Dearest Mother.

Am I chagrined. We didn't get a card to you on your birthday. Well, perhaps the pictures arrived. Even if the pictures arrived, however, it would not be like a birthday card. We'll see if we cannot straighten out our schedule before your next year's anniversary.

Please excuse the slipshod appearance of the letter "r". The typewriter went on the blink and I haven't got it properly fixed yet. I'm learning " by guess and by gorry " how to make minor repairs on this machine. We really ought to have two machines out here, so that we could both have one to use, but when one goes bad, we would still have one which both of us could use. It's so much kazz better way of putting a lot of words in a small space. Then, too, now we must be prepared to write more and more reports by machine.

Well, at last we know where we're going to be stationed for a few years. Our next address will be the Missão de Bunjei, Galangue. What we plan to do from now until the last of July is to get ourselves in readiness togothere. We shall be studying with Miss Mackenzie of the Chissamba mission until the end of Juns. By that time we hope that we shall be accustomed to having a haby around the house as well as having studged a good deal more Umbundu. Also we hope that by the middle or end of August, when we expect to arrive at our new home, the other missionary on the station will have the open wells closed in. There have been no children of missionary's families there for some time, so that not quite as much attention to the places dangerous for small children to play around has been paid recently. The missionary there now is Sam Coles, an American Negro, who was one of the first to go to Galangue. Curtis McDowell, whom you met at Auburndale, was the founder with Sam Coles of the work at Galangue, MaDowell arriving first. The McDowells are still at Elende. The shuffling of missionaries iss about at annual meeting in Dondi last week resulted in everybody staying put among the senior missionaries. One family goes home on furlough. The Welches go to Missão de Bunjei and the Hendersons to Lobito to take care of the workst the coast. We don't want to think of ourselves as the only ones who could have gone to the Galangue mission. Certainly McDowell would make the field a going church if he were there, but it is a place in which we may send down such roots as missionaries may be rightfully permittted to send down anywhere. Everything being sonsidered it was thought better to send us there than to one of the other stations from which we would have to move in a year, or year and a half, because some other couple with much experience in that faeld had come back from furlough to pick up his work again and we sent off as a result to some other station needing a family. We'll write more of the work later.

Now as to other news of us. Betty is still in Dondi, patiently waiting after false alarms of confirment during annual meeting the first week we were at Dondi. However, she may come home this afternoon. We've had no word from her, and no word either from the people with whom she hoped to come back to Chissamba. But everyone here at the station is expecting that Dr. Strangway of the Canadian mission will arrive here today from Dondi, where he will have stopped on his way from the coast. He came into Lobito last week, found his goods already thru the customs and ready for shipment up country, where we have been putting them under cover. We shall be disappointed here if he doesn't arrive today, for all are in readiness with the grand welcome. He is known over a considerable part of Africa, at least over all of Angola. We have heard him spoken of everywhere with high respect. He's not only a good doctor, but a fine man, loved by both Africans and Portuguese. We expect that the baby will be in his care for a while also that he will see to tonsil and adenoid operations on Kenny and Tommy.

Before I forget it let me tell you that the package of pictures, in which we found two boxes of lovely Crayolas, had arrived before us in Chissamba last week. The boys have already used them considerably but with care. They are growing up these days in some respects, altho it seems as if that in other respects they are backward. Tommy has some knack for drawing I think. We'll show you some of his work soon. I have one sheet of paper now, but want Mummy to see what her boy has done while she has been away.

You speak of warmer weather on the way at home. Here in the planal to of Angola, the plateau, the weather has changed considerably since five weeks ago. The rains have come to an end. The earth is quite dry now and will be much, much drier we understand. The flowers have gone from our lawn. During the day the sun becomes a huge ball of heat. I have not yet checked with the thermometer, and it may be that the temperatures are no higher in the middle of the day than during the rainy season, but certainly it seems much hotter than during thewet season. The nights, however, are cold. Instead of one blanket for a cover we now have two, also the boys. We wonder how the poor African with his one cover or less ever stands it, and I would guess than some of the people do not get along well during the dry season cold. We'll doubtless think about this matter considerably during the next few years, and wondering what can be done about it by interested persons.

