

S.A.G.M. (A.E.F. H/Qs) ARCHIVES *****VISITED JAN. ~~1976~~ 1976
WIMBLEDON, BRITISH COUNCIL OFFICE
30, Lingfield Road, London SW19-4PU

NOTES:

(1) All the early files are in proper archival order and contain an index that is quite thorough and pages are numbered in pencil. It appears as if most of the material is correspondence files between Cape Town Headquarters and Wimbledon, especially with regard to missionaries sponsored from the U.K. Also there are many enclosures which are important. On the other hand letters from particular missionaries may have been initially attached and referred to but were not always retained. (It may be that the material that appears in the South African Pioneer was extracted from the correspondence. Key words in the materials that went into the index are underlined in red.

(Vol. IX)

(2) The files were used from 1910/until the mid-1930s when the useful index ended and my time ran out. At the beginning of the following notes the entries consulted in the index for checking in the actual correspondence were checked. Fruitful entries having many references are starred(*).

VOL IX 1st July 1910 - 30th June 1911

4 0 9 0 1

Index entries

- * Arnot
- * Arthington trustees
- * Bailey
- * Forward Movement
- * Harris
Rhodesia North West (Overlaps almost exactly with 'Forward Movement')

Note

Entries for the earlier years on missionaries were often fuller than in the 1930s, which was one cause for discontinuing the search.

(2) Many parts of letters to and from Cape Town with Wimbledon deal with individual finances that will maintain and continue the 'Forward Movement'. For example, correspondence on sending Mr. Arnot £25 for helping Mr. Bailey move north. Money to come from individual gifts and general Fund. Or corres dealing with money for Harris and/or Bailey.

4 0 9 0 5

Cape Town (Mr. Middlemiss) to Wimbledon, 15th June 1910 ((p.12))

Monthly allowances of Harrises was £20-16-8 including £1 per month for each of their children.

4 0 9 1 0

Capetown to ~~Wimble~~ Wimbledon, 17 Aug. 1910, 3 pp.

Notes copy of Arnot's letter was attached which deals with need for 'Forward Movement'.

4 0 9 1 5

Arnot to Middlemiss (C.T. Secretary), 9th July 1910, ((p. 44))

One page letter that describes wider extent of Kaonde territory than believed. Also notes area in Angola south of Brëthren area that needed evangelization. (Note this was summarized accurately in S.A.F. Pioneer, Vol. 23 (1910), p. 188).

4 0 9 2 0

Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 19th October 1910, 4 pp

Quotes a Bailey letter dated 27/8/1910 (from Kansanshi) that government had decided to 'grant us 2000 acres of land as a mission site. I am left to select and report my selection some conditions attached Company reserve rights on minerals . . . I trust to be Divinely guided in making the best selection.'

4 0 9 2 5

Mr. Mercer (Wimbledon Sec) to Cape Town, 3 pp., 10/2/1911

Notes that Arthington trustees agreed to give £100 yearly for five years 'provided a well established Mission is organized among the Bakaonde'. The appeal to the Fund was that S.S.G.M. was 'opening new spheres of work among the heathen.'

4 0 9 3 0

C.T. to Wimbledon, 11/2/1911, 5 pp., ((pp. 138-9))

pp. 2-3 describe possible openings in Angola - possible geog spots and how to go about opening up work.

4 0 9 3 5

Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 22/2/11, 2 pp. (p. 160))

~~Exec~~ Concerned that Harrises get to N.W. Rh. as soon as possible after he arrived in S. Af. to take advantage of the dry season for travel and 'the situation of Mr. Bailey's loneliness be relieved at the earliest possible date. The fact of Mr. B being alone for such a length of time have given the Executive a great deal of thought and consideration and we consider it a most serious matter his being left alone.'

4 0 9 4 0

Mercer to C. T., 28/3/1911, 3 pp., ((p. 169))

Mercer introduced Mr. Harris to Dr. Fisher. Harris plans to get up and join Bailey as soon as possible, but concern whether U.M.C.A. would open a station close enough to 'materially interfere with our work at Kansanshi.' (Mrs. Harris's later corres noted had decided to join her husband from the beginning.)

40945

Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 8/3/1911, 4 pp. ((pp. 178-9))

A note by Bailey - quoting from a letter - that he wanted to explore westwards 'down the Lunga' and that they should consider setting a station near the junction of the Zambezi and Kabompo and then not 'swerve from our original plan to carry the Gospel to this point and the Atlantic.'

40950

Mercer to C.T.(now Mr. Hamilton), 2 pp., 10/6/1911, 2 pp. ((P. 215))

A note that U.M.C.A. would not open a station at Kasempa.

IMP

'This will save misunderstanding and diff.'

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VOL. X From 1st July 1911 - 30th June 1912

Index entries

- * Bailey
Forward Movement
- * Harrises
R hodesia

(Note: much corres as usual regards support for particular missionaries in N. Rh. and the mission work in general.)

Hamilton to Wimbledon, 18th Oct 1911, 2 pp. ((p. 77))

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Harrises had safely arrived at Chisalala ((Miambo?)) which would free Bailey for the 'itinerating tour which has been much upon his heart.'

Hamilton to Wimbledon, 1/11/1911, 2 pp., ((p. 93))

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Bailey had been able to go itinerating from 'Miambo' with the arrival of the Harrises.

Hamilton to Wimbledon, 15/11/1911, 3 pp (Middlemiss now secretary in London), ~~(pp. 109-110)~~

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Attached to this is a two page extract ((pp. 109-110)) by Bailey (letter to Hamilton from Bailey dated 8/10/1911) of his itinerating. Hamilton notes in his main letter that this emphasizes importance of Bailey getting more helpers. Bailey's letter was written in Kasempa.

IMP.

These two pages are very interesting and worth photocopying, 109-110 if this is possible. They supplement more frankly his account in the Pioneer, Vol. 25 (1912), pp. 52-4.

Hamilton to Wimbledon, 31/1/1912, 4 pp.

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Attached to this is another Bailey extract of two pages ((219-220)) that is important in total although a little on education is noted below.

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Bailey notes that the Harris family were doing nicely. (They seemingly left five children in the U.K.) "Mr. Harris is teaching the boys, Mrs Harris has started a school for women and girls, and I do the preaching and teaching in Kaonde."

"Did I write you that I have had a request from my former native worker - B. Nelson Hynde - that I take him on again? I have talked with his present employer, who seems willing to let me have him again about next June if I then want him. With his knowledge of brickmaking, bricklaying and carpenter work he would be valuable help in starting in the Dongwe region. If no white worker is available, I would feel perfectly easy about going there with only Nelson. He speaks English, and is a good sensible native. I hope everything will move favourably for me to get an early start next dry season...."

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Hamilton to Wimbledon, 2 pp., 1/5/1912 ((pp. 337-338a))

Attached to this (no special archival pagination) is a one page letter about Northern Rhodesia by Bailey for Arthington Trust Fund which the committee thereof wished to have semi-annual. Interesting parts are noted below.

Notes Arnot got them started and that "Vakaonde proved to be very similar to that of the Valuba, their parent tribe." so they used - Valuba with Garenganze Mission Scripture at first until he better understood Kaonde. No ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ conversions 'yet' he noted but fruits expected as the Kaonde were 'attentive and interested - listeners.' He also preached at Kansanshi ming camp where many languages were used.

VERY
IMP



"A school has been maintained ~~am~~ almost from the first and quite a number of boys have learned to read and write their own language as well as gain a clear understanding of the Gospel. The school has now an enrollment of about 25. Since the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Harris in Sept 1911, a school for women and girls has started under the instruction of Mrs. Harris. This may be the beginning of a gracious work among the female ~~portion~~ of the tribe."

"The work projected includes the starting of a new station at the junction of the Dongwe and Lalafuta rivers, about 250 miles S.W. of the present ~~station~~ station.... From that point, the writer hopes to make a longer exploring trip during the coming dry season with the object of locating a suitable site for a station among the people of the great Valuchase tribe some 500 miles west of here."

"We sincerely hope that these small beginnings may evolve into a work that shall transform these tribes."

Vol. XI From 1st July 1912 to 30th June 1913

Index entries

- * Bailey
- Chisalala
- * Harris

Notes:

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- (1) Constant reference in the first three volumes worked in about many problems to keep going. This indeed stressed the point that SAGM was a 'faith' mission.
- (2) Beginning on 13/2/1913 in a letter from Faithful to C.T. the issue was raised as to whether they would be willing to take over the work of the Nyasaland Industrial Mission's work in N. Rh. which was S.E. of Chisalala. It involved mission spheres of interest and by the end of the file, they had decided not to accept the offer.

FOR GENERAL CONFERENCE 1913. from NORTHERN RHODESIA. 20th. May, 1913.

Greeting

We desire to convey our heartiest greetings to our Chairman, Superintendent, and Brethren assembled in Conference, and to assure you of our continued and earnest prayer that the C.C. for 1913 may be a time of rich Spiritual refreshing to each member, and that in all your deliberations you may have a very definite sense of the presence of Our LORD JESUS CHRIST in your midst guiding you in each decision. We close our greeting with the words Amen.

THE FIELDArea

The area of the Kaonde Country is approximately 30,000 Sq. Miles, an area equal to half the area of England and Wales.

Population

The population of the Kaonde Country is approximately 30,000 of one to a square mile.

Kansanshi District

The population of the Kansanshi District is

Adult Males - - -	4,913.
Adult Females - - -	5,336
Total	<u>10,249</u>

These figures are taken from the Taxation Roll for 1912. None under the apparent age of 16 are entered on this roll. Taking the proportion of minors as equal to that of adults we have a total population of about 20,000 in the Kansanshi Sub-District. I do not think this estimate is too high, but you can make your own estimate. I have given the Official figures.

