

1902
Conference

Minutes and proceedings of the
Seventeenth Annual Conference
of the Associated Churches of
Christ in New South Wales held
in the Tabernacle Metropolitan
Road Enmore the
26th 27th and 28th March 1902

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 26.

An essay on the "Scriptural Plan of Church Government" was read by Bro. Fischer. He dealt with the subject in a way suggestive of some action necessary to working on Scriptural lines, emphasising that elders and deacons should be appointed in each church in order to come into line with the church of Christ of apostolic days. The essay was discussed by G. P. Jones, R. C. Gilmour, T. Hawkins, A. Price, R. Verco, T. Bagley, W. Rootes, G. Arnott and L. Rossell, most being agreed that elders and deacons should be appointed, while some were opposed to it for the reason that there were so many failures when such course was pursued in regard to elders. Bro. Fischer was thanked for the able manner in which he presented the subject,

THURSDAY, MARCH 27.

FOREIGN MISSION NIGHT.

Shortly after 7.30 p.m., G. T. Walden took the chair to a not very large audience. The congregation having joined in a song of praise, Dr. Jas. Kingsbury led in prayer. Unfortunately, through the sickness of one and the inability of others to attend, the musical and recitative programme had to be abandoned, with the exception of a song kindly rendered by H. Walters, and congregational singing took its place. The chairman led off with an address in his usual inimitable style, prefacing his remarks with the suggestion that what we lacked in numbers we could make up in heartiness and enthusiasm. The Secretary read the reports of both the Victorian and New South Wales Committees, and a brief survey of the financial statements of both States. These were adopted by excellent speeches by T. B. Fischer of Rookwood and A. E. Illingworth of Petersham. Amongst the very excellent things said by the three speakers of the evening, we were pointed to the example of those missionary worthies of world-wide fame who had answered to the command "Go" in the past, and then to those living examples who have gone forth from the Austral land. The latter were aptly compared to the diver, who goes into the mighty deep and while

there is dependent on those above while he works hidden in the deep; so those hidden from our sight in the lands of darkness beyond depend upon us to supply the means of their present existence. Urgently and faithfully did the speakers press upon us who remain at home to sustain by our means, our sympathies and our prayers those whom we had sent forth. Fervent prayer for those in the field, for the mission cause, or for any object dear to our hearts, was such that it eventually and necessarily led to action. One of the speakers, when dwelling on the financial statement of the N. S. Wales Committee, drew attention to the fact that according to the membership the amount contributed per capita per week was about one farthing for sending the gospel to those sitting in darkness in the regions beyond our shores. At the conclusion of the addresses some of the members of the Chinese Class rendered an item of song, the congregation joining in the chorus. A further song of praise, prayer and the Benediction brought the meeting to a close.

GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 28.
ALL DAY CONFERENCE IN TABERNACLE.

MORNING SESSION.

At 9.30 a praise and prayer service was held, presided over by T. Hawkins, J. Kingsbury, R. C. Gilmour, and T. B. Fischer engaging in prayer. P. A. Dickson gave a short but very impressive address on the Great Commission, and giving words of encouragement for coming year's work, he said God had but one Son, and of him he made a missionary, and so we should endeavor to prosecute the work of the Master with all our might.

At 10.15 the President, Bro. McIndoe took the chair and welcomed the following visitors:—Bro. Rankine, South Australia; A. E. Illingworth; W. A. Oldfield, England; Bro. Boyce, Roma, Q.; W. J. Way and Bro. Wotherspoon, Lismore; Bros. Williams, Jones, Want, Nisbett and Sister Nisbett, Merewether; and any other visitors whose names were not known. Bros. Oldfield, Rankine, and Illingworth responded, and R. C. Gilmour spoke on behalf of Bro. Boyce.

ADMISSION OF CHURCH.

Canley Vale having applied for admission into the Association, they were received in as a church by unanimous vote.

The roll of delegates was then called, and was responded to as follows:—Enmore, 39; Petersham, 13; Mairickville, 3; Croydon, 2; Sydney, 22; Paddington, 8; Rookwood, 3; Lismore, 2; Prospect, 2; Merewether, 4; Canley Vale, 2. Many other members and friends were present, and took an interest in the proceedings.

