First Meeting
Congo Mission
of the
Methodist Episcopal Church

BEHOLD
I HAVE
SET BEFORE THEE
AN OPEN DOOR.

THE CONTINENT
OF OPPORTUNITY.

AFRICA

I WILL OPEN A PATH THROUGH
THE COUNTRY OR PERISH.
DAVID LIVINGSTONE.

Held at
Kambove, Katanga
Belgian Congo, Africa
January 2-4, 1915
Minutes of the First Meeting

Congo Mission

of the

Methodist Episcopal Church

Held at

Kambove, Katanga, Belgian Congo, Africa

January 2-4, 1915

Adopted by the Mission as its Official Record
J. C. HARTZELL, D.D., LL.D.
PRESIDING BISHOP
Official Record

OFFICERS OF THE MISSION

President
BISHOP J. C. HARTZELL, D.D., LL.D.

Secretary
ROGER S. GUPTILL

Statistical Secretary
JOHN M. SPRINGER

Treasurer
JOHN M. SPRINGER

MEMBERS OF THE MISSION

(A) Members of Conferences
JOHN M. SPRINGER
ROGER S. GUPTILL

(B) Other Missionaries of the Board of Foreign Missions
ARTHUR L. PIPER, M.D.
MRS. JOHN M. SPRINGER
MRS. A. L. PIPER
MRS. R. S. GUPTILL

(C) Voluntary Missionary
MRS. JOSEPHINE E. MILLER
(Mrs. Springer's Mother)
First Day

Kambove, Katanga, Belgian Congo, Africa.
January 2, 1915.

The Congo Mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church was organized under the presidency of Bishop Joseph C. Hartzell, D.D., LL.D., at the Mission headquarters of the said church in Kambove to-day, beginning at 10:30 A. M. The members of the Mission include the ministers and other workers of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the province of Katanga, the southern section of the Belgian Congo.

The Bishop read the Forty-sixth Psalm and made an introductory address after the singing of Luther's hymn, "A Mighty Fortress is Our God."

After the address there was a prayer service in which all participated.

On motion of John M. Springer, Roger S. Guptill was elected secretary.

The Mission roll was made up as follows: Traveling preachers, in full membership and having completed the Conference course of studies and having been ordained deacons and elders: John M. Springer, Ph.B., B.D., member of the West Central Africa Mission Conference; Roger S. Guptill, A.B., S.T.B., member of the New Hampshire Conference.

Other members who are Missionaries under appointment by the Board of Foreign Missions: Arthur L. Piper, M.D., Mrs. Helen E. Springer, Mrs. Maude G. Piper, and Mrs. Constance S. Guptill.

Voluntary Missionary: Mrs. Josephine E. Miller.

Native Teachers and Evangelists: At Elisabethville, Moses Kumwenda and Joseph Jutu; at Kambove, Jacob Mawene; at Mwata Yamvo's, Kayeka Mwitembo, Katumwa; at Florence Station Mwata Yamvo's, James Lubona Mumba.

At the request of Bishop Hartzell John M. Springer presented a part of the combined reports of himself and Mrs. Springer on the inauguration of the work of the Mission in the Belgian Congo, its successive stages of development and its present condition and outlook.

The Mission adjourned at half-past twelve to meet again at three o'clock in the afternoon.

The Bishop pronounced the benediction.

Afternoon Session

The Mission session opened at 3 P. M. The hymn, beginning "Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us," was sung and the Bishop followed with prayer.

John M. Springer completed the joint report of himself and wife. (See reports.)

Roger S. Guptill read the joint report of himself and Mrs. Guptill, giving an account of their call to the Mission field and entrance upon their work, chiefly in connection with the Fox Bible Training School. (See reports.)

In the absence of Arthur L. Piper the report of himself and Mrs. Piper was read by Mrs. Springer. (See reports.)

John M. Springer presented a statement outlining the present needs and recommending the future policy of the Mission to be forwarded to the
Board of Foreign Missions. After a full discussion of the paper, action upon it was postponed until the Monday morning session.

The question: "Who shall be licensed to preach?" was taken up.

John M. Springer presented the name of Arthur L. Piper, with the recommendation that he be licensed as a local preacher, and on motion the recommendation was adopted.

After an informal discussion of several matters of practical importance to the Mission and the fixing of the program of services for to-morrow, the Sabbath, the mission adjourned to meet Monday morning at nine o'clock.

SUNDAY SERVICES

The Bishop was present at the chapel service at half-past seven and spoke briefly but earnestly.

At the afternoon service the Bishop preached to a good audience on Acts 16:30, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" After the sermon, the Bishop baptized Joshua Mubita and administered the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Following this, Mr. Springer received nine persons on probation.

SECOND DAY'S SESSION

The Mission session opened at nine o'clock. The Bishop read and commented on 2 Corinthians 8:5. His remarks were very helpful. All present gladly accepted the verse as their motto for the year as the Bishop requested, the special words being "First they gave their own selves to the Lord."

The secretary read the minutes of the previous session. They were approved.

The question: "Who shall be recommended for reception on trial in the annual conference?" was taken up.

The case of Arthur L. Piper was considered and it was felt to be absolutely necessary in the interest of the work that as soon as practicable he should be a member of an annual conference and ordained. He is in charge of the central station in the Lunda country, four hundred miles from Kambove, and could not be present. The following action, on motion of John M. Springer, and with the approval of the Bishop, was taken:

That Arthur L. Piper be recommended to the West Central Africa Mission Conference for reception on trial, on condition that he shall pass the required studies. Also recommended that the said conference elect him to deacon's and elder's orders under the missionary rule, provided the conference receives him on trial.
The relation of the native workers to the Mission was discussed. It was decided not to appoint them as exhorters or as local preachers until they had not only been proven as to character and efficiency, but also had taken a prescribed course in at least primary studies. It was decided on motion that the Superintendent should give authority to those whom he considered worthy to act as teachers or evangelists, or both, stating in each case to what missionary the worker was responsible for direction.

