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The Call to Strength.

V. C. Stafford.

"Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion."

TO-DAY the Christian church is facing obstacles and grappling with conditions that are beyond her strength. From that universal remark let us descend to a particular observation. What shall we say of the brotherhood of Christians who are known as churches of Christ? May we not adapt the words of a great preacher of last century to our own conditions today? These are Alexander McLaren's words: "Has there not been poured over us the spirit of slumber? Does it not seem as if an opium sky had been raining soporifics on our head? We have had but little experience of the might of God amongst us of late years, and we need not wonder at it. There is no occasion to look far for the reason. We have only to regard the low ebb to which religious life has been reduced amongst us to have it all and more than all accounted for. I fully admit that there has been plenty of activity, perhaps more than the amount of real life warrants, not a little liberality, and many virtues. But how languid and torpid the true Christian life has been! how little enthusiasm! how little depth of communion with God! how little unworldly elevation of soul! how little glow of love!"

We may take that rebuke unto ourselves. We do not wish in these few words to blame indiscriminately, or to fire criticisms that are harmless because they are fired at random. Who but ourselves should be conscious of our own defects and weaknesses? Yet may we not too easily succumb to the fatal slumber of a complacent mind?

Over a century ago a movement began which set forth a glorious ideal. The goal if remote was clearly defined. That goal was the union of Christians on the basis alone of the New Testament. Fathered by men of intellectual honesty and spiritual integrity, advocated earnestly by those who felt the impetus of these godly souls, those people, content to be recognised simply as churches of Christ and acknowledging the lordship of Christ and the sovereignty of the word of God, have made history. God forbid that we should unite progress with pride. Humility is becoming us who have

reason to be abashed at our present day somnolence. John Stuart Mill said, "The fatal tendency of mankind to leave off thinking about a thing when to them it is no longer doubtful, is the cause of half their errors."

Have we as a people "paused upon our autumnal hilltop to sit in the sun of a reminiscent maturity"? Then we do well to heed the cry, "Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion."

A message.

We need strength for witness. We have a distinctive message. We must preach it. Not that our strength lies in repeating age-old phraseology and time-worn utterances. We may echo the thought forms of our pioneers without really understanding what they meant. We are tempted to rely on watchwords that served to heat and inspire former generations, but fall a little flat today, wearied by much repetition. Our message must be shaped in the moulds of our time. Many people know little of the reason for our existence. Are we thoroughly acquainted with it ourselves? Our message should partake of the vital, passionate throb of the New Testament re-

velation. It is of salvation from sin through Jesus Christ alone, and in the way laid down in the inspired word. It is of simplicity of church order, and a purity of church life as is disclosed in the record of the early brotherhood of saints. Has our interpretation to the world of the New Testament message been an adequate one? Do we feel completely satisfied with our witness? These questions must be answered by our inner soul. A re-study of our message and a rededication of ourselves to its proclamation is the way to strength.

A life.

The message must have the backing of a life. Without the life lips are smitten dumb. The fact that the early disciples were filled with the Spirit makes possible the declaration: "With great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all."

Churches of Christ, with others, have not escaped this dearth, the paralysis of the inner life. We are weak in the things in which we ought to be strong; strong in the things in which we should be weak. There are too many non-participants in the gospel warfare. Worldly disciples who put the picture-show before the prayer meeting, who are weak and compromising before matters that ought to have been decided long ago as incompatible with Christian living, are unfortunately weakening the churches to which they belong. There is on the part of some a shrinking from the commitments of the Christian belief, and a lack of support for the enterprises of the church work. We need a recreative emphasis that is born of the Spirit-filled life. We need an awakening. We need strength.

In our corporate life there is deadening parochialism, an appalling lack of co-ordination. Our congregational independence, always to be preserved, has through our misuse of it contributed to lack of harmony and to methods that are prejudicial to congregational probity. One approaches these and many other grave and serious matters with not a little trembling.

All these are subordinate to one chief

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need. And that is a mighty spiritual quickening. We quote once more Alexander McLaren: "We are sometimes told that we err in praying for the out-pouring of his Holy Spirit, because ever since Pentecost his church has had the gift. The objection alleges an unquestioned fact, but the conclusion drawn from it rests on an altogether false conception of the manner of that abiding gift. The Spirit of God, and the power which comes from him, are not given as a purse of money might be put into a man's hand once and for all, but they are given in a continuous impartation and communication, and are received and retained moment by moment, according to the energy of our desires and the faithfulness of our use. The life which comes from his Spirit is maintained by constant efflux from the fountain of Life, by constant impartation of his quickening breath. And as he must continually impart, so we must continually receive, else we perish."

The Value of a Human Being.

Twenty-five years ago I was sitting on the side of a hill at Winona Lake with a thousand other men, while a very fine-looking man on the platform above told us a part of his life-story. He said:

"Twenty years ago I was in a saloon in Chicago. I was not dead drunk, but I had been drinking all the evening, and I was pretty well under the influence. The bar-keeper came out from behind the bar and threw me out into the street. I got up and started for Lake Michigan to drown myself. I said as I went along, 'I am no use. I have spent my last cent for drink. I am separated from my wife, I have committed nearly every crime in the State of Illinois except murder, I haven't a friend in the world, and I might as well end it.'

"I passed an open door on Clark-st., and, without knowing to this day why, I went up the steps and into a hall filled with men and women. It was the Pacific Garden Mission, and I went stumbling down the wide aisle clear down to the platform on which a tall man was talking. I fell down right in front of the platform and lay there in a drunken stupor. The man who was talking kept right on, speaking over my fallen body. When he was through and the people in the hall had gone out, he came down, lifted me up, took me into a room, put me into a clean bed, and I slept off my drunkenness and waked up next morning sober. I had a bath and a good breakfast, and—I haven't time to tell the whole story, but in that Pacific Garden Mission under the ministrations of Colonel Clark and his devoted wife I was soundly converted by the Lord Jesus Christ, was baptised, and became a new man."

The man up on the platform paused a moment, then he said:

"To-night I plan to take the evening train for Chicago, and to-morrow night I shall be speaking on that same platform in front of which I lay drunk that night twenty

years ago, and preach the same Gospel to fallen men and women that Colonel Clark preached to my salvation. I am reconciled to my wife, and we are living happily together. I have a good job, money in my pocket, and more friends than I can count. And I am one of the happiest men in the world, because by the power of Jesus Christ I have been born again."

The man up there on that platform was Harry Munroe, and when he died ten years later it took all day for the men and women he had helped to save to pass by his casket. He was one of the most useful men that Chicago has ever known. Yet if any of us had seen him that night he was drunk in that saloon we might have said, "Let him drown himself. He is no use to anyone." But the divine power laid hold on Harry Munroe and created him anew.

That power is still in the world, and no one can say that it cannot touch any man, no matter how lost and depraved he may be. That is what makes a human being valuable, the possibility of that tremendous change in his character, caused not by going to college or making money or getting culture, but caused by a divine power outside the man, making him all over until he is a new man in Christ Jesus.—Charles M. Sheldon in "The Homiletic Review."

HIS LAST REQUEST.

His last request—wilt thou still say him nay?
The night draws on, and swiftly wanes the day,
And many are the sheep that, far astray,
The mountain roam.

His last request—e'en now the harvest fair
Is white with grain, but laborers are rare,
Dost thou not wish in their blest fruit to share
And sheaves bring home?

His last request—hear'st not the heathen sigh
Nor heed'st the prisoner's chains and bitter cry,
"Come over now and help us, ere we die,
Oh, bring us aid?"

His last request—dost thou not hear him plead,
When his true servants tell how sore they need?
Canst say thou lovest him, yet pay no heed,
Art thou afraid?

His last request—upon thy listening ear
The summons falls—ah, me, year after year,
For him thou countest still the cost too dear,
He died for thee!

His last request—he waiteth day by day;
Souls sit in darkness, knowing not the way;
He asketh thee to go—wilt answer "Nay,"
Or, "Lord, send me"?

"Am I to thank God for everything?
Am I to thank him for bereavement, for
pain, for poverty, for toil? . . . Be still,
my soul: thou hast misread the message. It
is not to give thanks for everything, but to
give thanks in everything."

At the Lord's Table.

T. H. Scambler, B.A., Dip. Ed.

FELLOWSHIP IN SUFFERING.

"That I may know him . . . and the fellowship of his sufferings."

Heart-searching words are these. Can we share with the apostle so noble an aspiration? Who is sufficient for these things? Week by week we gather together, and seek by beautiful symbolism to enter into fellowship with our Lord.

We take the bread, and it speaks to us of a broken body. We receive the cup, and it brings the message of blood that was shed. Do we desire to enter into fellowship with him there? "This is my body given for you." Have I been prepared to endure for him? "This is my blood of the new covenant." Have I been willing to pour out the energy of life itself for his sake?

The Master definitely calls us to this sacred fellowship. "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." In the work of redemption which he carries on in the world, his saving grace becomes effective when men are prepared to suffer with him. It may be in some act of self-denial for his sake—a surrender of personal inclinations or tastes that means genuine sacrifice. It may be in some deed of service to which duty seems to call us, but which is not in the line of easy achievement for us—some task against which our nature rebels, but which provides us with a sure

means of helping him. It may be in some work of blessing to needy men and women—the kind with whom our Master loved to associate so much, and to whom some kindness rendered, Jesus regards as given to himself. There is no higher exhibition of goodness than this, the voluntary acceptance by good men and women, of privation and suffering to redeem the lost. Paul did it, Carey did it. The hosts of saints who through the ages have made the gospel effective have done it. Kagawa is doing it now.

We must recognise, of course, that no participation in suffering for Christ's sake and for the sake of others, can ever compare with his. Probably we can never apprehend, except in the dimmest kind of way, the travail of his soul. "We may not know, we cannot tell, what pains he had to bear." He is the Redeemer; we are always the redeemed, and can never share those sacred prerogatives which are his alone. But as redeemed men and women we are saved to serve, and blessed that we may bless, and all such service is costly. Our weekly communion at the Lord's table, in memory of him, will bless us indeed, if it brings us to compare our lives with his, in our willingness to endure and even to suffer, in a noble cause.

"O Lord and Master of us all!
Whate'er our name or sign,
We own thy sway, we hear thy call,
We test our lives by thine."

Some Notable Hymns and Authors.

No. 15. Some Early Nineteenth Century Writers.

A. M. Ludbrook.

In grouping our authors chronologically in a general way, there is of necessity a good deal of over-lapping. For instance, Cowper was born in 1719, but in this series is placed among the later writers of the 18th century, for he lived right through the second half of it, and wrote most of his hymns well on in that period. We deem it best to place each hymnist in that half-century in which most of his life was spent or most of his work was done. And now we are somewhat staggered to find that no fewer than 30 of our authors thus listed as 19th century writers began life in the previous century. So we will deal with them first. Many, however, are hardly "noteworthy," and so will not be much more than named and dated.

THOMAS HAWEIS (1732-1820) should have been dealt with before. He was born at Truro, in Cornwall, and died at Bath. His one lyric in both our collections—"The happy morn is come"—is a triumphal resurrection song. Among others he wrote also "From the cross uplifted high," which I seem to remember from early days, for it is in neither of our Australian hymnals.

JAMES EDWARD SMITH (1759-1828) adopted the medical profession. But he was also a noted botanist, and was President of the Linnean Society, London, from its foundation to his death—a period of 40 years. It was doubtless in this connection that he received the honor of knighthood. He was the author of that fine lyric, "Praise waits in Zion, Lord, for thee," of which we append the last two stanzas:

"Still may thy children in thy Word
Their common trust and refuge see;
O bind us to each other, Lord,
By one great tie—the love of thee.
"So shall our sun of hope arise,
With brighter still and brighter ray;
Till thou shalt bless our longing eyes
With beams of everlasting day."

THOMAS COTTERILL (1779-1823) was a native of Staffordshire. He ministered for many years as an Anglican clergyman at Sheffield, Yorks, and died there. He is perhaps more noted as a compiler and publisher of hymnals than for his own compositions. He did much towards introducing the works of Watts and Wesley into Anglican churches, as had Newton the Olney Hymns. To him we owe three lyrics in our new song-book: "Jesus, exalted far on high," "In memory of the Saviour's love"—a good Lord's Supper hymn, and in the section relating to Official Appointments—"Vouchsafe, O Lord, thy presence now." To him, too, is due mainly that great advent hymn—difficult for congregational use—"Great God! what do I see and hear."

This author also wrote the well-known lyric (No. 503 in *Psalms and Hymns*), "Lo! round the throne a glorious band," and published it in his *Selection of Hymns* in 1810. It is really, however, an adaptation of an earlier hymn by the famous Rowland Hill. This was curiously cast in dialogue form, one stanza asking a question and the next giving a reply. It began—

- Q. Exalted thus at God's right hand,
Nearer the throne than cherubs stand,
With glory crowned, in white array,
My wondering soul says, Who are they?
- A. These are the saints beloved of God,
Washed are their robes in Jesus' blood,
More spotless than the purest white,
They shine in uncreated light.

This is introduced here because the thought of responsive singing had been on my mind previously. There are hymns that would lend themselves readily to that idea, e.g., "Art thou weary? art thou languid?" and others with refrains, to be mentioned later. Would not such occasional variation from the general practice be both arresting and impressive?