Site of CHISAMA

I report on the site of the Boma recently, with the Native Commissioner, and gave me the above figures. He has visited all the villages in the Kansanshi District and knows the country well, and he assures me that we could not find a better site than CHISAMA. It is healthy for this part of Africa. Has a good water supply. The altitude by the Aneroid is about 4,400 ft. The population is about the same here as in any

other part of N.W.R. North of Barotsi Land. While any move we might make would lead into less healthy country. It is also accessible, and may in the near future be within 14 miles of the Rail. Further, any move from the Present site, would mean the loss of all money and labour expended here during the past ^{three} years, besides the extra expense of starting on a new site.

The Va Kaonde People

The people are bright and intelligent, they readily learn all kinds of mechanical work, all the head-men are workers in iron which they smelt from the ore.

They are mostly monogamous, probably from the reason that there are so few females compared with other tribes.

Lobolo. The Kaonde equivalent is "KUSONGA". This however amounts to a mere present to the mother of the girl, of from five to ten shillings. Ukulobolo as known in the South does not exist and the marriage tie is very loose. If a woman does not like her husband she leaves him. This custom is now being checked by a system of registration and taxation. The husband has now to register his wife and pay a tax for her, and for each additional wife.

Villaged

The people move their villages every two or three years. Thus a place that is fairly well peopled this year may be deserted next. Since we have been here ten villages have moved from our immediate neighbourhood, some of these are within easy reach on a bicycle, others are at a greater distance.

THE WORK

Services Service is held on the station every Sunday morning. This is followed by Sunday-school for the boys. The attendance at the above Service during the year has been about 30.

We also have Bible-reading and Prayer daily at noon. This Service is attended by all the scholars and any others who may be on the Station at the time. It is the rule that all on the

Services (Contd)

Services are also held in as many of the villages as we can reach on Sundays, as opportunity offers. The attendance at these services varies from five to fifty. There are five villages including Chief Kapilimpanga's, which I can reach in a Sunday's itinerary. This means a journey of about ^{seventy} miles. These are our nearest Villages. To reach other villages one has to make a separate journey to each.

School

During the greater part of the year we had 24 boys and young men in the school. These live on the station while attending school. Some of them come from villages 60 or 70 miles away and form a point of contact with people whom we could not reach in any other way. The boys are supplied with food, for which they work five hours a day. The food costing about 1/4 per day per head. The scholars do a lot of necessary work which would otherwise have to be done by hired labour at the rate of 10/- per month and food.

We would point out, that too much stress cannot be laid on the importance of the school as being the best means within our reach by which to accomplish the purpose for which we are here namely, the Evangelization of the Va Kaonde people. The size of the Field, and the scattered nature of the population make effectual Evangelization by Europeans, out of the question owing to the very expensive nature of such work, under the conditions that obtain here. Therefore we must rely on Native agency to carry out our object. We believe that in His time God will raise up Evangelists, and teachers from amongst the scholars in our schools, and we are convinced that the daily influence of the Gospel, the discipline, the industrial training and the example of the Missionaries day by day must have a very decided effect in moulding their characters which could only be gained in this way.

Medical

There is a constant demand for medicines. and during the year

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we have treated a large number of cases, some of which were
of a very serious character, such as Fever, Dysentery, Pneu-
monia etc.

Industrial

Some of the boys have been trained as Sawyers, and have done good work. Some have also been taught thatching, others washing and ironing, while three have been taught cooking and have shown great aptitude in this art.

We propose as soon as the necessary tools can be obtained to include carpentry, brick & tile making, and rough pottery under this heading.

The Administration want us to take apprentices, who would be bound for three years. But we do not at present recommend the Government's proposal, on the ground that it is too expensive. We prefer that the boys should make their own agreement. Under the Government proposal we are expected to teach the boys a trade, give religious instruction, schooling, feed and clothe them, and pay them at a rate of 2/- per month for the first year, 3/- per month the second year and 10/- per month the third year.

It is probable that we shall find an outlet in Kansanshi for some of the products of the industrial work, so that after a time there may be some income from this source.

We strongly recommend Industrial Training for its effect on the moral character of the boys. Besides fitting them to be useful members of the community and a credit to the cause.

In conclusion we would point out that after dealing with the size of the Kaonde Field, and its population, this report only relates to the KANSANSHI DISTRICT and the work on and around CHISALALA M.S.

Ernest A.M. Harris,

E.Harris.

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VOL. XII 1st July 1913-30th June 1914

INDEX ENTREES

- * Bailey
- * Arnot
- * Harris
- * Vernon

Middlemiss(C.T.) to Wimbledon, 2 pp., 2/7/1913

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Vernons arrived at C .T. on 1/1/1913 and were preparing for N.Rh.

Middlemiss (C.T.) to Wimbledon, 9 pp., 9/7/1913

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In a session on 24/6/1913 at their C.T. conference they agreed with Arnot on 'clear and definite understanding as to the territories that may (?) occupied by Mr. Arnot and ourselves in N. Rh. and Port. West.'

Middlemiss (C.T.) to Wimbledon, 9 pp., 27/8/1913

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Pages 4 and 5 ((158a-159)) very important as quite Bailey's plans to go into Aggole, photocopy later if possible.

Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 6/9/1913, 4 pp.

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Typescript letter attached to this by W. Roy Vernon dated 14/8/1913 from Chisalala is important ((p. 171)). This letter details their journey from C.T. to Chisalala - but not imp to me on education as mostly details of expenses and journey. ((Note : Harrises shortly thereafter had to leave for C.T. due to long-standing illnesses which had been mentioned frequently in past letters.))

Middlemiss to Wimbledon(Faithfull), 6 pp., 8/11/1913

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This letter and one previous (there was generally a weekly letter from each end in the file) noted Bailey's being in C.T. and conversing with them - very successful - and Arnot and others.

Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 6 pp, 15/11/1913. (Note: after this letter

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the question of financing forward work came up in numerous letter.)

Pages 2-3((317-8)) on Bailey are interesting and quoted and preciséd herewith. Middlemiss had conferred at length with Bailey and Harris about N. Rh. and ~~xxxxxx~~ advance forward.

There was 'unanimous agreement' that Bailey would return to the Lalafuta until the rainy season ended and then head into Angola. The Vernons at this time would move from Chisalala to Lalafuta. His 'object' would be pioneering through to Lobita Bay to make a report where stations could be set up. 'He thinks that he would be able to complete his itinerary so as to reach England in time for the Keswich Convention.' He would go to America in September 1914 and deputize there 'for a year or two.' ((Note: Bailey's book disagrees that this had been planned.))

Middlemiss, 14/2/1914, to Wimbledon, 8 pp

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Before this letter there was ~~corres~~ implying that Mr. Rogers might join SAGM and help Bailey. But Middlemiss notes his letter to Arnot (then in N.Rh.) had not be answered but Bailey had written thus: 'I did not talk with Rogers re SAGM, but did so with Mr. Arnot. He said that there had been a mistake, that Mr. Faithfull had put in an application for Rogers to enter SAGM, without full authority; that uncles of Rogers were standing behind him financially, and fully expected him to work with him (Arnot) and no other, etc. In short, he fully claims Rogers as his man. I liked Rogers very much. He is a brisk, hearty, energetic lad, and a good speaker. We can wait the unfolding of God's plan for him. In the meantime, I am looking direct to God for needed helpers.'

Later in the letter he expresses concern about keeping both Lalafuta and Chisalala open as the latter was growing so rapidly. But they were not sure if the Harrises could take over the latter when the Vernons moved to the former. He discusses possible people to direct the work if Harrises don't go back.

London (Faithfull) to C .R., 7 pp., 13/3/1914

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Comment by Faithful on above. Says he was attaching corres on Rogers between the secretary and Mr. Rogers for his info and to pass on to Bailey. Says he realized 'God's work is all one,' but was 'not quite satisfied that all the dealings in the matter have been as straightforward as they might have been. In this connection we have been rather struck by hearing from Mr. Harris that Mr. Arnot is not regarded as members of the Parenganze Mission as a man to be relied upon in missionary matters. This is a bald statement, which needs, perhaps, some qualifications, and which in no way implies that his word is unreliable.'

VERY
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Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 4 pp, 9/5/1914

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Syas Harrises had left for N. R h. and Chisalala.

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Note constantly at this early stage of the constantly changing staff of SAGM IN N. Rh.

Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 16/5/1914, 7 pp.

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Trying to figure out an allowance for them in N. Rh., Middlemiss said that he had said the following. 'In the course of conversation we reminded them that the workers in entering the mission are called to live lives of self-denial, while at the same time we said we could not attach too much importance to every worker being supplied with ample nourishing food and proper dwelling houses....'

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- * Bailey
- * Harris
- * Vernon
- * Wilson

Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 5 pp, 20/6/1914

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Says Harris had arrived at Chisalala on Friday, 15th May and the Vernons were ready to leave and began their 200 miles trek to the Lalafuta.

Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 2 pp, 4/7/1914

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Mr. Wilson had arrived safely (in C.T.?) on 25/6/1914 and Vernons arrived safely at Lalafuta on 29/5/1914. Bailey accompanied by Rogers had left for Angola.

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Bouchet (Paris Mission, Sesheke) to Middlemiss, 22/6/1914, 3 pp(68a, b, c

Letter suggests revised delineation of missionary spheres of each. Very interesting and pity could not be photo'd. Their lines did not seemingly agree with Bailey's but they in essence said that they were willing to give SAGM what they wanted, i.e. all of Nkoya areas and ~~Enga~~ Lungubungu Valley and 'larger part of Luonginga.'