It was, on motion, decided that the Superintendent shall prescribe at once such studies as he may judge wise for the native workers and place them in the hands of the missionaries on the field, who shall be responsible in having the native workers under them study. The missionaries are expected to direct the native workers in their studies and to arrange for examinations.

The relation of the Mission to the civil government, especially in the matter of acquiring and holding property, was discussed. John M. Springer stated that a "Personnalite Civil"; that is, a legal status has been given to the Methodist Episcopal Church in the Belgian Congo by royal decree of King Albert under date of May 13, 1914. Under this decree the Congo Mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church can hold property and carry forward its work.

The Bishop expressed his great gratification on this result which has been secured through the wise and careful efforts of J. M. Springer. He also expressed the gratification of himself and Mission over the very cordial and sympathetic relations established between our work, through Mr. and Mrs. Springer and the official representatives of the Belgian Government, including King Albert and Vice-Governor General of the Katanga, General E. Wangeremée, and all their official representatives.

The Bishop was requested to write to the representatives of the Belgian Government, expressing these sentiments of the Mission.

The Mission then adjourned to meet at 4 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The Mission met at four o'clock.
Prayer was offered by Mrs. Springer, Mrs. Miller, and Mrs. Guptill.
The secretary read the minutes of the morning session and they were approved.

On motion the Superintendent and the secretary were appointed as a committee to publish the minutes, with authority to edit the reports and papers.

The committee is authorized to publish six hundred copies of the minutes.
The following subscriptions toward meeting the expenses were made:

Bishop Hartzell ..................................$10.00
John M. Springer ............................... 10.00
A. L. Piper ...................................... 10.00
Mrs. J. M. Springer ............................ 10.00
R. S. Guptill .................................... 10.00

Total .............................................$50.00

The committee was authorized to meet the balance of the expense out of such funds received as were not designated for other purposes.
On motion the printed minutes were made the official journal of the Mission.

J. M. Springer completed the statement of the immediate needs of reinforcements for the Mission and it was approved. The statement was as follows:


The field of the Congo Mission stretches for four hundred miles along the northern slope of the Congo-Zambesi watershed in the southern part of the Belgian Congo, and from there northward at least four hundred miles. The Methodist Episcopal Church is the only Protestant society operating in this large territory, and the Roman Catholics have only a small work, their five stations being confined to the eastern edge of this field.

The three stations of the Congo Mission—Elisabethville, Kambove, and Mwata Yamvo’s—are located in the three most important and strategic centers of this field. At each of these stations a well-organized and aggressive work is going forward and is taxing the workers to their utmost, and there is urgent need of an additional missionary couple at each of these three great centers.

Of several other centers needing immediate occupation, we would mention Chilongo, the present railhead of the Cape-to-Cairo route, and the future junction of the Cape-to-Cairo and the Benguella Railways. For the next five years Chilongo will be the base, or depot, for the Construction Company that is building these two lines of railway. Here will be gathered and centralized hundreds of Europeans and 5,000 to 8,000 native workmen recruited from all parts of Central Africa.

We earnestly commend these needs of this Mission in the heart of Africa to the consideration, the prayers and the support of the Board of Foreign Missions and of the Methodist Episcopal Church generally.

J. M. Springer read a statement concerning the Katanga Book Store, which was established in May, 1913, and also the suggestion that the Congo Mission Press should be associated with it.

After full discussion, on motion, the Mission approved the Katanga Book Store and accepted it as established in May, 1913, and heartily commended the organization outlined as an important part of its evangelistic work.

The following is the form of organization and method of work adopted:

The Katanga Book Store has been established under and is the property of the Congo Mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church, under whatever legal title or form said Mission, or its successor, is recognized by the government of the country.

The Katanga Book Store shall consist of one concern, or organization, throughout the territory and field of operations of the Congo Mission, but shall have such branches, depositories, agents, and colporteurs as the Mission, or the management of the store under direction of the Mission, shall decide.

The Congo Mission Press is an integral part of the equipment and capital of the Book Store; the exact conditions under which it shall operate as a department of the business shall be more definitely determined by the Congo Mission as occasion arises.
The general function of the Katanga Book Store is to make accessible to all peoples and classes of the Katanga and of other parts of Central Africa a supply of the best books and literature available and possible to secure, or to create in the various languages represented.

Particularly does the store exist to secure the most general distribution of the Bible and the Scriptures that is possible, and of distinctly religious literature, pamphlets, tracts, etc.

The net profits of the business shall remain to the increase of the capital of the store until a satisfactory capital has been accumulated, and shall thereafter be under the control of the Mission.

Mrs. J. M. Springer presented an appeal to the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society that there should be appointed, at the earliest moment possible, at least two missionaries under that society to this field, which in a very earnest spirit was adopted.

The Superintendent, J. M. Springer, presented an audit of the receipts and expenditures through him for the mission from January, 1910, to December 31, 1914. This audit was made by C. T. Williams, a professional accountant of Kambove, and Roger S. Guptill.

On motion the audit was adopted. (See reports.)

The following is the summary of receipts and expenditures as audited:

**RECEIPTS**

Special Gifts received through the Board of Foreign Missions.....$15,357.32
Special Gifts from U. S. received on the field .................... 235.00

Dr. Fox Fund—
   Principal ..............................................$2,700.00
   Interest ................................................. 485.00
   ___________________________ 3,185.00

From J. M. Springer—
   For Circular Letters ................................. $337.89
   For Cyclostyle ....................................... 119.32
   ___________________________ 457.21

Contributed by Europeans in the Belgian Congo .................. 154.91
Value of Timber and other Building Materials received free on the field .................................................. 704.35
Collections (mostly from natives) ................................ 142.37
School Fees at Kambove ....................................... 190.00
From the Board for Outgoing of Dr. and Mrs. Piper..... $834.20
Outfit for Pipers .......................................... 200.00
Outgoing of Rev. and Mrs. Guptill ............................. 1,141.33
Advance on Salary of Dr. Piper ................................ 408.96
   ___________________________ 2,584.49

