East
Central Africa
Mission Conference
1903
MINUTES
OF THE
SECOND SESSION
OF THE
EAST CENTRAL AFRICA MISSION CONFERENCE
OF THE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
HELD AT
UMTALI, RHODESIA, AFRICA
SEPTEMBER 29 TO OCTOBER 7, 1903

President
Bishop JOSEPH C. HARTZELL, D.D., LL.D., Bishop for Africa

Secretary
R. EMORY BEETHAM

Publishing Committee
R. E. BEETHAM  F. D. WOLF  J. H. DIMMITT
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GLENN A. BALDWIN, S. GURNEY.

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R. E. BEETHAM, J. M. SPRINGER, J. H. DIMMITT.

Program Committee
G. A. BALDWIN, S. GURNEY, F. D. WOLF.

Board of Examiners
S. GURNEY, Chairman. R. E. BEETHAM, Registrar.

SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE

I HEREBY CERTIFY, That this volume is a complete and correct record of the proceedings of the Conference, and that it was adopted by the Conference as its Official Record.

R. EMORY BEETHAM, Secretary.
Umtali Industrial Mission, Eastern Rhodesia, Africa

13,000 acres of land and $75,000 in buildings—all the gift of the British South Africa Company, through Bishop Hartzell

Rev. J. M. Springer, Superintendent
MINUTES OF THE SECOND SESSION

First Day

Old Umtali, Rhodesia, Africa, September 29, 1903.

Opening Exercises.—The East Central Africa Mission Conference met for its second session in the Mission Home on the Industrial Mission at Old Umtali, Rhodesia, at 8 o'clock p. m., Tuesday, September 29, 1903, Bishop Joseph C. Hartzell presiding.

S. Gurney conducted the devotional exercises, offering prayer and reading the Scripture lesson from St. John's gospel, fifteenth chapter. The Bishop announced Hymn No. 798, "And are we yet alive?" which was sung.

The Bishop's Address.—The Bishop delivered a brief address in which he expressed his pleasure at being once again in Rhodesia and finding things in such encouraging condition. He regretted that Bishop Walden was not able to make the expected tour of Africa at this time, but hoped to have one of the General Superintendents accompany him early in the next quadrennium. The death of Mrs. Erwin H. Richards since the Conference last met was mentioned with expression of profound sorrow.

The Bishop further remarked concerning the unusual fact that the Conference had not met for nearly two years owing to his own illness, the illness of his wife, and the pressure of duties connected with the interests of the work requiring his presence in America and England.

Transfers.—R. E. Beetham being the only full member of the Conference present, the Bishop announced the following transfers before the organization of the Conference: Samuel Gurney, from the New York East Conference; Glenn A. Baldwin, from the Central New York Conference, a Deacon in the studies of the third year; John H. Dimmitt, from the Iowa Conference, a Deacon in the studies of the third year; David A. Carson, from the Liberia Conference, a probationer in the studies of the first year.

The following members on trial were present: John M. Springer, R. Wodehouse, F. D. Wolf.
The following lay members of the Mission were present: Eddy H. Greeley, Mrs. F. D. Wolf, M.D., Mrs. Helen E. Rasmussen.

Mrs. R. Wodehouse and Mrs. Hugh Tulloch were not present. Miss Harriette E. Johnstone was absent also on account of illness.

The following members and workers were absent in America: Erwin H. Richards, James L. De Witt and wife, Morris W. Ehnes and wife, Herman Heinkel.

Organization.—On motion of S. Gurney, R. Emory Beetham was elected Secretary by acclamation, and Glenn A. Baldwin was elected Statistical Secretary in the same manner.


Auditing Committee.—The following members were nominated and chosen as the Auditing Committee: Glenn A. Baldwin and S. Gurney.

Committee on Resolutions.—Moved by J. H. Dimmitt, and carried, that the Bishop appoint a Committee on Resolutions, and the Bishop announced the following: S. Gurney, J. M. Springer, and Glenn A. Baldwin.

By action of the Conference all members of the Conference on trial and the other workers present were invited to participate in the discussions.

Introduction.—The Rev. Wilson S. Naylor, of the Wisconsin Conference, who is making a tour of Africa with Bishop Hartzell, was introduced to the Conference and invited to take part in the discussions.

Committee on Memoirs.—On motion of J. H. Dimmitt, F. D. Wolf was elected Committee on Memoirs.

Welcome.—R. E. Beetham presented the following resolution, which was, on motion, adopted:

Whereas, In the wise providence of God our beloved Bishop Hartzell has been returned to us after an absence of nearly two years, having been carried safely through the perils of the deep while traveling nearly twenty thousand miles, and having been restored to health after numerous and serious attacks of illness; and,

Whereas, He has been enabled to present the cause of African missions so ably and effectively to the Church at home that greater interest has been aroused in our work and the appropriations have been greatly increased; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we remember with profound gratitude his frank and brotherly bearing toward his workers on previous visits, the careful interest
CONFERENCE GROUP - EAST CENTRAL AFRICA MISSION CONFERENCE, 1903
manifested in the welfare of the work of the Church, and the spiritual uplift that he brought and left with us; that we hail with pleasure his return to us; and that we earnestly pray that God will make him even a greater blessing at this time, that the year to follow may be fraught with greater spiritual and material successes, and that God will lead him and bless his servant with richest gifts.

Board of Examiners.—The Bishop appointed S. Gurney a member of the Board of Examiners.

Publishing Minutes.—G. A. Baldwin moved that the Secretary, F. D. Wolf, and J. H. Dimmitt be made a committee to publish the minutes. The motion carried. The Secretary was authorized to edit the minutes and reports for publication. Wilson S. Naylor was requested to assist in editing the reports, and he kindly consented. On motion of G. A. Baldwin, the printed Minutes were made the official record of the Conference.

Reports.—The Bishop called for reports, and R. Wodehouse was the first to respond. Mrs. Wodehouse’s report, in her absence, was read by her husband. R. E. Beetham read the report of the Umtali Academy. (See Reports.)

After these reports were read the Bishop expressed great appreciation of the prosperity of our work among the white people, and felt that these openings were in the providence of God.

It was proposed and adopted that the Conference hours be fixed at from 9:30 to 12 a.m.

On motion of R. E. Beetham, the Conference adjourned after the singing of the Doxology and the pronouncing of the Benediction by the Bishop.

Second Day

Old Umtali, Rhodesia, September 30, 1903.

Devotional Exercises.—Conference opened at 9:30 a.m., with Bishop Hartzell in the chair. Devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. Wilson S. Naylor. After singing and prayer the Scripture lesson was read from the last chapter of John’s gospel. “More love to Thee,” was sung.

Minutes Approved.—The minutes of the first day’s session were read and approved.

Disciplinary Questions.—The following Disciplinary Questions were
taken up in order: Numbers 2, 3, 4, 7, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, and to each was the answer, "None."

The Thirtieth Question, "Where shall the next Conference be held?" was taken up. Invitations were received from all points in the Conference, but the motion to hold it at the Umtali Industrial Mission prevailed.

Committee of Inquiry.—The motion of J. H. Dimmitt to appoint a Committee of Inquiry to comply with the request of S. Gurney was seconded by G. A. Baldwin and carried. The Bishop appointed J. H. Dimmitt, G. A. Baldwin, and R. E. Beetham.

Characters Passed.—The characters of the following members and probationers were passed by the Conference: G. A. Baldwin, R. E. Beetham, J. H. Dimmitt, E. H. Richards, J. M. Springer, R. Wodehouse, F. D. Wolf, J. L. De Witt, Morris W. Ehnes, and D. A. Carson.

The Fifth Question, "Who have been Continued on Trial?" was taken up. After the report of the Registrar, and on motion of J. H. Dimmitt, F. D. Wolf was advanced to the studies of the second year, continued on trial, and conditioned on "Christian Purity" and the Sermon, and the following books "to be read": Wesley's Sermons, Governing Conference of Methodism, Christian Science and Other Superstitions, Ecclesiastical Architecture, From the Himalayas to the Equator, History of the Ritual of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Asbury's Journal, vol. i, and Methodist Review. F. D. Wolf is already both Deacon and Elder.

David A. Carson was, on motion, discontinued at his own request.

John M. Springer, after the report of the Registrar, was, on motion of R. E. Beetham, continued on trial, passed to the studies of the second year, and conditioned on "Christian Purity" and all the books "to be read," except History of the Ritual of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The case of R. Wodehouse was brought up by the Bishop, and it was pointed out that an error had crept into the Minutes of the last Conference in which it stated that R. Wodehouse was transferred to this Conference in the class of the second year. He was placed in the class of the first year. On motion of S. Gurney, seconded by J. H. Dimmitt, he was continued on trial, passed to the studies of the second year, and conditioned on all the studies and books "to be read" of the first year's course of study.

It was moved by S. Gurney and seconded by R. E. Beetham that it be the sense of this Conference that in all Conference examinations the
Disciplinary order and regulations shall be rigidly required. The motion was carried unanimously.

On motion of R. E. Beetham, Morris W. Ehnes, not having presented certificates for the studies of the second year and not being present to take the examination, was continued in the same class.

The Eighth Question, "What Members are in the Studies of the Third Year?" was taken up. James L. De Witt, being absent from the Conference, and not having reported on his studies, on motion of R. E. Beetham, was continued in the studies of the third year.