Among less noted hymnists but worthy of mention is JOHN BURTON (1773-1822). He was a Baptist, and a great S.S. worker. The writer of over 40 hymns, he is known chiefly for one—"Holy Bible, book divine." Another lyric claimed for him—"Saviour, while my heart is tender"—is attributed by Julian to JOHN BURTON, Jun. (1803-1877). This author was a

MEMORY HYMN.

S. (1200 ed.)—112. B.—52.

Walk in the light; so shalt thou know
That fellowship of love
His Spirit only can bestow,
Who reigns in light above.

Walk in the light! and thou shalt find
Thy heart made truly his
Who dwells in cloudless light enshrined,
In whom no darkness is.

Walk in the light! and thou shalt own
Thy darkness passed away,
Because that Light hath on thee shone,
In which is perfect day.

Walk in the light, and e'en the tomb
No fearful shade shall wear;
Glory shall chase away its gloom,
For Christ hath conquered there.

Walk in the light—thy path shall be
Peaceful, serene, and bright;
For God, by grace, shall dwell in thee,
And God himself is Light.

—Bernard Barton.

Congregationalist and a popular hymn-writer for children. To him we owe also "O thou that hearest prayer!" RICHARD MANT (1776-1848), a bishop of the English church in Ireland, gave us "Round the Lord in glory seated," based on Isa. 6: 1-3. Of the hymns of JOHN MARRIOTT (1780-1825), the most popular is "Thou whose almighty word," written in 1813, and printed in "The Friendly Visitor."

BERNARD BARTON (1784-1849) was a Quaker poet of some note. His productions won him the friendship of Southey, Lamb and Byron. Chamber's *Encyclopedia* says—"All the poems of Barton are pervaded by pious sentiment, and some passages display much natural tenderness and religious fervor. So early as 1824 a reading club founded by him collected the sum of £1,200 and presented it to him. Some years before his death he received through Sir Robert Peel a pension of £100." We owe to him "Walk in the light! so shalt thou know," and that really fine hymn—"Lamp of our feet, whereby we trace."

ROBERT GRANT (1785-1838) was at one time an M.P., and in 1834 was knighted and appointed Governor of Bombay. He was a younger

brother of Lord Glenelg, Colonial Secretary, after whom the well-known town in South Australia is named, and who after Sir Robert's death in India collected and published his hymns and poems. In our old hymnal are "Saviour, when in dust we lie," and "The starry firmament on high"—an ode on the Bible. In both books, of course, and in almost all English hymnaries, is this writer's best composition—that universally and deservedly popular lyric, "O worship the King."

A notable name in British hymnody is that of THOMAS KELLY (1789-1854). The son of an Irish judge, he studied law, but undergoing a great spiritual change he took "holy orders." However he was too evangelical for the Archbishop of Dublin, and with his friend Rowland Hill was forbidden to preach in that diocese. This led to his association with the Irish Congregationalists, among whom he became an itinerant evangelist, and for whom, being possessed of ample means, he built several churches. His long life began and ended in Dublin. Lord Plunket, an old school fellow, met him one day in later life, and said, "You will live to a great age, Mr. Kelly." "Yes," was his reply, "I am confident I shall, as I expect never to die."

Thomas Kelly composed over 700 hymns, the interval between the first and the last covering a period of some 60 years. Nearly a hundred of them are of a missionary character, including, "Speed thy servants, Saviour, speed them." Our new book contains eight other of this author's lays, among them—"The head that once was crowned with thorns," "In thy name, O Lord, assembling," "When we cannot see our way," and that grand triumphal song, "Look, ye saints! the sight is glorious." In our old book among hymns by the same hand are "We sing the praise of him who died," "See from Zion's sacred mountain," "Through the day thy love hath spared us," and two others some of us will really miss—that very fine hymn of the resurrection, "Come, see the place where Jesus lay," and the pilgrim song, "We've no abiding city here." Thomas Kelly finished his pilgrimage at the advanced age of 85.

J. G. Rotherham comments thus on the foregoing author: "He occupied an intermediate position between the old style of hymn writers and the new era in hymnody. He had in rich measure the lyrical faculty which marks out the true hymn writer, and a selection from his writings may well find a place in our modern psalmody."

Such an array of fine lyrics aforementioned makes the choice of our Memory Hymn somewhat difficult. The one we have settled upon should induce spiritual meditation that should be comforting and elevating. May a multitude of our readers also settle upon it!

Western Australian Conference.

W. Alexander.

The 37th annual conference of churches of Christ in Western Australia was held in Lake-st. chapel, Perth, from March 26 to April 2, there being very large and enthusiastic gatherings at almost every meeting.

At the devotional service on Monday night some evangelists and other members testified to the rich friendship of Jesus they had experienced through service unto him.

Tuesday evening was set aside for the young people. The organisations of the young in the churches carried out a varied programme with great appreciation. Presentations were made of a silver ink-stand to Bro. A. Hutson, who resigned his position as organising secretary of the department owing to his removal to Harvey, and a silver cup to the West Subiaco young men's basket ball team, the winner of the basket ball competition in the B grade, 1933-34. The young men of Subiaco were successful in the A grade of this competition. In his address Bro. Allen Brooke counselled his young hearers to seek some wholesome pleasure, but never to excess, and to honor Christ, the Captain of their salvation.

On Thursday afternoon the preachers' session was held, when Mr. J. Bell, of Church of England, Claremont, spoke on "The Oxford Group Movement."

In the evening foreign missions held attention. A dialogue was given by young people from Fremantle. Bro. H. J. Yelland, chairman of State P.M. committee, reviewed our work in far-off lands, and Bro. A. O. Saunders, B.A., gave an arresting address on "The Christian World View."

BUSINESS SESSION.

At business session commencing on Friday morning, Bro. P. E. Buckingham, conference president, presided. 87 representatives were present from town and country churches, while fraternal greetings came from the conferences in Victoria, Queensland and South Australia, from the College of the Bible, Glen Iris, the Foreign Mission Board in India, the W.A. women's auxiliary conference, and from Bro. W. Wakefield, D. R. Stirling, Chas. Schwab and W. H. Hibbert, New South Wales Conference Executive, per W. J. Crossman, Federal Foreign Mission Board, per G. P. Pittman, Victorian social service department, per W. H. Clay. A hearty welcome was extended to Bro. Allen Brooke and Frank Fewster, who had recently accepted appointments as preachers for the churches at Perth and Cottesloe. Some necessary amendments to the constitution were made before reports received attention.

The executive, in its report, showed a

Special reference was made to the passing of Bro. A. Lucraft and R. W. Ewers, and enlarged framed photographs of these former distinguished executive officers of conference were hung temporarily on the platform rail. Bro. Henry Wright sang "No Burdens Yonder" impressively.

The foreign mission committee's report touched upon the work in China, India, New Hebrides, and amongst the Chinese in Australia. The Chinese church in Perth still continued its witness. Sister Mary Thompson, who has rendered 43 years' excellent service at Harla, India, enjoyed happy fellowship with some 80 members at a luncheon in the Lake-st. hall on Tuesday of conference week. Bro. C. J. Garland had met with success in his task of interesting the youth of the churches in the work



Roy Raymond.

Newly-elected president of W.A. Conference.

—Photo. by courtesy of West Australian Newspapers, Ltd.

of the Dhond hospital, India. Highly appreciative remarks were made about the consecrated service of Bro. A. O. Saunders, who retired from the position of secretary, owing to his leaving for New Zealand in April. The right to make special appeals granted by last year's conference had contributed largely to an increase of £204/0/1 in the committee's finances, the total income being £717/17/8.

The Bible Schools' and Young People's Department reported that 22 schools had competed in the three divisions of the attendance-and-increase campaign, the respective winning schools being Bassendean, Collie and Boulder. There were 36 Endeavor societies and 31 clubs. Young people's camps held in June, 1933, and in February of this year, had also assisted the spiritual life of the youth in our churches.

The home mission committee's report centred round the establishment of tent missions decided on early in the conference year. Bro. P. E. Buckingham's report of his mission work, which had resulted in 141 decisions for Christ and a thankoffering of £151, led to enthusiastic speeches on the great value of tent missions. The committee's decision to continue its evangelistic policy of the past year was agreed to heartily. Bro. W. H. Nightingale, W. D. Lang, C. H. Hunt, T. D. Malden, A. Hutson and A. Ware presented reports on the work in the districts of Armadale, Victoria Park, Claremont, Inglewood, Bunbury, Harvey and Collie. There had been additions to the membership as a re-

sult of missions conducted by Bro. A. G. Saunders and R. Raymond in Victoria Park and Inglewood. A pre-conference home mission offering amounting to £50 was handed to the presiding representatives of various churches.

In the evening of Good Friday the home mission demonstration was held. In recognition of the assistance rendered by the women's auxiliary conference a copy of the scriptures was handed to the retiring president, Mrs. A. G. Saunders. A presentation of God's Word was also made to Bro. F. E. Buckingham for his services as president during the past year. Bro. vices as president during the past year. Bro. Buckingham in his presidential address pointed out that the condition of the world to-day was a call to the church to stand fast by New Testament evangelism. The first century after the birth of the church was characterised by an intense wave of enthusiasm; churches were multiplied and believers added to the Lord by thousands. The subject of Bro. A. N. Hinrichsen's helpful address was "Christianity's Supreme Evidence."

On Saturday morning the report of the church building extension committee was considered. It stated that receipts had increased by £65/19/6, bringing the capital account to £1,464/2/5 and the H. J. Banks memorial fund to £433/18/0. The sum of £350 was lent to the church at Palmyra, with the result that a chapel had been erected there, proving an asset to the cause in the district.

The social service department reported that it had helped several needy cases, and that steps had been taken to oppose the granting of licenses to proposed liquor houses in St. George's Terrace, Perth, Stirling Highway, Nedlands and Inglewood.

The literature department in its report stated that sales of literature had secured £395/13/11, an increase of £20/10/11 on the previous year's work. The resultant discussion emphasised the need for a wise discrimination by some members in their choice of literature bearing on the trend of religious thought. Tributes were paid to the ability and untiring efforts of Bro. D. M. Wilson, the director.

On Saturday evening the Bible Schools' and Young People's department held its demonstration. Silver medals were presented to nine scholars for five years' unbroken attendance, and presentation of shields and seals made to the successful schools and scholars. A number of schools contributed to an "Easter service" programme, the speaker being Bro. T. D. Malden, of Bunbury.

On Lord's day afternoon the conference sermon was preached by Bro. A. N. Hinrichsen, of Kalgoorlie, his subject being "The Plus of Christianity." The preacher showed that Christ was continually desiring the extra service, and exhorted members to travel the second mile, the moving principle of Christianity. A combined choir under the leadership of Bro. C. M. Nelson again rendered much appreciated music.

A successful conference concluded on Easter Monday, when members spent a day of sunshine at the Subiaco Oval. A round of sports was participated in by young and old.

RESOLUTIONS.

The following resolutions were adopted:

That conference receives with sympathy and commends to the brethren the A. R. Main testimonial fund.

That conference confirms its unequivocal antagonism to war, and heartily supports the eight practical proposals outlined by the World Disarmament Movement of 177 Collins-st., Melbourne.

Conference expresses its gratification at the recent enforcement of liquor laws at Kalgoorlie, and trusts that this improvement may be continued, and extended, as is much needed throughout the entire State.

Conference desires to express its prayerful and brotherly interest in the welfare and progress of the students at the College of the Bible, and especially of those from West Australia.

Conference urges our members, especially the speaking brethren, to keep prominent, in public utterance and prayer, our plea for the unity of Christ's people upon the New Testament scriptures and through the restoration of the New Testament church.

That this conference re-affirms its deep and sympathetic interest in the work of the British and Foreign Bible Society, and commends to the churches the general observance of August 26 as Bible Society Sunday.

That this conference again places on record its wholehearted interest and sympathy with the aim and objects of the Band of Hope Union.

That conference expresses appreciation of the efforts being made by the government to enquire into conditions amongst our aborigines; and trusts that the lot of these lowly people may be materially improved.

That conference directs the attention of the incoming executive and home missionary committee to the various references at conference to the need of a State paper, and suggests that the effort referred to in the executive's report be persisted in.

That conference tenders its heartfelt sympathy to Sister J. R. Leach, and to the other

bereaved relatives of our late brother, and commends them to the loving care and comfort of our heavenly Father.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES.

Past president, F. E. Buckingham; president, R. Raymond; vice-president, O. Fieldus; treasurer, W. S. Bown; secretary, C. H. Hunt; assistant secretary, H. J. Yelland.

Home Missionary Committee.—Conference officers (as above) and E. R. Berry, E. F. Black, A. Brooke, C. J. Garland, J. P. Meredith, F. D. Pollard, S. H. Rodier, W. J. Thomson, R. L. Wolfenden.

Foreign Missionary Committee.—A. M. Bell, H. Louey, Mrs. E. E. Nelson, E. E. Nelson, W. H. Nightingale, F. D. Pollard, J. W. B. Robinson, Mrs. H. J. Yelland, H. J. Yelland.

B.S. and Y.P. Committee.—Miss H. Bailey, W. Beck, Miss D. A. Ewers, F. Fewster, C. J. Garland, Miss E. Johnson, R. McLaren, R. Prince, J. K. Robinson, W. Smith, R. Thomson, J. Rhodes.

