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From the Bishop.

CHRISTIAN COMPASSION.

The decision of the Government to undertake responsibility for organizing comprehensive measures for the relief of Africans in the Northern Transvaal is a very welcome one. The various voluntary agencies, which have done heroic work during the past three years, have always realized that the little they could do was merely in the nature of First Aid, and that only the Government possessed the organization and the resources to provide the extended treatment necessary if thousands are to be saved from starvation. It is essential that the scheme should be put into practical operation without a moment's delay, and on a long-term basis; for the needs which it must meet are desperately urgent, and likely to persist for an indefinite period. It is also to be hoped that, in spite of some indications to the contrary, the authorities will regard the existing agencies, which have already gained invaluable experience and knowledge of the situation, not as rivals but as willing collaborators, and will give them full credit for the single-minded humanitarianism which has prompted their activities. There is a further and very important point here which must not be overlooked. The effectiveness and worth of any human activity depends not only on results achieved, but on the motive which underlies it—as Christ Himself insists; and His condemnation of the Pharisees is a reminder that doing the right things is no substitute for growing into the right kind of persons. Christian care for those in need must be prompted by Christian Compassion, a readiness to share their suffering, coupled with a determination to do everything possible at whatever cost to relieve it. Compassion is a mark of Christian character and the heart of all effective relief work; and it is this quality which, in the nature of the case, no official agency can supply. Wherever a Government insists on a monopoly of such work, compassion tends to disappear, as experience of the Welfare State in Britain clearly illustrates. The situation in the Northern Transvaal, like similar situations anywhere else, requires *both* the efficiency and the resources of the Government, *and* the compassion and experience

which have been the motive of those who have supported the voluntary agencies. There is a necessary place for both if the real needs of the situation are to be met.

Edward Pretorius.

SUNDAY, JULY 12.

This Sunday will be observed as a Day of Prayer for Family Life, and a Pastoral Letter from the Bishop will be sent to all the clergy to be read to their people that day.

DAY OF UNITED PRAYER FOR PRISONERS.

We are asked to unite with Christians throughout the country in praying for prisoners and their families, and all who work for their rehabilitation, on *Sunday, August 2.*

CHURCHWARDENS AND SIDESMEN.

There will be a conference for members of Church Councils at the Cathedral on Saturday afternoon, July 11th. This conference will begin at 3.00 p.m. and end with Evensong at 6.00 p.m. The Bishop will attend and speak.

The purpose of the Conference is to help members of Church Councils to consider together their particular work both in the parish and in the affairs of the diocese. It is hoped that all the Pretoria parishes will be represented as strongly as possible.

The Conference is being held under the auspices of the Department of Religious Education.

FAMILY DAY.

There will be a Sung Eucharist at the Cathedral on Family Day, Monday, July 13th, at 9.00 a.m. when we shall pray for the home and family life of our country. The celebrant will be the Archdeacon of Pretoria, and the preacher, the Reverend A. V. Campbell.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST'S— 24 RIVERS.

50th Anniversary.

As South Africa reckons age, the Chapel of St. John the Baptist, 24 Rivers, which was consecrated by Bishop Furse fifty years ago, is one of the older churches of the Transvaal. Some of the original congregation who used to meet for Matins and Evensong on Sundays and Holy days even before the Church was built are still regular worshippers in it, while of recent days the great grand-children of some of its founders have been baptized at its font.

The chapel is unmistakably the work of Sir Hubert Baker—possibly the smallest church he ever designed. It was dedicated to St. John the Baptist because it stood 'in the wilds' in the early days when there were no roads to speak of. Indeed, it is still twelve miles from the nearest village, Vaalwater, which in turn lies about an hour's journey west by car from Nylstroom.

The little stone and thatch church looks comfortably full with ten in the nave, yet over fifty managed to pack in for the 50th Anniversary service at which the Bishop was celebrant and preacher. There were some present who had been there when the Eucharist was first offered in this place, and two adults, converts from another denomination and confirmed the previous evening, received communion for the first time. There were visitors from far and wide and good wishes and prayers from many who could not be present.

Amongst the many who have loved and served God in this Church and are now at rest, Mr. E. A. Davidson must surely have a special place. He was secretary of the original building committee, and later a

lay reader. He played a vital role not only in the life of the Church, but of the community at large, and founded the first African school in the area, and also the first Mission church—St. Anne's on a nearby farm.

After the Anniversary Eucharist, the congregation were sung to by the choir of the E.A. Davidson School, and St. Anne's Church, and then a tea, which ran to the proportions of a banquet, was served, to be followed by an equally sumptuous unch, tennis, and much reminiscing.

T. D. V.

ROUND THE PROVINCE.

IT'S A BATTLE. Not every one is as keen. I heard of another parish which ended the year with a credit balance of well over R2,000, but its total giving for missions etc. was under R50. It seems that this battle has to be fought all over the Anglican world. A recent survey among Anglicans in Australia revealed that only one church council in three had a healthy attitude towards Missions. The needs of the Pacific area evoked a better response than Africa or Asia. Well, we have scarcely begun to think of any needs of the Church north of the Limpopo, or Eastwards and Westwards of the Republic.

