



THE
AMERICAN ZULU MISSION
ANNUAL

June, 1904 — June, 1905

Bdx
Am3asz
1904/05

Printed for the
AMERICAN ZULU MISSION OF THE A. B. C. F. M.
SOUTH AFRICA

THE
AMERICAN ZULU MISSION
ANNUAL

June, 1904 — June, 1905

PRINTED FOR THE
AMERICAN ZULU MISSION OF THE A. B. C. F. M.
SOUTH AFRICA

NOTE. For many years it has been a rule of the Mission that a review of the year be presented by one of its number at the annual meeting held in June. This review, called the "General Letter," is submitted as a Mission report to the officials of the American Board. The following pages are based upon the last General Letter, prepared this year by Mrs. C. N. Ransom. Every third year the Mission publishes a more extended report with illustrations.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
CURRENT EVENTS OF THE YEAR	5
EDUCATIONAL WORK	8
PRIMARY SCHOOLS	8
AMANZIMTOTI SEMINARY	9
INANDA SEMINARY	10
UMZUMBE HOME	11
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY	12
PRINTING AND PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT	14
MEDICAL DEPARTMENT	15
THE YEAR IN THE CHURCHES	16
IN THE COUNTRY DISTRICTS	16
IN THE CITIES	17
JOHANNESBURG AND PRETORIA	17
DURBAN	19
NEW WORK — BEIRA	21
GOVERNMENTAL DIFFICULTIES	21
OUR NEEDS	25

AMERICAN ZULU MISSION ANNUAL

1904 - 1905

CURRENT EVENTS OF THE YEAR

Before taking up our own work in its various departments, it may be well to mention some noteworthy events affecting colonial and South African interests generally.

The Great Storm. The storm of May 31 and June 1 was the most appalling on record for many years. From ten to fifteen inches rainfall in fifteen hours, flooded rivers, miles of railroad torn up, a village of Indian laborers swept away, and more than five hundred lives lost, — this is part of the record here on the coast. Farther north an unprecedented snow-fall with intense cold destroyed crops and many thousands of cattle. In our own mission comparatively little damage was done.

Hard Times. The "*Budget Speech*" read before the Legislature of Natal by the treasurer on May 4, 1905, reports a deficit of one and a half million pounds sterling on a total estimate of four million pounds. "Looking to the future," he said, "there are no lights to guide. All that can be done is to steer a prudent course and hope for the best." This affects the natives also, especially those seeking employment in the towns.

In spite of the hard times railroad building has been going on. The Natal-Cape railway is progressing, and the lines north and south have been extended.

The South African Native Affairs Commission. A very interesting event of the year to all engaged in work for the natives is the issuing of the report of this commission. In September, 1903, representatives of all the South African colonies, including Rhodesia and Basutoland, were appointed by the High Commissioner "to gather accurate information regarding the natives and native administration, and to offer recommendations to the several governments concerned, with the object of arriving at a common understanding on questions of native policy." The investigation of the commission was very thorough, occupying about a year and a half. They held protracted sittings in seventeen important centers, receiving oral and written testimony from all classes of colonists, also from missionaries and natives.

Their conclusions on the subject of mission work and native education are refreshing and cheering. They speak of the demoralizing tendency

which is the first effect of civilization upon primitive races, and express the opinion that "hope for the elevation of the native races must depend mainly on their acceptance of Christian faith and morals." They find that while the conduct of many converts is not all that could be desired, "the weight of evidence is in favor of the improved morality of the Christian section of the population," and recommend "full recognition of the utility of the work of the churches that have undertaken the duty of evangelizing the heathen."

In regard to education, they note "a growing desire for education among the people themselves which cannot and need not be repressed." They find that the consensus of opinion is to the effect that education, while sometimes causing an exaggerated sense of self-importance, rendering them less docile and contented, has had generally a beneficial influence on the natives themselves, and by increasing their capacity as workers and their earning power, has been an advantage to the community. There is not only, they say, "moral obligation upon the state to provide for the intellectual development of all classes of its subjects," but also "very sound reasons of policy for a liberal and sympathetic attitude towards native education."

They think the government should continue to work in connection with the missionary bodies, but recommend establishing a central college for training teachers and higher education. They find that figures show that only a very small percentage of the native population is receiving any education. While recognizing the liberal policy of the Cape government, they say that "the evidence discloses the need generally for more liberal total grants in aid of native education."

The Census. In connection with the above, the result of the census of 1904 is interesting. The white population of Natal is put down at 97,700, and the native at 904,000, an increase of 31.06 per cent over 1891. The European population of all British South Africa is estimated at something less than a million and a quarter, and the native population, including Asiatics, at five million and a quarter. An article on native education says, "To state such figures is to supply a very striking illustration of the difficulty of the white man's task in this country."

The South African Missionary Conference. Another memorable event was the meeting of the *first* "South African Missionary Conference," held in Johannesburg, July 13-20, 1904. There were delegates from almost every important mission field in South Africa, nine nationalities and many societies being represented. Yet with all the differences of polity and doctrine a beautiful spirit of unity was manifest. The standard was kept in mind set for the conference by its intended president, M. Colliard, in a letter read after he had passed away, "to uproot the hedges and pull down the barriers of denominations as far as possible and to blend all our energies into one mighty effort to extend further the boundaries of our Lord's kingdom."

The papers read at the conference form a volume of rich experience, scholarly investigation, and statesmanlike outlook: "*Unevangelized Areas*," "*Work in Large Towns*," "*Native Customs*," "*Mission Comity*," "*Medical Work*," were ably discussed. Three papers on "*Education*," and the discussions which followed, showed the advanced views prevailing on this subject. Education as high as the native can acquire, provided he is willing to pay the price, industrial training as education and not as labor-market-supply, and the fullest conservation of native resources in the educational use of native dialects, were the positions advocated. The subordination of education to purely spiritual ends was fitly emphasized.

