

## THE MOZAMBIQUE INSTITUTE

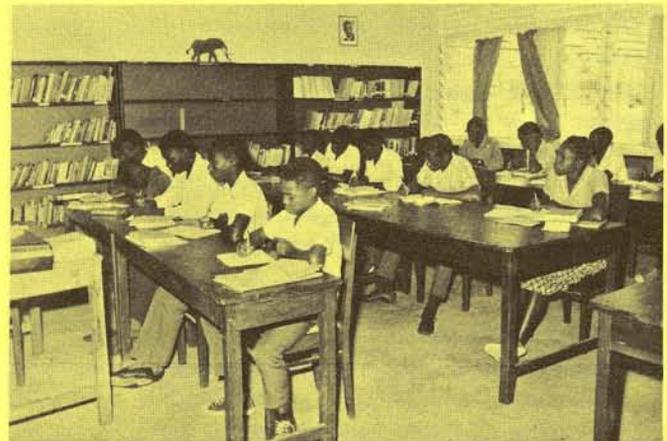
By Janet Rae Mondlane, *Director*

The story of the struggle for liberation in Mozambique is one of a fight being carried out on all fronts to win freedom from the Portuguese colonialists. FRELIMO, the Mozambique Liberation Front, is not only engaged in armed warfare but also recognises the need to free the minds of the people, and educate them towards the independence that will be theirs.

Educational opportunity had always been limited in Mozambique, to the extent where 97% of the population are illiterate, and the possibility of any number of students finishing even primary education was remote. A mere 2% of children got the chance to go to school at all. In 1961, therefore, the idea of an educational centre for young Mozambicans was born, and in September 1964 the Mozambique Institute opened its doors in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The building housed 52 students, and the aim of the Institute was to provide them with tutoring in various subjects so that they could enter the neighbouring English-speaking refugee school, and background education taught in Portuguese at secondary school level. There was also a special primary class for the children of Mozambican refugees already in Dar es Salaam. From this relatively small beginning, only four years ago, has spread an enormous network of programmes which reach the liberated and semi-liberated areas within Mozambique as well as the various refugee camps in Tanzania and Zambia.

There are now basically three programmes emanating from the Mozambique Institute. The secondary school has an enrollment of 121 students and upon completion of the current building project, will be able to house a total of 180 students. The courses, taught in Portuguese, are at the secondary level, and at the moment consist in bridging the gap which exists between the Portuguese and Tanzanian primary school systems; for while in Tanzania the primary school course covers the first seven years of a child's schooling, in Mozambique it lasts only four years. But under discussion now are plans for extending the classes to include a further two years of secondary education, and if this plan comes into being students intending to follow technical rather than academic careers will be able to complete their academic studies within the Mozambican system.

One important aspect of the work being carried out in the secondary school is the emphasis on trial and experiment in educational methods. The Portuguese educational system is not designed to train Africans to the degree of responsibility and independent thought which will be required, so new approaches have to be devised. Many of the established text books are unsuitable for the new methods, but while the search for materials continues, many of the dedicated staff have been writing their own texts, within a framework of constant discussion and trial. Another major problem is the lack of background of the majority of the students, and to combat this, cultural and other activities are emphasised, to round off the classes in history, geography, civics, mathematics,



STUDENTS AT WORK

science, Portuguese, English, art, and a course on 'How to Study.'

At Bagamoyo, 45 miles from Dar es Salaam, a centre was established four years ago for the screening of young Mozambican refugees. Now a primary school is established there for the children of Mozambican refugees. The students at the Mozambique Institute spend their holidays helping to construct and improve the school buildings, as part of their practical education in the value of self-help.

Also at Bagamoyo is an Administrative Training Course,

again carried out through the joint efforts of the Mozambique Liberation Front and the Mozambique Institute. This three-month course is the first of its kind for Mozambicans, and the graduates will work in the liberated areas of Mozambique. At present 35 adults are enrolled, studying the history and geography of Mozambique, basic economic concepts, social structure, the founding political concepts necessary to an independent nation, and simple accountancy. The course is taught by teachers from the Mozambique Institute, who thus add an extra one and a half teaching days a week to their normal duties.

A major problem which retards all plans for the expansion of education is the lack of trained personnel. Soon to be launched at Bagamoyo is a teacher's training course for primary school teachers. The aim of the course is to prepare the teachers for the immense task which lies before them, teaching the thousands of Mozambican children within and without Mozambique.

