

# The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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## The Sermon on the Mount and the Question of Divorce.

SUCH New Testament readings as we are now having at our worship services are likely to make us think seriously. Part of the Master's teaching may cause even earnest Christians some heart-searching. Certain passages of the Sermon on the Mount may puzzle us as to our Lord's intention. Were his words to be literally applied? What is their meaning, and how wide is their application? Objections have been raised as to their practicability in such a world as that in which we find ourselves.

We cannot now deal with the difficulties of those whose chief ground for objecting lies in the fact that they, for selfish or alluring reasons, are simply not prepared to make a serious attempt to carry out the Saviour's instructions. When divine commands run counter to human desires, a process of conversion and the assistance of God's grace are necessary for the willing carrying-out of the Lord's instructions. We repeat the observation of a former article and note that the Lord Jesus was giving to his disciples a statement of the principles of the kingdom and setting forth ideals of life and duty to his disciples. No disciple can challenge the teaching of his Master, though at times he may find it difficult either to understand or to follow. The ideal standard still remains.

### A Correspondent's Inquiries.

A correspondent asks the following question:—

Reading Matt. 5: 31, 32, the question has arisen whether it is right according to God's word for a person, more so a Christian, to divorce his wife and to remarry; and secondly, is it right for a preacher of the gospel to marry a divorced person whether he is aware of the circumstances that led to the divorce or not?

We have frequently answered similar inquiries in the pages of the "Christian." But it is well for disciples, especially in an age when there is in the world increasing laxity, to reconsider what Christ has spoken. His word must bind his followers, whether or not the world regard them. There are lands where laxity in morals and looseness of divorce are more pronounced than in

Australia. In places the evil has invaded the church, and you may find church members, deacons and preachers not only living in defiance of Christ's teaching but apparently suffering nothing in the repute of the church by doing so. May the day never come when we shall be similarly complacent. We have no belief in the permanent greatness of any nation in which the sanctity of the home and family is disregarded and easy divorce tolerated.

The passage referred to by our inquirer reads as follows: "I say unto you, that every one that putteth away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, maketh her an adulteress: and whosoever shall marry her when she is put away committeth adultery."

### Reiterated Teaching.

This teaching of our Lord in the Sermon on the Mount harmonises with his later statement as recorded in Matt. 19: 9. It may be remarked that in Luke 16: 18 and also in Mark 10: 11, 12, where reports are also made of Jesus' words, there is some difference, though not contradiction. In Mark and Luke there is no mention of

"saving for the cause of fornication." This omission has given rise to a widely spread view, often expressed in sermons and commentaries, that Christ absolutely forbade divorce for any reason whatsoever, and therefore also, of course, ruled out any remarriage. Many believers hold that "he declared the indissolubility of the marriage bond. He told his disciples that the remarriage of either partner, while the other is living, was adultery." Had we only the records of Mark and Luke, doubtless this is the view we should be compelled to take. But there is no sound reason for our doubting the record of the Gospel according to Matthew, and it is both easy and reasonable to interpret the statements in the other Gospels in harmony with that, the one qualification being understood though not expressed. The Saviour's words, even in the mildest report, are very exigent, and we should require absolute proof of the inaccuracy of the text (and any proof is lacking) before we should seek to be more strict than the requirements of the Sermon on the Mount as recorded by Matthew.

Even with the milder reading, there is still difference of opinion as to the right of remarriage. Most folk would naturally, and we think rightly, take the view that, where adultery is the cause of the divorce, the innocent party has unquestionably the right of remarriage. The marriage bond is completely broken, and divorce for sufficient reason may be held to so sunder the parties that their remarriage makes no difference.

But even with the innocent party (man or woman) there is room for discussion. The Eastern church with its liberty is in contrast with a fairly general formal prohibition in the West. A moderate statement of the stricter view may be quoted: "The stricter rule, though it sometimes inflicts hardships upon individuals, seems the more desirable from the point of view of public policy, seeing that it best maintains the stability of the family, the sanctity and indissolubility of marriage, and the possibility of repentance and reconcili-

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ation after sin." There is considerable point in this, yet much could be said on the other side. We are content here to note that this stricter view is to us not reconcilable with the record we have of the Sermon on the Mount.

### The Preacher's Position.

Regarding the second part of our correspondent's inquiry, we may say that the practice of preachers varies. In our

judgment it would be wrong for a preacher to marry any person divorced for other than the reason indicated in Matt. 5: 32. Beyond that, it seems to us, the matter must be left to the individual to act as he himself has come to understand the implication of the Master's words. Where there is any doubt, he will naturally wish to do nothing which would in any way condone wrong or lead people to regard lightly the teaching of our Lord.

possibilities of service. It is no use hiding our heads in the sand of indifference in the hope that the enemy will pass by in silence. We are more likely to smother ourselves by so doing.

### The Reason for Our Existence.

The reason for our existence is not merely that we may teach and restore the doctrines and practices of the early church, but that rising above all petty questions that tend to make us little minded we should grip the great fundamental truth of Christianity and go forth to preach to the world a Christ of whom we are not ashamed. Apart from Christ our plea for primitive Christianity becomes of course a hollow sham. Our plea must include and place above all a risen divine Christ or else we fail and deserve to lose.

I read with astonishment Principal Main's account of a united communion service where candles and colored lights were used among us. We boast of our great American cause that stoops to such frippery. Where does our so-called primitive Christianity lead us? Just where we like—anywhere. We pick up what we once cast aside and use it for our adornment.

Matters of doubtful expediency we have allowed in the past for the sake of peace and unity, but it appears as if there is a limit to such latitude, for if indulged in too freely, it leads to serious departure from primitive simplicity.

Looking back over many years of experience of the internal working of our churches, I cannot but confess that to a large extent we have been a failure, but not to the same extent as the denominational churches. The denominational church has failed because the world has tired of the parson. Fifty years ago, a preacher had little difficulty in securing and upholding a reputation for learning and piety. Since then the schoolmaster has gone to every home and people now know too much to accept without question the man in the pulpit. The effect of education has been to arouse the spirit of criticism, without a corresponding desire to enter the work and show how it ought to be done. The average young man is not at all anxious to excel in exhortation and preaching, while some churches are not anxious that he should.

The necessity for trained men is as great as ever, but the day of the parson is gone; he must be replaced by a man among men who can stand his ground among his fellows as one of themselves.

### LIFE.

"Life is a night,  
Dark and cold,  
When there is blight  
Within the soul.  
Life is a light,  
Warm and bold,  
When there is right  
Within the soul."

## The Christian World is Slipping.

Alan Price, B.A.

Reports, statistics and observation all show that church attendance is rapidly on the decline. The Christian world is slipping back whence it came. The fervid zeal of fifty years ago has given place to a general lack of interest in spiritual things. We blame modern conditions, the motor car and the wireless, but these are but secondary causes of the decline. The main reason is infidelity, more or less pronounced. The appeal of Christianity has lost its urge, because men and women sometimes doubt Christianity. The semi-instructed infidel has been abroad. He has scattered his colored views far and wide. Cut and dried infidel arguments are in free circulation, with hardly a champion capable of pulling them to pieces. Oft-repeated infidel assertions are being believed, because none are willing to give them the lie. There are young people growing up in sheltering Christian homes to whom it has never occurred to doubt the verities of the faith, but when they are forced out into the world, the young men especially, they will have to face the jeers of the godless, without sufficient knowledge to counter the onslaught.

The result is that the church-going young man is becoming a rarity, while even the young women are beginning to feel out of date because they have not yet abandoned the habit of church going.

### The Towering Fact.

Deep down below all questions of church practice and towering far above all other matters is the one great fact that "Jesus matters is the one great fact that 'Jesus matters is the Christ, the Son of the living God.'" While we strive about minor matters, etc., the world is perishing for want of a Christ. It may be that like the twelve in the upper room we spend our time in unnecessary wrangling, while our Lord goes out once more to Gethsemane and Calvary. Young men start their college career enthusiastic for spiritual things; some, not all, come out different men. They have been taught by their professors, but have read beyond what their professors taught. They have found that some of the views they held in earlier days cannot be established. They keep

silent rather than offend, but they are good men spoilt. Spoilt, because they cannot keep on the views they once held and yet dare not follow up the new knowledge they have acquired. Their new ideas may be absolutely wrong, but we have few among us able to grip the questions that arise and put matters right. If, on the other hand, they have acquired a sounder grip of the truth, no power on earth should stop them making the truth to be known.

Their knowledge of Christian evidences may be all right, but I never hear a preacher talking Christian evidence. Why, we are letting the great fundamental truths slip from beneath our feet, while we talk platitudes. It is all very well to believe that the principles of Christianity appeal. They do—but the devil also appeals. Its principles are futile, if we are robbed of our Principal—our Chief—our Christ.

As Paul disputed in the school of Tyrannus and in the market place daily, so we must carry the argument into the enemies' camp.

While the sceptic still holds forth on evolution as an established fact, and thus upsets the faith of many, we should be ready to meet him on his own ground, and quote, for his edification, the writings of great scientists of the day who have rejected evolution as a myth.

While he scoffs at Bible history and calls attention to its inaccuracies, are there none capable of showing how the discoveries of archaeology cry out in support of Bible facts?

While prophecy is belittled, are there none who will make a special study of it, particularly in relation to the work and claims of Jesus of Nazareth? While the infidel has the audacity at times to discount the teaching of Jesus by placing him beside Buddha and Confucius, who is there that has studied the world's religions sufficiently to prove our Lord to be out of all comparison the chief of moral teachers?

To many of us tasks of this kind would be beyond the limits of our time and energies, but to young men they offer great



## Faith and Works.

Randall T. Pittman, B.A., Dip. Ed.

The great passages in Rom. 4: 1-5 and Jas. 2: 14-24 have given rise to much discussion, and a full treatment of them would demand considerable space. All that is attempted here is to point out certain facts which help in interpretation.

It will be noted that Abraham is taken as the typical instance by both Paul and James. Paul to show that the patriarch was justified by faith, James to declare that he was justified by works. "The case of Abraham was a current thesis of the Rabbinic schools," and each writer doubtless considered that if he could cite Abraham as an illustration of the truth he was presenting his readers would be impressed, as Abraham was the father of the chosen race.

It is of great importance to keep in mind that words are used in different senses by different writers and even by the same writer. This is one of the difficulties of language, and it is largely because of it that lawyers thrive! In this connection there are three variations in usage which it is of the utmost importance to observe.

(1) When James speaks of "faith" in these verses, he is referring to a cold intellectual assent which can be possessed even by demons. At times demon-possessed persons cried out acknowledging Jesus as Christ and Lord, but there was no justifying faith expressed. When Paul speaks of "faith" he refers to that belief "with the heart" which involves a throwing of the self upon God in surrender to the divine will, and in acceptance of the divine provision.

(2) When Paul speaks of Abraham's faith being counted as righteousness, he is continuing his argument of chapter 3, where he has been speaking of the justification of a sinner through the redemptive propitiatory work of Christ accepted by faith. James, on the other hand, is speaking of the man who claims to be a Christian but fails to produce any evidence in good works, and he cites Abraham to show that his works demonstrated his faith.

(3) When Paul declares that a man is not justified by works, he means primarily the works of the law. But with reference to meriting salvation, he denies the efficacy of works of any sort. When James says that "by works a man is justified," he is referring to the good works which give evidence of the sincerity of a profession of faith. He does not claim that works justify a sinner in the sight of God, any more than does Paul discount good works in the Christian life.

A further fact of some importance should be noted. Although both Paul and James refer to Abraham, they do not refer to the same incidents in his life. Paul

refers to the occasion when God promised Abraham that his seed should be as the stars for multitude, and Abraham believed God, and "he counted it to him for righteousness." James refers to the occasion some thirty years later, when Abraham's faith was sorely tested by the command to slay Isaac, in whom centred all the promises. He says that thus "by works was faith made perfect," and that the Scripture was fulfilled which saith, "Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness."