The Secretary, Bro. Steer, read the minutes and proceedings of previous Conference, and on the motion of Bren. T. Morton and Stimson they were adopted.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Letters of greetings were read from Victorian and West Australian Conferences, from N.S.W. Sisters' Conference, from Bro. Rankine, conveying greetings of S. A. Conference; telegram received, fraternal greetings from Queensland Conference; from churches of Christ, Yorkshire, commending Bro. Oldfield to us; from Bro. Taylor Lambler, enclosing cheque for £2, being unable to be present owing to ill-health; from S.A. Conference, asking co-operation in the work at Broken Hill; and from W. J. Williams, Broken Hill. These were received on motion of T. Morton, and W. Spedding, the Secretary, stated he had responded to greetings. Broken Hill matter was left till dealing with future work, on motion of Bros. Logan and Stimson.

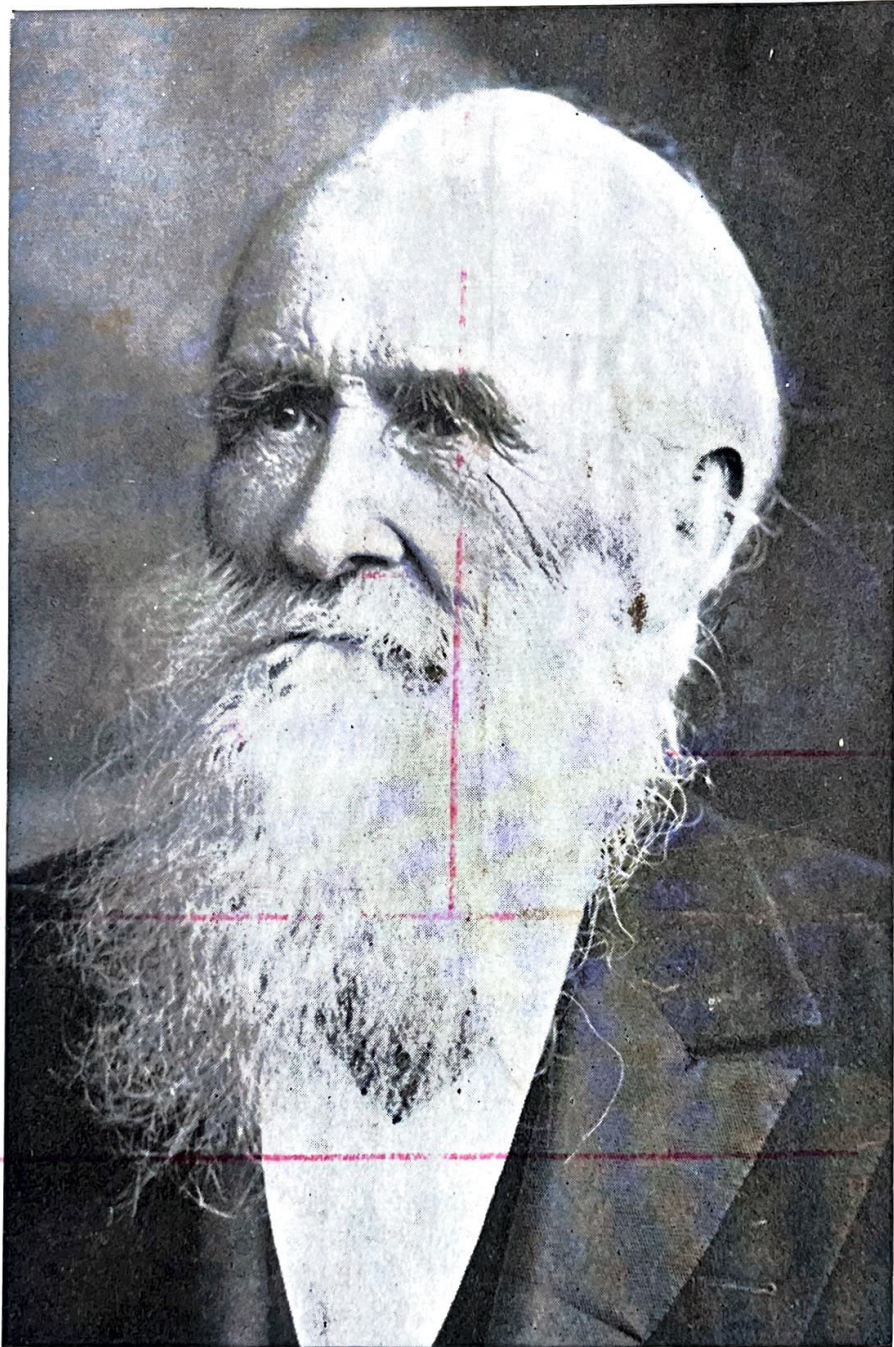
Bro. Hall
was
requested
to report
to Daily
Papers.