While the primary school at Bagamoyo conducts the last two years of the primary school course, at Tunduru, in southern Tanzania, is another primary school which emphasises the first two years. A third primary school is in the refugee camp at Rutumba. In spite of these efforts, and the official school for refugees, only a small percentage of the total refugee-child population is able to receive formal education. As a result unofficial schools have been springing up within the camp, teaching in Portuguese along the lines of the Mozambican system. The teaching is done by a few refugee ex-primary school teachers, and every effort is being made both to supply these classes with teaching materials and to bring their syllabi closer to those in use at Bagamoyo and Tunduru.

So far we have only spoken about the efforts being made to advance education among Mozambicans within Tanzania, but what of the thousands who have stayed in Mozambique?

75,000 square miles of Mozambique are now liberated or semi-liberated, with the population depending entirely on themselves and FRELIMO for progress in any field. Considering the obstacles that have to be faced, an incredible job is going on; largely stemming from the peoples' own efforts. Schools are springing up all over the countryside, and although they are often very inadequate, taught by volunteers who themselves did not perhaps finish their education, they are certainly better than the vacuum which would otherwise exist. FRELIMO and the Mozambique Institute do their best to supply these schools with a minimum of equipment, both for teachers and pupils, and hope this year to be able to expand their efforts. But the scale and intensity of the growth of education can be shown by the fact that in one district alone 7,000 children are attending 72 primary schools. The student-teacher ratio ranges from 250-1 to

25-1, depending on the density of population in the area, but even the 250th child in a class is privileged in comparison with too many of his or her fellows.

Another side to the activities of the Mozambique Institute is that concerned with the general health and medical care. We at the Institute feel that an essential part of any educational programme is to ensure that the students are healthy, well-nourished, and therefore in the best possible condition to devote themselves to their studies. Needless to say, our concern for the welfare of the Mozambican people extends to the population as a whole, and one result of this has been the setting up at the Institute of a course to train rural medical aides. One class has already graduated from this course, and at the end of June this year's graduates joined their colleagues, who are already working inside Mozambique where medical centres have been set up throughout the liberated and semi-liberated areas.

The various schools and refugee centres in Tanzania have their own health centres too—a Mozambican nurse is working full-time in Tunduru, and there is also a clinic at Bagamoyo. These activities are directed from the Institute by Dr. Martins, a Portuguese Mozambican doctor who is head of the medical training and care programme. One of his latest projects is the development of a correspondence course for people who cannot leave their posts, and he also supervises the writing and printing of medical books.

Although extremely delayed through lack of funds, a new step forward will be taken when the medical building is opened sometime during this summer. This building will be the centre of the educational programme, will house the small clinic, and will be the administrative centre for supplying and maintaining all other aid programmes. We hope before long to be able to give rudimentary medical services to all the children attending primary schools within liberated Mozambique.

In a country where the population has been denied educational opportunity for so long, adult literacy training is important too. The main problem in this has been to decide in which language to teach. There are five major language groups in Mozambique, with thirty-five dialects, and although Portuguese is the *lingua franca*, it is actually spoken by relatively few of the African population. When teaching people to read and write, therefore, does one first teach them in their own language, and leave them to learn Portuguese once they are literate, or should one try to teach the entirely new language at once—to read, write and speak it? This is a difficult decision to make, and though at present the latter system is being used on a small scale, it is clear that further study is necessary before a full-scale programme can be launched. In the meantime, the Institute is supplying teachers with as many general texts and aids as possible.

In this brief outline of the multifarious activities of the Mozambique Institute I have tried to show how our work is aimed at improving the lot of Mozambicans everywhere. I think the projects speak for themselves, but perhaps they can best be illustrated with a few individual examples.

Damiao Cosme is 17 years old. He escaped to Tanzania in 1963 and became one of the Mozambique Institute's first students in 1964. He was luckier than some of his brothers and sisters in Cabo Delgado because his farming parents managed to save enough money to be able to send him to a mission school and thence to a seminary, but as they were members of a political movement he was victimised and had to leave. He fled to Tanzania by night, on foot, and stayed at Mgulani refugee camp until the Institute opened. Now he is finishing his Form 4 studies at Kurasini International Education Centre, and is ready to work for the Mozambique Liberation Front. He will probably be sent to teach in one of the Institute's primary schools, to help his younger compatriots, and if there is opportunity later he will be able to continue his studies to a higher level.