It will be seen that there is no necessity

to talk of "reconciling" Paul and James. The simple fact is they are writing on subjects wide asunder. As the "International Critical Commentary on Romans" declares: "It would thus appear that when it is examined the real meeting-ground between the two apostles shrinks into a comparatively narrow compass. It does not amount to more than the fact that both quote the same verse, Gen. 15: 6, and both treat it with reference to the antithesis of works and faith."

### TRANSMUTATION.

Out of weights that hold me  
To all earth-bound things,  
I am slowly carving  
Soaring wings.

—Mary C. Stevens  
in the "Christian Century."

## The Purpose of the Church.

Allen Brooke.

The greatest institution of the ages is the church built by Jesus Christ. Christ promised to build a church (Matt. 16: 18); he did build it, in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost following his passion. To live and love, worship and work in that church is the highest privilege possible to man.

### Jesus Built His Church

like any other wise master-builder, by first laying a solid foundation and then erecting carefully on this a suitable structure. The foundation was not a rock apostle, as some imagine, but a rock Saviour, Jesus himself, of whom spiritually enlightened men say, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." The building itself was comprised of living stones, men and women who became penitent believers in Christ, and were consequently approved by him for inclusion in the divine structure. This great church, begun approximately 1900 years ago, is not yet completed, for wherever any folks under heaven pledge themselves to the Christian life, fresh stones and adornments are added to this living church of Christ.

Jesus built his church for a twofold purpose,

### To Proclaim His Word,

and to bless this world. To members of this institution he said, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel" (Mark 16: 15). The gospel is God's good story about the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, the preaching of which commends divine love to man and leads man to desire a holy life inside the family of God. The natives of Samoa, appreciating the lavish deeds of love bestowed on them by Robert Louis Stevenson and desiring frequent fellowship with this great friend, built a special road to his mountain residence, leaving it open for all to tread. They named it "The Road to the

Loving Heart." The church of Christ is sent into the world to preach good news about a Saviour and thus lay a road to the loving heart of God. If it fails in this task it is not a true church of Christ.

The church fulfils its purpose also by

### Making Communities Better,

and men happier. The church is "the light of the world"—the divine light which illumines and guides; it is "the salt of the earth"—the divine salt which sweetens and preserves. The church is the chief saving spot in any community. Go to any spot on this earth where decency, security and tranquillity are found, and within a mile or two somewhere there will be a church. When Mrs. Mollison (then Amy Johnson), on her lone flight to Australia, landed on an island in the Timor Sea she was quickly surrounded by native people carrying ugly weapons and speaking a strange language. She was greatly afraid, until in their talk she recognised one word "Pastor." Then she felt safe, for she knew that somewhere on that island was a Christian mission. The presence and work of a Protestant church assured her safety, and the same Christian church makes better and safer every community in which it works.

In doing this the church also makes living happier. In the purpose of Christ that's where the church comes in.

"Right where the handclasp's a little stronger,  
Right where the smile lasts a little longer,  
That's where the church comes in.  
That's where the sun is a little brighter,  
Folks treat each other a little whiter,  
And the bonds of home are a wee bit tighter,  
That's where the church comes in."

But let us remember that the church can only come into its full usefulness when the citizens of every community share its activities and enthusiastically help forward its divine work.



# Australian Fraternal Visitors in America.

Jesse M. Bader, New York, N.Y.

General Secretary World Convention of Churches of Christ.

[The following article was forwarded to Bro. T. H. Scambler, B.A., Dip. Ed., with a special request that it be published in the "Christianian."]

Our American churches and colleges were honored by a fraternal visit from Principal and Mrs. A. R. Main, of Melbourne. They attended the World Convention in Leicester, England, August 7-12, and following a brief visit through Great Britain, they began their homeward journey, returning through America. It was my pleasure to arrange their itinerary across the continent from one ocean to the other. The schedule was crowded and quite strenuous, but they proved themselves equal to it all. Many cities asked for them, but had to be refused because of the brevity of time they had for the visit.

From the time they first landed on American soil here at New York, until they sailed for home from San Francisco, the visit of the Mains was a continuous benediction to us all. Their stay with us has not only deepened our appreciation of them but they have been able, through their stay here, to greatly strengthen the bonds of Christian fellowship between the Australian and the American churches.

Space forbids my telling a complete story of their visit in each centre and the many expressions of appreciation of these visits among the churches and colleges. Here are parts of some letters which I have received about them and what their coming has meant:—

F. W. Burnham, pastor of the Seventh Street Christian Church of Richmond, Virginia, writes: "The visit of Principal and Mrs. A. R. Main to our church and our home was a blessing to us all. The memory of it all abides like a benediction after prayers." In our pulpit on Sunday morning, Bro. Main brought us a rare message on 'The Holy Spirit.' Our people remember it with gratitude. The ties with our Australian friends and brethren were strengthened by their visit."

C. M. Gordon, pastor of the First Christian Church of Norfolk, Virginia, says: "The visit of the Mains to our home brought to us a whole garden of fragrant memories. We have a multitude of mutual friends in Australia of whom we were eager to hear. We had a great visit together. The next time they come to America we sincerely hope they will make us a much longer visit."

R. B. Montgomery, Associate President of Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, Virginia, writes: "Principal and Mrs. A. R. Main arrived at Lynchburg College a few hours before the annual faculty reception to the students. It was our privilege and delight to have them in the receiving line and the fellowship of the evening. Their gracious presence added much to the friendliness of the occasion, and students and faculty alike deeply appreciated their presence. The next day Principal Main delivered the convocation address for the college, which was timely and fitting. He stressed the great need of an emphasis on religion in higher education. Following the convocation service, members of the administration and staff of the college joined with the ministers of the city in a fellowship luncheon in honor of Principal and Mrs. Main in the college dining hall. This was also a farewell honor, since they left immediately for Bethany, W. Va."

It was at Butler University that Principal Main received the Degree of Doctor of Divinity. F. D. Kershner, Dean of the College of Religion of Butler University, Indianapolis, Indiana, says: "The visit of Principal and Mrs. A. R. Main to Butler University was an event which will be

regarded as a red letter occasion in our calendar for many years to come. The sanity, poise and intelligent loyalty which characterized every utterance of this great teacher and preacher, especially endeared him to our faculty and student body. We have never had a visiting lecturer who made a finer impression upon the university constituency, or upon the public at large. Mr. and Mrs. Main have brought us closer to our brethren in Australia, and have established ties of substantial friendship which we feel sure will never be broken."

Principal and Mrs. Main attended the International Convention of Disciples of Christ in San Antonio, Texas, in October. During the week he appeared on the programme three times, and met scores of brethren. While the Mains

## THINGS THAT ENDURE.

I do not think that age will ever harm you,  
I do not think that youth will pass you by  
So long as there are certain things that charm you—

Fragrant flowers, music, and the dawn-swept sky.  
I do not think life's magic will be broken  
So long as you can thrill to loveliness,  
To whispered words, and other words unspoken,  
To memories that throb, and burn and bless!

I do not think that age will ever break you,  
I do not think that you will ever tire  
So long as beauty's call can stir and wake you,  
So long as you are warmed at faith's bright fire.

I do not think life's magic can be shattered  
So long as you will really dare to live—  
Fear, caution, dread? Who ever said they mattered?

The world has many gallant gifts to give!  
—Margaret Sangster.

were in my home in New York we discussed the advisability of a regular interchange of fraternal visits between the Australian and American churches, and how such a plan would strengthen the ties of interest and fellowship. At the convention Bro. Main proposed the idea, which met with unanimous favor. The convention voted to send a fraternal delegate to Australia for the next Federal Conference.

While in San Antonio attending the convention, many members of our churches in the convention city met these fraternal visitors. Of them, Mr. E. T. Cornelius writes: "We were all delighted with the visit of Dr. and Mrs. A. R. Main, of the Glen Iris Bible College, during our International Convention in October. Their delightful personalities, their deep interest and appreciation, their acceptance of every duty assigned to them on the programme—all of these things contributed to make them very unusual guests. Their hosts, Mr. and Mrs. Carleton Adams, have spoken in the highest terms of their delight in having them as their guests. Dr. Main spoke in the chapel service of the Westmoorland College, a Southern Methodist institution, and the president, Dr. W. W. Jackson, told me that Dr. Main had thrilled their students as no other speaker had ever done. Dr. Main spoke at the First Presbyterian Church on Sunday morning of October 20, and they were greatly appreciative of his wonderful message.

We sincerely hope our Australian brethren will send us many more such delightful representatives like Dr. and Mrs. Main."

Mr. N. K. McGowan, State Secretary of Southern California, says: "Principal and Mrs. A. R. Main spent one week in Los Angeles, guests of the Chapman Park Hotel, Mr. Arthur Chapman, manager. While they were here for these days, largely to become acquainted in person with our church leaders and to visit points of interest, they were of great help to the individuals and groups with whom they met. Principal Main addressed the student body of Chapman College, and we have it from the students that his message was well received. His gracious personality made him a most welcome guest in the Monday session of the annual ministerial retreat of our Southern California Christian churches. Dr. Main was heard with great appreciation in a brief message of greeting on Sunday morning at our Wilshire Boulevard Christian Church, Mr. M. Howard Fagan, pastor, and brought the evening message with force and clarity on that same Sunday in our First Christian Church, Warren Grafton, pastor. Hollywood-Beverly was honored to have both Dr. and Mrs. Main as guests on the following Wednesday evening in their church night programme, at which time both endeared themselves to the large assembly with their beautiful responses to their introductions. We want to thank the Australian brethren for sending such representative disciples to our convention. The charm of their personality will linger with us in memory for many years."

Mr. Galen Rose, pastor of the First Christian Church of Fresno, California, says: "The gracious personality of Mrs. Main and the delightful humor of Principal Main will long be remembered by the congregation of First Church, Fresno, California. The Mains were guests at a dinner of the church on the evening of Nov. 6. During their stay in Fresno, they were entertained in the home of Mrs. Judge Harris, and the pastor had the pleasure of taking them to Yosemite Valley for a few hours to see one of America's beauty spots. If Australia has other such folk as Principal and Mrs. Main, Fresno has the latch-string out."

Following is a word from Dr. George A. Campbell, pastor of Union Avenue Christian Church, St. Louis, Missouri, where Principal and Mrs. Main visited while with our American brethren: "The visit of Principal and Mrs. A. R. Main to the Union Avenue Church was indeed a blessing. The ministers of the city gave them a luncheon at our church, and Principal Main spoke briefly, telling of the work in Australia. Every minister present felt drawn to these good people and certainly felt closer to the Australian brethren than before they heard the message of Principal Main. Principal and Mrs. Main also spoke before our Wednesday night dinner-meeting. Americans think they are quite gifted in humor; but all present were surprised at the rich humor both of Principal and Mrs. Main. The board of officers' meeting followed our Wednesday night prayer meeting, and at this time Principal Main told of the organization of the Australian churches, which was interesting and instructive to all of our officers. I think I can truly say we have never had any visitors from distant lands who more greatly pleased our people. The young men preparing for the ministry in Australia are fortunate to be under the guidance of so rich a personality as Principal Main. The distance to Australia is very great; but we hope that some time Dr. and Mrs. Main may visit our land again."

From these letters, as well as others that might be given, the Australian churches can have some idea of the reception accorded their fraternal messengers and also the good their visit has meant to the American brotherhood. We are all hoping that this is the beginning of many other fraternal visits from representatives of the Australian churches in the years to come.



# Youth Evangelism in N.S.W.

## MARCHING ORDERS.

1. The command of God in the Old Testament regarding his laws is "Thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children."—Deut. 6: 7.

2. The command of the Lord Jesus in the New Testament is, "Go thou . . . teach."—Matt. 28: 19.

3. The conference entrusts the Y.P. department with the work among the Bible schools and among the young people generally.