The Ninth Question, "What Members are in the Studies of the Fourth Year?" was considered. On motion of S. Gurney, the certificates presented by G. A. Baldwin were accepted and he was passed to the studies of the fourth year, but was conditioned in the following books "to be read": Introduction to Political Economy, Nutter's Hymn Studies, and Asbury's Journal, vol. i.

J. H. Dimmitt was also passed to the studies of the fourth year, but conditioned on the entire third year's course on account of not having his certificates at the Conference.

R. E. Beetham was, in like manner, on motion of S. Gurney, passed to the studies of the fourth year, but conditioned on the following books "to be read": History of the Methodist Episcopal Church, vol. iv, The Supernatural Book, Hymn Studies, and Asbury's Journal, vol. iii.

Reports.—The Bishop called for the report of S. Gurney, which was read. (See Reports.)

A brief discussion followed the above report bearing chiefly on the feasibility of requiring the natives to give something in return for medical services and the ability of the natives to give such compensation. The Bishop, Wilson S. Naylor, S. Gurney, F. D. Wolf, and R. Wodehouse took part. It was felt by all that as soon as possible the natives should be compelled to give such payment as they are able, but that none should be turned away on account of poverty. This point was left to the discretion of Dr. Gurney. The Bishop expressed his great appreciation of the work that Dr. Gurney has done and is doing.

Adjournment.—After announcements, the Conference adjourned by expiration of time. The Bishop pronounced the Benediction.
Third Day

OLD UMTALI, RHODESIA, October 1, 1903.

Opening Exercises.—Conference opened at 9:30 A. M., Bishop Hartzelle presiding. The devotional exercises were conducted by J. H. Dimmitt. Hymn No. 679, "How firm a foundation," was sung, prayer offered, and Scripture read.

Minutes Approved.—The minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

The Twelfth Question, "What others have been Elected and Ordained Elders?" was considered.

R. E. Beetham called for a decision of the Bishop as to Paragraph 168, section 4, of the Discipline, whether it is the spirit of the Missionary Rule for the ordination of Elders that such action should be taken within a Mission Conference where the persons ordained are easily accessible to the Presiding Elder and other Elders of the Conference.

The Bishop's answer was as follows: "The Missionary Rule, permitting the ordination of Deacons and Elders outside of the regular order, is intended to meet emergency cases of foreign or home fields, and in the appointment of army, navy, and reformatory chaplains and the like. Manifestly the spirit of the paragraph referred to, as well as the one concerning Deacons, would be that the rule should be applied only where necessity arises. The interests of the work are to determine each individual case. Only where the Conference feels that a real necessity exists should the rule be applied."

By request of the Bishop, on account of the special needs in remote places, S. Gurney moved the election of G. A. Baldwin to Elder's Orders under the Missionary Rule, and he was elected.

For the same reason J. H. Dimmitt was also elected to Elder's Orders under the Missionary Rule.

The Sixth Question, "Who have been Discontinued?" was next brought before the Conference. The Bishop stated that David A. Carson, a member on trial in the studies of the first year, had written him asking to be discontinued. On motion, the Conference granted this request.

Report of Inquiry.—The report of the Committee on Inquiry in the case of S. Gurney was read by the Chairman as follows:
THE NATIVE SCHOOL AT THE UMTALI INDUSTRIAL MISSION—EDDY H. GREELEY, Teacher (on the side)
Your Committee on Inquiry in the case of Samuel Gurney beg to submit the following report:

We have examined all the available evidence in the case referred, and find no cause for blame on his part and express our full confidence in his integrity.

J. H. Dimmitt,
G. A. Baldwin,
R. E. Beetham, Committee.

On motion the report was accepted by the Conference, and the character of S. Gurney passed.

Reports.—The Bishop called for the report of F. D. Wolf, which was read. (See Reports.) Brother Wolf and wife were commended by the Bishop for their excellent work. The Bishop remarked that a larger work is going on at Inhambane considering the number of workers and the amount of money used than anywhere else on the continent.

It was proposed by R. E. Beetham that a suitable resolution be adopted to express the appreciation of the Conference of the heroic and successful work being carried on by Brother Wolf and wife at Inhambane. J. H. Dimmitt was appointed to draft the resolution.

Reports.—The report of Eddy H. Greeley was read and commended.

The report of J. M. Springer for the Industrial Mission was read and discussed briefly by R. Wodehouse and the Bishop.

Mrs. Helen E. Rasmussen reported on the work of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.

The report of Mrs. F. D. Wolf, M.D., was read by her husband.

The report of J. H. Dimmitt followed. (See Reports.)

Statistics.—The Statistical Secretary, in open Conference, secured statistics for his report.

Adjournment.—On motion of S. Gurney, the Conference adjourned to meet in extra session at 8 p. m. The Bishop pronounced the Benediction.

Evening Session

Devotional Exercises.—Conference met at 8 p. m., with Bishop Hartzell in the chair. R. Wodehouse conducted the devotional exercises.

Approval of Minutes.—The minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

Literary Program.—Papers were read by Eddy H. Greeley, John M. Springer, and Mrs. Helen E. Rasmussen on the following subjects, respectively: “Native Schools,” “Mashona People,” “Bantu People and Languages.” These papers were all of high merit and precipitated con-
siderable discussion, especially the first paper, which was read by E. H. Greeley, on account of a number of practical questions suggested in the course of its perusal. These questions pertained chiefly to what should be taught in the native schools, and nearly all agreed that agriculture, cooking, laundry work, etc., should constitute a part of their course of instruction. The question of teaching English or Chinyika was considered, and both were favored. But the liveliest debate followed the suggestion to adopt the principles of English phonetic spelling in reducing Chinyika to writing instead of the Latin now largely used. Many thought the idea a good one but hesitated to begin it alone. Therefore E. H. Greeley was appointed, by act of the Conference, a Committee to correspond with the representatives of different Missions on this subject to arouse what sentiment he can in its favor. After words of hearty appreciation from Wilson S. Naylor the Bishop commended these excellent papers.

**Introduction.**—Charles Yafelle, the native evangelist of Umtali, and two other candidates for the native ministry, namely, David Ntuli and Paulus Mandea, were introduced by the Bishop.

**Adjournment.**—The Conference adjourned, the Bishop pronouncing the Benediction.

**Fourth Day**

**Old Umtali, Rhodesia, October 2, 1903.**

**Opening Exercises.**—The Conference met at 9:30 a. m., the Bishop in the chair. “Come, Holy Spirit,” was sung, and the Bishop led in prayer.

**Minutes Approved.**—The minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

**Resolution.**—The Committee appointed to draft a resolution commending the excellent work of F. D. Wolf and wife at Inhambane reports as follows:

> Whereas, Brother F. D. Wolf and wife, under great difficulties, have rendered valiant and efficient service in carrying on the entire work of the Inhambane District during the past year;

> Resolved, That we most heartily commend the spirit manifested on their part and congratulate them on the abundant success of their labors.

> J. H. Dimmitt, Committee.

**News Correspondence.**—The Conference discussed the sending of news to the home papers and the importance of bringing our work before the Church in America. It was resolved to support the Missionary Plan
operated under the supervision of the Missionary Editor, Charles H. Faats.

Resolution.—R. E. Beetham proposed a resolution requesting the Bishop to appoint a Committee to administer the affairs of the Umtali District during his absence. Its adoption was moved by S. Gurney, seconded by J. H. Dimmitt, and carried unanimously. The following is the resolution:

Whereas, The lack of a centralized authority on the field has wrought great damage to our interests in Rhodesia and been the occasion of more or less contention among the workers.

Resolved, That we respectfully request the Bishop to appoint an Executive Committee to act as final authority on the field during his absence; said Committee to consist of three members of the Conference, at least one of which shall be from Umtali and one from Old Umtali. The Treasurer of the Mission shall be a member of the Committee ex officio and act as Chairman of the same, but in no case shall he have a vote. One member shall be elected Secretary, whose duty it shall be to carry on all the correspondence of the Committee, sign all orders made upon the treasury and such other documents as the Committee may direct.

The Committee shall meet monthly at such time and place as agreed upon by the members. In any emergency an extra session may be called by the concurrence of two members.

It shall be the duty of the Committee to pass on all matters of business in connection with all departments of the Mission Work, to order the disbursement of all the funds of the Mission not specified by the Missionary Society, to hear all petitions and complaints and adjust all matters by a majority vote, subject to the approval of the Bishop.

R. E. Beetham,
John H. Dimmitt,
G. A. Baldwin,
S. Gurney.

The Twenty-fifth Question, “What is the Statistical Report for this Year?” was taken up. The Statistical Secretary read his report. (See Reports.) It was moved by J. H. Dimmitt that the Statistical Report be accepted and ordered published in the Minutes. Carried.

Mission Conferences.—J. M. Springer read a letter received for Bishop Hartzell inviting this Conference to be represented at the General Mission Conference of South Africa to be held at Johannesburg in July next. It was decided to acknowledge the receipt of this invitation and express our appreciation of the same and a hope to be represented. J. M. Springer was elected to act as a Committee in the matter, and to attend the Conference if possible. Action was also taken to express the
sympathy of the Conference with the movement represented by the Rhodesia Mission Conference to be held at Bulawayo, and R. Wodehouse was elected to act as our representative.

