

Papers Relating to Dorothy Isaac

Reference code: GB 133 DIP

Title: Papers Relating to Dorothy Isaac

Dates of creation: 1921-1924

Held at: The University of Manchester, The John Rylands University Library

Extent: 0.3 linear metres,

Extent: 45 items

Name of creator: Isaac, Dorothy

Name of creator: Isaac, family

Level of Description: fonds

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Biographical history

Miss Dorothy Isaac went as a missionary to the Belgian Congo in 1921. During the period which these papers cover (1921-1924) she was based at Inkongo under the leadership of Mr.T.H.Wilson who also journeyed to other districts and set up a mission station at Bakwa Mbule.

Scope and content

There are four bundles containing: one letter written by Dorothy Isaac, copies of letters written by Dorothy Isaac, copies of letters written by Mr.and Mrs.T.H. Wilson, verse written by Mr.T.H.Wilson and a printed map of the area. Most of the letters were probably copied by Mrs. Isaac, Dorothy Isaac's mother, who numbered them and added notes about them.

Dorothy Isaac describes her journey from England to Inkongo as well as, on arrival, the missionary work, teaching work in the pharmacy, illnesses suffered by the missionaries and the local people, contact with American Presbyterian missionaries at Lusambo, Belgian Traders, the native way of life, customs and fetishes, insects, wildlife and plant-life and the climate.

System of arrangement

Each document has been given a separate number although they were found in four bundles. This arrangement follows Mrs.Isaac's numbering of the letters. Therefore:

Bundle 1 = CBA 5630(1-6),
Bundle 2 = CBA 5630(7-17),
Bundle 3 = CBA 5630(18-30),
Bundle 4 = CBA 5630(31-45).

It was very difficult to be certain about the correct spelling of some of the African village names. Since most of the letters are copies it is probable that names were copied incorrectly. Therefore, where known the correct versions are placed in square brackets after the version in the text.

Immediate source of acquisition

The papers here listed were donated by Mr.F.F. Mitchell.

Restrictions on access

The collection is open to any accredited reader.

Restrictions on use

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Other finding aids

A catalogue of the Collection was produced by Susan M. Noble in 1984 (reference number CBA H1). The present catalogue has been produced to replace this with a modern ISAD(G) compliant catalogue.

Related materials

The John Rylands University Library also holds the papers of Echoes of Service, the Christian Brethren missionary service organisation (GB 133 EOS).

Bibliography

"Into his marvellous light": a story of 50 years service in Central Africa (London: Central Bible Truth Depot, n.d. [c. 1945])

Tim Grass, *Gathering to his Name: The Story of the Open Brethren in Britain and Ireland* (Milton Keynes: Paternoster, 2006)

Frederick A. Tatford, *That the World May Know, Volume 6: Light Over the Dark Continent* (Bath: Echoes Publications, 1984)

Preferred Citation

Papers relating to Dorothy Isaac, CBA 5630 (etc), John Rylands University Library, University of Manchester.

Index terms

Personal Name

Isaac Dorothy fl. 1920s missionary

Place Name

Congo

Subject

Missionaries

Women Missionaries

Plymouth Brethren

Family Name

Isaac

Reference code: CBA5630(1) - CBA5630(60)

Bundle of letters

Dates of creation: Feb 1921 - May 1921

Extent: 6 pieces

Scope and Content

Letter and handwritten copies of letters from Dorothy Isaac and Mrs. T. Wilson describing voyages and meetings with a variety of individuals.

Reference code: CBA5630(1)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: Feb 1921

Extent: 8 pages

Scope and Content

Copy of letter [from Dorothy Isaac], "no.1", to her mother, written during journey to Inkongo with Mr. and Mrs. [T.H.] Wilson, Mr. and Mrs.[C.]Althorp, A. McTavish, Miss [E.] Dunn and Miss[M.] McCandless, describing the voyage and stop at Tenerife; reference to two American missionaries on board.

Dated on SS Anversville.

Reference code: CBA5630(2)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: Feb 1921

Extent: 11 pages

Scope and Content

[Copy of] letter [from Dorothy Isaac] , "no.3", to her mother and sister, written during journey to Inkongo, describing the voyage and fellow missionaries; visit to British Consul's house at Boma and to the American Mission at the invitation of Mr. Christ where they met a Swede and his family and Mr. Cop; arrival at Matadi; references to Mr. Gordon, Mr. and Mrs. Starte; journey to Leopoldville.

