

Mission Report - 15 min.
Sacrament Mtg 19 June 1983 - 2pm.
PV 1ST Ward Sharon East Bk.
Provo, ut.

(1)

H.J.H 18 June 1983

On April ¹⁹~~17~~, 1853 Elders Jesse Haven, Leonard L. Smith, and William Holmes Walker climbed Lion's Head Mountain overlooking Capetown and dedicated South Africa to the preaching of the Restored Gospel of Jesus Christ. These three missionaries had been called to serve by Brigham Young at a special conference of the elders of the church held in the old Salt Lake City Tabernacle in 1852. ~~It is~~ Interestingly, at that same conference 57 elders were called to serve in Europe, ~~4~~ to Asia, and 14 to serve in Asia.

On Sept. 15, 1852, the 3 South African Elders, Haven, Smith, and Walker said farewell to their families and travelled by wagon to New York City together with another 103 missionaries called to serve in various parts of the world. They travelled without purse or script and arrived at Cape Town via England on April 18, 1853 seven months after leaving Salt Lake City.

As they commenced their proselytizing efforts, they met immediate opposition from the local clergy and press but succeeded in baptizing 45 people within the next six months. Before they left in 1855, 176 people had been baptized.

~~We do not~~ We are not that successful today. There are currently ~~a total of~~ about 120 missionaries in South Africa and ⁸ in Zimbabwe. The yearly harvest is about 440 converts, ~~which amounts to~~ ^{is} comparing, by calculation, ~~the~~ ^{our} present day efforts to those of Haven, Smith, and Walker, they were 8 times ^{more} effective.

Most of the converts coming into the church in Africa today are non-whites. It is difficult to convert whites

in South Africa and Zimbabwe. I made a comment concerning this in my Journal on April 1, 1983. ~~That may be of interest.~~

"Our mission zone held a braai (barbecue) today at brother Nichols' home, high on the mountainside at St. James overlooking Kalk Bay. The view was, well, fantastic! You could see Cape Point, False Bay, distant mountains [the Drakenbergs], the sandy and [the] rocky beaches, the surf, wind surfers, swimmers, [sun bathers], [lovely] ^{white} clouds, and distant horizons - also, other lovely homes, stacked on the hillsides. - I know why the missionary work is so slow here. The people ~~already~~ think they are ^{already} in heaven. And they are. Physically, the Cape is a Garden of Eden ---."

There are four main groups of people in South Africa: (1) the whites (usually called Europeans) 17%, (2) The Asians, ^(Indians) 4%, (3) The Bantus (native blacks) 70%, and (4) the Coloureds (ranging from nearly white to nearly black) 9%. The total population is about 30,000,000 people.

It was our privilege to spend 5 months ^{of our 1 1/2 years} ~~travelling~~ ^{travelling} and teaching among the ~~coloureds~~ Coloureds - often called Cape Coloureds because most of them live in the Cape Province. Our assigned area was Mitchells Plain, a relatively new city of nearly 200,000 people. It is located about 37 km (23 miles) ^{southeast} ~~from~~ of the center of Capetown and about 27 km (16 miles) from our Brengeti Apartment in Mowbray. ~~The~~ Mitchells Plain has many miles of sandy beach fronting False Bay with nice recreational facilities. The city is well planned. It has 6 lane divided access roads, 6 lane main city roads, and 4 and 2 lane lesser roads. All roads have sidewalks on

both sides of the street. all streets are lighted. Electrical power is underground. Most houses ^{have} 3 bedrooms with a kitchen, dining room and living room. They have flush toilets, ~~and~~ hot and cold running water, refrigerators and electric stoves. while the lots are small, there is room to park a car, have a small lawn and flowers in ^{the} front and a garden in back. ^{homes} They ~~are~~ are heavily subsidized by the ^{over} government and sell for around \$12,000. They have nice schools, shopping malls, theatres, ~~and~~ recreational facilities and ^{community centers} In addition to the fine road system for motor vehicles there is fast electric train and bus service to the area.

