

Central Brazil Mission

BULLETIN No. 1

WHO WE ARE

The cut below presents to friends and supporters, the members of the Mission who attended the annual meeting in Bahia, Dec. 1924. The photo was taken in front of Mission Headquarters, 11 Federação, Bahia, Brazil.



Front row, left to right:

C. C. CARNAHAN, Caeteté, Bahia.
P. G. BAKER, Caixa 350, Bahia.

Mrs. BAKER, Caixa 350, Bahia.
LUCILE BREINER, Ponte Nova, Bahia.
F. E. JOHNSON, Lençoes, Bahia.
LYDIA C. HEPPERLE, Ponte Nova, Bahia.
ALEXANDER REESE, Ponte Nova, Bahia.
W. W. WOOD, Ponte Nova, Bahia.

Back row, left to right:

Mrs. CARNAHAN, Caeteté, Bahia.
BABY RUTH and Mrs. JOHNSON, Lençoes, Bahia.
S. IRVINE GRAHAM, Ponte Nova, Bahia.
F. F. GRAHAM, Planaltina, Goyaz.
Mrs. S. I. GRAHAM, Ponte Nova, Bahia.
Mrs. WOOD, Ponte Nova, Bahia.
Mrs. ANDERSON, Caixa 350, Bahia.
HAROLD C. ANDERSON, Caixa 350, Bahia.

The following members of the mission were not present:

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Bixler, on furlough; Mrs. Alexander Reese, Ponte Nova, Bahia; Elizabeth R. Williamson, Bomfim, Bahia; Mrs. F. F. Graham, Planaltina, Goyaz; Ellen Williams, Ponte Nova, Bahia (reenforcement).

HOW WE WORK

THE MISSION DOCTOR ON AN EMERGENCY CALL

By Dr. W. W. Wood

It was closing time after a long day in the clinic. The last treatment had been made and the door was about to be closed when a young man stepped up and handed me a letter. He had just arrived. The letter was from his father, stating that a daughter was very ill and asking me to come to see her at once. I had made this trip six years before, when the old gentleman had come for me personally, to attend another daughter, and after a hard night's ride of over thirty miles, and a difficult work in a dimly lighted room, the little grand-daughter arrived. The grandparents and parents were so pleased that they named the child for me.

Now the call had come again and it was difficult to make a decision. There were 20 or 25 in treatment at the clinic every day, with 10 to 15 consultations. I had promised to do an eye operation the next day, and a woman who had come over 300 miles for treatment was awaiting an operation, but I finally decided to go and make the trip in as short a time as possible.

It was nine o'clock before we could make the start, and although the stars were shining bright when we started, in a short time it had clouded over, and we had the darkness of a tropical night.

The animals, which had come to take me to my destination, were tired, and not in very good shape to make the return trip. Consequently when they had gone about ten miles, one of the mules refused to go farther, so that one of the young men who came, had to stop and put up at a little settlement for the night. It soon became so dark that we

could not see the path, and we had to trust to our animals keeping the trail. Sometimes we were almost brushed off our animals by a low branch, or, a low hanging vine would catch at us from the darkness. However we went on until after midnight, when the young man was sure that we were not on the right trail. We dismounted, and looked around with a pocket flashlight, and he was so sure that we had gotten off trail, that we returned for some distance and went off on another trail. Soon we came to a ranch house, and, after calling for some time, got a reply. We inquired our way only to learn that we had been on the right road all the time. It was now beginning to get light, so we had little difficulty in finding our way, and at five o'clock we arrived at a little settlement where we stopped to rest and have coffee. After an hour's rest, we started on our way in the rain, and about nine o'clock arrived at a diamond mining town, eight miles from the town to which I had been called. As we were going into the town, a messenger from the old gentleman who had sent for me, met us and notified us that the woman was out of danger. I told my companion, that as soon as we could eat and rest up, I would like to start back. However, I had hardly more than arrived at the little house where I was to breakfast, when the room was filled with people, wishing to consult, and, as I was pretty well tired out from the all night ride, I decided to stay overnight and leave early in the morning. After breakfast I began consulting and kept busy until about three in the afternoon, when the old gentleman who had sent for me, came, and asked that I go on and see his daughter as he was afraid that there would be complications. So at four o'clock we went on, mounted on fresh animals, and for an hour rode through rough mining country to within a half mile of our destination, when it began to rain. The rain came down in torrents, and even with our heavy

oil capes, we were soaked through when we arrived. After some difficulty, a change of clothes was arranged. Dinner over, we tried to get some rest.