Radio sets are now being issued to the bush schools within Mozambique so that they can receive educational broadcasts beamed from Dar es Salaam. In charge of these programmes is Artur Vilankulu, a young Mozambican who has just returned from a post-graduate course in Communications in New York. There are now over a hundred students at universities and technical schools overseas—one hundred people who will return to Africa ready and equipped to help the struggle in a wide variety of fields.

A story which can only be one of many is that of Josina Muthemba, a 21-year-old Mozambican girl who will shortly be leaving her work at the Mozambican Institute to continue her studies in Switzerland. She was able to finish secondary school in Lourenco Marques before having to leave the country as a result of her political activities, but at her first attempt in March 1964 she was arrested in Rhodesia at the Victoria Falls. On being sent back to Mozambique Josina, then aged 18, was imprisoned for six months, partially in solitary confinement. Released and sent back to school, in March 1965 she escaped again, and after two months of travelling on foot she reached Swaziland. She arrived in Dar es Salaam in June 1965, and it is through the efforts of FRELIMO and the Institute that she will now be able to have a career.

The amazing feature of the Mozambique Institute is that it has financed all its projects entirely on voluntary contributions from governments and organisations. Without this aid the Institute would be totally unable to function, let alone expand as it should to meet the growing demands made upon it. Although of course money grants are vital, supplies and equipment are also much needed. 'Donations' of people have also been made to cope with the recurrent problem of staffing. One Czech, two Americans and one Swede are already teaching in the Institute, and we are hoping to welcome before long a qualified teacher from India and a science teacher from the German Democratic Republic.

Funds come from all over the world, and with them come supplies which fulfill some of our most urgent needs. Food, clothing, educational equipment and medicines are all thankfully received, and distributed wherever the requirements are greatest. Supplies are sent to the refugee camps, to the primary schools in Tanzania, and to the liberated and semi-liberated areas of Mozambique. As further regions of Mozambique are freed from the Portuguese it will be necessary to increase supplies in order to assist them, but it will be impossible to maintain even the present rudimentary level at which we give aid unless more help from outside sources is forthcoming. Many of our development projects are existing from day to day, constantly subject to delay and even postponement. The new buildings at the Mozambique Institute are now almost finished, but their construction has been intermittently under way since 1965, with the result that up to now the present building has been accommodating more than double the capacity for which it was intended, with all the ensuing complications.

On our continued existence depends any hope of education for all the children under our care—there are now 20,000 studying in Liberation Front territory, and more than a million inhabitants altogether. The people are encouraged to stay in their homeland rather than cross the border, because although life is not easy it is at least on their own ground. By the nature of the war being fought in Mozambique there will be no sudden, dramatic triumph, but liberation will come slowly and steadily spreading from the north to the southern regions. From Cabo Delgado and Niassa the movement will reach out to embrace Tete, Manica e Sofale, and finally Lourenco Marques.

The Mozambique Institute will continue to play its part in the Mozambican peoples' struggle for freedom—a struggle which will continue until all its aims are achieved.

# NOTES FROM SOUTH AFRICA

## BOOM-TIME—AND AFRICAN WAGES

The South African seven-year "boom" continues. Never has the country been so prosperous (with considerable assistance from United States capital investment and re-investment of earnings), or have its people lived so well—that is to say, one-fifth of its people—the 3,537,648 white "full citizens" in contrast to the 15,069,874 non-white "subjects" of the Republic (to quote a Transvaal High School text-book), who as a whole live more miserably than before the boom, due to high prices and totally inadequate—if indeed any—wage increases.

Take the workers in the manufacturing industry: white workers are paid an average of \$311.91 a month—Africans an average of \$59.01 (figures of June, 1966). In the wholesale trade: whites earned \$264.15—Africans \$53.39. In the building trade (one of the most booming) African wages were fixed in 1966 for 3 years at \$10.00 a week maximum (without overtime), while whites averaged considerably *upward* of \$82.00 weekly (the 1963 wage). Similar African wages prevail in the commercial distributive trade, according to the (white) acting president of the National Union of Commercial and Allied Workers, Mr. W. J. Meyer, who recently deplored the present weekly wage of *less than* \$12.00 and remarked that "it was pitiful to think of a family existing on that." (Star, 5/27/67).