You wrote saying that you had received a personal letter from Dr. Reuling. He was at annual meeting. Wednesday of the second week he left by plane for home. Since we was to stop over in Lisbon, however, I believe that he will not yet have reached America. Tuesday of last week he went down to Galangue to look at what will be our work. I found out what the place looks like and have some idea what to do when we reach there. Mr. McDowell also went along, and we took Sam and Mrs, Coles back. There is no car at the station now because the one which was there burned just several weeks ago. We're hoping that there will be a Chevrolet van available in a few weeks in Luanda. The missions had one other car, but it has been in the repair shop in Nova Lisboa for about a year and a half, and is now going to be sold for junk because of the high cost of repair. It costs as much out here to repair a car in poor condition as it does to buy a new one at home. It would have cost about \$ 1200 to repair the car in the shop at Nova Lisboa. A new one, on the other hand, costs plenty, but one gets more for his money. The newone expected will cost about \$ 2600, but we shall have to have something since the mission is 85 miles from the nearest railroad.

Say, those pictures you will receive won't all be good I know because I've had a report on some others taken with the same kind of filter. I was using a red filter in the wrong place, consequently have spoiled a good number of outside shots. The inside ones taken by flash should be all right, however. We'll try to make up by sending some more after we reach Missão de Bunjei. One other thing we'll do is to arrange that you may see other pictures which we have sent to Boston. These must be returned to Boston most likely. But it would be nice would it not to have a set of the work here to see and to see us in the meantime

One more piece of business before I sign off. I'mafraid this is a hodgepodge today and not up to my ability. Your Christmas letter, and I'm ashamed to have to tell you, was not sent. And now I don't know whether we sent one to Ruby and Francis or not. So we're sending one today.

Your latest letter was written May 1, mailed May 2, received here today, at a total travel time of 11 days. Well, we probably cannot hope for such service when we reach Galangue because of the distance from the railroad.

Weell let you know whether your dream comes true or not as soon as the baby comes.

Our love to you all, and God's blessing,

P.S. Who is how hande on Hillier april 12, 1949

a little today addressed to less and her sons. Cane from Strong mains.

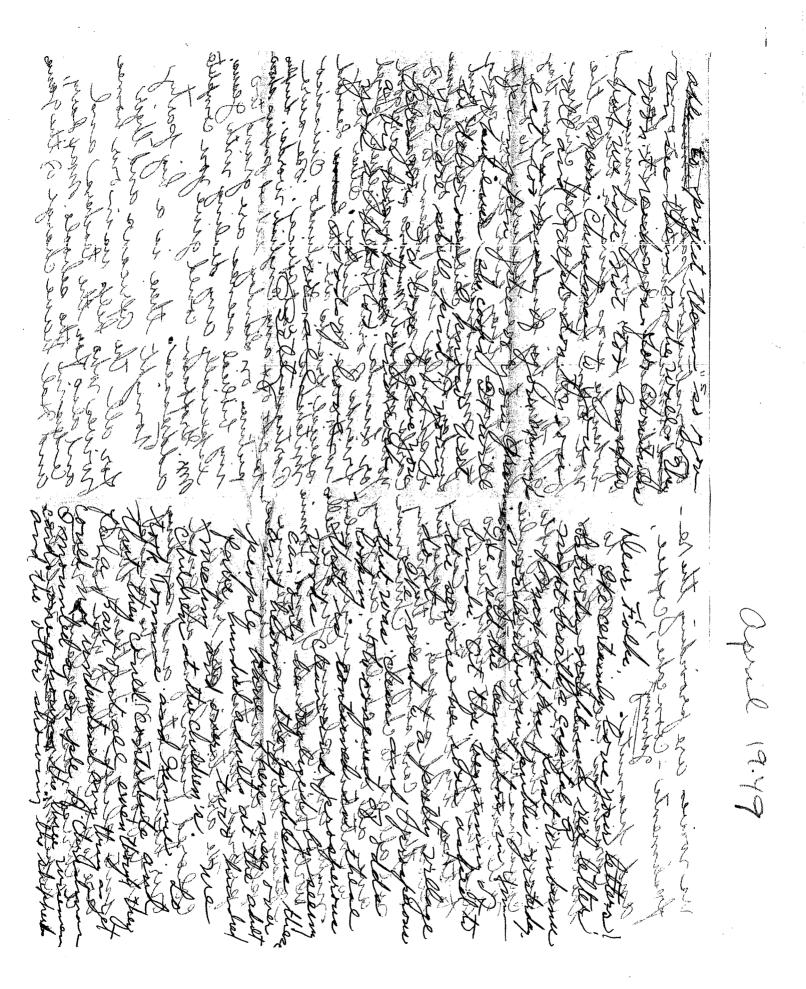
Wear years, Olive Purby Francis & Ralph Streetings to you all. We are all well and waiting impatiently for annual meeting and to learn what our new address will be. However our address will probably continue June as we have been invited to story here until after our an mande or Brother goe arrives. Since the doctor and hospital are right here we'll probably do just that. We had a hirthday party for Kennie last Saturday (a weekage). The Hendersons, the Wheels including the boly (Isenevieve), and all the Padies (39 them) who were on the station came. The other three ladie were in another mission belking with a vocational school there. Hennie got a picture book, a pencil, an erases, a pair of socks and some airplane strikers and a Burny rathet decal, a table cloth, and six nappins for their new table that ilad had made. The table is a nice big one so that all six of them ate their supper at it. and Edith brought him - Slate of marchandless rolled in Coconut. Elo had made the march mellows Fint Elizabeth brought a big dish of pop corn allo had grown the pop coin out here. It is the