Committee on Resolutions.—It was ordered to add R. Wodehouse to the Committee on Resolutions.

Medical Work.—S. Gurney brought up the question of requiring payment for medical services for missionaries, mission boys, also for veterinary work, etc. It was moved by R. E. Beetham, and carried, that the Doctor be authorized to collect for all medical appliances used for missionaries and veterinary work, and that he be further authorized to use his own discretion as to medicines used for natives, it being the sense of the Conference that in as many cases as possible compensation be required.

Adjournment.—On motion, the Conference adjourned to meet in extra session at 8 p. m. The Rev. Wilson S. Naylor pronounced the Benediction.

Evening Session

Opening Exercises.—The Conference convened at 8 p. m., with Bishop Hartzell presiding. The devotional exercises were conducted by F. D. Wolf.

Minutes Approved.—The minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

Memoir.—The report of the Committee on Memoirs was called, and F. D. Wolf read the memoir of Mrs. Erwin H. Richards. After the reading of the memoir the Bishop spoke tenderly of the beautifully noble life of Mrs. Richards. Suitable and sincere remarks of esteem followed from J. M. Springer and R. Wodehouse. Hymn No. 991, "Servant of God, well done!" was sung, and the Conference was led in prayer by G. A. Baldwin.

Report of Resolutions.—The following resolutions, read by J. M. Springer, Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, were unanimously adopted.

1. As we contemplate the success and progress of the work of our Church, both among natives and white people, in East Africa since the last Conference session, our hearts are moved with profound gratitude to Almighty God.

The erection and splendid equipment of the beautiful and substantial St. Andrew's Methodist Episcopal Church of Umtali gives our work great prominence and influence in the principal center of Eastern Rhodesia.

The Umtali Academy has so satisfactorily met the educational needs of
Umtali as to win the highest commendation and the financial cooperation of the government, which with the tuition of its ninety pupils makes it self-supporting.

The growing mining center at Penhalonga and the important seaport of Beira have both called for men, and the recent reinforcements will enable us to occupy them.

Through the untiring efforts of Bishop Hartzell a comparatively complete equipment now exists for all work at Umtali and at the Umtali Industrial Mission, though many needs still exist in the work.

We especially rejoice in the increase of over two hundred in the members and probationers, nearly one hundred per cent, in the native churches within the Conference, even though much of it is new work.

As the various workers have spoken we have been pained at our inability to advance the work in the face of the large opportunities and the numerous requests from villages for teachers and evangelists, thus being compelled to leave practically untouched the extensive districts which are especially ours by proximity of territory, and when we consider that whatever territory any Church is to claim in Africa by prior occupancy must be entered within the next few years, and when we think above all of the great and urgent necessity resting upon us under the command and the constraining love of our Lord, we feel that we can but voice our profound conviction that at least fifteen more missionaries and wives should be added to our force within the year to occupy widely separated centers and thus begin the work and occupy the fields for the future operations of the Church.

2. While convinced that the interests of advancing civilization demand that reform should not be introduced too rapidly, yet we are of the opinion that it is entirely feasible and the part of wisdom, religiously, socially, and economically, to recognize but one legal wife; therefore, we desire to place ourselves on record as distinctly opposed to the recognition of polygamy among the natives.

3. We wish to reaffirm the resolution respecting our esteemed Bishop Hartzell which was adopted during the first session of Conference.

4. The presence of the Rev. Wilson S. Naylor has been a source of great inspiration and pleasure to all. We commend the kind provision which secured him as a much-needed traveling companion for Bishop Hartzell on his episcopal tour. Our love and prayers will follow him, and we most heartily wish that he may return to us to become a member of our Conference, and a fellow-worker in this part of the kingdom.

Kraal Work.—The remainder of the evening session was given over largely to the discussion of kraal work, or aggressive work among the natives. The Bishop spoke at some length on this subject, impressing the Conference with the importance of such a movement. Among other things the Bishop said: "Africa is in the eye and getting more and more into the heart of the Christian Church. My great ambition is to get another large concession of land a thousand miles north from
here. Civilization is rapidly moving northward, and we must begin our work and hold the place until we occupy it fully. Openings at Beira and Penhalonga are encouraging; the door at Inhambane is wide open.” The Bishop then called upon several of the brethren and asked them to answer this question: “What have we done and what are we going to do?”

R. Wodehouse reported the native work in and about Umtali as encouraging. He declared two hundred to be a conservative number of the converts among the natives at Umtali.

S. Gurney gave impressions of visits in Mtasa’s kraal, where he spent six weeks studying the manners of the people, their religion, their attitude to the whites, etc. He was greatly impressed with the need of those people and our obligation to them. This town is the center of their government, and although the chief has little legal authority he has great moral influence over the people, and if the leaven is set to work in his kraal it will soon be felt all over the country. “It is an important center for a missionary, and we ought to begin our work at Mtasa’s at a very early date.”

John M. Springer spoke of Chikonga’s, the nearest kraal to the Industrial Mission. He felt our obligation to them to be great. He said: “We can influence them with our visits and by the visits of our boys. Boys have asked to go out to these neighboring kraals to conduct services. A circuit can be formed to reach them regularly.” He indorsed the statements of Dr. Gurney concerning Mtasa’s. He favored going north to Inyanga very soon.

F. D. Wolf spoke of the conditions at Inhambane. He mentioned the great numbers of natives in that district. He said, “We have to try to keep them away instead of trying to get them to come to us.” As to taking native children into the Church, he said that they were on trial at least one and a half years. It is better to be slow than overhasty.

Mid-year District Meeting.—G. A. Baldwin proposed the organization of a regular meeting of some kind after the manner of a District Conference or Mid-year Meeting. It was moved that a committee of three be appointed—one to be the Chairman of the Board of Examiners—to arrange for a mid-year meeting. The committee was formed consisting of the Chairman of the Board of Examiners, G. A. Baldwin, and J. M. Springer.

Report of Publishing Committee.—R. E. Beetham reported for the Publishing Committee. It was decided to have the Minutes printed in
Part of Umtali, Eastern Rhodesia, Africa

Native Methodist Episcopal Church on right, St. Andrew's Methodist Episcopal Church further to left, and Umtali Academy on extreme left
America, and to publish a number of pictures with suitable comments to set forth our various interests to the Church at large. A subscription for the Minutes was taken.

Adjournment.—The Conference adjourned to meet at the Umtali Academy on Monday evening at 8 o’clock. The Bishop pronounced the Benediction.

Fifth Day

The Umtali Academy, October 5, 1903.

Opening Exercises.—The Conference convened in the Umtali Academy at 8 p. m., Bishop Hartzell presiding. After the singing of several hymns S. Gurney led in prayer.

Minutes Approved.—The minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

Report of Estimating Committee.—The report of the Estimating Committee was read by the Secretary, and, on motion of J. H. Dimmitt, was adopted. (See Reports.)

Report of Auditing Committee.—The report of the Auditing Committee was read by G. A. Baldwin and adopted. (See Reports.)

The Bishop requested the singing of a hymn, and “Draw me nearer” was sung.

The Bishop then addressed the Conference, speaking on the advances made in the work. He was gratified with the many steps taken during the past year, mentioning the Academy, the new church, the native work in and about Umtali, the crowding applicants at Inhambane, and the openings at Penhalanga and Beira. He never doubted the direction of Providence in all these affairs. “It has had its drawbacks, but trusting in the Lord every day and every hour will bring greater success.”

Ordination.—The Bishop presented the following:

Certificate of Ordination

This Certifies, That on the fourth day of October, 1903, assisted by Elders, I ordained Glenn A. Baldwin and John H. Dimmitt Elders in the Church of God.

Umtali, October 5, 1903. (Signed) J. C. Hartzell.
Executive Committee.—The Bishop informed the Conference that their request for an Executive Committee would be granted. He announced the Committee as consisting of R. E. Beetham, J. M. Springer, J. H. Dimmitt.

Program Committee.—G. A. Baldwin moved the appointment of a Committee for the arrangement of a program for the next Conference. The Program Committee was appointed as follows: G. A. Baldwin, S. Gurney, F. D. Wolf.

Adjournment.—On motion of S. Gurney, the Conference adjourned subject to the call of the Bishop. After singing, the Bishop pronounced the Benediction.

Sixth Day

Umtali, October 7, 1903.

Opening Exercises.—At the call of the Bishop the Conference convened in the Umtali Academy at 8 p. m. After singing, prayer was offered by the Bishop. “All the way my Saviour leads me” was then sung.

Minutes Approved.—The minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

Examining Board.—The Bishop appointed as additional members of the Examining Board G. A. Baldwin and J. H. Dimmitt.

Adjournment.—On motion of R. E. Beetham, it was ordered that after the approval of the minutes and the reading of the appointments the Conference stand adjourned without day.

Minutes Approved.—The minutes of the session of the sixth day were read and approved.

Appointments.—“I am Thine, O Lord,” was sung. The Bishop addressed the Conference, read the appointments, and after the singing of the Doxology pronounced the Benediction. (See Appointments.)