Bro. Hall

President's
Address

Bro. McIndoe The President
in an excellent address, took
as the basis of his remarks the
great Commission, Go ye into
all the World and preach the
Gospel to every creature
pointing out that each individual
member of the Church were
responsible for carrying out the
King's instructions right up to the
extent his or her ability and opportunity

Bro. T. Hawkins moved and Bro.
L. Russell seconded a vote of
thanks to president with instruction
that address be forwarded to
An. Christian for print (carried)



IN MEMORIAM.

WE deeply regret to record the death of our good old Bro. Dr. JOSEPH KINGSBURY, who at the ripe age of 88 years passed away on March 7th, 1902, at Francis-street, Enmore. Bro. Kingsbury was the President of the first Conference held in the Newtown church building, King-street, in the year 1885, and held the position two years. He has been present at every Conference since that date. We all miss him, but to many his life still speaks; and of him it may be said, "That he though dead yet speaketh." "For me to live is Christ and to die is gain." To his relatives we express our heartfelt sympathy and say—

"Hush, be every murmur dumb,
It is only till he come."



Conference Reports, 1902.

Seventeenth Annual Report.

MARCH 1.

DEAR BRETHREN,—In presenting our Annual Report we desire to state that we started the year resolved to keep our expenditure within our receipts, and at the same time not to curtail the work to accomplish that purpose. We have succeeded in our endeavor, but have not been able to reduce the deficit of last year as much as we hoped. We pray God that to-day you may in your counsels and actions place the incoming Committee upon a better financial position than we had.

We are pleased to note that two new church buildings have been erected this year—one at Paddington and the other at Petersham—chiefly through the efforts of Bros. T. Bagley and D. A. Ewers respectively.

It should be remembered that Bro. Ewers was engaged and brought from Victoria by the Conference Committee, September, 1896; and Bro. Bagley was also by the assistance of Conference Executive placed in the Woollahra District on his arrival from America, June 1st, 1898.

We congratulate our Petersham and Paddington brethren that their efforts have been so blessed.

In our Mission fields you will note decided activity, and in the larger churches of Enmore and Sydney the work is very encouraging. What we do earnestly pray for to-day is that while we may meet in different localities, we may know we are One Body, One Destiny, Christ, and that the strong should bear the infirmities of the weak.

STATISTICS.

We are pleased to report an increase of church members this year. The total additions have been:—By faith and obedience, 158; by letter, 43; baptised believers, 43; restored, 13; total, 257. The losses were:—By letter, 74; death, 12; removal or revision of roll, 116; total, 202; leaving a nett increase of 55, and a present membership of 1739, as against 1684 of 1901. The Lord's Day Schools show scholars 1583, as against 1471 last year, a gain of 112. Teachers, 141, as against 134 of 1901, an increase of 7. The additions to church from Lord's Day Schools were 69.

FINANCE.

As in previous years your Committee have felt the pressure of a deficit. At the same time, owing to the good management of our Treasurer, Bro. J. Stimson, in fixing Bank Overdraft and keeping us correctly and fully posted as to our financial position, we were the better able to meet the necessity and act accordingly. Local needs in some cases have prevented churches contributing as much as they did in previous years. But the churches assisted have responded to the suggestion to raise as much as possible towards the support of an evangelist, hence Merewether now contributes £1/15 per week as against £1/7/6 last year. Lismore raises about £2/10 per week, £1/15 of which goes towards evangelist's salary, the balance, 15/-, in hire of hall and incidental expenses. A chapel here is sadly needed.

The Combined Districts of Rookwood and Canley Vale, raise respectively £1 and 10/- per week towards an evangelist. One point we would note here, that a comparative small proportion of church members contribute to Home Mission Work, and we would like representatives to assist in solving this state of affairs to-day. In some way members should be brought in touch frequently throughout the year with Home Mission matters.

As will be seen by Balance Sheet we have received £357/13/10, and expended £318/16/6, leaving a credit on current year of £38/17/4, thus reducing the debt of last year, £60/13/8, to £21/16/4. Home Mission Day Collection, 1st Lord's day in December, amounted to £28/14 as against £39/9/2 of last year. Our Treasurer's Balance Sheet will give details of receipts and expenditure.

CHANGES ON COMMITTEE.

Bro. Walden who was elected Vice-President, could not take the position, and Bro. Chapple, next in vote, was appointed Vice-President by Committee, Bro. A. Morris filling vacant position. Bro. Rofe, Asst. Sec., found that he could not attend meetings as regular as he thought it incumbent upon members to do, and so he resigned. Bro. R. Verco was appointed in his stead Asst. Sec.

RE FEDERAL CAPITAL SITE

AND SUSTAINING CAUSE THERE.