In a masterly paper on "*Native Churches and their Organization*," Mr. Jacottet of Basutoland outlined as the ideal of native church organization almost identically what our Mission has developed and what is giving the Natal government so much concern. The conference unanimously endorsed the main features of the outlined scheme, especially the declaration that an independent native church is the ultimate aim of all mission work.

Mr. Bridgman was asked to read his able paper on *Ethiopianism*, and the discussion resulted in a comprehensive resolution defining the movement as "the effort in South Africa to establish churches independent of missionary control on racial lines," deprecating repressive measures as though the movement were essentially political, but conveying to the Ethiopian bodies themselves warning as to the perils of the movement, and the injury to the cause of Christ resulting from their lack of comity, receiving schismatic bodies, and laxness of discipline.

The second conference is to be held in 1906.

South African Christian Endeavor Convention. The South African Christian Endeavor Convention met in Durban, April 21-25, and brought not only an awakened interest in the work of the society itself, but a greater spirit of unity among the young people of the different colonies, and a larger grasp of missionary work. The report says, "The Christian Endeavor movement in South Africa has, we believe, emerged at last from the chrysalis stage. Closer unity in our endeavors and increased efficiency of organization is the order of the day."

Union of the East Central Africa and Zulu Missions. It has for some time been felt that the work of these two missions might be more effectively and economically carried on if some plan of organic union could be devised. The long distance separating the two missions is an obstacle, but the increasing desire for union at last led to a determination to give the plan a trial.

Delegates from both missions met in Johannesburg immediately after the Missionary Conference. At this meeting the union was agreed upon (subject to the approval of the Prudential Committee, since given), a constitution was adopted, and officers chosen for the ensuing year.

The first meeting of the united mission was appointed to be held by delegates in Rhodesia in August, 1905.

EDUCATIONAL WORK

The Primary Schools.— *Supervisors, Rev. F. R. Bunker, 1904; Rev. G. B. Cowles, 1905.*

Until 1904 these schools were supervised by various missionaries, who often found little time for the work. This arrangement was not satisfactory, but the smallness of the force made the mission hesitate to set aside a special superintendent for this work. A very urgent request from the government, however, helped to overcome this reluctance, and at the beginning of 1904, Rev. F. R. Bunker was appointed supervisor of all the primary schools. The good results already attained have amply justified the step.

Lack of attendance, lack of uniformity, and neglect to pay the small fee required were some of the problems faced when the supervisor took up the work. Firm and reasonable measures have, to a great extent, solved these problems.

One difficulty throughout the year, and to the present time, has been the lack of teachers, many of those who were teaching being obliged to study further in order to pass the required examinations. A number of schools have been closed on this account, but with better equipped teachers it is hoped that the results will soon be more satisfactory. The first part of the year there were thirty government aided schools. The number fell to twenty-three, and is at present twenty-eight. The number of unaided schools is twenty, making a total of forty-eight to forty-five last year. The average attendance did not fall proportionately to the schools.

The fees collected amounted to £144.8.4 (\$722), and of this sum about two thirds was spent during the year for material improvements in the shape of charts, clocks, bells, maps, blackboards, sewing material, hoes and sickles, thus demonstrating to the children that they helped themselves by their payments. Several of the schools have had building operations going on. All this means an immense amount of work— planning, writing, bookkeeping, etc., in addition to traveling 2,421 miles by rail, and 1,477 by bicycle, horse, foot, etc.

One of the marked events of the year was the teachers' convention held at Inanda, August 2-5. Sixty-two teachers were in attendance. The entire work was conducted in English. The first hour each day was devoted to religious exercises, showing the teachers how to conduct such exercises briefly and to the point. Mr. Bunker, assisted by Miss Price, Miss Phelps, and Miss Evelyn Clarke, gave practical talks on how to teach various subjects, and one day was given to school methods,

organization, relation of teachers to supervisor, inspector, government; etc. Three evenings were devoted to lectures, — "Loyalty to Government," "Gazaland" (illustrated with stereopticon), "The Teacher's Profession, Its Possibilities and Obligations." One evening was free to discussion by the teachers. The results of the conference have been evident throughout the succeeding months in a most beneficial manner. Not only has the classroom work been helped, but an *esprit de corps* has arisen, which is both helpful and enjoyable.

Mr. Bunker's appointment to the work in Beira made a change of supervisor necessary, and Rev. G. B. Cowles' return from America gave us the right man for the place. He has taken up this important work with much interest, and is devoting himself to it with his characteristic energy and thoroughness.

BOARDING SCHOOLS

The boarding schools have had a prosperous year. The results of the government examinations were very satisfactory, especially those for teachers' certificates. Of the ten in the whole colony obtaining Class I, seven were from the schools of the American Board — an Inanda girl heading the list with 502 marks out of a possible 625, and two young men of Amanzimtoti standing second and third. The health record in all these schools has been exceptionally good, and in all, as heretofore, faithful, earnest and efficient native teachers have given much help.

Some additional facts concerning each school may be of interest.

Amanzimtoti Seminary. — Principal, Rev. A. E. LeRoy.

There have been some changes in the teaching staff during the year.

Miss Hattie Clark, having finished seven years of service in the Mission, nearly all of it in connection with this school, gave up her school work on November 1 of last year, and left for home a few weeks later. She has been a faithful and efficient worker during these years, devoting herself unsparingly to the welfare of the school, and is now obtaining a well-earned rest.

Mr. Guthrie, whose services were obtained at the beginning of the term just closed, has proved to be a willing and valuable helper. Possessed of a true missionary spirit, he is also fitted to take the place of physician in the school, and thus has been able to lift a most grievous burden from the shoulders of the principal. Mrs. LeRoy and Miss Emblem have attended to the duties of matron, and next term it is expected that these duties will be assumed by Mrs. Guthrie.