Joseph C. Hartwell
President

Emory Beetham
Secretary.
DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS

1. Who have been Received by Transfer, and from what Conferences?
   Samuel Gurney, Elder, from the New York East Conference; Glenn A. Baldwin, a Deacon in the Studies of the Third Year, from the Central New York Conference; John H. Dimmitt, a Deacon in the Studies of the Third Year, from the Iowa Conference; David A. Carson, a Deacon in the Studies of the First Year, a Probationer, from the Liberia Conference.

2. Who have been Readmitted?
   None.

3. Who have been Received on Credentials, and from what Churches?
   None.

4. Who have been Received on Trial?
   None.

5. Who have been Continued on Trial?
   (a) In Studies of First Year.
   None.
   (b) In Studies of Second Year.
   (c) In Studies of Third Year.
   None.
   (d) In Studies of Fourth Year.
   None.

6. Who have been Discontinued?
   David A. Carson.

7. Who have been Admitted into Full Membership?
   None.

8. What Members are in Studies of Third Year?
   (a) Admitted into Full Membership this year.
   None.
   (b) Admitted into Full Membership previously.
   James L. DeWitt.

9. What Members are in Studies of Fourth Year?
   Glenn A. Baldwin, R. Emory Beetham, John H. Dimmitt.

10. What Members have Completed the Conference Course of Study?
    None.

11. What others have been Elected and Ordained Deacons?
    None.

12. What others have been Elected and Ordained Elders?
    (a) As Local Deacons.
    None.
    (b) Under Missionary Rule.
   Glenn A. Baldwin, John H. Dimmitt.
13. Was the Character of each Preacher Examined?
   This was attended to.
14. Who have been Transferred, and to what Conferences?
   None.
15. Who have Died?
   None.
16. Who have been Located at their own Request?
   None.
17. Who have been Located?
   None.
18. Who have Withdrawn?
   None.
19. Who have been Permitted to Withdraw under Charges or Complaints?
   None.
20. Who have been Expelled?
   None.
21. What other Personal Notation should be made?
   None.
22. Who are the Supernumerary Preachers?
   None.
23. Who are the Superannuated Preachers?
   None.
24. Who are the Triers of Appeals?
   None.
25. What is the Statistical Report for this year?
   See Statistical Table.
26. What is the Aggregate of the Benevolent Collections, etc.?
   None.
27. What are the Claims on the Conference Fund?
   None.
28. What has been Received on these Claims, and how has it been Applied?
   None.
29. Where are the Preachers Stationed?
   See Appointments.
30. Where shall the next Conference be held?
   At the Umtali Industrial Mission.
APPOINTMENTS

INHAMBANE DISTRICT

E. H. Richards, Presiding Elder (appointed November 18, 1903)
Gikuki and two out-stations, E. H. Richards and Miss Agnes McAllister.*
  Native Teachers: Mariana,* Matewu.*
Kambini and two out-stations, Frank D. Wolf, Mrs. F. D. Wolf, M.D.*
  Miss Virginia R. Swormstedt* (W. F. M. S.).
  Native Teachers: Muti Sikobele,* Angilazi,* Kaliji.*
Makodweni and two out-stations, Native Teachers: Tizora Navess,* Josiah
  Hayes,* Xinzabane Hayes.*

UMTALI DISTRICT

J. M. Springer, Presiding Elder (appointed November 18, 1903)
Beira, Glenn A. Baldwin.
Penhalanga, to be supplied.
Umtali:
  Medical Work and Mission to Chikonga's, Samuel Gurney.
  Industries, E. L. Sechrist.*
  Mission to Mtsa's Kraal, Eddy H. Greeley.*
  Teacher and Woman's Work, Mrs. H. E. Rasmussen* (W. F. M. S.).
Umtali Academy: Principal, R. Emory Beetham; Mrs. H. Tulloch,*
  Mrs. Hermon Brown,* Miss Margaret Brown,* Miss Cuff.*
St. Andrew's, R. Wodehouse.
Native Church and Kraal Work, Charles Yafele,* David Ntuli.*
Native School, Mrs. R. Wodehouse* and Assistants.

IN AMERICA

Morris W. Ehnes and wife, J. L. DeWitt and wife, Miss H. E. Johnstone,*
  Herman Heinkel.*

*Not members of Conference.

Note.—J. H. Dimmitt was transferred to the Iowa Conference, October 21, 1903.
MEMOIR

Mrs. Erwin H. Richards

Carrie Duncanson Richards was born in southwestern Ohio in the autumn of 1871, and the following year moved with her parents to Nebraska. Early in life she had a desire to be a teacher, but had little access to educational institutions. Through the aid of her brother, Professor H. B. Duncanson, she completed a full course of study in the Nebraska State Normal School. Immediately after her graduation, when not yet twenty years of age, she became a teacher in the Reform School for Girls in that State. She was in demand as an instructor, and had already won a life certificate for teaching. By both parents and pupils she was held in high esteem. She was independent, able to adapt herself to all circumstances, and conscientious, having a high standard of moral purity and Christian honor, which she endeavored in every way to impress upon those under her care. When called upon to enter the foreign mission field she cheerfully and heartily responded, and in September, 1897, bade adieu to those she loved. From the very first day she was a success as a missionary. Under all circumstances she was bright and cheerful, and by her consistent Christian life won young and old, black and white, to Christ. She started the school at Kambini, and a year afterward took three little girls, her first pupils, with her to Gikuki, where we now have a school of thirty pupils.

In May, 1902, in company with her husband and their two-year-old daughter, she started for America for a well-earned rest. She stood the journey quite well until their steamer sailed from Port Said, when she became ill, which illness developed into hematuric fever. She was resigned to the will of God, and after two days' illness returned to her Maker. Her last words to anyone were, "If it is God's will, it is mine." On the morning of the twenty-ninth of June she breathed her last, and was buried in the Mediterranean Sea at 30° 21' N. and 20° 15' E.

When we received the news of her death, about five months after it occurred, all felt that we had lost a near and dear friend. The silence of some of the black children and the heartbroken sobs of others showed in what high regard she was held by them. Two sessions of school had to be omitted on account of their grief. Her death made a deep impression on all the children, but especially on those who had been brought to Christ through her labors.

Some of her friends in the homeland thought she threw her life away, but those of us who saw and knew of her work here in Africa cannot think that her teachings to these people whom she loved will not bring forth much fruit. To us it seems hard that such a useful life should be suddenly taken from her husband and little daughter and the work which needed her so much, but she now sees and knows all things and we shall know hereafter.

F. D. Wolf.
The Umtali Academy
Which Lord Grey declared to be “the best equipped school in Rhodesia”
Rev. R. Emory Beeham, Principal
REPORTS

Report of the Umtali Academy

R. Emory Beetham, Principal

The Umtali Academy has closed its second year under the present management and has finished the first term of the third year. The past year has been one of unusual prosperity in every respect. The attendance has been exceptionally good and remarkably regular. During the year we enrolled from 90 to 100 different pupils, and during the last term we had 61 different pupils in attendance. This is the largest ever known.

At the beginning of this calendar year considerable pressure was put upon us to open a boarding school. We secured the services of Mrs. Hermon Brown, of Salisbury, to act as Matron for six months, and took in such pupils as we had rooms for at that time. Mrs. Brown performed her duties with such satisfaction that her departure in June was felt as a great loss. We also had the assistance of Miss Elsie Bennett in the Kindergarten for an entire year. During this time she was training as a teacher and passed the First Year Pupil Teacher's Examination under the Cape University. With these additions our staff increased with the enrollment, so that when school closed in June the teaching force consisted of five persons, namely, the Principal, Mrs. Hugh Tulloch, Mrs. Hermon Brown, Miss Johnstone, and Miss Bennett.

The harmony and cooperation among all the teachers has been most gratifying and consequently conducive of good results. Mrs. Tulloch has been at her desk every day without a single exception, doing her work as faithfully as if every child in her room were her own. Many times she has been overcrowded with pupils and the range of her work was more than she desired to attempt, but under such circumstances she did the best she could and looked to the future for relief and assistance. To those of you who have been here any length of time I need not speak concerning the excellent work of Miss Johnstone, because you know how varied and many have been her duties and how well she has performed them all. When she came here to teach kindergarten and music she had no pupils in either department to begin with. She visited the parents and gathered in the children until she had a first-rate kindergarten class which has been the pride of the school. The music was also small in its beginning, but at the close of the second year she had more than thirty lessons a week to give and had built up the only department in the school which paid its own expenses without the aid of the government. Miss Johnstone planned to give a vocal and instrumental concert in June for the benefit of the Academy library. A number of
ladies and gentlemen of Umtali came to her aid, and the result was the best entertainment of its kind ever given in Umtali and the receipt of $112.50 for the purchase of books. But the worry over the concert, the strain of long hours beside the piano pupils, the care of multitudinous duties in connection with the boarding school, besides other nerve-racking experiences, weighed so heavily upon her that she was not even able to attend her own concert. Threatened with nervous prostration, she was overcome by frequent and severe attacks of malaria, so that for four months she has been unable for her duties and is at this time about to start for America, where she hopes to regain her strength. Miss Johnstone has been most efficient and thorough in her work, and it is doubtful if we shall ever be able to get another teacher thoroughly capable in so many lines as she. Her departure will be seriously felt in the Academy for a long time.