first we have seen the Kenny was some tiblestroith it. It went around telling everyone how once type grammie had popped some for on top of the stone and had given it to him to like is beginning to talk a lot now about this grammie who device in Maine Every. this that is good be attributed to his grammine. The year but then I grow I told york about his new parts that minime made for him. Muche Wal and Vaddie had to go to mora Linka day in the truck. They took all the kids with Wind I just heard their coming buck. They sure sound happy. This afternoon Jam going to show the cook how to make Isape nuto I got the regifes at clende, we had them several times there and did the children love them. Theyes, min they do make grava jelly here. O vertical it trovie and only got syrup But I'm going to try again. We had finava fam to it clende that have real good. Ralkh you will he pretty nearly mine months old when your mine reade this celler In fact you will be nine months old. Cunt Betty is looking anxious forward to more pretines. Tom thenhane you piline along with Lammies and aunt Off's in their tred I hear the triciple approaching The clock says drinner time By now tile next time God bless you all and keep you well thy Kunt Betty Dearest nother, I'm working on my first some in Umbunder, to be preached Caster Sunday. Dt's work I can tell you. next week I'm going to write our letter also next welk Thave to take up a voll scalosed sixtures for Dr. openling. He's coming back for annual meeting. Love, markie

Missaa de Chisamba Bora Linta Bie angola Pro. A. Alear yam I Olive, Lunday night again! I don't know when you! get this letter we are having a change in train, schedules all around and nobody deams, to know how ar when or what, anyway I de send this off as usual tomount and you elget it sometime that. Went the pulies meden whe are looking forward to getting them. The writing on the back com't matter because we'll morent them on something before we give them. anyway only wish you could see some of the facial expressions when they receive them about the material one Groffen sent fouth Do you mean the Lout of the states of South Ofrica? There is as much difference between here and Loreth Ofrica of the south of the states as there is between a large city at home and one of the islands of the the world at seem the north cartern coast of maine what wouldn't seem like very much in those places is a fortune here. It you like very much in those places is a fortune here. send the picture in a package weighing not over a pound and send them regular mail letter rate they le come in about two months and probably not even be opened a Customs. you told Kennie you didn't know what to send them for his birthday. Books are never dutiable and the boys love them. your selections are always good. Olive mentioned Iway crayons once. They are unoblainable here and the voyare oneyoyed when they receive some, a pair of socks slipped into an enhelope would be more than rulcome. How many times I have kicked myself for not bringing some of their stuffed animals with his now at 3' and fine, practically, they are craggatout them. Now mun don't go sending all these things There are just suggestions for the next four years. It's Dending and des one keith have been here and how me enjoyed their visit. Dr. Renling had a

recording machine and recorded some highers

graf was one one . The let Hal Eleed make up a half hour program to be sent to his father. His father was a mischonary here for fourtien years. Le Hall had some of the afficien sing some of the hymns that his father had laught them. Later may and Lavy Henderson each made a record telling about their Yamilies and what we are daing here. De Reiling left a 36 exposure film which they are to use to illustrate the seconds. This med-end The Hendersone and max and Hennie and two of the single ladies went to Chileson the station where Dr. Cushman is located and one of the station to which one of un couples will be sent in april to romine and I were supposed to go but Tommis land a had cold and we thought it roises prot find a had cold and we thought it roises prot to take him on such a long trek in the back Ba truck. It is 150 miles from here tomine is fine today. Has hardly a sniftle left I think me ill get his tonails out in appil when the rainy get his tonails out in appil when the rainy about it season will be over. There's one thing about it it's not stanting his growth any he is 3 to tall and just as heavy as ever. Kennie is heavier according to his theight than he was lufore we left Comerica and is 43 indies tall. Ocan themenher it I told you the puppie's name or not it is tale (tota) which means (first) in Unnbunder. The's our first dog you see Olive your letters always come in fine Condition. The Valentines were perfect. We can always read every word lasily the Cloths the women were are just plain doth - persone throwscloth or whatever they can afford. Some of them look like those old blue handher chiefo that men used to carry Others are more colorful. But is welly they are dark or very light the Color being used in the handanas on their heads. I have never seen any floral de. signe get. Of course the more educated and better Of Financially women mean simile dressed the end of my paper to like ours Sinnow loads of love and a prayer Betty By.