## MARCHING ORDERS OBEYED.

The Young People's Department has striven to fulfil faithfully its obligations, with results as follow:—

1. Ten new schools in recent years.

2. One thousand scholars enrolled in new centres.

3. Converts from Bible schools, one thousand in recent years.

4. C.E. societies enlisting one thousand in active service.

5. Christian Fraternal enrolling one thousand in recent years.

6. Annual scripture examination—one thousand studying the Word.

7. Training class students serving one thousand hearers.

8. Y.P.D. home classes influencing one thousand lives.

## CONFERENCE COMMENDATION.

The conference executive very earnestly commends to the churches the splendid service being rendered by the Y.P. Department. "In view of its widespread activities and evident influence in the life of the churches, the executive bespeaks the wholehearted support of every member. The month of February is recognised as the preparatory period of the annual offering. We pray that a very generous response will be forthcoming, and the great work being done by the department will not be retarded."—Thos. E. Rofe, president; W. J. Crossman, secretary.

## PENTECOSTAL PROGRESS.

### I. Cottage Schools.

Bexley North.—Cottage rented, but local workers unable to continue. The Y.P. Department organised an effort to finance and to build. An attractive brick building; church membership

of 50; school of 100. A monument of Y.P.D. assistance.

Clyde.—Cottage taken by the Y.P.D. and workers called. Now one hundred scholars enrolled; land is being purchased, and building to be erected.

Mortdale.—Cottage school commenced in Peakhurst district. The school moved round to



Correspondence Home Class, Gubbata.

Kingston family, Hannan's Siding, via Ungarie. 41 of these classes are served and 330 scholars.

various homes. At last the Y.P.D. organised means to secure a building site, and organised erection of attractive building. Seventy scholars enrolled.

These are simple samples of youth evangelism in neglected centres.

Annual Offering for Bible Schools and Y.P.D. Work—Sunday, March 1.

### II. Open Air Schools.

Work has been done in several centres by means of open-air teaching. Examples of this work are here presented.

Raby.—No Sunday school or church service in this locality. The lease of a site has been secured by the Y.P.D. Local workers continue through all weather, rain or shine. School of forty enrolled. Ways and means being made by Y.P.D. to provide shelter for this school so it will continue.

### Schools in Halls.

The Y.P. Department has opened up means to send the light to other neglected centres.

Earlwood.—This centre was entered in March last. A hall was rented in faith; now there are seventy scholars and workers, and wonderful prospects.

Penshurst.—Previous efforts to organise preaching services had failed. The Y.P. Department went in faith and rented a hall. Seventy scholars, two C.E. societies, and church fellowship stand as witness.

Canterbury.—In this centre also services had been attempted and abandoned; the Y.P. Department rented a hall and called in new workers; the school grew from six to one hundred and six. A building block has been purchased. Many converts have been won out of this youth evangelism.

Carramar.—A new centre on the Regent's Park railway line. No existing Sunday school, so the Y.P. Department went in and rented a public hall. A long-felt need is being met by this, the only Sunday school in Carramar.

## THE MASTER'S METHOD.

The wonderful results of preaching on the great day of Pentecost were built on a foundation laid in teaching. Three thousand men that day responded to the preaching, because their minds had been thoroughly saturated with the scripture from earliest childhood. On the preaching side, power was produced through prayer; on the hearer's side the seed was received in good soil because that soil had been cultivated for years.

## BALANCING THE BUDGET.

In the days of depression, now happily passing, the question arose in church life as to what aspect of church service could be jettisoned. As in the struggle for existence primitive peoples resorted to casting out the children, so in religious life the suggestion has been made to abandon the care of the children. The whole civilised world revolts at the thought that parents may be relieved of financial burden by abandoning the children; how much more in religious life the word of the Master sounds out to-day, "Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish" (Matt. 18: 14).

## ANNUAL OFFERING FOR BIBLE SCHOOLS AND Y.P.D., SUNDAY, MARCH 1.

The treasury is empty. The privilege of participation is yours.



Memorial Hall, Earlwood.

School commenced in March, last with seven scholars. Seventy now enrolled.



New Bible School Hall at Austral. Built by voluntary labor last October.



## The Home Circle.

Conducted by J. C. F. PITTMAN.

### MAKE SOMEBODY HAPPY TO-DAY.

When the heavens are receding,  
And love you are needing,  
And blue skies are shrouded with grey;  
Forget your own sorrow;  
To brighten to-morrow  
Make somebody happy to-day.

'Tis the way to find blessing  
When cares are oppressing,  
And though you are not understood  
You'll find your heart lighter,  
And everything brighter,  
And evil transforming to good.

If a high wave you're cresting,  
And long to be resting,  
Yet hope seems to shine far away,  
Dry the tears of your neighbor  
Worn out with his labor,  
And make his heart happy to-day.

In this world full of sadness  
O give, in your gladness,  
True sympathy grief to allay!  
Let the future not daunt you;  
Though fears should still haunt you,  
Make somebody happy to-day.

—Alice M. Stevens.

### SINCERITY IN PRAYER.

A. J. Gossp, writing of Prof. James Stalker, says: "He never in prayer or sermon said more than he actually meant and felt. I remember one man telling me how he followed him down to the church on a most wretched day, with inches of slush melting upon the streets, and a persistent drizzle falling through a touch of fog, and how he asked himself, 'What will the doctor do when he reaches the prayer of thanksgiving? He does not look thankful, creeping along there ahead of me. Will he leave it out; or will he do the formal thing, and for once utter what he does not mean?' But, as he proudly confessed, he need not have feared. For, when the time came, the prayer opened. 'O Lord, we thank thee, that it is not always as bad as this.' And, starting from that damp wretchedness they were all feeling, he pictured life as it might have been, 'always like this,' and then kept heaping up the endless joys and gladnesses that God's infinite goodness has thought out for us."—"In Christ's Stead."

### DECISIONS.

"To every youth there openeth  
A high way and a low;  
And every youth decideth  
The way his soul shall go."

When John Oxenham wrote that little bit of wisdom he knew and understood the value of it. At first glance we might think that we do not decide which way our souls shall go, but upon further investigation we find that it is only too true.

Every day we are making decisions. Mother may have more work to do than she can accomplish alone. Shall we help her or flatly refuse to do so? Perhaps we have cultivated a taste for a low class of literature, and now really enjoy reading it. Soon we shall be doing the things we have read and have grown accustomed to think about. One small thing leads to another, and before we realise it, we have decided the way for our souls to go.

On the other hand, we can lead our souls upward to a higher plane just as easily as we can drag them down to a lower one. The decision

for right comrades and good literature will lead on to better thought. When they are clean and good, we are deciding for the better way. Through these small decisions our souls will become pure and sweet, pervading the air about us with sunshine and brightening the lives of less fortunate people who have not, as yet, found the high road of life.—Edith Woodward, in the "Front Rank."

### BUILD HIGHER.

Make the stern disappointment an austere John the Baptist, to bring you to Christ. If you pull down the nest of a sparrow it will build again in the same place; but if you pull it down several times it will seek a home elsewhere. Human beings are not so wise; they go on building habitations for happiness and hope in this poor world of ours, and they see them pulled down and scattered to the winds a score of times, and each time, after a brief interval of sighs and tears, begin building again. Imitate the bird that, when its nest is destroyed, builds again, but higher. Open your mind to the utter vanity of seeking for your heart a home below the heavens, and bid the stern experience welcome that sends you to the highest.—Dr. George A. Gordon.

### HOW MARK TWAIN WAS SOLD IN NEWARK.

I was profoundly moved. I said, "My son, bring the old party round. I have got some jokes in that lecture that will make him laugh if there is any laugh in him; and if they miss fire, I have got some others that will make him cry or kill him, one or the other." Then the young man blessed me, and wept on my neck, and went after his uncle. He placed him in full view, in the second row of benches that night, and I began on him. I tried him with mild jokes, then with severe ones; I dosed him with bad jokes, and riddled him with good ones; I fired old stale jokes into him, and peppered him fore and aft with red-hot new ones; I warmed up to my work, and assailed him on the right and left, in front and behind; I fumed and sweated, and charged and ranted, till I was hoarse and sick, and frantic and furious; but I never moved him once. I never started a smile or a tear, never a ghost of a smile, and never a suspicion of moisture. I was astounded. I closed the lecture at last with one despairing shriek, with one wild burst of humor, and hurled a joke of supernatural atrocity full at him! Then I sat down bewildered and exhausted. The president came up and bathed my head with cold water, and said, "What made you carry on so towards the last?" and I said, "I was trying to make that old fool laugh, in the second row." And he said, "Well, you were wasting your time, because he is deaf and dumb, and as blind as a badger!" Now, was that any way for that old man's nephew to impose on a stranger and an orphan like me?—Selected.

### WHEN THEY ARE FED.

Standing by the entrance of a large estate in the suburbs of Glasgow are two huge dogs carved out of granite. An Englishman, going by in a hack, thought he would have some fun with the Scotch driver.

"How often, Jock, do they feed those two big dogs?"

"Whenever they bark, sir," was the straight-faced reply.

## The Family Altar.

J.C.F.P.

### TOPIC.—THE MINISTRY OF COMFORT.

Monday, March 2.

Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people, saith the Lord.—Isa. 40: 1.

A fitting message to all God's prophets and ministers, whose duty is to give comfort to the sorrowing and distressed. This, of course, is not the whole of their duty. There is the ministry of instruction, exhortation, rebuke; yet, perhaps it can be safely said that their primary aim should be to give "a word in season to him that is weary" of sin, or to him who is burdened with sorrow.

Reading—Isaiah 40.

Tuesday, March 3.

As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you.—Isa. 66: 24.

God's comfort is "not only with the rational arguments which a prudent father uses, but with the tender affections and compassions of a loving mother, that bemoans her afflicted child when it has fallen and hurt itself, that she may quiet it and make it easy, or endeavors to pacify it after she has chidden it and fallen out with it."

Reading—Isaiah 66: 1-13.

Wednesday, March 4.

Blessed are they that mourn; for they shall be comforted.—Matt. 5: 4.

This may mean either those who mourn over their own sins or such as sorrow because of the loss of friends. These are assured that for them there is comfort, providing, of course, that they look to the only source of adequate consolation, viz., the Lord Jesus Christ, who will not leave them comfortless, but will come to them.

Reading—Matthew 5: 1-12.

Thursday, March 5.

For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ.—2 Cor. 1: 5.

"Hence we learn, that he who is upheld in a slight trial need not fear a great one, for if he be faithful, his consolation shall abound, as his sufferings abound. Is it not as easy for a man to lift one hundred pounds weight as it is for an infant to lift a few ounces? The proportion of strength destroys the comparative difficulty."

Reading—2 Corinthians 1: 1-12.

Friday, March 6.

Therefore, brethren, we were comforted over you in all our affliction and distress by your faith.—1 Thess. 3: 7.

Timothy had returned to the apostle and given an excellent account of the faithfulness amid afflictions and persecutions of the Thessalonian church. This, to Paul, proved a source of great comfort, and caused him to look upon his own troubles as trifling in comparison with theirs.

Reading—1 Thessalonians 3.

Saturday, March 7.

And he shall wipe away every tear from their eyes.—Rev. 21: 4.

Every cause of sorrow shall at last be forever removed. Sin, suffering, separation, will have passed away, and he that sitteth upon the throne shall make all things new.

Reading—Revelation 21: 1-8.

Sunday, March 8.

Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm.—Matt. 8: 26.

Surely this is proof sufficient that Jesus was the Son of God! The wind ceased to howl, the sea became as calm as a lake, and peace came into the hearts of the struggling disciples. Even so, Christ is able and willing now to speak the word of peace to sorrow-stricken and afflicted Christians and create "a great calm" where once the storm raged.

Readings—Psalm 107: 23-43; Matthew 8: 18-34.



## Prayer Meeting Topic.

February 26.

SOLOMON'S DREAM.  
(1 Kings 3: 5-15.)

H. J. Patterson, M.A.

Solomon is usually looked upon as among the wisest men that have ever lived. If we are guided by this record which tells of a dream he had then we agree. Surely all monarchs who seek the Lord at the commencement of a reign are to be reckoned wise and great. So the late Queen Victoria when eighteen years of age, and acquainted of her new position as Queen, said, "I beg your Grace to pray for me."

