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"Look on the Fields" - January 22, 1962 Supplement on Missions

J.N. Hostetter

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LOOK

ON THE FIELDS

... white already to harvest.



Left to right: S. S. Supt. Charles Hickey, Pastor John Schock, and P. W. McBeth.

A Growing Church

DEROSSETT, TENNESSEE

ONE of the youngest congregations in the Central Conference — DeRossett, Tennessee — received special recognition from the Commission on Sunday school for outstanding growth during the period 1956 to 1961. A plaque was presented to Sunday school Supt. Charles Hickey on September 17, 1961 by P. W. McBeth, representing the commission.

The young congregation now has a church membership of forty-seven. Communion and washing of the saints' feet has become a significant experience to this band of believers who labor together wholeheartedly in the advancement of the Kingdom of God in eastern Tennessee.

The church participated in a community Thanksgiving service with the Methodist, Church of God, and Baptist churches. Each congregation shared in the service and God put His stamp of approval upon the service. Several remarked, "Why can't we do this more often?"

The challenge of the mission of the church on the congregational level is experienced at DeRossett. The fields are ripe for harvest there.

Note-Burning Joy

A NOTE-BURNING service was held Sunday afternoon, December 17 at Knifley, Kentucky. Bishop P. B. Friesen, former pastor, was guest speaker for the joyous occasion.

At the time of dedication, in July 1957, the building indebtedness was \$6,400, and \$1,900 worth of furniture was added later. The congregation set their goal debt liquidation within a five-year period. Accomplishing the total debt retirement (\$8,300) in four years brought a sense of deep satisfaction and joy.

On December 29 the congregation rejoiced at the reception of two new members, one a 76-year-old man whose conversion was a miracle of answered prayer.

The summer Bible School had an average attendance of 103. On decision night twelve responded to the altar call.

A holiday season activity was the distribution of clothes, food, and toys, which were donated by a Catholic woman from Louisville, Kentucky.

The debt-free Knifley church is a lighthouse with a Gospel message adequate for the days ahead.

O Death, Where is Thy Sting?

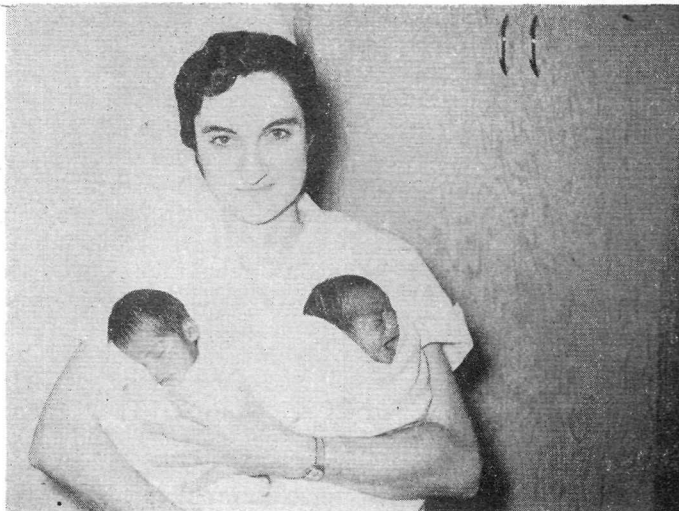
NAVAJO MISSION, N. M.

"In Him was life; and the life was the light of men."—John 1:4

AT EVERY approach of the specter of death, life is seen as the most precious of all gifts. Of all prized possessions, it alone holds the key to the fulfillment of all human aspirations. Yet death lurks ominously in every path that sin-laden man takes.

Grandma Cly walked through the years with Dan. They lived in Chaco, herded their sheep, brought up a family and grew old together. Together they practiced the ways of their people and dealt with the white man as it was necessary.

Their family had considerably more to do with the white man. The sons relied for employment upon the white man with his much business, some of which included building fences and digging in the dwelling places of the peoples who walked in Chaco long, long ago. One of the daughters learned how to "get along" with the white man, to her own disadvantage. Both she and her sister were frequently conquered by the white man's fire water.



Edna Long, R.N., holds identical twins, Clarence and Clifford, born at the Navajo Hospital.



Grandma Cly with her family after the funeral for her husband, Dan.

Even the old folks turned to the white man increasingly in later years. Grandma enjoyed some reputation among the children for a degree of wizardry, but she had her problems. There was the time when she had a misunderstanding with a white man about her crippled colt which had been disposed of. On occasion she, as well as Dan, rode along to the chapel where they talked about the God of heaven and earth. Old Dan had to be helped to get his stiff leg up into the pick-up. Grandma's failing hearing would cause her to react differently than her younger neighbors.

When Dan had to go away to the white man's hospital she became very lonely. At one point she decided she would walk to see him, disregarding the distance of 25 miles. But she was persuaded to wait for a ride. Dan came back home for a little while, but when the cold winter was approaching he returned to the Mission hospital for the final days of his pilgrimage.

As the family and friends gathered at the graveside, Grandma, ill herself, bent down for a final parting look at her companion of many years. At that moment every person present had a classic picture of man's losing battle with death. Prowess, nor cunning, nor loving devotion could prevent this parting.

At that moment the missionaries also had presented to them in sharp relief the challenge of bringing a message of hope for those tottering toward the grave. It would be mockery to proclaim a message of hope that is available only to the young people. True, there are many children to be taught and led to Jesus — and the newborns outnumber the old folks. The night before Dan passed away, identical twins, Clifford and Clarence Benally, came to delight and challenge the skills of missionary and parents.

The words of Moses had particular relevance to the mourning Navajos: "So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." To the missionaries Moses' words from the same text spoke with new challenge: "Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children. And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it."

Two New Churches in N.W. Canada

SASKATCHEWAN

THE Brethren in Christ Church in Saskatchewan is building at two locations.

In SASKATOON lots have been pur-

chased for the church and the parsonage. As winter sets in, the basement is done and the framing is in progress. With the late fall temperatures dipping to 20 and 25 below zero, progress has been slowed down to an icy creep. Plans are to start the church building in the spring.

In Delisle a lot has been purchased and foundation building materials are on location. This building project will be developed in the spring. For many years the Delisle congregation met in the Frontenac School, several miles south of the town. This forward step will enlarge the challenge to advance the Kingdom of God in these days of uncertainty in the world.



Pastor Conner

Miracles of 1961

ADNEY GAP, VA.

"Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it."

GOD showed His mighty power throughout 1961 in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. Situations beyond the control of man were committed to Him and miracles were performed.

Pastor Raymond Conner's son, Joe, was in a very serious accident and spent thirty-seven days in a hospital. Hanging onto life by a thread, God intervened and he is today going to school and is nearly back to normal. God also moved in marvelous ways to help the family meet the \$2,500 hospital bill incurred, so that they came to year's end with only a small balance to be paid.

