

# The Australian Christian

CIRCULATING AMONGST CHURCHES OF CHRIST in the AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH and NEW ZEALAND  
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Thursday, May 13, 1920.

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# The Australian CHRISTIAN

## Baptists and Churches of Christ.

Alan Price, B.A.

At the recent annual Conference of N.S.W. Associated Churches of Christ, a considerable time was taken up in an interesting discussion of the question of co-operation with the Baptists. During the year the matter had been discussed by a committee representing both bodies, but no finality had been arrived at. While our representatives were anxious and ready to submit a full explanation as to our position and plea, the representatives of the Baptists desired to encourage good fellowship on general grounds only. Although it is undesirable to force the views of one party on the other, it is equally undesirable that points that have caused misunderstanding in the past should be pushed to one side without mutual explanation. The latter without might be excusable were we endeavoring to patch up some co-operative system of church work, but the matter in question is of much greater than that. As churches of Christ pleading for a return to primitive Christianity, we urge the complete abolition of all denominational distinctions. We seek the undivided church whatever the undivided Scriptural pattern be. No body of believers in Christ has the inherent right to keep apart from any other similar body. Christ is not divided. We have not been baptised into the name of Paul, or of Spurgeon, or of Campbell. Only sin or unfaithfulness on one side or the other justifies separation, and that only until the cause has been removed. The first evidence of estrangement in the Christian church was in the name—"I am of Paul," "I am of Peter," "I am of Apollos." Names do count. It is useless to say otherwise. Nor is reconciliation a case of one denomination making love to or marrying another as it has been metaphorically put. No denomination has the right to separate assistance, and the fusion of two denominations, though a desirable thing, is merely making one denomination less. The true Scriptural position is, Christ as the bridegroom gives his name to the bride; all other names taken by her are an insult to him. He expects that bride to be without spot or blemish, self-contained, of one heart and soul, every member of the body in its place and working harmoniously with the rest.

It is unfortunate for the cause of unity that our neighbors persist in thinking that we have assumed a monopoly of the title "Churches of Christ." We claim a right to that title or any other name by which the early church was called, not as a denomination, but as part of the undivided Church of Christ. When the denominations awake to

the fact that they have all along been robbing themselves of the divine name in substituting those of their own manufacture, we want to be those to meet them on common ground. We do not ask them to do more than thousands of us have already done. Personally, some thirty years ago I came from the Anglican Church by way of the Baptist into an undenominational position in the Churches of Christ. Others have moved from different directions and have come to rest at the same point.

In addition to the Scriptural condemnation of distinctive names, there is also the objection that around such names great traditions and doctrines unconsciously attach themselves and accentuate differences. The names of Luther and of Wesley conjure up men of zeal and successful devotion, but do not justify calling a church Lutheran or Wesleyan. The name "Baptist" recalls great men such as Spurgeon or Carey or Meyer, but this is no reason that a body of believers should brand itself with a name to remind us that they have rightly complied with a divine ordinance. Comparing the Lutheran with the Wesleyan or the Baptist Church, one involuntarily hedges each round with its respective peculiarity. We must not lose sight of the fact that all such distinctions are of human origin and must be eliminated before Scriptural union can be effected. It would therefore appear impossible to bring about a union of Baptists with churches taking a Scriptural name only unless the distinctive name is dropped. When this is achieved unity of practice in fundamentals will be more easily attained.

Let us transport ourselves in imagination to the day of Pentecost, when the gospel of the kingdom was first preached. In one day three thousand were added to the church. There was neither time nor inclination to question the converts as to their belief in the Trinity, as to their visions of faith or the work of the Holy Spirit, or their assent to any particular church formula. Although Peter had commanded baptism into the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and he does not appear to have examined them as to the place of baptism in conversion, or the point at which repentance commenced. The main facts stand out clear—these people were convicted of sin, believed that Jesus of Nazareth was the Saviour, repented of their past life and obeyed the gospel of Christ in baptism. These were immediately joined together in one church and continued stead-

fastly in the apostles' teaching and worship as described.

