

1916 March

The workers of Matopo and Mtshabesi Missions met together in Conference at the former place, Tuesday, March 14, 1916. H.P. Steigerwald, Moderator, H.J. Frey, Secretary.

Art. I

Brother A.C. Winger, as chairman of the Missionary Pamphlet Committee, reported that he had received contributions from a number of missionaries, and had forwarded the same to the secretary of the F.M. Board. Decided to appoint Sr. Ballie Doner to fill the vacancy caused by the absence of Sr. Heisey.

Art. II

The following resolution from the workers at Mtshabesi was next considered (This resolution had been addressed to the Building Committee and they referred the same to Conference).

Whereas, the present Mtshabesi Mission is in an unhealthful location, on account of the heat from the nearby Kopje, and the mosquitoes which breed in the dampness under the rocks and owing to the lack of wind to drive them away,

Whereas the house is in a musty and unhealthy condition,

Whereas, the present site is too crowded for further satisfactory building,

Whereas, a new church is needed, and by moving, the iron and rafters could be used in the church and the doors, window-frames, etc., could be used in building houses of Kimberley brick, with grass roofs which would be cheaper and cooler, and

Whereas the present house as well as some other buildings need repairing, while others, including the fowls and garden, need shifting, which makes the present time for moving quite opportune, therefore,

Resolved that the Mtshabesi Mission workers submit the question to the Building Committee with the request that they consider the advisability of moving to a more roomy, convenient, and healthful location.

Signed W.C. Winger, Abbie B. Winger, Hannah Baker, Cora Alvis, Sadie Bock.

Conference decided by unanimous vote that Mtshabesi Mission should be moved.

The following resolution was also passed by unanimous vote.

(1) That only the quarters for workers together with the huts for the girls and the necessary out-buildings be moved this year.

(2) That since the material from the present house will be utilized in the new, thus making the actual expense comparatively small since the building season is fast approaching, and there would not be sufficient time to correspond with the F.M. Board, we deem it advisable to begin at once with the building operations, and hereby advise the workers at Mtshabesi thus to proceed.

Art. III

Question as to what should be done with the brick house still standing at Kapane Mission.

1916 Continued

Art. III Continued.

Since the house is not used at present, and will probably never be required for white workers, and since under present conditions, the house is rapidly deteriorating,

Decided that the wood and iron and other valuable material be removed and used for building at Matopo.

Art. IV

Question in regard to school terms. As at present constituted, with the long vacation in summer ~~and~~ the school terms are not satisfactory.

Decided therefore, that henceforth the school year shall begin with the first week of January, and that there shall be six weeks' vacation in the winter, beginning with the first week of July, and two weeks' holiday at Christmas time.

H.J.Frey, Secretary.