Last spring Pastor Conner was led of God to plan for the payment of a \$1,000 note borrowed in 1956 to help finance the building program at Adney Gap. Prayerfully, he made a list of those whom he believed God wanted to share by giving \$100 toward the liquidation. At a service he mentioned the list but, of course, mentioned no names. For several weeks, one by one these men came to the pastor and said, "The Lord told me my name was on that list." By these responses all ten men had made their contributions except one who had unexpected difficulties. But two other men pitched in and the principal, plus inter-

est, were paid. Understandably, Pastor Conner reports this with, "Praise the Lord!"

At Calloway church the first reception service was in July with eleven charter members. One of these was Rev. C. B. Fulton who since has been installed as full-time pastor there. The membership has been increased to seventeen later in the year.

An addition of four Sunday school rooms to the church was planned. Again the Lord intervened and the valuable facilities are about ready for use.

Both Sunday schools (Adney Gap and Calloway) had good years. Adney Gap reached a new record attendance of 157 during the Enlargement Campaign and received a second-place award in Class C.

The Lord is Prime Mover at Adney Gap and Calloway. His is the honor for the victories of 1961. In an uncertain world, the Lord's people look with confidence into 1962.

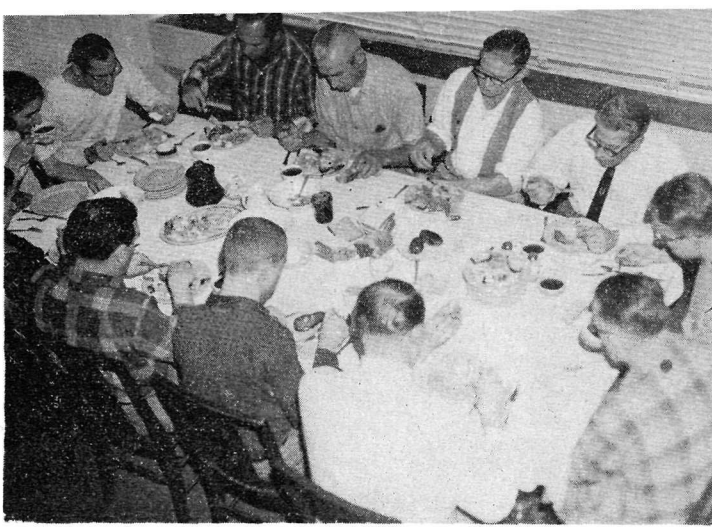
Big Challenge Continues at Life Line

SAN FRANCISCO

DOWN in the center of San Francisco's Skid Row is Life Line Mission and Retreat, now observing the first anniversary of its new location at 306 Minna Street. The occasion is marked with gratitude toward God and its many friends.

Supt. Avery Heisey says of 1961, "This has been a year of revelation to us in San Francisco, for this year has seen our new facilities in operation, and we have been able to bring the Word of God to thousands for the first time. In the beautiful chapel of Life Line Mission this year we held 337 gospel services and served 51,244 meals to the hungry. During this year there were 353 altar responses by the hopeless men of Skid Row who confessed their sins and asked God's forgiveness. We glory in being able to provide this in the name of our Lord."

Besides the gospel services and feeding program, the mission also has the Retreat on the three upper floors. Here, an average of thirty-five men live. Some of them work full-time in the program and, for this, receive their room and board. Others are rehabilitates, who are able to hold down commercial jobs. But, for all of them, it is truly a retreat, where they live in clean, comfortable rooms, free from the squalor of Skid Row and its temptations. They attend the nightly gospel services and have counselling available at all times to help with their personal problems. From the Retreat, a number of men have been able to go back into society again this



Those who work at The Life Line Mission eat together in a separate dining room in a cheerful atmosphere of good fellowship.



Those in rehabilitation who live and work at The Life Line Mission, live in clean, orderly, and attractive rooms. Thirty-five men live in the Retreat section of the mission.

year, sure of themselves once more in the strength of God. They are holding down jobs. They are a credit to themselves, to the community, and to God.

In addition to the mission in Skid Row, Life Line Chapel at 422 Guerro Street holds services twice weekly. During last year, 137 gospel services were held there and 8,335 meals were served.

These accomplishments certainly are not those of one person. The progress in the program has taken a team effort involving the best efforts of the entire staff. Beside Rev. and Mrs. Heisey, others who have labored long and hard include Misses Esther Hennigh and Rhoda Lehman, Donald Ott, Miss Dorcas Kline, Harry Burkholder, and newly-arrived Glenn and Miriam Smith. May God in His infinite wisdom mightily bless each

of them for their devotion to the program.

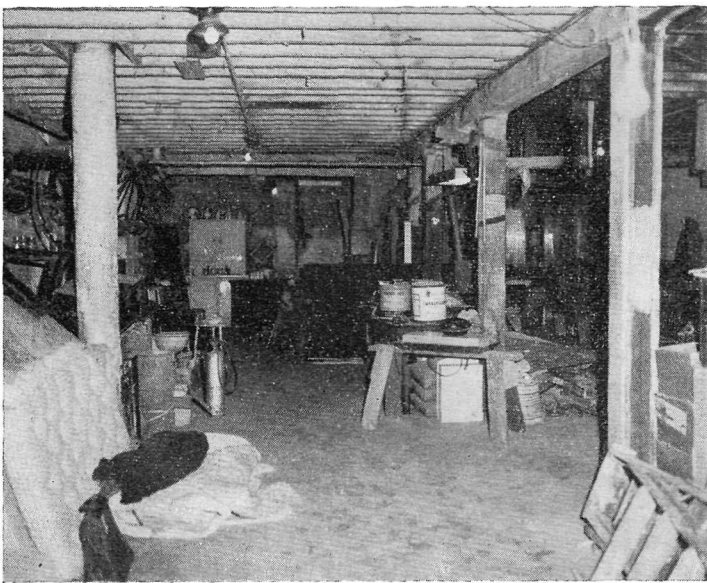
The year has seen a number of innovations at the mission. A number of Evangelical churches of the San Francisco Bay Area are now furnishing gospel services there. Additional churches will be added in the future. This has been a tremendous assistance to the mission staff, for the churches bring members to assist in serving the food and provide the gospel message, as well as a program of sacred music. Then, through the cooperation of The Christian Medical Society of the University of California, a medical clinic will be started early in 1962 at the mission, to provide further help to the unfortunates of Skid Row.