Such is the broad foundation of a Scriptural church. To add to it by dogma or practice is to limit its universality. To take from it is to admit within the fold more than the Lord intended. There is room inside the church for instruction and discussion as to the manner and time of Christ's coming, the punishment of the wicked, predestination and free will, right and wrong, and a host of other things that concern our spiritual life, but none of these need rob us of our right to be one in Christ. Such unity has been and can be secured in spite of differences on such doctrinal points. As one silvery ball of mercury seeks and coalesces with another when dust and gross are removed, so all that is pure and noble in the denominations of to-day will be merged into one church when hindrance inference and dogma have been detached. Then only can the words of the New Testament become the sole faith of Christ's people and his prayer be accomplished, "that they all may be one."

### Carraig and Adventism.

We have frequent inquiries as to whether D. M. Carraig, whose book "Seventh-Day Adventism Renounced" has done much good, did not recant and seek re-admission into the Adventist community. Interested persons persistently circulate the incorrect report. We have frequently denied the truth of the rumor. In response to a new enquiry, we beg to state that Carraig's latest work is entitled "Life of Mrs. E. G. White, Seventh-Day Adventist Prophet: Her False Claims Refuted." This was last year published by the Standard Publishing Co., of Cincinnati, U.S.A. This informative and most interesting work may be ordered through the Austral Co. On page 13 of this new book, the following words are found, which give the needed corrective of common mis-statements:—

#### "MY PRESENT POSITION.

"Since I withdrew from the Adventists, over thirty years ago, they have continued to report that I have regretted leaving them, have tried to get back again, have repudiated my book which I wrote and have confessed that I am now a lost man. There has never been a word of truth in any of these reports. I expect them to report that I recanted on my deathbed. All this is done to hinder the influence of my books. I now reaffirm all



May 15, 1920.

thoroughly enjoyed by all who had the honor of hearing him. Bro. Dickson, from Nelson, occupied the South Wellington platform, and delivered a very good address. The subject of the conference was set apart to the Bible school sessions. Addresses were given by T. Palmer and N. T. Waddell. How can we intensify Bible School work?

Bro. Christian spirit prevailed throughout all the sessions of the Conference it was very happy time was spent, and that it was one of the best on record.

## Here and There

A mission, conducted by Bro. J. E. Webb, is due to begin at Windsor, Vic., on 18th inst.

Four conferences at Port Pirie, S.A., on May 2, 3, 4, and 5. W. M. Fiedler has accepted an engagement to labor with the church at Northam, W.A., and will begin work immediately.

Four meetings reports were given at the recent business meeting of Colac church, Vic. Bro. Corcoran did good work.

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At the evening service were given at the recent business meeting of Colac church, Vic. Bro. Corcoran did good work.

Our Kladsin, S.A., reports stidings of good meetings. Address: "All eyes are on the new heavens," which is the talk of the town."

The church at Cavendish, Tas., was greatly cheered and impressed by the visit and address of Bro. G. T. Walker, M.A., Federal F.M. Secretary.

The new address of Wm. L. Ewers, Sec. of W.A. is now, presbiter of the Lake-st. church, in the "Manse," 119 Aberdeen-st., Perth.

Bros. Alcorn, Rodier and Lucraft have recently given helpful addresses at West Guildford, W.A., and the work is being well maintained.

Prospect, S.A., held successful Anzac and Bible School Day services.

A visit by Bro. and Sister Black, en route for New Zealand, was much appreciated by Auburn church, N.S.W. The building is progressing rapidly.

Bro. Bagle recently delivered helpful addresses at Peterborough, N.S.W. Messages from Bro. and Sister Black, missionaries etc., were also much enjoyed.

Bro. W. C. Brooker is slowly improving, but still needs the most careful work at Queenstown, S.A.

The church appreciates the splendid help rendered by Adelaide speakers.

Bro. Bagley commenced a ten days' mission with the church at Synnott, Vic., last Lord's day. There were good meetings. Several members drove over from Drummond and Taradale.