Some of the long-desired changes spoken of during the Deputation visit have been made this year. The standard for admission and for graduation has been raised, and the school fees increased to £6 per year. There is encouraging evidence that the native mind is becoming more awake to the value of education and of this school as an educational institution. The average attendance has been sixty. Of those passing

the examinations; all save one returned to school the following term. Although one of this number holds the highest certificate that the Natal government is willing to give a native, still he desires more education, and will take the Cape School Elementary Examination next December.

The industrial department continues to prove attractive and helpful. Besides shop instructions, the boys have been given practice in building, as a large shed for the cart and carriage and mealie tanks has been erected, a roof put over the reservoir, and an addition to the house formerly used as a dispensary, but now occupied by Mr. Moreck, is in process of construction. Owing to the generous gift of Mrs. J. N. Harris, of New London, some time ago, other much-needed improvements have been made, in addition to those already named.

In the religious life of the school the daily Bible classes continue to be a source of encouragement. Not only has each teacher the desire to lead souls to Christ, and a personal interest in the spiritual welfare of those under him, but the boys themselves have been anxious to learn of spiritual things. Here, perhaps more than anywhere else, has the opportunity been given for laying the foundation aright, and the results have been fruitful in no small degree. Nearly all the boys have left school with the love of God planted in their hearts, and with a desire to serve him. Fifty-three of the boys signed the temperance pledge.

Outside of the school work considerable is done to make the school life attractive. In athletics, football takes the lead, and match games with other native clubs have given the Jubilee Hall "Shooting Stars" the Coast championship, — an honor which the boys keenly appreciate, and which they will doubtless be eager to maintain.

There is a growing bond of sympathy between this and the Theological School, the men in the higher class of the Theological School being largely instrumental in bringing it about.

Inanda Seminary. — Principal, Miss F. Phelps.

From Inanda Seminary we always have good news. The faithful, experienced, and efficient staff of teachers carries on the work quietly and regularly. There have been a few changes the last term: Miss Cook, for nearly seven years a valued helper, has left for a year or two of further study, and Miss Martha Pixley and Miss Ireland, the latter returning from America, have reinforced our number. Miss Lindley's return in May gave the added help so welcome near the close of a term.

The native pastor, Maziana, has been prevented, by very severe illness, from performing his part as chaplain, and Mr. Pixley has for the greater part of the year filled his place in the Sunday-morning service, and has also, as formerly, taken a service with the girls Monday evening. The farming industry has been very satisfactory. Mrs. Edwards, superintendent of the department, reports 430 bushels of corn, 262 of sweet potatoes, 77 of native foods, 35 of yams, and 6 of beans. The firewood from trees

planted during the last twenty years has been of greater value than ever before, because of the restriction against cutting firewood on the Reserves.

The laundry has had a prosperous year. A good native superintendent relieves the teachers of much care. For 1904 the net income amounted to about £113.

The pump and windmill erected last year have proved to be a great blessing.

The average attendance has been 160, and more than usual have paid the full fee of £4 10 s. per year.

The higher department has been very full, eighty the last term. The stimulus afforded by the teachers' examinations may be one reason for this. The smaller number in the lower department for kraal girls is due, in part, to the opposition of heathen parents and the fear of being sent home by the magistrate if they get away to school. One thus sent away had never been allowed to enter the little chapel near her home. When told that she could be a Christian at home without learning or dressing, she said slowly, "Yes, but it is very hard when one cannot even hear the Word of the Lord." There have been, and are now, some earnest Christians among the kraal girls, and it is in part from their influence that year by year the number of believing friends in these kraal homes is increasing.

Evangelistic services were held near the close of the first term by Mr. A. W. Baker, of Johannesburg. His earnest, practical words, spoken in the power of the Spirit, were attended with good results.

To hear of the lapses of former pupils into unbelief and sin is very trying, but the faithful Christian lives of others gives renewed courage. It was Miss Price's privilege during a recent vacation visit to Mapumulo to hear cheering testimony to the usefulness of former pupils in the church work there, and to visit their happy Christian homes. Of the sixty-three still living who have been in the school from that station, it was found that forty-two are either members of the church or of the inquirers' class.

Umzumbe Home. — Acting Principal, Miss L. C. Smith.

Umzumbe Home shows more changes than the other two schools. With Mrs. Malcolm's departure in January, the school has lost one who has been connected with it for nearly eleven years, having been principal for seven and a half. She was greatly beloved and respected by the people as well as in the school, and has done excellent work. Miss Smith, who takes the place of acting principal, has already a remarkably good grip of the situation. Her previous experience in the same school, and her studies and experience in Christian work during five years since spent in America, are a very helpful preparation. She and Miss Frost have taken up the burden falling to them with courage and ability. Mrs. Harris remained till April. Her motherly care for the girls, especially the sick, and her interest in their welfare have endeared her to them, and she is much missed. Miss Bjarseth, a Norwegian colonist, has been

engaged to take Mrs. Harris' place as matron, and is fitting in very well. She has done some teaching this year, and will do more next. The six native teachers have been helpful and faithful.

About forty acres of land were planted in mealies, beans, and other food produce, but drought has made the crop small,

The new building, containing four class-rooms, each 15 x 15 x 11, begun in vacation and formally opened March 29, is a great help in all the school work. Each class has now its own room, instead of two or three classes in the same room. There is great need for desks for these rooms, and also for the main schoolroom. Two large windows, a Christmas gift from the acting principal, have been put into the main schoolroom, which had no windows on the west side. The day after the room was first lighted some of the station men came to inquire the cause of the brilliant illumination. So the Home is letting its light shine in more ways than one. The average attendance for the year was 94. The proportion of station girls as against the kraal girls is gradually increasing. A new plan was tried to enforce prompt payment of fees, no sugar being given to those who had not paid at the middle of the term till the money came. There was a little disturbance, as the girls felt keenly the loss of their one luxury, but the matter soon quieted down and it is hoped the precedent once established, the plan will be a great help in securing prompt payment.