Bouchet continues 'When fixing these limits we have been led by the most earnest desire - while keeping room enough for the extension of our own churches - to give as much as possible an opportunity to any Christian worker willing to help to establish the Kingdom of God in these dark regions. More esp we have had in consideration your own plans and those of the Brothers of late Mr. Arnot's Mission.'

Bouchet concludes by questioning Mr. Bailey's use of a motor boat, in light of their own negative experiences, to reach places from Livingstone to upper branches of the Zambezi. They had to go back to paddle barges.

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Review of Bailey's letter ((on boundaries)) by Rev. V. Ellenberger, Paris Missionary Society, Barotseland ((PR. 110))

Again like the above, a fascinating letter of inter-mission corres regarding boundaries. Main points he makes were:

(a) Not sure pop of Lungwebungu is dense but leaves that to Mr. Bailey to decide who he notes was there, He agrees with Bailey that Lungwebunga navigable and very potentially a transport route. A motor launch, he agrees would be useful, but whether then this could connect to the Kabompo, he questions. Should not try to use expensive fuel but a wood burner. Notes transport is expensive costing from Livingstone to Lialui about 21/- to 23/- for 100 lb.

Note: Mr. Wilson arrived at Chisalala on 20th July 1914.

Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 4 pp., 7/11/1914

4 1 3 2 5

Received a letter from Bailey dated 24/8/1914 that all was well in getting his house started and Commandant had accepted his papers but was 'debarred from any teaching and preaching work until permission has been given him by the Governor at Benguella. This does not, however, prevent him from having prayers and scripture lesson(s) with his native helpers...' He goes on to note Wilson at Chisalala and Vernon at Lalafuta speak of 'progress and encouragement in the work on those stations and the health of workers is good.

Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 2 pp., 20/2/1915

4 1 3 3 0

Says he had heard that Bailey had received permission to preach but not to hold school yet.

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Dr. W. Fisher (Kalene) to Mr. Harris, 1/10/1914, 1 p., copy ((p. 460))

A letter of advice from Fisher on how to get permission to rent or won land and their situation at Kalene AND Corres dated 22/1/1915 from Vernon to C.T. and on same page corres dated 27/3/1915. (Vernon quotes from the Magistrate's letter.) Like Dr. Fisher's letter this relates to land sites. Magistrate states how to apply formally. Does not feel large plots will be granted at nominal rates but small plots for 'purely mission and educational purposes are more likely to meet with favourable consideration. Sites for teachers cottages and schools at willages will only be granted if the natives themselves by deputation ~~make~~ make application for them through Native Commissioner or Magistrate.'

Reply from C.T. said the 'Executive think that it is advisable that application should be made by you to the B.S.A.Co. in London for 500 acres for each of the stations.' AND Harris ((p. 462)), dated 7/11/1914 says he had been in further communication with Fisher since above letter and he had also been in communication with Mr. Hazell, D.C. He goes on to say that Vernon had written Hazell that Musondwedzi, 80 miles west of Kasempa was wanted - felt by Bailey to be better than Lalafuta as a permanent station. Hazell also felt Nyoka's was a good 3rd centre.

NOTE: may follow p. 462 of ...

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VOL. XIV 1st July 1915 - 30th June 1916

Index entrées

- * Harris
- * Vernon
- * Wilson

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Note:

(1) During this period Mrs. Vernon tragically died. This issues comes out in much corres which will, unless exceptional, be ignored here as well ~~xx~~ documented in the Pioneer. Note pp. 121-2 from Vernon to friends describing the death, dated 22/8/1915 from Kalene Hill.

Harris (Chisalala) to Middlemiss (C.T.), copied to Wimbledon,
1 p., ts., 9/6/1915 ((p. 34))

Very important letter, photocopied and attached

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Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 2 pp, 2/10/1915

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Quotation from a letter of Harris is imp, dated 7/9/1915. Mentions school work and need for further staff. 'We are very hard put, to try and keep pace with the work here, and at the same time there is none that we can conscientiously leave undone, Mrs. Harris is working from early morning till late at night she gets no time for rest. I am also in the same boat and as yet have not been able to start training the Evangelists so this very important work is still waiting and cannot be done without time for study and preparation. We are starting two of the boys to help teach in addition to Walalambaya, and they will get 5/- a month. This is to release Mr. W((ilson)) but does not relieve us, so we are badly in need of help. There are now 40 in the school and some eight or nine have confessed Christ within the last few days.'

IMP

'In a later letter, dated the 17th September, he mentions the fact of Mr. Wilson being ready to leave for Lalafuta, to be with Mr. Vernon, but there was some ~~xxx~~ delay about the carriers. He adds the numbers of boys ~~ix~~ in the school is 40, the Catechumen's class numbers 21, also the number who have confessed Christ since the 1st Jan 1915 is 27.'

IMP

Faithfull (Wimbledon) to C.T., 5 pp., 22/10/1915

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Notes two important points: (1) Mr. Wilson's exam results and takes this chance to note they realize the deep need for missionaries mastering the language 'to enter fully into the Native life and mode of thought,' and felt younger members attention should be drawn to this in their two years of probation. (2) Says extract of Harris' letter of 9/6/1915 and his own comment on 2/10/1915 was gladly received and they ~~would~~ would make known 'the need of two years' training as evangelists. We feel, however, that there should be an understanding with them that, at the end of their training, they should look upon themselves as bound to help in the S.A.G.M. sphere for at least three years.'

'We shall be glad to know your feeling with regard to Mr. Harris' suggestion that an additional man should be sent for(?) the training purposes.'

Vernon to Middlemiss, 1 p., ts., 8/9/1915

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A copy of Vernon's letter written from Kalunda en route to be with Bailey. Says he is willing to stay in Kaondeland or go into Angola. He left the situation to the Lord. He goes on to note that 'In any case help must soon come as to me it seems willful waste to open up many more stations until those he have are properly manned. At the Kalene Hill they have six missionaries and four here(?) and ~~xxxx~~ another expected.'

Very
IMP.

'Of course I am just saying this so that you will know what in my mind, I ~~am~~ may change my mind when I see the greater need in the west, though I feel the change will be that more and not less workers should be sent to each station.'

'I wish some one could come up soon and look over the field and see just what it means to be so far from the ~~xx~~ help that one white can give another.'

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Vol XIV

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Copy.

Chisalala M.S.
Kansanshi,
Northern Rhodesia.
9th June, 1915.

Mr. James Middlemiss,
Box 988,
Cape Town.

Dear Mr. Middlemiss:

-XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX-

Evangelists. As Evangelists will take a very important part in the evangelization of this country, you will be interested to hear that after the Class on Sunday afternoon three young man gave in their names to remain here for two years in order to be trained as Evangelists and Teachers. Their names are Walalambaya, James Shambwembwe, and Kansanshi. The two first names are married and Kansanshi is about to be married. It is very necessary that all prospective Evangelists should be married. Perhaps you will put a note in "Here and There" mentioning their names and asking friends at home to pray for them by name daily. Satan is sure to try hard to prevent them from fully answering the call that has undoubtedly come to the. Support. If support can be obtained for these young men it will be a good thing. Then when their training is complete they can be immediately placed on out-stations. In asking for support for Evangelists I think £12 per year each should be the sum asked for. We might be able to start them for a little less but £1 a month is little enough if they are to provide their own food, etc. Training. The work of training these men will at first fall on me but how I am to manage it together with all the other work that falls to my share I know not. I have never done this kind of work nor do I feel that I can do it as it should be done and at the same time do my other work. It is very probably that all the Evangelists for this work will have to be trained on this station and we shall need many of them if we are to properly evangelise the country. We would suggest that the time has come when a worker capable of training Evangelists should be sent to this Station. I may say here that we think it is very remarkable that the very month that the B.T.S. should close for lack of students that the work of training evangelists should have to begin here. We are praying that if God has a plan for Gibe in connection with this work He will make it plain. The difficulties no doubt may be great but God is a God of impossibilities. The number of those offering as Evangelists will be multiplied before long and others will be coming from Lalafuta. It is a very important matter that a capable worker should be sent to help in the work and it will need much prayer and thought. We here will do out part in prayer.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Yours very sincerely,
(Signed) Ernest A.M. Harris.

Faithfull to C.T., 12/11/1915, 4 pp.

4	1	4	2	5
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'...we feel strongly that, in view of these letters from Mr. Bailey, we should advise his going to Lalafuta to be with Mr. Vernon or that Mr. Vernon should join him on the new station, as our view(?) is unchanged with regard to all our fields, that a station should never be manned by a single individual, unless this becomes necessary under exceptional circumstances.'

'As, however, the work in Portuguese territory is still in the stage of not(?) being reported and taken up by Gen Conf, it would seem better that, for the time being, the work at Lalafuta should be re-inforced; then, if in your judgment Mr. Wilson is still needed at Chisalala, he could return to the work there.'

Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 2 pp., 30/10/1915

4	1	4	3	0
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A final note (in pencil) at the end of the letter states that a letter had just arrived, dated 6/10/1915 that Wilson had arrived safely at Lalafuta. He found the school and work in good order.

Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 3 pp., 13/11/1915

4	1	4	3	5
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A letter from Vernon, dated 21/10/1915, had a good 1000 miles trek. Gald to find Wilson on his return.

4	1	4	4	0
---	---	---	---	---

Wilson (Musonwedji, Kasempa), ((pp. 304-85), to 'friends', 11/11/1915
-a very important circular letter, 5 pp, photocopy attached

COPY.

Vol XIV

304

4 1 4 4 0 a

Musonwedzi M.S.
Kasempa,
N.W. Rhodesia.
Nov. 11th, 1915.