Financially the Academy has far surpassed the record of the preceding year. In this we have nearly doubled. The entire income from various sources—tuition and government aid—has amounted to £958 15s. 1d., or nearly $4,800. If all accounts were settled we would have about $2,000 more. Most of this will be paid, so that if we put the two sums together our income for the past five terms amounts to about $6,800. Not a penny of this has come from the Missionary Society, but is a sum almost equivalent to the entire annual appropriation for the whole district. Although our income has been comparatively large, our expenses have been proportionately great. Besides the ordinary expenses we have also handled $1,500 which came through Bishop Hartzell and was spent in improvements on the building. Five hundred dollars more used in the same way will complete the entire building and make it one of the most desirable buildings in the country for a boarding school.

We have organized a literary society among the pupils, and fortnightly meetings are held regularly. A library has been started which has become a source of great pleasure and profit to the pupils. A number of other things have been instituted which have made the Academy more efficient as an educational factor in Rhodesia and given it a good standing in the eyes of the government and of distinguished visitors who have honored us by their presence. At one time Secretary Jones, of the British South Africa Company, accompanied by the resident magistrate looked through the school and addressed the pupils. We also had the honor of a visit from Lord Grey during his brief sojourn in Umtali. After a careful inspection of the school property and apparatus this distinguished visitor declared the Umtali Academy to be "the best equipped school in Rhodesia." George Duthie, Esq., the Superintendent Inspector of Schools in Southern Rhodesia, after his regular visit in December made a report to his Honor the Administrator in which were the following encouraging words:

"I need not recapitulate the facts of last year, but merely state that I found the school in a very satisfactory state. Considerable progress has been made during the year, and it is satisfactory to be able to say that nearly every child of school age in Umtali is at the Academy. There are
several new features in the school: 1. A literary society of which all pupils are members. The pupils select their own officers, who conduct and arrange for the fortnightly meetings. Parents also attend the meetings. 2. The physical laboratory is very well equipped, and two lectures are given a week in physical science. 3. The library, which consists of 50 [now 150] volumes, including encyclopedia, is gradually being extended by the aid of the Literary Society. 4. The class for instrumental music consists of 11 [now 18] pupils. 5. I was especially interested in two new features, namely, relief maps of Africa made of sodden paper by the pupils of the Fourth Standard, and the meteorological reports made by the higher pupils. They recorded temperature, weather, direction of the wind, and as nearly as possible the rising and setting of the sun. I had an interesting instance of the value of these observations at a farm I visited where the farmer's little daughter was sent to read the instruments and she was able to answer intelligently on them. In a word, I might say that no opportunity is lost in awakening the intelligence of the children."

The above testimonials are very encouraging to the instructors of the Academy, and are no doubt gratifying to all patrons of the school, but we trust that no one thinks we are satisfied with our present conditions. Taking into consideration the many great difficulties that confront all educational work in this new country, we are pleased with the progress already made; but we shall never be satisfied until there is left no possible opportunity for improvement.

Before closing this report I feel constrained to say that the justification of Bishop Hartzell's action in opening such a school for the education of the white youths of this country becomes more and more apparent each day. The education of white children must never be neglected. In giving them the best possible opportunities for a good Christian education we are doing the work of the Master directly and at the same time wielding a powerful secondary influence for good upon the tremendous native problems that threaten the future. The importance of our white work in Africa cannot easily be overestimated.

May the Lord bless our work to the glory of his name and lead this school in all its future movements.

Report of Rev. J. H. Dimmitt

While in attendance at the Iowa State Convention of the Epworth League at Grinnell, November 24, 1902, I first volunteered to go to Africa as a missionary. At the opening of the evening program Dr. Oldham asked for volunteers for Africa. It seemed that he spoke directly to me. I had thought seriously on the subject before, but never had it seemed so definite that I should go. Had the call been made at the close of Bishop Hartzell's address my action might have been due to the inspiration of the moment, but coming as it did I believed it to be divine, and time has simply strengthened my conviction. I told the Bishop that if in the judgment of
the Church I was more greatly needed in Africa than in my present field of labor I was ready to go.

I returned to the Washington Circuit and continued my regular work. All former financial obligations were eliminated from this charge, and a six weeks' revival resulted in sixty-five conversions and sixty accessions to the church. In the meantime no definite word was received concerning my appointment to Africa. Yet I felt no special anxiety on the subject, believing that if it was right for me to go the way would open. On the fifth of June I received a letter from Bishop Hartzell asking me how soon I was willing to start for work in East Africa, and requesting an immediate reply. In less than one hour after receiving his letter I wired, "I can start by July first, sooner if necessary." On June twentieth I received notice from Secretary Leonard of my appointment. My Presiding Elder and people were notified, my personal matters adjusted, and everything arranged for the journey.

It was not an easy matter to sever the relations from my most agreeable charge, neither to leave such a desirable home town, nor to break ranks from a Conference which had cared for me so brotherly; the receiving of an aged mother's farewell blessing took some courage; but altogether it was not equal to taking the arms of my darling boy from around my neck and giving him into the loving care of Mrs. McCulloch, knowing that when I should see him again he would not understand the meaning of "papa" and would have passed the sweet days of babyhood. But through it all my faith in God did not waver, and each day I continued to sing, "He leadeth me." I sailed from New York on July 15, and after a most delightful journey reached Umtali on August 17. Since that time I have been assigned to the English work at Penhalonga, a mining town ten miles northeast of Umtali, where I now preach every alternate Sunday, and have announced to open school October 6. I am greatly pleased with the conditions of the country, and believe Penhalonga to be a fertile field for future usefulness.

Report of E. H. Greeley

Since our last Conference, in November, 1901, there has been marked improvement in the Native School at the Mission, for which I am sure we all are glad. The difficulties encountered in starting and building up a school here have been so great that it is a wonder we have anything at all. Two years ago the attendance was only ten and very irregular. Slowly but constantly the enrollment has increased during the school year closing in June, when the attendance reached forty. The boys with few exceptions have made quite satisfactory progress, and a few have done phenomenally well. The advanced class is now studying grammar and arithmetic in addition to reading, writing, spelling, and defining. A class was organized some time ago in Chinyika and a good start made in preliminary work, but the lack of suitable books has prevented doing as much as desired. Recently two white children have been in attendance at a separate session.
Beginning with the current year, the school is rejoicing in new desks, maps, globe, physiological and natural history charts, blackboards, etc. These are of the greatest use to us, and will no doubt result in increased proficiency in the boys.

The orphans Alfred and Victoria are growing and learning daily. They are now seven and five years of age respectively. May the future reveal the wisdom of training these children for God and the Church. Both seem to be unusually bright mentally, and we pray that they may early seek Jesus and that no serious mistake shall be made in their training. They ought to be valuable helpers and workers in the near future.

The Mission Home since April, 1902, has been under my care and management, and has been a great addition to my former duties. The practically open-house plan has, we trust, been a blessing not only to strangers and friends, but especially to our own workers. The building needs repairing very much, both inside and out, and also there must soon be supplied furniture, linen, silver, china, and kitchen ware.

With regard to my work on the grounds, I wish to say that little has been done for the last twelve months, owing to increased duties in school and home. The planting of seeds, trees, shrubs, and so forth, has been continued as time permitted, and some valuable conclusions have been reached. The grass lawns have been extended in all directions. Walks and paths have been laid out and other general work accomplished as time has permitted. Some time has been spent at Umtali laying out walks and beautifying the grounds about the Academy in consultation with the principal, R. E. Beetham, but only a beginning has been made. Much more ought to be done. It ought to be done right away, as the rains will soon be here, but little can be done by one whose time is already quite fully occupied, however much he may desire to do so.

**Report of Dr. Gurney**

Like Samuel of old, my call to God's service came in early childhood; so that from my earliest recollection I have known that God intended me for the Christian ministry. My conversion occurred in my thirteenth year, and from that time forward my convictions concerning my call to the ministry became more and more clear, but also more and more unwelcome.

I continued to resist God's will in this matter till my twenty-first year, and then the hunger of my soul for the deeper things of God led me to consecrate my life wholly to him. As soon as I had made this surrender the conviction came that my lifework was to be in Africa, although I had never thought of it previous to that time.

I then supposed God would lead me into this work without delay; but such was not his purpose, and for many succeeding years his providence effectually closed every door by which I sought to enter African missionary service.

When I was graduated from "Drew" in 1890 I thought God's time had
come, but illness in my family was God's way of saying, "Your thoughts are not my thoughts;" and so I joined the New York East Conference, and settled down to the work at home, and tried to keep Africa out of my heart. When, four years later, the dear suffering one exchanged my parsonage for the home in glory, the old desire and conviction concerning Africa returned with renewed force. As soon as possible I offered myself for this work, but instead of accepting me Bishop Hartzell urged me to obtain a medical education before going, convincing me that my increased usefulness as a medical missionary would more than compensate for the time and money expended in preparing myself for medical work. Then followed four years in Yale Medical School as a student, and two years in a hospital as a physician; but during all of this time my heart was in Africa. At last the vision of former years has become a reality. On the eighth of last March I reached Umtali and began the work to which God so definitely called me twenty years ago.