The Special Committee appointed *re* this matter have formulated the following suggestions, copies of which have been sent to Conference Committees of each State.

PROPOSITION *re* FEDERAL CHAPEL SITE AND SUSTAINING CAUSE.

1. That it be a recommendation to the State Conferences that a Lord's Day Collection in all churches in the Commonwealth be taken up on the first Lord's day in September, or such other time as may be arranged and devoted to a fund for establishing and maintaining a church in the Federal Capital.
2. That all members of the church of Christ in the Commonwealth be asked to contribute at least 1s per annum towards initiating and sustaining cause in the Federal Capital.
3. That each State issue a special appeal to prominent brethren at their discretion.
4. That all monies collected in any of the States be deposited in the Savings Bank of such State in the names of two brethren to be appointed at Conference Committee of that State, and so bear interest until required.
5. When site of Federal Capital shall be decided on, the Conference Committee of each State shall appoint one representative. Such representatives shall form a committee, into whose hands all monies collected shall then be transferred, and who shall make all necessary arrangements in connection with establishing the work in the Federal Capital.
6. That the above recommendations be conveyed to Conferences in all the States.

R. STEER, Sec., N.S.W.

Our Mission Fields.

LISMORE.

Your Committee in dealing with the work in this field decided to re-engage Bro. Way, the church there being also unanimous that he should remain. Bro. Way's work extends outside Lismore, and from reports you will note that the Cause is steadily growing. During the year 27 have been added to the church, the nett increase being 20, and the present membership 111. The great need of this field is a chapel. Now the question is how this can best be obtained. It would probably mean that the church would be able to relieve the Committee of financial responsibility in a shorter space of time. Their present outlay for hired hall would pay interest on sum needed for a building of their own. Is there any brother who can solve this, so that in the coming Conference year a building may be erected at Lismore? Bro. Way will no doubt be able to post you in all particulars.

MEREWETHER.

Bro. Pond having decided not to accept re-engagement at Merewether, the church asked that Bro. L. A. Williams be engaged, they offering the sum of £1/10/- per week towards salary, and more if possible. Bro. Williams accepted offer, and commenced labors there on 1st August last. The report from church to-day will show you that his efforts have not been in vain. After three months' work the church asked that Bro. Williams' engagement be further extended, and offered to increase their contributions from 30/- to 35/- per week. The additions during Bro. Williams' labors in this field have been 26, and present membership after revising roll is 69. We hope the time is not far distant when Merewether will be able to fully support a preacher. It is needless to say that their act in increasing contributions encouraged us in our work.

ROOKWOOD AND CANLEY VALE.

After Bro. Williams' departure from Rookwood, the Committee arranged for speakers for gospel meetings at Rookwood and Canley Vale, and we desire to express our thanks to all who assisted. In one of his visits to Canley Vale, your secretary suggested that the two above fields should combine with the assistance of the Committee to have an Evangelist, the result being that in August Rookwood offered £1 and Canley Vale 10/- per week toward salary. Acting upon this, your Committee engaged Bro. T. B. Fischer, of Adelaide, South Australia, and he commenced his labors there on Dec. 1st.

Bro. Fischer has succeeded in uniting a number of immersed with the church at Canley Vale. At Rookwood the work is going on steadily; Bro. Fischer will tell you more in his report. The present membership of Rookwood is 53, and Canley Vale, 13. We desire to place on record that our Bro. G. Stimson held the Fort at Canley Vale in church and Sunday school for some considerable time.

MOREE AND MUNGINDI.

Bro. D. C. McCallum has been laboring here for 15 months, and has been re-engaged up to the end of June. At Moree there has been an increase of 17 members since our last report. The brethren there raised whole of Evangelist's salary, notwithstanding the adverse circumstances of present drought. We pray they may have the satisfaction of knowing that precious souls have been saved, and we hope some means may be adopted to continue work.

COWRA.

Brethren to the number of 16 are meeting here to break bread, and are desirous of assuming the aggressive. They made an appeal for an Evangelist to assist in a Mission, but we were not able to respond, as preachers could not go. We desire to record our sympathy with them, and hope this year the incoming Committee will arrange a visit to encourage our kindred in Christ at Cowra.

FUTURE WORK.

In speaking of this, we would say it will all depend upon funds available. We would certainly advise that the present work at Lismore, Merewether, Rookwood, Canley Vale, Moree, and Mungindi be continued, and if possible, that an Evangelist be sent to the Manning River. We would also recommend to the consideration of the brethren, the possibility of starting Causes in one or more of the suburbs of Sydney. This might be done, if the churches having Evangelists were to co-operate and allow preachers to conduct such Missions by turns. We trust these recommendations may be so received and acted upon that good results will follow. We must all be determined to sustain and uphold the incoming Committee in their work to the best of our ability.