arge of the Jame an Jeans. is always 92

Dear Folks,

We certainly love your letters! Saturday night is a red letter night with a capital R. Max did his first impromptu vocalization in public yesterday. He read the benediction in the binder. At the beginning of the service he was asked to do it.

We went to a pretty village that was clean and prosperous looking. The conquest of odds that is contained in these words clean and prosperous can only be seen and realized by seeing and hearing the problems these people have. There were over five hundred adults at the adult meeting and over two hundred children at the children's. We took Tommie and Kennie so that they could contribute and feel a part of it all even though they could not understand anything as yet. I mounted a couple of Christmas cards, one showing the three wisemen and the other showing the shepherds on construction paper. Kennie gave them to all of the leaders. Imagine the face of some poor boy in America when he was given a bicycle and you can have an idea of the joy of these two hundred children. In their big Sunday school room they had just one picture. The only pictures they ever get are the ones the missionaries bring. Your Sunday school children might find a similar use for old Christmas cards and mail them to one of your Methodist Missions at Malange or Luanda. Missionaries are good friends of ours. Their children played with ours in Lisbon. Other very special friends are the Leonard Mitchims in Guilundo Ouissico Portuguese, East Africa. Be sure to cut off any English words. Surplus pictures on Sunday school papers showing biblical scenes are grand too, especially any dealing with Jesus. Mr. Graffam could give you complete addresses.

Tonight there is a big party for all of the Africans and their wives who help us in our homes and also for the teachers and leaders in the schools. Max, Larry. And Hal have charge of the games, us wives are providing the refreshments – coon Johnny cake, coffee, and peanuts.

Christmas Eve we all go to the ladies house for a party for us. We'll have a tree and have exchanged names for gifts. Christmas Day the three families will eat dinner together as we did last year. At night we go to the big house for a carol sing and supper. Supper first and then carol sing. In the morning we all go to church. Christmas Eve all of our children are going to entertain us singing Silent Night and playing Jingle Bells with their rhythm band. Tommie plays the sticks and Kennie plays a drum. Are we ever proud parents!

We are taking a roll of colored film of us all and our house etc. and sending it to Rochester N. Y. to be made into slides and then they are to go directly to you for a Christmas present. We hope Mr. Graffam will be able to project them so you can see them on the wall. They won't reach you for Christmas but we hope not too long after. Merry Christmas to you all and Ralph don't you eat too many of your mumie's pumpkin pies or your gramie's whatever she cooks. It will be delicious I know but you are still kind of young. Bless you, I'd love to give you a big hug and kiss and rock you a bit, too.

Loads of love to all,

Betty

Henrie was the crib and can was cr thing min me the neces c your and Edme un a

Fort ford the site part hander the set of the secondary o

e/ s drive a to the family a fine the

her bowell movement shedded she wanted some cuddling. Then it was time for her to lat so here 24 hrs. later tiriting again toponall. I frame eaten my soup and muched polator, buttered carrote troublerk and am waiting for the decert fixen is sleeping lagily. He father was in ofter church and booked her. We are using the newest and alebert 'en wethode, withher feeding her where she is trungery and alling her where she she wanted it and is it fryn I hay plenty of mich to muse his 2ans whileful! I had a very lary time with her. I went to the troupital Hetween 2:30 and 3:00 and she agriced at ten minutes of four May held my hand most of the fine-bleefum! I kelwas finte thrilled with the whole performance being able to watch it and everyth

and bright me down to the Cadio home to the room next to the nurses. Comment quain's one weekold and we are going from you and Hen come in liver, day and pecket the boby and touch the und and give refinme, a kind : They are prond as punch. Ever strice describer that arrived they tique hope any insiting Thy and Daylie are having be at the ladige house, tomigh Susan has had lood of presents. I have of rivery good, a pink wood blinket, a heavy swhite Klannel one with structured on the edge, a pink crocketed woods system 3 white ones, crocketed shall two pains of bacteen two four nighties a kind pains of blankets hors blue tomaking with pringing and stop on them, a crocheted shall a country outer thought and founds south, a tray vorth fire