The organization of the medical work has necessarily been delayed until this session of the Conference, and therefore I have no very satisfactory report to give concerning it. As I have had opportunity I have ministered to the sick so far as the means at hand would enable me to do so. The record during my first months is a fair example of succeeding months, and is as follows: Number of missionaries treated, 5, to whom 19 treatments were given. Number of "mission boys" treated, 12, to whom 33 treatments were given. Number of other natives treated, 10, to whom 31 treatments were given. Number of mission animals treated, 7, to whom 136 treatments were given. Total number of patients during the month, 34, and total number of treatments given, 219. Had I received payment for this service, according to prices which prevail here, it would have amounted to about $400 for the regular work, and probably an equal amount for the veterinary. But no payments have been made for either medicines or treatment, the natives having little with which to pay, and the question of requiring payment from our missionaries and for veterinary work remaining to be decided at this session of the Conference.

Recently I have spent six weeks in the native town of Mtasa, the paramount king of this district. While there the medical service was very active, sometimes amounting to twenty treatments per day. Although there was no money compensation for this service, yet it resulted in completely removing the prejudice which had existed against us, so that we now have the fullest confidence of this people and permission to establish a mission among them. As this is the largest and most influential native town within our reach, "a great door and effectual is here opened unto us," and one which we ought to enter at once.

Besides my ministry of physical healing I have been privileged to cooperate with my brethren in the more directly spiritual work. I have preached at New Umtali three times and at Old Umtali seven times. I have visited Beira twice, for the purpose of conducting religious services there. Each time my soul has been stirred within me as I have seen that great
BISHOP AND MRS. HARTZELL TREKING IN EASTERN RHODESIA, AFRICA

Crossing the Ondzani River thirty miles from Untali Industrial Mission, 1901
city almost entirely given up to worldliness and wickedness, and without a Christian church or anyone to represent Jesus Christ or to tell of his salvation. This also is "an open door" which we should enter without delay.

Thus a great harvest field is before us "white already to harvest." "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he may send forth laborers into his harvest;" and that those whom he is sending may be "filled with all the fullness of God," that we may effectually preach, both by our lives and words, "the unsearchable riches of Christ."

**Report of Helen E. Rasmussen**

At the close of the last Conference I set myself to what seemed to me the most important task of a new missionary—the study of the language. Mr. Heinkel and I worked together, I getting new words from my boy and making feeble attempts at translating and he taking the work to correct and verify it with other Manica boys. This service was invaluable to me, as I had to begin at the very beginning with no guide but the knowledge of the general grammatical rules of the Bantu language which I had learned on the Congo.

On New Year's Day Mr. Springer joined us, and for the next three months we followed the same plan. At the end of this time we had gathered and arranged alphabetically, in an English-Chikaranga form, over seven hundred words, and were proud of the one hymn, which, though we knew it to be ungrammatical, we still considered much better than nothing, for it at least contained the chief doctrines of Christianity. We were also proud of two parables, which were far more correct than the hymn. A foundation had been laid for kraal work.

In April I went to Umtali, where I helped in the evening school for three weeks. On my return I nursed the sick through two weeks of hard fever.

On June 4, Mr. Springer having built a hut at Chikonga's, I joined him, taking with me my native girl, Shakeni, who came to me most providentially when I needed a companion in my kraal work. Two evenings later we had a formal opening of the hut, giving a lantern lecture on "The Life of Christ." Then I was left alone among the heathen. A few hours later the natives began to come in from the neighboring kraals, and I soon learned that there was to be a dance, to which Chikonga sent me an invitation. At sundown the big, new drum began to sound, and the noise, dancing, and drinking continued until ten o'clock the next day, Sunday.

I spent an hour in the crowded hut where the dance was going on, and then escaped to my own hut, but for little sleep. Such a night was enough to inspire another "Inferno."

The following week I was at Chikonga's disposal, and she played the part of a hostess and chieftess well. I was escorted around to various affairs where there was some work and much beer.
Then came a messenger to me from Mtasa's kraal, and through him Chikonga learned that her father was very ill, so she immediately decided to go up and take me with her. I had won some reputation as a doctor, and she was sure I must go up and doctor the old king. I was not ready to go, and made all the excuses I could think of, and thought she was satisfied, but the next morning, while I was eating my breakfast, she came in to say that we would start as soon as the two boys, with whom she had arranged to take my blankets and food, had eaten.

There was no alternative, so we walked fourteen miles and then climbed up the steep mountain, reaching Mtasa's at about half past four. A little later she came to the tent and said the "Missis" had better not see her father until the morrow, as he had been drinking. I was quite willing to rest.

The next day I was taken to the sick king, who was in a tiny, dark, miserable hut, like a rat in his hole. He was ill with a noisome disease, his whole upper lip and chin one putrid mass of sore, which I had to dress daily for weeks. He was far more appreciative than submissive, and as soon as he felt sure that he would get well—for he mended very rapidly—he returned to his old ways of living in spite of all warnings. So after giving him nine weeks' care, seeing that his case was hopeless, we returned to Old Umtali.

In the meantime we had held services every morning, two or three times on Sundays, and many little services during the day, when a few would come in and ask to sing. My part in these was to play the organ, which was an unfailing attraction, to lead the singing, and to work out Scripture lessons. These services were always well attended, and the songs were learned with eagerness. It was a pleasure to hear the monotony of the heathen dance songs broken by childish voices uttering the "Gospel in song" to such tunes as "Contrast" and "Safe in the arms of Jesus."

Often when I was alone in my hut the door would open and a number of girls and women would come in and ask to be taught. To be sure, this was very largely an excuse to satisfy curiosity or to beg later on, but nevertheless there is a needy field in this direction.

On August 20 we returned to Old Umtali to organize and push the school and evangelistic work. The language class was again opened, with both afternoon and evening sessions for some three months.

We began to hold services on Sunday afternoons and on Sunday and Thursday evenings, at which I played the organ and took charge of the singing. On Sunday evenings I frequently also explained the lantern views which were such an attraction.

After getting my donkey, the gift of Mrs. Wiley, of New Jersey, I made several trips to near-by kraals, especially to Chikonga's, where I would remain overnight.

We had planned an active campaign for the dry season of this present year, but circumstances beyond our control kept me shut up at home. Yet I am convinced that it is a case where prayer is only deferred, and that the answer will surely come and that we shall be able to make this evangelistic
tour yet, and not only so, but follow the work up with out-stations where we can reach the people.

Being thus shut up, I was forced to give myself to the work on the language with more energy than ever, and now my work is beginning to show for itself.

In connection with this work I have carried on a large correspondence, having written some four hundred personal and one hundred circular letters, together with articles for publication, about thirty of which have appeared in various papers, mostly those of our own Church; and, in accordance with instructions of last Conference, I have contributed regularly to the *Philadelphia Methodist* and *Zion's Herald* both news and articles.

My work has been irregular and very unsatisfactory, but I think the Master will say of me, "She hath done what she could."

**Report of the Umtali Industrial Mission**

**John M. Springer, Superintendent**

This report covers the period from December, 1901, to September 30, 1903, except where otherwise stated.

The year may be characterized in general as one of transition and the inception of permanent work. Six workers numbered the Mission force at the beginning of the year. Of these three remain. On April 18, 1902, Mrs. E. H. Greeley went on a visit to her folks in Norway, and later crossed to America. In response to a cablegram from Bishop Hartzell, George M. Odlum left Umtali for America, January 9, 1903. On the thirteenth of March, the same year, after several weeks of serious illness, Herman Heinkel left at the order of a physician and proceeded to America. On March 9 the Rev. Samuel Gurney, M.D., and wife arrived at the Mission. On the twenty-third of June Mrs. Gurney left the Mission for Umtali and departed for America on the fourth of July.

On February 13, 1902, John Charles Potter, who had been converted at the Mission under the Rev. Hunter Reid some years previously, came to enter the school, the first boy to come for the specific purpose. Soon after two other boys came and remained but a few weeks. In September, 1902, Jonas James came from the night school in Umtali, and was followed shortly by others, until at one time the number of large boys was eleven and of small boys twenty-four. Besides these the boys in the kitchens and on the farm have come more or less under the influence of the school and of the religious meetings.

At the beginning of the year one Sunday service and daily prayers were held with the boys, usually by Mr. Greeley. These were continued, with the addition of an occasional service on Sunday evening, until September, 1902. During that month following my return from four months spent in the native kraals two additional services on Sunday were inaugurated, one in the afternoon and one in the evening. At this latter the stereopticon, with
views on the life of Christ and on Pilgrim's Progress, has been of great
service. At that time also an inquirers' class was organized and a midweek
service for the boys on Thursday evening. These meetings were under my
charge. Fifteen boys have been received on probation, some of them by
transfer from the native church in Umtali. Two of these, John Charles
Potter and Kaduku Flaha, the first converts on the Mission, were baptized
on September 27, 1903, by Bishop Hartzell. A few others will soon be ready
to be taken on probation.

[For report on Native School, Medical Work, Women's Work, Mission
Home and Orphanage, see reports of E. H. Greeley, Dr. Gurney, and Mrs.
Rasmussen.—Ed.]

Owing to the vacancy of the Industrial Training Department for the
year no systematic training of the boys in the shops has been attempted,
but several of them have learned a great deal about the use of tools from
assisting in various lines of work. The aptness of boys in learning to
handle tools and the comparatively high degree of development of some
trades and crafts among them gives assurance that some of them will
develop into good mechanics.

