ 46
Mary Classen, Thomas River ........................................ 43
Joyce Watson, Wolvefontein Station ........................................ 42

Florence Hill ........................................ 40
Doris Corneille ........................................ 40
Phoebe Howell ........................................ 39
Lylie Hurford ........................................ 39
Doris Bonsor ........................................ 33
Arthur Hill, Gwanda, Rhodesia ........................................ 33
Pearl Roberts ........................................ 32
Eileen Forrester ........................................ 31
Edna Adams ........................................ 29
Henry Gravett, Thomas River ........................................ 29
John Hill ........................................ 27

Results of Victoria Bible Reading Examination.

APRIL QUARTER, 1922.

SENIORS (out of a possible 50).

JUNIORS (out of a possible 50).
VICTORIA BIBLE READING QUESTIONS.

JULY, 1922.

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 September 10th, to The Children’s Secretary, St. Monica’s Home, Queenstown.

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.

This year we shall try to learn what we must do as Children of God’s Family. Remember that He made the Rulers and so we must obey. It is a splendid thing to know that OUR FATHER wants to use each one of us, but it is not much good to know this if we do not learn His Rules and try to keep them through the help of the Holy Spirit. Perhaps some of you might like to use this little prayer every morning; I am sure it will help you:

“Dear Lord Jesus, please help me to love You more and serve You better to-day than I have ever done before.”

SENIORS. Standard 5 and over.
   (a) Who prepared the way for the coming of Christ, and how?
   (b) What was to be the difference between Baptism by St. John the Baptist and that by Jesus?
2. Read St. Mark 1, v. 9-11, v. 14, 15.
   Acts 2, v. 2 and 3.
   (a) Give an account of the Baptism of Jesus.
   (b) Of what Kingdom did our Lord teach and what was His message?
   (c) We read that the Holy Spirit appeared in two different forms. Why was this necessary?
   (a) To what family may we belong?
   (b) How must we enter that family?
   (a) Who baptised the people?
   (b) What do we receive through Baptism?
   (c) What three things were the Disciples to do to carry on the Church—Kingdom?
   (a) What are the laws of the Kingdom?
   (b) Did the young man love God best of all? Give the reason for your answer.
   (a) How can we glorify our Father?
   (b) Who set us the example?
   (c) How must Christians behave to one another?
7. (a) Read St. Matt. 5, v. 9, and Print or Paint as a book marker on paper or ribbon.
   (b) Read Galatians 5, v. 22-23.
   What are the characteristics of the true children of the Church—Kingdom?
   Explain these verses in your own words.
   (b) St. Matt. 7, v. 21.
   Is every baptised person sure to go to Heaven? Who will go?

JUNIORS. Under Standard 5.
1. Read St. Mark 1, v. 1-7; Isaiah 40, v. 3; Malachi 3, v. 1.
   (a) Why was St. John the Baptist sent by God?
(b) What did St. John the Baptist teach?

2. Read St. Mark 1, v. 8-11.
   (a) What did St. John the Baptist teach was the difference between baptism by himself and baptism by Jesus?
   (b) Tell me about the Baptism of Jesus in your own words.
   (c) In what river did St. John the Baptist baptise Jesus?
   (d) St. John the Baptist lived a different life from other people. How was it different?

   (a) What Kingdom did Jesus come to teach about?
   (b) What was His first message?

   (a) Copy the words which explain Baptism.
      Where were baptised people first called Christians?
   (c) What does the name mean?

   (a) Who is the Head of the Family to which baptised people belong?
   (b) What three things were the Disciples to do to carry on the Church—Kingdom?

   (a) If we want God to love us what must we do?
   (b) What example did Jesus set us?
   (c) How must Christians behave to one another?

   (a) Which two commandments did Jesus say were the most important?
   (b) Print the word you think most important in them.

   (a) What are the most important things for the Children of the King to think about?
   (b) Is every baptised person sure to go to Heaven?
   (c) Who will go to Heaven?

BURIED ANIMALS AND BIRDS.
The following contain certain names of birds or animals; the name is made from the end of one word and the beginning of the next. For example:
"Thank you, I would prefer a Tumbler of water."—Rat.

Write your answers on a post-card, and don't forget to give your name and address. The correct answers will be given in next quarter's magazine.

1. Gee up on you go.
2. Have you heard the music Alfred?
3. These musical evenings are very delightful.
4. Those are most rich who spend most wisely.
5. In the golden haze bracken and heather are like fairyland.

HOLY BAPTISM.

DIOCESE OF GRAHAMSTOWN.

At Naauipoort:
Mar. 19.—Mary Dingile.
Mar. 30.—Alrena Moma (privately).
April 2.—Gilbert Tennyson Lear.
April 4.—William Horton Griffiths.
April 16.—Ellen Mganyelwa.
   Charles Majila.
   Samuel Mankaya.
May 7.—Joyce Eileen Deacon.
May 20.—Elizabeth Eustace Hewitt.
   Megan Patricia Jones.