This year, too, saw the start of our

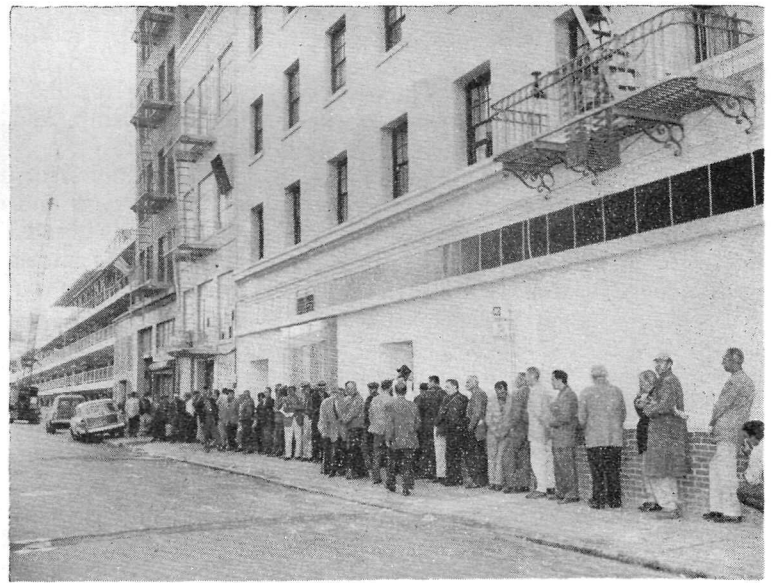
publication, *The Life Line Reporter*, which is published periodically to inform the Mission's friends of its activities. Life Line Mission is desirous that all members of the Brethren in Christ Church receive this paper and asks those who are not now receiving it to send their names and addresses, so they may be immediately added to the mailing list.

At the present, the basement of the Mission is being remodeled to provide prayer and fellowship rooms, a laundry for retreat residents, and facilities for handling food. There is still much to be done in this sin-wrecked city of San Francisco. We praise God and thank Him and our friends for these substantial victories at Life Line Mission.

In the future, we should have a farm, where men in need of rehabilitation can



The basement at the mission looks like this today, but an extensive renovation program has been started and, in the coming months, this will be transformed to provide a prayer room, fellowship center, food-handling space and equipment, and a laundry. A medical clinic will soon begin and, on its operational days, will use the basement fellowship center.



Six nights each week more than 150 men line up outside Life Line Mission, waiting for the doors to open so they can have a nourishing meal of stew, vegetables, doughnuts, and coffee to be followed by the nightly gospel services.



The completely renovated Alpine Hotel, now the Life Line Mission, holds out a ray of hope for the lost souls of San Francisco's Skid Row. During the last year, 337 gospel services were held; 51,244 free meals were served.

live for protracted periods and where they can raise much of the food required at the mission. "If the Lord so wills, we will have this farm," says Avery Heisey. "Our future is in His hands. He has done so much for us so far. We feel His presence at all times."

This, our first year in the new quarters, has been one of signal victory. We are grateful to all of our friends in the church all over the country and for the people of San Francisco, who have helped us with funds, materials, and prayers. Our future is in the hands of the Lord, for this is His work.

Chain-Reaction Religion

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

HERE is a story from Brooklyn that beautifully illustrates the "chain-reaction" of the Gospel which Jesus spoke of in His prayer in John 17:20.

A little girl, 10 years old, accepted Christ as her Saviour. The girl's mother began to attend services regularly at the Brooklyn Sunday School because her children went there. From this regular attendance the decision came for older son Joe to attend the Kenbrook Bible Camp, near Lebanon, Pa.

During Joe's absence his mother attended the Summer Bible School regularly. On Decision Night she stepped forward and experienced the transforming experience of a new life in Christ.

When Joe returned from Kenbrook on a Saturday night, he burst into the room, greeting his mother with, "Hey, Mom! I'm saved." Imagine the joy in this home when they learned that Joe had been saved at Bible Camp just one day after his mother had had the same experience at the Bible School in Brooklyn.

Most notable change in the young man was his desire to lead others to the Saviour. Just one week after his conversion during a visit in his home by the pastor accompanied by his wife and the Sunday school superintendent, Joe's brother-in-law entered the room. Listening to the conversation and ensuing Bible study the young man was ill-at-ease. During the interruption of a telephone call Joe began talking to his brother-in-law who was soon earnestly asking for prayer. As they knelt, another soul was born into the Kingdom.

Layette Visitation

NEW YORK CITY

"Behold I have set before thee an open door . . ." This verse fittingly describes the layette visitation field. When the mothers come to Fellowship Chapel to pick up the layette we ask them if we may come to visit. Almost without exception there is a very warm response to this query. When we go to the home we find various circumstances.

. . . A husband and wife with twins, living in one tiny room at the home of an in-law.

. . . A lovely Christian mother with six children, the babies being twins, husband has deserted the family. No covering of any kind on the kitchen floor. This mother is desirous of Christian fellowship.

. . . A mother with five children, deserted by husband, has the ambition to keep her home spotlessly clean. On Sunday morning she has the initiative to have all five children ready and waiting to come to Sunday school when we go to pick them up.

. . . Another mother with five children, unable to read or write, recently accepted Christ. She is hungry for Christian fellowship and desires to live a different life.

. . . A number of unwed mothers . . . we could go on and on!

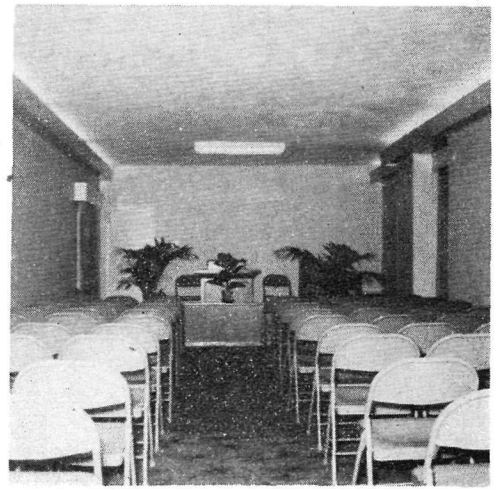
The field is great! The time is so short! Pray that this ministry will be effective, yielding fruit for the Lord.

Men Pray — God Moves

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

See with us the Lord moving mountains and working miracles in lives. Prayer is the key that unlocks the resources of His great power. Come, see God meeting needs in Brooklyn.

Needed — Sunday school teachers—prayer—a Catholic mother is saved and becomes an excellent teacher, as well as an outgoing visitation worker. An upper-teenager is reclaimed for Christ and becomes an enthusiastic teacher.



Fellowship Chapel in New York City.

Needed — Christian teenagers—prayer—six teenagers saved. One is now an assistant Sunday school teacher and president of Christ's Crusaders. This same teenager became discouraged — prayer—he returned to church and finds new strength.

Needed — Youth Center to interest more teenagers in the church and to provide a wholesome recreation center for those who are Christians — prayer — a room next to the church will be rented in January.

Needed — parsonage in Brooklyn — prayer—the Mission Board approved and told the pastor to look for a building.

Desire — to see more adults saved — prayer — an alcoholic was saved and attends church. Pray that he will be strengthened to overcome temptation.

We praise the Lord Jesus for each answer to prayer.

Please join us in prayer—

First — for souls, especially that families may be won.