Received from two Jews, applied as original capital of Book Store.. 20.00

________________________________________ $23,030.65
Expenditures

Sixteen years of missionary service (salaries) .................. $7,957.63
Outgoing of seven missionaries ................................ 4,547.66
Buildings—Lukoshi, Mwata, Yamvo, Kambove .................... 3,831.75
Household Furniture ............................................ 676.36
Station Equipment, organ, bicycle, tent, lantern, etc. ........ 568.43
Printing Press ................................................... 406.77
Tools, etc ......................................................... 870.44
Itinerating ......................................................... 276.98
Transportation ................................................... 951.37
Evangelists and Native Helpers ................................ 700.50
Support of Pupils ................................................ 1,311.13
Special Women's Work ........................................... 13.00
Circular Letters .................................................. 402.63
Taxes and Incidentals ........................................... 315.18
Exchange, etc. .................................................... 180.82
Capital furnished Book Store ................................... 20.00

$23,030.65

John M. Springer, Treasurer.

The Superintendent presented the statistics of the Mission. (See reports.)
The session adjourned until 8 P. M. this evening.

Evening Session

The session opened with the singing of Hymn 631, “Jesus Shall Reign
Where'er the Sun.”

Prayer was offered by the Bishop.
The minutes of the afternoon session were read, corrected, and approved.
The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That we hereby record our profound gratitude to the Heavenly
Father:

For the special providences that have attended the lives and work of the
members of this Mission, making possible this occasion, the organization in
so promising and strategic a field of the Congo Mission of the Methodist
Episcopal Church, and that under such favorable circumstances.

For the presence in excellent health and strength of our beloved Bishop,
J. C. Hartzell, D.D., LL.D., and for his kindly and helpful administration
and fellowship.

For a widespread interest and sympathy on the part of our Church in
this particular work.

For the government's hearty reception of our Mission into the Katanga
Province of the Belgian Congo, and for the cordial cooperation of all offi-
cials dealing with our work.

For the cordial relations existing between the Mission and the general
industrial agencies of the country.

On motion it was directed that after reading and approving the minutes,
religious exercises, remarks by the Bishop and the reading of the appoint-
ments that the Mission stand adjourned sine die.

J. C. Hartzell, President.
Roger S. Guptill, Secretary.
Disciplinary Questions

Question 1. Who are on trial in studies of first year? None.
Question 2. Who are on trial? None.
Question 3. Who are members of Conference in studies of third year? None.
Question 4. Who are members of Conference in studies of fourth year? None.
Question 5. What traveling preachers have been ordained deacons? None.
   (a) In Regular Course? None.
   (b) As Local Preachers? None.
   (c) Under Missionary Rule? None.
   (d) Under Seminary Rule? None.
Question 6. What Local Preachers have been ordained Deacons? None.
Question 7. What Traveling Preachers have been ordained Elders? None.
   (a) In Regular Course? None.
   (b) As Local Deacons? None.
   (c) Under Missionary Rule? None.
   (d) Under Seminary Rule? None.
Question 8. What Local Deacons have been ordained Elders? None.
Question 9. Was the character of each Preacher examined? Yes.
Question 10. What is the Statistical Report for the Year? (See tabulated statement.)
Question 11. What is the aggregate of Benevolent Collections ordered by the General Conference, as reported by the Treasurer? None.
Question 12. Where are the Preachers stationed?
   These are all stationed in the Belgian Congo:
   John M. Springer, Superintendent.
   Elisabethville—To be supplied.
   Native Workers—Moses Kumwenda and Joseph Jutu.
   Kambove—Roger S. Guptill, missionary in charge and principal of Fox Bible Training School; Mrs. Constance S. Guptill, teacher.
   Native Worker—Jacob Maweni.
   Native Workers—Kayeka Mwitembo and Katumwa.
   Florence Station—To be supplied by native worker, James Lubona Mumba.
   On Furlough—John M. Springer and wife.
   Note—Roger S. Guptill will act as Superintendent in the absence of J. M. Springer.
Question 13. Where will the next Annual Meeting be held? In Kambove.
Reports

Report of Rev. and Mrs. J. M. Springer

First of all, we wish to record the profound impression we have of the place of prayer in the establishment of this Mission, not only in our own times, but dating back to the time of David Livingstone, who was the first white man to visit the Lunda field and to compile a vocabulary of Lunda and to call attention to the malachite fields, of which Kambove is the approximate center. And when he died in 1873 at Chitambo's village, some two hundred miles southeast of Kambove, it was with his face turned toward these great copper deposits.

Inspired by the writings of Livingstone and Stanley, Bishop Wm. Taylor purposed to plant "a chain of missions across the continent" and to this end landed his first party of missionaries at Loanda in 1885. In fact, he appointed Rev. C. W. Gordon to the Lunda field that same year, but conditions were such that he was never able to carry it out.

Bishop Hartzell likewise for many years has had on his heart the opening up of another great center here in the very heart of the continent. And we must not omit the fervent prayers of Kayeka and other slaves who prayed for years that missionaries might be sent to their own people and that they might be repatriated from the west coast whither they had been taken and sold, and where they were enabled to hear the Gospel and were prepared by the American Board to have a large part in the evangelization of this Lunda country when the time was ripe for their return.

We believe that our own interest in this field, which deepened into an inflexible conviction that we must come and occupy it, began in connection with Kayeka's prayers. When it came time for our furlough, in 1906, we presented the matter to Bishop Hartzell and took the shortest route home, namely; from Umtali directly across the continent via Kambove through to the west coast and out at Loanda. This journey robbed the interior of its unknown terrors, revealed to us the immense strategic importance of this field and was no small factor in effecting in 1910 the appointment by Bishop Hartzell of myself and wife to this field.
Coming in 1910 via Capetown, we proceeded to Broken Hill, which was then the end of the Cape-to-Cairo Railroad, where we had to wait a month for our baggage, after which we proceeded by caravan northwesterly 160 miles to Kanshansi. Here we were delayed again six weeks, but spent the time by opening the Fox Bible Training School, an open-air school indeed, as we had no shelter from the cold, high winds which prevail in the dry season. It was here at Kanshansi, one hundred miles south of Kambove, that Mrs. Springer, having realized for years the unsuitability of the ordinary English primers for use of native pupils, began the preparation of a Natural English Primer along the lines of the Govin method, a book that has been very successful and popular with the natives and is now in its second edition.