It was at the great festival at Gibeon convened by Solomon, and probably with the idea of directing the mind of the people to himself and also to bring unity that Solomon dreamed.

### The Choice.

The very simple statement is that God appearing to the young king said, "Ask what I shall give thee." God does not appear to every young man in precisely that same way, but surely he does come, and every young man is called upon to make choice. And everyone must of necessity make a choice. We cannot defer the matter. Life's choices are made in the days of our youth. The alternatives of life are before us. There are two roads—a high way and a low, and according to our choosing so God is able to give, and the life is prospered, or else it is dwarfed and the character stunted. God says, "Ask what I shall give thee."

### Grounds of Judgment and Decision.

Is there one of my readers who will without thought make haste upon the one way or the other? Is there one who will decide without carefully weighing all the consequences on the one side and on the other? What of events that have already been part of our experience? A wise man will think.

Solomon first called to mind what God had done for his father. God's loving kindness had been manifested to David in the giving of a son and a continued kingship, but it was to be remembered that it was as David had walked before him in truth and in righteousness and in uprightness of heart that God was thus gracious.

In the second place Solomon's task was laid on him by God. "Thou hast made thy servant king." His kingship was given of God and to God he was responsible.

He also remembered his own youth and inexperience—"I am but a little child." In the days of his youth he would not be so foolish as to imagine he was or could be independent of God.

The task also was a tremendous one. He was called to the throne over millions of people. And God had said, "Ask what I shall give thee."

### The Decision.

What an opportunity! What would we ask? What would you have asked? Possibly some of us would have asked for length of days and wealth—most of us ask for that—or power over our enemy in war. Some of us ask for lots of smaller and often ridiculous things.

Solomon replied, "Give thy servant, therefore, an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and evil."

A prayer for wisdom! We as Christians call to mind James' exhortation, "But if any of you lacketh wisdom, let him ask of God, who giveth to all liberally and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

Solomon's answer in his dream was as the main stream of his waking thought. Therefore God blessed him. There is little good in dreaming unless there be the real life. Solomon asked for a thing that was fundamental to success and happiness.

TOPIC FOR MARCH 4.—THE GATE BEAUTIFUL.—Acts 3: 1-10.

## Our Young People.

Conducted by KEITH A. JONES.

### Further Notes on the Programme.

The Christian social mind could well be cultivated. The call of the slum, the hospitals, the crippled and helpless should not go unheard, when most groups enjoy the best of good surroundings and opportunities.

The international conscience should be kept alive, or if necessary, awakened. Discussions on world friendship and brotherhood should find a place on every programme. This may be dealt with in numerous interesting ways. Talks and discussions on lands, peoples and customs, etc., would help. Visitors from other parts or travellers could come to speak on varied subjects along this line.

With the modern output of books and periodicals there is ample recourse for countless interesting subjects. Travel talks can be produced by those who have never journeyed more than a few miles beyond their homes. A locally published geographic magazine like the "Walk-about" is a mine of thrilling stories about our own unknown land beneath the southern stars. Books in the "Yarn" series can be purchased very cheaply. These tell in a fascinating way yarns of Indian, African, Chinese life, and included in the series are others on the greatest men and women the world has known—social pioneers, Christian pioneers, and the like. If club members themselves make the research, and present their findings, an interesting and instructive programme is certain to be evolved.

Musical and elocutionary programmes can be

arranged. A "concert night" within the club will often produce great fun, each member making some contribution. "Arts and Crafts" could well find a place on the programme. A talk or discussion on "Vocations" would prove very valuable if handled by a competent person. A good programme will reveal an effort to get the co-operation of the home folks in the work of the young people's fellowship. A mother-and-daughter night should appear at least once a year. Likewise a father-and-son, or as some choose to say, a dad-and-lad banquet or evening. There are hosts of ways of building a programme with interesting, productive and worthwhile features.

### Recreational Interests.

It is hardly necessary to indicate how the recreational side of a programme can be filled out. Gymnastic work and physical culture, which can be extended to all healthy sport, will have its due place. It will not be difficult to find ways and means to cater for the physical needs of a club. Games and stunts abound. These may be competitive within the club or may be widened to an inter-club fellowship.

Let it be urged again that a programme must make provision for the fourfold conception of life. Keep the recreational side in its right proportion. The development of Christian character is the purpose of all our work. The leader will strive at every turn to show normal, healthy life—lived and worked out under the inspiring leadership of Jesus Christ.—K.J.

### Vacation Bible School.

Schools of this type have been tried with varying success in many places in different countries. Following the lead of America some very successful attempts have been made on the mission field, more especially in India. In Victoria the outstanding success in this work is at Clifton Hill, where under consecrated leadership and co-operative effort an excellent school has been run for some years.

At Carnegie a beginning was made last month with a vacation school. Not every district is suitable for this type of work, so what was tried was in the nature of an experiment. There were no paid workers, all being done by volunteer help. And the success that attended the effort more than justified the most sanguine hopes, and has encouraged to try again. For the last fortnight before school resumption, when harassed mothers who could not take the children away for the holidays were at wits' ends to know what to do with the children, they were gathered every morning from 9.30 till 12 noon.

Each day's programme was divided to provide a bright singing period, leading to worship and thanksgiving. The lesson period followed, and after re-assembly the school adjourned to a nearby playground for organised games. Re-assembly at the school, time was given to story period, having to do with the lesson taught, following which the school closed after the closing singing session. This programme was varied by illustrated talk from Bro. C. Lang one day, and on another occasion by some topical "movies." The lessons were planned to cover a constructive range of subjects, aimed at developing worship of and loyalty to Christ. Bro. Reg. Bolduan also entertained during one story period.

The school was a piece of co-operative work, held in the Methodist school hall. Ten volun-

teer helpers were gathered from our own and the Methodist folk. There was an average attendance of over sixty children, who seemed to thoroughly enjoy every moment. Our vacation Bible school goes on record as an experiment eminently worth while.—A.A.H.

### FLAGSTONE CREEK SCHOOL.

More than twenty years ago a little school was organised at Flagstone Creek, Queensland. A chapel was erected and meetings for worship conducted. Then followed some lean years, owing to the removal of many families from the district. The little chapel had to close its doors



Bible School, Flagstone Creek, Qld.

and the school and church services discontinued. Just recently fresh opportunities came, and the Ma Ma Creek preacher and helpers decided to re-open a school. There are now 18 scholars on the roll, and church services are held once a month. The school is a very happy and hopeful band.



## Here and There.

Notices of motion for the Victorian Women's Conference must be in the hands of the secretary, Miss Rometch, 11 Florence-ave., Kew, not later than March 4.

Ernest W. Pittman, eldest son of the late Joseph Pittman, after spending twelve happy years as preacher of the Mount Compass church, S.A., has decided to retire from the regular ministry, and live in Clare, to be near his son, Roland E. Pittman, J.P., of Hart. No doubt he will find some opportunity for quiet usefulness.

A paragraph in the public press announces that Mr. T. Thomas (a member of the Church of Christ, Geelong, Vic.), who is traffic superintendent of the Geelong tramway system, has been appointed departmental tramway superintendent. In his new position Mr. Thomas will be in charge of the tramway operations in Ballarat, Geelong and Bendigo.

Bro. Thomas Hagger, who is at present in England, has accepted an engagement with the Southland (N.Z.) district churches for a six-months' period of missions in that district. Mr. Hagger will arrive in Auckland on June 10 by the "Ruahine," proceeding thence to Invercargill for the first mission. This will be followed by missions at Gore, Mataura and Eden-dale.

The visit of Dr. Daniel A. Poling, World C.E. President, is directing attention to the value of Christian Endeavor work. Here is an international youth movement of immense value to the church and the world. In 87 countries there is a membership of over four millions. Dr. Poling, who is now in Melbourne, has had a most cordial reception. His inspiring addresses have created much interest.

Over 100 representatives of churches attended the meeting on Feb. 17 in Swanston-st. lecture hall to discuss church building debts. Bro. A. L. Gibson on behalf of the committee appointed by conference placed proposals before the gathering. Bro. R. Lyall, of the Church Extension Committee, made suggestions. The keen discussion that followed displayed appreciation of the proposals. Two resolutions were carried to be submitted to conference.

Mr. Lincoln Ellsworth arrived in Melbourne on board the Discovery II, at the beginning of the week. The cordial—almost tumultuous—welcome he received at the wharf was the beginning of a series of receptions, private and official, which he will experience while with us. As an evidence of international friendship and goodwill, both the sending of the Discovery II to the Antarctic and the welcome now being given to the American explorer are worth-while things. The American people will appreciate the gestures.

Attendances at Chelsea, Vic., are encouraging. The liquor party is making an effort to invade the district with a liquor bar. The Licensing Court recommended that a poll be granted. This will take place on Saturday next. The area consists of only part of the Chelsea district. The churches and others are fighting hard against this encroachment. On Feb. 16 Bro. Toynne, from Parkdale, presided. Amongst visitors were Bro. and Sister Wm. Smith. Bro. Watson gave a fine temperance address. At 3 p.m. all the Protestant Bible schools in the district, also their teachers and friends, headed by the Salvation Army Headquarters band, marched along the street to the Church of England grounds in Thames Promenade, where an open-air service was held. Mr. Ferris presided, and Mr. Gilder, of Coburg, gave a fine talk, to children and older folk, urging the latter to note No for the children's sake.

The annual offering for the Victorian Church Extension Committee will be taken this year on April 5 instead of on the first Sunday in March. Recently the committee assisted North Essendon church to secure a chapel, and through the years many churches have been enabled to finance the erection of buildings through the good offices of the committee. To establish a substantial capital sum would enable the committee to do even more in the future than in the past.

£1,278/5/6 has now been reported in the Victorian H.M. offering. Of this, £1,207/10/6 has been received. Wangaratta reports an offering of £7/10/-. An analysis of the reports shows that 68 city and suburban congregations reported £878/3/6 and 52 congregations outside the metropolitan area report £376/19/2. According to conference returns this averages approximately 2/- per member in the country area and slightly less in the metropolis. Isolated members subscribed £23/2/4.

Bible school anniversary services at Bet Bet, Vic., on Feb. 9 were well attended. Bro. A. B. Clark delivered a special message to parents and teachers in the morning, and Bro. Lewis, of Dunolly, gave suitable addresses afternoon and evening. The children sang anniversary hymns. At concert and distribution of prizes the following evening two scholars, Jack and Jessie Sewell, each received a gold medal for ten years' consecutive attendance, making a total of nine gold medallists from this school.

The work at Bendigo, Vic., continues to progress. On Feb. 2, one young lady who on the previous Lord's day obeyed her Lord was received into fellowship. On Feb. 16 three were received by letter from Echuca. At morning service Bro. Hinrichsen presented a gold C.E. pin to Jean Jones on behalf of the superintendent of the society, for reciting 119th Psalm, and congratulated Ken Lacy and Will Crossman, two Endeavorers, upon having won scholarships entitling them to three years' training at senior Technical School, with allowance of £20 per year each.

At the tent mission at Hamilton, Vic., on Feb. 11, a sister decided for Christ. Meetings were well up to average for the week. Bro. Webb giving forceful addresses. On Feb. 16, Bro. Butler and family, from Horsham, were present for the day. At the gospel service Breen, Gale and Keith Jones arrived from Ballarat to take part. Mrs. Short favored with a solo. Thankoffering amounted to £7/5/-. The church will now be back to usual services, as Tuesday was the last night of the mission. Bro. Webb goes on to Peel-st., Ballarat.

In effective work amongst the young people lies our hope of progress. In different States there will soon be special emphasis placed upon our Bible school work and continued support sought from the churches. Our N.S.W. Bible school annual offering will be taken up on Sunday, March 1, when every church is requested to give special consideration to this most important work and to give a generous offering to enable the committee in charge to continue its labors. On another page in this issue will be found particulars regarding youth evangelism in N.S. Wales.