Sometimes, low as the "official" wages are, the workers receive even less as the result of ignorance of their rights and chicanery on the part of their employer, as in the case of the steel wool plant which was found paying African women \$3.50 a week—1/3 of the amount due them.

The old-age pension provisions for Africans are even more pitiful than the wages. Pensions are small for all population groups: for whites \$42.15, the maximum for Coloreds and Asians \$19.67; but for Africans the sum is absurd—a maximum of \$5.31 a *month*. And, according to surveys of the South African Institute for Race Relations the *poverty datum line* (for a family of five) is \$67.54 a month.

## THE AFRICAN EDUCATION "BIND"

One of the proudest statistics quoted by the South African Information Service is that "80% of all Bantu children of school age are in School." Mrs. Helen Suzman, courageous Progressive Party M.P., calls such claims "nonsense." As a matter of fact, this is a play with words, because at least 80% of African children remain in school only for the *first four years*, 25% for the second half of elementary school, and barely 3% go to high school.

Of the children who do stay in school, fees of \$8 to

\$14 are exacted from Africans; plus text book purchases varying from \$42.00 in the first year to as high as \$63.00 in the fourth. They must buy school uniforms, and pay examination fees. Small wonder that few Africans can afford secondary school!

The comparative cost of "educating" African and white children clearly demonstrates the inequity of quality, as well as quantity. About \$17.00 a year, per pupil, is spent for Africans (of which sum one-half comes from African taxation); upwards of \$170.00 per pupil is spent for white children.

To tighten the African education "bind," the schools available are becoming progressively fewer. The nine Johannesburg night schools, servicing adult and often illiterate Africans, have all been ordered closed during 1967. And two outstanding Roman Catholic schools, Marianhill, in Natal, and Nazareth House, in the Cape have recently received their death sentences. Marianhill particularly has been famous for the quality of its teachers, 4,000 of them trained in its 80 years of existence. It will be sorely missed, in black South Africa.

## ATTEMPTING THE IMPOSSIBLE

The continuing and indeed increasing flow of Africans from rural areas to South Africa's cities has long posed a thorny problem for apartheid theorists, since—in principle—the trend should be in the other direction. Economic necessity and the pressure of the business "boom," rather than apartheid ideology, have, however, been the governing factors. From less than 3 million Africans in "white urban areas" in 1948 (at the Nationalist Party take-over) the figure has steadily risen to over 6 million



DESKLESS CLASSROOM

in 1967. In the area of Public Service, for example, the number of Africans employed rose by one third during 12 months from September 1965 to 1966; in three Cape districts, in spite of specific efforts to reduce Africans in this area and a total ban on African women applicants, their numbers increased during 1966 by at least 13,338—some statisticians say by as much as 18,000.

Two measures have recently been announced which are aimed at reducing the African population of the Western Cape, and at the same time providing alternate workers for the dismayed employers. The African work force is to be reduced during 1967 by 5%—the onus to accomplish this being on the employers, not the govern-

ment. Colored youths between the ages of 18 and 24 are to be forced, for the first time, to carry what amounts to a "pass," (officially called a "registration certificate") and are to be sent—regardless of any possible parental objection—to training centers, where they will be taught various trades and become available for any kind of suitable (i.e. "needed") employment.

It is obvious that here is a further regimentation of the already strictly circumscribed lives of South Africa's non-white people, of which the Colored community is to be the victim. As Anti-Apartheid News noted: "compulsory labor camps have an ominous ring." Do we once again hear a "nazi" overtone?

## **SOUTH WEST AFRICA: A DEPRESSURIZED ZONE!**

From January through March, 1967, an Ad Hoc Committee of 14 nations met at the U.N. in order to "recommend practical means" to implement the historic General Assembly Resolution of October, 1966 which declared that "henceforth South West Africa comes under the direct responsibility of the United Nations." But in the international setting, where the major power blocs are either wary or unwilling to confront South Africa through U.N. economic or military measures, the intended pragmatism has been reduced to inactivity.