![Kazembe, Chief of Lukoshi District, making records in Luunda](image)

When at last our loads arrived and also carriers, the magistrate offered us the use of an abandoned British Government station in the northwest corner of Northern Rhodesia, from which one could look across the border, into both the Congo and Angola. We reached this station on October 1 and found it splendidly suited to all our needs for the coming rainy season, the first shower of which had overtaken us four days previously. Two days later we were joined by Mr. Herman Heinkel as a mission worker. He was the providential man for the three years and four months that he was with us.

South of the Congo-Zambesi Divide, that part of the old Lunda empire, is now occupied by Andembwe, though they still like to call themselves Lunda. Therefore as soon as the rains were over in 1911, we made ready to move into the Lunda field proper. This necessitated Mrs. Springer and myself first traveling back to the railroad to Elisabethville, the capital of the Katanga Province of the Belgian Congo, to get due permission to begin work under the Belgian flag and to load up with supplies. Vice-Governor Wangermee was most cordial in his reception of us, as were the other offi-
cials. And after four years in this section of the Belgian Congo, we gladly and gratefully record the unvarying courtesy and aid of all the government officials with whom we have had to deal.

While on that visit to Elisabethville I was also fortunate in meeting and having a talk with Mr. Robert Williams, the financial head of the mining and railroad interests in this copper field, a man fired by the vision of his friend Cecil Rhodes to push the building of the Cape-to-Cairo Railway and open up this great continent to commerce and industry. He assured me of a sympathetic attitude toward our work on the part of the mining company.

After another journey by trail of 350 miles, we came to the Lukoshi River, eighty-five miles northwest of where we had left Mr.-Heinkel with our goods. That was on July 29 and the rains were near at hand. Mr. Heinkel arrived August 15 and the work of building soon began. The murder of one chief by another set the whole country in arms and we could hire no workmen, so that the progress of the building went forward slowly with only our own boys, and the rains overtook us in all their fury while we were still without shelter. Food was very scarce and I had to go out personally to the villages to get enough to feed our boys and the exposure brought on a severe attack of hemorrhagic fever, from which it took long months fully to recover.

At Lukoshi we began the study of Luunda proper and compiled a dictionary, wrote out hymns, and I translated some Scripture and began the translation of the Gospel of Mark. I made a point of inducting Jacob Maweni into the methods of translation, so that later on he went to the capital of the Lunda country with Mr. Heinkel and finished a first draft. This was necessarily rather a rough product and was thoroughly revised twice by Mrs. Springer, with the help of our Alunda boys. We had expected to print it on our own press here at Kambove but Bishop Hartzell was mentioning the translation to the British and Foreign Bible Society in London and they kindly offered to do the work for us. We expect the finished copies to arrive any mail now.

It was not until July, 1912, that we reached a goal so long desired, the capital of the Lunda king, Mwata Yamvo, who welcomed us most heartily and assured us that he greatly wished a missionary to be sent to him, especially a medical missionary. This we promised him as soon as possible. We ourselves longed to stay there, but there being no line of transport at that time, we had to return to Lukoshi for another year.

Early in 1913 Kayeka brought in his family and a party of ex-slaves and others from the west coast. This party I later sent on to Mwata Yamvo's with Mr. Heinkel and when he left, Kayeka carried on the evangelistic and school work and had entire charge of the station there for nine months until the arrival of Dr. and Mrs. Piper, laying an excellent foundation for their work. The Belgian Government has been intensely interested in the repatriation of these Congo ex-slaves and has afforded every facility for the settlement of such parties.

The year 1913 was notable for the building of two permanent stations in Katanga, Mwata Yamvo, at the capital of the Lunda chief by that name, and Kambove, the home of the Fox Bible Training School. Mr. Heinkel took all the station equipment, stores of provisions, etc., from Lukoshi to Mwata Yamvo's, reaching there June 5. He built a five-room house of adobe brick.
an outside kitchen, etc., and left there October 15. Five ex-slave families went with him and settled at the Mission. Kayeka was left in charge and held the situation very well during the months that followed, pending the arrival of Dr. and Mrs. Piper.

Mrs. Springer and I left Lukoshi on March 28. Famine, poor soil, and a dislike of the Chief Kazembe had caused the removal of much of the population; and as it had served its purpose in our study of the Lunda country for those two years, we now left Lukoshi station in order to build at the most strategic points. After twenty-one days of hard travel in the rains, filled with difficulties with carriers and yet seeing God's overruling and gracious hand at every turn we reached Kambove, which consisted of one saloon, a butchery, and a bicycle shop and two general stores. The railroad was still some miles away, but twelve additional bars, or saloons, were already doing business ahead of the rails.

One month was spent in locating a site on which to build. We were convinced that God had prepared a place for our Mission and when we saw the present site on which we have built, we had not a moment's doubt but that this was the ONE. We had approached it from the rear and were happily surprised to find that it was only a half mile from the spot on which later the railroad station was built. While affording a certain amount of isolation such as is necessary for a boarding school at the same time it is near the mine and the town and its environs. Immediately on discovery of this site, application was made to the government for it, followed in just a few days by the personal assurance from the Vice-Governor, General Wangermee, on the occasion of his visit to Kambove, that it would almost certainly be granted to us.