Second — that the pastor may find the right building to purchase. The building will need to house a chapel, youth center, and parsonage.

Third — that the pastor, his wife, and the Sunday school teachers may walk close to Christ.

From Youngways Chatter

A New Church is Built

Uncle Pete is in charge of building a new church in the Bulawayo African location. Lots of times I have gone with him to help.

The church, which is the second Brethren in Christ one in the location, has a steel structure and nine-inch-thick walls. The church is not plastered on the outside, but just plain brick. Also, it has a zinc roof.

Once when Uncle Pete was fastening some of the structure, his ladder slipped and turned around but he clung on and did not even bruise himself.

We hope that there will be enough money left to start a third church in the location.

—Meryl Thuma (almost 13)

Another Church Completed!

Dedication of Nguboyenja Church, Bulawayo

Reported by two new missionaries

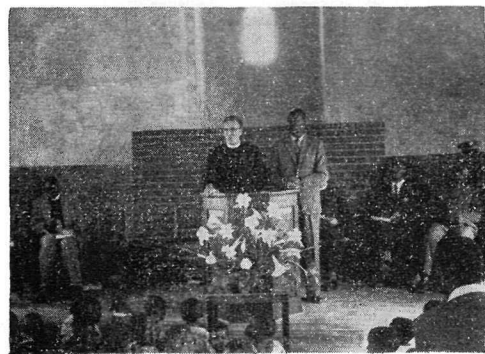
ARRIVING in Africa, one is faced with many circumstances and experiences—some expected and some quite unexpected and unusual to an American.

Saturday, August 25, was an inspiring occasion for both new and experienced missionaries—the day of dedication of the new Nguboyenja church in Bulawayo.

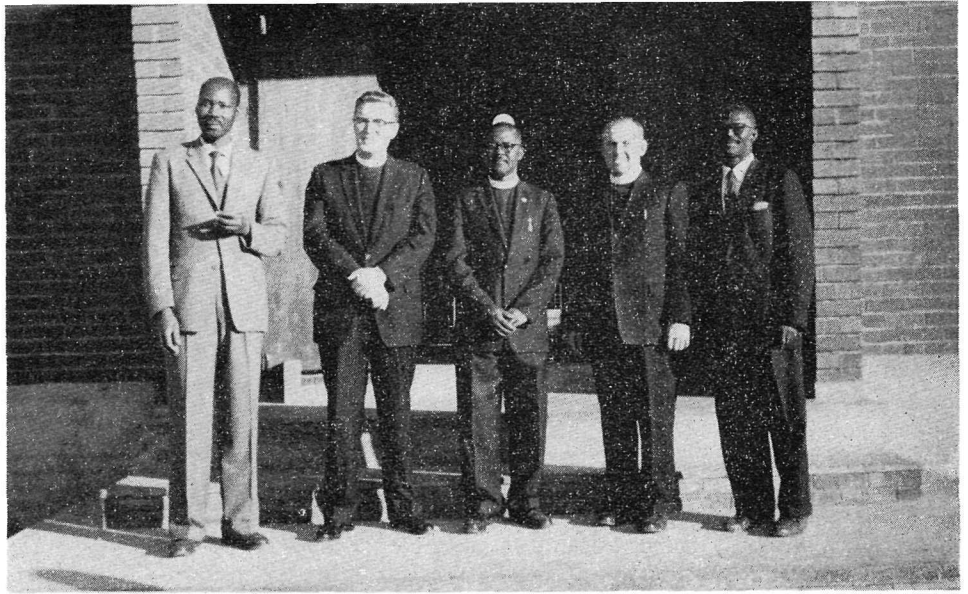
Under the supervision of Rev. Ira Stern, the building had progressed to its completion from this past May. Its neat brick exterior is very striking amid its surroundings of old residential buildings. A small, red, glass cross high in the wall facing the street proclaims the purpose of the building.

Three o'clock that afternoon found around three hundred Africans and Europeans assembled for this first service, adults on the benches and many children on the floor at the front. The seating capacity is approximately 250.

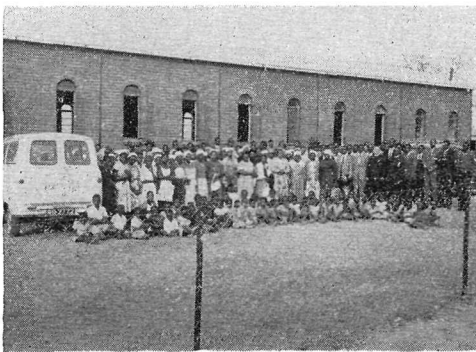
Rev. Vundla, pastor of the Mpopoma church was in charge of the service. His leadership was responsible for a smooth-running program. The dedicatory message by Bishop David Climenhaga, from Hebrews 10:19-25, admonished all to be strong Christians in the Lord.



Bishop Climenhaga preaching the Dedicatory Sermon at Nguboyenja, 26th August, 1961; Timothy Ndlovu, present pastor of the church, interpreting. Others on platform from left to right: Rev. N. Moyo, Rev. M. Sibanda, Rev. I. M. Stern, Mr. S. Mlotshwa, and Captain Moyo of Salvation Army (note his cap on wall above him; this was used in taking up the offering that day in the absence of any regular offering baskets).



Standing at the front entrance, three ministers with vital interest in the occasion: the General Superintendent (second from left), the pastor of Mpopoma Church (center), and the Superintendent of Bulawayo Church programme and supervisor of building programme at Nguboyenja. With them are two men who have had keen interest in and have made significant contribution to the church work in Bulawayo: Timothy Ndlovu (left), now serving as pastor at Nguboyenja, and Samuel Mlotshwa (right), in whose classroom at Lobengula School our services were held for a number of years and who also served as lay-preacher until going to Mtshabezi Mission this year.



An exterior side view of Nguboyenja church with the group present at the worship service on Sunday, August 27th.

Following the service, while refreshments were served outside the church, there was opportunity for greeting and visiting with the people.

As plans continue for the growth and development of this new church and its program, may they depend upon your prayers?

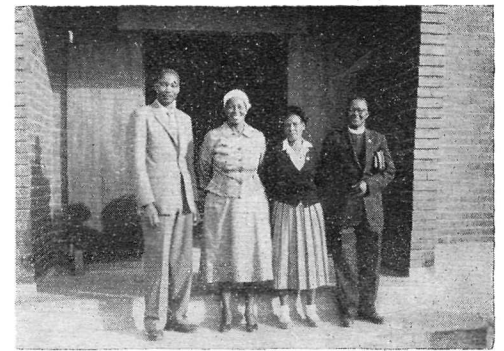
—Erma Mann

Another "first" for the African Church was the first communion service in the new Nguboyenja Church in Bulawayo on Sunday morning, August 27. It added to my list of new experiences the privilege of taking communion with my African brethren and sisters. As I washed the feet of my African sister I was keenly aware of the oneness we share in Christ. And as we together partook of the emblems of the body and blood of Christ we were conscious of a deep love for the One who has done so much for us.