Literature Department.—Manager, D. M. Wilson; C. J. Garland, C. H. Hunt, Miss T. G. Louey.

Social Service Committee.—E. Bird, R. L. Mansfield, J. F. Meredith, A. C. Olds, J. Pearce, N. Williams.

Church Building Extension Committee.—J. P. Anderson, E. R. Berry, F. E. Buckingham, W. H. White, R. L. Wolfenden, Hy. Wright.

Beautiful bouquets were handed to three aged sisters, Mrs. T. Robinson (87), Mrs. Silvester (89), and Mrs. Davey (85), as a token of sisterly love and appreciation.

In the Dorcas report (Mrs. O. Fieldus) reports were read from Kalgoorlie and Brookton, typical of a larger budget received. Sixteen churches have been engaged in Dorcas and church aid work. Every report told of ceaseless and loving work.

The superintendent of young women's clubs (Mrs. T. Smillie) was absent through illness, and the report was read by Mrs. Lucraft. Reports from the clubs all show that the young women of the churches are working well in the service of Christ.

Bible Schools' and young people's report was read by Mrs. Piper, and gave a wealth of information regarding the splendid work that is being done.

During the afternoon several beautiful solos were rendered by Mesdames L. Cull, F. D. Pollard, A. N. Hinrichsen and Miss Dobbie.

RESOLUTIONS.

The resolutions committee (Mrs. W. J. Thomson) presented the following resolutions, all of which were carried unanimously.

This conference protests against the type and character of films as now shown in our theatres, and draws the attention of those in authority to the low moral and degrading influence of the average talking picture. It further protests against the type of poster and newspaper advertisement used, many of which are suggestive and objectionable in the extreme.

This conference urges all sisters to discourage smoking and drinking by young women, as it considers such actions are not conducive to their own or the future generation's good, either morally or physically.

That Christian women refrain from shopping at grocers who hold license to sell spirituous liquors.

That we deplore the growing tendency of young and old to gamble, and pledge ourselves to do all in our power to discourage it, both by the ballot and our personal influence. Also that we refuse to take part in functions where gambling takes place.

This conference re-affirms its loyalty to the sacred keeping of the Lord's day, and calls every Christian to its solemn observance. It further affirms that the rightful observance of this day will help to bring about that "righteousness which exalteth a nation."

That we continue our loyalty to those in authority over us, and pray that they be given wisdom and power from on high to guide our nation and country into a higher standard of community life.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES.

President, Mrs. J. K. Robinson.

Vice-presidents: Mrs. W. J. Thomson, Mrs. G. Payne, Mrs. A. Lucraft, Mrs. F. E. Buckingham, Mrs. A. Brooke.

Secretary.—Mrs. G. W. Elliott.

Assistant secretary.—Mrs. F. D. Pollard.

Treasurer.—Mrs. W. Beck.

Pianist.—Mrs. D. M. Wilson.

Obituary.—Mrs. P. Jefferies.

Catering committee.—Mrs. R. W. Ewers, Mrs. E. R. Berry, Mrs. H. Louey.

Young women's clubs.—Mrs. Piper.

Isolated superintendent.—Mrs. E. G. Jeffery.

Young People's Department representatives.—Mrs. Piper, Miss H. Bailey.

Foreign mission committee representatives.—Mrs. E. E. Nelson, Mrs. H. J. Yelland.

Social Service Representatives.—Mrs. Foster, Mrs. P. Jefferies.

Nominations committee.—Mrs. Althorpe, Mrs. Pollard, Mrs. Payne, Mrs. Lucraft.

(Continued on page 270.)

W.A. Sisters' Conference.

The 29th annual conference of Western Australian Women's Auxiliary was held at Lake-st. chapel, Perth, on Wednesday, March 28. A large gathering was assembled when the president (Mrs. A. G. Saunders) took the chair at 10 a.m. Mrs. W. J. Thomson conducted a short devotional service. Mrs. J. K. Robinson sang a sweet solo.

Mrs. P. Jefferies presented the obituary report, disclosing the death of 12 sisters during the year. Special mention was also made of the news received that morning of the death of Bro. J. Leach. A letter of condolence is to be sent to Sister Leach and family.

The minutes of previous conference were read by the secretary (Mrs. G. W. Elliott). Several sisters spoke most eulogistically of Sister Elliott's splendid work. In spite of the misfortune of having had her arm broken, she had most faithfully carried out her many duties.

The hospital visitation report, read by Mrs. J. K. Robinson, disclosed a wonderful lot of loving service to the sick and suffering in various institutions. 215 visits were made to Perth hospital. Bands of women had also visited the hospitals at Bunbury, Northam, Kalgoorlie, Harvey, Fremantle and Cottesloe, totalling over 500 visits.

Mrs. Hunt reported that regular monthly visits had been made to the Woolooloo Sanatorium. This work has been carried on for the past 16 years, and each visit entails a long train journey from the city and a very long day's work. An average of 170 patients are comforted each visit. Quarterly visits are conjointly made by sisters from Northam church. Regret was expressed that the superintendent (Mrs. Whitham) had to drop the superintendency owing to ill health.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The afternoon session was opened by a devotional service led by Mrs. C. H. Hunt. 130 sisters were present at roll call from 20 churches throughout the State.

Words of welcome and greetings were given by Mrs. E. G. Jeffery to newcomers and visitors. Suitable responses were made by Mrs. Allen Brooke, Mrs. Hinrichsen, Mrs. Thomas (York), Mrs. Seaby (Brookton), Mrs. Bullock, president Baptist Women's Mission Union, and Mrs.

Thomas, acting secretary, W.C.T.U., brought greetings from their respective organisations. Greetings were read from Mrs. Smillie, Mrs. Sharpe, Mrs. Preston, Mrs. Cosh, Mrs. Stirling, Mrs. Schwab, Mrs. Wakefield, Mrs. Hibbert, Mrs. Fletcher, South Australian Sisters' Conference, New South Wales Sisters' Conference, F. T. Saunders (College of the Bible).

Executive report was read by Mrs. G. W. Elliott. Reference was made to the faithful service of the retiring president (Mrs. A. G. Saunders), and regret was expressed that she was shortly leaving the State. Grateful acknowledgment was made of the loyal help of several sisters who had served in various offices.

The financial statement of the treasurer (Mrs. W. Beck) showed that the total revenue had been £219/0/4. Disbursements included £40/15/- for hospital and sanatorium visitation; foreign missions, £43/17/9; home missions, £29/17/4; College of the Bible, £10. The amount of £40 was also given to the conference fund under the budget for distribution to the various departments.

Home Mission report (Mrs. L. C. Peacock) stated that £12/13/3 had been received by means of mite boxes, 160 of which had been distributed. A most successful tea and rally realised £16/3/3. Several country churches had made special efforts for home missions.

In the foreign missions report (Mrs. J. W. B. Robinson) details of an amazing amount of work done by various bands of women were recorded. Thanks for help given for Indian Christmas box was expressed. The gift of £17 from Maylands sisters for the personal use of Mrs. Waterman was appreciated. Special reference was made to the homecoming of our esteemed Sister Mary Thompson, who had been entertained the previous day as she passed through Perth.

The report of prayer committee, read by Mrs. C. H. Hunt, told of a year of victory through prayer. A special birthday gathering had been held in honor of the aged superintendent (Mrs. T. Robinson) at Subiaco, Sister Robinson, sen., speaking to her report, thanked all for their prayers.

The Home Circle.

Conducted by J. C. F. PITTMAN.

THE POWER WHICH RAISES US.

The verses beneath were written by Robert Burns, the great Scots poet (1759-1796).

Before the mountains heaved their heads
Beneath thy forming hand,
Before this ponderous globe itself
Arose at thy command

That Power which raised and still upholds
This universal frame,
From countless, unbeginning time
Was ever still the same.

Those mighty periods of years,
Which seem to us so vast,
Appear no more before thy sight
Than yesterday that's past.

Thou giv'st the word; thy creature, man,
Is to existence brought;
Again thou say'st, "Ye sons of men,
Return ye into nought!"

Thou lay'st them fast, with all their cares,
In everlasting sleep;
As with a flood thou tak'st them off
With overwhelming sweep.

They flourish like the morning flower,
In beauty's pride arrayed;
But long ere night cut down it lies
All withered and decayed.

AWKWARD MOMENTS IN THE PULPIT.

In most cases, fortunately, the conduct of Christian worship passes off without anything unusual, from the point of view of the preacher, taking place; but sometimes there occurs an awkward moment, and probably every minister has at least one such incident stored up in his memory. I recall one which took place in the early days of my preaching experience, before I entered college.

I was preaching one Sunday evening at a little country church in South Wales, and during the singing of the hymn before the sermon my nose began to bleed profusely. I took out my handkerchief and very feverishly tried to stop the bleeding, but without success. During the singing of the last verse I was reduced to a state of desperation, but when the hymn was over I had regained sufficient presence of mind to tell the congregation my difficulty, but could not make any suggestion as to what should be done. Then a deacon, who was sitting in the "big pew" (as the Welsh churches call the seats on the communion platform), rose to his feet and asked the people to sing the hymn over again; and fortunately by the time the second singing of the hymn was over the bleeding nose had begun to behave itself. But I preached the sermon with the fear that the trouble might recur before I had done. I was very glad when the service was over.

I do not read my sermons. I tried to read one once, but something happened which effectively cured me—for which I am devoutly thankful. It was on a Sunday morning during my first pastorate. The sermon was on "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom," but I had not been reading more than a few minutes when the manuscript suddenly glided from the pulpit desk on to the floor. As I swiftly stooped down to pick it up I could feel the blood rush to my face, but my consternation was much greater when I realised that the sheets of written sermon were all out of order. How I finished that sermon I do not know; but I still have the manuscript, and when I look at it—as I sometimes do—I can faintly recover the actual sen-

sations of that morning when I very nearly came to a complete preaching breakdown.

Another rather amusing incident, which might have upset some sensitive souls, occurred in my last church at Shepherd's Bush. It was customary for the Junior Christian Endeavor to supply the minister with a buttonhole to be worn in the pulpit; and attached to the flower there was always a text of Scripture giving an encouraging message for the day. I myself never wore the buttonhole, and sometimes I did not even notice it until half-way through the service. On the occasion to which I refer, I picked up the flower during the hymn before the sermon, and to my amazement I read, as the day's message, the words, "Arise ye and depart, for this is not your rest." As I had been at the church only a few months, I regarded the message as peculiarly inappropriate. But fortunately I have a sense of humor, and so could see the funny side of the incident; but in the vestry after the service I pretended to be a bit cross about it, though the pretence lasted only for a moment, for as soon as I read out the text all the deacons were convulsed with laughter. The only person who was really upset about the incident was the young lady who was responsible for putting the flower-cum-text in the pulpit. She came to me afterwards full of apologies; but though I tried to make her see that I regarded the whole matter in a humorous light, I am afraid that her thoughtless choice of the message worried her for a week or two afterwards.

Once when Henry Ward Beecher was speaking at a conference for ministers, he was asked: "Do you ever get into difficulties when you are preaching?" "Oh, yes," replied Beecher, "I often lose my way, but I never lose my head, I just shout for all I am worth." Then, with a twinkle in his eye, he added: "And next morning the newspapers in reporting the sermon interpolate the comment: 'Just here Dr. Beecher waxed eloquent.' I cannot remember ever really losing my way in the sermon; perhaps that is why I have never been known to shout in the pulpit!" —Dr. John Pitts, M.A.

ENCOURAGEMENT.

There is no mountain steep we hope to climb
But some day we will reach its heights sublime.
There is no task too difficult to hand,
But one day we will see and understand.

Let us keep working while the day is here,
Trials and hardships soon will disappear!
God never set a task we could not do,
Forget the feeble past, and start anew!

—Cecil Noel.

MEMORY AT FAULT.

Two Scots went to a friend's house on a certain special occasion and were hospitably entertained. So hospitably, in fact, that on their way back one of them sat down by the side of the road and began to weep.

"I canna remember the bride's face," he wailed. "I canna remember the bride's bonnie wee face!"

"Hold your tongue, ye fool," growled the other; "it was a funeral!"

"Mither, can I hae sixpence to gang to the pictures?"

"No, ye canna; ye can hae a bit gorgonzola cheese for supper, an' that'll gie ye the nightmare, which is just as excitin' as ony picture."

The Family Altar.

J.C.F.P.

Monday:

By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.—John 13: 35.

Love is the Christian's distinguishing badge. In early days pagans exclaimed, witnessing the affection for each other of the followers of Christ, "See how these Christians love one another!" Unfortunately the scene has changed, and many professing Christians to-day distinguish themselves by anything else than love for their brethren in Christ. We should ever strive to cultivate such kindly consideration for each other, and even for those who know not Christ, that all men will note upon us the Christian's distinguishing badge.

Reading—John 13: 13-35.

Tuesday:

This is my commandment, that ye love one another, even as I have loved you.—John 15: 12. Never before had any class of people been distinguished from others by the badge of love. In this sense a new commandment was given. Disciples are instructed not only to love one another, but to love even as Christ loved them.

Reading—John 15: 8-17.

Wednesday:

If ye bite and devour one another, take care that ye be not consumed one of another.—Gal. 5: 15.