Many difficulties had to be faced in taking up the language. No good
helps are published and no qualified tutors were at hand. A class was
formed and maintained for some months in which the work of gathering
and verifying a vocabulary was carried on. Mrs. Rasmussen has, probably,
done most on the language, and has rendered much service by the compo-
sition and translation of hymns, Scripture, ritual, etc.

The difficulties of the women's work at present are such that time is
required for their solution, but they must be overcome. Soon boys will be
going from our school, some to general lines of activity and a few to assist
in mission work. It is best that they marry and found Christian homes as
soon as possible. The Mission should see to it that there are Christian girls
for them to marry, or at least it should provide for the instruction of the
girls whom they choose.

During the year various members of the Mission have resided for a
considerable period of time in the villages of Chikonga and Mtasa, and also
many other kraals have been visited. This has given us an acquaintance
with the people and has secured for us their confidence, and the way seems
open for us to extend our work among them as rapidly as our ability will
permit. The medical assistance that we have been able to render has been
especially valuable in this respect. The visitation of the villages should
take an ever-increasing place in the work of the members of this Mission.
A mission hut has been built in Chikonga's kraal and has been of con-
siderable use. The old Mtasa continued his opposition to having a mission
hut built in his town, at the same time giving the missionaries a cordial
welcome and providing huts for their accommodation for weeks. But the
new Mtasa has expressed his willingness to have us build a hut near his
village, which we shall do within the year.

The farm was in charge of Mr. Odlum until January 1, 1903, when it
ST. ANDREW'S METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, UMTALI, RHODESIA, AFRICA  
Rev. Robert Wodehouse, Pastor

Corner Stone laid by Masonic Lodge, October 19, 1902  
Rhodes Memorial Stone laid by Rt. Hon. Earl Grey, November 16, 1902  
Dedicated to Worship of God by Bishop Hartzell, September 20, 1903
was turned over by him to Mr. Heinkel, who retained control for two months. Mr. Odlum carried on as extensive operations as the equipment of working animals and the conditions warranted. Considerable new land was broken up, both near the Mission and at Matika's kloof. In 1902 a large crop of corn was put in, and the yield was very satisfactory. A good quantity of forage was also grown by irrigation. Various experiments with many kinds of seeds were tried, but many of these were of little value owing to unfavorable conditions. Several kinds of forest trees were started, and a few of these were set out in March of this year. The cattle sickness, which has swept off whole herds, reached our herd in September, 1902, and the cattle died off slowly from that time till March, 1903, when the remaining number was sold to the butcher. Considerable quantities of machinery were ordered by Mr. Odlum, and now the Mission possesses quite a complete outfit and nearly all that is needed for carrying on the operations as now planned. When the farm came into my hands in March the planting season was over. The crops were tended and harvested, but, though a good acreage had been put in, the dry season destroyed a large part of the stand, and only a partial crop of forty bags of corn was gathered. All other crops totally failed. No place had been built for the machinery and the tools were scattered in many places, so sheds were at once built, and now all farm animals and equipment are centered there. The pigs proved so destructive to the gardens and field crops that they were disposed of. Considerable work has been done by Messrs. Odlum, Greeley, and myself in getting the ground in better shape. The past dry season interfered greatly with the plans. We suffered constantly for want of water for agricultural purposes.

The Rev. R. Wodehouse's Report

Since making out my last report for the Conference of November, 1901, I am glad to report real and substantial progress.

Our English work has grown rapidly. We moved into our new and beautiful church on May 3 of this year, and from that time the congregations have steadily increased. On September 20 Bishop Hartzell dedicated the building before a crowded audience. This church is the first and only Methodist Episcopal church on the continent of Africa for the white people who have come to this new country from America, Europe, and other parts of the world and those who call themselves Africanders, being in many cases the descendants of the old Dutch families and of the settlers of 1820. The church is a landmark and we hope will be a spiritual home for man. The furniture of the church is unique. Before the bishop left America he selected and presented one hundred and eighty comfortable folding chairs and a neat lecturn. The building is lit up with acetylene gas from four chandeliers of six burners; a splendid Blymier bell is hung in the tower, which can be heard for several miles; a new organ costing five hundred dollars has been purchased, paid for by the people. The Sunday school is growing and proving a great blessing to the church; this departure is
under the management of Mrs. Wodehouse, assisted by Mrs. Carson and Mr. Joseph Brown.

We are seeking to develop the social and intellectual side of our work; to this end a society called "St. Andrew's Social and Literary Society" has been started, and is proving a great success. The field at Penhalonga among the miners has, with the assistance of Brother Springer, been opened, and is full of promise. Beira has been definitely occupied and services have been held in the Victoria Hall. Dr. Gurney has rendered valuable service in this field. We are hoping soon to see a man placed in this most important and strategic point, as there is a large population of natives from various tribes in the interior.

We have much to bless God for in our native work. The old native church became too small and inconvenient, so we resolved to put up a new building, for which the natives made and burnt the bricks. Now we have a commodious and substantial building large enough to meet the growing needs of this important work. Here there is preaching three times on the Sabbath; three nights in the week Mrs. Wodehouse, assisted by native teachers, carries on a night school; one night is given up to the class meeting, and one night to singing. The native work is in a most satisfactory condition; many have professed conversion; seven have been baptized, and there are others ready for baptism. The average attendance at class meeting is about forty-five. From the baptized members seven exhorters have been selected; these go out to the various kraals around to preach. With their help we are enabled to carry on regular work at seven outside kraals. We are looking for an increase in the number of exhorters. All our converts have opportunity given them to develop their gifts. In this way we are hoping to have some good evangelists to man outside stations. Charles Yafelle and his wife are doing excellent work.

A missionary journey of ten days due south was taken last November, giving us several open doors, the chiefs themselves asking for workers and pledging to build school churches. Never before have so many open doors presented themselves to us.

I trust that the coming year will see a great forward movement—that important centers will be occupied and a chain of mission stations started that will be carried to the Zambezi.

**Report of Mrs. Wodehouse**

The Sunday school, which has been one of my departments of work, has had ninety-one names on the register since we commenced our work in Umtali in May, 1901. Of these fifty have left the town, one has died, leaving the present number at forty. During the past year Mrs. Carson has been of great assistance to me in Sunday school work, and quite recently Mr. Brown, who has lately come to reside in Umtali, has kindly helped us. Of course this work is largely a work for the future, and as the seed is dropped Sunday by Sunday in these young hearts, we hope and pray that at some time it
may spring up and yield fruit unto life. In two instances we have been permitted to see the result of our labors. The little fourteen-year-old girl who was called home after a brief sickness gave a sweet and definite testimony a few weeks before she died that she had given her heart to Jesus, her dear face beaming with joy as she told me. Another dear girl has joined the church on probation and is a sweet and consistent Christian.

The boys' native school has also been part of my work since I have been in Umtali. It has steadily grown in numbers, and we now register ninety-nine. The boys move so from place to place that there is only one boy remaining in the school of the original number. Most of these boys are in the first primer, but a few are reading in the third standard, are writing, and doing sums in subtraction.

As pastor's wife my time has been very full in visiting the sick, the parents of my Sunday school children, and the ladies of our congregation.

During the past year I have striven to do my duty in the sphere in which I have been placed, desiring above all things to be faithful that I may not be ashamed before Him at his coming.

The Report of the Inhambane District

F. D. Wolf

My wife and I reached Inhambane, in company with Dr. and Mrs. Richards, on December 15, 1901. We were very agreeably surprised to find such a beautiful place. Our station is four miles across the bay from the town, in a healthful location. A few days after arrival Dr. Richards, Mrs. Wolf, and myself went to Kambini, where all the other stations were gathered to celebrate Christmas and to hold the Quarterly Conference. A short time after returning we took up the study of the Shekswa language, and at the same time began to teach in the native school.

On the ninth of May, 1902, less than five months after we came, Dr. and Mrs. Richards left for America. We were left all alone with eight out-stations under our care, and as many native teachers, only one of whom could speak English, and a school directly under my charge of some thirty pupils, in which not one could speak our language. Daily morning and evening prayers had to be conducted, prayer meeting on Friday evening, and also the services of the Sabbath. These were some of the difficulties we had to face in our new field of labor, but we determined, if possible, to get along without an interpreter, and we are glad to say that we have been able to do this.

We have three different lines of work: medical, educational, and evangelistic. Mrs. Wolf has charge of the medical work and the dispensary. During the year one of our girls, Xanakani, has been in training and is now able to take charge of the minor cases in the dispensary. I doubt if any general practitioner at home has as great a variety of cases in one month as we have to treat in our work here. Patients are brought to us
for treatment from all of our out-stations, and we have requests for medicine for all kinds of acute and chronic diseases from all sides. This not only applies to the natives, but we have had several cases among the Portuguese, one being the assistant secretary of the governor, and also a great number of banians, natives of India. The government does not allow us to make a charge for this work, and as we do not believe in giving out medicine for nothing, we request each one to bring a sekwati (gift). Occasionally we receive a xapawu, about two cents, but the average gifts are a bunch of farina, sweet potatoes, sugar cane, cocoanuts, bananas, peanuts, and different fruits when in season.