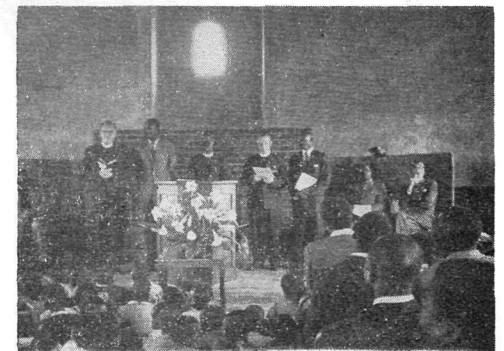
I could understand nothing that was said in the service. But overcoming the strangeness was the feeling that God

was there and He was blessing His work in this part of the world. So will you pray for this new congregation and their pastor, Timothy Ndlovu, as they labour for the Lord here.

—Lois Jean Sider



Bulawayo pastors and their wives — the Timothy Ndlovus and S. Vundlas.



Scene during the Act of Dedication (Brother Stern responded for the congregation). From left to right: Bishop Climenhaga and interpreter Timothy Ndlovu; Rev. S. Vundla, chairman of occasion; Rev. I. M. Stern, and interpreter Samuel Mlotshwa. European seated on platform to right of picture is Rev. Paul King of London Missionary Society.

SETTLING A DIFFICULTY BETWEEN CHRISTIANS

Dina Marandi

IN A VILLAGE called Begampur are some Christians. Among them became a quarrel. It started with a very little matter, but through talk it became a big matter. Praying together was stopped. Sunday prayers were stopped. They decided to take their quarrel to the village *panchayat* (council).

Suddenly a desire came to me to go to the village. That same day those Christians had a feeling that someone would come to them.

One woman came to meet me, and at once began to talk very strongly about and against the others, condemning and accusing them. I asked her, "Do you folks pray?" She said, "Yes." In love I told her, "Jesus does not hear your prayers because you are enemies. In my heart is much sorrow because of this. If you would beat me, so much sorrow wouldn't come in my heart as comes now."

It was evening. I told them to quickly prepare their food because we would have prayers together. They quickly prepared their food. We all gathered together to pray. In the beginning it was very difficult because, crying, they began to accuse each other. I told them I didn't want to hear anything but Jesus' love. They all kept quiet. I wasn't prepared to handle this matter. I had no verses ready but the Lord showed me the right verses one after the other. I read this verse to them:

"Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath aught against thee; leave there thy gift before the altar and go thy way" (*Matthew 5:23, 24*).

Having read this verse to them, I asked, "Do you people pray?"

They said, "Yes."

I said, "Look, in this verse it is written that if you come to the altar and you have something against your brother, then, first you must ask forgiveness." Then I read, "But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven:



Dina Marandi, daughter of Pastor Benjamin Marandi. Dina's life is dedicated to the Lord. She gives all her time in praying, reading the Word, teaching and village work.

for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust" (*Matthew 5:44-45*).

"Jesus said, Love your enemies. You must pray for them who persecute you. By doing this you will remain His people. By believing on Jesus, we become His children. And if we are His children, our hearts and minds will be like His. On the cross Jesus requested for His persecutors, 'Lord, forgive them, for they know not what they do.' We must do like Him. We will do like Him if we are His children.

"For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses" (*Matthew 6:14-15*).

"If we do not forgive others, our sins will not be forgiven. And if the Lord does not forgive us, then who can save us—who can be saved?"

"A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one

another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another" (*John 13:34-35*).

"It is Jesus' command that we love one another. By this the villagers will know that we are Jesus' disciples.

"Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you. We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death" (*I John 3:13-14*).

"We have received eternal life through faith in Christ. But if we are enemies one of another, we are in the condition of death. If you die, you will go to hell.

"Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love" (*I John 4:7, 8*).

"We worship Jesus, but if we are enemies of each other, then we don't know Jesus."

The Lord showed me more verses to read and explain. After they heard the Word of God, they all before the others began asking forgiveness. Jesus did a wonderful work in their hearts. One man said, "Brother, making myself a little brother (making himself less than the others) I ask your forgiveness." Like this every one asked forgiveness of the others.

In the end, great peace came among us. In that day, they again began to pray together. They began to sit together and have Sunday prayers together and to this day they are doing so.

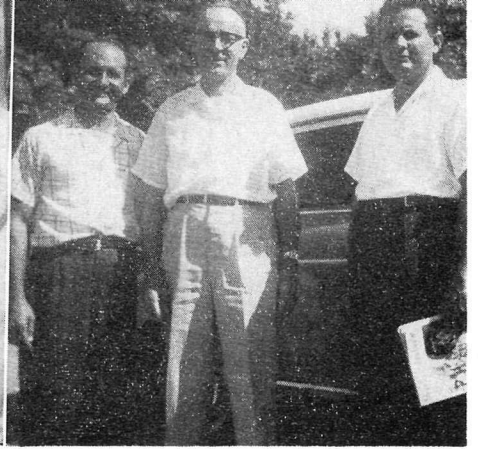
Praise to the Lord that the Lord works in the hearts of men — this is alone the Lord's work. To do any good work by me is impossible. Only Jesus can work in the hearts of men.

With Cubans in Jamaica

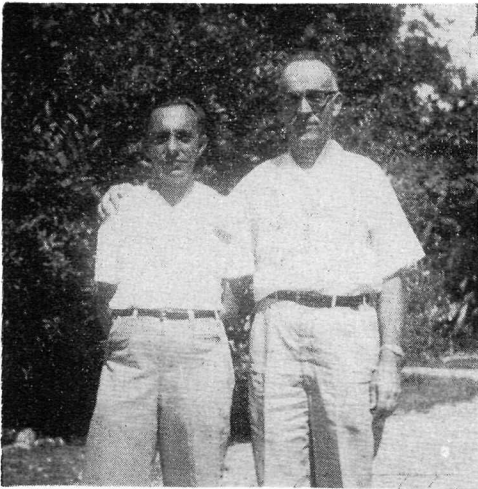
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Good Neighbor Center contains a number of offices, reception rooms where Cubans are brought upon arrival in Jamaica. Here papers are prepared for the American Consul.



Left: Dr. Jaime Santamaria and his family spent six weeks at our Refugee Center. Since he was born in Spain, he was delayed until he could secure the necessary papers. He was a strong Catholic but found real peace when he gave his heart to the Lord a number of years ago in Cuba. He was President of Christian Business Men's Committee in Havana, loves to preach the Gospel and was a wonderful testimony among the Cubans while in Jamaica. — Center: A group of Cubans at our hostel, a large building that can accommodate around fifty people. There is a continually changing group as the refugees continue to come and move on to U.S. and other countries. — Right: The Hernandez brothers from Cuatro Caminos who lost a \$60,000 store and a new home. We knew them while in Cuba.