A housekeeping class, giving the girls regular instruction with demonstration and practice in the ordinary work of the house, has been established. The girls all enjoy this part of the work and appreciate being taught the rules for doing housework properly.

A pleasant incident, showing the international spirit of missions, is the receiving of nearly £2 (\$10) from the Christian Endeavor Society in the girls' school at Mardin, Turkey, for the support of a girl at Umzumbe. Natal was the field chosen by the girls in Turkey as the one where the brother of their Mrs. Larkin was laboring.

The school much needs another thoroughly capable, all-round worker, — in fact *two* such, in view of Miss Frost's expected furlough.

As regards the religious life of the school it has been a year of quiet, steady progress. A special week of prayer was observed in the midst of each term, the last time the girls giving up their sugar or some part of their food to increase their offering in order to support the two little kraal schools which are maintained by them.

Theological Seminary. — *Rev. C. N. Ransom, Rev. J. D. Taylor.*

From the Theological Seminary we have to report the close of the first year on the new basis, with its advanced class, in which the instruction is given in English. In spite of the outside work which those in charge of the school have had, the work has been carried forward with good success.

The advanced class has consisted of four men, three of whom have remained during the entire year. They have been humble, harmonious, and

whole-hearted, — three qualities bound to bring blessings anywhere, and particularly gratifying to find among our Zulu people. Joel Bulose, Mbiya Kuzwayo, and Gardiner Mvuyana are exceptionally strong men. All have taught school, all have had charge of churches, all have families to support, all have made a financial sacrifice in coming to school, but all have shown the characteristics above mentioned, and have buckled down to work with commendable zeal, and, what is perhaps more worthy of record, have not called on the school for their support.

Mr. Taylor has had the New Testament department, has given a course in homiletics and church history, and has also given the men selections from English literature. Mr. Ransom has had the Old Testament department, with lessons in Biblical geography and science, studying also a number of hymns.

In all the work the men have shown themselves very responsive, and the daily lessons have been far removed from the humdrum, and have brought daily revelations of God and inspiration for service.

The lower class has had substantially the same course, with such modifications as their circumstances demanded. These are nine men, good and true, and they have done good work. The needs in our churches show that we cannot drop the lower class of men, but experience emphasizes the importance of strengthening the provision for the upper class, and pressing men of education to listen to God's call to the ministry.

Mrs. Taylor has done much for the wives of the theologues in the way of counsel and help in practical matters, and teaching English. Mrs. Ransom has had a Bible class for them four days in the week, a good part of the time.

The men of both classes have done much preaching, one from the higher and two from the lower having regular care of churches.

New buildings are needed both for recitation and dwelling. The present damp quarters occupied by two of the men are not suitable. A part of the \$10,000 spoken of with gratitude in the last general letter would have relieved this difficulty, but we hear since with disappointment that this has been diverted to another object. The Deputation recognized the great importance of this branch of work, and we hope the interest shown by it will not pass away, but will stir up others that the needed building and help may be provided.

PRINTING AND PUBLISHING DEPARTMENTS

Rev. J. C. DORWARD

The printing-office was reopened in a small wood and iron building put up for the purpose at Amanzimtoti, in August.

The outfit has been increased by the purchase of a second-hand machine. No new type has been added nor any skilled labor employed, consequently not so much has been done as had been hoped for. Three boys from the boys' school have worked in the afternoons. The monthly bulletin has been printed, and some of Mr. Taylor's theological class lectures. Progress has been made in preparing sample sheets of the hymn-book revision, so as to be available for committee work.

In preparation of new books we can report that the "Life of Christ in the Words of the Four Gospels" has been completed. The words of the hymn book have been revised, and are ready to leave the present committee's hands, together with some suggestions for new tunes.

The great storm wrecked the printing-office building to such an extent that it will have to be taken down and rebuilt.

NEW PUBLICATIONS AND SALES

The number of volumes reported on hand Jan. 1, 1904, was 75,940. There have been added during the year 22,739. These include a second edition of the revised Incwadi Yabantwana; also 470 sets of English charts fully illustrated, 24 in a set. These are designed to take the place of the unsatisfactory primers and infant readers hitherto in use. The twelfth edition of the Zulu hymn book has just arrived. Several new books prepared by Mrs. L. B. Bridgman have been published during the year, viz.,— "Ukubamba Kwevangeli e Africa" (Progress of the Gospel in Africa), "Ivangeli e New Guinea nase Formosa" (the Gospel in New Guinea and Formosa), and "Imifanekiso."

The number of volumes sold during the year is 25,127, and the amount received £935.9.10. This number is greater than the average for the past six years, though less than the number sold in 1903, owing to the great depression which has prevailed throughout South Africa. New and more satisfactory arrangements have been made with the agents who sell our publications, and depositories have been established in a number of our own mission stations, and with other missionaries. A book-room is to be opened in connection with the new dispensary, to be under the charge of the medical department.

ZULU BIBLE REVISION

The proposed cursory revision of the Bible having been given up as unsatisfactory, work on the thorough revision has been prosecuted with vigor. At the semi-annual meeting, Rev. W. C. Wilcox was authorized to devote at least half his time to this work with his daughter as helper

and typist. This time has been faithfully occupied, two books, Ezekiel and Exodus have been gone through in a thorough manner, comparing the text with the original. Mr. Wilcox says that the help of the copyist has more than doubled the capacity of the reviser, besides producing a better copy. Zulu orthography is calling for special attention because there are such differences among Zulu scholars in regard to it. At Mr. Wilcox's suggestion, a committee has been appointed to call a conference to discuss mooted points and come to some agreement if possible.

MEDICAL WORK

J. B. McCORD, M.D.

The first year of medical work, with Durban for headquarters, closed in March. Its beginning was reported last year. The results fully justify the change from Amanzimtoti, though the district which has so long enjoyed medical help still mourns over its loss.

