East Central Africa Mission Conference

Fifth Session

1907
Minutes of the
Fifth Session
of the
East Central Africa Mission Conference
of the
Methodist Episcopal Church
held at
Umtali, Rhodesia, Africa,
November 22, 23, 25, & 26, 1907.

President
Bishop Joseph C. Hartzell

Secretary
James E. Ferris.
Asst. Secretary
E. H. Greeley.

Printed on the Mission Press, By Mission Boys.
INHAMBANE.
ORGANIZATION.

President.
Bishop Joseph C. Hartzell,
Funchal, Madeira Islands.

Secretary.
James E. Ferris.
Old Umtali.

Assistant Secretary.
E. H. Greeley.
Mt. Makomwe.

Statistical Secretary.
Shirley D. Coffin.
Old Umtali.

Treasurer.
Robert Wodehouse.
Umtali.

Auditing Committee.
S. D. Coffin, J. R. Gates and E. L. Sechrist.

Native Courses of Study.
E. H. Richards, R. Wodehouse, and J. E. Ferris.

Committee on Resolutions.

Committee on State of the Church.
R. Wodehouse, E. H. Richards, and S. D. Coffin.

Board of Examiners.
J. E. Ferris, Chairman; R. Wodehouse, Registrar;
E. H. Richards, J. R. Gates.

Committee on 1908 Jubilee.
R. Wodehouse, E. H. Richards, J. E. Ferris.

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 by the following resolution;—"On motion of J. E. Ferris the printed minutes were adopted as the Official Journal of the Conference." (See minutes)

James E. Ferris. Secretary.
## CONFERENCE ROLL.

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<th>Post Office Address</th>
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<td>Elder</td>
<td>Inhambane, East Africa</td>
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<td>Coffin, S. D.</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>Old Umtali, Rhodesia</td>
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<td>Ferris, J. E.</td>
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<td>Richards, E. H.</td>
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<td>Springer, J.M.</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>(in America)</td>
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<td>Stockdale, G. A.</td>
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<td>Greeley, E. H.</td>
<td>Probationer</td>
<td>Odzi, Rhodesia Africa</td>
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<td>Navess, Tizore</td>
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<td>Terrell, W. C.</td>
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<td>Umtali, Rhodesia Africa</td>
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<td>Buchwalter, Mrs. A. L.</td>
<td>Inhambane, East Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coffin, Mrs. S. D.</td>
<td>Old Umtali, Rhodesia Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coffin, Miss S. J. (W F. M. S.)</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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<td>Ferris, Mrs. J. E.</td>
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<td>Garner, Mr. W.</td>
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<td>Garner, Mrs. W</td>
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<td>Gates, Mrs. J. R.</td>
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<td>Persson, Mr. J. A.</td>
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<td>Richards, Mrs. E. H.</td>
<td>Inhambane, East Africa</td>
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<td>Roberts, Mr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Runfeldt, Mr. C. H. G.</td>
<td>Old Umtali Rhodesia Africa</td>
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<td>Sechrist, Mr. E. L.</td>
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<td>Sechrist, Mrs. E. L.</td>
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<td>Springer, Mrs. J. M.</td>
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MINUTES OF THE FIFTH SESSION

FIRST DAY

UMTALI RHODESIA AFRICA, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER, 22 1907.

BISHOP HARTZELL IN THE CHAIR.

OPENING EXERCISES. The East Central Africa Mission Conference met in its fifth session in the Umtali Academy, Umtali, Rhodesia with Bishop Hartzell D. D. L.L. D. in the chair. Hymn No. 798 "And are we yet alive" was sung. Bishop Hartzell read the Scripture lesson from Isaiah 14; 1-13. and Col 3; 1-17 Prayer was offered by R. Wodehouse, E. H. Richards, J. E. Ferris and Bishop Hartzell.

Roll Call.- The Secretary of the last session of Conference called the roll. The following were present:- Full Members of Conference; - J. E. Ferris, E. H. Richards, R. Wodehouse. Probationers; - J. R. Gates, S. D. Coffin, E. H. Greeley. Missionaries not Members of Conference; - Mrs. E. H. Richards, Miss. E. M. Bell, Mrs. J. R. Gates, E. L. Sechrist, Mrs. Sechrist.

Introductions.- The following brethren were introduced to the Conference; - Geo. A. Stockdale of the Irish Methodist Church now Pastor of St. Andrews Church, Mr. W. Garner from Belfast Ireland, now Principal of Umtali Academy, Mr. Josef A. Persson and Carl H. G. Runfeldt, missionaries from Sweden.

Organization.- On motion of R. Wodehouse J. E. Ferris was elected Secretary.

Assistant.- On motion of J. E. Ferris, E. H. Greeley was elected Asst. Secretary.

Statistical Secretary.- On motion of J. E. Ferris, S. D. Coffin was elected Statistical Secretary.

Treasurer.- On motion of J. E. Ferris. R. Wodehouse was elected Treasurer.

Committees.-

Auditing Committee.- On motion of E. H. Richards, S. D. Coffin, J. R. Gates and E. L. Sechrist were appointed to audit the books.

Native Courses of Study.- On motion E. H. Richards, R. Wodehouse and J. E. Ferris were appointed Committee on Native Courses of Study.

Jubilee Committee.- By consent, R. Wodehouse, E. H. Richards and J. E. Ferris were continued Committee on Jubilee.

Committee on Resolutions.- On motion, R. Wodehouse, J. R. Gates and E. H. Richards were appointed Committee on Resolutions.

State of the Church.- R. Wodehouse, E. H. Richards and S. D. Coffin were appointed Committee on The State of the Church.
UNIFORM SPELLING.— Bishop Hartzell read a letter from Rev. C. H. Fahs, Missionary Editor, concerning uniform spelling of geographical names in Rhodesia. On motion the official spelling of the Rhodesian Government was adopted.

ADDRESS.— R. Wodehouse made an address of welcome to the Bishop and also congratulated the Conference on the coming of the Irish and Swedish brethren to join our work. Bishop Hartzell replied at length presenting to the Conference with what joy the European Conferences undertake work in Africa and suggesting that the Committee on Resolutions prepare suitable resolutions and forward them to the Secretary of the Irish Methodist Church and the Chairman of the Missionary Committee of the Swedish Conference.

AFRICAN LANGUAGES.— The Bishop read a letter from A. C. Madan concerning African languages;— On motion of R. Wodehouse it was ordered that the letter be referred to the Language Committee of the Missionary Conference of Southern Rhodesia.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.— The Secretary read a letter from the Laymen Association of the Rock River Conference concerning Sunday School Benevolence being separated from all others;— On motion of J. E. Ferris it was referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

BOOK CONCERN DRAFT.— The Bishop reported that the Conference was authorized to draw on the Book Concern for forty-three dollars. On motion of J. E. Ferris the said draft was ordered and the Conference Treasurer to deposit the same with the Board of Foreign Missions at New York for the Conference Claimants of this Conference.

CONFERENCE MINUTES.— The Secretary made a statement of account of publishing the Minutes of last Conference

QUESTION 18.— The Thirteenth Question was taken up;— “Was the character of each Preacher examined?” Inhambane District was called, and the character of E. H. Richards, the Presiding Elder, was passed. The Old Umtali District was called, and the the character of J. E. Ferris was passed.

REPORTS.— The following reports were read.— E. H. Richards, J. E. Ferris, Mrs. J. E. Ferris, E. L. Sechrist, Mrs. E. H. Richards, A. L. Buchwalter, E. H. Greeley, W. Garner.

CONFERENCE MINUTES.— On motion of R. Wodehouse it was ordered that 400 copies of the Minutes be printed.

R. WODEHOUSE IN CHAIR.— At the request of the Bishop R. Wodehouse occupied the chair.

DISCUSSION.— The question of having a larger number of pictures printed in the Minutes was discussed.

BISHOP IN CHAIR.— On motion of S. D. Coffin in was ordered that eight cuts be printed in the Minutes and 100 extra copies of the pictures be printed for the use of the missionaries.

By consent the selection of the pictures was left with the Presiding Elders.
SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE MINUTES. The following amounts were subscribed.

Bishop Hartzell £ 3-0-0
E. H. Greeley 2-0-0
E. H. Richards 2-0-0
S. D. Coffin 2-0-0
R. Wodehouse 2-0-0
J. E. Ferris 2-0-0
Miss. E. M. Bell 2-0-0
E. L. Sechrist 2-0-0
Miss. S. J. Coffin 1-0-0
G. A. Stockdale 2-0-0
W Garner 2-0-0
J. R. Gates 2-0-0
Chas. Yafele 6-0
J. Vilika 6-0
J. Malgas 6-0
D. Mandisodza 6-0
J. Mzanywa 6-0
Kazani Sadomba 6-0
J. Manjengwe 6-0
J. Muriro 6-0
Johannes Chimene 6-0
Joseph Flaha 6-0
Mark Kanangoiwa 6-0
Moses Fozogniwa 3-0

27-15-0

ADJOURNMENT-The Benediction was pronounced by Bishop Hartzell and Conference adjourned by limitation of time.
SECOND DAY
Saturday, November 23, 1907.

OPENING EXERCISES. Hymn No 724, "Nearer My God to Thee" was sung. G. A. Stockdale read Isaiah XXXIII, and offered prayer.

BISHOP HARTZELL IN THE CHAIR.

JOURNAL-The minutes of the last session were read and approved. On motion of J. E. Ferris the printed minutes were adopted as the official Journal of the Conference.

REPORTS- R Wodehouse read his report. (see Reports) Bishop called J. E. Ferris to the chair, and the conference sang No 6.

BISHOP IN THE CHAIR.

REPORTS- The following read their reports: (see Reports) S. D. Coffin, J. R. Gates, G. A. Stockdale, Miss Bell, Mrs. J. R. Gates. The assistant secretary read the report of Miss S. J. Coffin, she being unable to be present.

REPORTS OF NATIVE WORKERS-The following reports of the native workers of the Umtali District were read:

QUESTION 5-The Fifth question was taken up; Who have been continued on trial? The name of E. H. Greeley was called, and his character passed. He was continued on trial in studies of the First Year.

QUESTION 8-The Eighth Question was taken up; What members are in the studies of the Third Year? The name of Abraham L. Buchwalter was called and his character passed. He was continued in the studies of the Third Year, he being absent.

QUESTION 10-The Tenth Question was taken up: What members have completed the conference course of study? The name of Robert Wodehouse was called and his character passed. He was passed in the studies of the Fourth Year.

QUESTION 9. The Ninth Question was taken up. The name of John M. Springer was called and his character passed. He was continued in the studies of the Fourth Year.

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS- Questions 2, 6,11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, were called and answered, "None"

QUESTION 30. The Thirtieth Question was taken up: Where shall the next Conference be held?" On motion of R. Wodehouse it was voted to hold same at Umtali.

ADJOURNMENT-After prayer and benediction by Bishop Hartzell, Conference adjourned.
THIRD DAY

Monday, November 25, 1907.

OPENING EXERCISES. Hymn No 574, "A Charge to Keep I Have" was sung. Prayer was offered by E. H. Greeley and Charles Yafele, R. Wodehouse read the First chapter of Joshua, and Miss E. M. Bell led in prayer.

JOURNAL- The minutes of the last session were read, and after correction, were adopted.

INTRODUCTION-Dr Gurney, a member of the New York East Conference, was introduced to the Conference.

REPORTERS-By consent the following were appointed to report for the papers named:

E. H. Richards
Robert Wodehouse

Western Christian Advocate.
The Christian Advocate.
The Christian Herald.
Southwestern Christian Advocate.

G. A. Stockdale, Wm. Garner

Christian Advocate of
Belfast, Ireland.
Pittsburgh Christian Advocate.
Zions Herald.
Northern Christian Advocate.
California Christian Advocate.
Northwestern Christian Advocate.

Miss. E. M. Bell
S. D. Coffin
E. L. Sechrist
E. H. Greeley
J. R. Gates

Pacific Christian Advocate.
Central Christian Advocate.
Woman's Friend.
Michigan Christian Advocate.
Philadelphia Methodist.

J. E. Ferris
Miss. S. J. Coffin
Mrs. J. E. Ferris

Epworth Herald.
Methodist Advocate & Journal.
Canadian Papers.

Mrs. Wodehouse
Mrs. Sechrist
Mrs. Gates
Mrs. Richards

Sunday School Papers.

QUESTION 7. The Seventh Question was taken up "Who have been admitted into full membership? The name of J. R. Gates was called and his character passed. The name of S. D. Coffin was also called and his character passed. Both were called to the front, and after an address by the Bishop, answered the Disciplinary questions for reception.

On motion of R. Wodehouse, George A. Stockdale was received from the Irish Methodist Church as an Elder. On motion of R. Wodehouse, John Richard Gates was advanced to the studies of the Third Year and admitted into full connection, the examiners having reported that he had passed in his studies. He is an Elder.
REPORTS—The Auditing Committee made its report. (see reports)

The Committee on Native courses of Study recommended that the same courses be continued, and also that the Presiding Elder of Inhambane District be allowed to substitute studies in the vernacular, of equivalent grade, for the same studies in English.

NATIVE REPORTS—Philip Peranyi read his report. S.D. Coffin read the reports of Daniel Caplen, Mrs. D Caplen, Solomon Sango, Stephen Mari, Paul Zembe, Samuel Matimba, John Sangweni, Thomas D Karambo and Bvurungu Mulendzwa.

DISCUSSION—A short discussion regarding the printing of the native reports resulted in a decision by common consent that the leading reports should be printed and the others mentioned.

QUESTION 4—Question 4 was taken up: "Who have been Received on Trial?"

R. Wodehouse presented a recommendation of the District Conference of the Umtali District that Tizore Navess be received on trial, and that he be ordained an Elder under the missionary rule, he being a Deacon also that Bishop Hartzell and E H Richards be responsible for his examinations; the ordination to take place at the convenience of the Bishop. On motion the recommendation was passed.