My dear Friends,

Since the penning of my last circular letter the Lord has led me to another sphere of labour, and so much has transpired that I scarcely know where to commence in the record of the incidents. Perhaps you will gain the more if I commence at the time when I was asked to travel to Musonwedzi to hold the work together until the return of Mr. Vernon from his trip to Angola, whence he had gone to recuperate after the severe strain he had endured consequent upon the departure of his beloved wife to her Eternal Home.

It was felt by all of us that some one should go and join our brother during the testing days that were bound to come to him upon his return to his lonely station, and, if need be, to stay on with him to help in the work; and when the privilege was extended to me, I gladly availed myself of it.

Leaving Chisalala on Sept. 21st., I had a ten days' trip, full of incidents that would prove interesting to you were I to tell you of them, but since space is so limited I had better tell you of things as I found them upon my arrival at Musonwedzi, and of the work in progress here.

The first sight of the new station was anything but cheering at the end of a long journey; the boys' compound came into view first; it consisted of half-a-dozen small grass huts, roughly thrown together to provide shelter until more substantial huts could be built. Then, a little to the right was to be seen a good-sized, but only part built, school-house, and church building. Straight ahead was a large dwelling-house, also in the course of construction, and a little to the right of it was the only completed building on the station. Arriving at the last named building I endeavoured to enter, but could not until I had (with the help of the school-boys) cleared it of Mr. Vernon's belongings, for these had been carefully packed therein by John, the Native Evangelist, who had been left in charge during the Missionary's absence.

Perhaps you wonder at this condition of things, but let me tell you a few facts which I knew at the time, and which filled me with admiration for those who had so bravely struggled on against sickness for three months on a lonely station in the midst of virgin forest, and for John who had so nobly proved himself worthy of the great trust put upon him. Owing to his own sickness, and the sudden sickness of his wife, Bro. Vernon was not

able to leave things arranged as he otherwise would have done, and there was nothing else for him to do but leave everything in the hands of John. This young man carried on the building operations, the school and preaching, and all the incidental details of work on a pioneer station, such as making gardens, etc., for his absent "Bwana" (Sir).

When Bro. Vernon left, the dwelling house had nothing but the foundation work, and some of the walls. When I arrived the walls were finished, the roof was on and thatched, and the inside work was in progress. Just think what this means! A young man who came to Mr. Bailey at Chisalala about five years ago as a slim boy, fresh from heathen darkness: now a staunch follower of the Lord Jesus Christ, and a most capable right-hand man to the Missionary. As you read these facts about John, don't forget to pray for him, he was the first Kaonde to accept salvation in Jesus, and we are hoping he will be the first Kaonde to take charge of an out-station, which we soon hope to have fully established on the old site of the station at Lalafuta.

Do you wonder that I should feel like praising the Lord when I saw things as they were? Of course there was plenty of rubbish lying about to give an additional untidy appearance, but it did not take long to get it all cleared up; then things looked altogether different.

Sch

The first Sunday here I had the delightful experience of preaching to about two hundred souls in the church: it was a most encouraging time, despite the fact that most of them came to see the new "Bwana". Then followed two busy weeks, getting things in order, attending to the school work (it was somewhat confused), giving medicines in response to numerous requests, and buying in grain for the rainy season's supply of food for our school boys.

Half-way through the third week I had a most pleasant surprise. On Wednesday afternoon I had just commenced the opening exercises preparatory to school, when a quickly spoken word reached me, it was "Mambenka", the name given to Bro. Vernon by the natives.

I did not at first understand the word, or why it should cause such a stir among the school boys - I had a hard task to keep them quiet until after the conclusion of the devotions, but the moment I released them and had gone to the door of the school-house, I discovered the cause of the stir, for there on the path, walking quickly to the school, was Bro. Vernon,

The joy of the boys was great when "Mambenka" met them in school and greeted them, and when they were given their freedom from lessons, they all rushed out shouting, and eventually came close to our little

to stand around and gaze upon their "Bwana".

That was a glad day for me, and more-over, the commencement of many happy days, for our fellowship has been blessed, and the work taken up in the full enjoyment thereof, each striving to help the other.

There was also an additional cause for thankfulness during the first week, for we had the privilege of the company of Mr. Rogers of the Garanganza Mission, the same who went with Mr. Bailey on his trip to Angola in the early part of 1914.

Mr. Rogers accompanied Mr. Vernon back to Musonwedzi thinking to be with him during the first days of his loneliness, not knowing that I had arrived here from Chisalala.

On that Sunday the people turned out in great style, over three hundred being counted as they left the building, and it was a golden opportunity which we fully took advantage of.

Think of it! of all the sights most appealing to a Missionary, the sight of a building full of heathen souls listening to the proclamation of the Gospel is the most appealing. But this had a special appeal to us, because of those three hundred souls, the larger proportion were women, and we as young men are practically helpless to do the work among the women folk. Do you really grasp the significance of this fact? Here they are, hundreds, and thousands of them, all without anything being done for them, waiting for some woman or women workers to come out to fill up the great gap caused by the "HomeCall" of Mrs. Vernon.

Women
= need

We are doing all we can for them, upon every possible occasion preaching the Gospel to them; and have been trying to gather a class of them together to teach them; but they will not come, and all we have been able to do is to regularly teach the wives of two of our elder boys. What is this compared with the need? If they cannot and will not be taught by the white man, they can and will be reached and taught by the white woman.

Therefore let me ask you to join with us and pray the Lord to supply the need. I learn that there are accepted candidates waiting to come out; I know of others waiting and willing, and eager to come; and the cause of the delay in each case is the lack of money! Oh! to us this does seem so sad! Something must be wrong! let us get busy asking God to search and cleanse us, and so remove the obstacle; then pray as never before for the necessary funds to enable these workers to come to gather in the harvest that is ready to be reaped; and, fellow-workers, as you pray "Fear not, only believe", "Ask it

faith, nothing wavering."

Last week I had a trip to Lalafuta with Bro. Vernon, to see the villages around the old station. Please don't imagine it was a pleasure trip; riding through a virgin forest along a narrow, rough footpath, under a tropical sun for thirty three miles, is not conducive to comfort; especially as in my case I had a patched up bicycle, made from the parts of two machines, and including a patched up free-wheel which eventually played out when I still had two miles to travel to Lalafuta. (I had had the misfortune to have my bicycle collapse under me on my journey down from Chisalala, and had to do the best I could from the parts of an old machine Bro. Vernon happened to have lying around).

Arriving at Lalafuta I was surprised to see the Mission house perched away up on a rocky hill; it was in a fine position from a picturesque standpoint, and in about the only place possible in that district; but the water supply was very poor, both in quantity and in quality, and in the evenings the mosquitoes had plenty of play.

The following morning we visited the villages and saw the usual sights that are seen in heathen villages, but two very pitiful sights were given us, one, the old chief of the village dying in the clutches of a most loathsome disease, and a boy, also suffering from the same trouble, but presenting some hope of recovery if brought here for treatment. In these villages was also evident the desertion caused by the commandeering of labour by the Government; plenty of women and children and old people, but not a man capable of carrying a load.

When these men return our greater opportunities will commence, but in the mean time we have much work to do, and we desire you, as fellow-workers, to join with us as we petition the Throne of His exceeding grace for strength wisdom and courage to press forward steadfastly, knowing that, as our Lord has promised, we shall in due season "reap if we faint not".

As you pray just remember that we are but two young men, shut off from all other human or kindred fellowship, shut off by at least four days' journey to Kasempa (the nearest place wherein other white men live), and by three weeks journey to Broken Hill, the nearest railroad station. Remember also that, taking a direct line from Broken Hill to the coast in Angola, that is about two thirds across Africa, at this point, there are only three places from which the Gospel is being proclaimed.

Between Broken Hill and Musonwedzi is about 300 miles, from this station to Mr. Roger's station about 150 miles, from his to Mr. Bailey's about another 300 miles, and,

according to information to hand, about 600 miles from Mr. Bailey's to the west coast.

With these facts before you you will be able to pray more intelligently for the needs of the work, here, and on other stations mentioned; we form as it were, a thin line across, but with God on our side we can become a mighty barrier against the hosts of wickedness.

"Lift up your eyes and look on the field, for they are already ripe to harvest". "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth labourers into the harvest."

"Till He come",

I am,

Your fellow-worker,

(Signed) A.A. Wilson.

Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 3 pp., 11/3/1916

4	1	4	4	5
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'In a recent report by Mr. A.A.A Wilson for the Pioneer, my wife rather emphasized the altered name of the Station, Lalafuta, pointing out that it was now called Dongwe. The workers there adopted this name without consulting the Executive, and we have been in correspondence with them in the matter ever since. It has now been arranged that the new site on the Musonwedzi, which the workers thought might be called 'Dongwe' is now to be called 'Blanche Memorial' in memory of Mrs. Vernon. The Post Office address Kasempa, will hold good.'

Faithful to Middlemiss(C.T.), 27/4/1916, 3 pp

4	1	4	5	0
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'Says they have received support for James Shambwembwe at Chisalala, and I think we shall have the support of Kansanshi very shortly.'

'I regret that I have to cut down Mr. Vernon's article and Mr. Wilson's article in the May Pioneer, though the former only lost a very few lines.'

Middlemiss to Wimbledon (Brit Council), 1/4/1916

4	1	4	5	5
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'Walalambaya-Chisalala. Mr. Harris writes to say that this teacher is a married man and has been working for the past two years for the sum 5/- per month, and that it is ~~xxx~~ now necessary that his stipend should be increased to 10/-. Perhaps you will kindly bring this to the notice of his supporters, the Junior Y.W. Branch, Brighton.'