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The Ladies House

Missao de Chissamba

June 4, 1949

Dear Mum, Olive, Ruby, Frances, Ralph

What a beautiful granddaughter, niece, and cousin you have. She really is handsome, bright, plump and as someone has remarked – intelligent looking. The night she was born she cried tears. She cried most of the night because she was hungry and all they would give her was water! It just didn't stay by the rib. Right now she is doing a big bowel movement in her pants when she is certainly through I'll change her. That is right now!! Says she. Excuse me

June 5, 1949

Susan is sleeping. Yesterday after her bowel movement she decided she wanted some cuddling. Then it was time for her to eat. So, here I am 24 hrs. later writing again to you all. I have eaten my soup and mashed potatoes, buttered carrots, and roast pork and am waiting for the dessert. Susan is sleeping lazily. Her father was in after church and rocked her. We are using the newest and latest method with her – feeding her when she's hungry, cuddling her when she wants it and is it fun! I have plenty of milk to nurse her. Isn't that wonderful! I had a very easy time with her. I went to the hospital between 2:30 and 3:00 and she arrived at ten minutes of four. Max held my hand most of the time – bless him! He was quite thrilled with the whole performance – being able to watch it and everything!

They put me on an air mattress in the back of a jeep station wagon and brought me down to the ladies house to the room next to the nurses. Tomorrow Susan is one week old and we are going home. Tom and Ken come in everyday and peek at the baby and touch her hand and give mummie a kiss. They are proud as punch. Ever since Genevieve Steed arrived they have been anxiously waiting. They and Daddie are having supper at the ladies house tonight.

Susan has had loads of presents – 3 bars of ivory soap, a pink wool blanket, a heavy white flannel one with flowers embroidered on the edge, a pink crocheted wool sweater, 3 white ones, crocheted shoes, three pairs of bootees, four nighties, a kimono, 3 blankets (one blue, two pink) with bunnies and stuff on them, a crocheted shawl, a lined flannel jacket, two cans of powder, three bars of baby soap, a tray with jars the covers painted pink. (One of the jars was an ink bottle.) Ki Henderson fixed this up for her. Each jar was filled with the proper stuff like cotton, boric acid, etc. four pairs of plastic rubber pants. The elders of the church gave her an Umbundi name Susuana (Susan) Kasova (the first girl after 2 boys) Chissamba (because she is born here).

Now she is awake and calling.

Love, Betty

me come down

Missão de Ohissamba

Nova Sintra

1 de Julho de 1949

Dearest Mother and Olive.

Well, here we are crowding mailtime again. Your letter of June 20 arrived on last Tuesday's mail and since we haven't answered it, and some others, we'll make a hurried attempt now. Hope for a more leisurely written letter a bit later.

We're happy to hear that you've gotten news at last of Susan's arrival. She's asleep just now after a hearty feeding of pure mother's milk. Betty has enough to feed our darling daughter and we're sure that she has gained a pound and more, but having neglected to weigh her today we cannot say exactly how much she has gained. We must take time now to measure all the children and send height, feet sizes and so on of them all, including foot prints and hand prints, or outlines, of our Susan.

We sent you her African name, didn't we ? The other day I sent to the American consulate at Luanda what will be Susan's official name. This will be the one under which she will be registered in the consulate records. It is Susan Cassova Maude Welch. Betty and I both thought for some time about the matter of an African name among the English ones, considering even the long one of Susan Cassova Maude Chissamba Welch. But it seemed a much too long name to give to one of our children, and we compromised with the shorter by one Susan Cassova Maude. The spelling of Cassova is the Portuguese way, also it would be our American way. Kasova is the way the Ovimbundu spell the name.

Have you told Myra Ayotte that the child will most certainly be an American citizen, although born on African soil in a Portuguese colony? The Department of State has taken care of such matters. Susan is therefore an American citizen and will not have to be naturalized.