So we pitched our tent in the primitive forest and began building with the materials at hand. Our first house had a frame of poles, the sides being enclosed with grass. A year later we took the grass off, using it to thatch
an extension of the chapel roof, and plastered the walls, put in doors and windows (of which it was entirely innocent during our occupation of four months) and put it in order for first the Pipers and then the Guptills.

Later we made 5,000 adobe bricks and built two houses of them. I had anticipated having to do all the mason work personally, but at this juncture Kaluwashi arrived and I discovered that he was a somewhat experienced bricklayer so I gladly gave him the job under my supervision. The work of building has steadily gone on until now, at the close of 1914, we have twelve buildings already occupied.

On June 6, 1913, the famous Cape-to-Cairo Railway reached Kambove. A goodly amount of material such as empty crates, boxes, iron cement casks, pieces of rail, wire, strap iron, etc., was to be had for the asking and these things were of considerable use to us. A saw pit was dug and when it was ready, two experienced saw-pit boys applied for work so that for a small sum excellent lumber was sawed from our own trees for door and window frames and other purposes, the best of it being that these hardwood timbers used are proof against the attacks of the white ants.

The educational and spiritual work has gone on steadily from the very first. Ten to twenty services have been held each Sunday in the various camps and a revival spirit has been marked. We have had the joy of reaping as well as sowing.

From the day that we reached Kambove, we were stopped in the street to know if we had any books to sell. Everywhere constantly the cry was, BOOKS, books, books! During the past year and a half we have sold more than $600 worth of books, mostly primers, hymn books, Bibles or books of the Bible in at least seven native languages. This opened the way for day schools, which have been conducted in eighteen different camps or compounds.

In connection with our Book Store we have a small printing outfit. The original plant, valued at $200, was given to us in 1909 by a descendant of one of the Wesleys still bearing the family name. On advice of experts, an exchange of presses and some other adjustments were made, the additional
funds being supplied by my uncle, the Rev. I. E. Springer, and his son Durand, formerly a member of the Book Committee. This press will play an important part in our work.

In 1913, in connection with the centennial of the birth of David Livingstone, we founded the Livingstone Memorial Library of Katanga. All of our personal library relating to Africa and the African languages will go into it and it is particularly desired that this become a working reference library in the departments of African history, literature, and languages, particularly those of Central Africa and the whole Bantu field.

A distinctly new stage of the work was entered upon: early in 1914. On March 7 Mrs. Springer's mother, Mrs. J. E. Miller, arrived to spend a year with us. She has entered into the work of teaching with zest and has been a great help in many ways.

On March 13 Dr. and Mrs. Piper arrived, the missionaries of the Detroit Epworth Leagues. They were at Kambove seven weeks and then went on to their station at Mwata Yamvo's. That chief had especially requested a medical missionary. They were welcomed by a delegation of over three hundred who came out a mile to meet them and then formally received at their house by the chief. The work was already under way and they need another man and wife to help them even now.

On June 22 the Rev. Roger S. Guptill and wife reached Kambove. They were able to enter heartily and efficiently into the work and assume large responsibilities at once. They seem ideally fitted for the work here as Dr. and Mrs. Piper are for the work at Mwata Yamvo's.

A night school held in Truex Chapel, near the railroad, met a great want among the natives working in the town. The enrollment rose rapidly and it was a marked success until the outbreak of the war affected it as it did everything else until it had to be closed for the time, though the Sunday services there are still quite well attended.

There was a great field of opportunity along the railroad construction which we were hardly able to touch except with native colporteurs and evangelists. In July Mrs. Springer and I rejoiced in being able to travel along Construction, visiting personally all the camps to the end of the earthworks, 160 miles from Kambove. We found the white men keen for the literature which we gave them and the natives for the books they could buy. On that one trip we sold $100 worth of books. We most earnestly hope that when the war is over and the work of construction is resumed we shall have a man who can put in most of his time in this work along the railroad construction.

Although the government has desired some Protestant Society to enter Elisabethville and open work for both natives and Europeans, none have done so during the four years since the town was founded. At present this capital city of the Katanga, with a European population of 1,000 is served only by the Roman Catholic Church and an occasional visit from the Anglican Railroad missionary from Rhodesia.

In April, 1914, I was requested to visit Elisabethville to christen a child, and in my brief visit learned of a considerable desire for the ministrations of a Protestant minister among the Europeans. Later on there came a petition signed by twenty-six Christian natives, requesting me to come and organize them into a Church. On my next visit to Elisabethville, I found such a
desire on the part of these young men that I could not refuse to begin work among them, even though our time was more than fully occupied and commanded already. A room was hired and fitted up for Sunday services and for night school. In December Mr. Guptill and I organized a Church and the work is going on excellently under the care of a lay elder who works in the bank. All of these members are well-educated natives who are zealous to keep their own souls from falling and also to save some of the thousands of other natives who throng the town. They bear all the financial expense themselves. It is imperative, however, that we have a white missionary to place in Elisabethville before very long.

This advance of Methodist Missions into the Belgian Congo has been effected by special gifts pledged in connection with the Africa Diamond Jubilee in 1909. The decisive pledges were a direct answer to prayer. Our average income has been between $3,000 and $4,000 a year, not counting the $2,700 given by Dr. C. Vernon Fox for the establishment of the Fox Bible Training School at Kambove. We are profoundly grateful for this experience of very direct dependence on our Lord through whom have come so many gifts from His servants.

An appreciable amount is being received from the local field, derived from both Europeans and natives. From the first we have instilled into our pupils and members the principles of systematic giving. Most of our natives are tithers and the monthly collections range between four and five dollars.

It is also noteworthy that the first $10 for the Book Store was given to us by a German Jew as we were passing through Kanshashni in 1907, and that a similar gift was made to me last year by a Russian Jew possessing British citizenship. Both gifts were entirely unsolicited and came as a total surprise.