ADOURNMENT—The Doxology was sung, and the Benediction pronounced by the Bishop. Conference adjourned to meet at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.
OPENING EXERCISES—Hymn No. 567 was sung. E.H. Richards read a portion of Acts II. Mrs. Ferris led in prayer and E.L. Sechrist followed.

JOURNAL—Minutes of the last session were read by the assistant secretary, and after corrections were passed.

REPORTS—The report of the Statistical Secretary was read (See reports) On motion of J.E. Ferris the report was adopted and ordered published in the minutes. The Secretary made his report on publishing of Minutes. (See Report).

CLOSING EXERCISES.—Bishop announced Hymn No. 816 which was sung. Prayer was offered by Johannes Chimene, interpreted by Wm Yafele into English. Mrs. Wodehouse also prayed.

ADDRESS.—Bishop Hartzell made an address calling the attention of the Conference to the great progress of the work especially to the increase of membership the last two years.

APPOINTMENTS.—Bishop read the Appointments. (See Appointments).

ADJOURNMENT.—The Doxology was sung. On motion it was ordered that after the reading of the minutes, the Conference stand adjourned without day. Prayer was offered by the Bishop, followed by the Benediction, and the East Central Africa Mission Conference stood adjourned without day.

J.C. Hartzell President.

J.E. Ferris. Secretary

Certificate of Ordination.

This is to certify that on this day I ordained Tizore Mbati Navesi an Elder, assisted by E. H. Richards.

Bishop.

Lorenzo Marques Mozambique East Africa, Jan. 14. 08.
DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS.

1 Who have been Received by Transfer, and from what Conference? W. C. Terrell, from the Colorado Conference, a probationer in the studies of the First Year, and an Elder.

2 Who have been Readmitted? None.

3 Who have been Received on Credentials, and from what Churches? George A. Stockdale from the Irish Methodist Church.

4 Who have been Received on Trial?
   a In Studies of First Year.
      Tizore Navesi.
   b In Studies of Third Year.
      None.

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

6 Who have been Discontinued? None.

7 Who have been Admitted into Full Membership?
   a Elected and Ordained Deacons this year.
      None.
   b Elected and Ordained Deacons previously.
      John R. Gates.
      Shirley D. Coffin.

8 What Members are in Studies of Third Year?
   a Admitted into Full Membership this year.
      John R. Gates.
      Shirley D. Coffin.
   b Admitted into Full Membership previously.
      Abraham L. Buchwalter.

9 What Members are in Studies of Fourth Year?
   John M. Springer.
10 What Members have Completed the Conference Course of Study?
   a Elected and Ordained Elders this year.
      None.
   b Elected and Ordained Elders previously.
      Robert Wodehouse.

11 What others have been Elected and Ordained Deacons?
   a As Local Preachers.
      None.
   b Under Missionary Rule.
      None.
   c Under Seminary Rule.
      None.

12 What others have been Elected and Ordained Elders?
   a As Local Deacons.
      None.
   b Under Missionary Rule.
      Tizore Navess, to be ordained at the Bishops convenience.
   c Under Seminary Rule.
      None.

13 Was the Character of each Preacher examined?
   This was attended to as the name of each preacher was called.

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 Report.

26 What is the Aggregate of the Benevolent Collections ordered by the
   General Conference, as reported by the Conference Treasurer?
   $17.00 for the Board of Foreign Missions.

27 What are the Claims on the Conference Fund?
   None.

28 What has been Received on these Claims, and how has it been Applied?
   $43.00 Book Concern Dividend, deposited with the Board of
   Foreign Missions, at New York.

29 Where are the Preachers Stationed?
   See List of Appointments.

30 Where shall the Next Conference be held?
   Umtali, Rhodesia, Africa.
MISSION CONFERENCE

APPOINTMENTS.

Inhambane District.

E. H. Richards, Presiding Elder.
Post Office, Inhambane, East Africa.

Maxixi Circuit:
Gikuki and three other stations,
The Presiding Elder, W. C. Terrill, Mrs E. H. Richards ©
and Mrs W. C. Terrill ©.

Makodweni Circuit:
Makodweni and sixteen native stations,
Tizore Navess and eighteen native helpers.

Rombeni Circuit:
Kambini and four other stations,
A. L. Buchwalter and Mrs A. L. Buchwalter,© Muti Siko-kobeli,© and six native helpers.

Nyarime Circuit:
Malala and nine other stations,
Philipe© and eight native helpers.

Masinga Circuit:
Xitsuku and five other station,
Pawulusi© and four native helpers.

Limpopo Valley Circuit:
Mahumane and one other station,
Tomasi Navess © and two native helpers.

Mission Press:
C. G. Rundfeldt © and Josef Persson. ©

RHODESIA DISTRICT.

Robert Wodehouse, Presiding Elder.
Post Office, Umtali, Rhodesia.

Beira
To be supplied.

Maranke Circuit
E. H. Greeley and three native helpers.

Mutambara Circuit
John Mzwanyadwa ©

Muradsikwas
William Yafela ©

Penhalonga,
English Church
To be supplied.

Native Church
Charles Yafele ©, Kazana ©, Sadomba ©teacher.

Rezende Native Church
James Villika ©, Robert Villika © teacher.

Umtali.
St Andrews (English Church)
George A. Stockdale.
Academy (English)
W. Garner, Principal,
Mrs. W. Garner © Miss Edith Mae Bell ©,
Miss A. Ethel Gray © Miss Ethel Blezard ©

Two native churches.
John Malgas ©

Umtali native circuit
Twelve stations supplied by ten young men in training.

Work among the women
Mrs. Robert Wodehouse ©

Victoria, Ndanga District
John R. Gates, Mrs. J. R. Gates ©

Old Umtali Industrial Mission
Jas. E. Ferris ©

English Church
To be supplied.

Three native out stations
Supplied by natives from the school.

Native School
Jas, E. Ferris, Mrs. J. E. Ferris © Mrs. E. L. Sechrist ©
and three native helpers.

Agriculture and Mechanics.
E. L. Sechrist © Asst. G. A. Roberts ©

Girls' School, (W. F. H. S.)
Miss S. J. Coffin ©

Mutasa's Circuit, Seven native stations.
S. D. Coffin, Mrs. S. D. Coffin ©

On furlough
J. M. Springer and Mrs. J. M. Springer ©

(© Not members of conference.)
Training School, Old Umtali.

Native Church, Umtali.
REPORTS.

THE INHAMBANE DISTRICT.

ERWIN H. RICHARDS, PRESIDING ELDER.

Greetings of the District to our Bishop and the brethren;

Doubtless others too will refer to the peculiar circumstances which cause our Conference year to leap with Niagara Victorian agility from the middle to the close of the year, leaving us all to fill out reports as best we can from the spring planting which has well sprouted, to what really is the present fruitage, tho the full crop will not be on hand for some months. In the order of events, we first notice that owing to his ill ability to endure the customs of civilization the Elder took sick on his way home from last Conference and was really out of action for three months, nor is he yet fully recovered. Ice and Elders should greet each other with frigid indifference. Otherwise the health of the year has been splendid all round save Mrs. Richards eyes.

THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT.

The Printing Department has been largely to the front during this period. It has not been running more than half the time, but done no little amount of good work. The editor notes that it is 'work' and under the circumstances he is willing to stick to it. There have been three issues of The Inhambane Christian Advocate, closely written, and all practically editorial, some of which issues have been heard from in comfortable commendation. There has been the regular Monthly issue of The Kuca Ka Mixo, which is fast gaining favor with our home natives, and all who go to the Rand from our Stations eagerly arrange for the continuance of their paper. We hope to make it much better in the near future. The publication of the Minutes of the Conference appears to have been well received by the Bishop, tho but one of the brethren have noted its occurrence in any wise. We also published the Gospel of Luke in Chindawu, prepared by Rev. F. D. Bunker and for use of the Congregational Brethren in Beira and Rhodesia. This printing was highly commended by Rev. Bunker, and also by some of the brethren of our Mission. This was an edition of 500 copies, in large type and on our best and heaviest paper. Bro. Bunker most cheerfully paid the bill and added fifty shillings above the stipulated price. We also prepared at much expenditure of good gray matter, the Annual Calendar for the District for 1908. In passing we wish to note that it is more hard work and vexation of type to edit that calendar than any issue of the I. C. A. and its cost also is no small item, but it brings in much good cash and brotherly love so that we cannot forbear to risk the issue. We have also completed the Hymnal for the Umtali Brethren in their native dialect, Fifteen hundred copies, which issue at the present writing is enroute to their head quarters. The text was prepared by them, and while in spots it had the appearance of some of our own early efforts, we hope that errors will be the least possible. It is in eight Roman type, and stitched with three staples so that it ought to hold together till it wears out. A few thousand
letter heads, notices and small jobs complete the list of work accomplished for the period. The total output is as follows.

The Inhambane Christian Advocate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
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During the year the mission has received as a direct donation from Bishop Hartzell, household outfit for Kambini and Gikuki to the value of $700. The Bishop has also put in a fine new Printing Press with much outfit attached thereto, at a total cost of $1500. Advance copies of our new Sheetswa Hymnals in the Sol-Fa are also here, a present to us from the Bishop at a cost of $1150. in New York, so that Inhambane has received in cash value in outfit alone from our Bishop to the total value of $3350., while additional costs in bringing men into the field will raise this amount to some $1500. more. For our Bishop and our splendid outfit we sing the Doxology and enter anew into our work.

Brother Buchwalter has acted as foreman of the Printing room and has worked hard and steadily over the unending never ceasing always recurring heedlessness of our twenty native printers. It is needless to add that at the close of the run he required a vacation and got it. The printing press has heretofore tied up the whole Mission for months so that no outside work could be undertaken. Such work however has been ably looked after and constantly reported twice each month from every station, once by the teacher in charge and once by an Inspector of Schools, sent out by the P.E. to take accurate inventory of what is occurring at the time of his visit. In the near future we look for the arrival of two thorough printers a present to the Conference from our Brethren in Sweden, who will much more ably attend to this important branch and relieve the missionaries from this work entirely save writing the necessary copy. With regular men in charge the room is well capable of putting out four times and more, any work yet done there. We hail the coming of these two Swedish printers, with all our hearts and homes.

The Stations.

In our last report there is a list of 26 live stations, with no reports from six of them. At the present writing there are 33 all reporting and all on the much strained pay-roll, with fourteen others either already founded and running well, or the man on the ground and at the end of his first month and all his cash. These latter do not anticipate any pay for a season but while they are doing excellent service and sharing their last penny
with the children of the wilds which they have taken to feed, house, clothe and teach, the mission cannot afford to let them work for nothing and feed the children of all the neighbors at the same time. They are well worth caring for, but they have pushed out and founded work before cash is in sight to aid them, and they are not complaining. The mission has doubled its output in most particulars for each Conference report, and omitting those barely founded but without report, she has doubled her stations also, which is a marvelous growth. We now number 47 stations.

Tomasi of Bileni, of the Limpopo Valley, has reported on his station. He was given a fine situation and the people are friendly to him tho they are not willing to help him much in putting up a church. The Zulu Congregationalists are in rather strong force near him, and appearances lead to an early amalgamation of their numbers with ours owing to no support and no supervision on the part of their far off Zulu brethren. This together with several centers which are leaning to the Swiss people across the River, who will soon be ready to join with us, since the Swiss Mission have given us their statement that they will not come North of the River if we will take care of it, seem to point out distinctly that our Church is to have prominent and important work in that vicinity in the immediate future. It is most necessary that we have a missionary for that section right away. The Romanists are putting up a huge school there, and the Protestant followers are accustomed to white missionaries, and it is dead loss to our church to claim their willing homage and send them no missionary. It is impossible to at all properly oversee that territory from Inhambane.

One of our number is in the Vilankulu District, within two Commandantes of the Sabi River. He is far off and alone. In the District next to him on his South we have a number of stations, and the prospects are fine for a speedy reaping from an early sowing. Mr. Buchwalter has recently visited this section and his reports together with those of our native teachers all go to show that the time is very ripe for a white missionary to have charge over these several native teachers, one who shall reside among them and build them up by his bodily presence. We do them at present through the mail bag, which is not good enough for so grand a work. People are everywhere in all of these districts. The Statistical Report will show the relative gains in our native churches. We never have been able to report any losses, save in a few individual matters, over which we have mourned appropriately, but for which our Church was the more purified.

Our School work moves on in the same kindergarten sort of life. We die daily for the lack of teachers, and even for those who are trained in our own methods of doing things. Local preachers from the Rand scarcely know their letters, nor are they wiser in church affairs. Two of them within the past month have taken work under us and have also paid the fee for native wives and began living with them, without the slightest notion that Christian marriage was a fine thing for a native preacher to indulge in under such circumstances. We hurried them into marriage at earliest moment, and in four days one of them had learned that he did not want his wife and appealed for a divorce on the ground that she would not cook.
for him. We recalled his licence to preach and left him to settle with his wife as best he could. It was bad for both of them, but I think he chose the worst of it in choosing her. We are constantly astonished at the numbness of all symptoms of church wisdom from those who are converted at the Rand and have no life but the Rand life. However some of these men are doing splendidly. They all need a second training in a country with a woman in it ore they are at all trustworthy as church leaders among us.

We hope as we have hoped for the last twenty years that our church will give us a training school for teachers and preachers, and for this and the coming of the first plow we have earnestly prayed and without any avail in either case. We do manage some how to teach a few on all the stations to read the Testament, and on some of them many can can read it well. They commit large sections of it and know all that is printed in the Hymnal, and this is all. Very few if any at all can do the simplest sums in commonest addition and nothing beyond. This is not a brilliant picture, but it shines very well in the place of all that preceded it and this is all the comparison we present you now, but times will be better when we have schools for teachers with TEACHERS to teach them.