Clodoaldo Marino and Howard. This man is very happy that he found God in Kingston. A former Communist and Catholic, he is now a Christian and each day he testifies to other Catholics and Cubans. We are thrilled over this conversion.

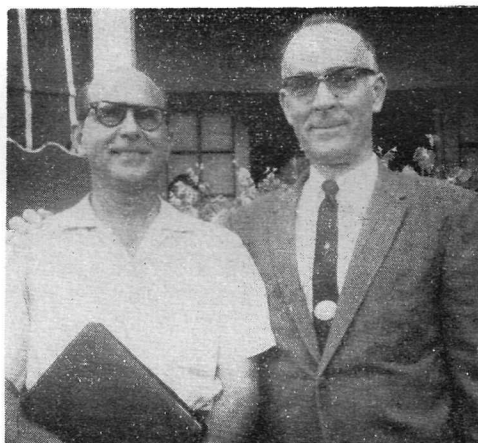


Our hostel where we can house near fifty Cubans.

WITH CUBANS IN JAMAICA

Below: Salvador Landa and wife are delayed because he formerly belonged to the militia in Cuba. While delayed, Mrs. Landa did the cooking at our hostel and he was a good help around the Center, painting and carpentering. Now the wife plans to join the children in Florida, and Salvador will remain here a while longer. They have refused him entrance into U.S.A. He is eager to read his Bible and learn more of God's Word.

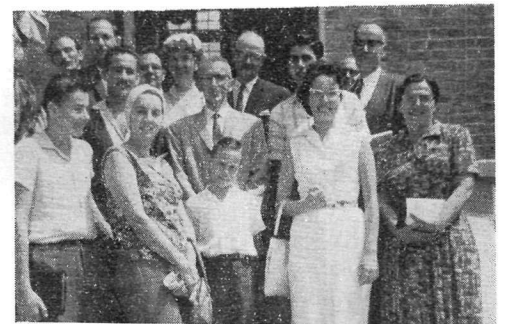
Below: A group of Cubans attending the morning worship service. The man in the center is a radio minister, Rev. Domingo Fernandez, and pastor of a large church. Back of him are Dr. and Mrs. Richard Milk, who are in direct charge of the Refugee Program.



David Bacalchuk, a Jew, who lost his factories and money. His wife and child are still in Cuba. He stood and wept in our office, asked for a Bible and prayer. He is hindered in entering U.S.A., because he was born in Poland—though he lived in Cuba from the age of one year. The Poland quota is filled and even though his parents live in U.S., he has had to stay here for several months. As he comes to the Center almost daily he tells us he is reading the Bible and he believes in Jesus and what the Bible says. He wants to know if we are still praying for him.



Rafael and his mother, displaying some of his artwork that we desired to use in an illustrated message. Former Catholics, they now enjoy reading the Bible.



At the Spanish worship service held each Sunday from 11:30 to 12:30 in The Christian Church, after the regular morning worship service. Attendance has been very good. Most of these people are now in the U.S.A.

My First Impressions of Japan

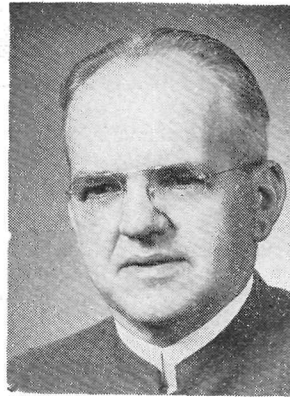
A LAND OF ACTIVITY AND ENERGETIC EXPRESSION. The movements of people on the street, industrial developments that dot the countryside, the way the farmers approach and carry on their work — all these demonstrate determination and purpose.

A LAND OF ADVANCEMENT. Large buildings are being constructed in the cities. Streets in the very heart of certain industrial areas and in certain large cities are being widened; for instance, in the city of Hagi one of the main streets has been widened from the western end toward the east. They have already succeeded in going approximately half way through the city. The other half of the project is planned and will be developed in the next few years. The front of the buildings on one side of the street will have to be cut off for the street-widening project.

A LAND WITH A DIFFICULT LANGUAGE BARRIER. Certainly we English-speaking people have no right to look upon our language as *the* language. However, the difficult Japanese language is a definite barrier for many people who seek contacts here.

A LAND OF OPPORTUNITY FOR MISSIONARY WITNESSING. Even in this land of deeply religious cultures and practices, there is a definite opportunity for the Gospel witness. Though people are not as a rule reaching for the Gospel with open arms, there are those who have been disappointed and disillusioned by the older religions and who are looking for something better. The missionary or the national who wishes to witness for the Lord Jesus Christ must present the Gospel attractively and clearly demonstrate its value in order to attract people in the land of Japan.

A LAND WHERE MISSIONARY METHODS AND APPROACHES NEED TO KEEP PACE WITH PRESENT-DAY DEVELOPMENTS. While conventional missionary methods such as aggressive door-to-door evangelism and public evangelical preaching may have a place in the missionary movement in the country, they must be considered only a part of the total program. Personal counseling, teaching classes and individuals in English, sitting and discussing both cultural and spiritual values with young people and educational leaders, and being a part of a community as well as a missionary, are



all methods that fit into the present-day program in Japan. At the moment, I am deeply impressed with the fact that one of the most strategic opportunities for the missionary is that of helping the Japanese to surmount the language barrier to communications with people outside of his country.

A LAND WHERE IT IS POSSIBLE TO BUILD A CHURCH BESIDE THE MISSION. For many, many decades the missionary movement has taken the path of the missionary building a missionary church. Japan is a land where it is possible to approach this problem on another basis, namely, that of the mission constructively assisting the national in the building of his own church. This type of program the Brethren in Christ are carrying on in Japan and, it has proved to be successful and significant. This approach has not solved all the problems that arise in church administration but it appears to be a very satisfactory approach to the building of a church in the land of Japan.

A LAND WHERE PEOPLE ARE NOT SAYING, "WE WANT TO HEAR THE GOSPEL." However, they are saying, "We are interested in knowing more about the things which you represent and the things which you have to say to us." This presents a great door of opportunity, not for mass evangelism and mass decisions for Christ, but for a clear, positive Christ-like witnessing that will help men and women see the attractiveness of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

A LAND WHERE THERE ARE TERRIFIC CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS BARRIERS FOR PEOPLE CHOOSING CHRIST. In this way, Japan is strikingly different from U.S.A. and certain other areas of the world. Their literacy and traditional aggressive academic culture have not brought the

openness and individualism that certain other areas of the world enjoy. What the family says, what the family thinks, and what happens to the family as a result of choosing Christianity, sometimes makes it extremely difficult for folks who would choose Christ.