[SS Anversville]

Reference code: CBA5630(3)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: Mar-Apr 1921

Extent: 6 pages

Scope and Content

Copy of letter [from Dorothy Isacc], "no.4", to her mother and sister, written at the American Presbyterian Mission during journey to Inkongo, describing train journey to Leopoldville; references to [T.H.] Wilson, [C.] Althorp, Miss [E] Dunn and Mr. and Mrs. Anderson; meeting with veteran missionaries, Mr. Fredericson and Miss De Hales; stop at the B.M.S. headquarters.

Dated at Leopoldville.

Reference code: CBA5630(4)

Handwritten Copies of Letter

Dates of creation: Apr 1921

Extent: 8 pages

Scope and Content

[Copies of] letters [from Dorothy Isacc], "no.5":

1. To Muriel describing her river journey [to Inkongo], dated 18 Apr 1921.
2. To her mother describing river journey [to Inkongo]; references to Swedish Baptist Mission; wild life and plants; American Mission boat, dated 11 Apr 1921.
3. To Mr. Cheney describing river journey [to Inkongo]dated 18 Apr 1921.

Dated on General Straunch [steamer].

Reference code: CBA5630(5)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 6 Mar 1921

Extent: 2 pages

Scope and Content

Copy of letter from Mrs T.H. Wilson to Mrs. Isaac, written during journey to Inkongo, offering to write to her with news in addition to letters sent by Dorothy.

Dated on SS Anversville.

Reference code: CBA5630(6)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 3 May 1924

Extent: 4 pages

Scope and Content

[Copy of] letter [from Dorothy Isaac] to Muriel, written during journey from Inkongo to England, describing the journey.

Dated on SS Thysville.

Reference code: CBA5630(7) - CBA6530(17)

Bundle of letters

Dates of creation:

Extent: 11 pieces

Scope and Content

Handwritten copies of correspondence from Dorothy Isaac and Mrs. T.H. Wilson to various individuals containing accounts of missionary work and life in the Belgian Congo.

Reference code: CBA5630(7)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: Apr - May 1921

Extent: 4 pages

Scope and Content

Copy of "1st letter from Inkongo" from Dorothy Isaac to her mother describing arrival at Inkongo by steamer; landscape and mission station; brethren meetings; work in the villages by [T.H.] Wilson and [C.] Althorp; references to Mrs.[Upton] Westcott and [T.] Nixon; viewing the pharmacy work; visit to the school with [A.] McTavish and Miss [E.] Dunn; house shared by herself, Miss [E.] Dunn and Miss [M.] McCandless.

Dated at Inkongo

Reference code: CBA5630(8)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 10 May 1921

Extent: 4 pages

Scope and Content

[Copy of] "2nd letter" from Dorothy Isaac to [?her mother] describing brethren meetings; daily routine of visiting the pharmacy, villages, Bible readings, the school; reference to Mr. and Mrs. [T.H] Wilson; moonlight service; [T.] Nixon, [A.] McTavish, Mr. and Mrs. [Upton] Westcott, and Mrs.[C.]Althorp, Miss M.] McCandless; fetish dancers.

Dated at Inkongo.

Reference code: CBA5630(9)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 4 Jun 1921

Extent: 2 pages

Scope and Content

[Copy of] "3rd letter" from Dorothy Isaac to her sister, Muriel, bemoaning fetishism; reference to trouble caused in the village by soldiers arriving to collect taxes; mission at Bak[w]a Mbule; [T.H] Wilson and [A.] McTavish journeying to to Batilde and Bububa [Baluba]; return of [T.] Nixon and Aleck [McTavish] from visits to villages.

Dated at Inkongo.

Reference code: CBA5630(10)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 29 May 1921

Extent: 4 pages

Scope and Content

[Copy of] "4th letter" of [Dorothy Isaac] to her mother regarding the missionary work among the Bateteli [Batetela]; bemoaning fetishism; references to the American Mission boat; [T.] Nixon's return to Europe; enclosed photograph [not present] of brethren and two chiefs.