In secular affairs there is considerable of an awakening at the present time. Our preachers own some forty donkeys, each of the value of £25. Tizore has eleven head of cattle, Muti has four. Tizore has recently purchased 500 hundred acres of land from the government and is given the possession of it, and the title will doubtless soon come, which will give him full possession against all comers. Muti has 2500 acres, and has founded a station on it hoping the natives will remain on it and send their children to school. Tizore also has a school on his. Kaliji, Angilazi, Ngumbene, and several others all have recently purchased quite large tracts of land. The government rather urges them to take large pieces instead of small ones, and to date there is no trouble in getting clean titles. Our natives have purchased some 18 corn mills this past year, and some 30 sewing machines, all of which were ordered for them by the P. E. and passed through the customs for them without profit of any sort. They have also bought several thousand yards of prins and cottons, and some six dozen chairs, needles, thread, scissors, buckets, hatchets and axes are bought in pleasing quantities. This is a most sharp contrast with things of even a year ago and it marks the rise of better days. We sometimes think we may live to see a plow among the stations.

The Statistics

The Statistics cover but seven months of actual time, and much on many stations is not yet available for report. We regret that two of the stations will close with this report, one to be swallowed into another, and one actually closed for lack of interest in any thing religious. The teacher went bad, had to be discharged from Church and School and as his people were mostly his near relatives they have never listened to another. We placed a brotherinlaw there to try to make things live, and reaped one really fine Christian half-caste who is one of our first printers and a joy to the whole mission.
The figures here given are from actual daily report and not from any mere guessing on the part of any one. The blanks do not furnish room for reporting the splendid work among the Kraals, where for the last month our teachers report a hundred thousand individual people preached to for a single month. This is also the regular work and is rapidly growing. There are doubtless a few duplicates, since outsiders may attend one hearing and immediately go to another, but this is not at all common. Our present figures read, Full members 285, exclusive of those at the Rand, with 1092 Probationers, giving a total of 1877 members, which is a growth of 452 members for the period, or over two a day. There is nothing at all great in this work, nothing astonishing anywhere. It is the steady ever plodding, straight away every day duty of every member, on every station. There are seldom any large congregations reported, and the average is usually less than ten for the kraals visited, but a multitude of workers with a few hearers for each worker build a work for which our Church ought to be thankful. We are also in the very beginning of learning how to work, when our people discover the power of unity of action all over our field, and comprehend better methods, we shall then continue to double our output of fruitage almost as regularly as the years roll round. We check at the outset nearly all personal emotion, but give freest scope for a fine display of good deeds done, and let those be our Hallelujahs and our Amens.

Finally, for stops must occur now and then, whether we are done or not, we close with a hearty petition for a Splendid High School for Boys, well equipped with furniture and TEACHERS, and the same for Girls. Give us also our two printers. Grant us a good man and his wife to take over our Kraal School work from the Limpopo to the Sabi. Give us a presiding Elder for Masinga, Gitiki and Nyarime, with a man or two over which they may preside. Then, with natives who work so effectively on the desert forage of the church at the present time, the Church may rationally hope for a permanent and solid growth which will be an eternal honor to her. We do not make these requests under any impression that our Bishop has not most of them in mind, and has had for years, but the rather that our own Conference and our home Church may have wherewithal to consider living needs of so rich a field as Inhambane.

Brother Buchwalter has done splendid work, of which the Mission is proud. He is at present absent on a well earned furlough, but will present his own account of his work or at least he so intended when we last saw him. Mrs. Buchwalter has remained in Natal where she reports that she is greatly improved in health, and we believe she will soon return to Inhambane where a rich work awaits her very able hands.

While the minutes are being printed we take the liberty to add to the above report items which really came within the conference year, not known at the time of our writing.

Mr. Buchwalter left us September 26th, and on arriving at Natal it was discovered that he had tuberculosis and would have a hard time of it to recover. However through a favoring climate and much milk and eggs, he now writes that the Dr. will permit him to return to Inhambane in
April next, for which we are exceeding grateful.

Farther, Messrs Runfeldt and Persson the two gentleman from Sweden appointed to Inhambane, were at Conference and are splendid acquisitions to our working force for which we are devoutly grateful.

Rev. and Mrs. Terril are also present with us in time for a Christmas outing and will materially assist in editing the present Minutes. They also are a rich blessing for long waiting Inhambane.

Praying the Divine Blessing upon the Conference and especially upon our Bishop, that himself and the Brethren may be given insight from above into the solving of the many hard things in the Mission life, and with our heartiest love and regards to you all, I remain.

E. H. Richards

Report of Mrs. Richards.

Since last Conference the time seems to have been so full there is no time even to make a report of it. God has been good to us and is opening up the work in a way which would almost make it seem that the characterization of the mission was “O ye of little faith”: since He is doing so much greater work than it would seem possible to do with the materials in hand.

The stations are growing like yeast plants, each one as it develops throwing out other germs to form a new center. Truly they are leavening the land. A new work which is something of an experiment was started this month. In the mission there are several widows who are entirely alone and while not over thirty years old will probably never be married again. Some of them are of strong Christian character with a live religious experience and are often the best taught members of their stations. One of these women, Kiyasawu by name, who was trained at Makodwene, wishes to found a station at her Uncle’s place, about an hour from Gikuki. The Uncle is very intelligent for a native and owns a large tract of land with more than a thousand cocoanut trees all in his own name and registered with the government. He also has a fishing license and is a man of much importance tho not a chief. He has purchased a house for the teacher, and a good one, large and fine, and has the timbers ready for a chapel, all the labor of his own people. So Kiyasawu has been installed teacher. For so many centuries the woman has been considered so low in any sort of abilities, save cooking and gardening, that she has come to rate herself at this same valuation and when asked to do anything new invariably replies “Will I know how”? It is a bit depressing to take a fresh specimen and pointing to a symbol on the blackboard request her to say “a” only to receive this answer. However our Christian women are awakening to the fact that they “will know how” if they try and this station is the first opening. Eight children have been put into Kiyasawu’s hands by them, while some twenty more of all sizes enter school.

Another sign of awakening womanhood is the request for “Mother’s Meetings” to be held regularly for teachers wives as the District Conference is for the Teachers.
During the months of the printing room service I have had a night school of thirty pupils which has aided much in keeping the printers contented. During the last month six children from the kraals have attended very regularly, which is a new thing for Gikugi. There has also been a sewing class in which in addition to common sewing the pupils have been taught to make turnover collars and embroider them, patchwork quilts and crochet carpet-rag rugs.

The medical work has suffered much neglect owing to overcrowding of other duties. Still there have been seventy five cases and over, some of them rather interesting, which have received from one to thirty treatments each. There has been some teaching for the benefit of other stations showing what to do in common cases of common emergencies.

Only one trip has been made and that into Machopaland. There the stations are growing in numbers and understanding but they do so much need some one to live among them to show the way. They are doing the next best thing and are sending different ones of their more promising pupils to the older stations to learn their less wild ways. One girl of about fourteen is here wrestling with a small bit of refractory steel, called a needle,

She learned to read the Testament in less than three months, but as that was all her teacher taught she cannot write at all and while she knows her numbers has no idea of what they are for. It will require a long period of excellent training yet to teach these peoples all that a woman is for, but we hope they are awakened to the fact that she is a far more capable creature than as yet she has been taken to be.

The sheetings, pillow stuff and toweling richly supplied us by Bishop Hartzell have recently been made up and are ready for the new furniture also provided by him at the same time so that our homes are amply supplied for ordinary events.

These are some of the items that have occupied our attention during the period, and for health and strength to perform them we are under deep gratitude to Our Father above.

Mrs. M. Mc. C. Richards.


I have visited Kambini and Makodweni. Did a few days work on the Kambini house and held the communion service both places. Nearly all of the members living in the northern half of the District were present. 180 partook of the communion, and eleven adults were baptized, among them was a woman over 70 years of age.

The children from eleven stations were present at Makodweni and conducted Sunday school with more than two hundred children present. The teachers of the several stations had their own pupils in class and it gave me a rare opportunity to study their methods of work. Some of them did very well but others appeared to get little help from the printed lessons.

In August I made a tour of the north-east section of the District and visited eleven stations, three of them opened since the last conference. At
nine of the stations I held the communion service. I also baptized two in
fants, in each case the child of the resident teacher. In making this tour
I reached a point seventy miles north of Inhambane and visited the northern
extremity of our work, although at the time a station was contemplated
some three days farther on.

I might call attention to something of interest in connection with
each of the eleven stations but will speak of only a few. At Pakule the
teacher has built himself a new iron house with cement floor at a cost of
thirty pounds; he had also recently finished a new grass and reed chapel.
At Panga the teacher had built himself a good native house and was about
to begin work on a new chapel. At one of the stations recently opened I
found a good house and a second one well under way; there were
six children from the surrounding kraals in school and when we conducted
services under the trees the day I spent with them 45 persons gathered with
us and listened attentively to all that was said.

At Macunungu, seventy miles north of Inhambane I found a most
interesting people and the work begun among them is full of promise. At
the station the first house was yet unfinished but there were eleven chil-
dren in school and more were ready to come as soon as a house could be
built for them to sleep in. (They were at the time sleeping in the open.)
I visited a number of kraals among this people and everywhere they
heard the word gladly and are ready for schools faster than we can find
competent teachers to send to them.

It was about the middle of April when I went to Gikuki and began
working in the printing room. At that time besides printing the two papers
issued regularly we run off an edition of five hundred copies of the Gospel
of Luke for a missionary at Beira. When but a page or two remained to be
printed the press we were using broke down and we were obliged to set up
the new press before we could finish. When this work was off the press, I
spent several weeks in moving the plant, making furniture and putting
room in order.

Early in June we began printing the second time. We run of the mission
papers and three hundred copies of the conference minutes. August 27th
we began printing the third time. This time in addition to the mission
papers we printed an edition of fifteen hundred hymnals for the mission at
Umtali and five hundred copies of the Inhambane Calendar. This work
was nearly finished when I left Gikuki on furlough.

It will be remembered that Mrs. Buchwalter went to Natal in April.
About a month after this I learned from Dr. Richards that he was planning
to go to America next year, I then asked Bishop Hartzell to grant me a
furlough at a time most convenient during the year. My thought was that
I would spend six or eight weeks in Natal, after which Mrs. Buchwalter
would return with me to Inhambane.

I was not well when I left Inhambane September 21 and on my
arrival in Durban I consulted Dr. McCord of the American Board, and
later Dr. Backenstoe, of the Free Methodist Mission. In their opinion
it would be unsafe for me to return to Inhambane at the present time
Penhalonga Native Church.

Missionaries Crossing Sabi River.
although they think that if I remain in a more congenial climate I may be able to return later with safety.

During the weeks I have been in Natal I have made satisfactory improvement and am encouraged to believe that in a reasonable time my health will be restored.

A. L. Buchwalter.

THE UMTALI DISTRICT


The year has been a good one. I am glad to say that the short change to the coast proved beneficial to both Mrs. Wodehouse and myself, we came back to the work with renewed vigor.

My thanks are due to Bro. Gates for filling the difficult position of providing for the appointments and carrying on the work in its various branches during my absence.

I have visited all the stations and find the work is growing in a marvelous way; it is difficult to keep pace with it. The spirit of revival is abroad at every mission station.

We welcome into our midst several new workers—Rev. G. A. Stockdale of the Irish Conference for St. Andrews church, and Mr. and Mrs. Garner of Belfast for the Academy.

The work at St. Andrews is difficult and trying on account of the moving nature of the population. Mr. Stockdale appreciates these difficulties and is facing them in a determined and brave spirit; already the congregations are responding to his enthusiasm. We are hopeful that God will use him—especially among the young men. I believe Mr. Stockdale is a good pastor and there is great need especially in these frontier towns for pastoral visitation, in fact there is everywhere.

Mr. and Mrs. Garner are themselves into the work at St. Andrews and are helping in the Sunday School. We were sorry to lose the efficient service of Miss lodge at the organ, but am glad to say that an excellent organist has been secured in Mr. Carter. I believe St. Andrews church has taken a new lease of life and usefulness in the community. We need a strong spiritual ministry in Umtali, the Methodist church stands for this everywhere if we do not lift the white people up, there will be a reaction on the native people.

Academy.

We were never more hopeful about the Academy, the numbers are increasing and Mr. Garner is taking hold of things in the right spirit, not only is he a good educationist, but a good business man, and we may expect everything to be put on a sound basis. He identifies himself with the boys and joins in their game and sport.

I cannot speak too highly of the hearty co-operation and excellent service rendered by Miss Bell and Miss Lodge at a trying time in the history of the Academy.
Native Work in Umtali

Our native work in Umtali is in a flourishing condition, there are conversions nearly every Sunday under the zealous and faithful preaching of John Malgas and the native workers. The work is growing so rapidly that we shall soon need a larger and more commodious native church, a building that will do us credit. The native work here is important, when we take into account the influence that emanates from this centre, this is really the mother church. Since the work was started not less than 500 christians have gone out to various parts carrying the precious seed and bearing the light. A good many have gone to the Institution at Old Umtali, and nearly all their best workers have gone from this church, it has supplied the entire mission with some of its best workers. We have eight of these workers in this District alone, and they are a great success. Not less than twenty workers have gone out from this little church. We have ten young men now in training, they go out every Sunday to the various kraals around Umtali. Mrs. Wodehouse has a weekly Bible class and is drilling them in Bible knowledge and christian doctrine. This is a good training ground. Too much cannot be said in favor of the class-meeting for the natives, we emphasize this. I take at least one week, sometimes more in every quarter hearing their testimonies and giving instruction.

The night school is in a healthy condition, there are sixty-two on the register, we have also a day-school for the women and children. The teaching force has been strengthened by getting one of James Vilika’s sons who has passed the Fourth Standard. The Government deals generously with the natives in the new regulations issued from the Educational department, but it will call for a higher standard in our teachers. (In this connection I cannot praise too highly the broad and generous spirit of Mr. Duthie the Director General of Education.) Nearly all the men we employ have been converted and trained in our own church.

Mrs. Wodehouse has a useful and interesting sewing class for the women.

Penhalonga.

The English work at Penhalonga has been well sustained. The congregations have been good and the collections generous. Another erf of ground has been secured adjoining the church at a nominal rental of £1 per annum, it is our purpose to have this fenced in and planted with trees, and we are hoping soon to see a parsonage erected on it for the new pastor.