Probably the reference is to strifes likely to arise between Jewish and Gentile converts. No-thing is more calculated to destroy the spiritual-ity of a church than a spirit of contention. Let love prevail, no difference of views will be allowed to interfere with the spirit of brotherliness and harmony.

Reading—Galatians 5: 14-23.

Thursday:

Let us consider one another to provoke unto love and good works.—Heb. 10: 24.

Quite another kind of provoking is all too common. The word here used is "equivalent to stimulate." It is our business not only to love and work, but to encourage others to cultivate this grace and engage in like service.

Reading—Hebrews 10: 19-27.

Friday:

Forget not to show love unto strangers; for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.—Heb. 13: 2.

Love must be shown not only towards those brethren with whom we usually have fellowship and co-operate in service, but also unto brethren from other places. In showing love unto strangers, some, like Abraham and Lot have entertained angels unawares.

Reading—Hebrews 13: 1-9.

Saturday:

Howbeit if ye fulfil the royal law, according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself, ye do well; but if ye have respect of persons, ye commit sin.—James 2: 8, 9.

Partiality is sometimes shown even by those who profess to fulfil the royal law. Respect is paid to the rich, whilst the poor are despised; wrong-doing on the part of the former is condoned, whilst the latter are refused common justice. Such conduct is sinful.

Reading—James 2: 1-10.

Sunday:

In love of the brethren be tenderly affectioned one to another; in honor preferring one another.—Rom. 12: 10.

Worldlings seek to obtain honor; baptised worldlings usually have a similar objective; but true disciples of Christ seek to confer honor upon others. They are quite willing to occupy lowly positions, if need be, and rejoice rather than complain when their brethren are exalted to higher posts of duty and honor.

Readings—2 Samuel 1: 17-27; Romans 12.

Prayer Meeting Topic.

May 2.

THE RELIGION FOR TO-DAY.
(John 6: 80-71.)

H. J. Patterson, M.A.

"The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life" (John 6: 63). H. G. Wells said, "Religion is the first thing and the last thing, and until a man has found God and been found by God he begins at no beginning, he works to no end. He may have his friendships, his partial loyalties, his scraps of honor. But all these things fall into place only with God." Our religion is professedly Christian, but is it making the necessary appeal to people to-day? Are we really practising it to the exclusion of trivialities and trifling pleasures? Real religion is not found in mere rites and ceremony. The words of Christ, if received by us, mean "spirit and life." The religion for to-day should be—

1. Positive.

Jesus Christ taught a positive way of life. The law had dealt with negations, and some Christians seem to think they are still under law, for to them goodness is measured by the extent to which they refrain from evil doing. The Christian reward is not for the not doing of evil but for the doing of positively good actions though they be but the giving of a cup of cold water to a thirsty soul or the speaking of a kindly sympathetic word. And the reward is not only hereafter but here in the development of Christian character and personality. Jesus' life was attractive because it was the expression of his own sermon on the mount.

2. Practical.

A Christianity intent on saving itself on luxurious cushions or by means of carpeted floors and selfish spending without any consideration of the needs of others will not impress the present age. Not armchair philosophy but right-arm endeavor is the need, and that applied in all the relations of life, domestic, social or industrial. The question is, Does our religion sweeten temper and refine our manners, and does it develop character and personality?

3. Provoking.

Is it provoking in the sense of challenging? Does it stir others? Was there any real change in the life when we professed discipleship? Or do we still need conversion as a vital experience in the life? Did our confession of faith and baptism signify anything to the world? We ought to show the world just where we stand. We should be inciting others to love and good works. That would be evidence of the presence of the word of God in our hearts. The church ought to be leading to-day in the attempt to make things right—to rid the world of war, to feed the hungry, to clothe the needy; in short, to bring in the kingdom of God.

4. Not Parochial.

If there is one thing more than another retarding and hindering the progress of Christianity to-day, it is that spirit of intense denominationalism, and may one add exclusive congregationalism. We are so interested in our own church rather than in the church of the Lord Jesus Christ that we tend to plan on too small a scale. We lack vision. Our work is a tremendous one, and we should almost despair of its accomplishment were it not that we are able to draw upon a divine power. If we believe in the mission of Jesus, and that he had the words of eternal life, we shall not be mean in thought or action, but brave and strong as he was. In us his words will be "spirit" and "life."

TOPIC FOR MAY 9.—JACOB AT BETHEL.
—Genesis 28: 10-22.

Our Young People.

Conducted by WM. GALE.

Bendigo Makes Provision for Youth Work.

The church at Bendigo, Vic., is to be congratulated upon its latest building enterprise—the erection of a fine school hall. This new structure was opened by the Mayor of Bendigo, Cr. G. Bennetts, on April 14. It is built across the end of the church building, the doors on the platform opening into it on the same level. It has a seating capacity of over 200. The vestries have been re-erected at the rear of the school hall and will be used as a kinder room.

We may expect our Bendigo Bible School and youth activities to make rapid progress now that they have a building of their own. Whilst it may be possible, with only the chapel to meet in, to achieve a certain measure of success with youth work on the Lord's day, it is very difficult to conduct the necessary varied meetings through the week in a chapel with costly carpets, leadlight windows, and expensive seats and platform appointments. The church certainly has prospered, but its youth leaders have felt very sorely hampered; in fact, some very necessary features of youth work, especially amongst the boys, have not been attempted, waiting for the day when they could move out of the chapel for their week-night activities.

As the picture on this page shows, Bendigo church now has a property of which it has reason to be proud. As early as 1866, a small company of five began to meet in the Temperance Hall. Three years later their number had grown to 50, and on August 21, 1872, the church was formally constituted, with Mr. P. Illingworth as their first preacher. The present church building was opened on December 4, 1926. Mr. A. E. Streader is the secretary, a position which he has held for the past 18 years. Mr. A. E. Hurren commenced his ministry with the church in November, 1927. He is also superintendent of the school. Mr. D. A. Kenley is secretary of the school, and Mr. E. E. Duns is assistant superintendent.

It was a great privilege to be associated with our splendid Bendigo brethren in their happy opening celebrations. Mr. A. E. Hurren is held in very high esteem in the golden city; he con-

ducted the meetings in an able and dignified manner. The Federal Bible School Committee extends its congratulations to Bendigo church and school.—W.G.

ROTARIANS HOLD YOUTH WEEK.

The rotarians are celebrating youth week from April 28 to May 5. They will visit schools and in many ways will seek to call upon the community to remember its service to youth. The theme for this year is a very appropriate one—"The Golden Rule." This week immediately precedes the annual offering in our churches for the Young People's Department, and coincides with the special youth campaign in the churches. We congratulate our friends the rotarians upon this excellent campaign for youth, and upon their selection of the theme which is central in the teachings of Jesus the Christ.

VIC. Y.W.L. TEA TABLE CONFERENCE.

On Saturday, April 28, at 6 p.m., in the Swanston-st. lecture hall, a tea table conference of young worshippers' leagues will be held. Mr. K. A. Jones, chairman of the Federal Bible School committee, will speak; Mr. D. D. Stewart will preside. Superintendents, sectional leaders and all interested are cordially invited. Basket tea. Plans and arrangements for the Centenary tournament will be discussed. Country leagues are invited to send greetings.

GODLY TALKING.

We Christian people too often only talk about God to our children when we open our Bible. We ought to talk about God to our children as we speak of ourselves in the past, when we speak of the happenings of the day, when we talk over the very problems by which we are confronted in national and personal life. If there were more Godly talking, there would be more Godly doing.—Dr. Campbell Morgan.



Bendigo chapel, showing one end of the new school hall which has been erected at the rear of chapel.

Here and There.

We are indebted to Bro. C. H. Hunt for the report of W.A. sisters' conference.

Bro. W. J. Crossman is planned to commence a mission with the church at North Parramatta, N.S.W., as from May 20.

By telegram from Toowoomba, Qld., we learn that at an Anzac service on April 22, conducted by E. C. Hinrichsen, a married man decided for Christ.

The following telegram from Bundaberg, Qld., reached us on Tuesday morning:—"Davis mission great day Sunday; crowded meetings; two welcomed; three baptisms, seven decisions.—Stirling."

Victorian women's conference executive will meet in the hall, Swanston-st., on Friday, May 4, promptly at 2.30 p.m. Devotions will be led by Mrs. F. Youens. Delegates are asked to attend; all women cordially invited.

Attendances at the tent mission conducted by Bro. Hagger and Manger at Bordertown, S.A., have increased. Bro. Hagger proclaims the word kindly and convincingly. On April 22, after a powerful address to over 300 people, five decided for Christ.

Bro. A. G. Saunders, B.A., contributes his closing News-letter to this issue. We are much indebted to those who have assisted us by sending monthly letters. Many readers have expressed appreciation. Bro. Saunders is shortly to take up a new work in Wellington, N.Z.

Anzac Day will doubtless interfere with the sending forward of mails this week. We wish to notify our agents that the publishers were arranging to post all "Christians" at G.P.O., Melbourne, on Tuesday night of this week. This is almost a day ahead of the usual time. We make the explanation so that nobody will think that for any delays the publishers may rightly be blamed.

The Victorian Churches of Christ cricket association has completed its season, the premiership being won by Hawthorn after having been runners-up for the last two seasons, and the club will hold the McMaster memorial shield for this year. The B grade was won by St. Kilda from Collingwood by a small margin of runs. Presentation of trophies will take place in Hawthorn school hall, Oxley-rd., on Saturday, May 5, at 8 p.m., at a social held in honor of Hawthorn winning the premiership by defeating Prahran club.

The Australian Student Christian Movement (together with the Student Christian Movements of New Zealand and South Africa) is observing Sunday, May 6, as a special day of prayer for the students of the world—of all professions and of all nationalities; for the work of the World's Student Christian Federation and its constituent movements; and, in particular, for its own work in the universities, colleges and schools of Australia. The movement seeks the active co-operation of all Christian congregations in the observance of this day.

The mission conducted by Bro. K. A. Macnaughtan at Mile End, S.A., terminated on April 19. After the final meeting Bro. B. N. Rodda spoke of the splendid service rendered by the visitor and his wife, and on behalf of the church presented Bro. Macnaughtan with a copy of the Scriptures (Scofield version). The effort closed with twenty-three confessions, and has inspired the church for greater service. Six were welcomed into fellowship on April 22, and at the conclusion of Bro. Manning's address at night two young people confessed Christ.

Mr. and Mrs. Davis, from India, were in Melbourne on Monday. With Mr. and Mrs. Lyall they paid a happy visit to the College. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have been on a tour in the "Strathaird," and are returning to India by this vessel.

During April the value of our youth work is being emphasised in many of the churches. The support of all members is earnestly sought by our Bible Schools and Young People's Departments. A worthy offering is requested for May 6.

Bright and well-attended meetings were held in the second week of the "youth crusade" at Hindmarsh, S.A. Bro. Graham delivered inspirational and helpful addresses at all services. On April 16, at a C.E. night, Endeavorers from

JUST ONE BOOK.

When Sir Walter Scott was dying, he asked Lockhart to read to him. "What book?" asked Lockhart. "What book?" cried Sir Walter. "There is but one Book—the Bible."

There's just one Book!" cried the dying sage:

"Read me the old, old story."

And the winged words that can never age

Wafted him home to glory.

There's just one Book.

There's just one Book for the tender years—

One Book alone for guiding

The little feet through the joys and fears

That unknown days are hiding.

There's just one Book.

There's just one Book for the bridal hour,

One Book of Love's own coining;

Its truths alone lend beauty and power

To vows that lives are joining.

There's just one Book.

There's just one Book for life's gladness,

One Book for the toilsome days;

One Book that can cure life's madness:

One Book that can voice life's praise.

There's just one Book.

There's just one Book for the dying,

One Book for the starting tears,

And one for the soul that's flying

Home for the measureless years.

There's just one Book.

—Anonymous. From "The Best Loved Religious Poems."

city and suburban societies were present. On April 17, nine young people who made the good confession during the mission were immersed. On Tuesday and Thursday evenings Queenstown and the Clericus male choirs rendered special music. On the morning of April 22, those who had been baptised during the week were welcomed into fellowship, and Bro. Graham took as his subject, "The Church Triumphant." Anzac service was held in the evening; Bro. Graham addressed a large congregation on "The Spirit of Anzac," and Miss Elsie Doley, of Croydon, was soloist.

Sister Florence Cameron was farewelled by the women's guild at Maylands, S.A., on April 12. Many of the sister churches were represented. The president of the ladies' guild, Mrs. Read, presided. Among those present was Miss Mary Thompson, from India. Mrs. Russell, president of sisters' auxiliary conference, spoke words of farewell on behalf of the women of the churches. Mrs. Ross Henning, of Queensland, sang, and Miss Brittain rendered a pianoforte solo. Miss Cameron, in responding, gave a splendid message. Afternoon tea was served. On April 18 a church and general farewell was extended by

Maylands church together with the Federal and State F.M. committees. Bro. Fitzgerald presided, and the following took part: Mrs. Russell (women's conference), Mrs. Fitzgerald and Mrs. Read (Maylands women), Bro. W. Morrow (Federal), H. Manning (State), G. T. Walden, G. P. Pittman, A. Jenner and A. L. Read. The choir rendered selections. Flowers were sent and gifts were made to Sister Cameron, who responded by an illuminating and beautiful address on "God's Happiness for the World." Refreshments were served. Sister Cameron sailed for India, via Western Australia for a visit, on April 26, by the R.M.S. "Strathaird."