St. Hill, Vic., had an unusually interesting Bible School Day celebration, including a missionary report given by the J.C.E. Society.

Bro. L. McCaig's work is being greatly appreciated.

The Austral Co. regret that the publication of "Pure Words" has had to be suspended till the cessation of the printers' strike. An issue was produced at the earliest possible moment.

The monthly meeting of the Victorian General Board will be held on Wednesday next, May 19, at 8.30 a.m. till 4 p.m. in the Swanton-st. Lecture Hall. All sisters are invited to attend.

Hindmarsh, S.A., reports excellent attendances.

Bro. N. L. Gooden, who will shortly proceed to England, is in the evening class on the morning of May 2. In the splendid Mr. V. E. Stanton spoke on "Prohibition."

With regret we learn of the death of Bro. Clifford W.A., father of H. M. Clipstone, preacher of the church at Castlemaine. His brother, with his wife, was on his way to Victoria when sickness overtook him.

The secretary of the church at Lillimur, N.S.W., is David Welsh, Leor, via Stratford.

Hawthorn, Vic., held very successful Bible School services on May 2. Beginning May 23, services in the church will hold four Sunday evening in the Town Hall. A two weeks' mission will follow.

A mission, conducted by Bro. Stirling at Collic, A.S., is doing much good in building up the church, and obedience and several restorations. Bro. Robinson, of Waddiford, conducted such services.

At Merewether, N.S.W., church business meeting reports were presented from the various out-lying churches. A working bee helped materially with the tea. Bro. and Sister Martin have returned to their homes after holidays.

A meeting convened by Bro. C. Rush for the purpose of forming an evening class for young men in N.S.W., was held at the City Temple on May 3. A number of brethren present; plans for the future were formulated, and good results are anticipated.

Since Drummond chapel, Vic., was removed to a more central position, interest and attendances have improved. Two Bible School scholars have returned with the church. At a recent social, Bro. Saunders was the recipient of a presentation as an acknowledgment of the special services he has rendered.

We are pleased to note that Bro. A. C. Garnett, B.A., has been awarded the Dwight Prize in Sociology, University of Melbourne University. As previously announced, Bro. Garnett was recently the recipient of the University Lauric Prize, as well as a hall share in the Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Rofe Scholarship of the University of Melbourne.

Goolwa, S.A., held most successful anniversary services on May 2 and 3. A thankoffering on behalf of the church debt amounted to £21. Seven decisions at the evening service, and one during the confession on Monday evening. The church deeply regrets the leaving of Bro. Warhurst, whose health is being improved by the large amount of cycling required by the circuit.

In the Melbourne press last week the announcement was made that Chaplain H. A. Procter, M.A., LL.B., who is returning to Australia by the "Zealandia," would again shortly proceed to Britain for the purpose of engaging in research work. Chaplain Procter has been nominated by the University College of England for one of three free first-class return passages to England provided annually by the Orient Co.

The brethren at Boort, V. (writes Bro. T. Bagley), under the leadership of Bro. F. Gibbins, are making strenuous efforts to raise sufficient money to enable them to erect a suitable church at Boort, at a cost of about £2000. If this scheme can be carried into effect, it will place their work on a good basis. Boort is a growing town. A good work is being carried on by the church. Unity and progress are their watchwords. Any help that may be given them will be greatly appreciated.

A Mildura-Merbein district Conference for the deepening of the brethren's life was held in the Mildura chapel on 5th inst., afternoon and evening. The afternoon session was conducted by Bro. R. Fechner and addresses were given by Brethren H. Gray, L. Cameron, and W. Oakes. The evening session was presided over by Bro. E. Griffiths, and Bro. Hugh Gray, G. Fretwell and R. Cameron addressed a good gathering. Bro. John Tully, Mildura on Fruitgrowers' business, was a most welcome visitor.