Through the generosity of Bishop Hartzell the new church was dedicated free of debt. I think enough money can be raised to meet the salary of their own minister and would urge the importance of securing one at an early date. Mr Andrew Carnegie gave us £40 the half cost of a beautiful new organ

Native work at Penhalonga.

This at present is our most important field, and is probably the most important field in Rhodesia. Since last Conference the population has
increased until there are now about 4500 natives in the Penhalonga valley add to this another 2000 in the kraals near by. I have had to increase our staff of workers by two to meet the great need here. Good work is being done, Charles Yafelle and Gazana his assistant report an increase since last Conference, they have ten full members and one hundred on trial. The day school is well attended and the class-meetings are appreciated.

At Rezende James Vilike is doing good work – he has five compounds to look after services are given to each once regularly; we have here a strong and substantial church with a cement floor, and well seated, the building will hold 600 to 700 people. The Industrial department at Old Umtali assisted in its erection. We have also a comfortable three-roomed parsonage which has been put up since last Conference.

Robert Vilika son of the pastor teacher teaches in the school, a very capable teacher who has passed the 4th. Standard, he has started a day school also.

At Queen Yakoneka’s, a kraal near Penhalonga, a remarkable work has broken out, twenty of the women and a number of the men have been converted, the teacher goes over from Penhalonga and holds regular sessions of school at her kraal. This heathen Queen was the terror of the neighborhood at one time and now she invites the missionary to teach and have regular services at her kraal. So that at Penhalonga we have three churches and two parsonages, through the help and generosity of Bishop Hartzell all paid for. Mr. Barker the Manager of the mines is interested in the work and helps where he can.

**M’ Ronki’s Circuit.**

I have visited Mt. Makomwe mission station once since Conference and found the work was still growing. Bro. Greeley’s hold on the natives is remarkable, they love him, he has got the name of a great doctor because he has with marvellous patience and the nurses instinct, healed several bad wounds and brought back sight to sore eyes in several cases - he made the best use of his time when he was with Dr. Gurney and learned to do a few things in that line.

The Hughes Memorial church is finished, it is a pretty little building nestled in between mighty rocks and green trees, under frowning crags. The Chief M. Ronki chose the site and it is certainly one of the most beautiful in the country. It is fitting that we should here offer to Bro. Sechrist, the head of the Industrial department at Old Umtali, our thanks, and appreciation for the work he did in putting in the doors and windows. Bro. Greeley has the wood and thatch ready, and the ground leveled off for a hospital.

Bro. and Sister Sechrist supplied for one month during the absence of Mr. Greeley in the Victoria District,

The day school at this station is improving and the number of scholars is increasing.
Muradzikwa’s Circuit

William Yafelle and his wife are at this station and doing good work. I have made two visits and find the work is in a prosperous condition. The day school has suffered somewhat on account of the boys removing to town in search of work, and the girls getting married and moving away. I was pleased with the school work, especially the training in the Sol-fa. The class-meetings are in a vigorous and healthy condition. There is a remarkable man here named Monaco, who was converted on one of our mission trips, a man greatly gifted in speech; we have seen heathen Chiefs tremble under the power of his testimony for Christ.

From this centre several kraals are visited regularly and services held. Recently the Chief Munyarari sent a message asking for a teacher to be sent to his place, he stated further that he was ready to put up a church—this from a heathen chief, so a worker was sent about a month ago, report came to me that already 89 have professed conversion and 103 children are on the school register, we praise God for this; there are over sixty huts in this new place.

I am pleased to say that William Yafelle is turning his attention to translation work, already he has completed the first 18 Psalms and half of that excellent little book First Readings in Holy Scripture and Christian Doctrine. He is an excellent linguist, speaking fluently the Shona, Tete, Xosa, Zulu and English languages.

Mutambara’s

We have not been able to give as much time to this place as it deserves; this is an important sphere for a white missionary. The farm which is one of the best in the District comprises 3000 acres, is well watered on two sides with strong streams, with abundance of wood in the mountains; we can make bricks and burn them on the place with little expense. The Chief’s great place and two or three other kraals are on the farm, so that there is an assurance of labor at hand. There are about 800 acres of good arable ground which can be easily irrigated from the Umvumvumvu river. This place can be made an important mission station. We have kept in touch with it and it has been supplied with services by John Mazonya one of our native men. Matambara’s people reach way down to the Sabi and not far from the Victoria District.

Victoria.

In June 1906 when we visited Victoria on our pioneer missionary trip, and found what a vast field was contiguous to our work carrying a dense population—we decided then and there to occupy it.

We providentially found a native man named Johannes, son of a Chief—who had been converted in the Transvaal sometime before, and had returned home, and was preaching to his own people unaided by any church or missionary society. As it was very clear that he was called of God, and as he had his church letter with him from the Transvaal, we decided
Old Umtali—Training and Industrial Department.
to receive him into our church and appointed him one of our workers
the wisdom of this action has been fully justified by the results; although
unable to visit him for about twelve months we found he had remained
faithful and true, and through his influence all that part of the country
is open to us now.

Last June it became imperative to send a white worker down to Victoria
for about three months - no one was available but Bro. Greeley - he saw
the importance of going at once, and within a few minutes everything was
settled, and within a few hours he was on his way to Victoria. He went
through the N'danga District, holding evangelistic services, interviewing
the Chiefs and reporting as to eligible sites for mission stations. I with Mrs.
Wodehouse followed in September and on the information obtained by Mr.
Greeley, was enabled to decide on three sites. At king Mazungunya's great
place, and at Jire's and at Johani's kraal in Budzi's country. No one
will ever be able to estimate the good accomplished by the services that
were held, they had never, in the majority of cases, heard of the name of
Jesus, the message came to them with all the charm of a new revelation,
and it was most interesting to watch the play of wonder and astonishment,
on their faces as the great plan of salvation was unfolded. It is a luxury to
be the first to take the blessed message of salvation to a people waiting to
receive it. We had several cases of definite conversion at Mokondo's kraal.
I can never forget that night around our camp fire under a monster baobab
tree, sat a throng of heathen listening intently as we told them the story of
the Flood; at the conclusion several came forward and openly accepted
Christ as their Saviour. Then we received into the church several sons of
the Chief Makondo who had been converted in the Transvaal. We made
another good find in Charles Ndamba, the son of an Induna, who had
opened his heart to the Gospel two or three years ago, he was going from
kraal to kraal exhorting the heathen to flee from the wrath to come, he is
a man of sterling character and is a fine worker, we received him into the
church and appointed him as one of our workers. The work of collecting
these scattered and isolated christians seems to have come to us providenti-
ally, thus we are strengthening them and already we have the nucleus of
a church in that part. The further importance of this move will be seen in
the fact that there are at present some 30 christian young men from the
N'danga District being educated in the Transvaal for christian usefulness
amongst their own people, and I am assured that they will all come to us.
 Everywhere there are open doors. Mazungunya said, "I want a missionary
at my great place because I cannot keep my young men who return home
as christians, they go away again to where they can hear the Gospel and
get the privileges of christian fellowship."

Bro. Gates is on his way to this important field and will no doubt
settle down at king Mazungunya's great place, here there is a great
opportunity and our prayer is that God will go with our brother and
sister and give them a great harvest for the church and the Master. As
Bro. Greeley said in his report, there is room for six men in this great
field. I hope that at least three will be sent there this coming year.
There is another great field on my heart, that reaching from Beira to the Zambezi River, a great tract of country belonging to the Portuguese densely populated without a single protestant missionary, we are praying the Lord of the harvest that He may give us one or two laborers for this new field. Our plan is to begin in Gorongoza's kingdom, we can select a favorable and healthy site in Gorongoza's mountains which can be easily worked from this centre, being only five or six days in an easterly direction from Umtali.

Our prayer is that God will send in the money and the men and enable us to enter these open doors and lay hold of these great opportunities.

R. Wodehouse.

Report of Mr. M. Garner.

It was with feelings of joy and delight that both Mrs Garner and myself heard of the African Mission Field, however we did not finally decide on coming to Umtali till we had made it the subject of long and earnest prayer. We both felt that God was in the plan and therefore we dare not disobey the Divine call.

Since coming here we have been greatly cheered by the reception accorded us, not only by the missionaries but also by the residents in Umtali.

We were extremely sorry to learn that we were to lose the services of Miss Lodge as Music teacher, especially as the Bishop had spoken of both her and Miss Bell in the highest terms, however I suppose what is our loss is Mr. Gate's gain.

We are scarcely right into the work here yet, but hope to find our level next term. We have enrolled five new pupils since taking up our duties and we have the promise that more children will come next term, so think we are in for a term of prosperity.

We trust by the help of God to be blessed and made a blessing in our new sphere of work. Our earnest prayer is that we may be used and spent for the Master's service.


Twelve years ago I was accepted as a candidate for the Irish Methodist ministry. I was ordained five years ago having taken the various examinations in the stated course. I entered the ministry with the idea of engaging in foreign missionary work. For various reasons I was prevented doing so. Last year I decided to go at all costs. Almost immediately after this decision I saw a letter from Bishop Hartzell to Dr Johnston asking for a man for Umtali. I looked upon this as Providential and decided to go if accepted. Later I met the Bishop in Dublin where full arrangements were made that I should take the pastorate of St Andrew's.
I arrived at Umtali on the 21st of September and from the first I enjoyed both the place and work. There are signs which encourage us to hope for an out-pouring by the Spirit.

C. A. Stockdale.

Report of E H Greeley.

The work at Mt. Makomwe during the last eight months has gone on nicely considering my absence much of the time.

The first event of importance was the meeting of the Language Committee appointed by the Salisbury Conference last year. The sessions were held in Umtali. Five Missions were represented and during the two days sessions we were able to accomplish much toward a uniform orthography for a large part of Southern Rhodesia. It was a matter for surprise to find how many supposed difficulties were easily removed and how few serious ones there really are in the way of uniform spelling. We all felt that future meetings might result in well nigh universal agreement in this all important work. We hope to be able to use each others text books in the near future in the vernacular.

About this time I was enabled to send away the manuscript of our new song book in Chimanyika. Bro. Coffin typed a large part of it. The books have recently arrived from the Mission Press at Inhambane, and we hope will be useful for a year or two.

June the 8th. I was appointed to do evangelistic work for four months in Victoria District, so hastily packing up I left Mt. Makomwe Mission to the care of David Mandisodza, my native helper and started off for the regions beyond, where my eyes had often looked from my front veranda and for which many prayers had gone to the throne of grace. I began work in my own territory, preaching, singing, and praying at each kraal on the way. In a few days I was in the coveted land and day by day week by week, and month by month I enjoyed the great privilege of carrying the Gospel to the thousands of heathen beyond Makomwe. I was well received by all the kings and very cordially by some. All gave me permission to visit their kraals and to preach and sing and pray and heal the sick. As I went about becoming acquainted with the chiefs and people in their simple life, my own heart was warmed toward them and I felt that no other work could compare with that of the missionary, and no part of missionary work could bring joy like giving up home comforts and living only for God and his lost ones. I saw as never before how few things one really needs in this world for his health, joy and usefulness. I visited over 100 kraals and in most of them held two services. In some of them I found Christian boys who had been converted at the mines and returning to their homes were endeavoring to live the Christian life alone and these were especially glad to hear us sing and pray. One of them goes about from kraal to kraal preaching as much as he dares.

I found Johannes Chimene - the one we so providentially found a year ago still faithful and leading his people slowly but surely. One large
kraal whose chief has refused for five years to allow a mission to be started near his people has been divided and scattered and the part desiring to learn will be reunited under a chief who wants his people to learn. Thus the closed doors are opening and when the kings of the earth set themselves against the Lord and his Anointed God removes them.

The territory over which I traveled is on the west side of the Sabi River as far south as the Mtelekwe River. It is thickly settled and for the most part well watered, there are 60,000 people who are living in ignorance appalling and with no knowledge of eternal life and death. Repeatedly as I entered kraal after kraal all in dense darkness of heathenism my soul was overwhelmed with the awful responsibility resting upon every one bearing the name Christian. My soul prays as never before “Send forth laborers into the harvest” in this densely populated land where there is work for four or six white men we have only one ready to go.

In September Brother and Sister Wodelhouse came down to see the work and together we went over the chief routes of my previous travels, receiving into our work several Christian boys who longed for help and were glad to be numbered with us in the great work, so that now we have three centers of work already started in Victoria District, which will no doubt be well looked after by Bro. Gates till the Lord sends others to help him. Several of these are near the Mukondo Copper Mine, which is now preparing to open up a good wagon road to Odzi Station, thru the land evangelized by me these four months. These boys are at their own homes and are doing what they can to spread the Gospel among the heathen.

Coming back to Makomwe I found the school had continued without interruption during my absence, with 58 names attending regularly, the boy’s house was progressing, two huts were nearing completion. The garden was prepared for planting and other works were evident. Brother and Sister Sechrist spent a month at Makomwe and did many valuable services as well as winning the hearts of all who knew them.

Work on the Junior Catechism is in progress and we hope will appear in due time.

Preaching by the boys has been carried on throughout the year with increasing satisfaction. One boy held 44 services during my absence.

Thru their visits several kraals now desire a teacher and one beyond the bounds of my parish is already supplied with a resident teacher. Others ask permission to build a church for Sunday Services. Thus the fire is spreading in every direction and we praise God for it and rejoice to be in a work that shall never end till the knowledge of the Lord shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea.

The Medical work has been done chiefly by David Mandisodza and so has not reached its usual proportions, but much good has been done and the Lord’s name glorified.

The church building begun last year is now finished and ready for dedication, at which time about 20 will be baptized and 40 received on probation.
My heart does not cease to give thanks to God as I see the people Sunday after Sunday coming to the house of God with clean clothes and bodies and the light of eternal life in their eyes, who a few months ago were naked, dirty, drunken, ignorant and lost. My eyes have seen the salvation of the Lord at Makomwe in greater measure than I ever expected to see in my whole life in Africa when I first came nineteen years ago. For years I have labored longing to see the heathen brought to the cross and God has permitted me to see it. What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits.