4	1	4	6	0
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Attached to this letter by Middlemiss are statement by N. Rh. missionaries on the cost of living. All full pages of details.

Vernon's statement ((p. 581)) suggests at Dongwe £16-15-0 a month as average.

A .A. Wilson says ((p. 582)) for cost for a year was £93-16-7. Rev. Harris says £15-15-0 ((pp. 583-4)).

Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 5 pp., 13 May 1916

4	1	4	6	5
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Quotes a long paragraph from Bailey in Angola (p. 629) who feels strongly he cannot ~~xxx~~ leave his work there which he has started until a replacement is sent as he is not sure how soon he can return. Middlemiss adds that 'it is evident, as you will see, from what Mr. Bailey says, that he does not feel at liberty to leave until there is someone on the spot to take charge of the work he has begun.'

4	1	4	7	0
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Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 4 pp., 20/5/1916

Regarding name of the station as 'Blanche Memorial' he says 'it would be difficult to keep the native name in the Pioneer unless we used the two. The Natives of course would not be able, as you say, to call it the 'Blanche Memorial'.'

Index entries

- * Harris
- * Vernon
- * Wilson

4	1	5	0	5
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Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 10/6/1916, 6 pp. plus attachments
 Letter indicates the typical problems of financing the SAHM as a faith mission. Mr. and Mrs. Harris's allowances and Mr. ~~xxxxx~~ Vernon and Mr. Harris are dealt with, plus support for individual evangelists, esp under the Harrises. One interesting letter attached to support Harris's claim is from G. Taylor, Ass't Native Comm'r, 1/5/1916, who says the district was considered to be the most expensive dist in the country to live in as little local produce due to tsetse and all things had to be brought south from Katanga railhead. He lived on £16-0-0 monthly and noted the average white labour at Kansanshi was making about ~~£45-0-0~~ £30-0-0 with overall average white person at Kansanshi making about £45-0-0. Indicates Harris's financial support was barely sufficient to live a simple life compared to fellow Europeans in the area.

4	1	5	1	0
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Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 12/7/1916, 3pp.
 Concludes previous corres about Miss Gordon's ~~xxx~~ arrival and expected marriage to Mr. Wilson as they were due to be married in Bulawayo on the 12th and travel onto his station.

4	1	5	1	5
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Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 1/7/1916, 2 pp.
 Says Mr. Harris has given £12-0-0 per year as the amount required for a Chisalala evangelist with training. £3-0-0 per year was only for those in training on the station having training 'part of which is ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ teaching in the school as well as preaching in the villages.'

52

4 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 0

Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 17/2/1917, 2 pp., 2 attachments by Harris to evangelists' supports of the evangelists' activities (see below)
17/1/1917 Harris to Miss Ryall (about Shamendi)

4 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 1

"... how Shamendi spent his Xmas holidays. Contrary to our usual custom, Mrs. Harris being very tired, we closed school for two weeks at Xmas and Shamendi said: 'If there is no school for two weeks I am going to preach.'" With a friend he visited 28 villages and walked 220 miles between 26/12/1917 and 10/1/1917 when he returned to resume his study and school-work."

"It has been our aim to inculcate the missionary spirit in the young converts and it has certainly taken hold as you can see in Shamendi's case."

17/1/1917 Harris to Mr. Nunns (about Masheka)

4 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 2

He with three others visited 21 villages between 26/12/1916 and 8/1/1917 walking 150 to 170 miles. "They went forth in true Apostolic fashion 'without script or purse, without even a change of clothing and without shoes on their feet. Often during those two weeks they were foot-sore and weary but they kept on, being constrained by the love of Christ."

4 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 5

Mrs. Harris to Mr. Middlemiss, 21/3/1917, 2 pp., manuscript and forwarded to England about extra support - one paragraph important

"God's blessing continues to be on the work here. Others are coming forward for the 'work of Evangelists', and those in training are doing good work...."

INDEX

- * FOSTER
- * HARRIS
- * VERNON
- * WILSON

4	1	6	0	1
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NOTES

(1) During this period Mr. Vernon re-married, a missionary from India, who left there to join him. As he proceeded back to the Musonwedji station, the Fosters entered in. It was for the Vernons to later go to Chisalala to relieve the Harris's for furlough, leaving Wilsons and Fosters.

(2) Constant reference to Bailey - fear for him in rebellion, trying to find relief help, and relief over his safety. What is said verifies his autobiography as accurate and frank, indicating its validity and imp and probably means he wrote it from a diary.

(3) Mr. Faithful paid the first visit to N. Rh. by SAGM Executive and visited each station. This resulted in assorted items - some imp. ones noted here. Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 9 pp., 9/6/1917, plus attachments

4	1	6	0	5
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Sure that he will be pleased with the liberal leases granted to them by BSAC for Chisalala and Blanche Memorial.

4	1	6	1	0
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Richard Goode, Sec. to the Adm, Livingstone, N.RH., 17/5/1917

(Mr. Faithful had just visited him which he refers to.) He then states: that the adm was prepared to lease 500 acres each to the mission one near Solwezi and one near Kasempa at a yearly rental of £1 per plot with the opti to buy at a price of 1/6 per acre, "subject to a satisfactory report as to native rights in respect of the land involved."

4	1	6	1	5
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Two letters referred to by Mr Middlemiss in his Wimbledon despatch dated 20/10/1919, 2pp; they were Mrs. Vernon, 11/10/1917, 4 pp, ms, to Mr Faithful (who had already sailed for U.K.) and a reply from C.T. by J.C. Gibson, 2pp, ts., dated 19/10/1917

4	1	6	1	6
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Mrs. Vernon is rather upset (after her work in India) at the seeming lack of organization in SAGM as the following passage indicates "I heartily agree with most of your findings and recommendations as a result of your tour. 'Never do what a Native can do for you' is a principal quite universally adopted by miss in India. Again, I can't conceive of work being done most(?) effectively without system and discipline."

4	1	6	1	7
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Mr. Gibson in reply says they must meet in C.T. to discuss points of differences before she and Mr Vernon go ... to the station. She referred to the Durban conference he does as well and hopes things can become more systematic. He points out that they are interdenominational and possibly too little on adm and to much stress on evangelism. A proper balance must be struck he agrees.

4 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 0

Middlemiss to Faithful, 3 pp., 10/11/1917 indicates that he has strong reservations about Mrs Vergon's adaptability and the likelihood that she would give the "Mission a good deal of trouble." Attached to the letter is a four page, rather aggressive letter from Mr. Vernon, to Mr Middlemiss, dated 25/10/1917 expressing he and his wife's reluctance to come to C.T. He notes "In conclusion...I repeat that I have never felt the least bit out of touch with the Spirit in any member of the SAGM or of the Executive. I may not agree with the methods of fellow-workers but that need not make a barrier between us spiritually...."

4 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 1

He felt the conference in Durban settled many issues and was pleased to be a worker in the SAGM. "I also agree perfectly with the foundation of the SAGM re doctrine and the fullness of the Holy Spirit. I may have been against people who went a little to extreme in the spirit's leading and thus seem to be a little aloof when I get in meetings that are somewhat similar but I was perfectly at home in the General Conference meetings and was ~~gratified~~ glad that there was such freedom."

4 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 5

Also attached to Middlemiss's letter was a 5 pp. report (minutes) of the Executive in S. A. which Gibson chaired. (It met on the 3rd, 9th, 10th and 12th. The section on N. Rh. are noted herewith and very important. Northern Rhodesia

ed policy

"1. As the work in this District was reviewed the principles approved upon which it is being carried on at present were approved - the objective being to raise up teach^{er} Evangelists".

"2. Teacher was wanted to train the teachers for their future work."

"3. It was also agreed that the workers should draft an educational policy to be ready at next G.C."

"4. Industrial work could be taken up, but only on a small scale and inot on a commercial basis."... Later in this report under the topic of "General Notes" was an imp note on Education as follows:-

ed

"4. Education. The principles of operation in connection with education regarding:- "Aa) The est of village schools.

"(b) Simple training to qualify teachers to occupy such schools.

"(c) Dist's to have Eur supervision....

"(d) Men trained at the B.T.S. when placed on a station to be supervised, helpd and instructed in the practical side of the work on station and out-station.

4 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 0 | a

SEE ATTACHED TWO SHEETS --Also attached(!) to the above Middlemiss letter with minutes and Vernon's attachments above was a two page very important letter from the Harris's re mission work and is photocopied because of its imp with ed (pp. 304-5). Harris to Middlemiss, 9/10/1917, 2 pp.

Mr. J. M. Middlemiss,
Box 222,
Cape Town.

Vol. XCV
4 | 6 | 3 | 0

Solway,
N. Rhodesia.
9th, Oct. 1917.

304

Dear Mr. Middlemiss,

I enclose receipt forms for May and September. Also Monthly Statement.

MINUTES OF G.C. These with workers letter came to hand last mail. We have read it carefully, personally, I have gone through it five times, the feeling produced was that of trying to find your way in a strange house in the dark, the minutes convey very little information to workers in the field. Don't you think they could, with advantage be made a little more intelligible?

GENERAL CONFERENCE. We had prayed for some months beforehand that the G.C. should be owned and blessed of God, and were specially remembering you all, yourself more than others, during the time of Conference. We are glad therefore to hear that you have had a good time. We have heard nothing about the Conference but what you mentioned in your letter of 1st September.