Bro. H. M. Clipstone, president of Conference of Churches of Christ in Victoria, writes: "At a meeting held in the Town Hall, Melbourne, on Feb. 6, the following resolution was carried: 'That in order to commemorate the beneficent reign of his late Majesty King George the Fifth, and the love and affection of his subjects in this portion of the Empire, a public memorial should be erected by the citizens of

this State, and that a fund should be initiated for this purpose.' The Lord Mayor of Melbourne has written to me as president of conference, saying, 'I will be grateful if you will have the appeal brought under the notice of the congregations of the various churches under your jurisdiction.' With your kind permission, Bro. Editor, I would (through 'The Australian Christian') commend the appeal to the brotherhood."

### COMING EVENTS.

FEBRUARY 23.—Newmarket Church of Christ 52nd anniversary will be held in chapel on Sunday, Feb. 23, 11 a.m., special speaker; 7 p.m., Bro. Goodwin. All welcome.

FEBRUARY 23.—South Yarra annual home-coming. Special services. Speaker, 11 a.m., Alex. Wilson. All past members and friends cordially invited to spend the day. Hospitality provided.

FEBRUARY 24.—Inaugural session of College of the Bible will be held in Lygon-st. chapel on Monday, Feb. 24, at 8 p.m. Address by Conference President (Mr. H. M. Clipstone). All friends are invited to come.

MARCH 1.—Back to Norwood services will be held on March 1. Speakers: 11. A. C. Rankin; 3, H. P. Manning; 7, Theo. Edwards. All past members will receive a welcome back to Chapel-street.

MARCH 1, 3, 4 & 5.—Essendon church 21st anniversary, Mar. 1, 11 a.m., Dr. W. H. Hinrichsen; 3 p.m., special afternoon session; 7 p.m., Bro. S. Neighbour. Tuesday, 8 p.m., Bro. W. W. Saunders. Wednesday, 8 p.m., Bro. K. Jones. Thursday, 8 p.m., Bro. E. L. Williams. All past members and friends are invited. Hospitality extended to all visitors.

APRIL 5.—Annual offering for Victorian Church Extension, Properties, Trusts and Bequests Department.

### IN MEMORIAM.

LYALL.—In loving memory of Cliff, the dearly loved son of Alick and Nellie Lyall, and loved brother of Sidney, passed away Feb. 16, 1932. Till the day breaks, and the shadows flee away.

LYALL.—In loving memory of Cliff, the dearly loved brother of Sidney and Hilda, and loved uncle of Margery, Kenneth, and Ian. Ever fondly remembered.

McCLEAN.—In treasured and fragrant remembrance of my beloved husband and our dear father, Frank McClean, who departed to dwell with Christ Feb. 23, 1933.

"Beyond the reach of change and parting,  
Beyond the mysteries of pain and care,  
God hides away his everlasting treasures  
And bids us follow on to find them there."  
(1 Thess. 4: 16-18.)

—"Bethany," Warra-st., Toorak, Vic.  
McKEAN.—A tribute of affection to the fragrant and gracious memory of my dear wife, who passed away on Feb. 22, 1930, at Hawthorn, Victoria.

Leaves of memory softly come  
Wafted down the windswept ways,  
Tenderly I touch each one  
And live again sweet yesterdays.  
—Inserted by her husband.

### MARRIAGE.

BECK—MEYER.—On Feb. 1, at St. Anne's church, Strathfield, by Mr. W. G. Nisbet, Betty Beck, only child of Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Beck, of Strathfield, to H. E. (Bert) Meyer, second son of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Meyer, of Cabramatta, N.S.W.

### FOR SALE.

Estey organ, 13-stop, in very good condition and ready for use; suitable for church; volume excellent. Apply Hughes, 451 Dandenong-rd., East Malvern. 'Phone, UL 2137.

### WANTED.

(a) "Psalms and Hymns," (b) Sankey's 1200 edition hymn books, (c) Alexander's Booklets (suitable missions), good condition. State price and quantity.—W. A. Hunt, Winkie, S.A.



## News of the Churches.

South Australian News-letter.  
H. R. Taylor, B.A.

### A Word of Welcome.

Your correspondent feels that he is voicing the feelings of the South Australian churches when he says, "Welcome home, Mr. and Mrs. Main!" Everyone who reads the "Christian" has much enjoyed the travel-letters.

### United Memorial Service.

The death of our beloved King deeply impressed the heart of the people. We repeatedly heard the words, which were spoken with sincerity and gratitude by people of all sections of the community, "He was a good King, and he loved his people." A memorial service, arranged by the Council of Churches in the Pirie-st. Methodist place of worship, was a convincing manifestation of the grief of the Adelaide citizens. The building was full to overflowing. People who could not get in crowded the street, and thronged the neighboring Stow Memorial church. It was estimated that three thousand sorrowing people came together. City ministers shared the responsibility of the two simultaneous services. His Majesty King Edward VIII. comes to the throne with the consciousness of the love and loyalty of his subjects, and of the debt he owes to his royal father, who, through the bonds of affection, made the varied parts of the empire one people, and gave an added lustre to the crown. God save the King!

### Centennial Offering for Home Missions.

Although little field work has been done through personal visits of city speakers to the country churches to stimulate interest in the offering on March 1, an exchange of platforms between the preachers of the city and suburbs, and attractive literature furnished to all the churches, will serve to impress the brethren in this State with the importance of this year's offering. At the September conference changes were made in the constitution to permit the separation of the control of home mission enterprises from the hands of the conference executive, which deals with the general business of the brotherhood. Now we have a strong home mission department pure and simple, giving all its thought to evangelisation. The watchword for the March offering is "One Thousand Pounds for Home Missions!" This amount will enable the committee to place an organising secretary-evangelist in the general field, besides giving them the opportunity of favorably considering new work in particular localities.

### Interest in Victor Harbor.

Your correspondent took his holidays this year at the usual place—Victor Harbor, the popular southern watering-place. Many members of our churches "go down to Victor" during the summer. Our interest in the beautiful place is increased by the establishment of a Church of Christ, which meets at present in the Masonic Hall. The meetings this year were more largely attended than ever. B. W. Manning has a way all his own of enlisting support and sympathy. We heard a resident of the town say, "Mr. Manning is the religious hope of the place." A substantial deposit has been paid on a block of land in a central position. We see a vision of a neat place of worship on Seaview-rd., which will be erected before many summer seasons have passed. At Christmas-time the town was stirred by the presence of Mr. W. L. Jarvis, of Sydney, who was the chief speaker at a modified Keswick convention. Many people professed conversion as the visible result of his fervid evangelism. Our

church was well to the fore in support of the convention. Several people have been baptised and welcomed into membership. Within easy reach of Goolwa, a part of Mr. Manning's circuit, a large camp has been formed of workers employed in building a barrage across the river Murray, this being a part of the full scheme of locking the stream, in which several of the States are concerned. This camp presents an opening for evangelism.

### Moral Deterioration.

It is evident that many people in South Australia are slipping downhill. Police court figures for 1935 indicate an increase in the number of cases tried by the magistrates. They dealt with 1,381 cases of drunkenness during the twelve months, compared with 1,021 in 1934. Thieving is also more prevalent. Betting legislation reduced the cases before the court from 232 to 84, figures which suggest the number of betting shops which must be in operation. A "de luxe betting shop" will be opened shortly in the city, providing the latest ideas in internal furnishing, with handsome fittings, comfortable seats and a reserved counter for women bettors. By way of contrast, all kinds of shelters for habitues of the shops may be seen around the city, including chaff sheds, old stables, wood and iron halls, and old cottages. The lottery commission has had its first meeting. We understand that three of the four members voted in Parliament for the amendments to the Gambling Act which introduced betting shops. Our anxiety for the future increases.

### South Australia.

**Cheltenham.**—On Feb. 9 Bro. W. Adair spoke morning and evening; subject at night was "The Lamb's Wife." On Feb. 16 Bro. Yelland, of Unley, spoke to the church on behalf of home mission work. "Should We Marry?" was Bro. Adair's topic at night.

**Queenstown.**—On Feb. 16 Bro. Oram, from Semaphore, gave the morning message. The change of preachers was in the interest of home missions. At night Bro. Brooker continued his address on "Sane Evangelism." Sunshine club was held on Saturday evening.

**Nailsworth.**—Harvest thanksgiving services were held on Feb. 16. Bro. Baker, from Prospect, exchanging with Bro. Shipway in the morning. Bro. Shipway preached in the evening to a well-attended meeting. The work is in great heart. Splendid attendances at all services. Auxiliaries are working well.

**Mill End.**—The church annual business meeting was held on Feb. 5. Bro. H. P. Manning was appointed elder, F. L. Clarke seal-holder, R. Baines deacon. Good meetings on Feb. 9. Bro. Manning addressed both services. Clubs attended evening service. Bro. Cornelius I brought a message on home missions at morning service on Feb. 16. Largest attended evening service for many months. Bro. H. P. Manning preaching. Bro. Barnes and daughter sang a duet.

**Norwood.**—Aborigine children were entertained by the church at tea on Jan. 20. A happy time was spent by the Bible school at its picnic on Jan. 27 at Morialta Reserve. Bro. Gordon Clark, from the College of the Bible, spoke at a morning service and at midweek prayer meeting. A working bee was held on Feb. 8, when a sign was erected at the back entrance to the chapel which will be opened to the public when the back to Norwood services are held on March 1. Bro. Norris, of Dulwich, at morning service on Feb. 16 spoke on home missions. In the evening, young people of Endeavor societies took charge, and Bro. Edwards gave the address.

**Hindmarsh.**—On Feb. 16 Bro. A. E. Illingworth addressed the church on "Heavenly Banking." In the evening his gospel message was on "The Word that will Judge Us." The choir rendered an anthem, and Mr. Jack Holden sang a solo. Bro. G. J. Outlaw (secretary of church) and Bro. Gordon Brooker have been admitted to the K.S.P. society.

**Dulwich.**—Bro. Norris has begun his ministry with the church with good omens of success. He and his wife were tendered an enthusiastic welcome social. The church looks forward to an upward movement. Members were grieved by death of Bro. Albert Hill, a young man formerly in membership at Dulwich, who was killed in a collision on Jan. 15.

**Semaphore.**—On Feb. 11, in the school hall, about ninety friends of Sister Jean Morris, kindergarten superintendent, gave her a surprise party on the occasion of her 71st birthday. Sister Morris was the recipient of valuable presents. A concert in aid of St. John Ambulance (Port Division) was given by the sisters' guild. The proceeds, £5, will be handed to the brigade. Good meetings on Feb. 18. Bro. W. C. Brooker spoke in the morning. Eighty communed for the day. Several members of Endeavor societies went to Adelaide to hear Dr. Poling and joined in the march of witness.

**Kadina.**—Bro. A. E. Brown continues his good work, and at the half-yearly business meeting on Feb. 12 was asked to consider a further term with the church, to which he agreed. The church has been successful in purchasing the vacant block next to the chapel. On Feb. 9 Bro. J. Train addressed the church on home missions; 69 broke bread. At night Bro. A. E. Brown's subject was "The Conversion of Zacchaeus." Bro. Ben Head was laid to rest on Feb. 10 after a brief illness. On Feb. 8 the young ladies' mission band and friends enjoyed an afternoon of tennis and an evening of games at Sister Mrs. L. L. Gordon's home. On Feb. 15 the officers of Kadina, Wallaroo and Moonta met at Moonta to make plans for the next Peninsula conference of the three churches. On Feb. 16 Bro. Brown exhorted on "Christ as a Soul-winner," and at night spoke on "God's Challenge." Special mention was made at this service of the late Bro. Ben Head, 72 at Bible school. Bro. Brown's mother enjoyed fellowship with the church.