As we have looked back over the years and have reviewed the wonderful providences, the definite leadings, the bringing together of need and supply at just the right times, the correlating of many lives, the preparation of fields and workers, our hearts have been hushed at the consciousness of the Divine Presence, felt and known all along the way, but so much more strikingly manifest as seen through the vista of the years. Long ago we committed ourselves fully to God to know His will for this field, step by step as needed, and then faithfully to do that will to the best of our ability. At this place of pause, we feel but as children who have been guided by the hand and supported and uplifted all the way. It has all been His plan and purpose, and with us abides merely the consciousness of having been obedient though with faulty and imperfect service. We can but witness to our Lord’s faithful fulfilling of His promise, “Lo, I am with you all the days.”

REPORT OF ARTHUR L. PIPER, M.D.

We arrived at Florence Station on the morning of June 22. Our reception by the members of the mission and of the village was most cordial and hearty. A large number of people met us about a mile from the village and marched in front of us, singing hymns. Just before reaching the house, we had to pass under white banners which had been strung across the path, and
guns were fired in salute. In spite of a two weeks' illness, Kayeka had the house in first-class condition, and it was open and decorated for our reception. At all times since arrival, the people have shown the same friendly spirit, and have upheld us by attendance upon our services.

As to the condition of the house upon arrival, it was all in good condition except the roof which needs some repairs. As to furnishings, the house contained only one small table, two chairs, and a single bed. The chairs and bed have since been taken out. The sets of shelves which Mr. Heinkel made were unfit for service, having been destroyed by white ants.

There was a building made entirely of grass, which was used by Kayeka as a schoolhouse during the past rainy season, but this will only serve as a schoolhouse until a larger and better building can be built, which we hope to have completed within a few months.

The entire population which could be readily reached from this mission is very large. There are two very large villages and numerous small ones within a few miles of the mission. Of the two large villages, Mwata Yamvo's is by far the largest village I have yet seen in Africa, while Kapanga, six miles away, has about three hundred houses.

Of course we are unable to adequately reach all of these people at present, but we do what we can. In our school, we shall try to train our most hopeful boys for this work especially. At present, in our Sunday morning service, we have an attendance of from forty-five to sixty-five. This service is held at the mission.

Sunday afternoon is given over to services at Mwata Yamvo's village, where we hold ten or eleven short services in different parts of the village. At these meetings we have an average attendance of about one hundred, but often there are two or three hundred. Then I have James at an outstation at Kafunda village, where he can reach six different villages with the gospel message each Sunday, and has a little school under a tree in two villages each school day. Last Sunday I sent Katuma, the evangelist who
joined us from Kalene Hill, to Kapanga village, where he will continue to preach each Sunday in at least three parts of the village. I think that at Mwata Yamvo's we shall lessen the number of services each Sunday, and give more time and effort to each one.

The people of the compound and village have been comparatively free from severe illnesses so far, but Mwata Yamvo, the king of the Lunda people, was very ill, and for two weeks I treated him daily, often twice a day, when many thought he would not recover. I am glad to state that he has almost regained normal health and strength. There have been numerous cases of colds, acute indigestion, mild fever cases, and minor sores and cuts.

The people have come to the realization that it is expected that they shall wear some clothing, and we have seen no cases where a loin cloth was the only covering since we reached here, as we saw often enough on the trail. Many indeed have been the requests to buy clothes and cloth, for the people have money, but do not seem to care much to keep it, always preferring to have things. In fact, while we can readily sell things to the villagers for money, we can very rarely buy anything for money, but must give some form of trading goods. Anything which the native might want to use could be used to buy with, but there are four things which are the standard forms or things for buying and selling, these are cloth, salt, beads, and brass wire.

Since arrival, the mission compound has been a scene of considerable activity. In the seven and a half weeks we have nearly completed a brick house containing two rooms, one for trading goods and food barter, the other room to be a storehouse. A goat house and chicken hut are now being built, and the bricks are made and dry, ready for building the boys' dormitory which we shall begin in about four days. While building the dormitory, we hope to make the bricks for the schoolhouse, which should be finished within a few months. I shall use the barter room as a temporary dispensary (our house is now), and the schoolhouse will have to serve also as church until later. But we look joyfully into the future, trusting and believing that within a year from now we shall have a good schoolhouse and dispensary building completed and in regular use, and possibly within two years we shall have church and hospital as well. We believe that it is going to be cheaper in the long run, and much better generally, to have practically all of the mission buildings constructed of native brick, with grass roofs.

Two days ago Mrs. Piper opened a school for women and girls, under a cluster of trees on the compound. The opening attendance was eighteen, with twenty-three on the second day. It was only a humble beginning, but we feel that God will help and bless it, as we are very sure He has helped us in many ways so far. We have set October 1 as the date for the opening of the regular school term, when people of any age or either sex can come, and we are straining every effort to get the building and other work far enough under way that we will then be able to give to the school work its full share of our time and energy. Until then Mrs. Piper will have her pupils all in one class.

Each week day I ring the rising bell at half-past six, meet with the members of the mission at seven for morning chapel service, then start the regular work for the day. At twelve we have an hour for dinner, then work till
half-past five. This makes nine hours' work for the boys each day except Saturday, when they stop at twelve.

On Sunday chapel is at half-past seven, the regular church service at the mission at half-past ten, and directly after dinner we start for Mwata Yamvo's village a half mile away, to have our series of services. Here Kayeka preaches at about half the services, while Joel speaks at one or two. Kalama, Kasamba, and Wapayenga each speak at one, while I talk through an interpreter at one or two, and sometimes Mrs. Piper speaks once or twice. I hope soon to write out a sermon for each Sunday, have Joel translate it into the Lunda, and have some of the others who feel incompetent to preach go to smaller villages and sing two or three hymns, and read the sermon or Bible lesson, thus having both native preachers and Bible readers.

May I now revert the subject? We rejoice greatly in the great door of opportunity which we have here, but we are very happy in other ways. Thus far we have had a very limited variety of things to eat, but we have been able to get an abundance of some things. The future will surely have better things in store for us in this respect. We have splendid land for gardening here, and things seem to grow pretty well down by the spruit in the dry season, where they can be easily irrigated with a constant supply of water, and surely in the rainy season many things can be raised on much of the land anywhere about. Food for the native boys can be bought in abundance very cheaply. A boy can be readily supplied with food for four franc a month.