Evangelist-Teachers. In a previous note I mentioned that some trouble had arisen with our helpers. This was mainly the outcome of intercourse with native clerks and store assistants from Livingstonia and Nyassaland. From these natives they imbibed the idea that they would learn much better if they went to another school. This brought in a feeling of unrest and infected the whole school. We felt there was something hindering the work, just before the visit of our Secretary. His visit did not help matters any, but the contrary, through an indiscrete action he quite innocently added to the trouble. Thus during his visit he saw nothing in its normal condition. After Mr. Faithfull left we tried to find out the source of the hinderance but were completely baffled. Continuing in prayer we believed God would bring the hidden thing to light. Meantime things grew worse and several left the school, all the meetings were powerless and one spoke to deaf ears and stone hearts. Still we went on praying and believing. Then the whole thing came out. Practically all were going to leave, we even fixed the date of their departure and this while known to the smallest boy in the compound was carefully hidden from us. We first called the Teacher-Evangelists together. I pressed the point that the Spirit was quenched, there was no power in the preaching, no conversions, something was hindering and that thing was being hidden from us, God knew what it was and we had asked Him to reveal it to us and we knew He would do so. I had called the meeting because I knew the hindering thing was in the Evangelists and they could not be used of God till they got right with God. Then Mukangwa told us what was wrong and what they wanted to do. (Walalambaya was absent at the time). I had more meetings with them besides spending hours with some of them, alone, on the Saturday Walalambaya returned and on the Sunday Kansanshi essayed to preach, but was without power. This was the last Sunday in July and our communion Sunday. After Kansanshi had tried to preach, Mukangwa stood up and renounced the whole thing confessing his share in it and that he saw the wrong he had done. Then another confessed but not so whole heartedly as the other, the atmosphere had changed already, but Walalambaya rose in great excitement and the enemy came in like a flood. I spoke a few plain words to them and closed the service. At Sunday school I told

Kafue

then there would be no more Communion service until they had got right with God. On Sunday night I had them all together again but made no headway with the senior, who announced his intention of leaving in the morning. On Monday morning I dealt with him and Kansanshi again, backing all I said with Scripture. After a time victory came, this was especially so with Walalambaya. On the Wednesday in Class we had a time of great power and on Sunday Walalambaya confessed before all and said how wrong he had been to speak as he had done on the Sunday before. There was real power in that service and in all the services since. Last Sunday we saw the power of God in our midst to convert and save. Four village men and four lads confessed Christ as their Saviour, and others praised God that the Holy Spirit had come again into our midst and filled their hearts with joy. This has been a time of great strain on us and we feel very limp as a result.

School

NORMAL SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS. A School for teachers is being opened at Kafue, under the P.M. Mission. The idea is to make it a training centre for N.W.R.A. I would suggest that our two senior teachers might be sent there for a course of training and if this worked out well others could be sent later and so we could get our teachers properly trained and be in a position to meet Gov. requirements, which we will have to do later on. When I get further particulars from the principal, the Rev. J.P. Bell, Kafue. Or if you like to do so, write to him direct. x I will let you know.

BRICKS. We have just finished burning a kiln of over 40,000 bricks which I hope will turn out successful. We have made nearly 60,000 this year.

CHINESE ROOM. This measures 10 ft. by 10 ft. The eaves are very wide and there is a veranda at one end. Door and window frames are fixed and roof nearly finished. As soon as it is thatched we propose to go out for a fortnight to try and get some meat and fat.

MISSION VILLAGE. Two families have asked to be allowed to reside at this Station and I have given conditional consent. The Magistrate says this is but the beginning and urges me to lay out a mission village which will be under the control of the mission with a Native Head-man and be a powerful influence in the uplifting of the people. Swana-ka-Sompe the head of one of the families mentioned was one of the men who confessed Christ on Sunday last.

SCHOOL. Several new boys have been admitted into the school lately and others are coming so we shall soon be up to 60 again.

KANSANSHI MINE. This is being restarted and they are buying up all the grain in the district. Mr. Melland says that wages will also go up.

I think this is all I have to write about this time so will close with our united kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) Ernest A.M. Harris. /

4 1 6 3 5 6

Vol. XV 1

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19.

18. December 1917.

James Middlemiss Esq
Box 988.
Cape Town.

My dear Mr Middlemiss,

We hear that a mail is due to go out to-morrow, so I am writing at once to thank you very much for your kind letter of November 10th., with all its enclosures; and to send you without delay the notes that I have made on the Reports of the Executive meetings, which you have been good enough to send to me, and which I am very glad to have. Was Mr. Daintree present at your meeting on October 3rd.? I cannot quite recollect, but, if he was not, some note ought to be made of this in the Minutes.

With regard to your letter and enclosures:-

3. I am rather sorry that, when you felt so clearly that Mr and Mrs. Vernon should not go up country without meeting the Executive, you did not keep to your point. If railway travelling was very tiring, they might have come round by sea from Durban, and the voyage would possibly have done them good. I am ever so thankful for the tone of their letters, but feel that nothing can take the place of the personal interviews and intercourse which would have been possible during their stay in Cape Town.

6. This letter from Mr. Harris is deeply interesting, and shows that what struck me at the time is correct, viz. that the school can paddle on in its own little way just now, but that it will never stand comparison with the schools on organised lines, such as those in Nyasaland; and although Mr. Harris may not do any teaching, and although he may feel that this is not his province, he should be encouraged to master the situation in preparation for the arrival of the two lady workers for whom he is asking, and work at a suitable Code and time table which will be a standard for our two stations, and also in keeping with the general educational work in North Rhodesia.

The question of this normal school for teachers needs the closest investigation. I travelled home last month with the Rev. J.W.Price, one of the Missionaries of the Primitive Methodist Mission, and found him a whole-hearted admirer of men like Driver and Cheyne, and altogether

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a man on the lines of modern scholarship and criticism. I do not want to be harsh in any thought of the man, but, if his lines are followed in the normal school, they are not exactly our S.A.G.M. lines, and the fullest enquiry should be made by Mr. Harris before he allows our teachers to come under the influence of such teaching.

I have carefully read the personal remarks which he has made concerning myself. I need hardly say that it is a disappointment to feel, after going all that way, that my visit did not help matters as they were. But, as I strain back memory to my visit, I do not recollect his ever having taken me into his confidence in regard to the state of things. Perhaps Mr. Vernon can remember. Nor do I remember having my attention called by Mr. Harris to this indiscreet action, which he says added to the trouble. I think it is only fair that, instead of speaking vaguely and throwing out hints, he should frankly tell us what was the action, and also explain why he did not take both Mr. Vernon and myself fully into his confidence, so that we might have faced the trouble together and shared the burden of it. I see, too, that he says that, during my visit, I saw nothing in its normal condition. I very much regret this, and, in fairness to himself, he should be willing to write fully on this point, and let us know where things were not normal; for, apart from this, my report will not be of much value. You will remember that, before I started out, I asked all our workers that I might see things as normal as possible, and, if things were not normal at Chicalala, I should have been told so at the time. The possibility is that Mr Harris means that the spirit was not normal, and not so much the work. If so, I shall be glad to know.

7. I shall not now refer to Mr and Mrs Hatch's letter to yourselves with regard to Mr. Howells, except to say that it has caused a good deal of pain, and reminds us of our Lord's Own experience, where, after the Spirit had been upon Him, "then cometh the devil." I shall be on the look-out for the copy of your reply to Mr Hatch, and do pray that what may become a serious difficulty may be over-come and blotted out of the way by an over-whelming spirit of love. I cannot forget that in Paul's prayer, Ephesians III, this comprehension of love stands before the fulness of God. At the same time, the two years' of probation of Mr and Mrs Howells have now come to an end, so that a report will be expected on them as Missionaries from Mr. Hatch, and we shall be glad of it at this end to help in the consideration of other Welsh candidates. Perhaps it is God's way of setting Mr. Howells free for special work throughout South Africa.

The future of the work in P.E.Africa is evidently not going to be easy, but we shall do what we can to get into touch with the Portuguese authorities on this side.

8. I was glad of "The Methodist Churchman", and thank you for sending it. I had already read a cutting from a Natal paper on the same subject, and was deeply interested.

I must get a copy of Dr Aloran's book and see what can be done about a supply for our workers. Every station should possess a copy.

All your bits of news interest me very much. I am glad that Ruth

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Faithful to C.T. (Middlemiss), 3 pp., 18/12/1917

Sorry that the Vernons were allowed to proceed without coming to C.T. as Middlemiss had previous told Faithful. It's first two pages are PHOTOCOPIED (ATTACHED) as bottom of pagepage 307-308 deal at length with Harris's letter and his reservations regarding education at Kafue.

Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 26/1/1918, 6 pp.

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Notes Bailey slowly recovering from the point of death with Hackwater fever and Hansen from Chit. had reached him ⁶ weeks before Jakeman could. Also the letter notes that Vernons, Foster and Mr. McGill reached Muscandwedji on 17/12/1917.

Middlemiss to Faithful, 12/1/1918, 3 pp.

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Imp for studies of mission on school work.

Quotes and comments (see below) Harris's point on a school for girls. Harris had written to Middlemiss on 15/12/1917 and noted: "We are now hard up against the problem of a girls' school. There are so many women and girls turning to the Lord that a girls' school becomes more absolutely necessary than ever, but of course we have no one to take the work and even if workers were sent right now, the delay which must result before they could be of much use, whilst learning the lang, can but have a very bad effect on the work. It is very discouraging to us that we have fruitlessly kept this matter ~~up~~ of extra workers before the G.C. and the Executive for over five years."

"The point in my mind (Middlemiss now) is his (above) remarks about the need of extra workers being kept before the Executive for over five years. In a previous letter to the Executive where ref was made to the same subject we have dealt with it and pointed out that Miss Radcliffe would have already been on the spot but for the war, and that it seemed to us providential that she was not sent there as she evidently had not the qualifications to fit in with the need. We are of course telling him now about Miss ~~K~~ Alderton."

Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 23/2/1918, 3 pp.

4 1 6 5 0

Notes Harris's have two new teach evangelists at Chisalala, Chendaruva and Nyengele and will need £7-10-0 support (not clear whether this amount is for each or both).

~~IMP~~

Faithful to Middlemiss (CT), 23/4/1918, 7 pp.

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"With regard to Miss Alderton and Miss Cowl, who have been accepted for educational work in N. Rh., the Chartered Co. have been approached and have written out to the Adm'r in Liv to find out whether the work to which they are going may be regarded as work of educational importance. If Mr ~~x~~ and Mrs Harris are with you in C.T., they will be able to tell you that Mr Marshall, the Native Commissioner for N.Rh., when visiting Chisalala, insisted very strongly that a girls Boarding School should be started at once, as he felt that otherwise the Boarding school for boys would have its value detracted from, as the boys grew up and insisted on marrying girls who were not prepared to be their wives. As a result Mr Harris asked for two ~~lady women~~ ~~workers~~ workers, and this need was passed by G.C. and these have been found."

"Mr. Faithful is writing directly to the Adm at Liv,..."

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Middlemiss to Faithful(Wimbledon), 16/3/1918, 3 pp.

Quotes from a letter by Harris (since his previous letter to Faithful dated 14/2/1918) dated 7/1/1918.

"I am afraid that Mr. Faithfull has not fully grasped the situation here. What is needed for the boys school is a man with scholastic qualifications. It is not a good policy to put women in charge of a boys' school. Lady workers are needed for our working among women and girls. A girls' school is one of the most pressing needs here today and we do not think that the ladies need possess very high scholastic qualifications in order to meet the need for some few years to come. The reason we have pressed the matter of lady workers as we have done is because we saw the need, that need is now a great and overwhelming one and there is none here to meet it and to see that the work will not suffer in consequence is (??) of the mark, it is bound to suffer."

"In our reply we said that we are referring this matter to you, and in writing I added that 'personally I was in the fullest agreement with you that for any work on any Station amongst the heathen in Africa in connection with any Society the very highest qualifications, both spiritually and mentally, can do the best work.' In reply to that he writes as follows:"

"I certainly think that Mr Faithful has not fully grasped the situation on this station, for the reason that he saw it under extra abnormal conditions and Mrs Harris and I were both tired out."

"A man with scholastic qualifications is certainly needed to take the charge of the Boys's school. Lastly workers are needed for women and girls."

"We note that a Miss Alderton has been accepted for Chisalala."
"....the tone of his letter dated the 26/2/18 is very different from that of the 18/2/1918, and the question is whether it is worth taking notice, certainly I think not too seriously, of the grumbling kind of spirit in which he is accustomed to write when he does ~~xxx~~ not get things quite his way."

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FAITHFUL TO MIDDLEMISS(CT), 14/6/1918, 6 pp.

This is a reply to the above and he devotes two long paragraphs ~~ix~~ quoted largely here to what Harris said above.

"Mr. Harris. What you write. . . has . . . points of interest to me." Says Mr Harris due to being "tired and over-strugg" has sort of let the "personal side" of his self been affected by the way things were going. "But what I feel Mr Harris waking up to, with growing clearness, is the actual need of the work in his district. Through pressure of circumstances, and the need, he is being forced into a certain line of action which has been methodical, and, within the limits of their capability, fairly thorough. Then there has been faith in God, and we have seen the rich blessing."

In the next paragraph he adds that he was glad that Mr Wilson was going there for the District Conference and hoped that "it will lead to a better understanding between him and Mr Harris. Privately we ~~xxxx~~ hear that Mr and Mrs Vernon are to go to Dr Fisher's station for the family event, and then on to Chisalala, so that this will rather fit in with the thought that Mr and Mrs Harris should be out of their district during the hot season."

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EXTRACT FROM MR. VERNON'S LETTER RE CHISALALA SITE, N.W. RHODESIA.

5/12

Chisalala M.S.
April, 29th, 1918.

The Jiundu People. Mr. Harris has written me and has since talked to me about visiting the Kaonde people in the Jiundu valley. I came directly through this valley and saw all of their villages except one and I certainly do not agree with Mr. Taylor that the Chisalala Sta. should be moved there. Mr. Harris and I do not perfectly agree in the matter but I think the Mission would be very unwise to put a Station up there unless it was simply for the purpose of assisting the other two Stations with provisions which could be grown there and butter and meat because of the possibility of keeping cattle. Of course both of these things could be bought from the Tafdale Farm which is about from 50 to 100 miles farther on out of the Fly area. Butter now costs us 2/- a lb. at our Sta. and 3/- here. I am not sure that the Farming Co. wish to kill and sell meat in the near future. Anyway it would only be possible to get fresh meat to any of our stations during the cold months which are June and July.

Personally I am not convinced that another Station is needed in that district which at its farthest point is less than 100 miles from this Station. We have a larger population on the Lufupa River almost 100 mi. South of Kasempa which is near or over 200 mi. from here and much over 100 miles from the B.M.M.S. so that we cannot hope to erect new stations simply because the people are about 100 miles from our Sta.

Of one thing I am certain and that is that Chisalala Sta. should not be moved to the Jiundu. Another thing we must not forget is that no third Station should be erected until the two existing ones are properly manned. Mr. Harris says he heartily agrees with these two items. Personally I do not think any third Station is needed in the Kaonde field and shall be sorry to see it unless conditions change and I see differently.

I could well see that a large outstation in the Jiundu where we could put trusted boys and have cattle etc., and where a house fit to accommodate a worker for a month or so at a time so that one of us could sit there for several weeks on end helping the work might be advisable but I do not yet agree to a third Station. I certainly think there are other parts of other or even our own field here where a Sta. is much more needed than the Jiundu. Of course if Mr. Harris goes there he will be able to report fully when all his as well as my ideas of the question will come in for due consideration. In the meantime I wish the Executive to know that I have no ideas regarding the field".

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Middlemiss to Wimbledon, 8 pp., 11/5/1918 plus enclosures

NOTE: During this correspondence there has been much discussion of an ~~alt~~ alternative site for Chisalala and seemingly a govt official, Mr. Taylor, suggested a site to the west as more healthy and larger population.

The above discussion comes to a head with the ~~above~~ previous letter by Middlemiss which contained enclosures and Vernon and Harris, although it was later to continue. - THESE TWO LETTERS ARE PP. 571-2 IN THE FILE AND VERY IMPORTANT, HENCE PHOTOCOPIED. HARRIS'S LETTER IS DATED 11/4/18 and VERNON'S IS DATED 29/4/18. SEE ATTACHED PHOTOCOPIES 41671

Also in Middlemiss's letter he refers to a note from Harris that with 800 converts around the station and he felt that he should stay with Vernon until Sept but send Mrs Harris ahead for furlough. 41672

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David Hamilton(Wimbledon) to C. T., 10 pp., 28/6/18

He has noted what has been said by Vernon and Harris with regard to Chisalala (see above) and feels they did not fully understand Mr Taylor's suggestion which "was not the giving up of Chisalala, or otherwise, he questioned whether it was the best site for a mission centre to deal with our district, from the stand-point of the missionaries health, water supply, food, etc. This is a point of primary consideration."

"Mr Vernon does not give reasons against the Jiundu site, which was suggested by Mr Taylor. We note you may discuss the matter with Mr. Harris. . . ."

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Vol XV

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Chisakala, Solwezi, N. R.
11th April 1908.

[1918]

Dear Mr Faithfull,

I am in receipt of your letter dated 30th January and have written to the Executive for instructions. In the mean time I have had a talk with Mr Melland. He does not favour giving up Chisalala, nor do I. The DJIUNDU is in the N.W. corner of our District which stretches to a much greater distance S.E. & S. of Chisalala so that to move 80 m. N.W. would be to greatly increase the cost of working the District.

Mr Melland thinks we should open another station, that is a station on the Djiundu. He thinks this should have been done before thinking of Musonwedzi. The Djiundu will not be as near the rail as Chisalala is.

the rail is open to Chilonga now and its nearest approach to the Djiunda will be about 130 to 140 miles. I dont think there can be any question about giving up Chisalala. We have now about 800 converts grouped E. W. N. & S. of us and to move would be to move away from most of them.

The conditions here now are quite different to what they were when you were here a year ago. The new laws will compel us to have at least three men on the Station continually besides lady workers who are urgently needed. Under the new regulations even a bibleclass is counted as a school and must be visited four times a year by the European in charge.

You will notice the definition of a school given in the proclamation, it can be made to embrace even a service for preaching the Gospel, that is the way Mr Melland interpreted it yesterday to me. My conversation with him yesterday left two vivid impressions. 1st that the proclamation is the result of SCARE and that it is intended to hinder the preaching of the Gospel as much as possible. It can be made to mean (according to Mr Melland) even a preaching service and whether held once a year or 365 times, under the proclamation consent in writing must be obtained. That a proclamation capable of being so interpreted should have been signed in

in the name of the King and made legal by the High Commissioner is nothing short of iniquity. My! it is crafty. It makes ones soul cry out and long for the return of our Lord. With kindest regards from us both,

Yours very sincerely,

Ernest Allman

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a Faithful report of Oct 1917

(located in Vol. XV 141)

DISTRICT & EXECUTIVE GENERAL REPORT

Journey. At the Council's request, I left England on August 18th, 1916, and was absent for fifteen months, arriving back in Freetown on November 13th., 1917. Of that time, 9 months, from October 23rd, 1916 to July 21st, 1917, were taken up with the visiting of our various districts. The travelling involved was varied as regarded the means of locomotion, and the total distance covered was about 12,300 miles by land, and over 12,500 by sea. Towards the expense of this journey special gifts were contributed amounting to £272.12.0, and of this total £255.12.6. were expended, the balance of £16.19.6. being used for refitting purposes; of the money spent in Africa just over £48 were used on the General Conference of 1917 at Durban.