Dated at Inkongo

Reference code: CBA5630(11)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 10 Jun 1921

Extent: 4 pages

Scope and Content

[Copy of] letter, "no.5", from Dorothy Isaac to her mother describing the life of the natives; work at the pharmacy and the school; bemoaning fetishism; references to Mr. and Mrs.[C.] Althorp, Bessie. [Dunn], Miss [M.] McCandless; possibility of a visit from American missionaries at Lusambo.

[Inkongo]

Reference code: CBA5630(12)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 16 Jul 1921

Extent: 4 pages

Scope and Content

[Copy of] letter, "no.6", from Dorothy Isaacs to [?her mother] requesting that pictures of Gospel stories be sent; reference to [T.H.]Wilson being down river; [A] McTavish teaching; visits to other schools; baptism of 90 people; help from Miss Jacob; [T.] Nixon's return home; work at -the school at Matendi; describing insects.

[Inkongo]

Reference code: CBA5630(13)

Handwritten Copies of Letter

Dates of creation: 6 Aug 1921

Extent: 8 pages

Scope and Content

[Copies of] letters, "no. 7", from Dorothy Isaac:

1. Dated 6 Aug. 1921, to her mother referring to Mrs. Bedinger, an American missionary at Lusambo sending some books; moonlight Gospel meeting; [T.H.] Wilson's showing of the magic lantern; funerals of a native baby and of the wife of a native Christian teacher; Wilson's hopes to go to the Basongi [Basonge]; Wilson's settling of tribal quarrels; threat of fetishism.
2. To Muriel describing visit to Mr. and Mrs. Anderson and Miss Setser, American missionaries at Lusambo; pot-making and insect seen.
3. To Mr.Cheney thanking him for sending magazines; reference to departure down-river of [T.] Nixon]; teaching at the school.

Dated at Inkongo.

Reference code: CBA5630(14)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: Sep 1921

Extent: 8 pages

Scope and Content

[Copies of letters, "no.8" from Dorothy Isaac:

1. Dated 13 Sep. 1921, to Mr. Cheney regarding [T.H.] Wilson's hopes to visit the Basongi [Basonge] at their request; work at the school.
2. Dated 10 Sep. 1921, to Muriel referring to V. Young; interest of the chief's wife; the weather; fetishes; prevalence of disease.
3. Dated 10 Sep. 1921, to her mother describing a thunderstorm; method of cooking; visit to American missionaries at Lusambo; canoeing; visits elsewhere by [T.H.]Wilson, [C.] Althorp and [A.] McTavish; trouble with the fetish goat; making of pots and baskets by the natives; visit from American missionaries.

[Inkongo]

Reference code: CBA5630(15)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 12 Oct 1921

Extent: 4 pages

Scope and Content

Copy of letter, "no.9", from Dorothy Isaac to Mr. Cheney with copies of extracts from letters to her mother and sister referring to visit by Miss Setser and Miss Harlsson [of the American Mission]; school at Matendi; arrival of books; [A.] McTavish's tour of the Cimbangu district; visit by a Belgian gentleman; plans to build a new pharmacy and dwelling house; recent erection of new store-house and goat-house; illness suffered by Mrs.[T.H] Wilson, Bessie [Dunn] and Mrs.[C.] Althorp; dysentery suffered by Miss D. Isaac; return of [C.]Althorp from [?Bakwa Mbule]; attempts to learn the Basongi [Basonge] language.

Dated at Inkongo.

See also CBA5630(17)

Reference code: CBA5630(16)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: Nov 1921 - Jan 1922

Extent: 4 pages

Scope and Content

[Copies of letters, "no . 10":

1. Dated 4 Nov. 1921, of [Mrs.T.H.] Wilson to Mrs. Isaac referring to Dorothy's nursing [Mrs.]Wilson through an attack of dysentery and catching the disease herself; A.McTavish's visit to the [Bakwa Mbule] district; unruliness of native children.
2. Dated 5 Nov. 1921, of Miss D. Isaac to her mother expressing her happiness in her missionary work; reference to the Wilsons' son at school in England; Belgian trader living nearby; children from Matendi attending school; storms; preaching by a native Christian teacher.
3. Dated London, Jan. 1922, of Miss L.Goldfinch to Mrs. Isaac thanking her for sending Mrs. Wilson's and. Dorothy's letters; praise of Dorothy's work by Mr. E. Walker.