There is an abundance of clay soil and water for making bricks, and as the other building materials are readily available, labor is about the only item to be considered in the construction of most of the buildings.

Taking all these things into consideration, we believe that the opportunity in this field is one which cannot be excelled anywhere, and that every effort
made, and every dollar expended, for the work in this field, will in due
course of time show, in a very large and very real way, that God's name is
being glorified, and His kingdom spread.

Respectfully submitted.

ARTHUR L. PIPER.

REPORT OF ROGER L. GUPTILL

Kambove, December 24, 1914.

I deem it a great privilege to be able to give this, my first report as a
missionary. I am sorry that it does not cover a whole year; but it covers
the time that I have been here.

Mrs. Guptill and I left America May 19, 1914, on the "Arabia."

We came without any stopover, only waiting two days in England for a
ship and in Cape Town three hours for the train north.

Like all the rest of the African missionaries, we saw the shores of Africa
with a great deal of pleasure. All was new, and we realized that we were
entering a new world of opportunity for service for the Master.

We arrived at Kambove June 22 and found that we had come none too
soon. There was work and a plenty of it. We began work the next day
and we are still at it.

Night School

The night school was where we first took hold of the work to give Mr.
and Mrs. Springer a lift. Mrs. Guptill started in immediately as a teacher,
while I did my best to help wherever I could. In a few nights we were able
with Mrs. Miller’s help, to take all of the school and let Brother and Sister
Springer be free from that part of the work.

Mr. Springer had started the school May 25 and on June 23 the total enrollment was 142, with an average attendance of thirty. There were four
classes: Chart for beginners, Chiwemba primer, English Primer, and Eng-
lish reader. Besides these classes, the whole school was drilled in simple
French exercises. Some attempt was made to teach the boys how to be
polite.

The total enrollment August 24, when we had to close the school, was 208. The average attendance for July was twenty-four. During August there
was such a demand for boys as carriers for the troops who were on their
way north that the town was practically deserted by the natives. We had
only a few boys so we stopped the school. It will be started again as soon
as there are natives to come.

Day School

The Fox Bible Training School was turned over to us with an enrollment
of seven boys. We started the school June 29. Mrs. Guptill, who was a
teacher at home, is able to take the larger part of the teaching. Mrs. Miller
and Mrs. Springer assist and take three of the classes. I have been able
to take a few of the classes.

While the enrollment was small at first, it got still smaller; for one boy
left to work, another ran away, another went to get his wife, and still
another went with a caravan to Kapanga, Dr. Piper’s station. Things looked
dark, but the dawn soon came. Now we have ten in the school, fifteen

21
working out their school fee and a number of other boys who have expressed a desire to come to the school. In fact, the school work is growing better all of the time.

**Printing Press**

A few days after my arrival Brother Springer showed me a pile of boxes and told me that there was a printing press in them. Then he asked me if I would set up the press and get it to work. I went at it with a great deal of uncertainty, for I knew very little about printing presses. At the present date the press is in running order and as soon as the paper comes we will print a hymn book in the Luunda. Then there are other books to be printed soon. Our hope is that the press may be a help in scattering the Good News to the many people about here.

**General Religious Work**

As Mr. Springer is in charge of the station here I have been working wherever he has thought it wise. I have taken a part of the Sunday services and have led the chapel exercises three mornings a week.

**Industrial Work**

As I have been teaching forenoons, Mr. Springer has had charge of the industrial work during the first part of the day. Afternoons I have given most of my time to showing the boys about the work.

We had a number of native huts on the station. We decided to tear these down and put up mud and pole buildings. There have been three such buildings erected—one, a boys' dormitory 12x36 feet, and two three-roomed houses 10x26 feet, to be used as homes for the students that are married. The poles for these buildings we got from old houses that were deserted when the railroad construction moved farther along up the line. The boys who carried them were mostly boys who were thrown out of employment when the war broke out. They came to us as they were without food or money, and they were far from home. They were quite willing to carry poles for their food. With a little supervision our mission boys made the houses.

We wanted gardens. There was the veldt, quite thickly wooded. But the ground looked good. We began in old pioneer style. Some boys girdled trees, while others dug up the ground. There had been only one shower when we started and the ground was hard, but when the rains came the boys enjoyed the work. Now there are over ten acres all dug up and fully two thirds of it is planted. The crop will be corn, potatoes, beans, and a few small vegetables. By next year we hope to be able to raise enough corn to supply our boys all the year.

**General**

The work here is different from some other places, for we are dealing with a changing crowd of boys all of the time in our work outside of the station. But we hope and pray that the boys as they leave their work on the mine or on the railroad and go home will tell the story of Jesus to their people in the villages. We trust that our work will not be in vain.

I am told that it is commonly the practice for the new missionary to tell a bit of his experience in good old Methodist style. It may be that Paul,
as a missionary, found it a good thing to have his experience at his tongue's end. I grew up in a Christian home in Berwick, Me. I was baptized when I was five years old and have been actively connected with the church ever since. I got my high school training in the home town. I entered Bates College in 1907, graduating in 1911. While at college I decided for the ministry. It was at the beginning of my Junior year, in November, 1909, at East Livermore, Me., that I began preaching. I had this charge until I graduated from college. While it was hard work to preach and carry on the college work at the same time, I enjoyed it. It was at this same time that I had the struggle to decide where I would let my life be used. Several tried to get me to become a Student Volunteer but to no avail. I decided, however, that if the Bishop who should take me into the Maine Conference on trial should follow the Discipline in Paragraph 151 of 1908, I would place myself on record as one willing to go. But 1910 came and I was admitted to the conference on trial and the question was not asked. Neither was it asked in 1912 when I was taken in as a full member.