Miss Kate Lee, the "Angel Adjutant" of the Salvation Army, heroine of Harold Begbie's well-known book, "The Broken Barthenwater," recently died in London. She had a wonderful influence over the outcasts amongst whom she labored with tact and courage and beautiful self-abnegation. "Ah," said the author, "she died and whose wife hangs the portrait of this woman, 'if anybody goes to heaven, it'll be of this little angel of God.'" And a drunken man whom she encountered after midnight death results the likes of you, because you care for the likes of us.

School and Church work in the Lismore district, N.S.W., progresses well.

Bro. and Sister W. Wakefield were at Ararat, Vic., for the first time on May 9. The meeting was well attended.

Collingwood, Vic., has had most encouraging meetings during the last month. Services were well attended, and there were ten decisions.

The first terminal examinations of the College of the Bible were held last week. The work of the second term is due to begin on Tuesday, May 25.

Bro. and Sister H. C. Stitt and family have been received into membership at Zillmere, Q. Bro. Stitt gave three appreciated addresses on May 2.

The seven anniversary of Boort church, Vic., was successfully celebrated on May 2. As the annual business meeting it was decided to support Bro. Gibbins in an effort to commence week-end services at Mininwah, six miles from Boort.

Coburg, Vic., began its existence as an independent church on May 2. 54 were present at the J.C.E. meeting and 40 at the breaking of bread. The school, with Bro. Kilburn as superintendent, has 94 on the roll. At the close of a gospel address by Bro. Andrews, five made the good confession.

At Swanston-st., Melbourne, last Sunday morning, one was converted by letter. Feeling reference was made to the loss sustained by the church in the death of Bro. Henry Lyall, sen. Bro. Ennis, who in the morning, while Bro. Blakemore preached at night, specially dealt with "Mothers' Day. One was converted and two were baptized.

At North Fitzroy, Q., a banquet was given to returned soldiers on March 24, after which an honor roll was unveiled by General Lloyd. The function was a great success. The Bible school anniversary was held on two Sundays, April 18 and 25. There were the most successful anniversary services ever held at North Fitzroy. A pleasant function was held on April 29 with the ladies' society and one of our most respected members, Mrs. Forbes, with a gold brooch, was dealt with by the speaker.

The Victorian Home Mission Organiser, T. Bagley, writes as follows:—"The Swan Hill Circuit, which embraces Swan Hill, Ultima, Gulgoo, Woodbine, and Lake Boga, covers a wide area. During the week spent in this circuit, I travelled about 170 miles in a jinker turnout visiting the churches. Bro. D. A. Cookcroft and J. Warren are the real preachers, and with the help of local brethren a successful work is being carried on. About 10 years ago the church at Swan Hill was formed, but the brethren were far seeing in opening up other four points of the circuit. In each place there is a band of earnest faithful disciples, some of whom travel up to 12 miles to attend services. At a united meeting of officers on Saturday, fourteen brethren were present, several of whom travel by horse and vehicle 45 miles to attend. This meant leaving home at 6.30 a.m. and returning at about 8.30 p.m. I mention these matters as the interest and stamp of our country members. At this united meeting, in response to the Home Mission appeal, a unanimous resolution was passed urging each church to contribute more towards its own support, and that in January another effort be made to become self-supporting. The brethren feel the pressing needs of our missionary enterprise, and in order that the Committee may turn its attention to other important fields in this State, they purpose leaving no stone unturned to enable us to finance their own work and thus free themselves of the great soul-saving campaign. The Home Mission Committee started the present year with a deficit of £127.50. We are committed to a programme of less expenditure. It is impossible for less. Supported churches must do their utmost to relieve the Committee of the strain and brethren everywhere are asked to contribute liberally in the work committed to it by the Conference. Col- lectors for this work should be appointed in every church. To win our own State should be appointed in every the amount of it. The stronger we are at home the more can do in sending the gospel to the world. All money for this work should be sent to the Treasurer, W. C. Craigie, 265 Little St., Melbourne, or to the Secretary, Thos. Bagley, 537 Lygon St., North Carlton."

Sister Johnson, wife of the Evangelist, who was baptised last Wednesday, was received into fellowship at Warrumbungle, N.S.W., last Lord's Day.