Dated at Inkongo

Reference code: CBA5630(17)

Letter

Dates of creation: 12 Oct 1921

Extent: 4 pages

Scope and Content

Letter from Dorothy Isaac to Mr.Cheney referring to visit by Miss Setser and Miss Harlsson [of the American Mission]; school at Matedi; arrival of books; [A.] McTavish's tour of the Cimbangu district; visit by a Belgian gentleman; plans to build a new pharmacy and dwelling house; erection of new storehouse and goat-house; illness suffered by Mrs [H.]Wilson, Bessie [Dunn] and Mrs.[C.]Althorp; visit by [T.H.] Wilson to Bak[w]a Mbule.

Dated at Inkongo

Reference code: CBA5630(18) - CBA5630(30)

Bundle of letters

Dates of creation: Nov 1921 - Jan 1923

Extent: 13 pieces

Physical Condition:

Scope and Content

Handwritten copies of letters from Dorothy Isaac to various individuals containing accounts of missionary work and life in the Belgian Congo

Reference code: CBA5630(18)

Handwritten Copies of Letters

Dates of creation: 16 Nov - 21 Dec [1921]

Extent: 5 pages

Scope and Content

[Copies of] letters, "no.11", from Dorothy Isaac:

1. Dated 16 Nov. [1921], to Muriel stating that she has been in charge in the absence of Mr. and Mrs [T.H.] Wilson, [A.] McTavish and Bessie [Dunn]; reference to a Belgian trader living nearby; noting [birth] of Dorothy May Althorp; children from Mated attending the School; address given by [T.H.]Wilson; building of the new pharmacy; learning the pharmacy work; stay of the son of the Belgian trader to learn English; visit to nearby town for Gospel service.
2. Dated 2 Dec. 1921, to her mother describing visit to Lusambo to see the new baby; Louis Gentil, the Belgian boy; reluctance of children to come to school regularly; cases of small-pox; maize and peanut crops; freeing the steamer from sandbank.

Dated at Inkongo

Reference code: CBA5630(19)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 4 Jan. 1922

Extent: 4 pages

Scope and Content

[Copy of] letter, "no.12", from Dorothy Isaac to her mother thanking her for picture-books; describing the bread they eat; Gospel service at nearby village; visits by American missionaries returning from Protestant conference and by Mr. and Mrs. U. Westcott; visit by herself, Bessie [Dunn] and [A] McTavish to two villages; news of invitation to [American missionaries] to work at the capital town of the Luluba for which Dr.Morrison had prayed; extra work at the school during Christmas week; visits by Monsieur Lippeus, Governor General of the Congo, Sec. of the British and Foreign Bible Society and Monsieur Henart and Mr. Brown, two traders; request to send picture-books to Master Tom Westcott.

Inkongo

Reference code: CBA5630(20)

Handwritten Copies of Letters

Dates of creation: Jan - Feb 1922

Extent: 8 pages

Scope and Content

Copies of letters, "no.13", from Dorothy Isaac:

1. Dated 25 Feb. 1922, to Mr. Cheney reporting death of the chief of Munungu and tribal burial customs.
2. Dated 18 Feb. 1922, to her aunt describing local fruits; visit to other missionaries; reference to Dr.Smith, Secretary of the American Mission.
3. Dated 25 Jan. 1922, to her sister referring to departure for England of Mr. and Mrs.[U.]Westcott; visit by herself and Bessie [Dunn] to a village; visit by [A.] McTavish to surrounding district; visit by Dr.Smith.
4. Dated 25 Feb. 1922, to her mother referring to [T.] Nixon at Carlisle; binding of picture-books from Stackpool Road [Assembly] request for photograph films and printing materials; reference to Louis [Gentil]; visit by [A.] McTavish to Cimbangu; teaching the Bateteli [Batetela]; illness of Mrs.[T.H.] Wilson; visits by traders; care of the old people by native Christians; visit by Mr. and Mrs.[U.]Westcott.