### Queensland.

**Ma Ma Creek.**—Progressive reports were given by the secretaries of all auxiliaries at annual church business meeting in January. All deacons and all other office-bearers were re-elected. Attendance at meetings continues good. Work at Flagstone is well maintained. Bren. V. Dallinger and C. Cole gave a farewell message to the church on morning of Feb. 9. Both have returned to College.

**Boonah.**—Auxiliaries are in full swing again. Annual business meeting was held on Jan. 22, with Bro. T. F. Stubbin in the chair. Meetings continue at Silverdale and Carrington, and a Bible school has been organised at the former centre. Mt. Alford C.E. society continues its strong witness in that locality. Bro. and Sister Muller and son, old residents of Obin Obin, near Kalbar, but now residing in Magto, North Queensland, were visitors on Feb. 9.

**Gympie.**—On Feb. 9 Bro. E. Trudgian exhorted the church on "The Lone Sufferer." At night Bro. Payne spoke on "A Challenge to Youth." Members of C.E. took part. At Bible school a rally has been launched. Midweek prayer meetings are fairly well attended. At Monkland Bro. Payne spoke in the morning. Bible school had 33 in attendance; a rally is commencing. Bro. B. Anderson conducted gospel service at New Veteran. Bro. and Sister Anderson and Sister O. Trudgian do good work in Bible school. Goomborian and Amanour Bible schools had average attendance.

(Continued on page 108.)



## Foreign Missions.

Conducted by J. E. Allan.

### "WE WILL CARRY ON."

#### Work at Hweili to Continue.

Word has been received from the Chinese Home Missionary Society that it was their intention to carry on, despite the fact that the property had been destroyed by the bandits who raided the city a few months ago.

The medical and educational activities will be curtailed, but the evangelistic work will be fully maintained. A house will be rented and used as a residence for the workers, as a place of worship and as a preaching centre. Thus the flag of Christian witness will be maintained. The brethren at Hweili are very appreciative of the help forwarded by the Australian churches to relieve the distress caused by the ravages of the bandits and fire.—H. A. G. Clark, Vic. sec.

#### BRO. AND SISTER T. ESCOTT.

Two months ago we arrived back again to this land of God's choice for us. It is with glad hearts that we thank the many who prayed for us journeying mercies.

#### A Pleasant Voyage.

God has answered prayer abundantly. The voyage was very happy, with the sweet fellowship with others of God's children. We were a party of twelve Christians, only two not being missionaries. Every morning at 9 o'clock we all met in one of the cabins for fellowship in the Word and prayer. Each one carried a "cabin stool" as well as a Bible, and thus we were able to get seating accommodation, four of us sitting on one of the beds.

We felt the urge, before leaving Sydney, to take a communion tray, glass and wine with us, so that even if we were only a few we could meet together around our Lord's table. It was indeed a joy when we found we were quite a party. One of our number also had several "Consecration and Faith" hymn books; these we used in uniting to sing God's praises. The fellowship was indeed sweet, and we praise Him for it. On arrival in Bombay separation came, but we rejoice to know that from our little company the gospel is being preached in different parts of this great land.

#### Diksal Station Reopened.

On our first Sunday morning at Diksal children of Hindu and Mohammedan families came to Sunday school. Their numbers have increased each week.

I have been able to get two Bible-women, and we have now begun visiting in the homes. The people listen well, and many are the invitations to come again soon. Some of the older Mohammedan women like to argue, as they do not believe the Lord Jesus Christ to be the Son of God, neither do they believe that he died. A couple of days ago, on hearing one of the Bible-women say, "Christ forgave and delivered from the power of sin," an old Mohammedan woman beat her mouth and cheeks saying, "Do not say that, do not say Jesus saves from sin," and then asked, "What do you get for coming and telling us such a story? Why do you come?" On being told of the "word of command" to "tell every creature," she shook her poor old head. Her hearts ache for the people, spiritually dark—we long for them to be brought into God's most marvellous light.

Since reaching Diksal we have been and still are very busy with this repair work and building up. We shall be thankful when all necessary has been done. We were in Baramati for the 30th anniversary, as Mr. Escott had been asked to

give the address at both services. There is one preacher here in Diksal; we hope to get another soon. The people around are dying without Christ. We value prayer, so please "continue in prayer and watch in the same with thanksgiving" (Col. 4: 2).—Flora Escott.

#### ORPHANS NEED YOUR HELP.

Our boys' home at Baramati is doing a great work in character-building. Over 50 boys are receiving physical, mental, moral, and above all, spiritual training. From the home have gone forth fine examples of Indian youth, many being actively engaged in the work of the mission to-day. At present only 25 are supported by individuals, churches and auxiliaries. What about the 15 without support? Can you help the Board in this splendid Christian service?

The following lads make a definite appeal to the brotherhood, viz. Waranath Ramnath, Rama Jayaram Thevar, Joseph Henry, Madhukar Wanzari, Murlidhar Zayala, Samuel Parper, Ragnath Salve, Edward William, Sumanath Rathod, Dinkar Wangaris, Motiram Bhalekar, Sadanand Stampar Patel, Samuel Shodapurker, Masahar Hatiba, Patoli, and Sukha Shinde.

Only names; yes! but behind each name is an outstretched hand waiting to be grasped and held until it can fend for itself. Ask the State secretary for all particulars.

#### WORKERS TOGETHER FOR HIM.

Some few years ago a London shoebuck was seen to be much cleaner than usual. His face was clean, shoes polished and clothes generally in a clean condition. He was met by some of his chums, and they asked him in an amused way where he was going. He replied that he was going to a mission meeting. It appeared that some time before he had put a penny in the mission box, and now he said, "I am a partner in the concern, and I am going to see what's doing." He claimed to be a partner because of his gift. This is just a very good beginning point for us. We are partners because we all belong to the one Master, and he has told us to "preach the gospel to every creature." Further, that we were not to say, "There were four months, and then cometh harvest." This harvest was not so much a future one, but one that was now ready to be reaped. Christ said, "I say, Lift up your eyes and behold, the fields are already white unto harvest." What a vision to those with eyes to see! A great harvest of souls, ready and waiting if we can only bring them the gospel.

Bro. Coventry, our missionary at Baramati,

India, writes concerning the many opportunities that present themselves in the villages in outlying places. As you know, we have Bible-women and preachers constantly witnessing in such places, but there are so many villages and scattered over so wide a field that many of them cannot be reached. Our greatest need is that we might be able to have preachers to settle in these places, build small chapels and give them the gospel. In writing of such opportunities, Bro. Coventry tells of the interest such people are showing towards the messengers of the gospel and in their message. Sad at heart Bro. Coventry says, "Here is a harvest of souls ready for the reaper." During the past few months opportunities have presented themselves, and gradually the way seems to be opening to avail ourselves of a few of them. A small place called Kalamb, a centre for the production of sugar; many of our Christians have centred here to find work. Thus a small Christian community has sprung up. Could we leave them without a shepherd? Could we deny these babes in Christ the opportunity of meeting to remember their Lord? Our missionaries in faith decided that a small chapel must be built for the Christians, and also for the outside folk who were ready to hear the word. A frame structure will be built, and the folk themselves will make the mud bricks in their spare time and complete the building. Twenty pounds was the requirement to help them in this way. In your giving you are thus a partner and a co-worker, for you have helped in the construction of this little place of worship.

Again, at Dourja, a place about ten miles from Shrigonda, we are planting a small cause. Some people have been baptised as far back as ten years or more ago, but owing to financial difficulties we could not do much forward work. A few years ago Bro. Escott escorted Bro. Walden to this place, and 13 more were baptised. Thus the place has become a centre of interest. Unfortunately the services of the preacher (native) had to be dispensed with owing to finance. His place was partly filled by employing a teacher in the school, exercising at the same time an oversight over the flock.

Two fine blocks of land were purchased, and now, after many years of thought and preparation, a small chapel is in the course of erection. Again you will rejoice that you are all partners and co-workers in this venture.

We can also rejoice in the fact that Bro. and Sister Escott are once again stationed at Diksal. This place has been almost deserted for some years. No workers or money available for the work. Now they have returned there and find ample scope in reaching the many unevangelised villages with the gospel. All these things challenge us! Let us more than ever feel we are co-workers, let our prayers ascend on behalf of our missionaries and their co-workers that the gospel might be sounded out, also that our great brotherhood might respond to the challenge and give liberal gifts so that our work might be prospered.—A. Anderson, Federal Secretary.

## GUARD AGAINST WASTE

**T**HE wise man provides for lean times ahead, though he may be in the midst of plenty. If "lean times," happily, do not eventuate, he knows that he will still be able to make good use of his balance in the bank. By saving consistently, he has everything to gain, and nothing to lose.

YOU, TOO, SHOULD MAKE GOOD USE OF THE  
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ALEX. COOCH, General Manager.







## News of the Churches.

(Continued from page 105.)

### Queensland.

**Brisbane (Ann-st.).**—Annual church meeting was held this month. Reports showed a year's heavy work. Financial position is good, £12 a week on average being raised for all purposes. All officers were re-elected. One confession and baptism since last report. One sister has passed to her heavenly home. Bro. Wendorf is very sick in hospital.

**Toowoomba.**—Annual church meeting was held on Feb. 5. Officers were elected as follows: Deacons—Bren. Squires, Draney, Marriage, Gwynne, Albert Gould, Winter, Tanzer, Arthur Gould and Snowball; secretary, Arthur Gould; treasurer, P. Tanzer; Sunday school superintendents: Bro. J. Wilson (Central) and Bro. E. Hindmarsh (Harlaxton). It was decided to send a letter of appreciation to the late secretary, Bro. Chapman, for 13 years' faithful service in that capacity. Bro. A. W. Ludbrook (Vic.) is due to commence his ministry early in March. Bren. G. Gwynne and J. Andrews have joined the Sunday school teaching staff. Bren. E. McGregor, L. Dunne, G. Gwynne and J. Andrews are assisting with speaking at Harlaxton and Harristown. On Feb. 2 Bro. Cole, a College student, exhorted church, and preached at night.

### Tasmania.

**Hobart (Collins-st.).**—During January services were well maintained. The holidays brought visiting brethren from the mainland and from churches within the State. On Jan. 12, while Bro. Bowes, F.M. president, was visiting the northern churches, Bro. Jarvis addressed the church, and Mr. Rex Townley, of the Baptist church, preached in the evening. On Jan. 1 a new order of service was introduced, and provision was made for use of the new church hymnal. Recently some of the young people have been in camp under care of Bro. and Sister Bowes at Tarooona.

**Devonport.**—Church appreciates the fine messages given by Bro. Crowden. On Feb. 9 his subjects were "She touched the hem of his garment" and "If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean." Sister Cope rendered a solo. On Jan. 26 Bro. Price on behalf of members made a presentation of a book to Bro. Crowden. At business meeting on Feb. 3 Bro. Crowden was elected secretary in place of Bro. L. J. Price, whose work has taken him to the mainland. Bro. Price has done a great work for the church. £3 was sent to H.M. committee and £10 paid off building debt. J.C.E. held a picnic at Bluff on Feb. 8. Sister Bernice Price, whose messages in song have been enjoyed, has returned to the mainland.

### Western Australia.

**Fremantle.**—The church regrets to record the death, in his 91st year, of Bro. Kenny, who for several years had been slowly fading. His home-call was a very peaceful one. On Jan. 19 Miss Caldwell, returning missionary, gave a helpful address at morning meeting. An "In memoriam" service to King George V. was conducted by Bro. Raymond in the evening, and at the close two young people came forward to confess the Saviour. World Christian Endeavor Day was recognised on Feb. 2. Endeavorers having a part in the service. One lad confessed his Lord. The church is hopefully planning and working for the marquee mission to be conducted by Jas. E. Thomas, commencing Easter Sunday. Cottage prayer meetings are already in operation, and a time of revival is being prayerfully anticipated.

**Bunbury.**—Attendances of late have been fairly good, visiting brethren augmenting numbers. Annual election of officers resulted in following appointments: Secretary, Bro. Jas. Welsh; treasurer, Bro. James Dean, with Bren.