Eddy H. Greeley.

Report of Miss E. M. Bell.

My work began on the 8th of April as kindergarten teacher. There were only three children enrolled, so the Sub-standards, six in number were placed in my care.

The work has been uphill as the children at first seemed very indifferent. Before long some of the families moved away.

Dreading the small numbers I resorted to visitation and have now enrolled, beside the six sub-standards, eleven kindergartners.

At the end of the term, the six sub-standards will be promoted into Standard I

Have the promise of four new ones for Kindergarten.

The work has been pleasant and profitable to me as well as to the children. Not seeing a syllabus I find I have taken the children away past work of Standard I The best part of it is that the children seem to be interested now, and desirous of learning.

Besides this work I have given eight Physical Culture drills a week, taught three sewing lessons and two lessons in Mental Development work each week.

We are now preparing for an oratorical medal contest and a kindergarten festival.

The work of Matron and business manager of boarding department has not been so difficult recently. At first with the children to attend, some of them usually ill, the black boys to look after, and to superintend the housekeeping as well as teach four and one half hours a day was an arduous task for one who was new to the climate. But, some of the children went home to America, others have moved from town, and for various reasons the boarders have been scattered and only two are now boarding in the school.

This gives more time to be spent in building up the school.

Much must be done in meeting the people socially. We have entertained several times, been entertained many times and are trying to introduce a true, practical Christian life into the midst of all about us.

The outlook at present is very good. I am earnestly praying that I may be so filled with the Spirit of my Master that I may shine in whatever corner I am placed, and be able to pass on the same Spirit to those who are so sadly in need of Him.
OLD UMTALI DISTRICT.

James E. Ferris, Presiding Elder.

Thanks be to God, our Heavenly Father, for his goodness and kindness during the past year. The year has been marked by his favor as is shown in the rapid growth of the work during the past eight months. While most of the missionaries have suffered more or less from fever, yet there have been no serious cases of illness. The health of the native workers has been good. One school boy, Tinatsi, died. He was a good boy and it was sad to lose him. He was buried in the little cemetery near the church, and we trust that his schooling is to be completed with the Great Teacher.

The church work, both in Old Umtali and at the out stations, has been under direct charge of S. D. Coffin. He has done his work with his accustomed indefatigable energy. So extensive has the work become, that the circuit ought to be divided into three circuits, each under supervision of a white missionary.

Some of the notable achievements are the church at Gandanzara and the extension in the direction of Mtwassas. I have been able to make but one visit to each of the stations. At that time the work gave every evidence of prosperity and growth in the right Christian spirit and grace.

The industrial work has been, with the exception of the Printing Office, under the care of E. L. Sechrist. The home of the Presiding Elder has been remodeled, a laundry established, a native village laid out, a house built for the propagating of young plants, some beginnings made with sheep and goats, ground cleared and broken and improvements made on all buildings. The grounds have been improved and beautified to a considerable extent. This department has accomplished much under the able management of Brother Sechrist.

The press and type came in August. The work with these has been confined to the teaching of five native boys in the simpler work of type-setting and press work, Merit cards for the industrial department, daily work records, the printing of letter heads for some of the missionaries, some hymns for use in the school and the first four pages of a Chimanyika Primer prepared by S. D. Coffin. The recent arrival of paper for the press will make possible the taking up of more extensive work. Grants secured by Bishop Hartzell, $150 from the Sunday School Union and $200 from the Tract Society make possible the publication of a native paper. The work has been handicapped, not only by the lack of paper, but also by the lack of type and certain letters. This will be remedied by the coming of additional type secured through the kindness of Bishop Hartzell.

The press was found to be broken upon its arrival, but it was mended by our own blacksmiths. The coming year will see the printing of an English and a native paper as well as books, tracts, etc.

The Girls' School has had a good year under the direction of Miss Coffin of the W. F. M. S. There are 48 enrolled, 35 of whom are girls and 8 are the wives of some of the young men, preparing to be native workers. The foundation of a new dormitory is finished and work is begun on the walls.
The Old Umtali Native School has been under my direct supervision since April 1st. The enrollment for the present quarter is one hundred eleven, the largest in the history of the school. This work is organized in harmony with the requirements of the Cape of Good Hope, up to and including Standard Three in the English work. George Duthie, Esq., Director of Education, inspected the school in September. He expressed himself as well pleased with the work, especially in the acquirement of English. The school will receive a grant from the Government. In addition to the required English studies, work is being carried on in the Vernacular and in the English Bible. On entering, all boys are taught both English and Chimanyika. As soon as able to read the vernacular, the Scriptures are placed in their hands. Below Standard I, the Scriptures read with such explanations as will aid in the understanding of the meaning. In Standard I, the text is explained from the standpoint of its being The religious book. In Standard II, the boys are required to translate the Bible into the English, and comments are made by the teacher in both languages. In Standard III, the Scriptures are studied more systematically. Matthew’s Gospel has been studied during the past year. A section is taken, read in the vernacular and translated into English very carefully. Then an outline in the vernacular is made and written by the pupil in a note book. The work will be carried on in the IVth Standard in 1908, by using Acts, Romans and Genesis.

In Standard III, the English Bible is studied. This year, the studies have been in the Psalms; 1, 2, 3, 8, 11, 15, 19, 23, 24, 27, 32, 34 and 37 have been read, explained and carefully translated into the native language, each pupil recording the work in a note book. The aim in these Scripture studies is in addition to the training the pupils in an intelligent piety, and is to make them more efficient as interpreters by careful translating of both languages. To a people, until recently without a written language, this is no small task; especially when one considers that the pupils dealt with have only a primary - a limited primary education and with no knowledge of Grammar, Syntax or Rhetoric. But something has been sought to be done, by introducing the simplest work in Grammar and Composition. By continuing this, it is the hope of the Mission to be supplied in a few years, with a higher and better grade of native workers.

All classes are required to commit to memory the Catechism and parts of the Scripture. This work is carried on in the vernacular in Standard I and below, and in English in Standards II and III.

Mrs. Sechrist has had charge of the Music in the school. The Tonic Sol-Fa System has been taught, two hours a week have been given. The boys learn to sing by note and learn hymns, both English and Chimanyika.

Mr. Sechrist has given one hour a week in Drawing to Standard I, II and III.

Mrs. Ferris has had all the work below Standard I, including this term 74 boys. In addition to this, she has organized a Teacher’s Training Class of seven native young men, who may become in time teachers or preachers. The work is confined to the simple method of teaching, con
ducting of classes under the eye of the critic teacher, and the explanation of the method and plans used. This is only the beginning of what it is hoped will be, in time a large department of the school.

The experience of the past year seems to prove that the scholarships of $15 per year are needed to keep the boys in school, to supplement what the boys can pay, working during their holidays. The whole question of the school in relation to the life work of the boys, their relation to the Church, and the the State has been kept in mind. In this, the matter of discipline has received attention. That discipline is sought, which springs from voluntary action of the pupils will and which he uses to bring himself into subjection to the laws of the higher life. This change from no discipline, the reign of caprice, or of fear, which are characteristics of the native in his heathen state, is not quick or easy. Neither is it satisfactory to force a higher authority upon him, as an end to be sought in itself. But our aim has been to develop a sense of self control and personal initiative, that will redound to his highest and best good, and make him self governing and self helping.

There is plenty of work for a medical missionary at Old Umtali.

Summing up the work, there has been an increase in pupils in the Boys School, Girls School and in the Sunday School; in the out stations, there has been an increase in the Day pupils and in the members and probationers in the Church. For all this we thank our Heavenly Father.

*James E. Ferris.*

**Native School for Boys, Primary Department.**

The particular work given to me has been to take charge of the entering classes as the boys come to the school. The boys do not come in classes, but they come straggling along, one at a time, any time during the term or year. Last term there were several who entered during the very last week and one on the last day before the holidays. They know nothing of our times or seasons, terms or years. Because of these frequent entries, the classes have been named after the letters of the alphabet, the class longest in the department being A, the next B, and so on. At present, we have reached an "E Class". Standard I and these five lower classes number 74 boys this term.

There are some odd cases. There is a father and his two little sons in the same Reader, and the eight year old is doing the best work of the three. Then there is a boy named Tebal (Table); I have a Dick and a Tom; but no Harry. A grown man calls himself Malijeu (Molly Jane) I have the future with me every day, for one little boy is Baiyanbai ('Bye-and-bye'). There are several married men in this beginners' department. Mtassa, one of the kings in this District, has sent his little son to learn, that he may be a teacher in his kraal in the future. He is a wee little dignity or mischief as he may happen to choose. In Standard I is Mngali, the boy who travelled in America with Mr. Balmer a year ago. Naturally his English is good and his understanding better than his mates in the same class. We
Great Chief Umtassa and Counsellors.

Industrial Department, Old Umtali Mission.
do not think his experience in America has injured his character, as such a public life is apt to do.

The one hundredth boy to enroll in the entire school was a one legged boy. I said "crowded as we were, the seats and benches all filled, and even the floor space all occupied, that in the fitness of things, only a one legged boy could find room". But this did not continue, for the boys that followed each had two feet.

The chief attention has been given to Reading, Spelling, Writing and Arithmetic in the English. The Scriptures have been read and parts memorized as well as the Catechism in the local language.

These boys are just as mischievous as are the American lads. They play the same tricks, trip each other, hide each other's books, and they whisper just as many a boy in other lands has done. One little fellow explained to me that he was not strong to keep his mouth shut. Like boarding pupils the world over, these boys have their spreads and other fun in the dormitories after their lights are supposed to be out, and they have not read of that trick, neither have their parents told them of it.

They do take their punishment nicely when they deserve it - that is one thing some white Christians have not learned to do gracefully.

There was a rage of copying from hidden books, but after a talk on its not being Christian, it seemed to disappear.

The boys are eager to learn, they try, they study as best they know how. They are respectful, obedient and in many cases exceptionally good in character and loving in disposition.

All these classes would be impossible, were it not for the help of the native assistants. These are seven in number and have been organized into a Teachers' Training Class. These get daily instruction in methods and daily practice, with criticisms on the same, as often a I can get to observe their work.

After the first real practice lesson, taught by one of the boys and observed by the other assistants, the class of little boys who had recited to the trial teacher were dismissed. The Teachers were then asked for the criticisms on the lesson just taught. After a silence, I asked the boy who had taught for his own criticisms. He looked at me in astonishment, and said, "How can I know if I do wrong"; The idea of self criticism was quite beyond him at that stage.

Some weeks have been spent in teaching the methods in the first stage of Reading. We are now working on the Methods in teaching Spelling. First the boys must be taught the sounds of the letters and the use of the dictionary, not that they may teach it, but that they may get self help.

These teachers vary in their work just as do those in the training schools at home. Some have good discipline, some have it to learn. Some take to the methods in teaching, while it remains to be seen if others will learn.

The boys are so immature! Think of trying to train boys at home to be teachers when they are in only the Fourth Reader! Of course these are really young men, tho' we do speak of them as "boys" Still they give not
"of their store" but all their, stone when they teach. Time we hope will change this.

The work has been delightful to me it is teaching, and then it is with the real heathen who is being helped to Christianity and to a few, helpers who will help others to Christ.

The methods are necessarily different in some respects. These months have had experiments in them to quite an extent. The teacher has been a learner as well as have the pupils.

My work has been anything but doleful or uncomfortable, as so many in America think in connection with the missionary life. I love the work and its Master.

Mabel Sanders Ferris.

Nov. 22, 1907

Report of E. L. Sechrist

The time that has elapsed since last Conference has been too short to permit of any great advances being reported.

In general there has been satisfactory progress along the lines on which we have been working.

Bro. Ferris will report on the printing press which is quite an addition to our equipment. It arrived with only one casting broken which has been satisfactorily repaired.

We now have a laundry in operation, rather primitive in equipment, to be sure, but still doing good work. Three boys work there every day. Besides the washing for some of us missionaries and the towels, etc. for school and dining room, some work has been done for outside parties and I think that as soon as we are sure of our boys and have things in a little better shape that we can do much more of it.

A reed covered plant propagating house ten by thirty feet has been constructed and a grass covered annex twenty-five by sixty added.

Two boys work here regularly every afternoon and we are preparing busily for the planting season. About one half the trees and plants put out last season are growing. It is a big loss but something has been accomplished.

Our carpenter shop has had rather a precarious existence since the building it occupied was remodeled for a residence for Bro. Ferris. This work gave the boys helpful experience in carpentry, brick laying, plastering, painting and glazing. It now makes a good dwelling house but needs an outside kitchen.

Considerable work has been done improving the grounds around this house and elsewhere. The park system has been extended and the road continued along the hillside. Good views of the Mission are obtained as one makes a circuit of the grounds along this road which passes several desirable building spots, and we can promise a delightful ride over this road in our new four mule wagon which has proven very useful, to any of you who will now give us a call.
As we had to have a place for the carpenter work we cleared out my chicken house, plastered and painted it and put in a bench and some tools storing the rest wherever we could find room.

This has now become my office and the carpenter shop is now occupying the brick building near the church, while the married natives who lived there have been transferred to their new quarters to the East of the grounds, nearer the river. We are building in this location for the married people two roomed houses as rapidly as we can and are laying out the ground systematically. If this proves satisfactory we hope to build brick and stone houses in place of the pole and dagga as at present.

I was more than glad to turn over the medical work to Dr. Gurney upon his arrival and it has indeed been a burden of responsibility lifted off my shoulders.

A forty gallon cooking pot and furnace has been placed in the boys' kitchen. This marks another little advance as previously the cooking has been done quite in Kafir fashion. It also means a saving of fuel and trees, as well, a number of wood boys for other work.