Mitchells Plain was opened up by Frank and Mawine Hoyle, a missionary couple from ^{Rochdale} Lancaster, England (Incidentally, their son, Frank Hoyle, Jr is the ~~Bishop~~ Bishop in this area ^{of England}, and had 250 converts in his ward ~~last year~~ (19 in 1981). Elder and sister Hoyle GQ'd (asked the "golden questions") a colored couple, Malvern and Beryl Cedras, at the Golden Acres shopping mall in Capetown ^{about} June of 1982 and obtained an appointment for a first discussion. The Cedras' and their 6yr old daughter Marisa live in Mitchells Plain. Cedras' were converted. The Hoyles thought that Mitchells Plain would be a good area to tract and received permission to work there. A pair of young Elders were also assigned to the area. The area was considered too dangerous for sisters. There are ^{several} ~~about~~ ^{every} 30 murders ~~per~~ week in M.P. ^{Mr. James Green, a colored member of the church of} By ~~their own admission~~, ^{who lives in M.P.} the Coloureds are a passionate, jealous, hard-drinking, crime-prone people. I believe ~~him~~ It seems to be true.

The Hoyles later converted Edmund and Irene Brown, ~~who~~ who have three children (Natalie, Bernard, and Carmen). ~~to the church.~~

We took over from the Hoyles the ~~first week last week in December 1982~~ around the first of January 1983. We continued the work ~~there~~ there along with 2 young elders until the middle of May of 1983. Neither the young Elders nor Sister Hall and I saw ~~any coloureds come into~~ ~~nor any converts~~ to the church. President G. Phillip Margetts, upon our leaving for home did not intend to replace us and the two young Elders were seeking a transfer and recommending that M.P. be closed down.

Well, we're sorry to not have had any baptisms. We ~~do~~ ^{only} hope that we've planted some seeds that someday will bear fruit. ~~among the M.P. Coloureds. It was easy to~~ Tracting ~~is~~ ^{was} easy in M.P. For example, our tracting record for the week of ^{Sun} ~~Sat~~, Jan 24, 1983 ^{23rd} through Sat Jan 29, 1983 indicates the following:

- | | | |
|-----|---|-------|
| (1) | number of doors knocked on | 42 |
| (2) | " " homes in which a discussion was given | 12 |
| (3) | " " families receiving a discussion (often 2 or 3 fam. in home) | 23 |
| (4) | " " persons receiving discussion | ~ 100 |
| (5) | " " families not home | 9 |
| (6) | " " " who turned us away | 10 |
| (7) | " " " busy but gave us a future appointment | 4 |
| (8) | " " " who did not keep a previously arranged appointment | 4 |

we spent most of our time in M.P. tracting ^{although} in the area known as New Portland. Referrals took us to homes in most of the ^{other} M.P. areas. ~~so that we were familiar with the entire city.~~ Everyone who lives on Cambridge St. now knows something

about the church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Day after day we were there distributing tracts, Book of Mormons, and giving discussions, showing film strips, and praying with families. ~~The Halls~~ ^{We} and ~~there~~ ^{our} yellow Toyota were as familiar a sight ~~on~~ Cambridge St. as the Ice Cream man. The children followed us around as though we were ~~the~~ ^{the} pied pipers of Hamelin. We came to love the people on Cambridge St. and many came to love us. ~~They would follow us from house to house to see the film strips over and over again.~~ We placed 130 copies of the Book of Mormon in the Cape; most of them in M.P. (Incidentally we ~~also~~ ^{also} placed 50 BOM's in Zimbabwe.)