In June, 1911, I went to Kingston, N. H., as pastor and entered Boston University School of Theology in the fall. I still had the problem to settle. I found there a new spirit in regard to the missionary work. I stood it till October and then I became a Volunteer. I must admit that the work of the country church was still on my heart. I saw the need of the rural churches, for so many were using them merely as stepping-stones to larger work in the cities and did not see in the country as great an opportunity as in the city. So while a Volunteer, I stuck to the Country Church. This I fully intended to do in the spring of 1913. I went back to Boston for my last year fully decided to be a country church pastor all of my life. But there was a new face at Boston, a real live missionary, who was to give us some courses in Missions. I took the courses. The country church when, compared to the great need in the foreign fields sank into the background and I wrote to the Board to let me go as a missionary. Dr. Brewster of China did more than instruct us in the school. He broke down all of the excuses that we could raise to support our arguments for staying at home. I owe much to my roommate, Panunzio, for he gave me much help in deciding for the mission field by his own love for the foreign field. As I am here now, one of the greatest sorrows that I have is that he, with his great joy for the Mission work, is not here with me.

When I got the real vision of heathenism as Dr. Brewster gave it to us I could not stay in Americia. I love the work. I love these black boys, and their lives have been given to me for the few years they are to be here to train for the Master's service. No greater opportunity could have been given to me in the homeland. It makes me so humble and I thank God I am here. The joy of it all gets greater every day. I pray that I may have many years to serve Him here in Africa.
STATISTICS, CONGO MISSION, 1914

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Baptisms</th>
<th>Church Members</th>
<th>The Church Property</th>
<th>Buildings and Improvement of Churches and Parsonages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adults</td>
<td>Children</td>
<td>Probationers</td>
<td>Paid for Buildings and Improvement of Churches and Parsonages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elisabethville</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Full M.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Now on the Roll</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Members on Roll</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Number</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Value</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Number</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Value</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kambove</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>$1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mwata Yamvo</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>$600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>$700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>$2,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>66</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note.—Other Properties at Kambove: Two residences, $550; two offices, $250; shop, $150; four dormitories, $450; carpentry and farming implements, $250; household furniture, $700; other mission equipment, organs, stereopticon, cyclostyle, etc., $500; Katanga Book Store stock, $300. Total, $2,750.

REPORT OF AUDITORS


(A) We, the undersigned, do hereby certify that we have examined the books and accounts and vouchers of J. M. Springer, treasurer of the Lunda Mission, for the years 1910 to September 30, 1914, inclusive; that we find proper vouchers for all the payments and charges, and that the statements rendered to the Board of Foreign Missions for each year by themselves and also in connection with the other statements and sheets constituting the various reports, correctly represent the actual condition of the Mission Treasury at the ends of the various periods covered by the reports as shown by the Treasurer's books, and also so far as known to us apart from his books.

(B) We have also examined the books of Lukoshi Station, kept by J. M. Springer, for the period between June, 1910, and September, 1913, and have found them correct to the best of our knowledge and belief, and all accounts in balance.

(C) We have examined the accounts of Florence Station, kept by J. M. Springer, for the period of March to December, 1913, and have found them correct.

(D) We have examined the books of the Kambove Station for the year 1913, kept by J. M. Springer, and find them correct.

(E) We have examined the books of the Katanga Book Store, kept by J. M. Springer, for the period between May, 1913, and October 31, 1914, and have found them correct.

C. T. WILLIAMS.

ROGER S. GUPTILL.

I have examined the books of J. M. Springer, treasurer of the Lunda Mission, for the quarter ending December 31, 1914, actually closed January 20, 1915, and find them correct with a balance of cash on hand of five hundred and seventy-two francs.

I have also examined the books of the Kambove Station for the year 1914 and find them correct.

ROGER S. GUPTILL.
IN STUDYING THE LIVINGSTONE COUNTRY, HERE ARE THREE PUBLICATIONS THAT YOU CAN PROFITABLY READ:

PIONEERING IN THE CONGO
BY JOHN M. SPRINGER, B.D.

Being an account of the five years leading up to the formation of the Congo Mission, these years being spent by Mr. and Mrs. Springer in the forests of Lunda-land and later on the rich mineral fields of the Katanga Province of the Belgian Congo.

A novel is not in it with this book for interest.—James M. Taylor, D.D.

Cloth, 340 pages. Thirty-two illustrations and maps.
NET, $1.00, POSTPAID

SNAP SHOTS FROM SUNNY AFRICA
BY HELEN E. SPRINGER
(Mrs. John M. Springer)

General Baden-Powell said: “When women travel in the lesser known countries of the world, they bring this power of observation into play with remarkable results. And of all women in the world I would place our American cousins at the top of the list for this particular quality.”

These short stories are a good illustration of General Baden-Powell’s estimate of American women as intelligent travelers, able to put their observations into up-to-date vigorous English. The pictures are from actual life during several years of residence and travel in Africa, and have been written with the purpose of helping to understand better the conditions of the people and the missionary labors among them.—From Introduction by Bishop Hartsell.

Cloth. Twelve illustrations. NET, $1.00, POSTPAID

THE HEART OF CENTRAL AFRICA
A Fascinating Book of Travel, Adventure, and Missionary Interest
BY JOHN M. SPRINGER, B.D.

Mainly an account of a journey made by Mr. Springer and his wife straight across the continent of Africa, on foot, from the East Coast to the West. As may easily be conceived, this was both an arduous and a hazardous trip, and the book is not only highly entertaining and informing as to the country, the people, and the missionary opportunities, but becomes often a narrative of thrilling and exciting adventure.

Makes an entertaining and instructive addition to our knowledge of the now no longer Dark Continent.—The Dial.

Gives a vivid picture of a hitherto neglected part of the great world field to be occupied for the Master.—Northwestern Christian Advocate.

Cloth. Eight full-page illustrations and sketch map.
Uniquely bound. NET, $1.00, POSTPAID

THESE BOOKS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE METHODIST BOOK CONCERN OR ITS DEPOSITORIES