Two trips have been made to Makomwe station, the first of one month's duration during Mr. Greely's absence and at the time of our vacation. I secured some photographs, did some odd jobs around the place while Mrs. Sechrist had classes with the more advanced boys each day. During the second visit of a week we put the windows in the new church. On the first trip, as wife and children were along and we had supplies to take we necessarily had many carriers, some twenty, mostly school boys. They are not used to carrying and are not fond of it but in every case they were more satisfactory making better time and with less friction than the native who was merely working for his pay. The boys with few exceptions took delight in doing well.

In the orchard, probably one third of the apple trees have died or been destroyed on account of the so called "American Blight."

Not having been grafted on resistant stocks they will likely nearly all go in that way and I think that the land they occupy will be more valuable than the trees as this climate does not seem to suit them. Peaches so far have done nothing altho the trees are thrifty. Apricots are fruiting this year for the first time, and one tree has perhaps a ½ bushel of fruit.

Plums are nearly all fruiting, some being heavily laden. As we had an unusual amount of rain last season and it is followed now by better fruiting and by the blooming of native trees that have not bloomed for years as well as by an unusual profusion of roses the indications are that more water is needed or that what we have should be better distributed.

On the farm work has gone much as usual but more quickly on account of having the mules. Two, I am sorry to say, have died lately, one being a mule that has been on the farm five years. We are badly in need of more.

A small start has been made with sheep and goats. Some died shortly after being purchased but the trouble seems to be over now and we hope
with proper precautions as to dipping, etc. To prevent any further trouble.

Mealies and beans are being planted, white potatoes are growing well and we are now planting sweet potatoes that have been sprouted in the plant beds.

The work in all departments is slowly being systematized so that we know each day at just what work the boys have been employed.

This helps us to find the boys best adapted to any special work as well as to get at the cost of any particular work or crop.

The value of systematic work was impressed on me very forcibly while on the last visit to Makombe. I had a carrier helping me one morning with carpenter work. He saw what to do without being told and was able to make himself more useful than any other helper I have had, altho he had never done such work. And why? Simply because he had had nearly four years training in a hotel and as table waiter. He had learned to see things as we see what needed to be done and to do it. It was in another line entirely but it makes him more useful wherever he is placed.

Then add to this training the influence of Christianity that he gets here and who can doubt the boy has been made a safer man?

One of our boys who had learned some bricklaying went to Rusapi to work during last vacation. He was hired to work on a building going on there, was held longer than vacation against his wishes and came back with, "A good and willing worker" written on his pass.

The more boys we can send out like this the better will be our standing among the people and the more useful we can be. Such things encourage us and give us hope for the future.

E. L. Sechrist.

Report of Shirley. D. Coffin

Our appointments at last Conference were, the Old Umtali Mission, Native and English Churches with the Circuit of five stations.

God has been at work during the eight months since our last report and results are quite as large as our anticipations. We report as follows:

English Church.

The work among the white people of the vicinity has been continued as before. A regular preaching service has been held each Sunday morning with a good attendance most of the time. The weekly social evening is maintained at the Mission House. This also has been well attended and seems much appreciated by the men, as also the reading matter circulated among them. The English Church has a membership of 7 in full connection and 3 probationers. This is an increase from 2 at last Conference. Two infants have been baptized.

Native Church.

The Mission Native Church has now a membership of 119 probationers and 45 full members. This is an increase of 44. Sixteen have re-
Mission Station—M. Ronkis.

School, Mission Station M. Ronkis.
ceived baptism. One little probationer has left us to be received in full membership of "The Church Triumphant".

The Sunday School has been continued under the excellent supervision of Mrs. Sechrist, Miss Coffin and Mrs. Ferris, and now has 157 members, an increase of 37 over last year. It has 10 teachers and is an important feature of the mission work. We wish to express our thanks to these ladies in charge for splendid service rendered.

An Epworth League has been regularly organized with 148 members. Each department is at work and affords good training for those who are to be our future church workers.

Five church classes are in operation with a total enrollment of 175. One of these is composed of the Sunday School teachers and the exhorters who meet with me one or two evenings a week to prepare for Sunday's work at the station and near by preaching places. We take up the Lesson for Sunday, and also give as much time as possible to preparing sermons.

This church is organized with a native official membership of 5 stewards and the Epworth League President. It also has 13 licensed Exhorters who supply every Sunday at five points, mines and farms where natives are employed and kraals in the vicinity. The congregation at Old Umtali sometimes numbers 225 and from this point we are preaching to 500 each week. Besides the meetings mentioned we have regular morning and evening preaching services, also a mid-week noon prayer meeting.

Outstations.

1. Munyarara's. This station reports 48 probationers and 22 full members showing an increase of 21. It has a Sunday School of 103 with 6 teachers and 3 classes with an enrollment of 75. It also has an Epworth League of 50 members. The church has its official Board, Stewards, Sunday School Superintendent and League President and Class leader. A number of its young men give promise to become very acceptable workers and plan to enter training with this in view.

The Day School is attended regularly by 59, an increase of 26. The Chapel and pastor's house were burned down early in the year but the natives soon built new and much better ones without cost to the Missionary funds. Congregations average more that 100 and over 300 are preached to in a week. Marufu, one of our members here died a few days ago and the first Christian funeral in the kraals was held.

The natives said "it did not seem as if one of them was dead, for they knew God had taken Marufu." They seem to better appreciate their claim on eternity now.

2. Chikanga's. Here the house and chapel are completed. 96 probationers are reported, an increase of 22. 91 are enrolled in school, an increase of 5. A Sunday School of 111 with 7 teachers is in operation, also 3 classes with a membership of 138. Solomon Nsingo is preaching to more than 400 a week here.

This has been a real victory after many unsuccessful attempts have
been made to work there. Now a fourth of the people are our members and the chief is our strongest friend. She attends all the services, assists the worker in many ways and two months ago she brought me her club formerly used in spirit worship, also the spirit charms (little bits of goat horn which had been given to her by her father, the old king, Umtasa. She said before all her people that "she had no more use for that sort of thing and wanted to know the true God." Pray for Chikanga. She is "not far from the Kingdom"

3 Gondanzor's. Daniel Caplen and Mufambiswa have done very creditable work here. A large church which will seat 800 has been built, also a house for the workers, this of 10 rooms, a house for the missionary to occupy on his visits, a small stable and a number of other out-buildings are complete. The grounds are well laid out, trees planted, roads made, and the station is neatly fenced in.

More than 800 people are reached weekly at this station. I meet congregations of over 400 at the church, 293 regularly attend Sunday School with eight teachers. Three Classes have a total of 108 members besides which a weekly prayer meeting is held and an Epworth League. 140 are in regular school attendance, 41 probationers are reported. This is an increase of 26 in school and all the rest is growth. Asbury Church, Buffalo, N. Y. is supporting this entire work.

4 Mondambira's. This station has been supplied by one of the older students at Old Umtali. Good work has been done. 41 are in school, this an increase of 26. There are 35 probationers, a Sunday School of 50, a class meeting is held and congregations total 100. A nice little chapel has been built. The chiefs son is our right hand man. This has been changed from a drunken to a Christain kraal. The work has cost less than 25 dollars a year and has been met mostly by a W.F.M.S. Society of Point Marion, Pa.

5 Muhakanana's. We are now fully established here. Satisfactory arrangements regarding the land have been made and buildings can now proceed. These people have for a church and school building put up a grass and pole shelter which has served very well but they are not satisfied with anything but a good building. We are glad to note the pride our natives are taking in their stations appearance. Stephen Mari has been taking good care of this work. 140 are in school, an increase of 23. There are 48 probationers, 3 classes with a membership of 75 and a Sunday School of 177 with 6 teachers are at work. More than 500 are having regular preaching.

6. Vumbunu's. This is our first new station for this year. It started at the urgent request of the people. My interpreter Samuel Matimba was sent there and has done well. His school numbers 64, Sunday School 103, Probationers 21, congregations 250. His house is complete and a servicable shelter answers for a church and school room.

7. Muredzwä's. The chiefess here is of the same name and is a sister of the King, Umtasa. While Dr. Gurney and Mr. Greeley had won the friendship of these people they still refused to allow mission work in their vicinity. Her son and daughter entered the Old Umtali mission school, the latter
becoming the wife of a native Pastor teacher. This led to visits to the
daughter at their station and afforded opportunity for Murendwa to see
the good effects of the work on the people and she sent asking that she
be supplied.

Her son, Vurungu, was sent there much to their delight and has
done good work. The school numbers 27, Sunday School 60, congrega-
tions 100, probationers 7. I listened to this young man talk to his
people about the Ruler coming to talk to Jesus and he told the councilors
of the chief it was a good example for them to follow. God is blessing
this young man and making him a blessing in the household of the king.

8. Sherukuru’s. This chiefess is the sister of the former king and
is a superior native woman. She is the head of a part of the Inyanga
District. At the natives’ request we opened work among them and it
promises large. Congregations number 600 and over, 72 are in school
140 in Sunday School and a class of 40 will shortly be received on
probation. The worker’s house is complete and a church will be started
at once. This station is a very important point and is supported by the
Switzerland Conference.

9. Tswikero’s. Another opening in the Makoni District is just opening
and is the centre of a well populated portion of country. They came
asking for some one to teach them the “way of God”. The people are
at present all making new huts so numbers are not large in reporting but
will be when this work is complete. The Sunday School numbers 53,
school 30. A class of 25 are ready to be received on probation and
congregations total 540 each week.

10. Last but not least is Umtasa’s. The kraal of the King of Mani-
caland. This is without doubt the most important point we have touched
on this District.

It was a difficult thing to bring this great seat of heathenism to
yield. Other kings have before, and many lesser rulers but Umtasa has
been constant in his refusal, but God’s “fullness of time” for him came
and this heathen king came asking that we come and lead his people
into the new way. Many interviews were held with him and his headmen
which ended in Umtasa calling his sub-chiefs together and saying “This
is the teacher for my country. I want all to come to church and the
young people and all who can to learn in school.” They gave us the
best spot in the vicinity for a site and are very anxious that we are
established at once.

The king gave me one of his sons saying,” This is your son now, keep
him, teach him so that when he is older he can teach his people.” Here
at present Philip is at work with a school of 200 and preaching to from
700 to 1000 each Sunday.

The occupation of this kraal gives us the key to all of Manicaland
and will influence a much larger section.

It has been a wonderful period in the history of our work. We have
constantly felt that a real definite spiritual awakening is taking place
among these people. The “ harvest is white.” From all parts natives are
coming to us for some one to teach them. We have not rushed. We have tried to hold back the demand for teachers we cannot as yet supply. "God give us men". Not only are the natives asking for workers but they are anxious to do their best in supporting those sent to them. Regular collections are taken at each station, the people furnish the buildings, the Pastor teachers all have pledged a tenth of their small salary and give it gladly. A goodly portion of the best young native life is contributing itself to the work. Organization is coming about in our stations. The regular order of Service is translated and being followed by all. It is well adapted to native services. Evangelism is receiving chief emphasis. The Government is helpful and sympathetic towards our work. An official of the Native Department recently said to me. "The Methodists are the only missionaries who are really pushing things." Cash grants are offered us and will be secured next year. Many villages now observe Sunday, and are leaving the use of native drink. In the Old Umtali District the people of two score villages are a praying people, many of them meeting morning and evening in our chapels for prayer together. More than 1000 are in school, more than 5000 are attending services regularly, more than 500 can and do read the Word in their own tongue and this is most all the work of two years.

It has also been a busy year, most of it spent in the kraals and stations for the most part within 50 miles, and during all these absences our work at home and the direction of much outside has been carried on by Mrs. Coffin. We have twice visited Mongwendi's and Inyanga and in the former land arrangements are made for our occupation so that the opening is ready. It must be supplied in the very near future. It is a wonderful opening for any missionary who can be secured.

It has also been a very happy period. For more details we refer you to the statistics of the Old Umtali District which appear in the Conference Minutes and to the Recording Angel whose records will be open for our inspection later.

Signed. Shirley D. Coffin.

Report of Miss Sophia J. Coffin. W.F.M.S.

I reached the field February 8th, of this year and immediately entered upon my duties in the Girl's School at Old Umtali. Six weeks later the care of this work was placed in my hands.

As expected there have been some successes, also some failures. At the first the girls did not like the change of teachers and some wanted to go home. They said their mothers were ill. I thought that a fearful epidemic must be raging but tried to convince them that their friends would recover without assistance from them. This attempt was fruitless. They ran away in groups of four and five to my surprise and dismay. However back they came after a few days. Some of them looked and acted penitent, and some of them did not. All said that "Satan had got into them", which doubtless was the truth.
We started with twenty six resident girls and four day pupils, the latter, wives of native young men at the mission. Now we have thirty six resident girls and eleven day scholars, eight of them being wives of young men at the mission and three come to us from outside. This gives us a total enrollment of forty seven in the school an increase of 17 in the last eight months. Altogether twenty five new girls have come to us, but ten of them have had to return to their kraals either because of being previously married or because their being allowed to remain here would create such opposition to missionary work among the kraals that it would be more difficult in the future.

Four of the original girls have left us at the request of their parents. One of these is doing good work as a teacher, assisting the native pastor teacher and his wife in an outstation at a kraal of which her father is the chief. We visited the out stations of the District some months ago and greatly enjoyed seeing the splendid work being done by four girls who the first of the year left this school to become the wives of pastor teachers. Saved, trained, consecrated girls from this school are becoming the leaders of Africa's womanhood. God bless them.

Our work at Old Umtali consists of school in the morning from seven to half past ten. Some of the girls are advancing quite rapidly, but others will probably never shine in the Literary world. After school, until twelve we have sewing classes. The girls make their own dresses and do considerable sewing for other departments of the mission and for the missionaries. In the afternoon we have various kinds of domestic work, cooking, washing, ironing and general housework. Each girl is ambitious to become a cook. Because of this Domestic work the Director of Education promises a small government grant.

The farming is an important item. Last year through the efforts of my predecessor, enough corn was raised to supply the school almost for the entire year and quantities of native beans were also raised, thus greatly lessening the running expenses. This same will be repeated.