Dated at Inkongo

Reference code: CBA5630(21)

Handwritten Copies of Letters

Dates of creation: Mar-Apr 1922

Extent: 10 pages

Scope and Content

Copies of letters, "no.14", from Dorothy Isaac:

1. To Miss Worthy describing some of the native children; thoughts on her missionary work.
2. Dated 22 Mar. 1922, to her mother referring to enclosed pictures [not present] of her Congo home; thoughts on the Resurrection; visit by herself and Bessie [Dunn] to Nanga; canoeing trips; news of work in schools; baptisms.
3. Dated 25 Mar. 1922, to Mr.Cheney regarding tax on parcels; teaching; [T.H.] Wilson's request to know meaning of "Lux eoi"; uses of the palm tree; men learning to be teachers.
4. Dated 15 Apr. 1922, to Muriel [Muriel] regarding length of time goods take to reach Inkongo from England; visits from administrator in

Lusambo; showing of Gospel pictures sent by Miss Jacob; visit to Batetela villages.

Dated at Inkongo

Reference code: CBA5630(22)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 26 Apr 1922

Extent: 4 pages

Scope and Content

[Copy of] letter, "no. 15A" from Dorothy Isaac to her mother referring to Louis [Gentile]; [T.H.] Wilson's plans to go to the Basonge tribe; plans of T. Nixon and his nephew and niece to go to Inkongo; death of chief Ipala and mourning among the people.

Dated at Inkongo

Reference code: CBA5630(23)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 2 May 1922

Extent: 4 pages

Scope and Content

[Copy of] letter, "no15B", to Mr.Cheney regarding the dry seasons; [H.]Wilson's departure for the Basonge tribe; work in the pharmacy; thanking him for Bible pictures; references to [A.] McTavish taking morning prayers; plans of [T.] Nixon and his nephew and niece to go to Inkongo.

Dated at Inkongo

Reference code: CBA5630(24)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 9 Jun 1922

Extent: 4 pages

Scope and Content

[Copy of] letter, "no.6", from Dorothy Isaac to her mother referring to her new house; death of Bakwete; [T.H.]Wilson's preaching among the Basonge; plans to open a station in the Basing country; hold of the Roman Catholics; references to Bessie [Dunn] missionary work; [A.]McTavish's visit to other districts; Mr.and Mr. [T. H.] Wilson's plans to go to Bak[w]ala Mbuli [Mbule]; illness of Mrs. [C.] Althorp.

[Inkongo]

Reference code: CBA5630(25)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 2 Jun 1922

Extent: 3 pages

Scope and Content

[Copy of] letter, "no .16a", from Dorothy Isaac to Muriel referring to Collection for the B[ritish] and F[oreign] Bible Society; visit by Mr. and Mrs. Gentil and daughter; attacks by a leopard; plans of Mr. and Mrs.[T.H.]Wilson to visit Bakwa Mbuli [Mbule]; plans of [T.] Nixon to leave England; visit to Basonge village; [T.H.]Wilson's translations of hymns.

[Inkongo]

Reference code: CBA5630(26)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: Jun-Aug 1922

Extent: 12 pages

Scope and Content

[Copies of] letters, "16B", from Dorothy Isaac:

1. Dated 28 Jun. 1922, to Mr.Cheney describing an insect; teaching young men to go out as teachers; journey of [T.H.]Wilson.
2. Dated 24 Jun. 1922, to her sister describing pot-making; Bible reading.
3. Dated 27 Jun. 1922, to her mother regarding the [dead] chief's wives; references to Mr. and Mrs.[T'.H.]Wilson, the Gentils, Bessie [Dunn] and [A.] McTavish; visit by American missionaries; native customs.
4. Dated 2 Aug. 1922, to her mother regarding arrival at Inkongo of Mr. and Mrs.[T.H.] Wilson, Louis [Gentil] and Miss M. [McCandless]; new cook-house for native Christian woman; visit to dentist at

Lusambo; journey to Bak[w]a Mbuli [Mbulel] by herself, Bessie [Dunn] and Mercy McCandless; illness of [C.] Althorp; [Althorp] baby; P.s.: reference to illness of Dorothy Isaac.

5. Dated 8 Aug. 1922, to Mr.Cheney regarding sending of films; describing native way of setting broken bone; work at Bakwa Mbuli [Mbule] state-ordered cotton market in the area; chiefs arriving at [C.] Althorp's house to see the white baby; Bible reading. Appended: note of [Mrs.Isaac] that Jun and Aug letters arrived together.