Anzac Day, a day of proud memories, mingled with sadness, has again been celebrated. On Sunday last references to the historic day and its lessons were made in many churches, while for yesterday special services were arranged in for yesterday district. The day is not an occasion for the glorification of war. Rather, we think of its frightful cost and horrors. We honor the memories of those who gave their lives in defence of right and liberty. There are great companies of our people to whom Anzac Day brings very sorrowful memories. Those who still mourn the loss of loved ones, and those men who still bear in their bodies the dreadful marks of the ravages of war, have been remembered in our prayers during the past few days. Doubtless Christians prayed also for the passing of war and the blessings of a permanent peace.

COMING EVENTS.

APRIL 29 and MAY 6.—Moreland Church of Christ Bible School Anniversary. April 29, 11, speaker, Bro. Cecil Watson; 3, Bro. J. E. Thomas; 7, Bro. R. Arnold. May 6, 11, Bro. R. Arnold; 3, Bro. R. Arnold; 7, Mr. Book (original "Billy Bunny").

MAY 6.—Footscray Church Anniversary (56th). 11 a.m., roll-call of members; gratitude gift. 3 p.m., pleasant Sunday afternoon; speaker, Bro. A. W. Connor. 7 p.m., Bro. D. D. Stewart. Have fellowship at Footscray on this day. Former members especially invited.

MAY 6.—Coburg Church Anniversary and Home-coming Day. All old members come for the day. Hospitality provided. Bro. W. H. Clay speaker morning and evening. J.C.E. reunion 10 a.m.

MAY 6.—South Richmond Church Anniversary. Speakers, 11 a.m., Mr. R. T. Pittman, B.A. Dip. Ed.; 7 p.m., Mr. L. Dudley. Wednesday, May 9, 8 p.m., anniversary social. All past members and others interested invited.

MAY 6 and 13.—Blackburn Bible School Anniversary Services, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. on each date.

MAY 6 and 13.—Essendon Sunday School Anniversary, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. on each date. Special speakers. Old Essendon members specially invited.

MAY 11.—Jumble Sale in Burnley chapel, Friday afternoon, May 11. Churches and members are invited to send any saleable material to Social Service Depot, 313 Flinders-lane, or by rail, addressed to Churches of Christ Mission, Flinders-st.—Will. H. Clay, Secretary.

MAY 13.—A series of special evangelistic meetings, Middle Park church, cor. Mills and Richardson-sts. Special speakers each night. Community singing under leadership of Bro. L. E. Brooker, commencing at 8 p.m. on week nights. Prayers and co-operation of sister churches solicited.

MAY 20.—Back to Ascot Vale. Services 11 a.m., 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Speakers, Bro. H. J. Peterson, T. H. Scambler and J. C. F. Pittman. Dinner and tea provided for visitors. Past members are asked to accept this as a personal invitation, and to write to A. P. A. Burden, secretary, 41 Winchester-st., Moonee Ponds, W.A. if able to come. Please do so by May 8 if possible. Greetings from any unable to be present will be appreciated.

News of the Churches.

Western Australian News-letter. A. G. Saunders, B.A.

The writing of these news-letters from the West has been both a privilege and a pleasure. The time has now come for me to relinquish the duty to another. Bro. Main tells me the chosen one is Bro. J. K. Robinson. Bro. Robinson is the successful preacher of North Perth church. He has completed six years in that pastorate, and has accepted an engagement for a further two years. He comes from a sterling Christian home, his parents being Bro. and Sister J. W. B. Robinson, two foreign missionary enthusiasts. He is known to the W.A. brotherhood as "Keith." He is a Glen Iris man and a most decidedly satisfactory sample of the product of that fine institution. He gave up a prospective professional career, where he could have done well for himself, to train for the ministry of the Word. He has just completed a term of splendid service as secretary of the Bible Schools and Young People's Committee, and is likely to lead that department to still greater achievements. He is sure to be one of our strong men. In his early thirties he is respected by the whole W.A. brotherhood. I predict that he will make this letter much more worth while. His wife is a worthy helpmeet, and has been honored by the sisters, in their recent conference, with the office of president.

It is reported that Bro. Fewster has made a great start at Cottesloe. Straight preaching; full house; three decisions.

Publicity.

This is being written on Easter Monday morning. Conference is over. As it will be reported elsewhere, this letter will say nothing of it except that it was well attended and happily conducted. But this morning's paper gives generous space to us as a people. Saturday's paper told us more of the Melbourne conference than our own, by giving a quotation from Bro. Clay's conference address on disunity in the foreign field. Especially pleasing in to-day's paper is nearly a column given to Miss Mary Thompson and her travelling companions, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Davis, of Jubulpore. All three of them long service missionaries, they could not help making a fine impression.

Miss Mary Thompson.

We were all grieved to witness Miss Thompson's weakness upon reaching our shores. But her sweet and gentle spirit triumphed amidst her sickness. It was a benediction just to have her present, when 80 sat down in Lake-st. hall for lunch. Bro. and Sister Davis also charmed us all. They said they liked us, and we certainly took to them. They told us they had never seen anything lovelier than the views along the Swan River. Of course, they were chosen views. But even so, the views were there to be chosen! Our brother and sister had not seen that wonderful harbor round on the east coast, with its mighty bridge for a coronet. At the same time, the Swan is surely such a thing of beauty as to be a joy for ever. Our visitors seemed delighted also with their first example of Australian hospitality and brotherliness.

Hospitality.

Speaking of hospitality, have we lapsed from former practices in this respect? Some things connected with the conference just ended suggest the query. My attention was drawn to a

case where a brother who had come some distance in the country and who has lost a lot of time lately from work, had to engage a room in a hostel, and ran out of money. In the midst of packing and associated horrors, we had a brother in our home whose presence was a benediction. One brother, his wife and children, were accommodated in a hostel, their room and breakfast being paid for by the executive. But even this arrangement left them with expenses of about £2/12/6. And this, after paying railway fares on a long journey. Of course there is another side to it. I know of a case, at a recent conference, wherein hospitality was shockingly abused. And it must not be overlooked that many brethren arranged with visiting friends to stay with them. Even so, the brethren in charge of conference might perhaps keep an alert eye lest some humble and worthy visitor be neglected in this respect.

One of the impressive things at conference was the presence of tried brethren of noble character, humbly and eagerly listening, rejoicing in what others claimed for the Master, and never saying a word themselves.

And now, Good-bye.

Western Australia.

Victoria Park.—One spore has been added to the church since last report. At the annual business meeting reports revealed a net increase of 60 members for the year. Bro. L. Lingwood was appointed treasurer of the church.

Perth (Lake-st.)—Bro. Allen Brooke has quickly won his way into the hearts of the brethren. A girl from the Sunday School (Nathalie Thomas) made the confession on April 1, and was baptised on 8th. On April 4 a very happy time was spent by older members at the home of Sister Mrs. Semkens. The kindergarten classes of the Sunday School had their annual picnic in King's Park on April 7. It passed off very successfully.

Basenodean.—The men held a bee, when various jobs were done at the chapel and at the preacher's home, where the ladies also helped. On April 8 Bro. Smyth upliftingly exhorted; Bro. and Sister McClaren were welcomed by transfer. In the evening Bro. Peacock gave a fine address. On April 10 the deacons and wives met the new preacher, Bro. Hugh Gray, and his wife, who have come from S.A., at the home of Bro. Peacock, who made it possible for Bro. Gray to come by preaching for four months gratis. The church thanks him for his work. The deacons made Bro. Peacock and his wife a presentation. On April 11 a welcome social was held for Bro. and Sister Gray, which was a State welcome as well. On April 15 Bro. Gray spoke at both services, delivering excellent messages to large gatherings.

Fremantle.—On April 12 an important and pleasing function was conducted, when Bro. I. W. Potter, secretary, presented to Bro. Sam. Thomson, on behalf of the church, an inscribed gold watch and chain as a mark of esteem and appreciation of his many years as deacon and secretary, offices he has recently vacated. Others voicing appreciation of Bro. Thomson's work and influence were the evangelist and conference president (Bro. H. Raymond), who presided; Bro. O. Fieldus, vice-president, on behalf of the brotherhood; Bro. S. Taylor, for Fremantle church; the mayor of Fremantle, Mr. F. E. Gibson; Mr. Lea Holt, secretary Fremantle Business Men's Association; Bro. C. A. G. Payne, for former members; Bro. W. Bridgick, for the young people; Bro. Read, for Palmyra church.

Commencing on April 15, the Endeavor society is conducting a week's evangelistic mission, with Bro. J. K. Robinson, of North Perth, as missionary. Mrs. Mudge is visiting from Victoria, recuperating after illness.

Tasmania.

Invermay.—The evangelistic meetings held in the tent by Bro. H. G. Harward continue to be well attended. Six who recently made the good confession were received into membership on April 15. Bro. Harward's addresses prove helpful and inspiring; many are given with charts.

Devonport.—There is a good spirit in all meetings. Bro. A. A. Hughes greatly delighted the church by his messages on India. On April 15 Bro. Waters spoke in the morning on "God's Call," and at gospel meeting on "Knowing Christ." On April 19 Y.P.S.C.E. held a successful rally. Bro. H. Street, of Mole Creek, spoke from Phil. 3. Sister Cope and Bro. Stanford sang. Supper was served.

South Australia.

Queenstown.—On April 22 Bro. Brooker exhorted the church and preached the gospel. On April 18 the sunshine club held a special evening, when representatives from St. John's Ambulance Brigade gave lectures. A very enjoyable evening was spent.

Williamstown.—On April 1 Bro. Arnold, from Moreland, Vic., gave an appreciated discourse to a fair congregation. Sister Townsend sang a solo. Bro. Miles is preaching faithfully to fair congregations. Sister Vinall, who has been ill in hospital, is home again.

Semaphore.—April 22, good services. Bro. Boller spoke in the morning on "A Cure for the Blues," conducted a flower service at Estcourt House in the afternoon, and preached on "A Great Leader Who was a Deliverer" at night, when one young lady confessed Christ. Choir and male quartette sang beautifully.

Nailsworth.—Meetings are well attended. One has been added by faith and baptism. On April 19 Bro. Graham McKie, junior, who is going to India as a missionary, was tendered a farewell evening, there being about 200 present. He was presented with a beautiful Scofield Bible. On April 15 and 22 Sunday School anniversary services were well attended, and a great success. Mid-week prayer meeting had 55 present.

Cheltenham.—Visitors from Stirling and Aldgate Valley churches were entertained on Apr. 21. A cricket match was held in the afternoon, tea was provided, and a social evening was held. A time of happy fellowship was experienced. On April 22 Bro. Lampshire exhorted the church. A sister was received into fellowship. At gospel service Bro. Lampshire's message was "What's in a Name?"

Adelaide (Grote-st.)—April 15, good meetings. Bro. F. T. Saunders spoke in the morning. Large gathering at night, when Bro. Schwab spoke on "God's Garden," at an "autumn" service. On April 18 the half-yearly business meeting was held. Reports showed the church to be in a healthy condition with all auxiliaries, and a good programme of winter's work was outlined. April 22, good services. Bro. Schwab speaking, his evening subject being "Divine Handwriting."

Mt. Compass.—Bible School anniversary services were held on April 1 and 2. Bro. Wilson, of Strathalbyn, addressed all meetings, his messages being greatly appreciated. The school now has over 90 scholars and teachers on the roll, and the work goes steadily on. Bro. E. W. Pittman conducted the singing. On afternoon of April 2, the annual Bible School tea was held, followed by a public meeting. All classes in the school gave items, about 20 of the officers and young men rendering a chorus in unison. Bro. Wilson was the speaker. The anniversary was one of the most successful yet held.

(Continued on page 268.)

Foreign Missions.

Conducted by G. Percy Pittman.

CABLE TO A. ANDERSON.

A cable has been sent to Bro. Anderson instructing him to bring Mrs. Anderson home to Australia immediately if her health necessitates it. The future of the work in West China is receiving the earnest and prayerful attention of the Board, in conjunction with the States' committees. Up to date of going to press no further word has been received regarding Bro. Anderson's correspondence with the Chinese Home Mission Society.

FUND FOR MRS. WATERMAN.

On September 8, 1933, the Federal Board decided that a fund should be inaugurated for the assistance of Mrs. Waterman and her children, and that the sisters' conferences of the States should be asked to undertake the raising of the fund. The women's mission band of Victoria has taken the matter in hand, and has prepared plans for the launching of the appeal among the sisters. It is their intention to consult the sisters' executives of the various States as to the manner in which the fund shall be used. We heartily commend this effort to the sisters throughout the Commonwealth. No more worthy object has ever come before us, and no words of ours are necessary to emphasise it. Bro. Waterman gave all that he had, and then gave his life, for others. It is our duty and privilege to see that his widow and orphaned children are provided for. We are confident that the appeal will meet with a ready and generous response among the sisters everywhere.

BIBLE-WOMEN'S FUND.

Mrs. R. Oliver forwards a cheque for £48/10/- for this fund. She has exceeded last year's effort by £7/10/-, and says her aim is £50 a year or more. We venture to prophesy that she will reach it next year. Mrs. Oliver is proving a worthy successor to that devoted friend of the Bible-women, her mother Mrs. Zelius.