Bro. W. Carpenter, of the College of the Bible, has accepted an engagement to labor at week ends with the church at Harcourt, Vic.

The extension of the building at Merewether, N.S.W., is progressing, the brethren working two or three nights per week, as well as Saturday afternoon. Good Mothers' Day services were held.

Bro. S. J. Southgate began his work at Bendigo, Vic., on May 9. He has been very successful, and a very good impression was made. Mrs. Southgate, unfortunately, was not able to be present on account of illness.

South Kensington, N.S.W., had a visit from Bro. and Sister Black on May 9. Mother's Day was celebrated afternoon and evening. Bro. Robbins preached on "The Best Name But One," to a crowded building.

Lidcombe, N.S.W., held a successful Bible School anniversary last month. Meetings are well sustained. Two husbands on May 9—husband and wife. One decision—a young woman. Bro. G. H. Browne has accepted renewal of engagement for twelve months from August.

A baptismal service was held at Chateaufort, N.S.W., by Bro. Whelan on May 6, when Mrs. Johnson, of Warrumbungle, was baptised, and Mrs. King, of Chateaufort, at the old age of 84 confessed her faith and was baptised. On May 9 Bro. Geo. Verco, of N.Z., gave a fine evening message, while Bro. Whelan gave a splendid evening address on "Mother."

There were two confessions at Castlemaine, Vic., last Sunday. Bro. Clipstone preaching, the church sympathises with Bro. Clipstone in the loss of his father and with Sister Everett in the death of her mother.

Work in connection with the extension of the chapel is due to begin this week, all services for the next three or four weeks will be held in the Paulist Watson Hall.

In a recent address, Sir James Cantlie, the distinguished surgeon and authority on tropical medicine, spoke of the great obligation of hygiene to the laws of Moses. He remarked:—Twenty-six years ago, when he was a doctor at Hong Kong, there was a bubonic plague, and he and others searched for information as to its cause. Then a clergyman came to him, and asked that he would read I Sam. 6: 4-6, where five models of swellings and three golden images of rats (mice) were described as being offered to the God of Israel. "That's the cause of your plague, these rats," said the clergyman, and on that basis the medical authorities went to work. Tropical medicine only came in 20 years ago, but if we had our Bibles we should have known all about it long before. All that the scientists do today, with their microscopes and test-tubes, do is to prove what the Bible has long said. We have been trying, hitherto, to cure disease instead of preventing it, as Moses did.

### Foreign Missions.

July 4, Offering for Foreign Missions.

Bro. and Sister Watson leave for India very shortly. All our members will be glad to know that Sister Watson has greatly improved in health. Our Federal Secretary had the joy while in India of baptising eleven of the boys and the house master of Shrigonda Boys' Orphanage, and one Indian woman. Since then Miss Cameron reports the baptism of another boy. We rejoice with our faithful missionaries in this fruition of their faithful labours.

G. T. Walden's address, 74 Edmund Avenue, Unley, South Australia. Phone Unley 2244.

Will our members do all they can to help with increased offerings, as the exchange with India and China is so heavy that unless more money is contributed some of our orphans must be sent away or our preaching and medical work reduced. The need is very urgent.

Bro. and Sister Black left for New Hebrides on Saturday, May 8. Our prayers will follow them as they travel towards their new home.

Bro. J. Leach is now treasurer of the Indian

Field Council, Bro. Coventry secretary, and Bro. Escott president.

Our present needs for India.—Hospital staff for Dhond; another missionary for Baranatti station to take Bro. Coventry's place when he moves into the new work among the Dinampas. Who will go to work in the Forest Mission field.

Bro. and Sister Garnett have volunteered for mission work in China. Bro. Garnett has just taken high honors in four of the subjects passed. We are glad to have this talented brother deciding to work in the Foreign Mission field.

The Federal Secretary is visiting South Australian churches from May 9 to June 7, and will then leave for a month's visit to the northern part of N.S.W. and Queensland.