Regional groups within the Ad Hoc Committee presented very divergent alternate plans to the Special Session of the General Assembly which met in April. Finally, after a whole-hearted attempt by the Afro-Asian powers to reach a workable compromise plan, Resolution 2248 was passed on May 19. *But* both the NATO and Socialist blocs abstained. The resolution established an 11 member Council for South West Africa, responsible to the General Assembly, with administrative and executive tasks assigned to a U.N. Commissioner for South West Africa. The Council, according to the Resolution, shall proceed to South West Africa, promulgate necessary laws and maintain order until the formation of a legislative assembly elected on the basis of universal adult suffrage (enabled by the Council establishing a constituent assembly to draw up a constitution) with a subsequent independence target date of June, 1968. The more moderate nature of the May resolution was indicated in its reference to the Council entering into contact with the South African authorities in order to "lay down procedures . . . for the transfer of the administration of the Territory with the least possible upheaval." Earlier Afro-Asian references to strong Security Council action were also modified to a request that the Security Council "take all appropriate measures to enable the U.N. Council for South West Africa to discharge the functions and responsibilities entrusted to it by the General Assembly." The Council must report to the G.A. at three month intervals and submit a special report in the fall. The Council, elected on June 13,

includes: Columbia, Chile, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Nigeria, U.A.R., Zambia, Turkey and Yugoslavia. The Acting Commissioner is Constantin Stravropoulos, Under-Secretary for U.N. Legal Affairs.

The chances of this Commission actually progressing in its task to administer South West Africa are dim, reflected in the lack of big power participation in the Council and South Africa's total unwillingness to cooperate. The non-involvement of major powers presages not only the conditions for bilateral relationships between such states as the U.S. and South Africa outside the U.N. sphere, but also the futility inherent in bringing the South West issue back to the Security Council in the fall. *But* there are perhaps certain initial steps which the Council can undertake from outside of the Territory, with big power acquiescence. These include the possibility of issuing U.N. visas for citizens of U.N. member nations planning to travel to SWA, and more importantly, travel documents for South West Africans who at present have difficulty leaving their country. In addition, the Council could aggregate its funds through taxing corporations which function in SWA (a number of which are American), collectable through the countries to which these companies owe allegiance.

At this point, then, while the Council sits in New York, while South Africa basks in the outcome of the U.N. debates on SWA (and proceeds with the trial of 37 South West African so-called "terrorists" in Pretoria), and while the U.S. bides its time, we must not be idle. We must urge the U.S. to live up to its commitment to the October resolution, and as Ambassador Goldberg stated, to "faithfully support the people of South West Africa in their just aspirations by every effective peaceful means, until those aspirations have been attained." This means that the U.S. must support the work of the Council, the enactment of the above proposals, and join other U.N. members in applying pressures on South Africa to leave South West Africa.

# HOUSE RESOLUTION ON RHODESIA

After months of planning and constant interruptions, a "sense of Congress" resolution on Southern Rhodesia was finally entered in the House of Representatives on July 24. The resolution affirms the Administration's policy of applying selective sanctions against the illegal Smith regime, and also supports the principle of No Independence Before Majority Rule (NIBMAR) in Rhodesia. The resolution was initiated by five Democrats and five Republicans including Congressmen Anderson (D-Tenn.), Bingham (D-N.Y.), Conte (R-Mass.), Horton (R-N.Y.), Frelinghuysen (R-N.J.), Morse (R-Mass.), B. O'Hara (D-Ill.), J. O'Hara (D-Mich.), Reid (R-N.Y.), and Rosenthal (D-N.Y.). It was co-sponsored by 47 additional Congressmen.

The resolution is important for several reasons. First of all, it is a good indication of the tenor of thinking among

Congressmen who have not succumbed to the pro-Smith "Friends of Rhodesia" propaganda being carried on in Washington against sanctions. (This resolution received three times as many signers as other Congressional anti-sanctions resolutions.) Secondly, it is significant in its assertion of NIBMAR, particularly in view of recent hints that the British Government might be willing to compromise the NIBMAR stand it took last year in an attempt to extract itself from the Rhodesian bog. The U.S. has until this point followed on the heels of British policy towards Rhodesia; but the House Resolution provides some hope for new Congressional concern for Rhodesia which *might* foreshadow more positive directions in U.S. policy towards all of southern Africa.