We've already told you something about our dry season, haven't we ? The winds are now increasing each day in volume and velocity. It's a rare thing to see a cloud now. The nights are cold, and even during the day, particularly the forenoons, we notice a freshmass to the wind which quite occasionally reminds us of the wintertime in Maine or Massachusetts. No zero weather of course, but pretty close to freezing weather in the small hours of the night, and the pre-dawn hours can be terrifically chilling. We have a small fire running during the day in our fireplaces and a larger one at night. In the dining room, which does not have a fireplace, we use the primus stove for the half hour it takes to eat breakfast. We all use two blankets on the bed, that is, except Susan, who has anywhere from four to six, along with hot water bottle. We wonder how it is ix that the Africans sleep with only one blanket for bedding, or straw underneath and one blanket for covering, or perhaps only cotton cloths. We know that they snuggle together for warmth, but their houses are for the most part quite open, much more so than ours with their proper doors and windows, so that the wind must make the hours when people should be sleeping many times very wakeful hours. It is a situation which causes us much concern; yet I suppose that there are many of these folk much better off in material comforts nowadays than they were fifty years ago. However, there is still pneumonia, and other sicknesses which flourish in cold weather still strike down the African. Clothing and housing are not all they should be certainly, but when they will be we cannot say.

Well, the mail boy is here. Thanks for the picture of that husky boy. Ralph. Greetings to all. Our love and our prayers. God be with you.

Lachie

beginning & morke covering sounds. be han is almost red the has Me eye are cless blue Sugar sender sweet smile much more draw pulsue shows her in Mady's or you. Kennie says till her execut. He is now weepen blake) weight over len ferwiele. Them all at one Ede Sme down with make ton young & give the a kino board so will May and baye ho is fin packing trying to get huck of it done before the Imme is playing with I note. his will have to be all been good and gue gramme a July 26, 1849 We are knee Brotosky have

showar first three days old. Whom takerely to miled how are lot of visites here we seen you llow on worm to Calling canlle. phayer ! a whole year bed! I'd love pat as much ted a Walarch on malaria r some teste here ta by by you are War for Honall-1 co thou. a Morton the door of r 1 do you tracked ahear to her dinner (Kaloongee Ralunga lus

™issao de Eunjei Galangue, via Mova Lisboa Portuguese West Africa you it was a girl a Seems to me that it's about time that I wrote to you once more. We reached our new home on the 12th, about 4:30 in he afternoon. Since then we've been right out straight trying to acquaint ourselves with some of the life of the station. We were greeted by a few young people only, because we had been expected to arrive earlier inthe day thanwe did. There had been a good number waiting for us at noon time, but because it had gotten to be so late inthe day, the larger share of them had returned to their houses. However, the next day. Saturday, we were welcomed by a church full. The people case to the house ina body, then formed a double line in front of the house. We passed from the tail end of the line to the head through the center of the line. The pastor walked with us then as our escart and we went an over to the church.

Here I'll tell you that the church is the assembly room of the school. This station does not yet have a church bailing. Perhaps we shall be the ones to build the sharch building. In the meantime the church meets in the schoolhouse. church meets in the schoolhouse. After reaching the schoolhouse assembly room we were seated on the platform and treated to some native music, played on native instruments, thumb hare, two different size gourds, and a basket of reed which was played by jushing a stick down across the ribs. I hope that I got some colored pictures of the players and their instruments. Part of the entertainment also consisted of mative songs. We thoroughly enjoyed the welcome, and when it came time for me to get up and make my little speech, telling people how happy we were to have come to them at last, I was able to say it in all sincerity. Needless to say, we haven't learned all of the words as yet, but I got along passing well. Cur teacher during the past year came down with us from Chissamba, and sat in the seat with us on the platform: She praised me for my having learned sufficient to thank the people and to greet them intheir tongue. We were happy to think that we understood a good part of what was being said =bout us. Weare now busy with mking some repairs onthe house in which we are to live but in which we haven't been able to get a meal jet because the kitchen hasn't been put in order. We decided to fix up the kitchen ad dining room first, along with the water system. The Board allots money for the purpose of house repair and we are trying to me stretch as far as money will stretch. May did the Up The are all just fine . May les to afend a week at Donde at a Pastor's retreat. It is frist experience campings in Africa. They will sleep in grace home from weight 11-les 900 of 3 mos. Deaf everything including on in fact were Paral

7 なな to Sam Coles, the somewhere week leaves for 1 milcono preache - learned that ーなな 1 22 al se. her, a br 4 Krear Muy ten are the They gave be a broard ver Col rumin church by the has heryeles runda " of which To accompanion tremily well 6 Lean the secre mul

tree in that I handle 177 Jager, Sotty galdun ed liver oil we hand grows ha smile while them all with なってい to rame met the I can time me Can