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THE MISSIONARY SURVEY

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FEBRUARY, 1917

"SURVEY WEEK"
MARCH 11-17. 7-2

The time set apart for an organized special effort to put The Missionary Survey in every Presbyterian home. Plan now for it. It is an endeavor worthy of having the

Right of Way

for at least one week in the year.
See page 153.



HOME
MISSIONS

CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION
AND
MINISTERIAL
RELIEF



FOREIGN
MISSIONS

PUBLICATION
AND
SABBATH
SCHOOL
WORK

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U.S.
AT HOME AND ABROAD

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LETTER FROM MR. C. R. STEGALL.

Since I last wrote to you sending you the latest photograph of our African force, we have had the honor of

and grandson as might be supposed, but rather his nephew and nephew's nephew. This is because the oldest son of the King's oldest sister inherits the throne.



The first and only photograph that has ever been taken of the new king of the Bakubas, Lukenga. The king is in the center; on either side of him are the next two kings. The missionaries, reading from left to right are, Mrs. Stegall and baby, Dr. Morrison, C. R. Stegall, Mr. Edmiston, Dr. Coppedge and Mrs. McElroy.

a visit from the new King of the Bakubas, Lukenga. While here I got him to pose for the first and only photograph that has ever been taken of him. I send you herewith the picture. The King is in the center of the picture. On each side of him are the next two kings. These are not his son

The Missionaries, reading from left to right, are Mrs. Stegall and baby, Dr. Morrison, myself, Mr. Edmiston, Dr. Coppedge, and Mrs. McElroy.

This leaves us all as well as usual, but sad because of the death of the Wharton baby girl.

The Industrial School is booming. The large lumber shed is completed and is now being used as a carpenter shop also. The foundation of the brick carpenter shop (40x120 ft.), is about completed and the work is going fine. More applicants for admission than I can possibly accept. My problem is certainly not to get students, but to keep them away till I can accommodate them.

At the same time, however, those I have accepted have built the lumber shed and are building the carpenter shop.

They are extremely anxious to learn and are very quick. Their application request is as follows: "I want to get the wisdom of the work of boards." Twenty cents a week will clothe and feed a boy and give him an education. The trouble is that the boys here do not have the twenty cents.

CONFERENCE OF EVANGELISTS AT LUSAMBO.

REV. R. D. BEDINGER.

ON AUGUST 3-6 our evangelists' conference convened. Seventeen out-station evangelists and forty voluntary teachers with fourteen local evangelists composed the body. Those from the out-stations had walked in,

the most remote having come seventy-five miles. Not one was missing. How many Presbyteries at home can boast a perfect attendance? All were entertained by the local Christians.

The conference was spiritual in tone.

The Spirit's presence was manifest. Several made confession of lack of faith and of slothfulness in the conduct of their work. These prayed for forgiveness and promised to do better.

Oral reports of their work were made the first day by the evangelists. On the whole these were encouraging. The simple recital of failures and successes, of trying difficulties and vexing problems, of the death of a babe unattended by physician or nurse and the evangelist's grief, of pagan unbelief and sinful practices, and of the triumphs of the cross filled the listening missionary with admiration and enthusiasm for these simple yet heroic men. It takes grit as well as grace to stand firm to the principles of Christianity in the face of derisive, bitter, heathen opposition.

Three subjects of vital importance to the better organization and larger development of the work were freely discussed and acted upon. These were Prayer, Self-Support and Self-Government. It was shown in each case that the leadership must devolve upon the evangelist. Secret prayer and the family altar were urged as the best means of developing a *praying* church.

At a session from which the missionary was absent, the evangelists adopted the *tithe* as the minimum of their giving and are to urge the same upon their flocks. It took all the missionary's courage to accept the tenth from one of the younger evangelists. He felt more like saying, "No, my friend, keep your money; the Lord surely does not exact this from you!" He receives a salary of \$16.00 per year, with which he must feed and clothe himself and wife. They are located in the most distant outstation in the midst of blackest sin, far from sympathetic friends. At one fell blow the State took \$2.40 as a poll tax. Two months' salary gone at a clip! Yet he laid down his tenth, \$1.60, leav-

ing him only \$12.00 for the year's expenses. Still, the church at home in order to keep its Foreign Mission Committee out of debt is saying that we must retrench at this end by cutting this humble evangelist's meagre salary twenty per cent! Would it not be wiser for the kingdom's sake, to add twenty per cent. to this man's salary in order that he might be more efficient in the work?

The problem of self-support in a virgin soil is a vexing one. The action taken by the evangelists at this conference will go far towards its solution. Many of the laity are already following their leaders in this respect. It is interesting to know that the local church here is already providing the full supports of the two most highly paid evangelists in this field. Their combined salaries amount to \$75 per year. The church was organized three years ago and has sixty-three resident members.

An important step toward ultimate self-government was taken when the evangelists elected one of their number for ordination to the Gospel ministry with full evangelistic powers. He will be ordained in November at Luebo with two others similarly chosen from the Luebo and Mutoto sections. We find that the more responsibility we place upon the natives, the better they work.

The conference closed Sunday, August 6, with an impressive communion service and on Monday the delegations began to depart for their various fields rejoiced in spirit and, we trust, filled with eagerness to see the work of the Lord prospering in their hands. I may add that they left behind two missionaries filled with something of their own enthusiasm and optimism for the future of the work.

Lusambo, Congo Belge, Africa.

Mrs. Geo. D. Elliott, Sr., of Duke, N. C., writes: "May I live to see Jack at the top of his pole, waving his banner, is my earnest desire."