Hicks, Horn, Coles, Welsh, Dean, Moignard, Read and A. Bell comprising diaconate. Bro. T. D. Maiden has accepted the offer of a further twelve months' service. The church has had happy fellowship with Bren. O. Fieldus (conference president) and H. Gray. Recent special functions were the Sunday school picnic, successfully conducted at Turkey Point, and a church send-off to Bro. L. G. Read, entering College this year. Prayers rise for restoration of Bro. Moignard and Sisters Mrs. Sack and Mrs. Bainbridge, all of whom are ill. Activity is being directed toward a very necessary church hall, at the rear of the newly-enlarged chapel.

### Victoria.

**Melbourne (Swanston-st.).**—There were very good meetings on Feb. 16. The morning service was taken by Bro. A. L. Gibson; evening, Bro. T. H. Scambler. Attendances are better as members come back from holidays.

**Minyip.**—Bro. A. V. Parsons was welcomed after his nine weeks' illness. On Feb. 9 he gave the gospel address. Feb. 16, good attendance, beautiful address by Bro. Garland, Sister W. Cunningham was present after illness.

**Newmarket.**—On Feb. 16 Bro. Jones, from Nth. Essendon, spoke at morning service. Bro. Goodwin gave the gospel address, and a young lady made the good confession. Sister Mrs. Sullivan rendered a solo. The interior of the chapel has been renovated.

**Boronis.**—The fellowship and messages of the following visiting speakers have been much appreciated: Bren. Quirk, L. Williams, W. H. Clay, A. Wilson and R. K. Whately. Attendances have been well maintained. S.S. anniversary practices are in progress.

**Ballarat (Peel-st.).**—On Feb. 16 Bro. Robbins was the speaker all day, and a happy time was spent in preparation for the mission. Bren. Gale and K. Jones also had fellowship with the church. Sympathy is extended to Sister W. Stodden and family and relatives in the death of her husband.

**Northcote.**—Brunswick Salvation Army band gave an excellent musical night on Feb. 15. Bro. Wilson, Local Option Alliance, gave a good message at worship service on Feb. 16. Bro. W. W. Saunders' message in the evening, "In Spite Of," was excellent. One young lady made the good confession.

**Collingwood.**—On Feb. 9 Mr. Barclay spoke at worship. At gospel service a Frances R. Haverall night was held. Hymns sung were those of her writing, and the title of the address was taken from her book, "The Golden Invitation." On Feb. 16 Mr. T. Fitzgerald spoke to the church on "Hallelujah," and at night on "Matchless Grace."

**Ormond.**—On Feb. 12 Bro. F. W. Bradley conducted the prayer meeting. Bro. Harvey, of Prahran, gave a good message to the church on Feb. 16. At night he preached, and Mrs. Harvey delighted with a solo. Bro. Ken, Macnaughtan, preacher of church at Mildura, has accepted a call to Ormond, but will not start his ministry for three months.

**Ascot Vale.**—Feb. 16 morning attendance was good. Bro. Gardiner, from Newmarket, addressed the church. Four were received into membership, three by faith and baptism and one baptised believer. Y.W.L. received prizes for year's work, nine having attended every Sunday. Bro. C. Payne is in Melbourne Hospital again. Bro. Burns has resigned as treasurer after fifteen years' service.

**Dandenong.**—On Feb. 5 five members of the prayer meeting visited the meeting of the women's mission band. Bro. Clay was speaker at both services on Feb. 9. A well-attended combined after-church meeting was held in the chapel on Feb. 9 in connection with C.E. Members of Methodist church and C.E. society were present, and the Methodist minister, Mr. Slatey, spoke on the birth, growth and ideals of C.E.

**Moreland.**—Feb. 9 and 16 were marked by good meetings. Bro. R. L. Arnold, back after mission at Berwick, preached in great fashion. Three have made the good confession in the past fortnight. On Feb. 10 officers met leaders of auxiliaries in a discussion concerning the work, much of value being the result.

**Preston.**—Improved attendances since Bro. Young commenced his ministry are well maintained. Four visitors were present at communion service on Feb. 16. The chapel was comfortably filled at night. At the beginning of the service two Bible school scholars were baptised. A powerful message was delivered on "The Church—Terms of Admission."

**Thornbury.**—Continued enthusiasm is manifest in all branches of the work. There were five confessions on Feb. 9. Bro. Jackel's subject was "Tragedies of Disobedience." An intermediate C.E. society is being formed. Cottage prayer meetings are being blessed. Feb. 16 was consecration Sunday. The spiritual tone was excellent, and there were four decisions.

**Fitzroy (Gore-st.).**—Good meetings were held on Feb. 16. Bro. Rough spoke in the morning. Evening service was conducted by cricket club members. Trio and solo and concerted items were given. On Feb. 15 the cricket club held an enjoyable social. On Feb. 13 the church business meeting was held. Officers elected were Bren. Laycock, Griffith, Mildern (jun.), Cousins, Loft and Shephard.

**Newport.**—The Bible school picnic, held at Williamstown Beach on Feb. 1 proved a successful and happy function. Since the school holidays eight new scholars have been added. A visit from Bro. Doug. Nicholls and party on Sunday night, Feb. 16, created much interest. The Dispensary Hall was filled with an audience who attentively followed Bro. Nicholls' impressive address on "Crowding Out Christ." Mrs. Taylor and Mr. W. Rogers helped with messages in song.

**Drumcondra.**—A large number broke bread on Feb. 16. Bro. Jackel spoke on "The Heavenly Vision." The church enjoyed fellowship with Bro. and Sister Banks, of Wangaratta, also Bro. and Sister Rowe and family. At the largely attended gospel service Bro. Banks gave a stirring address on "The Love which Prevents Escape." Annual election of officers of Y.P. Endeavor society was held on Feb. 12. Several Endeavorers travelled to Melbourne to hear Dr. Poling on Feb. 13.

**Echuca.**—On Feb. 5 Bro. Woolnough spoke in the morning and Bro. Wigney in the evening. A farewell social was given to Bro. and Sister Skentelbery and family on Feb. 8 before their departure for Bendigo. After being wished Godspeed in their new sphere of labor they were presented with a tea-set. Bro. Skentelbery rendered valuable service in both church and Sunday school, and Sister Skentelbery was treasurer of mission band. Their going is a great loss to the church.

**Oakleigh.**—On Feb. 9 there were fine meetings, particularly in the morning. Bro. Mudge was the speaker. All departments of the church are in full swing again. There is still sickness among members. The church prays for the recovery of Sister Clark and Sister Leach. On Feb. 8, after a long illness, Sister Miss Dot Cook was called home. Feb. 16, nice meetings, finishing with a combined rally of Endeavorers after evening service. A large gathering from neighboring churches attended.

**Castlemaine.**—On Feb. 16, after a sermon by Bro. A. H. Pratt on "Jesus Our Example in Baptism," a senior Bible school scholar and Y.W.L. member, and an elderly woman, confessed Christ. All meetings have increased since the holidays. Sister Carrol's husband was called home on Feb. 12. Bro. Les. Prior, Ultima; Bro. and Sister Smith, Kerang; Sister Grocot, Echuca; and Bro. and Sister Livingstone, South Melbourne, were visitors. Sister Coombes and family have been transferred to Dawson-st., Ballarat.



**Surrey Hills.**—Services on Feb. 9 were well attended. Bro. Combridge addressing both. Young men's club resumed activities for the year on Feb. 10. On morning of Feb. 16 Bro. R. Williams addressed the church. In the evening, Balwyn branch of P.A.F.S. took part. The building was crowded; Bro. Combridge conducted the service, and the choir assisted with an anthem. There were 105 at Bible school, largest attendance for some months. Sister Mrs. W. Newham is ill, but improving.

**Box Hill.**—Harvest thanksgiving services were held on Feb. 16. The morning theme was "Seeds" and the evening "Harvests." Some of the gifts of fruit, vegetables and other products were distributed among the sick, and the balance sold in the interests of the building fund. The choir rendered two anthems, and a solo was sung by Mr. R. Tully at evening service, at which extra seating accommodation had to be provided. All auxiliaries have resumed activities, and are planning for a year of progressive activity.

**Geelong.**—On Feb. 16 Bro. Stewart, who had spent a few days at the preachers' retreat at Queenscliff, exhorted helpfully on "The Lord's Prayer." A splendid attendance included visitors, one from Adelaide. On Feb. 15 the Bible school picnic was held at Torquay. The church extends sympathy to Sisters Briars and Thompson in the loss of son-in-law and brother-in-law respectively. All regret the departure of Bro. T. H. Thomas, the church secretary, who has been promoted to Melbourne. He will be a great loss in all departments.

**Carlton (Lygon-st.).**—Improved meetings on Feb. 16. Mr. Reg. Ennis spoke in the morning on "The Quest for the Best," and in the evening "From Scepticism to Christianity." Among visitors were Mrs. Colin Dabb, of Geelong, and Miss Houston, of Heytesbury Forest. Reference was made to Bro. Craigie, who is holidaying at Sorrento, and to Bro. Vic. McKenzie, who this year enters the College of the Bible. In the evening a great-grandson of two early members, together with two men, were baptised. Junior Endeavorers have presented a clock to Dhond Hospital.

**Maryborough.**—Meetings continue to grow. Bro. Searle is delivering great sermons. On Feb. 2, after his address to a large congregation, a young man made the good confession. Last month the church suffered the loss by removal of four of its most active workers—Bro. and Sister Hill, Sister L. Taylor, superintendent of kindergarten, and Bro. Ron. Holden, church treasurer. Presentations were made to each by church and Sunday school. On Feb. 9 Bro. Banks, preacher of Wangaratta church, and Bro. Graham, of Shepparton, met at the Lord's table. Bro. Searle has arranged a training class for men of the church.

**Buraley.**—Meetings have been very well attended over the last five weeks. Bro. Mellhagger, returned from vacation, is again occupying the platform. Visitors from Bundaberg (Qld.) have been welcomed: Mrs. Mellhagger, mother of the preacher, and her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Linderberg, and Miss Cedergreen. Mrs. Mellhagger is remaining for a few weeks, and Miss Cedergreen is entering the College. Bro. Mellhagger's subjects, "Life on the Wing" and "God's Justice" were appreciated. A message in song by Miss Beryl Nichols was very enjoyable. All auxiliaries are working splendidly. Cricket club held a successful concert on Feb. 4. S.C.E. paid a visit to North Essendon on Feb. 5, and spent an enjoyable night.

**St. Kilda.**—On Feb. 9 Bro. Hammer began a series on "Five Inevitable Issues," the first being on "A Divine Christ or No Saviour." Prayer meeting preceding this service was best attended for some time. At Bible school a new teacher was added. A junior department has been formed under leadership of Sister Mrs. Finger. Bro. and Sister Thomas and family, from Lane

Cove, N.S.W., were visitors on morning of Feb. 9. Bro. Westwood gave the church his final address on Feb. 16. Since the circuit was formed with South Melbourne and Middle Park he has given some fine messages. Visitors on Feb. 16 included Sister Mrs. Westwood, and Sister Miss Phillips from Bendigo. In the evening Bro. Hammer's message was on "An Inspired Bible or no Scriptures." All meetings are consistently attended.

**Parkdale.**—Splendid messages were given to large attendances on Feb. 9 and 16 by Bro. L. Beaumont. Two brethren baptised on Feb. 9 were received into fellowship on Feb. 16. At the latter gospel service the J.C.E. members handed each one attending a buttonhole and text, and seven Y.P.S. members assisted Bro. Beaumont on the platform. Bro. R. J. Hinde gave a testimony, and choir rendered a hymn. Reports submitted at annual church meeting on Feb. 12 indicated progress all along the line except in Bible school. The financial position was very satisfactory. It is expected to hold a mission in the early part of the year. Officers appointed were Bro. Gilmore, sen.; Gilmore, jun., Bro. Bryce, Rees, Burriss, Bradley, Sampson, Billston and Pateman. The preacher of the church is L. R. H. Beaumont, B.A.