A LAND WHERE OUR MISSIONARY MOVEMENT HAS BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL. Measured in the light of mission accomplishments in Japan yesterday, our mission program commends itself most highly. God has used the staff to bring a great number of people face to face with the claims of the Gospel. God has used our staff to build up an atmosphere of respect and mutual community friendships. God has helped our staff in most instances to walk in a path that has commended them to the community in which they are a part.

A LAND WHERE OUR MISSIONARY PROGRAM WILL CONTINUE TO GO FORWARD. We sincerely believe that the Lord will use our staff and our Japanese church in an increasingly effective manner in the days that are ahead. Their ministry will reach further and we believe become more intense. This, we hope, will be fruitful for the glory of the Lord and the advancing of the kingdom of Christ.

—Henry N. Hostetter, Executive Sec'y

Retired But Trusting

I was serving the Lord when I was 30 years of age but there was not peace in my heart, because I was a sinner. When I believed on the Lord and the power of His Word came to me, then peace came to me. I repented of sin. There has come many blessings in my life, in trouble and in pleasant times. I could not read. My eyes were bad. I prayed that "I may be able to read Thy Word." Now I read the Word of the Lord without spectacles. Thanksgiving be to the Lord.

—Jacci John (translated from Hindi)

My call happened in an unusual way but I lost my portion. From 20 years I did the service of the Lord in the mission but I sat (was dismissed) in the house three years because of Satan and going astray. Again I repented and came to the Lord. I prayed and the Lord forgave my sin and the power of the new birth came to me. When I make some mistake then the Spirit immediately tells me, explains to me, "Do not do this way." Then I pray to the Lord and peace is found.

When I have opportunity I give witness of the Lord.

—Darka John (translated from Hindi)

"Approximately five thousand have come into the Saharsa reading room in the first three months it has been open."

Life and Light for Every Man



The window display inviting Conference visitors to select their gifts and "books that bless" in the book shop.

MAN loves *life* and normally seeks *light*. Our commission is to bring men into contact with Christ, "the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world." There are many ways of doing this; one means that is proving effective today is by literature that "radiates light."

How is this being done in Bihar, India today?

1. BY BOOK STALLS:

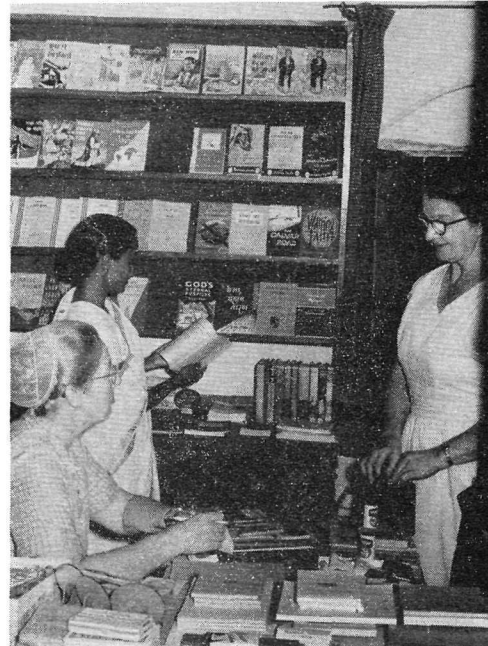
a. In market places and religious fairs. Many gospels and small booklets

are being sold each week in the Banmankhi area in markets and fairs. One such sale resulted in a leper writing to the Saharsa Literature Center requesting a Bible correspondence course. A similar stall in a fair near Barjora was the outlet for a Bible sale which has borne spiritual fruit. We are praying that additional staff will make possible such outreach from Saharsa in the near future.

b. At conventions, camps and conferences. At such times Christian work-



Scripture posters are silent preachers and Bibles on the tables invite personal attention, in the reading room.



A Conference visitor completes her purchases and a local teacher browses in the Saharsa book shop.

ers and others are ready to purchase those books which will continue to build them up spiritually and give that instruction and help which will make their witness more effective. The recent Bihar Christian Council in Saharsa and a youth camp at Banmankhi are examples of such opportunities. There were good sales on both these occasions.

2. BY DISPLAY AND SALES TO HOSPITAL AND CLINIC PATIENTS:

At the Madhipura Christian Hospital there has been spiritual fruit from the teaching of the Word and literature provided for patients. At Barjora clinic and at Madhipura, the display of literature



Village leaders receiving added "life and light" that they may give to others.

together with a spoken witness to people coming to the clinics, has resulted in the sale of gospels and manifest interest in the message.

3. BY SCRIPTURE POSTERS AND BIBLES IN READING ROOMS:

In Begusarai and Saharsa reading rooms there are those who regularly read the Bible in one of several languages available. Approximately 5,000 have come into the Saharsa reading room in

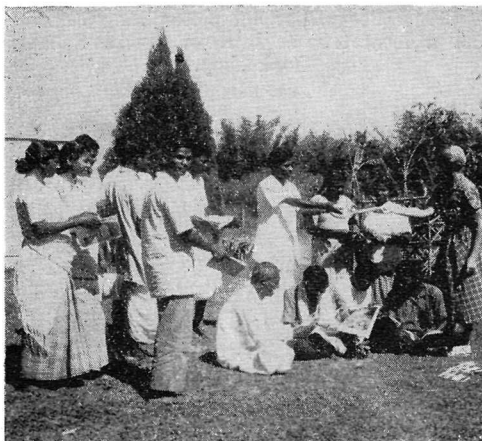
the first three months it has been open. Less than 8% of these are Christian. Some inquire with a sincere interest. None can escape for long the scripture verses on the attractive posters.

4. BY TRACTS AND SCRIPTURES MADE AVAILABLE IN THE SCHOOL:

Children become acquainted with the Bible and tracts in the Bible classes and prayer times in school. Interest and hunger are created. They buy in the school or come to the book shop and ask for tracts and books by name. There has been spiritual fruit here too.

5. BY THE PROVISION OF CHRISTIAN LITERATURE TO NEW LITERATES:

A new literate will read. What an opportunity to give him the right things to



These came for medicine for the body but are receiving medicine for the soul as well.

read! Among the aborigines where illiteracy is high, literacy training is given and Christian literature provided.

6. BY HELPING LEADERS TO GROW AND BECOME INCREASINGLY EFFECTIVE IN REACHING OTHERS:

Spiritual nourishment is found in the proper literature.

7. BY LENDING LIBRARIES FOR CHRISTIANS AND NON-CHRISTIANS:

a. These make available reading for Christians at a nominal cost.

b. The non-Christian seeks first the secular most often, but many avail themselves of the opportunity to read the Bible and other Christian literature with no additional cost. Several small libraries are now in use in Christian communities. The Krishtiyani Literature Center in Saharsa plans to open a lending library very soon, thus increasing the witness through literature. Many requests have come for this since the time the Center opened.