We hope very soon to have the new dormitory completed which will greatly aid the work, as our present quarters are very much crowded. A kind unknown friend has contributed $5000.00 and a commodious two story building, with dining room, store room, school room below and sleeping rooms above is being erected.

The fact that it is Christ these young women of Africa need more than all else has constantly been impressed on my mind. We note with great happiness some improvement, some real growth towards the higher in the character, every day life of the girls. New ones as they come listen with eagerness to the story of Christ and thirst for a deeper knowledge.

We greatly need some one else to help in this work. There is more than one can do, and yet it must be done. We are trusting, that in a very short time others will be sent so that God's will and work may be done among the women and all of Africa, more and more.

Sophia J. Coffin.
Native Reports,

INHAMBANE DISTRICT.

From Makodweni.

Beloved Brethren in the Lord Jesus Christ:

I rejoice greatly in my heart because of this, namely, that our Presiding Elder has requested me to write the doings of my own that they may appear at Conference. Verily I am trying to search out the ways of pushing the work of the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour among His choosen, and I am praying to God that He will help in this work Himself. According to the wisdom He has given me I am persuading believers everywhere to go out among the people and preach the Gospel. When the days are fine they find an abundance of people. My own work on the station is to prepare the teachers and the people to go out in the way of teaching, and I also try to preach to the people in their own places in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour. I try to teach them to abide in the love of the Great Great and so abide continually. Our country is full of people, but they have not yet known their Creator. Therefore we children of the Light ought the more to try to teach the children of the darkness. My heart is continually pained much by seeing many people going in the path of darkness. But I pray God to hasten to bring the Light into the hearts of these people, and to persuade our Chopa brethren to enter into the work of kraal preaching also and to open many places for the preaching of the Gospel there.

As to my work on my own station I am trying much to establish the Way, that my people may inherit the riches of God and abide in his love. Farther I try to keep them ready to do the will of God at all times, and according to the understanding given me I am persuaded that our people listen to me. In the way of proof of this I may note that five of our people have gone out this year of their own accord to establish stations for preaching the will of God. They are willing to do this for Jesus. They are persuaded to do this that they may abide in the love of God. Since there is not time to teach these people in the school. I try this plan with them: I call all those who read in the Testament to whom I teach the lesson to be preached in the villages. This is done on Saturday nights when they gather into one place and one by one each one stands while he is taught the portion for him which he is to teach on the following day. This I am doing in the way of discovering the best manner of doing the work of the Lord. I close here.

Tizore M. Navesi.

From Kambini.

Our school is going on nicely our boys and our girls are doing nicely; we have 50 children, in which 14 kept by the Mission, in feeding them, and giving them one dress every six months, or twice a year, and the rest coming from our Christians and from the kraals. Our Christians are keeping their children in their houses; I try very hard to teach and make
them to feel that it is their duty to send their children to school, not that
the Mission shall keep our children, as all these years Mission did, for it
is hard for the Mission or anybody to try to feed and dress whole nation, I
think it is not right. Is it not better that the children of the people a round
about to send their children to the school? Though these children of the
kraals is indeed very hard to have come to school regularly, for their
parents do not care about our Lord, it is because they do not understand.
We are so continuing persuading by preaching to them to repent and have
a fear of God; for I fear the Wrath of God is tightly pour down upon these
people who have chance for so many years since the Missionaries came to
Inhambane.

I pray God indeed to help us to his work and to send good schools
for our children; surely my eyes are full of tears when lots of our
children are growing to be manhood and womanhood without edu-
cation because they have no chance to enjoy the learning of civilized
country; Now this is thing which I anxious to say you my brethren,
as you are meeting together as the band of heroes in the Central
dark Africa: I am afraid some white people are preaching and talk-
ing to the natives and convert them and they say this is enough,
of course they are doing good work in that, but their converters grow
weak because they have not education and the confusion and trou-
bles shall raise up because of their ignorant. But those Missionaries
who are preaching and talking and converting the people and having
good school and continuing to teach the people, I am sure their people
shall grow strong, and heathen customs shall done away among them,
that is the thing I say, my tears are flowing upon my tears, when
our children have no better schools to study.

So I believe that God should not fail this, to his Missionaries
who are doing good in this country. Indeed may God help our good
Missionaries and we natives workers to do every one what the Lord
have us to do so as to advance and to promote the kingdom of our
Lord Jesus.

M. M. Sikobele.

From Chaichai. (Limpopo River.)

We are all arrived here safely. You have not yet sent our grinding
mill, you better wait till the meeting when I will get it. We are beginning,
please send us some slates, primers, testaments and hymbooks. The
people are kind to us but do not like to work at school house or chapel and
it is hard to build here because they wish money for their work. More
than forty are in school, many hundreds are preached to in the kraals.

T. N. Navesi, Teacher.

From Pakule.

We are very happy here at Pakule because we have nineteen full
members and eighty probationers. A few years since and it was I
and my little family, but God worked in the hearts of the people
and now we are a little army. Two outstations have gone out from us, one is forty strong the other 25 in number. I have been sent out as "Inspector of Schools", first to the far south, then to the far north and then to the middle district, when I was much surprised and gladdened to see how our work has been built up and how many are in the schools trying to learn as best they can. May God continue to bless us and use us for His work here at Pakule or elsewhere.

Angilazi Nukambi

From Panga.

Salutations from your Church at Panga through the joy of Jesus Christ our Lord, through the sending of the weeders of the seeds which were in the bush, choked by the weeds, grass and trees till they could bear no fruit. We give great thanks that we have been weeded through the name of Jesus Christ that we may know the laws of life and death. I am but a seed from the bush, but know that many others have no knowledge, not even that they are in the bush and have no helpers. But the missionaries have left their homes and all precious things of an enlightened land to make us to know the Lord Jesus, whom death tried vainly to take, but he arose and gave us magnificent laws for the whole world. We have fifty-five believers here, with many listeners to our preaching in the kraals. (4208 in the kraals for Nov.) All these and ourselves are sending you our greetings.

Kaliji M. Tobeli.

From Mahoxe.

Brethren beloved by me in the Lord Jesus Christ our Savior: In making known to you my work I may say that it was begun the sixteenth of March 1905, and I am of the opinion that the Lord is at work here for there are 45 people now who believe. I observe that the work of the Lord is growing in this place and also in our whole country. There are many, I might say all, are trying to put Satan to flight and the many really cause him to fly. Surely we shall drive him out in the name of the Lord Jesus. Therefore I rejoice together with you in that faith of ours which saves our people, and even us. "That I with you may be comforted in you, each of us by the other's faith, both yours and mine" Rom. 1:12.

Cement Tamela.

From Mayebeni.

During November we were out visiting 102 kraals, where we found 2348 people. For our Station Sunday service we preach at sunrise with all present; at nine is the Sunday School with all present, at 10-30 regular preaching service with many outsiders and all members while sunset we hold our evening service, when all are present save those who have gone out so far among the kraals that they do not return in time for service. In September our best loved and most
intelligent boy, Layisi by name, died. We were deeply sorrowful over this for he was very good Christian boy and we feel his loss here.

**Call X. Hayisi.**

**From Malembane**

We are just in the beginning here having started in September. I choose this place because of the many people. There are fifty towns near by. At the well where the women come to draw water three hundred of them were seen at one time. They come from afar to draw water from this pool which is called Tsukure. Are you as anxious in your hearts as am I that these may be saved? Let us kneel before the Almighty who will indeed hear our prayers.

**Muzondo M. Mukamba.**

Reports from the remaining thirty nine stations are nearly all of them equally instructive, but as per vote of Conference, these are only mentioned en masse.

**UMTALI DISTRICT**

**Report of Johannes Chimene, of Victoria.**

I am glad to make my report of the work, God has been good me- He saw I was alone in His work and He sent His servant from the North to find me out. I never expected to see the missionary coming from this side - my eyes were the other way. I am glad because God knows best. This church put its arms around me and made me strong.

I have been preaching and praying with my people all the time- they are asking the way now. The people are calling for the teacher, they say that the darkness is great.

The minister asked me to begin build a church, I sent my people into the forest to cut poles- the poles are now ready- two huts for the teacher are nearly ready.

The minister took me to Umtali with him, my heart was made very joyful when I see the great work God is doing in Umteli, I preached at all of these places telling them about the work in Victoria.

The first Sunday after my return to my kraal eleven people repented. I came back to Umtali because my eyes want to see the Bishop.

**Johannes Chimene.**

**Report of William Yafelle.**

The work at Muradzikwa’s is in good condition. The people come out to the services well.

We always begin the day with morning prayer at daybreak and every evening in the church, these meetings are well attended.
I have two class meetings one for grown up people, there are 57 members. There is also a childrens class, number 38, both of these classes are well attended.

We have a good day school, I am sorry the number on register is smaller than last year because the boys have gone to Umtali and other places to look for work. I give special attention to training them in the Solfa

I hold four services every Sunday, they are well attended; there are two converted men who help me in the work by going to the kraals outside and preaching to the people, and God is blessing their work.

After my school work Friday I go to visit kraals in my circuit and they are always pleased to see me and hear the Gospel.

I went out to Chief Manyarare's and visited Mandara and found he was doing wonderful work already 89 have professed conversion and 103 children are attending school.

I am now translating the Psalms of David into the Shona language, already eighteen are finished. I have also half finished translating the little book "First Readings in Holy Scripture and Christian Doctrine."

Williamu Yafelle.


I feel the greatness of the work and know I am weak, but God is strong. He will help in His work.

We have now a great many people at Penhalonga, but the difficulties are great on account of the boys bringing drink from the Portuguese, drink holds our work back. But we thank God that He is working and when the people hear the word of God they fall under the power of it.

We hold services at four Compounds and at several kraals.

There are now ten full members, and on trial one hundred.

The congregations are large every Sunday, sometimes we cannot find room for them.

We have large meetings in the open, when the Christians sing and pray and then march to God's house.

I go every Sunday afternoon with all our Penhalonga Christians to Rezende, where we gather the people and have a large meeting in the open air. Sometimes they stop beating the tom-toms and come to hear the Gospel.

There is a day school in which I teach - Kazana helps me in this work.

There are some young men who can read the Bible already.

At Qween Nyakwanika's we have a great work, many of the women have come to Christ, Nyakwanika is asking for a teacher to be stationed at her kraal, she has sent word to all her Indunas to receive the teacher.

I went with Mr. Wodehouse and Mr. Greeley to the Victoria District where I had chance to hold services in those large kraals. There are many people there. I thank God for the great work He has done at Penhalonga. I am glad to see my Bishop again and pray God will keep him strong to do His work.

Charles Yafelle.
Mission Conference

James Vilika's Report.

The work at Bezenda has grown much since last Conference. We now have a large new church and lots of people come to God's House.

I preach every Sunday four times, at the Compounds and kraals, and some people have given themselves up to God, for this thing I am glad. We have 46 members on trial.

My new house is finished and my family is with me now, my son Robert is helping me in the school, which is being well attended, I am asking God to help me in this great work.

James Vilika.

Report of John Malgas.

Since last Conference God has been working in our midst. The work is growing, new converts are coming in nearly every Sunday. Our members are standing well. The heathen try to draw them away by trying to get them to drink Kaffir beer, but they will not, and this thing makes my heart glad, when I see the young men refusing the beer and preaching to the heathen about the sin of drinking this beer.

I visit the out-stations, and God has given great success in this work. We have ten young men who go out to the stations every Sunday and carry the Gospel to the kraals near Umtali.

There is a night school which meets every night except Saturday; we have about sixty scholars. We have a day school for the women and children.

A class-meeting is held weekly for both men and women. We have 218 on trial and 65 full members.

I have started a class for young boys on Sunday afternoon, there are 27 of these on trial.

I am praying that God will give us great revival. I am so glad to see my Bishop.

John Malgas.


Native Helper at Mt. Makomwe Mission Station.

When I came to the Mission I did not know how to read or interpret or preach or teach, so Mr. Greeley taught me all these things and the Lord has been my helper too. When God sent me among the heathen I found them very cheeky. They did what they wanted to do, for the word of our Lord was not among them. They were afraid of our new ways but I was kind to them and asked them to come and eat with me. They asked me for something to wear, I remembered the word of the Lord which says: - "Give to him that asketh of thee" and I gave away what I had. This was done in the years 1904 and 1905.
When Mr. Greeley went down to Duma last year he left me at the Mission with other boys to care for things. When we went to the kraals to preach they received us well but after the service was finished began to talk among themselves saying "This is the disease come on the world for our fathers died without seeing these things which we see and hear". One Sabbath day Mandara and I went to the king's new kraal to preach and found them digging their gardens. The King was surprised to see us come to him.

We said to him, King, It is not right to work on the Sabbath day and the King was so afraid of the Lord he sent one of his servants to bring a goat to us to make us to stop preaching about God. We only say, "We do not come to be given a goat. We come to bring new news to your people". Some of his people have given up drinking beer and one day the King said he was glad for they fought with each other much.

This year Mr. Greeley left me alone again at Mt. Makomwe for 4 months while he was preaching in Duma. I had 65 boys and girls in school every day. Mandara and Mark helped me with the teaching. I want to be God's servant for he is with me all the time. Respectfully

David Mlandisodza.

OLD UMTALI DISTRICT.


I was the third one converted in the church at Old Umtali. I repented in September 1902 and God saved me. I started to preach the Gospel and have preached since 1903.

I preach and teach in the school and hold meetings on Sunday morning about nine o'clock and preach in the kraals,

I am very glad that God has helped me me to do His work. I should like to do more than now. I am very glad also that God is giving me his good spirit and I thank Him for helping me these six years in the church.

I was married last December and left the work at Old Umtali and went to work at Gondanzora's in last January where I have been ever since.

We have build two houses. One for me and one for the missionary when he visits us. We have also built a church.

I hold prayer meetings every morning and evening with an attendance of 128, three services on Sunday and 282 people come. We preach at three kraals to about 592 people on Sunday.

I am glad that God has led us here to a splendid opportunity for work. Let us still pray always that many, many kraals that need will bye and bye have the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I believe that God blessed me in my work. Let us christains remember to pray for our Bishops.