At Cookhouse:
March 12.—William Abraham Drake.
   Albert Lawrence Rowan.

At Rosmead:
March 26.—Edelina Elizabeth Knoetze.
At Sandflats:
June 11.—Dorothy Alice Flumbridge.

DIOCESE OF RHODESIA.

March 5, at Rayton:
   Norah Grundy.
March 22, at Cement:
   Mary Gladding Cuming.
March 26, at Wankie:
   Alan Edward Rosenberg.
   Douglas John Close.
April 9, at Gwanda:
   Bernard Gordon.
   Cournow Baker.
April 16, at Bellevue:
   Dick Minter.
April 16, at Raylton:
   Hector Macdonald.
   Jack Kneear Macdonald.
April 17, at Bulawayo:
   Patrick Breaks.
April 20, at Dett:
   Blewett Barton Bowley.
April 26, at 279 Cottage, Matetsi:
   Maria Christiana Gillin.
May 6, at Redbank:
   Gordon Taylor.

CONFIRMATIONS.

DIOCESE OF SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

At Wankie, April 30:
   David Ormerod.
   Harold Fletcher.

At St. John's Bulawayo, May 25 (Ascension Day):
   Nancy Isabella Scott Roger.
   Margaret Winifred Coulin.
   Dorothea Sarah Hill.
   Florence Alice Hill.
   Martha Gertrude Lowe.

At Lobatsi, April 29:
   Donald Howard Jepson.
   Annie Gladys Jepson.
   Dorothea Grace Schroeder.
   Amy Vera Kluckow.

HOLY MATRIMONY.

March 30, at St. John's Bulawayo:
   Graham Wingrove Dunbar Kidd and Mary Elizabeth Griffiths.

June 6, at Norvals Pont:
   Willem Steenkamp and Zina Jansen.

BURIALS.

At Naauwpoort:
   Mar. 21.—(Sannah) Sturman; 10 days.
   April 1.—Alrena Mjezu; 7 weeks.
   April 8.—(Jeremiah) Mdjeshana; 4 mths.
   June 3.—(Annie) Molivane; 9 months.

COLLECTIONS, &c.

DIOCESE OF GRAHAMSTOWN.

   Barkly Bridge, 6/-, 7/-; Addo, 8/-; Coerney, 10/3; Coega, 6/7; Sandflats, 5/-; Aberdeen Road, 12/4.

DIOCESE OF BLOEMFONTEIN.

   Lantern Services: Tweespruit, £1/3/1; Lindley Road, 8/-; Kaalagte, 10/-; Ventersburg Road, 7/3; Wolfehoek, 10/9; Karree, 11/1; Modderpoort, 8/11 (5/- to St. Patrick's Mission).—Total, £23/19/1 (less 5/- to St. Patrick's Mission).
   Signal Boxes: Mrs. Brown, 2/6, Milner Bridge; S.S. Box, Tweespruit, 16/4.—Total, 18/10.
   Donations: Mrs. Rath, Vet River, 4/-; Children, 1/3; Mr. Wadmore, 2/-; Mrs. Hay, 10/-; Anon. 6/6.—Total, £1/3/9.
   "Light for Line," £2/2/-.
   Social, Tweespruit, £16/14/5.
   Paid over by National Bank, £21/16/3.
   Total, £46/4/4.

Local Agents "Light for the Line."

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Silverton: Mrs. Schuch.
Waterfall: The Reverend E. Herbert, Waterfall.

BLOEMFONTEIN DIOCESE.

Bloemfontein: Miss Batcham, 78, Douglas St.
Bethlehem: Mrs. Jones, Cambridge Street.

ST. JOHN'S DIOCESE.

Broken Hill: Reverend J. Peppercorn.
DIOCESE OF S. RHODESIA.
Bulawayo: The Reverend C. W. S. Stenson.

SOUTH-WEST AFRICA.
P.O. Box 133, Grahamstown.

Local Representatives in S. Africa.

Pretoria: Lady Wessels.
Port Elizabeth: Miss Keith, King Edward's Mansions.

Children of the Veld.

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General Secretary: Miss Blundell, Grahamstown.
Johannesburg: Mrs. Beckingham, 70 Muller Street, Yeoville.
Bloemfontein: Miss Avery, St. Michael's School.
Grahamstown: Mrs. Seale, Grahamstown.
Pretoria: Mrs. C. Christie, 902 Schoeman Street, Pretoria.
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No. LL4. Ladies' Black Velvet Cromwell Shoes. Leather soles. For house or walking. Sizes 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8. Quality A 29/6 Quality B 15/6 pair

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