**Mildura.**—Attendances at Sunday services have improved since new year. The Y.W.L., functioning in connection with evening service, continues to be well supported. Prayer meetings are held on Thursday evenings, and attendances are pleasing. To mark the 55th anniversary of C.E. a special service was held on evening of Feb. 9. Endeavorers took charge; Bro. Macnaughtan spoke on "The Name 'Christian.'" Annual business meeting of the church on Feb. 12 was marked by a spirit of optimism on the part of members, and by inauguration of several forward moves. A feature was the number of reports received, as well as the note of optimism which characterised them. Three newly-appointed officers delivered short messages to the church on morning of Feb. 16. Bro. C. Harrop, L. Cameron and A. R. Mansell spoke, subjects being "Christ and Myself," "Christ and the Church," and "Christ and the World."

#### New South Wales.

**Hornsby.**—Three adults recently confessed Christ, were baptised and received into fellowship. Bro. Thoroughgood, who completed his term of engagement, has accepted an offer of an indefinite term as minister. All activities of the church are satisfactory.

**Sydney (City Temple).**—On morning of Feb. 16 Bro. Caldecott gave a rousing address. Bro. Nance-Rivell's evening topic was "The Threefold Effect of Sin." City Temple is maintaining strength, but Bible school attendances have not properly picked up after holidays.

**Bankstown.**—Attendance keeps up at all meetings. Endeavorers took part on evening of Feb. 9, when a married man confessed Christ. He was baptised the following Wednesday. A young people's choir has been formed, greatly assisting evening service. Bro. Priestley's messages are proving helpful, and his visitations are bearing fruit.

**Mosman.**—On Feb. 9, "Fragments that Remain" was G. E. Burns' message for the church; at night his gospel address on "When Christ comes again to Mosman" held a large audience; Mr. and Mrs. Hutchison, from Subiaco, W.A., were visitors. Bro. Everett exhorted on 16th on the "Christian Walk"; Bro. Burns' evening address on "God's First Picture of Calvary" was a powerful presentation. He is president-elect of the Northern Suburbs C.E. Union.

**Paddington.**—On Feb. 16 there were good meetings at both services, with some visitors. Bro. and Sister Somerville were received by letter. Gospel service was broadcast. Bro. Greenhalgh preached, and solos were sung by Miss T. Walter and Bro. N. Fell. Great interest is being taken in the Bible crusade; many have

joined the "Silver Squadron" and are reading through the New Testament during its progress. C.E. members, junior and senior, took part in the Eastern Suburbs annual rally on Saturday.

**Canley Vale.**—Bro. and Sister Clydesdale have returned with renewed vigor after holidays. Local brethren have ably carried on here as well as helping Loftus Park and the new cause at Austral. February is youth month, B.S., C.E. and Christian Fraternal Orders have the right of way and are proving their talents, Bro. Adams speaking on "Youth." The church decided to give up annual offerings and to contribute regularly through envelopes to the various funds. So far the result shows over 30 per cent. increase on the previous average.

**Wagga.**—Bro. Ackland has continued morning and evening addresses on "The New Testament Church." These have been helpful and instructive. On Feb. 2 the church celebrated a harvest thanksgiving, and there were present several isolated members. On Feb. 9 a lad made the good confession. He was immersed on Feb. 16, and at the close of Bro. Ackland's address another lad confessed Christ. Bible school is making good progress, and Y.P.S.C.E. and Y.W.L. attendances are maintained. Bro. Ackland has a question box, which is used by people attending gospel meetings.

**Bangalow.**—At annual business meeting on Feb. 14, there was a good attendance. Reports from all auxiliaries showed a healthy condition. Deacons re-elected were Bro. J. G. Snow, H. Keever, W. Roach, W. Rootes and H. Snow; Bro. Will Keever was elected to that position; deaconesses, Sisters Mrs. Candy, Mrs. Snow and Mrs. Pigott, all re-elected; Bro. J. G. Snow, secretary; Mrs. Pigott, treasurer. Bro. and Sister Candy accepted an invitation to labor with the church for another twelve months. On Feb. 2 Bro. J. G. Snow proclaimed the gospel while Bro. Candy was at Lismore. Meetings are well attended, and there is great interest in gospel services, in which the "Beliefs of the Churches of Christ" are proclaimed. Sister Mrs. J. G. Snow has been very ill, but is recovering.

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STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1935.

RECEIPTS.	
To Contributions, Maintenance Account—	
Churches and Members In—	
New South Wales .....	6580 3 3
Victoria .....	264 3 9
South Australia .....	236 8 1
Queensland .....	182 5 10
Western Australia .....	147 8 0
Tasmania .....	15 14 3
New Zealand .....	1 9 6
	£1827 14 8
Union Trust Fund, South Australia .....	50 0 0
Request (Advance), New South Wales .....	500 0 0
Women's Auxiliary Conferences—	
Victoria—	
Conference and Ladies' Guilds, etc.—	
A/c Garden Party £120 14 4	
Women's Mission Bands .....	45 10 6
	175 4 10
West. Australia—	
Conference .....	10 0 0
Women's Mission Bands, etc. ....	1 10 0
	11 10 0
Queensland—	
Ladies' Guilds .....	1 2 0
	187 16 10
Young People's Organisations, C.E., etc.—	
Victoria .....	15 3 0
South Australia .....	5 9 1
Western Australia .....	4 11 0
Tasmania .....	1 0 0
New South Wales .....	0 10 6
Queensland .....	0 9 7
	27 3 2
Demonstration Offering, Victoria .....	3 13 8
Students' Concert Committee .....	4 5 6
Students' Fees, Rents, Gas, Electricity, Telephone .....	199 18 3
Women's Hostel, Rents, Electricity, Telephone .....	61 0 3
Sale of Shop Building, Noble Park and Sundries .....	20 10 0
	£2882 2 4
To Specific Purposes—	
Scholarships and Prizes—	
Mrs. Myrtle Stockton Memorial Essay .....	11 11 0
Old Boys' Club .....	3 3 0
	14 14 0
Library Fund, Consiere Trust, Victoria .....	
Leslie C. McCallum Memorial, Sth. Australia .....	7 12 0
	43 2 0
To Students' Loans Repaid .....	32 10 0
To Interest—Scholarship Endowments .....	47 4 0
Endowment Funds .....	137 9 0
	184 13 0
Total Receipts .....	
	£3542 7 4
To Dr. Balance, 31/12/1935—	
English, Scottish & Australian Bank, Overdraft .....	1379 2 2
Sundry Loans, on Deposit .....	675 0 0
	2054 2 2
	£5596 9 6

DISBURSEMENTS.	
By Maintenance Account—	
Salaries and Honoraria .....	£1226 0 0
Rates, Insurance and Taxes .....	113 13 0
Interest—	
Sundry Loans .....	£81 13 0
E.S. and A. Bank .....	54 15 4
Scholarship Endowments .....	47 4 0
Endowment Funds .....	137 9 0
	321 1 0
Printing, Stationery, Advertising (including Cost of Special Issue of the "Australian Christian") .....	
Repairs and Renovations .....	151 18 4
Street Construction, City of Malvern .....	149 15 11
Postages, Telephones, Exchange and Travelling Expenses .....	254 11 10
	219 10 10
Furniture .....	83 18 7
Electricity and Gas .....	78 5 3
Caretaking, Cleaning, Gardening .....	70 3 1
Legal and Sundry Expenses .....	20 16 6
	2868 19 10
By Specific Purposes—	
Scholarships and Prizes—	
Morton S. Noble Memorial Scholarship .....	15 0 0
Mrs. Myrtle Stockton Memorial Essay .....	12 12 0
William Grindrod Memorial Scholarship .....	7 10 0
P. G. Dunn Memorial Scholarship .....	7 7 0
F. M. Ludbrook Memorial Scholarship .....	7 7 0
Miss E. F. Winter Memorial Scholarship .....	5 0 0
Miss E. C. Hovey Memorial Scholarship .....	5 0 0
Old Boys' Scholarship .....	3 3 0
College Women's Association Prize .....	2 2 0
	65 1 0
Library—	
General Account .....	12 13 3
Consiere Trust Account .....	32 12 9
	45 6 0
By Loans to Student .....	110 7 0
Total Disbursements .....	7 10 0
	£2926 16 10
By Dr. Balance Brought Forward 1/1/1935—	
English, Scottish & Australian Bank, Overdraft .....	344 12 8
Sundry Loans on Deposit .....	1925 0 0
	2269 12 8
	£5196 0 6

Audited and found correct.  
A. A. HADDOW, L.I.C.A.

W. C. CRAIGIE, Hon. Treasurer.  
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**S.A. Sisters' Auxiliary.**

The monthly meeting was held at Grote-st. on Feb. 6. There were 72 sisters present, 45 of whom were delegates. Devotions were led by Mrs. D. McQueen, who took as her text "Father, the hour is come." Mrs. Reibbeck sang a solo.

Mrs. Burns, president, was in the chair during business session, when Mr. A. C. Rankine gave an interesting address entitled "A Christian Home." Mrs. Clarke, formerly of S.A., now residing in Victoria, was given a welcome, and gave a greeting from Victorian sisters. Three letters were read from the following missionaries: Mrs. Pittman, Miss Edna Vawser and Miss Cameron. They were listened to with much interest. Collection amounted to £1/3/7.

Reports were read from the following home mission churches: Central Eyre Peninsula circuit, Gawler and Williamstown, Naracoorte, Victor Harbor, showing the work to be progressive. Money received by home mission committee, Jan. and Feb., £19/11/4. The foreign mission committee received £4/12/9 for December, 1935, and January, 1936. At December meeting 70 mite boxes were distributed. The first letter written to the sisters of South Australia has been received from our Living Link, Nurse Lambert.

Treasurer's report.—Dec. 7, received for home missions, £1/15/3; for foreign missions, 19/7. General fund, collection, £1/4/6; special collection for United Aborigines Mission, 10/10. Cash in hand, 8/8. Paid to Mrs. DeLaine for U.A.M., 10/10; paid secretary for postage, £1; balance, 13/2.

Obituary report.—Mrs. Cutts, of Queenstown, and Mrs. Kerslake, of Forestville, have received the home-call. Letter of sympathy sent to Mrs. Dawes, of Norwood.—F. M. Bristow, asst. sec.

**W.A. Women's Auxiliary.**

The first meeting for the year, held on Feb. 4, was well-attended; 65 sisters present. Apologies were received from Sisters Jefferies, W. Thomson, Fishwick and Cogley. Devotions were conducted by Mrs. P. Jefferies, who gave a helpful message on "Christ in the Human Life." Mrs. Foster read Matt. 5, and Mrs. Pollard sang the solo, "Higher Ground."

The president, in the chair at business session, wished for all much joy in service in the new year, and welcomed Sisters Grist, Eaton, W. Yeomans, Armstrong and Riches (N.S.W.). Sisters Armstrong and Riches responded. Mrs. Riches is taking up work with her husband at Victoria Park. We wish for them God's abiding presence.

Treasurer's statement showed that £73/11/2 had been given for home missions and £49/19/4 for foreign missions.

A pleasing feature during the meeting was a presentation to the Sisters' Conference of a beautiful illuminated address by Bro. C. Hunt from the patients of the Wooroloo Sanatorium, for their untiring efforts in visiting that institution over a period of many years. The president (Mrs. Brooke), in receiving the address, said how deeply appreciative the sisters were for such a thoughtful gift.

Bren. M. Bell and Garland interviewed the sisters with a view to arrange an appeal for the Miss Mary Thomson memorial bungalow. After much discussion it was decided that the sisters take up this responsibility for W.A.

The next meeting will be held on March 3. Mrs. Foster will lead devotions, and conference business will be discussed.—A. C. Elliott, Sec.

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**Thought for the Week.**

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on the impulse of  
momentary anger and in-  
dignation are rarely wise  
or right.

—Charles Brown.

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