THOS. ESCOTT'S WORK AT SHRIGONDA.

Bro. Escott writes on March 12, "Our work this year has been of a quiet and solid nature, and in many respects has been most encouraging. There is a greater spirit of enquiry abroad, with increasing interest in the Word of God. We are changing our method of working the distant villages this year. Our touring is generally done during the cool season, but unfortunately at that period of the year it is difficult to reach many of the people as they are engaged in the field work. We plan to work the villages at night, when all the people are at home and the field work is over, and they are free to listen. They will sit and listen to the hymns and preaching till midnight and longer. We will have a lantern to show pictures of the life of Christ, which will still further interest them.

"Dourga is very much the same. I have not been able to give it the time and attention I would have liked to, owing to so many other calls in other directions. We endeavored as far as possible to keep to our time table as regards visits there. What it wants really is a good live man out and out for God to be permanently stationed there.

"Kashli is still kept in touch with by occasional visits. I hope the time is not far distant when we shall be able to reopen such stations as Kashli and Pargson.

"We are expecting our Australian visitors this

afternoon; they have come when most of the missionaries are away to the hills. Their time being limited, they will not be able to see much of the work. It is a pity after coming so far not to see it in the every-day working. At present the dispensary work keeps me fairly busy with an increase of patients, it being practically self-supporting."

Bro. Escott's faithful evangelistic and medical work among the villages in Shrigonda district goes on regularly day after day. We are pleased to notice that the dispensary work is not an expense to the mission. Let us pray for a blessing on the preaching of the Word in that great and needy district.

MISS THOMPSON'S THANKS.

Miss Mary Thompson writes, "I would like to thank the brethren in Western Australia and Adelaide for the very hearty welcome they gave to Mr. and Mrs. Davis and myself on our arrival, and to assure them we appreciated their kindness. Words fail me to tell how much we enjoyed meeting some of the old friends, and the letters received from some who were unable to be present." Miss Thompson is at present resting at the home of her sister, Mrs. Black, of Prospect. She has seen a doctor, and he has ordered complete rest for the present. Let us pray for her complete recovery.

MRS. WATERMAN.

From a letter of Mrs. Waterman on January 21, we cull the following: "This afternoon I was feeling lonely, and I thought to look out of the window across at Willie's grave. It is built of white stones and so can be easily seen, though it is about half a mile away on the hillside. The city wall is about 50 yards from the window, and as I looked out I saw a crowd of men, women and children rushing up the slope and looking over the top. I hadn't long to wonder what the crowd was about; I heard screams of human anguish and then seven shots—four men, supposed robbers, were killed. Their bodies have been carted off to the hills a little way out, and now this evening I hear the wolves. No one dare bury their dead for fear of suspicion. Often the poor fellows are not deserving of punishment, let alone death. The injustice and cruelty here fills me with horror and pity. God knows how my own heart aches over loneliness and sorrow, but what must it be for these poor souls?"

TRUBLED CHINA.

"The communists seem to have had severe checks up north, and a threatened danger seems passed for the present. At one time it appeared as if they would progress through the province. Wherever the communists came the folk marched out before them. We even had word from the British consul to this effect. He said that if the communists came there was nothing that he could do but get out. He advised not to leave it till too late, but make an early run for it. This danger seems past, that is if it ever existed for us, in this more far away part. It certainly was something more real in the northern parts.

"Our military here have had a set back. There seems to be a move to bring them more under control. Instead of their being allowed to hold offices with high-sounding names and only having man about one-third strength to maintain the office, all the officials here have been reduced in rank, so that no person holds rank higher than general. Many have lost office altogether, and lots of the army will be drafted to other parts. No one will be sorry to see them go, for the more there are the more the folk will have to feed.

"Costs are frightful since they came, and no sign of improvement. Living costs have more than doubled during the past six months, and have increased threefold during the past three years, and still the squeeze goes on. Ordinary things like salt and meat have to pass two or three offices to be taxed before being finally allowed on the street for sale. Little fortunes are being made by the different taxes on opium, yet even the poorest seem to be able to have their smoke. Evil grows apace, and with it the accompanying indifference."

The above is from a letter written by A. Anderson on February 6, and gives a glimpse of the troubled conditions prevailing in China at the present time. Let us pray that peace may be restored, and that the hindrances to the spread of the gospel may be removed.



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Queensland Women's Auxiliary Conference.

The Queensland women's twenty-first annual conference was held in Ann-st. chapel on Thursday, March 29. Morning and afternoon devotional sessions were led by Mrs. Dack and Mrs. Burns respectively. The president, Mrs. Wendorf, presided over the business. Mrs. Harlen attended to the roll call of delegates, 26 churches responding. Mrs. Wendorf welcomed the preachers' wives and visiting sisters. Mrs. E. C. Hinrichsen and Miss Cedergreen responded. A very fine essay was given by Mrs. S. Jenner.

Reports of committees' works were presented by superintendents: Prayer meetings, Mrs. Willis; home mission, Mrs. Martin; foreign mission, Mrs. V. Roberts; hospital, Mrs. Saunderson; temperance, Mrs. Brown; obituary, Mrs. Hobart; cradle roll, Mrs. Hinrichsen; isolated, Mrs. Downs. There has been great activity on the part of all superintendents, who give valiant service for the Master. 1,270 visits have been paid to hospitals and private homes, gifts of fruit, texts, cakes, soaps and handkerchiefs being left with the patients.

The secretary's report reviewed the work of the year. Seven executive meetings and four prayer meetings were held. In June, at Stone's Corner, £2/5/6 was given towards Stone's Corner building fund. In August a foreign mission prayer meeting was held at Albion; collection of £2/10/- for foreign mission work. £13/4/1 was contributed to the orphan fund. Christmas cheer for India and China totalled £13/18/2. Collection, Miss Cameron's meeting, 17/-, a total of £30/9/9 for foreign mission work. We were pleased to welcome Miss Cameron, who gave a very interesting address on the work in foreign fields. Three sisters, Mesdames Hermann, Banner and Saunderson, represent the sisters' executive on the foreign mission committee. September prayer meeting was held in the City Mission hall. Afternoon tea was provided for all the executive. 17/6 was given to city mission work. November, "Sunsetholme" was visited. £2/0/6 was given to the matron to provide Christmas cheer for the aged folk. A letter was received from the matron stating she had purchased a present for each of the inmates and had placed them on their chairs on Christmas morning.

During the year we were pleased to welcome the world president, Bro. Black, from overseas; his address to the sisters was much appreciated.

The home mission committee invited the sisters' executive to meet them with a desire to create greater co-operation with all Queensland sisters in home mission work. As a result of the meeting all churches in Queensland were written to, and many were assisted by president and committee. The following sisters responded to the executive home mission appeal: Annerley, 10/-; Boondall, 10/-; Bundaberg, £1; Kedron, £2/0/6; Rosewood, £1/4/8; Stone's Corner, £1/8/6; Sunnybank, 16; Temperance Hall, £2/2/-; Toowoomba, £1/1/-; Wynnum, £1/6/6; Zillmere, £1/5/-. The executive also held a home mission rally afternoon. The home mission committee benefited to the extent of £4/15/6.

Greetings were received from sisters' conferences in Victoria, Tasmania, N.S.W., S.A., W.A., College of the Bible, and Federal and mission committees.

During conference the thoughts of the sisters were lifted from hard business into the realm of music, when Sisters Mrs. Hinrichsen and Mrs. Keeble rendered a delightful pianoforte duet, and Miss Ash a pianoforte solo. Solos were rendered by Sisters Mrs. Feurriegal, Miss Hackett and Mr. V. Morris, elocutionary items by Mrs. K. Gerrard and Miss J. Burnham. An address by Mr. Campbell was much appreciated. The president's (Mrs. Wendorf's) address, "Christ at the Door," unfolded the beauty of a Christlike

life. "Where Women Win" was the title chosen by the conference president, Bro. E. C. Hinrichsen.

The orphan appeal attended to by Mrs. Feurriegal resulted in the amount of £11/9/- being raised.

Officers elected for the ensuing year were as follows:—President, Mrs. Wendorf; vice-presidents, Mrs. Noble, Mrs. Banner; secretary, Mrs. Partridge; assistant secretary, Mrs. Harlen; treasurer, Mrs. Coward.

Superintendents of departments.—Prayer meetings, Mrs. Willis; home mission, Mrs. Martin; foreign, Mrs. Feurriegal; hospital, Mrs. Saunderson; temperance, Mrs. Brown; isolated, Mrs. Downs; cradle, Mrs. Hinrichsen; obituary, Mrs. Hobart.

Votes of thanks were accorded to all artists who assisted to make conference the success it was; to Ann-st. officers for use of building; to Mrs. Downs and her helpers for preparing meals for sisters' conference; to Mrs. E. C. Hinrichsen, who acted as pianist; to Bro. Main, editor "Christian," for his courtesy in printing our reports.

In a few well-chosen words Mrs. Gallagher introduced the new officers to their various positions. Conference closed with hymn and benediction.—G. A. Partridge, hon. sec.

Tasmanian Sisters' Annual Conference.

The twenty-fourth annual conference was held at Margaret-st., Launceston, on March 29. Sessions morning and afternoon were presided over by Mrs. P. Duff, vice-president, owing to the removal from the State of the president, Mrs. Collins. The morning session began with a devotional service led by Mrs. A. E. Brown, Invermay. Delegates were present from Margaret-st., Invermay, Prospect, Devonport, Kellevie, and Collins-st., Hobart.

Greetings were received from W.A., Queensland, Victoria, New South Wales, College of the Bible, Federal Foreign Mission Board, and Mrs. T. Wilmot.

Mrs. Libby spoke words of welcome to the visiting sisters. Mrs. Harold Street, Mole Creek, replied on behalf of the visitors. The president's address was very helpful and instructive.

Many encouraging reports were read from various auxiliaries. £32/8/1 was contributed through penny-per-week to home missions, and £17/19/6 in various ways to foreign missions. Federal catering fund reached the sum of £117/4/-.

The afternoon session was interspersed with several musical items, pleasingly rendered. Mr. H. G. Harward, Sydney, and Mr. A. W. Thoroughgood, West Hobart, gave helpful and encouraging addresses. Words of appreciation were spoken of Mrs. Collins, ex-president.

The election of officers resulted in the following:—President, Mrs. Libby; vice-presidents, Mrs. A. E. Brown, Mrs. A. M. Cole (Hobart); corresponding secretary, Mrs. N. J. Warmbrunn; assistant secretary, Mrs. Roy Edmunds; treasurer, Mrs. E. A. Stevens. Superintendents: home missions, Mrs. W. Peters; foreign missions, Mrs. H. Solzberger; temperance, Mrs. Ken. Woolley (Kellevie); obituary, Mrs. Scott Brown; isolated, Mrs. W. Libby.—F. E. Warmbrunn, secretary.

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Obituary.

SILK.—On February 16, at Winchmore Hill, London, Elizabeth T. Silk passed to rest at the age of 79 after a long illness. Baptised at the age of 18, she was a constant worker in the church in London. She emigrated to Melbourne in 1889, and held membership with the church at Prahran till 1895, when she returned to London. During those years she was a valued teacher in the Sunday School at Prahran, and will be remembered by many in Australia. She was the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Silk, who were in membership at Prahran for some years, and the sister of Mrs. E. W. and Mrs. G. P. Pittman. Her consistent life, humble and faithful service, and patient endurance of prolonged suffering, endeared her to all who knew her. During three bedridden years she was waited upon with the utmost devotion by her sister, Miss Annie Silk, who, along with her, was a member at Prahran, and now lives in London.

STEPHENSON.—On March 29, at Pyramid Hill, Vic., Bro. Laurie Stephenson met his death under very sad circumstances. He and his employer were bringing home a load of wood, when the horses became frightened, and threw both men from the load. Unfortunately the wheel passed over Laurie's body, killing him instantly. The news of our young brother's death cast a gloom over the church. He was a good young man, and was always willing to render service for the church. To Bro. and Sister Stephenson and family we extend our very deep sympathy.—S. H. Mudge.

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News of the Churches.

(Continued from page 265.)

South Australia.

Maylands.—Good meetings continue. One has been received by obedience. On April 22, 275 attended at the breaking of bread, and Bro. Sanders, of Queensland, was present. He and Bro. Hermann, of Queensland, arrived in this State after four months' absence visiting mission fields in China and India. The night meeting took the form of an Anzac service. Bro. Fitzgerald gave a searching address. The choir, under conductorship of Bro. Langlois, rendered special music. The chapel was full.

Norwood.—On April 8 Mr. E. H. Swan, general secretary of B. & F. Bible Society in S.A., spoke in the morning. Bro. Rankine preached at night. On April 11 Mr. Swan gave a lantern lecture entitled "Sunshine and Shadow in Melanesia," when an offering was taken for the Bible Society. On April 15 a sister was received into fellowship from Torrensville. Teachers and scholars of the kindergarten department, under leadership of Mrs. Lewis, gave a demonstration at the monthly teachers' meeting, held at Grote-st. on April 17. At the annual business meeting of the church on April 18, the following were appointed deacons: C. W. Hoffman, H. Canfield, E. J. Johnson and C. J. Parker. Bro. Rankine spoke at all services on April 22.