Visits. The various visits were planned at G.O. 1916, and the dates were arranged in consultation with the delegates present, the arrangement of the days at the disposal of each station being left to those on the station, with the one request that things should be as normal as possible as regards food, work etc. This suggestion was followed out on practically all the stations, though occasionally I came in for some special happening, such as a wedding at Durban, and one at Keelani, and a hut opening in the Inkanyisweni district.

These workers. I believe our workers all found it a help to be compelled to sit down and face the needs and difficulties of the work of the whole of their district, and then plan out how the work was to be developed, and the remainder of the district at their doors occupied. As a rule a missionary's time can be fully taken up with the work of the moment, so that there is a tendency to drift on, and not have a plan outlined with successive stages marked out which the worker hopes to follow.

It was evident that many of our workers are feeling their need of training and preparation for their work, especially at its present stage. Workers may be excellent evangelists, but not have the preparation or experience which fits them to be Church builders. Time after time I felt there was a deep desire on the part of our workers to know how they might do their work better and how better methods might be introduced. In our Northern districts, especially, we have to face tribes of grown-up children, and we must put emphasis on the training of character as well as on the evangelistic note. Those who, by reason of birth, training, or other circumstances, have gone out to South Africa with a larger outlook on life, seem to adapt themselves better to the new surroundings and to have a larger vision in their work. They also seem better able to meet the difficulties and to bear the hardships and sufferings of life on a Mission station.

NATIVE HELPERS. After listening to our Missionaries, hearing all their methods, and meeting the various Native Helpers, I was left with the impression that one of the dangers of our Native Helpers is that of becoming professional. The best combination seems to be that of the Teacher-Evangelist, for in this, before a man is regarded as an evangelist, he has gone through the discipline involved in this training and then in his work as a teacher, and has survived the test. The training has helped, in addition, to give him mental vigour, and to make it easier for him to assimilate and impart new ideas. There will always be dangers associated with an illiterate evangelist, but we could, with advantage, develop unpaid evangelists on a voluntary basis. Further, I could not help recognising the danger that lies ⁱⁿ ~~before~~ an evangelist's receiving a good salary, and it may be healthier to adopt an allowance

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system rather than the one in vogue at the present time.

The plan of importing teachers is necessary in the early stages of the work, but should only be regarded as a temporary measure, as the help of those belonging to the district, and their witness when they are truly converted, are worth all the trouble that has to be expended upon their training. The danger of employing unmarried men teachers, except in their own home villages, was apparent. But in several parts our workers are finding great help from unmarried women teachers, where these can be looked after by a married Native evangelist and his wife.

CHURCH ORGANISATION. After nearly 30 years^x of work we have got beyond the pioneering and purely evangelistic stage in many parts, and our workers need all the help they can receive from older workers and Societies, as they face the building up of a strong Native Church. With this before us, emphasis must be put on a pure Church, and, because of this, the polygamy question calls for immediate settlement. In some parts the rules of Church membership, though obviously these have to be stricter than in the Homeland, seem to go too much into details, the emphasis being rather on the negative "Do not" than on the positive side of "Be filled". With the moral back-ground of native life, it is not easy to deal with matters involving Church discipline, and it would be helpful, if our workers, when they next meet at a large Conference, discussed this question as to the way in which discipline should be exercised, perhaps on tenderer lines than exist at the present time in some parts.

SCHOOL WORK One of the most interesting developments of the Mission is that of its training work. Some of our older workers have too long regarded education as something that does not belong to their

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work as Missionaries, and have not realised, as we are apparently doing in our Northern districts, that schools are the most potent evangelising agency. In nearly all our districts boarding schools are now in vogue, or being thought of, and though in their beginning there is naturally some difficulty in regulating the number of boarders received, their age, the nature of their homes, and the distances from which they come, these are all points that our workers must take into consideration after they have made up their minds what is the largest number they are able to supervise with their existing staff.

Then, the question of developing a system of out-station schools, station schools and central training places, should have the earnest attention of all our districts. In some parts industrial training, of a very elementary kind, is being carried on, and this is of obvious benefit where the training is on practical lines, and the whole question kept clear of any appearance of commercialism.

SPECIAL WORK. In addition to the visiting of stations a good many matters of a special nature fell to my lot, mostly at the request of the Executive. These included the Johannesburg Property sale, talks with Mr and Mrs Coates whilst at Bethany, inspecting of the proposed central site for Indian work and of a bit of land at Inverurie, interviews with a good many sugar estate owners regarding the work amongst Indians, and a Christmas spent at Kearsney to try and bring together the two divided camps which originally formed one Indian Church. Then, there were official interviews with the Swaziland Administrator and Surveyor at Mbabane, with the District Official at Molebetse, the Administrator and his Secretary at Livingstone, the District Magistrate at Molebetse in North Rhodesia, and the Ministry of Interior people at Pretoria, in

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addition to a share in the arrangements connected with the Durban Conference, and the interview with the Native leaders at Lumisa on the question of polygamy with the subsequent talks on the subject with workers in our districts.

EUROPEAN WORK. From all accounts the need of a spiritual campaign in the towns and village centres of South Africa is imperative, and, as we have prayed for spiritual quickening throughout the Churches, and are seeing the beginnings of God's workings amongst the Natives, I feel it is for the S.A.G.M. to find out what God would have it do in the matter of arousing the white Churches, the problem being how to make the first approach so as to win their confidence and bring to their hearing the call to Revival.

A Saturday afternoon meeting, largely planned by Mr. Gibson, was held at Sir Liege Hulett's during the Durban Conference, 1917, with the idea of stirring this hope of revival, and over 100 clergy, ministers and workers of all denominations were present, evidently prepared to listen. The aim of the Mission should, therefore, be to plan its work in such a way, in conjunction with the Churches, that the initiative would come from them, and that they would be convinced that the one motive of the S.A.G.M. was the advancement of the Kingdom, an ideal which would probably be negatived if we were to hold weekly holiness meetings and re-start our Mission Hall work.

If Mrs. Middlemiss felt free to organise the M.H.U. in South Africa on a large scale on similar lines to the M.H.U. in England, I believe that spiritual blessing would eventually come to many centres, even if beginnings were small, and the Mission would itself be largely raised. Then the "Pioneer" and "Diocesan" and our literature might be needed

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throughout South Africa, booksellers and men like Mr. Frank Ruskisson being approached as to the possibility of help.

ADMINISTRATION: On my arrival in Cape Town, Mr. Stark was just leaving the Executive, and, soon after, Mr. Daintree expressed his willingness to join us. Though by some people he is regarded as a kind of medieval mystic, Mr. Daintree has a very business-like side to his character, and should be of special value on the Executive now that the Mission has, in so many districts, reached the Church building stage of its work.

Mr. Middlemiss is in some ways a strong man, and has been invaluable in redeeming the finances of the Mission from their position in 1906. He has a very loving side to his character, but can be stern and abrupt, and has somehow failed to impress our workers with the gentler side of his being. He knows Mr. Gibson's weak points, but confesses that he finds it difficult not to be led by him, with the result that our Chairman of Executive is apt to be regarded as indispensable, and by some it is thought that "Mr. Gibson runs the Mission". He is keen on the evangelistic and pioneering side of the Mission and on the spiritual life of the individual worker, but is not so good at settling down to hard constructive work, and finds it difficult to face an intricate situation and work it out; one of the problems of my time in South Africa was to persuade him to sit down and try and work out a programme for the Durban Conference, 1917.

As Mr. Middlemiss has only had a short and rather one-sided experience of life and work on a Native Mission Station, and as his visits to the districts have been few and brief, the sympathy that ought to exist between the Office and those on the field is not ideal. It is evident that the confidence of the members of the Executive of the

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Office Staffing in Cape Town have hindered him from fulfilling his duties as Superintendent. This was emphasized by the fact that so many points were waiting for decision, or were referred to me during my tour, which were Executive matters, but which lack of time and opportunity had kept the Executive from settling, and further by difficulties which have arisen on stations and in districts where the inter-relationship of workers has not been made clear to them from the outset.

Mr. Middlemiss said, in October 1917, that he did not expect to remain in office as Superintendent more than two years, ^{perhaps} his desire being to be free for purely spiritual work, and this is an important possibility to note in planning the future.

INTER-RELATIONSHIP OF COUNCIL, EXECUTIVE & GENERAL CONGREGATIONS. Whilst the administration of the details of finance, and the allocating of Native helpers to would-be supporters may be left as far as possible to the Executive, the question of the allocating of workers needs to be considered in the light of the growth of the Mission and the varied character of its districts. If the newer ones are needing a certain sort of worker, the Council at home, if persuaded that the workers they are sending out are suited to meet the need, should be free to designate their allocation, having in regard the relative urgency of the requests for help.

CO-OPERATIVE WORK. There was little or no opportunity for anything to be done in this direction, though the need is more than urgent. There are evidently too many Missionary Societies at work in South Africa, with the result that Native sects are multiplying. Without delay, South Africa should make a valid attempt to bring into being one African Church, which all the Churches and Missionary Societies would be willing to accept.

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the needs of the unevangelised tribes in South and S. Central Africa were brought before the Missionary Bodies, and the various white workers were to set aside time during the next two or three years for the training of those men and women from the Native Churches as had volunteered for Missionary service, the Native Church would not only throb with new life, but such an advance might prove to be the biggest factor in bringing about unity amongst the Churches.

Edgar C. Faithfull

as in October 1917

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