IT'S WORTHWHILE. S. Michael's Church Mandaba, in the Etaloleni parish (diocese of Zululand), was very difficult to build, as all iron, timber, windows, cement, paint, etc. had to be carried on people's heads six miles along mountain tracks. Mandaba is remote, and even building sand, stone and water had to be carried a considerable distance on sledges. The Church, set back from a rocky promontory, at about 3,500 feet, commands one of the most impressive views in Zululand, and is in the centre of an almost entirely heathen district.

Some time ago, an African priest, ordained late in life, refused to accept any stipend, and asked that money set aside for his stipend should be used for building churches. Now the church at Glenvuma in South Swaziland stands as witness to his sacrifice.

CAPE TOWN. A visit to Cape Town for the enthronization of the Archbishop (a wonderful service, remarkable not only

for the beauty of music and dignity of ceremonial but for its real prayerfulness) gave me an opportunity to learn the strength of our work among the Coloured people of the Cape.

Of course there is a big question mark. Are we going to be moved? But the work goes on. I stayed at Zonnebloem College, one of the oldest institutions of our church, now a Secondary School and Teacher Training College for Coloured girls. I visited Leliebloem, a bright cheerful orphanage which seemed a real home and not an institution. On a wet Whitsunday morning I sang the Eucharist at St. Philip's in Chapel St. a good congregation, and very good music. They want to extend their church, but what is the future?

BREAKING BARRIERS. The night before I flew to Cape Town, I was one of the speakers at a Church Unity meeting in the Johannesburg Central Hall. It was good to see so many Anglicans there, for sometimes we are accused of luke-warmness about such meetings. There a new note was sounded by an African minister who reminded us of the danger of ignoring the African separatist churches in our thoughts of reunion.

I arrived back in time for the annual meetings of the Christian Council of South Africa (which were attended by observers for the R.C. and N.G. churches). A highlight of the Conference was the talk given by the Revd. Seth Mokitimi (President-elect of the Methodist Conference). He movingly described the way in which his church has joined with us, and Baptist and Dutch Reformed people in a united plan to evangelise the heathen parts of the Herschel district of the North-Eastern Cape.

Three days after the C.C.S.A. meetings I took part in the quarterly Anglican-Methodist conversations, when we had a most interesting discussion on the Eucharist.

FREDERICK AMOORE.

NEWS ABOUT UPLANDS.

Those who have a personal interest in Uplands School will be rejoicing with us at the appointment of Mr. Walmsley as Headmaster. Now that he has taken over, we are doing our best to back him in every way so that Uplands can provide the particular quality of education for which it exists. As

you all agree, we must give Uplands all the support we can and to this end we have formed a Fund-raising Committee.

The Nelspruit and District parents have undertaken the stupendous task of running a Snack Bar at the Lowveld Show. This will involve a tremendous amount of planning and hard work. White River parents are assisting with sandwiches and taking shifts.

The White River parents have undertaken to run a Fete to be held about the 15th August.

We are most fortunate to have a new Headmaster of the calibre of Mr. Walmsley whose invigorating influence is already being felt. He and the staff deserve our fullest support, so may I invite you, as Church people, to help us in our work on behalf of this Church school.

H. BIRD.

SYNOD-1964.

African Clergy and representatives to Synod desiring hospitality should apply to: The Ven. J. B. K. Tsebe, P. O. Box 1, Atteridgeville, Pretoria.

OBITUARIES.

Great losses in the Mission District of Mathibestad.

On Saturday May the 30th, our old Catechist Josiah Mathibe came to rest. He was about 88 years of age. He was a very strong old man in the faith of his church. Old as he was, yet it was only two months

before his death that he was unable to kneel at the altar rail to receive communion. His funeral was attended by a large number of people.

Another was the death of Ephraim Setimo, a sub-catechist at Klippan in the Wintersveld area. He also was about 80 years of age, and he died on June the 1st. He was a keen churchman. At Klippan, the Church services were held in his house, there being no other building available.

They will both be greatly missed.

Z. THEMA.

SOME OF THE BISHOP'S ENGAGEMENTS IN JULY.

July		
1 Wed.	St. Alban's College Foundation Trustees	11.30 a.m.
3-5	Subdeacons' Conference, Rosettenville	
11 Sat.	Church Councillors' Conference, St. Alban's Cathedral.....	3.0 p.m.
12 Sun.	St. Wilfrid's, Pretoria.....	7.30 a.m.
13-15	Theological Training Commission, Grahamstown.	
17-22	Louis Trichardt.	
25 Sat.	Matlala, Dedication and Confirmation...	3.0 p.m.
26 Sun.	Matlala.....	7.0 a.m.
	Khaiso, Confirmation.....	11.0 a.m.
30 Thur.	Witbank, Dedication	6.30 p.m.
31 Fri.	St. Mary's D.S.G. Governing Body....	4.30 p.m.