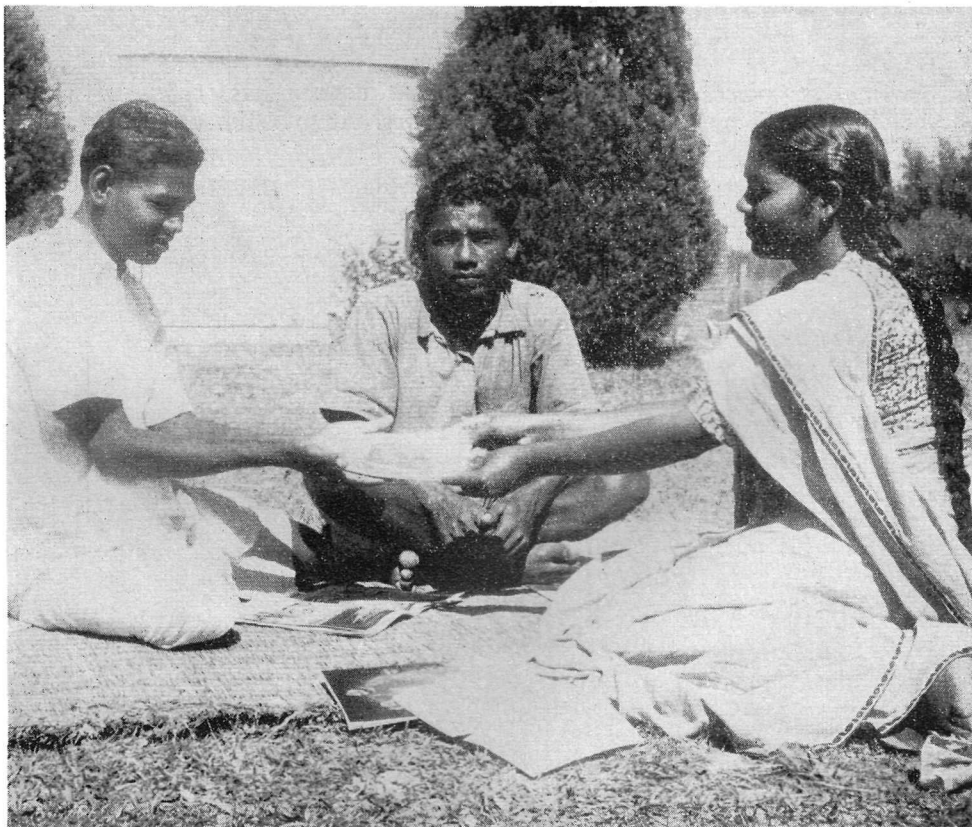
The Book Shop itself becomes a supply center for outreach. Related items are stocked which bring in those who otherwise may not find occasion to come



Young people buy spiritual food to take home from camp.

in. In three months, twelve have applied for Bible correspondence courses. Numerous other opportunities for witnessing have opened to workers. This has been our experience in a predominately non-Christian area where the Christian community is very small. There is no other book shop nearer than 150 miles, and in other directions a much greater distance. So it is an opportunity to serve the scattered Christians in this and adjoining districts as well as reaching the millions who have not heard, or have heard but not yet believed with a saving faith.

—Erma Z. Hare



Several months before they could not read; now these new literates receive their very own books.

December 2, 1961

To the Brethren and Sisters of the Church in America, to the Bishop Lester Myers Family, and to the Montgomery Congregation:

On behalf of the African Church I speak to the Brethren and Sisters in America, sympathizing with you on the passing away of our beloved Bishop Lester Myers.

We of the African Church are shocked to hear of Umfundisi's death. Just recently he had been with us in Africa to finish the unfinished task. He renewed old acquaintances. At Mtshabezi his revival messages were truly soul-searching and powerful. His desire to return to the land of his love was rewarded by the return to God of several people who had left their Lord and Saviour. Truly there are many stars in his crown.

We deeply appreciated his recent revival ministry. His early ministry to us in the early part of the century has left lasting fruits.

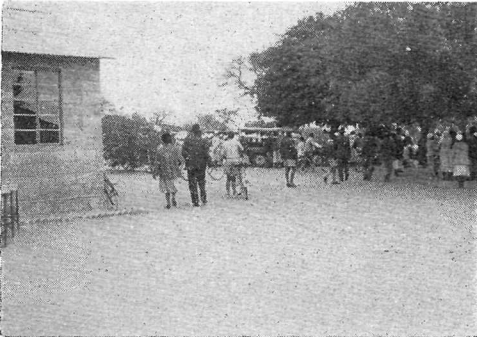
To you of his family we of the African Church in Africa wish to express our heartfelt sympathy. You have lost the spiritual father of your household and we have lost our spiritual father of our Church.

We say to you, "The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord" (Job 1:21). "For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (Phil. 1:21).

On behalf of the Church in Africa—
Yours in Christ,
PHILEMON M. KUMALO



Visiting with another senior Christian—Evangelist Mlobeki Moyo. Mlobeki and Brother Myers were good friends in the early 1920s, at Mtshabezi Mission. Mlobeki, quite an old man now, is still in active evangelistic work.



Some of the crowd and transport at the "breaking up" of the weekend at Mkwabeni. I counted thirteen different vehicles, all motorized transport, and many bicycles at this weekend.



The Myers-Meyers brethren. Taken in the living room of the sisters' cottage.



The Myers-Meyers party (and missionary friends) before boarding the Central African Airways "Viscount" at Livingstone, Northern Rhodesia, when they left Rhodesia in August.



Bishop Lester Myers, Rev. Sandi Vundla, Mrs. Vundla, Norman Meyers, in front of the Brethren in Christ Church, Mpopoma, Bulawayo.

Photo-Report of the Late Bishop Myers' Trip to Africa

The visit of Brother J. Lester Myers in July and August last year, returning to the field of his missionary labors after over thirty years' absence, was appreciated by all whom he contacted here. Brother Norman Meyers accompanied him. They came in time to go home with Jaye Meyers on the completion of his two-year, I-W service. Following is a short pictorial of their visit here.

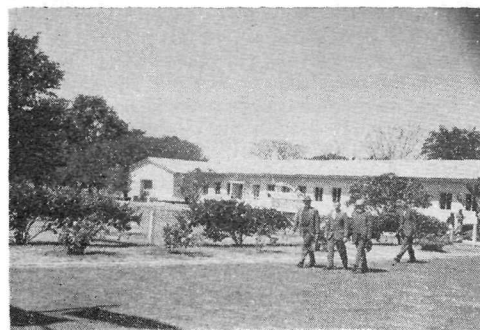
—D. E. Climenhaga



At Mkwabeni Baptismal-Communion Services in Southern Rhodesia. Brother Myers showing a senior Christian and Deacon—Brother Manje Moyo and wife—pictures of his family.



Manje's grandchildren are interested too.



Leaving the airport building.



Waving good-bye as they walk around the tail of the airplane.