Dulwich.—At a meeting at Dr. Garnett's home on April 14, the young people's social club was re-formed. It is intended to meet fortnightly in the homes of members of the church. On April 15 the J.C.E. held its annual Sunday morning session, and on April 17 had a well-attended concert to augment funds. The church enjoyed fellowship with Bro. and Sister Pittman, from India, on April 22. Since Dr. Garnett began as preacher Lord's day attendances indicate sure increase and interest. Midweek prayer meetings have good average attendance, and Bro. Garnett's discourses prove interesting and helpful. During the month a number of members associated to break bread in the home of Sister Mrs. Hancock, who is indisposed. Bro. Morrow is slowly improving in health. Bro. and Sister Williams are leaving Dulwich to reside at Unley. The church has adopted the new hymn book for morning and evening services.

Queensland.

Boonah.—On April 8 the church was exhorted by Mr. C. Nielsen (Boonah Baptist church) in the morning; Mr. H. Dieckman preached in the evening. Bro. and Sister Jenner have returned from holidays, Bro. Jenner taking services on April 15. The church welcomes Sister Mrs. W. Green, from Maryborough, Qld., who has come to reside in Boonah.

Kedron.—Bro. Chas. Young, conference president, addressed the church on April 8. A helpful visit was paid by members of conference executive on April 13. Bro. Joseph Whelan, M.A. (of Sydney), visited the Bible School on April 15, and left an impressive message. Good attendances continue. Bro. N. G. Noble has commenced prayer meeting studies from the second quarter of Austral graded lessons. Severe influenza is now departing from this district.

Bundaberg.—Meetings are well attended. During the first week of the mission two confessed Christ. On the morning of April 15, Bro. Davis took for his subject, "The Glowing Heart," when the chapel was filled. The subject in the evening was "The Rapture of the Saints," and a brother reconsecrated his life. Strangers come in great numbers to hear the messages of Bro. Davis. The ladies' guild held a meeting on April 11, when Bro. Hodgson, of C.I.M., and Bro. Davis delivered messages.

Victoria.

Ivanhoe.—In the absence of Bro. Watson in the country, Bro. Abercrombie is occupying the platform. Local and visiting brethren have also assisted during the past few weeks with appreciated addresses.

Essendon.—On April 12 a men's fellowship was inaugurated for mutual help and social fellowship. On April 19 Mrs. S. Wilson gave an interesting talk to mission band and P.B.P. club on her visit to India. On April 22 Bro. Neighbour gave splendid addresses.

Dandenong.—On April 12 the ladies of the church held a successful social afternoon at the home of Mrs. Williams. Y.P.S.C.E. experienced a good night of fellowship at their meeting conducted in Berwick chapel on April 18. Bro. Atkin spoke at both meetings on April 22.

Fitzroy (Gore-st.).—Good meetings were held on April 22. Bro. Holland spoke at both services. In the evening his subject was "Crowding Christ Out." Bro. W. Cousins rendered a fine solo. A married woman made her confession. On Apr. 17 the Y.P. society held an enjoyable social.

Doncaster.—There was a splendid gathering at the young people's club on April 16 to listen to a lecture on Florence Nightingale by Bro. A. W. Connor. Attendances are good on Sunday mornings and evenings. A number of members have been laid aside with sickness recently, but all are improving.

Brim.—On April 8, Sunday School anniversary and harvest thanksgiving combined services were held, both being conducted by Bro. Garland, and well attended. On April 20, at the annual business meeting, most of last year's officers were re-elected. Bro. George McPherson, secretary; Bro. Roy McPherson, superintendent of S.S.

Melbourne (Swanston-st.).—Enjoyable meetings last Sunday, April 22, and excellent and helpful sermons from Bro. Seambler. Special hymns were sung expressing desire for peace of the world, and that all wars might cease. At the evening meeting a young man responded to the invitation and made the good confession.

Mildura.—Bro. Macnaughtan, returned from Adelaide, conducted the services on April 22. A young man who made the good confession the previous Sunday, Bro. Ken. Dyster preaching, was immersed. The church much appreciated the visit of Bro. Dyster and his service during Bro. Macnaughtan's stay in Mile End, S.A.

Oakleigh.—Splendid meetings on April 15, Bro. Mudge speaking morning and evening. Attendance at Lord's day services is very encouraging. A sacred concert on April 18 was a great success. Very fine meetings on April 22, Bro. Mudge speaking. At night he gave a forceful address on "The Reflection of the Apostolic Age." Bright singing was rendered by the choir.

Merbein.—On April 11 Sister Jean Henderson and Bro. Tom Williams were married, Bro. Brooke officiating. Meetings were poorly attended on April 15. Bro. A. J. Chislett spoke in the morning. The service at Wargan, conducted by Bro. Brooke, was the best for some time. In the evening Bro. Brooke exchanged with Mr. Drew, Presbyterian minister, who delivered an appreciated address.

Swan Hill.—On April 16 members and friends gathered to bid farewell to Bro. H. Watson who has for the past seven weeks labored in the district. Bro. Silas Harrop, president of district executive, presided. Bro. McDonald, on behalf of Swan Hill church, commended Bro. Watson for the manner in which he had labored during his short term. He had visited all the members in the district. Bro. Cockroft, on behalf of the district churches, also expressed appreciation. Bro. Watson responded. Musical items were enjoyed. On April 20 Bro. and Sister Martin and family arrived to take up the work in this district. On the 22nd Bro. Cockroft ably addressed the church. In the evening Bro. Martin gave a fine gospel sermon to a congregation of 91.

North Richmond.—On April 22 Bro. Sparks spoke on "Rock of Ages," "Abide with Me," and "Lead, Kindly Light." The choir rendered those hymns. On April 16 Bro. J. E. Allan gave the hymns. On April 16 Bro. J. E. Allan gave the mutual society a splendid talk on "Character Building." The choir and Phi Beta Pi club journeyed to the Old Colonists' Home on April 6, and entertained the folk with a musical evening. Mid-week prayer service is well attended.

Preston.—Attendances on April 22 were smaller than usual. Special classes have been formed at Bible School for scholars entering for examinations. J.C.E. anniversary was celebrated at gospel service, Mr. Gibbs, of South Preston Methodist church, having exchanged platforms with Bro. Fisher. His message was of special interest to Endeavorers, by whom hymns were rendered under leadership of Bro. A. V. Morflew.

Glenferrie.—Messages from Bro. Dawson and Rasmussen were enjoyed on April 15. They took the service in the absence of Bro. Williams at Geelong. Good meetings on April 15. Bro. Morris's address in the morning was much appreciated. The C.E. anniversary, held on Apr. 18, was successful. Dr. W. A. Kemp's message was very helpful. Items by Endeavorers were enjoyed. The church cricket team succeeded in winning premiership of Churches of Christ A Grade cricket competition.

Carlton (Lygon-st.).—The women's mission band spent a very successful day last week in sewing for benevolent work. As a result of an effort lasting six weeks, the young people of the church have almost reached their objective of £15 towards renovations to property. Bro. Raisbeck gave a very interesting address on the morning of April 22. At night Bro. Ennis made special reference to Anzac Day. After his address on "A Providential Meeting on the Highway," five who previously confessed Christ were baptized.

Dunolly.—Meetings are bright and well attended. On March 30 Bro. Lewis gave an interesting address on "Scenes Around the Cross." On April 1 he held attention with a gospel message on "The Power of the Cross." At the close of his gospel address on April 22, a young lady confessed Christ. On April 2 an enjoyable Bible School picnic was held at Bet Bet. The church appreciates the gift of two fern-tubs from the family of late Bro. and Sister Wilcox, in memory of their parents. Fellowship of Bro. and Sister Vines, from Coburg, has been enjoyed.

Parkdale.—There were large attendances and happy times of fellowship on April 22, it being the church anniversary. A number of past members attended in the morning, when Bro. Gullock (Ballarat) presided, and Bro. W. Clay gave the exhortation. In the afternoon members of S.S. rendered special items, and prizes were distributed by Bro. Les. Brooker. Bro. Val. Woff conducted the singing and sang a solo. Under leadership of Bro. Brooker the S.S. sang special items at gospel service. Bro. H. B. Robbins (West Preston) brought a helpful message.

Northcote.—There have been four decisions during the past three months. A mission for the deepening of the spiritual life has now concluded. At morning service on April 22, Bro. Saunders was the speaker. All members stood at the close of the service, indicating their desire to re-consecrate their lives to Christ. Bro. Clay was the speaker in the evening. On March 24, Bro. Bruce Smith, S.S. superintendent, was married to Sister Miss Ivy Parker, kindergarten superintendent. At a social on March 15, the church presented the popular young couple with a gift of notes, Bro. Jos. Collings making the presentation on behalf of the church. Representative speakers from the Endeavor society and Sunday School eulogized the work done by the happy couple during the past. Bro. Saunders is conducting a young men's training class. The church is progressing very favorably. Meetings are well attended.

Gardiner.—On April 22 Bro. H. J. Patterson spoke at both morning and evening services. One was received into membership by letter of transfer. On April 21, a social evening was held in connection with the football club.

Horsham.—The first week of the mission had fine gatherings at all services. Bro. A. A. Hughes delivered addresses in a capable manner, which were greatly appreciated. Bro. J. O. Methven addressed the Methodist young men's class last Sunday afternoon. On the evening of April 21, the tennis club held a social, when the pennant was presented by the district president.

Hampton.—From April 15 to 19 evangelistic services were conducted, J. E. Shipway preaching, L. E. Baker leading the singing, and K. A. Jones assisting. Addresses of power and deep spirituality were delivered. On the final evening the missionaries were presented by Bro. Jones, on behalf of the church, with book souvenirs, and bouquets of flowers were given to Miss Holloway, organist, and Mrs. Dinwoodie, pianist.

Hamilton.—On April 15 Bro. and Sister C. Hawker, from Kaniva, were welcomed. Bro. Methven spoke on "Eternal Life." On April 17 the Christian Endeavor held the quarterly debate on "City versus Country life"; 24 present. On April 22 Bro. and Sister A. Williams, from Kaniva, rendered valuable service in song. Bro. Williams exhorted in the morning acceptably. Bro. Methven at night on "Confession of Faith" was impressive.

Moreland.—The annual church business meeting on April 19 was well attended. Reports presented by preacher, secretary, treasurer and auxiliary leaders showed good work accomplished during the year. The financial position of the church was sound; but increased weekly offerings were essential. As a mark of the church's esteem Bro. and Sister W. Brown were the recipients of a framed illuminated address and crystal reading lamp. Bro. R. L. Arnold continues his work with the esteem and support of the church. Meetings on April 22 were fairly well attended; Bro. Arnold was the speaker. Bible School has been working for coming anniversary services.

Caulfield (Bambra-rd.).—Continuation of Sunday School anniversary services, and distribution of prizes for senior scholars, were successfully held on April 15. Singing of the children, under leadership of Bro. Clarrie Smith, was excellent. Bro. Youens spoke at all services, the gospel meeting having over 400 in attendance. One young man made the good confession. At the service for kindergarten and distribution of prizes on April 22, another big gathering of parents assembled. Usual meetings for the day were splendid, Bro. Youens exhorting. Two ladies previously baptised were welcomed into membership, and at night the one who confessed the previous Sunday was immersed. Sunday School concert on April 19 was a notable success, the theatre procured for the occasion being packed. A net profit of £17 is expected.

New South Wales.

Lidcombe.—To mark the commencement of the fifth year of his ministry the church tendered a social to Bro. W. J. Crossman and his wife. Presentations were made on behalf of members. Bro. Little addressed the church on April 22. Bro. Crossman's evening subject was "Saints in Caesar's Household." At the united Anzac service in the town hall at Auburn in the afternoon Bro. Crossman gave the address.

Caley Vale.—Renovations and painting have given the chapel a beautiful appearance. Working bees have also cleaned the grounds. On April 15 Bro. P. J. Pond was afternoon speaker at S.S. anniversary, the children rendering special Hems. Sister Buchanan, from Moreland, Vic., was a visitor. On April 22, Bro. J. Clydesdale (conference president) gave an excellent address on "The Doors of Scripture."

South Kensington.—On morning of April 22 Bro. Lloyd, Auburn, gave a forceful address on the necessity for individual evangelism. It was decided to invite Bro. E. Arnold, of Brisbane, to fill the vacancy caused by Bro. Wakeley's call to Marrickville. Bro. Wakeley's evening theme was "Precept and Practice." Miss Nancy Marly was soloist.

Mosman.—On April 15 G. Saxby, B.A., of Lane Cove, addressed the church on "Worship." Mrs. Resuggan, of Essendon, Vic., was a visitor. Roy Acland's gospel subject was "The Second Coming." On April 22 "The Work of the Holy Spirit" was Bro. Acland's morning subject; he addressed the Anzac memorial gathering in the afternoon; his evening message was "The Bible and Our National Life." A club for boys from ten to fourteen years has been started under leadership of W. Webster.

Auburn.—During March and April there have been eight decisions for Christ at Auburn and three at Clyde. Bren. Kenyon, James and Lloyd conducted Clyde services, rendering splendid service. Bro. Chivell, of Gilgandra, spoke on morning on April 1, his message being much appreciated. On April 18, four were baptised at prayer service. The choir and orchestra have rendered fine service in the home church, also at Chinese church and elsewhere. Bro. Wakeley exhorted on April 22. In the evening Bro. Lloyd spoke on "Church Unity." The clubs and Endeavor societies are healthy, and prospects are bright.