J. Daniel Caplen.

I will just send you a few words about my work. First after the Bishops went away last time we started Sunday School work at Chikanga’s mission station. Some time the people come 104 and sometimes 111. Eight christains help me as teachers and Mrs Solomon she always helps me in the Sunday School.

We have prayers in the church every morning and at night and all the people from the kraal they come. About 205 they come to the preaching meetings in the church.

I will say about the school, Boys, girls and women they come and are learning, 93 all together.

Many people have learned to obey God and they did bring me things they use before when they follow untrue spirits. 96 people now love God and have joined the church on trial. More come to Class meetings.

I am very glad because God does help me all the time and thanks to Him for life he gives me to win souls. I hope you will always pray for us.

Joni Nsingo Solomon.

Report of Mrs. J. Daniel Caplen.

When we came here some women they fear to talk to me so I told them, Bretheren! be not afraid of me. I your friend. I bring the message from God unto you friends.

Now my work is to teach in school and helping my husband in Sunday School. Every Friday I spented much time in school to teach our girls to sew their clothes. Some of them now know how to sew even as I do. Some of them learn wash and iron their clothes, some of them learn to do cooking in our kitchen.

I will try always to do best I can do to them and to help them to do better things that christians do in their life and our brother teacher Rev. Coffin he always comes out to help us.

Our school begins six o’clock to ten o’clock, after which our boys and girls go out to do their digging in their gardens.

Let us christains remember to pray for this Africa and for our Bishops because many, many people here they need the Gospel. I hope they all have it soon.

Mrs. J. Daniel Caplen. (Mulambiswa.)

This young women is one trained at the Girls School. W. F. M. S.

Report of Philip Paimanyi.

The first of this year I was appointed to the Mission station at Munyarara’s to take up that work. My wife and I went up both with one heart asking God to help us in the work.

The church was burned up and I started to build another. The people helped me and in two months it was finished also my house.

I made up my mind it was good for me to go and see Mtassa to see if he wanted to be friends with the missionary. I went up to
his kraal but did not find him as he was in the gardens I went after him and when I found him began to talk to him. He answered me saying that he wanted very much to see the new missionary. I told him it would be good for him to come down to Old Umtali to visit a day or two days. Then I came back home and told Mr Coffin every thing. He was very glad to hear this.

Then Muredzwa sent a message to Mr Coffin saying she wanted a mission and he wanted to send me there right away but could not as he wanted me at M'rawas'. We went to Mangwendi's and M'rawa's and then over to Inyangwa. Our journey was for three weeks and we went 400 miles and to many kraals.

After we came back I was at Munyara's again. Many came to church. Some were received on probation and some were received as full members. Then we went to Muredzwa's and started. I worked with these people telling them the Gospel and many of them repented.

When Vurungu came to do this work, we went to Sherukuru's. She is a sister of old Mtassa. Many people are coming to school, church and to God so I am thankful to God for all His blessings and help in the work.

I have made many visits to Mtassa's with Mr. Coffin and am looking after the work there now for a little while.

Philip Pelanyi.


The first of January I was sent to Muhakana's country where many people want the Gospel very much. All the people were very happy.

Many come to school every day, Then we have church preaching meeting and Sunday School. Sometimes more than 200 come to Sunday School and we have six teachers, my wife, I, Amundibayi and three christ-lan boys.

We have prayer meeting every morning and night, also three Class meetings. Many believe, become converted, stop to drink the beer. Some are members of church. Mahakana, the chief is a good friend and very much like teacher.

Now we start at Tswigero's in Makoni country. When people all have moved to new place and finish make houses, it will be a big station.

We thank God for all His great help to us and that we are getting many missions in the country so that our people have the Gospel of God. All must pray for the people.

Stephen Mari.

Report of Paul S. Zembe

The first of the year 1905, I began to go out to preach in mines and take a class in Sunday School at Old Umtali. Then the next year I was sent to a mission station named Munyarara's to teach and preach.

I went there every day in afternoon. My work went on good and
after this I came back, to mission and Mr Coffin sent me to another mission, named Muhakana's to take up that work because the teacher of this place was sent to another new mission.

I am doing all that I can to help the people to become, Christain but now am taking two missions Muhakanana's and Vumbunnu's. In both of them I am teaching and preaching. It is about seven miles from one station to another and many people are coming to church. Men and women are coming to God asking for help. I am working hard for these people and asking God to help me with my work.

Paul S. Zembe


This is a report letter. In the first of March 1907 I am beginning to work for Mr Rev. S.D. Coffin. His work for me was to interpret preaching. Then after that he sent me to Vumbunnu's Mission Station of the Methodist Episcopal Church to give the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ among the people.

Many people, they repent and believe on him. Some are on trial in the church, many come to Sunday School and every day they come 65 to learn and also I am preaching at some other kraals too. So this is all.

Samuel Matimba.
Report of Committees.

Report of the Committee on Resolutions.

Resolution No. 1

Whereas;-

Our beloved Bishop Hartzell has been spared in the wise providence of God to be with us again.

Resolved;-

That we express our profound gratitude to Almighty God for preserving his servant in the midst of labours abundant while travelling by land and sea, and for the way God has used him since last conference, in enlisting and securing the practical sympathy of our European Conferences for our work in Africa. Also for the splendid enthusiasm of the International Sunday School Convention, held at Rome, Italy, which prompted the giving of 80,000 Dollars to inaugurate a work so long on the heart of our Bishop, amongst the Mahommedans in North Africa.

That we earnestly pray that God will give him the necessary strength to carry on the great and important work of directing and representing Africa to the churches at home during the coming Three Quarters Centennial Jubilee Year for Africa, and spare him for years of future usefulness for the work in Africa, which has been so wonderfully blessed under him.

Resolution No. 2

That the East Central Africa Mission Conference is not unmindful of all that Irish Methodism has done for American Methodism and is full of appreciation for the gift of Rev. G. A. Stockdale for the work of God in Africa, and for the furnishing of a Principal and his wife; Mr. W. Garner and Mrs. Garner for our Educational work.

Resolution No. 3.

That this Conference is profoundly touched and expresses its gratitude to the Swedish Methodists for her gift of two of her sons to the work in Africa. Our prayer is that this may be but the beginning of a number of Godly and consecrated workers who shall follow and be lighthouses in this dark continent.

Report of the Committee on the State of the Church.

We rejoice greatly that the conference year, although short, has been signally blessed of God. Never was the work in such a healthy condition. Success is reported in all the district and in all departments.

The Inhambane district has worked under normal conditions, with the usual rate of growth. The increase is 50% over last year. There have been no disturbing influences, and the personal responsibility assumed by the members of the district has been unusually pleasing. The 26 stations of last year were augmented by 28 new stations. There is an increase
this year of 452, and this entire growth is due to voluntary persistent effort on the part of every missionary throughout the District.

In the Umtali District there has been a wave of blessing touching all the stations. An increase is reported of 385 in membership, which is about 100% over last year. The white work is in a prosperous condition, and the educational work at the Academy is being pursued with renewed vigor, and the outlook is good.

Several open doors have been entered. The work at Penhalonga, and the surrounding kraals, with the increased population altogether of some 6,500, presents a splendid opportunity. Two workers have been added to the force and God has given us great success in the field.

The work in the Victoria District has been started with much blessing, and God has put his seal upon the work by giving conversions. We are full of hope and are looking for great things from this part of the field. We praise God for the opening of a new station where 89 conversions are already reported.

In the old Umtali District excellent work is being done in the boy's school, which has an enrollment of 111. The training classes for teachers and Christian workers are doing good work. This department is so important to our whole work that we earnestly desire that accommodation may be arranged for the boys seeking admission, who cannot be received at present. Good and useful work has been done in connection with the Industrial Department, where the boys are taught blacksmithing, building and tilling of the ground.

The circuit work has been wonderfully successful. Here we have the largest increase since last conference numbering 320, or 180%. It is the cause of much thanksgiving that Umtasa's great place is now open to us, giving us the key to the whole of this country.

The girls school in connection with the W.F.M.S. has an enrollment of 46. The women are now being reached. We are glad to report the success of this most important work under the leadership of Miss Coffin. A new $5,000 dormitory is in course of construction, which will prove of great help in carrying forward the work.

The total increase in membership throughout the conference is 1157. Of this the Inhambane District reports 452, the Umtali District 385 and the old Umtali District 320. The total increase in native teachers and preachers 62, and in Sunday Scholars 1183.

We rejoice in the marvellous way God has blessed the work during the conference year. Our prayer is that He may preserve the health of the workers under the pressure of great work, and that reinforcements may be sent out during the year to meet the great need.

**Report of Auditing Committee.**

The books of the Inhambane District and of the Umtali Academy have been examined and found correct. Those of The Old Umtali Mission Industrial Department have also been examined and found to be correct to the first of July. The Finance committee report having examined the
books of The Old Umtali Native School, finding them correct. Those of the mission Treasurer and of the Old Umtali Church and Circuit are referred to the Finance Committee for auditing.

Signed,  
Shirley D. Coffin.  
John R. Gates.  
E. L. Sechrist.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NATIVE COURSES OF STUDY.

EAST CENTRAL AFRICA MISSION CONFERENCE.

All native helpers receiving salaries shall take a course of study covering a period of eight (8) years, divided as follows:— Teachers, four (4) years.  Local preachers, four (4) years.  Exhorters, four (4) years. (Unpaid).

TEACHER 1ST YEAR.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Vernacular</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grammar: To point subject, predicate, nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs.</td>
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2ND YEAR

| Writing: A paragraph dictated from Reader. | Memorize:— The Beatitudes, Psalms 1 and 51, two hymns |
| Grammar: Parts of speech. | |

3RD YEAR

| Reading: Standard 5th Reader. | Mark’s Gospel. |
| Writing: A paragraph dictated from Reader. | Memorize— Mark 16, Psalms 8 and 27, two hymns. |
| Grammar: Analysis of easy sentences. | |
| Geography: South Africa | |
4th Year.
Grammar- Analysis of complex and compound sentences.
Geography- Africa
History- South Africa.

Local Preacher, 1st Year.
Reading- Pilgrim's Progress.  Romans.
Writing- Dictation from above.  Memorize- Romans 13, Psalms 39 and 90, two hymns.
Arithmetic- Percentage and mensuration.  Grammar- Particles.
Grammar- Analysis and parsing, and correction of grammatical errors.
Geography- Europe.
History- South Africa, Book 2.

2nd Year.
Pass 1st Years' Pupil Teachers' Examination.  1st and 2nd Corinthians.
Memorize- 1 Cor. 13, Psalms 19 and 97, two hymns
Grammar- Analysis of sentences.
Sermon (written).
Jr. Catechism.

3rd Year.
Pass 2nd Years' Pupil Teachers' Examination.
Hebrews.
Memorize- Rom. 1, Psalms 136 and 149, Two Hymns.
Grammar- Idioms.
Sermon (written).
Sr. Catechisms.

4th Year.
Pass 3rd Years Pupil Teachers' Examination
James.
Memorize- Jas. 1, Psalms. 116 and 150, Two Hymns.
Translation of a selection of 200 words.
Sermon (written).
Sr. Catechism.
Unpaid Workers, Exhorters.

1st Year.

Matthew's Gospel.
Memorise- Apostle’s Creed, Lord’s Prayer, Ten Commandments.
Psalms 20 and 23,
Catechism.

2nd Year.

Memorize- The Beatitudes,
Psalms 24 and 51.
Catechism.
Two Hymns.

3rd Year.

Memorize- Mark 16, Psalms 8 and 121.
Catechism.
Two Hymns.

4th Year.

Romans.
Memorize- Luke 15,
Psalms 146 and 98.
Catechism.
Two Hymns.

SECRETARY’S REPORT

On minutes of the Fourth Session Conference.

RECEIPTS.

S. D. Coffin £1.5.0
R. Wodehouse 1.5.0
E. H. Greeley 1.5.0
Due Secretary 3.15.0
TOTAL £8.15.0

EXPENDITURES.

Paid E. H. Richards £8.15.0
Uncollected Subscriptions £5.0.0

(Signed) James E. Ferris, Sec.
### Conference Sessions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Bishop</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
<th>Member of Conference</th>
<th>Probationers</th>
<th>Other Missionaries</th>
<th>Member &amp; Probationers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td>Nov. 16-25</td>
<td>Umtali &amp; Old Umtali.</td>
<td>Hartzell.</td>
<td>J. M. Springer.</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>1903</td>
<td>Sept. 29-Oct. 7</td>
<td>Umtali.</td>
<td>Hartzell.</td>
<td>R. E. Beetham.</td>
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<td>May 26-30</td>
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<td>Mar. 13-16</td>
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<td>Burt &amp; Hartzell.</td>
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Note.

**Additional Property.**

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tr>
<td>Four town lots</td>
<td>$1,500.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mission Press at Old Umtali</td>
<td>750.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lands, buildings and equipment at Old Umtali</td>
<td>87,700.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Press Room and equipment at Inhambane</td>
<td>4,700.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lands, buildings and equipment at Inhambane</td>
<td>3,860.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$48,510</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Adding value of Churches and Parsonages</td>
<td>73,653</td>
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<tr>
<td>Umtali Academy</td>
<td>25,000</td>
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<td><strong>Property, Grand total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$147,163</strong></td>
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**Inebtedness.**

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<tr>
<td>St, Andrew's Church</td>
<td>$4000,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Umtali Academy</td>
<td>$7250.</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$11,250</strong></td>
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These two properties are valued at Fifty Thousand Dollars.
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<tr>
<th>Missionaries</th>
<th>Membership</th>
<th>Baptisms</th>
<th>S. Schools</th>
<th>Church Property</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Name of Changes</strong></td>
<td><strong>Men</strong></td>
<td><strong>Women</strong></td>
<td><strong>Foreign Teachers</strong></td>
<td><strong>No. of Missionaries</strong></td>
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<td><strong>INHAMBANE DIST.</strong></td>
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