Dated at Inkongo and Bakwa Mbuli [Mbule]

Reference code: CBA5630(27)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: Aug-Sep 1922

Extent: 8 pages

Scope and Content

[Copies of] letters, "no.17a", from Dorothy Isaac:

1. Dated 23 Sep. 1922, to her mother regarding Dorothy Isaac's health; attacks by "driver ants"; visit by young Englishman; [T.] Nixon's carpentry; gardens of the natives; school vacation due to extra work imposed by "state man". P.s.: Bessie [Dunn]'s school at Matendi.
2. Dated 21 Sep. 1922, to Mr.Cheney referring to [T.H.] Wilson killing a leopard; accident during building work; new chief and his wives.
3. Dated 2 Aug. 1922, to Muriel regarding Dorothy Isaac's illness; describing return to Inkongo; visit, by missionaries from Lusambo; Gospel services and Bible reading.

Dated at Inkongo

Reference code: CBA5630(28)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 27 Oct 1922

Extent: 4 pages

Scope and Content

[Copy of] letter, "17B", from Dorothy Isaac to her mother regarding Gospel meetings; reference to T Tom Wilson; illness of [C.] Althorp, Mercy [McCandless] and [W.] Amies; [T.H.] Wilson's departure for Bakwa Mbule; describing cloud effects; [A.]McTavish and [W.] Amies' visit to the Basongi

[Basonge]; prayer meetings; [C.] Althorp's journey to Bak[w]a Mbuli; reference to East St.

Dated at Inkongo

Reference code: CBA5630(29)

Handwritten Copies of Letters

Dates of creation: Dec 1922

Extent: 3 pages

Scope and Content

[Copies of] letters, "no.18", from Dorothy Isaac:

1. Dated 27 Dec. 1922, to her aunt regarding money sent; return of missionaries from Basonge land; leopard caught in [T.H.]Wilson's trap.
2. To Muriel regarding baptismal service; return of [T.H.] Wilson from the Bakamputu; deaths of two natives; ill-health of Miss [M]McCandless; plans for new year conference of teachers; [W.[Amies]and [A.]McTavish's work in Basonge land and hopes to open a station there.

Dated at Inkongo

Reference code: CBA5630(30)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 6 Jan 1923

Extent: 4 pages

Scope and Content

[Copy of] letter, "no . 29" from Dorthothy Isaac to her mother referring to Mr. Cheney; Bessie [Dunn]' s new school building in Matende; binding pictures into books; Kaman, a sick boy; indifference among the Christians and Bible reading campaign; return of Alick [A. McTavish]; building/repair of the pharmacy; collapse of school at Bak[w]a Mbuli [Mbule]; outbreak of influenza; arrival of books; verse by Havergal; visit by [C.]Althorp; reading by [T.H.] Wilson.

Dated at Inkongo

Reference code: CBA5630(31) - CBA5630(45)

Bundle of Letters

Dates of creation: Apr 1921 - Mar 1924

Extent: 15 pieces

Scope and Content

Handwritten copies of correspondence from Dorothy Isaac and Mrs T.H. Wilson to various individuals containing accounts of missionary work and life in the Belgian Congo. There is also a verse by Mrs. Wilson and a map of the Congo.

Reference code: CBA5630(31)

Handwritten Copies of Letters

Dates of creation: 8 Jan 1923 - 4 Feb 1923

Extent: 7 pages

Scope and Content

[Copies of] letters, "no .20", from Dorothy Isaac:

1. Dated 4 Feb. 1923, to Mr. Cheney regarding need for missionaries among the Basonge; way a neighbouring chief is received in Matendi; smallpox vaccinations; receipt of children's newspapers.
2. Dated 20 Jan. 1923, to her mother regarding return of Mercy [McCandless] to Bak[w]a Mbule; visit from the Cleveland of Lusambo; marriage of Louise [Gentil] and return of Louis [Gentil] to his parents; journeys and planned visits by [A] McTavish [T.H.] Wilson, [C.] Althorp, [T.] Nixon, [W.] Amies; news of a Miss [G] Desborough and [T.] Nixon's nephew coming from England.
3. Dated 20 Jan. 1923, to her aunt thanking her for present and book; sick people staying with them; [A.] McTavish's journey to Batetela villages
4. Dated 8 Jan. 1923, of [T] Wilson to a "brother" regarding return of [W.] Amies and [A.] McTavish from the Basonge country and relating their journey; describing conference meetings and dissatisfaction among some brethren over lack of support and problem of native mourning customs. Attached: sketch map of route taken [by Amies and McTavish].