## "THE STRUGGLE WILL GO ON"

"The struggle must go on—the struggle to make the opportunity for the building to begin. The struggle will go on . . . I shall die, if need be, for this cause. But I do not want to die until I have seen the building begun. Mayibuye i Afrika! Come, Africa, come." (Chief Albert J. Lituli).

The American Committee on Africa and all the friends of South African freedom grieve the tragic loss of Chief Albert J. Lituli in a fatal event on July 21. Chief Lituli, 68 years old, was struck by a freight train in Stanger,

Natal, South Africa. He was President-General of the banned African National Congress and because of his political activities had been confined to his home in Groutville, Natal since 1959. Only once did the South African authorities allow him to leave the country—when he received the 1960 Nobel Peace Prize. Recent reports indicated that Chief Lituli might be going blind. ACOA sends its warmest sympathies to the family of Chief Lituli and to his fellow freedom fighters, and affirms that "the struggle will go on. . ."

## AMERICANS AGAINST APARTHEID

Representatives of the American Committee on Africa attended the annual meeting of General Motors held on May 19 in Detroit in order to protest that corporation's deep involvement in the economy of South Africa. A small demonstration was held outside by the Students for a Democratic Society and a local Detroit Human Rights group, People Against Racism. Arthur Hughes, a New York artist, also attended the meeting and announced to the stockholders that he had transferred \$80,000 worth of General Motors' stock to the African Aid and Legal Defense Fund in order to aid rather than exploit the victims of apartheid.

### AALDF GIVES \$50,000 TO U.N. TRUST FUND FOR SOUTH AFRICA

On June 12, the African Aid and Legal Defense Fund contributed \$50,000 to the U.N. Trust Fund for South Africa, the largest gift granted by an American group to the Fund. In a letter to the Chairman of the Fund, Ambassador Sverker C. Astrom of Sweden, the Secretary of AALDF wrote, "We realize that . . . the contributions

come primarily from the governments of U.N. member nations, not from private groups such as the African Aid and Legal Defense Fund. We would hope that our contribution, coming from a private American fund, would motivate the U.S. Government to respond by giving to the U.N. Trust Fund for South Africa in the near future." The U.S. Government is one of the few major nations to have failed to contribute to this U.N. Fund although it voted for its creation in 1965.

For more information on the U.N. Trust Fund for South Africa, write for Priority Action Project #1 of the American Committee on Africa. "The U.S. Must Support The United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa."

It is understood that House Resolution 7099 (Foreign Assistance Act) contains a proviso for a U.S. grant to the U.N. Fund, but that there is a likelihood that this request will be scratched in the Rules Committee of the House. ACT NOW; write for the Action sheet, and write your Congressman urging the U.S. to give funds to the U.N. Trust Fund.

NOTE: In response to the last SAB many people showed an interest in our stockholders' campaign by returning the enclosed postcard. We urge those of you who have *not* returned the subsequent stockholders' reply information sheet, citing in which companies you hold stock, to do so in order that we may plan our fall strategy to attend stockholders' meetings.

Southern Africa Bulletins can be ordered by your organization: \$4 per hundred, \$15 for 500. Send check payable to American Committee on Africa to: Miss Janet MacLaughlin, ACOA, room 705, 211 East 43 St., New York 10017.

Dear Friends of the South Africa Bulletin,

A year has passed since we last wrote you about the South Africa Bulletin—now expanded into the Southern Africa Bulletin. We hope that the four issues which you have received (in July and November 1966, and April and now August of 1967) have been interesting and informative.

Specially written contributions to these issues have included two articles by South Africans, one on the background to the South West Africa question, a thoughtful account of “Rhodesia Today” by a Rhodesian, and the current issue’s lead story on Mozambique.

In the next few issues we will present articles on the struggle for freedom in Angola, the forthcoming independence of Swaziland, and an analysis of P. M. Vorster’s so-called “new look” in South Africa.

If you have found the Southern Africa Bulletin worthwhile during the past year, we hope that you will again send us a tangible sign of your approval in the form of a gift toward the expenses of printing and postage. The Bulletin—and, before 1964, its Pacific Coast forerunner, the South Africa Freedom Call—has been sent without charge around the world to people who share an interest in southern Africa. Only once a year do we ask its readers to help defray costs of publication.

Please show us your continued support by your contribution. A return envelope is enclosed for your convenience. Thank you!

Very sincerely,

Mary-Louise Hooper  
*Editor*