### OBITUARY.

PROCTOR.—There recently passed from our midst at Ennenden our Bro. Proctor at the ripe age of 85 years. Born at Perth, Scotland, he came with his parents to Australia at the age of 7 years. He was one of the oldest members of the Church of Christ in this State; many of the churches have been blessed by his presence and help. He was largely instrumental in the starting of the church at Maryborough (which is the second oldest of our country churches). He was a deep student of "the Word," and had a wonderfully retentive memory and clear reasoning powers throughout his life. His wife predeceased him by about 20 years. To his loved ones we extend our sympathy.

—W. A. KEMP, Essendon, Vic.

LAWREY.—By the falling asleep of our young sister Annie Lawrey at the age of 23, on the 7th March, the church here has lost one of its best and most valued workers. Associated with the church from an early childhood her life was noted for its fidelity and earnestness. For over eight years she bears the unique record of not having lost a single soul. At home, at work and in the church associated, she was loved of all. Her illness was very brief, but was characterised by a sublime and confident faith in the Lord Jesus. Her death created a great impression on her friends, and has resulted in a deep spiritual quickening amongst several. —J. W. B. North Fitzroy, Vic.

COXHEAD.—Our late Sister M. Coxhead was suddenly called home on March 14. She will be greatly missed in the work of the church and school. Nothing was too much for her to do for her Lord. She was ever finding out those in need, and counted it a joy to aid them. She was baptised by Bro. Dickson in the City Temple, N.S.W., March 1901, and for three years was connected with the church at Erskineville. Our sympathies and prayers go out to the loved ones who mourn.

HAWKINS.—The church at Belmore, N.S.W., has lost by death one of its most respected members in the person of Sister Miss Ellen Sarah Hawkins. Sister Hawkins was baptised by her father, Bro. Hawkins, at Newtown meeting place, at the age of 14, 1874.

At sixteen she was taken from the Bible class and made a teacher in the school. And she continued steadfastly in her good work both at Newtown and at Enmore until 1880. Her family then removed to Swan Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins, son, of sainted memory, were among the pioneers in this State.

They were present at the initial meeting of a church which was held in the Hebrew School, when Miss Hawkins was present at that meeting as a baby.—A.H.

J. C. B. Green, P.S.M.C., F.I.O., D.B.O.A.  
(LATE A.I.F.)

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### COMING EVENTS.

MAY 18.—Mission commences at Windsor, J. E. Webb, Evangelist. Every Member and Friends invited to help.

MAY 18 to 19.—Cheltenham Church Anniversary (also celebrating the beginning of Mr. Mudge's ministry with the church). Sunday, May 18, 7.30, Tea Meeting. Public Meeting, 7.30. Tea to be at same old price. One shilling, 7.45 throughout, and a hearty Welcome for all. Monday, May 19, Swanston St. Church. "Acres of Diamonds," a popular lecture by a special offering. Sydney Herbert Cox. No Charge.

MAY 20.—8 p.m. North Richmond church, Gospel at. Welcome to those meeting to Cheltenham, H. A. Procter, M.A., L.D., and J. McKenna, M.A. of Canada. Representative speakers. A hearty welcome.

MAY 23 and 24.—Brunswick Bible School Anniversary. Sunday, 11. Bro. R. W. Payne, in charge. 3, Bro. T. R. Morris, 7, Mr. Burgess (old) and collections. Special singing by scholars. Tuesday, 7.45 sharp. Town Hall. Demonstration by scholars. Dialogues, etc. Admission, 10s. Come early to secure a seat.

### DEATH.

GOOD.—On the 17th April, at her residence, Naracoote, (suddenly), Mary, the dearly loved wife of the late Herzkiah Good, in her 80th year.

### WANTED.

Girdy, young, good housework. Communicate to Sir, 9rd., Royal Parade.

### IN MEMORIAM.

THOMSON.—In memory of John Thomson, killed in action at Bullecourt, May 15, 1917. Only son of John and the late Mary Ann Thomson, and only brother of Alice L. Thomson.

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