While located on a mission station in the country, the patients were largely from that one station, and the complaints were often trivial. At present the cases are from all parts of Natal and Zululand, and as a rule only those cases come which are severe enough to warrant their making the trip to town for assistance. There have been something over 4,000 patients seen at the dispensary during the year. Some of these have been repetitions, but it is a fair estimate to say that these 4,000 cases represent fully 3,000 different patients. Since coming to town the department has been more than self-supporting, if we except the salary of the missionary in charge. The expenses have been heavy, something like \$4,000, but the receipts have amounted to about \$5,300, leaving a balance of about \$1,300 at the end of March to go toward the new dispensary, which we are glad to report as already begun. The receipts since that time and those that will come in will be sufficient to pay the bills when they are presented.

Through the kindness and interest of Dr. McCord's parents and other relatives and personal friends, money has been pledged for a site and hospital building. Although the plans are not complete, our hearty thanks are due to these friends for the larger outlook which they are making possible. At present a four-roomed cottage answers for hospital. Although working under disadvantages from a surgical standpoint, still there have been many operations, and a successful operation is what appeals to the native mind. Some of these have been insignificant, but many have been serious enough to require the assistance of two or three of the Durban doctors. It is pleasant to report that the attitude of the doctors has been helpful, courteous, and friendly. The work of the year has not been confined entirely to the work of the dispensary. There

have been numerous calls to various stations of the Mission, sometimes to see members of the missionary families, sometimes to see natives.

The influence of the medical work is far reaching. It extends to the patient who receives help and to his friends and relatives who hear of it; a large opportunity is afforded for good, not only to the patient himself, but through the kindly deeds and friendly interest, the love of Christ is made known to many.

THE YEAR IN THE CHURCHES

IN THE COUNTRY DISTRICTS

The pastors and preachers in most cases speak of their churches as progressing, and interested in carrying forward the work in the outlying districts. One reports that some are good and some are bad. It is presumable that this estimate applies to all. As in some previous years the work at the outstations and preaching places seems more encouraging than at the central stations. The need for temperance work is very great, though something in that line is being done. One church has held temperance meetings once a month, not only in the home church but in all the branches, with excellent results; another has for some months held a temperance meeting in connection with the weekly prayer-meeting. One pastor reports that the people have raised less than one tenth of his salary, and have not been willing to celebrate the Lord's Supper; another that his salary is paid, a new bell bought, and a contribution sent to the Missionary Society. In one church the women collected money to cement the chapel floor, reminding us of the ladies' benevolent societies at home. In many places the young people are awake to their responsibilities. Certainly the earnest spirit of some of the school teachers and young people is very encouraging.

The smallness of the mission force makes it still impossible for the missionary supervisors to enter at all fully into the spiritual life of the churches and to give needed help in those lines.

On the south coast Mr. Wilcox has continued in charge.

The large church at Umtwalume has been without a pastor since the death of Mr. Nyuswa over a year ago, and needs special oversight and direction. The church buildings at Infume and Amahlongwa fell during the recent storm and it will be hard to replace them.

The additions to these churches during the year have been few. This may be due in part to the bitter feeling (referred to later under governmental difficulties), cherished by so many both in the church and out.

It is encouraging to hear of a recent awakening at Ifafa, where an early morning prayer-meeting kept up daily for weeks has already resulted

in the removal of bitterness and a greater spirit of humility and unity in the church, also a number of conversions among the young people.

Leaving the south coast group we come to Amanzimtoti. Here the central church, after much persuasion by the missionary in charge, chose Joel Bulose as acting pastor, and already his Christlike example and faithful visitation are being felt for good. The church has taken a stand for the right in suspending some influential members who were leading in the wrong direction.

At Inanda the spiritual state of the church is low. The old spirit of division is quiet and concealed, but is still there. The weekly prayer-meeting here, as elsewhere, is kept up, as is the women's meeting, and the prayers of the faithful souls will not be lost. Mr. Dube, having returned from a visit to America, will probably resume his place as pastor.

On the north coast Umsunduze has lost its pastor through failing to support him, while at Umvoti the pastor, Jeremiah Langeni, has been deposed from the ministry for sin.

The Noodsberg and Esidumbini churches continue in charge of their former earnest and able leaders.

The faithful preacher at Mapumulo, in his eagerness to get a better command of the English language, is, with the consent of his church, studying with the boys at Jubilee Hall, going home for one Sunday in the month. His wife has done wonderfully well in keeping hold of the work.

At Impapala in Zululand the church is maintaining its previous good record. The cloud on the horizon here is the probability that the whole place will be taken from them in the allotment of the land to Europeans. Even a Roman Catholic priest, seeing this beautiful station with all its improvements and the good work there, was moved to pray that they might not have to leave it.

CITY WORK

Johannesburg and Pretoria. — *Rev. H. D. Goodenough, Missionary in charge.*

The centers at Doornfontein, Mayfair, and Robinson Deep in Johannesburg, and at Germiston and Pretoria, remain the same. The Rev. Cetywayo Goba has taken the place of Gardiner Mvuyana as pastor at Doornfontein, and two native helpers that of Joel Bulose, those two men having left the work to enter the higher class in the Theological Seminary at Amanzimtoti. An independent missionary, Rev. W. Hirst, and his musically gifted wife, have been a real help during most of the year. Thirty-four names on the preachers plan show that the men are ready to work.

SUNDAY SERVICES. The day begins with a 7 A.M. service at Doornfontein, and then the workers scatter to various places to preach the gospel. Two mining centers, which include five or six services, and barracks in town are visited. All these services are concluded about noon. At 3 P.M. services are held in four places. A large gathering in the market-square is an important feature of the day. There is an audience of several

hundred, most of whom have not attended any other service. Just before the evening services there is a preachers' meeting at Doornfontein, where reports are given of the various services of the day. Three evening services at the three centers close the long day.