Dated at Inkongo.

Reference code: CBA5630(32)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 23 Mar 1923

Extent: 3 pages

Scope and Content

[Copy of] letter, "no.21", from Dorothy Isaac to Muriel regarding time of sunset and heat of the sun; news of new workers [from England]; journeys of [A.] McTavish, [C.] Althorp and Miss [E.] Dunn among other tribes; plans for conference of Christians and teachers; recent storm; prevalent illnesses.

Dated at Inkongo.

Reference code: CBA5630(33)

Handwritten Copies of Letters

Dates of creation: Apr 1923

Extent: 4 pages

Scope and Content

[Copies of] letters, "no.22", from Mrs. T.H. Wilson:

1. Dated 5 Apr., 1923, to Mrs. Isaac assuring her of Dorothy's improving health; frustration felt by Dorothy and Miss [E.] Dunn when teaching the women's class.
2. Dated 27 Apr. 1923, of Dorothy Isaac to her mother referring to conference of teachers and wives; move of Bessie [Dunn] and [W.] Amies to Bak[w]a Mbuli [Mbule]; expected arrival of U. Westcott and three new workers; reference to Miss [M.I] McCandless; visits to other districts by [A.] McTavish, [T.] Nixon and [W.] Amies; visit by American missionaries; more interest among the people; illness of Kamanda; reference to new workers, Miss [G.] Desborough, Miss [M.] Chalmers and [H.] Moyes; approach of the dry season; references to Mr. and Mrs. [C.] Althorp and Mrs [T.H.] Wilson.

Dated at Inkongo.

Reference code: CBA5630(34)

Handwritten Copies of Letters

Dates of creation: May-Jun 1923

Extent: 12 pages

Scope and Content

[Copies of] letters, "no.23" and "no.24", from Dorothy Isaac:

1. Dated. 22 May 1923, to Muriel wishing her "many happy returns"; looking forward to new helpers; visits by Mr. and Mrs.[T.H.] Wilson to villages, leaving her as mission house-keeper; visit by Louise Gentil; dry season; Bessie [Dunn]'s work at Bak[w]a Mbule; new medicine for leprosy; new interest among the Christians.
2. Dated 26 May 1923, to her mother thanking her for pictures; references To Miss [G.] Desborough, Miss [M.] Chalmers, [H.] Moyes, U. Westcott, [W.]Amies; Bessie [Dunn]'s work at Bak[w]a Mbule; prayer meetings for women held by herself and [T.H.] Wilson; wedding of Louise Gentil; visits by Mr. and Mrs. [T.H.] Wilson to villages; conference; news from Miss Jacob.
3. Dated 13 Jun. 1923, to Muriel regarding her visits to villages; visits by [T.] Nixon; dry season;a village market.
4. Dated 20 Jun. 1923, to Mr. Cheney thanking him for letters and Bible notes; reference to translation of Bible into Luna Inkongo.
5. Dated 20 Jun. 1923, to her mother regarding her visits to villages; receipt of letters, pictures etc.; ref, to Alexander's hymns; return of Mr. and Mrs.[C.] Althorp to Bak[w]a Mbule; [T.H.] Wilson's killing of a hippo; outbreak of influenza; visit by Louis[Gentil]; expected arrival of new workers; [W.] Amies' journeying.

Dated at Inkongo, Nombi and Bake Mgôî.

Reference code: CBA5630(35)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 29 Jul 1923

Extent: 4 pages

Scope and Content

[Copy of] letter, "no.25", from Dorothy Isaac to her mother regarding, the missionary work; visit to Matinde; expected arrival of new workers; Louis Lentil's return to Europe; shooting of a young man; illness of Bessie [Dunn] return of [A.] McTavish from the Basonge; quotation from hymn; reference to [T.H.] Wilson.

Dated at Inkongo.

Reference code: CBA5630(36)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 6 Aug 1923

Extent: 4 pages

Scope and Content

[Copy of] letter "no.26", from Dorothy Isaac to Muriel regarding expected arrival of new workers; medical work; women's meeting at Mbomba; Catholic school at Mbomba; prevalence of sleeping sickness.

Dated at Inkongo.