The next morning I informed the old gentleman that I wished to leave as soon as possible, and he assured me that he would arrange fresh animals immediately. After consulting the patient and seeing that she was out of danger, I was ready to start back, but the animals had not arrived. While I was waiting for the animals, people came to consult, and I was called to near-by houses, so that it was mid-day before we were ready. Then we must have luncheon. It was two o'clock in the afternoon when we finally left, and I knew we would have to do some hard riding to make the thirty miles before it was dark. So we pushed along as rapidly as possible, going around the mining towns where we had stopped on our way out, so as not to be held up by more people who might wish to consult. At five o'clock we were back to the little settlement where we had had coffee. Here I resolved to take another trail, which my companion said that he knew well. We pushed on for about an hour, when it began to get dark, and on descending a steep hill with a stream at the bottom, my animal refused to go farther. So I was forced to dismount, wade through the stream, and lead my animal. Then, mounting again, we went on, but soon I was sure that we were on the wrong trail, and then I found out that my companion did not know the way. We returned some distance to where we had passed a house, and here arranged with a young man to go with us, until we should get on the right road. After he had left us we went on in the darkness. It had begun to rain again and I was sure that we had missed the trail again, so we turned back and inquired at a house nearby the road and soon we were on our way again. The darkness had closed in, so that it was impossible to see the extended

hand. Here my pocket flashlight came in handy, and I was able to avoid the low hanging branches and vines. My companion behind me was caught by one and was pulled off his animal. But our progress was very slow. Our animals were tired and the rain was coming down slowly. Now and then a large wet leaf from a tropical plant would slap us in the face, and we would lie down on our animals to avoid more. When I was sure that we were almost home, we again got off the trail, but soon we were out of the thick timber and could see the fires that workmen keep burning all night near the Ponte Nova buildings. It was midnight when we arrived, almost too stiff to walk, and glad to be home again.

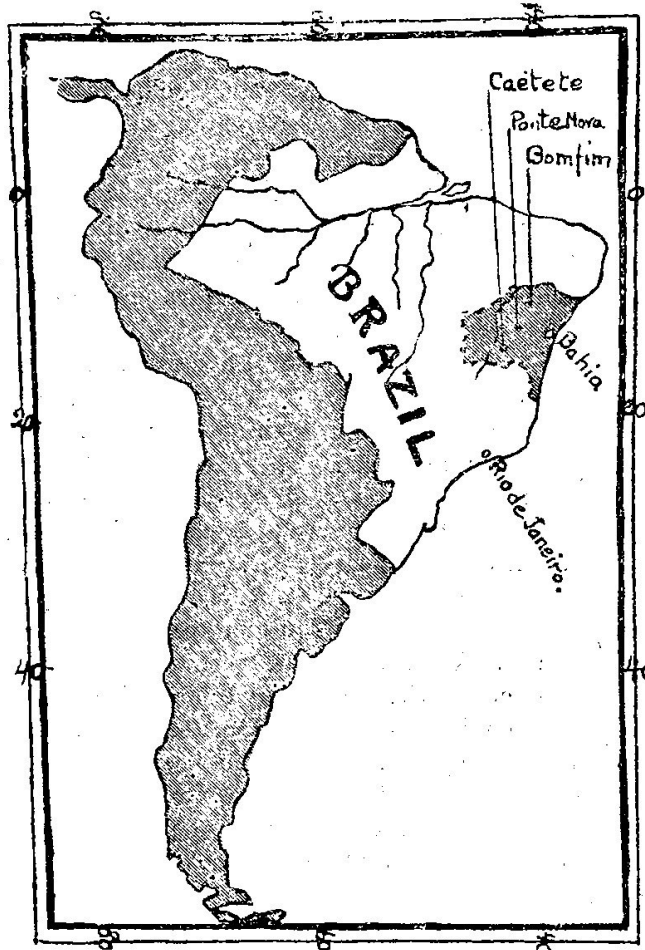
The next day there was a large number waiting at the clinic, some to consult, others for treatment and some who had been under treatment wishing to go home, so that there was no chance for a rest.

The Ponte Nova clinic handles from 40 to 70 patients a day, and the little old building used as a hospital, with six beds, is full most of the time, and often there are many others wishing to get in.