THE MINE COMPOUNDS. The compounds would furnish to one who had opportunity and interest a fascinating field for study of comparative grammar, customs, religions, etc. The difficulties in language are solved in curious and interesting ways. A large group of Hereros, the tribe fighting against the Germans in West Africa, did not understand Zulu. One among them could talk considerable English, and served as interpreter. These natives were always attentive listeners. A company of Mozambique natives is as yet unreached. A large company from the Blantyre district had one among their number who could understand kitchen Kaffir, and interpreted for Mr. Goba, who was able to use this combination dialect. "All things to all men" must be the motto in this work, and the results show that more than one has been won.

At Pretoria the work has gone on as well as could be expected without a regular preacher and with such supervision as could be given from Johannesburg. It is hoped that the Zulu Home Missionary Society will soon be able to supply this church with a good pastor or preacher.

A FAR-OFF OUTSTATION. Engonyameni is on a little peninsula south-east of Delagoa Bay. Many come from this district to Johannesburg and Pretoria, and some of the converts returning to their homes began a work there. Pastor Nyuswa visited it in 1902, contracting there the fever from which he never entirely recovered. Mr. Goodenough and Pastor Goba went to see how the work is going on and Mr. Goodenough says of it: "It is the most marvelous bit of mission work I have seen in South Africa. Here were four stations and three branches, at all of which there were chapels built by the natives themselves, in which they had schools and Sunday services regularly, connected with which were about 140 church members and nearly 100 in the catechumen classes, and all this work, from start to finish, was the work of natives alone."

A memorable week was spent in examining 119 church members and 95 candidates for baptism. The Sunday following was a great day. The new chapel was formally opened. About four hundred were present, having gathered from all the seven places. Thirty-two adults and twenty-eight children were baptized. (A full account of this trip with illustrations is given in the *Missionary Herald* of January, 1905.)

NEW SITES AND NEW OPENINGS FOR WORK. The Doornfontein church has bought two stands at £30 each in a new township. They are freehold, with no conditions, a very unusual thing. Being so far from the center of the town, it may be some years before they will be very useful in the work.

Open-air meetings were begun by the natives themselves in Yeoville, one of the best residential parts of Johannesburg. A Sunday-afternoon service has since been kept up, and it seems very desirable to secure a

permanent work there. A corner stand, an ideal site for a school and a missionary's residence, has been secured for £200, in the hope that the Board may be able to take it over.

The good work among the railway employees in Pretoria spoken of in a previous report was broken up during the plague scare, the native houses being burned and their little tin chapel removed. A long and persistent effort to secure a site for a chapel on the railway grounds has resulted in a site being given for a building to be erected and occupied jointly by several denominations. It will probably cost £100 for our share of such a building. Sites will also be given in Johannesburg in the same way. Very many natives can be reached in these places.

Durban. — Rev. F. B. Bridgman, Missionary in charge.

The work in Durban, though begun in 1891, was for years supervised from a distance, but five years ago it was felt that the work demanded a resident missionary, and Mr. Bridgman was appointed to the place. The results obtained have abundantly justified the wisdom of the step.

One of the incidental results was alluded to by the native pastor when he said, "He has been the key to unlock the hearts of the white people to us."

A much more adequate plant has been secured; three new churches, erected at an outlay of £2,500, constitute an opportunity unsurpassed in Durban. Two of these mean the beginning of work in new districts, Overport and Montpelier Road.

OVERPORT. The building here was opened a year ago. Though not a populous district it is a very needy one. The attendance at the principal service is from fifty to seventy. An evening school has been maintained, also a day school for most of the year.

MONTPELIER ROAD. A neat, attractive building, seating over 200, was opened Oct. 30, 1904. It is of corrugated iron, lined with matched boarding. The inexpensive colored glass windows greatly impress the natives, who exclaimed, "Ah! this is a church indeed!—one fit for white people."

The attendance has steadily increased to 150 at the evening service. The inquirers' class also is growing. The evening school has eighty on the roll, the attendance averaging over forty. Two teachers are employed and Mrs. McCord has rendered valued assistance. All the evening schools are practically self-supporting, a charge of one shilling per month being made. Very few of the attendants here have been church-goers before. It speaks well for the behavior of the people that the opposition to the work by the white neighbors at the opening has now subsided.

BEATRICE STREET. At the old center on Beatrice Street the work has prospered on the usual lines, with an evening school averaging sixty, Sunday services at the church, and at the thirty or more preaching places in the town and its suburbs.

The church has sustained a great loss in the death of Koffee Dhlula for fourteen years a faithful, consistent helper in its work.

The business depression, making the demand for labor less, has affected the attendance to some extent.

At the Umhlatuzane outstation, the chapel, just repaired, was completely destroyed in the great storm.

At Umgeni there is a good work, with five preaching places. A friendly colonist has offered to give an excellent building site, and it is hoped that a church may soon be built here.

THE NEW CHURCH AT BEATRICE STREET. The erection of this building is the crowning event of the year. For years the old church, small and shabby, has sheltered its 200 worshippers, while hundreds more have sat outside in sun or rain.

More than ten years ago the question of a new building was agitated, and some collections made as a nucleus. But a peculiar succession of difficulties has beset the enterprise from the first, and in all these years of Mr. Bridgman's efforts. Native representation in the trusteeship of the lot required years for adjustment; then a defaulting church treasurer, involving a loss of £40, caused further delay. The last difficulty was overcome when, after five weeks individual effort with the town officials, permission was gained to build with wood and iron instead of brick, thus saving several hundred pounds.

The new building is a substantial structure, 60 x 36, seating 500. The lofty roof and dormer windows insure coolness and ventilation. There are two vestries and a class room. The total cost, including lighting and seating (electric light, but plain wooden benches), was £1,100. Nearly £500 were given by the natives, £240 by American friends, and £160 by Durban people.