The educational work consists of nine different schools, with an enrollment of 175 pupils. Out of this number the Mission has been able to clothe and feed only 105. A few of the remaining live with their parents, who have moved to the mission station, while several more are supported by the native teachers themselves, and the rest eat with the mission children, who share their food rather than see them sent away. Ever since we are here the teachers have been asking me to allow them to take a few more children, but thus far I have been compelled to tell them that there is no money in the mission treasury to increase the number. We have had great difficulty in holding on to the work as it is, without trying to advance, although there is a great opportunity lying open before the Methodist Church here if the money and consecrated workers are sent to claim it.

The printing press was in operation until the first number of The Inhambane Voice was printed and mailed, and then the Portuguese government demanded an annual tax of a hundred dollars for issuing the paper. This closed up the department. A few months later I was informed that I could print again without any license, but by that time there was no money for this work, and as a result the press has been standing idle for more than a year, but now we are printing a second edition of the Sheetswa primer, for there is scarcely a whole one on any of the stations, the only book there is in the native language except the Testament and some songs.

The evangelistic work is the one to which the other lines of activity lead, and also the most important. In the short time we have been in Africa our observation, both here and in Natal, has taught us that no matter how much a native knows, or how near he lives like the white man, if he does not have a change of heart he is a heathen still, and even worse. Thus the object of all our work is to bring these people to a knowledge of Jesus Christ as a personal Saviour. This we are trying to do in the daily prayers, the Friday evening prayer meetings, the Sunday services, and special meetings occasionally. In July I made an evangelistic tour among all the stations except one, but at present we can find very little time to go on such trips.

Since coming it has been my privilege to receive 31 into full membership—24 by baptism, 1 that was baptized in infancy, and 6 by church letters from different missions in Johannesburg. Also 88 new ones have come to the different stations in the same time. These additions are evidences of
previous faithful sowing, and we are merely reaping the harvest. The collections on the different stations for 1902 amounted to $60.32, and for the first two quarters of this year we have received $23.46. Almost all that these people have is the things they raise in their small gardens, and many do not have money for months at a time, and yet when they become Christians there seems to be a desire on their part to help the work of Christ. I could not help but think of the widow's mite, at Kambini, as I saw an old woman pushing her way to the platform to present unto the Lord a small cup of peanuts as her offering. This last quarter about two bushels of peanuts were given in the church collection at that station. When we think of how poor these people are it is remarkable that they give so much to spread the Gospel among their own people.

This year the crops were almost an entire failure, on account of the lack of rain and the intense heat of the sun. The food for the children costs nearly twice as much as it did last year. We are so thankful that, through the kindness of Bishop Hartzell, money arrived just in time to enable us to buy up a supply of corn for our station that will last until Christmas. We had asked God to supply our need, and he has answered our prayers more abundantly than we had hoped for.

On my last trip two urgent calls came to me to open new work. One from a king in an entirely new district. He wants us to send a teacher to help his children to learn about the God who made all things. The other, an Englishman, who is working for a Johannesburg firm, has offered to build a hut for us if we can send some one to teach the natives in his neighborhood. One of our probationers who is working for this man and is scarcely able to read himself, is teaching some of the children there after his daily work is done. The words that Jesus spoke to his disciples, just before he sent them out, are especially applicable to this field, "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few."

Report of Mrs. F. D. Wolf, M.D.

One week after arrival at Inhambane Mr. Richards, Mr. Wolf, and myself visited several of our out-stations. We arrived at Kambini late in the afternoon, and were soon surrounded by natives of all sizes, reaching out their hands to welcome us. Here we spent our first Christmas in Africa. We had seen natives before, but never such a number of them at one time. All the stations were here to celebrate Christmas, and besides our own school children and Christians there were about two hundred others. At the communion services on Christmas Day the little chapel was filled and all around the outside there were crowds of heathen, having been invited by our native teachers.

The following day we attended the funeral of one of our native Christians at Makodweni, and toward evening of the same day we arrived at Nwazakari, another station. Early the next morning we were aroused by our machiela carriers and almost before sunrise we were on our home-
ward journey. After taking a lunch with a Portuguese planter at Jogo, where we took our little sailboat, we started for home. O how happy we felt when, several miles before us, we could see beautiful Blinn Home among the trees. Mrs. Richards had a good meal awaiting us, and we were soon rested again.

We at once began teaching in the school. I took charge of the primer class in the morning session, and assisted Mrs. Richards in the afternoon. On April 1 Mrs. Richards put me in charge of the housekeeping and entire care of the children.

On our arrival I began medical work and treated as high as sixteen cases in one morning. The patients were quite different from what I had been accustomed to at home, but in doing my work I forgot the people. How I do wish sometimes that I had a bath tub of good warm water and sapollio to wash some of the dear little heathen babies who are almost too filthy to touch. Many of the ulcers that we treat are so filled with pus and scab that it takes several applications of pure carbolic acid to get down to the ulcer proper. The most common cases we must treat are ulcers, severe burns, the itch, and matikanya (a little insect which forces itself under the skin, generally in the toes, and there deposits its eggs in a small sack which if not removed will burst and cause a severe ulcer). These the natives do not remove, but often will allow them to increase so rapidly that the whole foot will become involved. We now have a case of a child whose big toe is so affected that it has increased to almost the size of the child’s foot. We have treated during the past year several hundred ulcers, beside severe burns, wounds of many sorts, dislocations, and diseases of many kinds. The more bitter the medicine, the more painful the application, the more faith the natives have in the doctor. One of our bright Tonga girls has learned the treatment of ulcers so rapidly that the minor cases with a little oversight are entirely cared for by her.

Besides the medical work I have the entire training of the children. Most of the larger ones, boys as well as girls, can do their own sewing with but a little help, while that of the smaller children falls entirely on me. We endeavor to teach small as well as large to sew neatly, and often we feel as though we would rather do it ourselves than be compelled to make them rip, rip and sew again until the work is done properly. Some of the older girls, who were Mrs. Richards’s first children, are splendid cooks, washers, and ironers. These girls are a great help in many ways to the missionary. Every Saturday the children are all given some work to do to earn money for the Sabbath collection. A stranger dropping in would be interested to see how earnestly each one goes to work. Sometimes we must compel one to do her work over again, but as a rule each child does her best. We can find plenty of work for our girls, but it is rather difficult to find enough for the boys. They cut wood, sweep the yard, and keep their own house clean. We have been asking and praying for a few sets of carpenters’ tools and a shoemaking outfit for the training of our boys. Several of them with merely an ax and a knife are able to do splendid work. If we had these
our boys could be taught trades by which they could earn enough money here at home instead of going away to the mines, as the majority of them do. May God open the hearts of some one to supply us with these things.

Report of the Auditing Committee

The Auditing Committee have examined the books of the Treasurer of Umtali District, the Principal of the Umtali Academy, and the Superintend-ent of the Industrial Mission and find them correct and well kept.

The books of the Treasurer of Inhambane District were also examined and are found correct, but we cannot commend the bookkeeping prior to April, 1902.

Respectfully submitted,

G. A. BALDWIN,
S. GURNEY.

October 5, 1903.

Estimates for East Central Africa Mission Conference for 1904

Inhambane District

E. H. Richards and two children. ........ ....... ........ $1,000
F. D. Wolf and wife supported by the Northwestern University.
Child of F. D. Wolf and wife. ........ ................. 100
Miss Agnes McAllister. ........ ........ ............ 600
Miss Swarneustead supported by the W. F. M. S.
New building at Kambini. ........ ........ ........... 1,000
Native work........ ........ .......... ........ 500

$3,200

Umtali District

R. Wodehouse and wife........ ........ ........ ........ $1,000
Work among the natives........ ........ ................ 500
G. A. Baldwin........ ........ ........ .............. 800
R. E. Beeham self-supporting in Umtali Academy.
Mrs. Hugh Tullock self-supporting in Umtali Academy.
Miss H. E. Johnstone self-supporting in Umtali Academy.
Miss Brown self-supporting in Umtali Academy.
J. H. Dimmitt self-supporting at Penhalonga.
Incidentals on general mission goods. ................ 200
St. Andrew's Church indebtedness........ ........ 1,000
Umtali parsonage........ ........ ........ ............ 500
Taxes ........ ........ ........ ........ .................. 200

4,200
East Central Africa

Amount carried forward ........................................ $7,400

Industrial Mission:
J. M. Springer ................................................. $800
Samuel Gurney ............................................... 800
E. H. Greeley .................................................. 800
E. L. Secrist and wife ........................................ 1,000
Hospital building and medicines .............................. 200
Buildings and repairs ......................................... 500
Agriculture and mechanics .................................... 1,500
Mrs. Helen E. Rasmussen supported by W. F. M. S. ........... 5,600
On deficiencies for 1903 ....................................... 1,500

Grand total ..................................................... $14,500

These estimates are made, with the approval of the Bishop, on the basis of the appropriation of 1903. A strong appeal has been forwarded to the Missionary Board at New York for an advance of $2,500. If this is granted the money can be used in reinforcements and in extending the work, especially among the natives.

F. D. Wolf,
J. M. Springer,
R. Wodehouse.

Statistics of East Central Africa Mission Conference for 1903

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<th>NAMES OF CHARGES</th>
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<th>SUNDAY SCHOOLS</th>
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Additional Statistics: Number of foreign missionaries, 11; native workers, 16; adherents, 825; average attendance, 750; high schools, 1; teachers, 4; scholars, 90; other day schools, 11; scholars, 84. Collected for self-support, $10,178; of this amount Umtali Academy raised $7,308.