A new clinic building is almost complete, and has been in use for four months. A 25 bed hospital is under construction. It will require \$3000 to complete the hospital, and we are looking to our friends in the home land to help us with this. When it is completed, with modern equipment as we hope, we will be better able to take care of the thousands that come every year from hundreds of miles around.



WHERE WE ARE



Four stations, each one a center of a large field:

1. Bahia, city of 350,000. NEED. Good school and social service center.
2. Ponte Nova, Evangelistic, Medical and Educational work combined. NEED. More buildings and equipment.
3. Caeteté, large evangelistic field. NEED. Medical and Educational work to supplement the evangelistic.
4. Bomfim, large evangelistic field. NEED. Medical and Educational work to supplement the evangelistic.

13 GIRL POWER ELECTRIC WASHER IN PONTE NOVA

Some one has described our Electric Washer as romantic. Maybe it is, I will let you decide; but is it Romance we want on wash day or labor saving devices? Come with our girls on Monday, our weekly holiday.

The rising bell rings at 6 o'clock and every one is up and at her work. If possible, 13 girls have been chosen to do the week's washing for the 53 boys and girls, including the bedding and table linen. The clothes are sorted, and, with basin and boiler, are carried 500 feet to the river before breakfast. After breakfast the girls return to the river to begin work. There is a manga grove at this point of the river, and the manga tree gives a wonderful shade so the girls do not have to work in the blazing sun all the time. A fire is made under the trees and the water heated for boiling the clothes. All the rest of the washing is done in the cold river water. A platform is built out into the river and the girls sit on their heels on these planks and wash in the river, or they wade out and stand in the water. When the day is very hot, that may sound refreshing, but tho this is Brazil, the days are not always real hot. To-day the temperature is about 68 at noon. But regardless of the day, whether it is hot or cold, wet or dry, the washing must be done, for there is but the one holiday from school during the week. You can readily imagine that it is not the easiest thing to get boy's work clothes clean in cold water, but the girls do good work. It is a big day for them too; they enjoy it, but it certainly is not the best thing for their health, to be standing or dabbling in the cold water the greater part of the day. Then those wet clothes have to be carried in basins on the girl's heads back to the dorm where they are hung on the line. It is usually 5 o'clock by the time all is done. They are a tired bunch of girls on Monday night and not in very good condition to study. Usually the class work on Tuesday shows it, too. We hope soon that we may have power so that water may be piped from the river to the dorm. Then the girls may have hot water and the work should be done in half the time. It will be a labor saver, and no doubt a health saver, too.

WHAT WE NEED

As your representatives seek more adequately to strengthen and enlarge the Kingdom of Christ in this part of Brazil, we feel our deep need of divine aid and ask for your prayers.

The following list of our property needs speaks for itself:

1. For the completion of Grace Memorial Hospital, Ponte Nova	\$3000
2. Saw-mill, much needed for construction work, Ponte Nova	1000
3. Steam tractor (wood burning) to run saw-mill, Ponte Nova	2000
4. Missionary residence and boys'dormitory, Ponte Nova	2500
5. Purchase of two houses and land from the independent medical work, Ponte Nova	1500
6. Purchase of site for Hydro-electric plant, Ponte Nova	1500

7. Purchase of farm and property for a station of the Ponte Nova type in S. W. Bahia, Caetet� field	5000
8. Drainage and sanitation, Ponte Nova	1000
9. Purchase of property for American school, Bahia city	15000
10. School equipment for Ponte Nova (maps, books, blackboards, simple laboratory equipment).	1000
11. Farm machinery for Ponte Nova (plow, disc harrow, corn planter, cultivator, wagon, ensilage cutter)	1000
12. Dynamo (15KWK) for Ponte Nova Station	500
13. Accessories for electrical equipment, Ponte Nova	500
14. Water system for dormitories, Ponte Nova	1500
15. Silo and dipping tank for stock at Ponte Nova	1000
16. Improved live stock for Ponte Nova. Work animals	2000
17. Roads and bridge building at Ponte Nova	2000
18. Purchase of farm and property for a station of the Ponte Nova type in N. E. Bahia, Bomfim field	5000
19. School building at Ponte Nova	3000

Any one wishing further information will please write to the Board of Foreign Missions, 156 Fifth Ave., New York, or to missionaries on the field. Contributions should be sent to Mr. Russel Carter, Treasurer, 156 Fifth Ave., New York, accompanied by a clear statement that the contribution is for New Property for the Central Brazil Mission.