The building was formally opened on July 8, by Sir David Hunter, who gave a weighty testimony to the power of the religion of Christ, and the value of the work of the American Mission in Natal.

An impressive dedicatory service followed, several Durban ministers taking part. A good number of colonists were present and many missionaries and native pastors. There was an exhibit of work from our schools in the vestries, — sewing, laundry work, carpentry, and farm products, — in which much interest was shown.

On Sunday also there were memorable services. A feature of this service was a collection towards the deficit on the building, when for an hour a stream of donors came forward with their gifts from £3 to threepence. Over £50 was received.

An enthusiastic praise service in the evening closed a day long to be remembered in the Durban work and in our whole mission.

NEW WORK AT BEIRA

This new station is opened as a memorial to Mrs. Sydney Strong, who accompanied her husband on the American Board Deputation to Africa in 1903. After visiting the missions, undergoing much hardship, and entering with deepest sympathy and love into the work, needs, and fellowship of the missionaries and native Christians, she "fell on sleep" on her homeward journey. Through Dr. Strong's efforts money has been pledged for this needy field.

Beira, situated between the two African missions — now united — will draw on these older constituencies in Natal and Rhodesia for support in counsel and workers.

The new mission will be largely evangelistic in character. The older missions have well-established educational and industrial institutions, which are able to provide for the needs of the entire field in the higher requirements of those branches of missionary effort. Elementary education and industrial work may be undertaken in the new mission, but the main emphasis will be evangelistic — to preach the gospel to every creature and to instruct the believers in the truth. The agents employed will be Zulu and Amandau evangelists, supervised by American missionaries.

Rev. F. R. Bunker left Natal for Beira in March, 1905, with Mhlanganiso Hlatywayo, a young man of Gazaland, who went as a carrier with the new mission in 1893. He remained at Mt. Silinda for a time and then came to Natal for further study. He now goes back to his old home.

After six weeks, during which Mr. Bunker examined with great care sites and possibilities, he returned to Natal for his family. They were present at our annual meeting, sailing on July 2. While we cannot but regret to lose from our immediate mission circle a family so dear to us all, we rejoice that work is now really begun in that long-neglected district.

May God's blessing attend and keep from harm those who are sacrificing so much for him.

GOVERNMENTAL DIFFICULTIES

In some of the larger aspects of work in this field, 1905 has opened in deep gloom. The shadow is that cast by a government hostile to mission work. If in the past the Natal government has not always been very sympathetic toward missions, yet it has remained for the present ministry to show itself decidedly obstructive to the Christianizing of the natives. The truth of this statement is amply attested by the official position on three distinct questions:

1. About 50 per cent of our native population live on lands held by the government for occupation by blacks. Such areas may be likened to the Indian reservations in America. The government has now ruled that no church or school can be established on these lands unless a resident white missionary is stationed at each spot, a condition impossible of fulfillment. Nearly all mission work on these lands has been successfully carried on by native preachers and teachers under the supervision of missionaries living elsewhere, and it is a fundamental principle of mission work that this should be so. But this does not meet the requirement, and now to enforce its regulation the government is resorting to harsh measures. It has caused the destruction of several churches and is threatening others. The most aggravated case was when recently police were sent and without provocation or warning tore down a church belonging to a sister society. In another instance a magistrate threatened to burn down a native church capable of seating 150, and which the people had built with their contributions of labor and money. Fortunately the chief was friendly to the work, and we have the edifying scene of this heathen entreating a representative of King Edward VII to spare the house of God! And thus the church was saved. But while the building still remains we are prohibited from locating an evangelist there to care for the work.

This policy of the government is, of course, due to the fear, an exaggerated fear, we believe, of Ethiopianism. But the practical effect of this policy is to stir up the very spirit which it is sought to repress.

2. Until April 1, 1904, our ordained Zulu pastors, seven in number, have had the right to act as marriage officers. The native ministers of other denominations still act in this capacity, but the privilege is now denied the native ministers of the American Mission and Congregational Union, and denied to them alone. In the grievance before mentioned all societies were treated alike, but in this *we* are discriminated against, very unjustly, to our mind. The effect of this action has been, and is, to force many of our Christians to be married by native rites. The reason for this, like that above, is the fear of Ethiopianism, and as Americans and Congregationalists the government seems to fear us more than other societies. Despite all our representation, extending over fifteen months, the government maintains that our churches are not sufficiently under the missionaries' control. To our policy of leading the churches to self-support, self-government, and self-propagation the government is strongly opposed. This is a grave affront to the dignity and unsullied reputation of the American Board in this land, the society whose agents landed in Durban eight years before Natal became a British colony. The end is not yet.

3. After the Deputation visit and legislation which went into effect a year since, we congratulated ourselves that the Reserve lands question was finally disposed of. But this "Jonah," instead of being cast on some distant shore, has been plumped right down on our deck again, and

threatens as never before to sink the mission ship. Naturally the new law conferred some discretionary powers upon the government. It is through the abuse of one of these powers that a very threatening situation has arisen. The government has decided to impose a \$15 tax or rent on all households on our reserves. This is in any case an excessive tax, and moreover it violates the spirit, if not the letter, of the law. The announcement of this heavy tax has caused among our native constituency not only consternation, but great bitterness. A part of this resulted from the insinuations or misunderstood utterances of some government officials, throwing the responsibility for the tax back upon the missionaries. These reports were widely circulated and believed.

But aside from this bitterness, the people say that it will be impossible to pay this rent and continue to support their pastors, preachers, and general church work as they have been doing so well. In recent years the churches have raised from \$5,000 to \$6,000 annually. It looks as if very little of this will be raised now, in which case the consequences are self-evident. The prospect is dark indeed. As in the other cases, so in this, government is obdurate and yields nothing. The high rent caters to the popular cry, "Make the natives work."