Let me ~~tell you~~ ^{thank you for your participation in} about that program. You may be interested in how it ~~goes~~ ^{works} at the missionary's end. We give the book at any stage in the conversion process as the Spirit directs. It might even be given as a door approach: "Mr. Brown, we are missionaries from America representing The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. We have a book that ~~we would like to give you.~~ It is called the Book of Mormon and is a gift from Mr. John Doe, a neighbor of ours in America. He and his family have enclosed a color photograph of themselves ~~with~~ ^{and a greeting} ~~and a message concerning this book.~~ ^{to you} ~~Let me read what they have said.~~ Dear friend, we send you greetings and our best wishes from America. Please accept this book as a gift from us. The BOM is a very important part of our family's life. It is the foundation of our faith and a collaborating testimony with the Bible to the divinity and mission of Jesus Christ. ~~There are many sound parts~~ ^{one of our favorite} is the Book of 3 Nephi (especially Chapt 17) which records the visit of Jesus Christ, after His resurrection, to His people in ancient America. We know that this book is true, and that you too, can know

this for yourself. Sincerely, John Doe, ⁴⁴⁷1000 West Stadium Ave., Provo, Utah, ⁸⁴⁶⁰⁴U.S.A. - ~~Mr. John Doe would be very happy to learn that you have hear from you and to learn~~ may we come in and tell you more about this book? . This door approach will work in M.P. almost every time, even with Muslims. The colored people cannot resist something that is free. ~~the~~

at least a dozen ^{MP} Coloureds heard all of the discussions, believed that Joseph Smith was a prophet, and that the BOM was true. But, they believed that their church was also true. Our hopes were always shattered this way.

We were the prime beneficiaries of our mission. For the first time in our lives we shared each other 24 hours a day ^{consecutive} for 578 days. Our love increased. So did our testimonies. ^{I saw no heavenly beings, but} several times I heard my name, just as surely as Joseph Smith heard his in the Sacred Grove, and received affirmation that I was doing the right thing in the right place at the right time and that the church was true.

Our Father in Heaven lives, and Jesus Christ is the Messiah, and I say these things in His name,

Amen

Beginnings

April 19, 1853 Jessie Haven, Leonard S. Smith, William Holmes Walker
 Lion's Head Mountain

7 months

B.Y. / conf. Elders Europe, Asia, Africa

15 Sept 1852 H. S. W. + 103 wagons NYC.

opposition - 6M/45 bapt - 2 yrs 176 people

(120 S.A + 8 Zimb) / 440 converts/yr - 8x as effective

Today's Converts - non white / difficult to convert whites

comment from Diary ^{1 APR 83} / Zone Conf. Brian

People of S.A. 70% Bantu, 9% Coloured, 4% Indian, 17% European.
 Total pop. ~ 30 million

Tracting / Teaching Coloureds in M.P.

~~High~~ description of M.P. beaches, homes, streets, schools.
 Trains bus.

The Hoyles - Frank & Marvine f. Rochdale, Lancaster

Cedrus & Brown. dangers - murders - Mr. Green.

Tracting easy M.P.

Diary wk 23-29 Jan

Cambridge St

Ice cream man, pied piper, yellow Toyota, children, in most homes
 knew people, love.

BOM Placement 130 Cape 50 Zimb.

Thank for participation - how it works at missionary end -
 read Testimony etc. John Doe 447 Std. ar.

~12 Coloureds rec'd all discussions - V.S. / BOM - true - our church also true.
 (DIARY 13 Feb 83)

We Prime Beneficiaries of Mission 578 consec. days - our love increased.

Heard Voice

Rich./rifle/windy 174

Conf. 178

de Beers ~ 180

5 Months

overview
Spiritual Experience
Testimony

Tracing stats 23-29 Jan p. 215 -

Cape point 218

BOM/test./Liz 219 p 218-19

130 Cape 50 Zamb

180 copies

fless 219

- handshake -

describe Mitchells Plains - roads, homes, beach, schools
burglar bars, dogs, kids -

commit: pr, study, church p. 222 also fless
wind/capetown

Toyota starter p. 232

Boschendal p. 233 / gospel discussions - important people.

TALKS U of Z, U of CT, CISR, [school/M.P. religion], Rotary youth
↑ p. 231 →

Helen Fuller / George p. 241 - 244

The Trek 248

Nie Blanke train ride 248

Braai/Kalle Bay p. 250

Shuttleworth Sir Attache p. 250

Holidays: Easter - Christmas 250 - Founders Day 2 apr - 23rd
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Infant Baptism 263

Basil Howard 264