

NOVEMBER

J F BRANDON BAPTIST MISSIONARY

1942

Cruzeiro do Sul, Acre, Brazil, South AmericaWheaton Illinois November 1942

Cruzeiro do Sul, Aug 7 1942

Dear Friends and Brethren in the Lord Jesus:- It has been on my heart to write to you for many days but I have been hindered, however this afternoon it is raining and I will begin with the intention of finishing later. I have been here about three weeks and have hardly stopped, but can assure you that I am thoroughly happy. The Lord is with me and it encourages me in the work. I have seen Him prove His love for this work in the last few days and that makes me happy indeed. When I arrived one of our brethren, who was a prisoner, serving a term for being connected with a wholesale robbery of merchandise here, and was converted in one of our Sunday afternoon services here in the jail, was very sick with the dropsy. Because there was no place to treat him in the jail they had moved him to the hospital, "So called for the want of a better name." I found him to be very sick, more neglect than otherwise. Being a prisoner and without funds and also a believer he was sadly neglected. I would visit him every day and read the scriptures to him and pray for him which seemed to comfort him very much. I also supplied him with the things he needed in food and medicine but it seemed to be the will of the Lord to take him. Yesterday morning at an early hour they sent for me saying that he was dying, so I went as quickly as possible, and well that I did for he did not have long to remain. Before this sickness he was a strong muscular man and in the days of his foolishness was considered a violent one, but now, what a difference, he was as poor as you ever heard Jobs turkey to be. I never saw one with less meat on his bones. Disfigured by days and nights of intense suffering, but in spite of all this, when he was offered the lighted candle in the moment of death, he rejected it. When asked if he desired the priest or a nun, he almost laughed as he replied "The Lord Jesus has saved my soul and I am trusting in Him to take me unto Himself now, I am trusting only in Him." There were a dozen or more in the room, and I want to tell you brother that the moments that followed were serious indeed, the soul of one of their own nature had gone into the presence of its Creator, despising the formalities of the vain religion in which they had all been created and they seemed to be stupified at his rejection of these things, and the calmness in which he passed out. I firmly believe the same ONE who saved my soul "received his spirit." The prisoners who die here are given but little consideration. They usually carry them to the cemetery when a hole is dug and drop them in, the hammock used to carry them is usually brought back. I didn't want this brother in the Lord treated as I had seen others treated so I went to the man in charge to find out more about it, I was told that they did not merit a coffin and that he would be carried away as soon as possible. It was only seven o'clock in the morning but I started to the home of the judge, in the way I met the grave digger but did not stop to converse with him. The judge said he would see that he had a decent burial and sent me to the doctor to see if his body would last until we could get the coffin made, the doctor said it would, then he sent to the jail to intimidate the soldiers and prisoners to carry the body from the hospital to the grave. Then I went to a carpenter to get him to make the coffin, and found that he had no boards but we had some and soon the man was working at the job. At four P M all was ready, we had dressed the body and placed it in the coffin which was in the main room of the hospital. The judge had given orders that I was in charge of the funeral and for them to give me all of the time I wanted. (over)

Many had gathered in to see how we would proceed, there were about 75 present, some enemies of the gospel, others who had never heard. The Lord had given me a message and power to deliver it and for about 30 minutes I preached the gospel to them and the Lord manifested His presence and approval in a most unusual manner. We had prayer and then closed with singing "There is a land that is fairer than day." The people had never seen it on this fashion. Most of them were pleased. Best wishes, GOD bless you dear brother and yours.

(Prov 16:7)

J F Brandon

### SOME COMPARISONS

When we read the above letter from Brother Brandon, how that he preached to the prisoners in the jail, were reminded of the text: "The poor have the gospel preached unto them." (Matt 11:5). When we read how he visited the sick brother daily and supplied him with food and medicine and read the scriptures to him and prayed for him, we remembered: "For I was an hungred and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger and ye took me in: Naked and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying Lord when saw we thee an hungred and fed thee? Or thirsty and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger and took thee in? Or naked and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." (Matt 25:35 to 40). And when we read how he went to the judge to get permission to bury the body and how he dressed it and placed it in the coffin we were reminded of Joseph of Arimathaea of how he "Besought Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus." And of Nicodemus how he "Brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes" and how Joseph of Arimathaea and Nicodemus took the "Body of Jesus and wound it in linen clothes with spices". (John 19:38 to 40). Again as we read how he preached the gospel at the funeral service with both the enemies of the gospel, and those who had never heard the gospel. present, we recalled the promise: "So shall my word be that goeth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." (Isa 55:11). After closing the letter he wrote on the margin in ink "Prov 16:7" which reads "When a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him." We are happy to have a part in the support of this great mission work with you.

### THE MISSION SHEETS

The mailing list for the monthly mimeographed mission sheets continues to grow. We are thankful that it has pleased the Lord to bless our efforts. The kind words that we have received are a source of great encouragement to us. Mrs Walter Powers of Tennessee Ridge Tenn sends two dollars to help in this part of the work. We failed to acknowledge in the last issue, the receipt of two dollars from Miss Georgia Brandon of Benton Ky. For this help we are thankful. Sister Powers also sent four names with the addresses for the mailing list. If you know of someone that you would like for us to send the sheets to, just send us the name and address. Send all offerings for the mission work to:

Elder Z E Clark  
5216 Concord Ave  
Detroit Michigan



NOVEMBER

*October*  
FINANCIAL REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 1942

1942

Report of offerings received from October 3rd 1942 to November 3rd 1942 for the support of Missionary J F Brandon and family:

Friendship Baptist Church-----	Paducah Ky-----	\$12.00
Friendship Baptist Church-----	" "-----	1.00
Bellview Baptist Church-----	" "-----	31.40
Mt Zion Baptist Church-----	" "-----	11.00
Hopewell Baptist Church-----	Golden Pond Ky----	305.00
South Union Baptist Church-----	Cadiz Ky-----	7.50
Grace Baptist Church (Girl's B Y P U)-----	Detroit Mich-----	5.00
Harmony Baptist Church-----	" "-----	46.38
Benton Baptist Church-----	Benton Ky-----	75.25
First Baptist Church-----	Wheaton Ill-----	56.50
Astrid Strom-----	" "-----	1.00
Carl Vining-----	" "-----	3.00
Donald Overbey-----	" "-----	1.00
John Babian-----	" "-----	1.00
Fay Wing Jr-----	" "-----	2.00
Dorothy Arison-----	" "-----	1.00
Betty Day-----	" "-----	1.00
John Brandon-----	" "-----	6.00
Oscar Ahlswede-----	Glen Ellyn Ill----	5.00
Mrs Anna Coulter-----	Greenbrier Tenn---	5.00
Mr and Mrs Roy Lee-----	Almo Ky-----	5.00
Elder and Mrs Joe Bubar-----	Vassalboro Me-----	5.00

(Signed) Z E Clark

Total \$587.03

HOPEWELL BAPTIST CHURCH

You will note from the above report that the Hopewell Baptist Church near Golden Pond Ky has sent a check for \$305.00 to Brother Z E Clark. They advise that \$150.00 is to be used for the native missionaries, if it can be done profitably, and the rest for the support of J F Brandon and his family. This is part of the money that this church has received from the T V A for their church property. When the large dam at Gilbertsville Ky is completed and the valley is flooded, the place where the Hopewell Baptist Church worships will be under water. We do not know how many of the members will have their homes flooded and will have to move elsewhere. We hope that when they move that they will send us their names and new addresses so that we can continue to send the monthly Mission Sheets to them. These good people love J F Brandon and his family and the mission work that he is doing in Brazil. They have shown their love in a concrete way by the fine offering that they sent by the hand of Brother W C Wallis. All who love this mission work will join us in grateful acknowledgement to the saints of this church. May it bring Honor and Glory to Him who purchased the church with his own blood. When the letter bearing this news reaches J F Brandon at Cruzeiro do Sul some two or more months from now, we are sure that he will rejoice greatly in the Lord. On his "LIST FOR DAILY PRAYER" there are more than 20 churches and pastors named. At the bottom of the list he wrote: "I call all of these by name no less than twice daily and many others who live in Brazil." The pastor and people of the Hopewell Baptist Church will be happy to know that J F Brandon remembers them by name before the throne of grace "no less than twice daily." Surely we can say with James 5:16 that "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." May the Lord bless and encircle each of you daily with His sustaining grace. His grace is sufficient.

The receipt of the fine offering from the Hopewell Baptist Church reminds us of the similar action by the Provine Baptist Church just three years ago. The Provine Baptist Church was located near the large dam that the T V A is building at Gilbertsville Ky. Elder Dewey H Jones preached for them two Sunday afternoons a month for about two years. The T V A purchased the church property and also that of the members who lived in the valley. They held their last meeting in November 1939 and voted to give the money that they received for their church property for the support of Missionary J F Brandon and family. They then granted each member a letter and then adjourned to meet no more as the Provine Baptist Church. They moved to different localities here and there. We do not know how many of them receive these monthly Mission Sheets that we send out in the interest of Missionary J F Brandon's work. They loved this work and we should like for each of them to be on the mailing list. If you know the names and addresses of any of them please send them to us and we shall be obliged.

#### THANKSGIVING TIME

Every day should be a time of thanksgiving to our Heavenly Father for his manifold grace and blessings. Especially at this time should we be humble and thankful for the way the Lord is blessing the Mission Work of our brother J F Brandon. We should be thankful for his safe arrival on the mission field and for the way the offerings have come in for the support of the work. Especially should we be thankful for the offering from Hopewell Baptist Church which is a fine start in the support of the native missionaries. We are thankful for the fine response to the paragraph we wrote in the September issue headed "AN URGENT APPEAL." This response enabled Brother Clark to send extra funds to the bank in Manaus Brazil to the credit of Brother Brandon's account. We are thankful for all the churches and individuals who help in supporting this mission work. Truly it will be a great day when we stand in the presence of our Lord and see the many hundreds of Brazilian saints there who were saved under the preaching of Missionary J F Brandon. We are happy and thankful now to have a small part in this great work. We will be happier and more thankful then that we did have a part. We are thankful that we had a mother that taught us to love and to give to missions. Each passing year we are more thankful for the precious remembrances of her. We "arise up and call her blessed."

#### NATIVE MISSIONARIES

The work of native missionaries is not new to J F Brandon. They have been working with him for many years and he well knows their usefulness. The Messenger of Truth in its issue of March 19 1937 carries Brother Brandon's annual report for the year 1936. This report shows that J F Brandon supported himself and family, three native preachers full time and seven native brethren part time on the offerings sent to him that year. That was six years ago. He has said to us as we quoted in the September issue: "With a good missionary to work with me and with twenty five native preachers, we could evangelize the Amazon Valley in a few years and have Baptist Churches in the towns and villages up and down the Amazon river and its tributaries." Because of the war new missionaries can not go to the field at present, but J F Brandon is already there with 19 years of experience and the native preachers are already there to work with him. Brethren it seems to be up to us to supply the offerings. By the grace of God it can be done. "Believest thou this?"