Reference code: CBA5630(37)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 31 Aug 1923

Extent: 2 pages

Scope and Content

[Copy of] letter "no.27", from Dorothy Isaac to her mother regarding the new workers; engagement of [A.] McTavish and Miss [E.] Dunn; departure of U. Westcott and [W.] Amies for Bak[w]a Mbule; illness of H. Moyes; visit by Miss M.McCandless and [C.]Althorp.

Dated at Inkongo.

Reference code: CBA5630(38)

Handwritten Copies of Letters

Dates of creation: Sep-Oct 1923

Extent: 7 pages

Scope and Content

[Copies of] letters, "no.28", from Dorothy Isaac:

1. Dated 29 Sep. 1923, to her mother referring to Miss Jacobs; departure of U. Westcott and [W.] Amies for Bak[w]a Mbule; reference to Mrs [T.H.] Wilson's son; visit by herself and Miss M. Chalmers to women's meeting at Matendi: baptismal service; ill-health of Miss G. Desborough; [T.H.] Wilson's visit to Basonge country; [T.] Nixon's visit to Cimbangu.
2. Dated 1 Oct. 1923, to Mr.Cheney regarding stormy weather.
3. Dated 28 Oct 1923, to her mother referring to visit by [T.H.] Wilson; epidemic and illness of Dorothy Isaac; attack by leopard on chickens; return of [T.] Nixon from Cimbangu; visit to Bena Inkongo; news of Miss Jacob in Switzerland.

Dated at Inkongo.

Reference code: CBA5630(39)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 1 Dec 1923

Extent: 3 pages

Scope and Content

Copy of letter, "no.29", from Dorothy Isaac to her mother referring to enclosed account [see below] of [T.H.] Wilson's Basonge journey; illness of U. Westcott; news of the school; conference with the teachers; baptisms; work at the pharmacy.

Dated at Inkongo.

Reference code: CBA5630(40)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 15 Nov 1923

Extent: 4 pages

Scope and Content

Copy of letter, "no.30', of [T.] H.Wilson to a "brother" regarding baptismal service; describing journey to the Basongi district [Basonge].

Dated at Inkongo

See also CBA5630(39)

Reference code: CBA5630(41)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 6 Dec 1923

Extent: 4 pages

Scope and Content

[Copy of] letter, "no-31", from Dorothy Isaac to her mother regarding [C.] Althorp's proposed furlough with Miss [E.] Dunn and herself; deteriorating physical appearance of white people in Africa; ill--health of Miss G.[Desborough]; news from Miss Jacob; return of [U.] Westcott to Bak[w]a Mbuli [Mbule];her reading [T.] Nixon and [H.] Moyes' visits to villages.

Dated at Inkongo.

Reference code: CBA5630(42)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 15 Mar 1924

Extent: 4 pages

Scope and Content

[Copy of] letter from Dorothy Isaac to her mother referring to departure of Grace [Desborough] for Bak[w]a Mbuli [Mbule]; illness of Bessie [Dunn]; expected arrival of Mr. and Mrs.[C.] Althorp; arrival of young Christians from Matende; custom of a man paying for his wife; death of Mrs. [T.H.] Wilson's father.

Dated at Inkongo.

Reference code: CBA5630(43)

Handwritten Copy of Letter

Dates of creation: 16 Jan 1924

Extent: 4 pages

Scope and Content

Copy of letter [writer unknown] to W.H. Westcott regarding work at Ntomba; conversion of Mbapembe.

Dated at Inkongo

Reference code: CBA5630(44)

Verse

Dates of creation: 4 Jul. 1923

Extent: 2 pages

Scope and Content

'The Interrupted Song', verse by T.H.Wilson.

Dated at Inkongo.

Reference code: CBA5630(45)

Map

Dates of creation: Apr 1921

Extent: 2 pages

Scope and Content

Map of Belgian Congo from the Congo Mission News, no.35, [found among letters relating to Miss D. Isaac].

***Creation:** Finding aid created by Susan M. Noble in January 1984; the finding aid was modified and converted to EAD 2002 by Graham Johnson in January 2009.*

***Descriptive Rules:** Finding aid compiled according to JRUL's Guide to the listing of archives (3rd edition, 2004), which is based on the General International Standard Archival Description (ISAD(G)), second edition.*