Chatswood.—There were splendid attendances on April 22. Bro. Whelan was present after an absence of three weeks. He spoke in the morning on "The Anzac Spirit," and in the evening delivered an impressive address on "Greater Love." Bren. R. Hickin (Auburn), R. Burns (Adelaide) and A. Allen (past conference president) kindly conducted evening services during Bro. Whelan's absence. At recent annual business meeting, the church elected the following to serve on the official board: W. H. Hall (chairman), Y. M. Middleton (treasurer), A. Graham (secretary), M. Purkiss (assistant secretary), S. Gole, M. Hunter, H. C. Willings.

Grafton.—On April 12 Bro. Larsen returned from conference accompanied by Mrs. Larsen, who the same evening was welcomed by the congregation. During his absence the services were conducted by Bren. Reeves and Foster in the mornings, and Bro. Ken. Taylor in the evenings. On the morning of April 15 Mr. Larsen brought to the church "echoes of conference." In the evening Mr. Brickhill, of Melbourne (blind inventor) told of the work of grace in his own life, and sang a solo beautifully. After Endeavor on April 17, a supper and entertainment marked Bro. Larsen's first birthday in Grafton. A presentation was made to him of an initialled calendar and ink-stand combined. About fifty were present, and speakers voiced love and appreciation of Bro. Larsen.

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 "How I Study my Bible," Wm. Evans, D.D., 1/4; "The Bible and Modern Research," A. Rendle Short, M.D., B.S., B.Sc., F.R.C.S., 9/-; "The Bible Confirmed by Science," W. Bell Dawson, M.A., F.R.S., 5/3; "Is the Bible the Word of God?" W. Graham Scroggie, D.D., 5/3; "The Bible and Modern Criticism," Sir Robt. Anderson, 3/- and 5/3; "One Thousand Wonderful Things about the Bible," Hy. Pickering, 3/8.

SECONDHAND THEOLOGICAL BOOKS.—See Bargain Bundles of good reading for 1/-.
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BIRTH.

JACKEL.—On March 4, at Nurse Edwards' private hospital, to Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Jackel, of Wedderburn—a son (David John Ackland).

MARRIAGE.

McPHEE—LITCHFIELD.—On April 7, at Mosman Church of Christ, by Mr. Roy Acland, James McPhee, of Canberra, F.C.T., and of Perth, W.A., to Edith, daughter of the late William F. and Hannah Litchfield, of Norwood, S.A., and of Broken Hill and Manly, N.S.W. Present address, Peacock-st., Seaforth, N.S.W.

DEATH.

SILK.—On February 10, 1934, at her residence, "The Green," Winchmore Hill, London, Elizabeth T., beloved sister of Mrs. Ernest Pittman, Mount Compass, S.A., and Mrs. Percy Pittman, Parkside, S.A., loving aunt of Roland E. Pittman and great-aunt of Isabel, John and Brian Pittman, of Hart, S.A., aged 79 years. A faithful one asleep in Jesus.

IN MEMORIAM.

HALL.—In loving memory of my dear wife and our dear mother, who passed away at Castlemaine on April 29, 1931.

Not only to-day, but every day,
 In silence we remember.

—Inserted by her loving husband and family.

HALL.—In loving memory of our dear mother, who passed away at Castlemaine on April 29, 1931.

Beautiful memories of one so dear,
 We treasure deep from year to year.
 —Inserted by her loving daughter Yerna, son-in-law Perce, and grandson Reg.

HALL.—In loving memory of our dear mother, who fell asleep in Jesus on April 29, 1931, at "Springvale," Castlemaine, Vic.

"Resting where no shadows fall,
 In perfect peace she waits us all;
 Remembrance is the only chain
 That binds us till we meet again."

—Inserted by her loving daughter and son-in-law, Bessie M. and W. Wakefield, Wagga, N.S.W.
RIECK.—In loving memory of my dear husband, Archibald George Rieck, who fell asleep in Jesus on April 21, 1932, aged 28 years.

"Good-night, beloved, sleep and take thy rest,
 We loved thee well, but Jesus loved thee best."

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Complete 11-volume Commentary on New Testament, by Albert Barnes. Price, £2/15/-, freight paid.—A. L. Fingar, 430 Burke-rd., Camberwell.

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BETWEEN SUNDAYS.

SWANSTON-ST. LECTURE HALL.

May 2, Wednesday, The Minister's Night.

T. H. Scambler, B.A.

Subject: "The Lights and Shades of a Minister's Life."

Recital by Mr. W. Fielding.

ADDRESSES.

Allen Brooke (preacher Lake-st. church, Perth, W.A.)—48 Palmerston-st., Perth. 'Phone, B 7740.
 H. A. G. Clark, M.A. (preacher Box Hill church, Vic.)—35 Victoria-st., Box Hill, E.11. 'Phone, WX 1767.

J. Jackson (secretary Stawell church, Vic.)—"Jeamond," Skene-st., Stawell.

C. E. Mott (secretary Swan Hill church, Vic.)—Box 120, Swan Hill.

G. McPherson (secretary Brim church, Vic.)—Brim.

W.A. SISTERS' CONFERENCE.

(Continued from page 261.)

Home mission committee.—Mrs. L. C. Peacock (superintendent), Mesdames Gemmill, Althorpe, Davies, Pearce, Rhodes, Fox, Rodges, Moignard, Isles, Beasley, McKinley, Ewers, Lee, Sherlock, Lucraft, Fryer, S. Thomson, Buckingham and Miss Martin.

Foreign mission committee.—Mrs. H. J. Yelland (superintendent), Mesdames Polkinghorne, Dean, Lee, Hutson, Lockyer, Cooper, Peters, Eaton, Fishwick, Yeomans, Watson, Charman, J. W. B. Robinson, E. R. Berry, Pearce, Craig, Smetherham, R. Pallot.

Prayer committee.—Mrs. T. Robinson (superintendent), Mrs. C. H. Hunt (asst. superintendent), Mesdames Hunt, Elliott, Jeffery, Payne, Fishwick, Lucraft, Nelson, Wilson, Davey, Saunders, H. Berry, Thomas, Clarke, Alps, Swaine, Sylvester, Deardon, Port, Martin.

Dorcas committee.—Mrs. H. Louey (superintendent), Mesdames March, Ellis, Moyle, Broadshaw, Gemmill, Lockyer, Dean, Ewers, Lee, Fryer, Peters, Watson, Pallot, Meredith, Preston, Fieldus, Pearce, Chandler, Mason.

Hospital committee.—Mrs. W. J. Thomson (superintendent), Mesdames Davey, Oates, Matthews, Jeffery, Cugley, Stewart, York, Horne, Varney, Hinde, Smith, Scott, Seaby, Jones, Cranwell, Lucraft, Digwood.

Worship committee.—Mrs. C. H. Hunt (superintendent), Mr. Hunt, Mr. J. Butcher, and Mrs. Hinde.

Young women's clubs.—Mesdames Thomson, Piper, Black, and Miss H. Bailey.

Isolated committee.—Mesdames Witham, Seaby, Organ, Cosh, Lockyer, Leggo, Manning.

EVENING SESSION.

Lake-st. chapel was filled in the evening. Mrs. J. K. Robinson opened with a devotional session. Mrs. J. A. Ewers sang, Mrs. C. A. G. Payne led in prayer, and an appropriate elocutionary item was rendered by Miss V. E. Louey. The president's address was given by Mrs. A. G. Saunders in her most able manner; her theme was the motto of the year, "One in Christ Jesus." Subiaco ladies' double quartette party gave an excellent rendering of "As pants the hart."

The State president (F. E. Buckingham) conveyed greetings from the general conference, and thanked the sisters for their magnificent support.

Mr. F. Fewster was the speaker of the evening, his theme being "Fellowship in the Service of Christ." Fellowship with Christ manifested itself in three outstanding characteristics, devotion, faith and sacrifice.

Solos were rendered by Mrs. A. G. Saunders and Miss Dobbie.

A vote of thanks was moved by Mrs. H. Louey to the many faithful workers and helpers during conference.

A very happy surprise was given to Mrs. A. G. Saunders before the meeting closed, in the form of an inscribed silver toast rack, as a parting token of love from the sisters of Western Australia. Mrs. Saunders feelingly acknowledged the gift.

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The Chapel at Hartwell, Vic.

The work at Hartwell has progressed steadily since its inception thirteen years ago, and at present our membership is over a hundred, with an average of eighty at the Lord's table each Sunday. The Bible School has 150 scholars, and the combined Endeavor Societies have a membership of 45. On December 31, 1933, our building debt was £700, but since then a big forward movement has commenced, and a freewill offering in February amounted to £165.

The church has realised the need for growth in the near future, and seeks the help of the whole brotherhood to make this possible. It hopes that this appeal for LOANS under the debenture scheme outlined below will meet with a suitable response, and thus enable us within a few brief years to be free of the debt that retards our progress.

DEBENTURE ISSUE.

1. The amount required is £500.
2. The debentures will be issued to the value of £5 or multiple thereof, and will be non-interest bearing.
3. The Victorian Church Extension Committee are the trustees of the building and property.
4. The debentures will be repaid at a minimum rate of £50 per year, and a contingency fund has been set up to meet special calls.
5. The order of repayment will be decided by ballot, and notified in the "Australian Christian" on the first Sunday in July each year, and all debenture holders notified by letter.
6. The closing date of the appeal is Saturday, May 12, 1934.
7. Applications for debentures are to be sent to the preacher, Mr. Arthur Baker, 6 Milverton-st., Burwood, Victoria, E 13.

APPLICATION FORM.

Dear Bro. Baker,—

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Representative in Victoria: A. R. Lyall, Royal Park, Melbourne.

Representative in South Australia: General S. Price Weir, 2nd Avenue, East Adelaide.

Representative in Western Australia: D. M. Wilson, 33 Carr-st., Perth.

The Objects of the Fund are:

1st. To assist financially Aged and Infirm and Retired Preachers.

2nd. To control and manage an Endowment Fund to which Preachers may contribute.

In order to do this effectively, the Committee needs the practical sympathy and support of all the churches and brethren throughout the Commonwealth.

Please forward contributions to W. H. Hall, 113 Pitt-st., Sydney, N.S.W., making money orders and postal notes payable at G.P.O., Sydney. Contributions may also be sent to A. R. Lyall, S. Price Weir and D. M. Wilson.

S.A. Sisters' Auxiliary.

The sisters met at Grote-st. on April 5 for their usual meeting. There were 71 sisters present, 46 of whom were delegates. The devotions were led by Mrs. B. Manning, who gave an interesting and helpful talk on "Woman in the Home." In the absence of Mrs. W. Verco, vice-president, Mrs. A. L. Read, past-president, presided over the business session. We were pleased to welcome to the meeting Mrs. Illingworth after her accident, also Mrs. McLean from North Adelaide church. We were pleased to have Mrs. Pittman with us again.

It was decided to send a letter of farewell to Mrs. Hugh Gray, who was leaving the following day for Western Australia. Miss Cameron, who is leaving for India shortly, gave a farewell message. She was presented with a book as a small token of love from the sisters.

We are sorry to report that Mrs. Schwab, of Grote-st. church, is in Miss Rowe's hospital, Wakefield-st., to undergo an operation.

The collection for the afternoon, which is to be devoted to hospital work, amounted to £1/7/-. The hospital superintendent reported 438 visits paid, 127 books and papers, also dainties, distributed.

The Dorcas committee paid a visit to Croydon sisters on March 21.

The foreign mission report is as follows:—Money received, £4/0/1. The superintendent met Miss Thompson, from India, also Mr. and Mrs. Davis, who travelled with Miss Thompson, at the Outer Harbor. The members of the State and Federal foreign mission committees entertained the missionaries at luncheon, and all had a very happy time of fellowship.

The sisters at the northern conference, held on March 13, forwarded a cheque for £1 to the home mission committee. Gifts sold realised 12/8. The temperance superintendent visited Cowandilla Band of Hope on Feb. 27, Mile End Band of Hope on March 5, and Henley Beach on March 29. Mrs. W. Green, supt., spoke very highly of the temperance programme the Cowandilla Band of Hope always arranges.

The following sisters have received the home call:—Mrs. Greenshields, Maylands; Mrs. Payne, Unley; Mrs. Hammond, Mallala; Mrs. Warriner, Norwood. Letters of sympathy have been sent to Mrs. Hart, Glenelg; Mrs. Pearce, Croydon; Mrs. Aird, senr., York; Mr. Greenshields, Maylands; Miss Payne, Unley; Mrs. Bardett, Unley; Mrs. Schiller, Brooklyn Park; Mrs. Nicholls, Norwood; Mr. Warriner, Norwood. Our aged sister Mrs. W. Matthews, of Maylands, has also received the home call.

Home mission report.—Feb., 1934, Collections and donations, £5/5/1; March, £3/17/9. Receipts for month.—Home mission, £21/9/1; foreign mission, £18/4/4; general fund, £3/5/5. Expenditure: duplicating letters, 3/8; Dorcas supt., 5/-; balance, £2/16/9.

Reading matter was distributed by members of the literature committee at Adelaide Hospital, Home for Incurables, Kalyra, Keswick Hospital, Convalescent Home, and to sick, aged and isolated folk.—F. W. Bristow, asst. sec.

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