In connection with these troubles, or rather as an outgrowth, there has been a bright ray in the friendly attitude of the church bodies and, some few prominent men.

The whole matter was taken before the Missionary Conference, and, as a result, in December a deputation of twelve clergymen, of various denominations, waited on the Minister for Native Affairs to bring the grievances in regard to *Location work* before him.

The only reply from government was that it was unable to modify its action. The Church Councils having taken up the matter, a large and representative company, including influential laymen, has been secured to address government on this subject of *Location work*. This deputation is now seeking an interview with the Governor and his Ministry, where these points will be urged, —

First. That permission be granted to locate native evangelists on native Locations under responsible European supervision, such supervision not of necessity to be that of a "permanent resident European" such as is required by the present policy.

Second. That permission be granted to erect churches, schoolhouses, and residences for the evangelists in the locations.

Third. That a lease of from two to ten acres of land for site of church, school, and evangelist's residence be granted to the missionary society establishing such work.

Fourth. That the granting of leases to such missionary societies apply to their work already established on the Locations where such leases have not been so granted.

Fifth. That these requests apply to Zululand in addition to the Locations already under the supervision of the Natal Native Trust.

In case of failure, it is the general opinion that this question must be carried to the British government and public.

The matter of the marriage officers has taken a somewhat different aspect, and has turned upon the fact that it is an insult to *Congregationalism* to have refused ministers of this denomination *only* the needed license. Aside from letters and conferences between the mission officers and government, and the waiting upon the Minister for Native Affairs of a deputation, consisting of two mission officers and all the native pastors, at the close of which one of the pastors asked what might be done which had not been done, by the pastors and churches, to satisfy government, the Natal Branch of the Congregational Union of South Africa, backed by the whole Union, is taking up the matter. In response to a request, Mr. Bridgman prepared a statement of our grievances, to be read before the local Congregational Union in Durban. Copies of this statement have been circulated and read by many. As a result, a member of the Legislative Assembly advised a petition to the Assembly asking for the appointment of a select committee to investigate our grievances, he promising to present the same. Three petitions have been prepared, one from the Mission, one from the people, and one from the local Congregational Union, backed by the South African Congregational Union. This necessitated a visit to the Cape, and Mr. Bridgman was appointed as delegate to go. He was received most cordially, and the petition endorsed, especially that part of it affecting Congregationalism. The Union is willing to carry this matter to England and America, if necessary. The petition is now ready to present to the Assembly, and we must await the result. June 15 forty-one delegates from all but one of our Reserves met to sign their petition. At the close one after another rose, most unexpectedly, to express gratitude for what had been done, and to say that they now understood the stand of the Mission, and appreciated all that had been done for them, recognizing what they have not before, that the missionaries have not in any way incited the action taken by government. It is to be hoped that this attitude will continue. It is not so hard to fight for those who are grateful.

All this has necessitated an immense amount of work, correspondence, planning, conferences, etc. We cannot too highly appreciate the amount and character of the work done by our Mission officers, and especially by Mr. Bridgman, who, as chairman and resident of Durban, has had the largest share. Our hearty thanks are due him for the energetic, untiring, and capable way in which he has seized his opportunities and carried forward this whole matter. We are sure that the natives, too, will see and appreciate what has been done, in time, if not at once.

In his report, Mr. Bridgman speaks of the great satisfaction it has been to discover among the colonists strong friends loyal to us, and desirous of helping the people. He concludes: "With a small, but we believe ever growing, band of such men behind us in the present conflict, we may thank God and take courage. . . . But, after all, let us remember that

our dependence is not on the arm of flesh, however strong, neither must our courage wax and wane in proportion to the warmth and coldness of human sympathizers. No, our faith cannot falter, nor prayer lax, nor endeavor weaken, for we are on the side of justice and right. We are coworkers with the Omnipotent and ambassadors of Him whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom. We are soldiers of the cross, and the battle is the Lord's."

OUR NEEDS

Our needs, as the attentive reader will have noticed, are neither few nor small.

For years our people have supported all their pastors and preachers, while many lay preachers freely give their services on Sunday. But help is still needed, especially in strengthening the work in the city centers.

The new sites so desirable in Johannesburg, and the new openings on the railway compounds, have been spoken of. It is sad to think of such opportunities being lost for lack of means to improve them.

In Durban there is not only the deficit on the new church to be made up; another important need is one which Mr. Bridgman puts in this way:

"A feature in the building scheme most desirable for the life and usefulness of the whole enterprise is still lacking, namely, a Home for the lay preachers. This would make possible an evening Bible school, which would deepen and strengthen the whole work, I believe, as nothing else can. The probable cost of such a building is £500."

But still more to be emphasized than the need of money is that of more workers in the field. Umzumbe Home has long been calling for another lady to be added to its teaching staff. If new openings in Johannesburg are to be improved, or the present ones more effectually worked, a second missionary should be placed there, for it is true here, as also in Durban, that two thirds of the time of the missionary in charge is occupied in other duties given him by the mission. Again, with our present force, supervision of the churches in the country districts can only be done at the expense of other important work. Mr. Bridgman's departure for a much-needed furlough makes the situation still more grave. A cablegram from the Board announcing the appointment of one ordained man to this field has just been received with rejoicing and gratitude, as a step in the right direction.

It is no mere form of words to say that a need even deeper than these, and one keenly felt, is that of an outpouring of God's Spirit that shall sweep away all bitterness, shall purify and uplift our churches, and reach through them to the thousands of heathen around us. News of the great awakenings of the year in Wales, London, and in some parts of our

own land have led to individual and united prayer on the part of faithful Christians in Durban, Maritzburg, and Johannesburg, as well as on mission stations, that a great revival may come in this land to Europeans and natives alike.

Our message, then, to the churches, in closing this report, is the oft-repeated one — *Go, Give, Pray.*

YALE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY



3 9002 10638 3905