SUMMARY OF HOME MISSION WORK.

Bro. Way has been engaged the whole year at Lismore.

Bro. Pond at Merewether till end of April.

Bro. Williams at Rookwood till end of July, and at Merewether from August 1st.

Bro. T. B. Fischer at Rookwood, from the 1st December.

Bro. McCallum at Moree, Mungindi, for whole of year.

Additions in Mission Fields were—gross, 75; losses, 44; nett gain, 31.

We would urge that continued effort be the policy in all fields.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY COMMITTEE.

1st—That this Conference make a recommendation to the City and Suburban Churches, that they allow their Evangelists to assist Country Churches as Conference Committee may suggest, a fortnight each year.

2nd—That this Conference express its disapproval of repeated use of the term "Rev." being applied to Evangelists of Church of Christ in newspapers and printed programmes.

HOME MISSION MEETINGS.

We have held in various churches in city and suburbs during the year Home Mission meetings, our object being to put our brethren in possession of matters concerning Home Mission work. We would suggest to the incoming Committee that these meetings be continued.

JUBILEE CELEBRATION.

We regret to say that, through having to concentrate our minds upon General Work, we were not able to give attention to matter of Jubilee Celebration, and would advise a Special Committee.

THANKS.

We desire to thank the collectors for Home Mission Work, and also those who have so generously contributed.

We are grateful to the Office-Bearers of the Sydney church for use of Building for Committee meetings, and also the churches for their ready response to request to hold Home Mission meetings.

We thank our Heavenly Father who helped us, and we pray we may all realise the importance of this work.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Committee have held 14 meetings during the year, the attendance as follows:—

W. Macindoe ..	14	L. Rossell ..	13
*G. T. Walden	0	P. A. Dickson ..	10
J. Stimson ..	14	J. Chapple ..	5
R. Steer ..	14	G. Arnott ..	9
▲*C. A. Rofe ..	3	BA. Morris ..	9
A. Price ..	14	BR. Verco ..	9

*Resigned, April 26th. ▲*Resigned, June 28th.
BAppointed June 28th.

W. MACINDOE, President.
J. CHAPPLE, Vice-President.
R. STEER, Secretary.
R. VERCO, Assistant Sec.
J. STIMSON, Treasurer.

COMMITTEE

{ P. A. DICKSON.
A. PRICE.
L. ROSSELL.
G. ARNOTT.
A. MORRIS.

Aged Preachers' Fund.

As instructed by the last Conference of Churches, we desire to submit herewith, our report on the question of an Aged Preachers' Fund.

We have to bring under your notice two schemes, the one having our unanimous endorsement as practical and likely to meet with the general approval of the Conference, the other as worthy of discussion (although not having our unanimous endorsement), as practical.

The first proposal is the creation of a central collecting and distributing board, with sub-committees in each Colony or State, and under these, a collector in each church. Funds collected under this system to be distributed according to need, to applicants applying through their respective churches. Such a scheme to be effective, should be Australasian in extent. The general Board might be appointed by the Victorian Conference and sit in Melbourne, as being the most central.

The sub-committees should be elected by the Conferences of the respective States.

These committees should suggest to each church

the appointment of a collector whom the church would make responsible to the local Conference Treasurer, who in his turn, would hand over such payments to the Melbourne Board.

An aged, or otherwise incapacitated preacher, wishing to receive the benefits, would apply through the local church, with whom he holds fellowship, who would approve the application and send it direct to the Central Board. The amount of benefit would be assessed according to circumstances.

Under this system the Aged Preachers would practically become paid elders, and the churches receiving their services, would naturally feel under an obligation to contribute more largely, and to that extent, relieve the central fund.

The alternative scheme suggests that the money hitherto annually expended outside the church funds on life insurance should instead be devoted to the formation of a general church benevolent fund for the relief of all cases of need, the surplus to be used for evangelistic work.

The scheme as fully outlined is apparently statistically sound and shows a large surplus for all purposes, the difficulties being in the practical application. It takes as granted that God exercises the greater care over the faithful Christian who trusts in him. It aims at securing to the church the enormous amount of money now going out for the support of canvassers, clerks, directors and offices of insurance societies. It suggests that all brethren should at least contribute to the general fund to the extent of £15 per annum before insuring their lives in an insurance society.

The order of precedence as to benefits is arranged as follows:—Aged widows, superannuated evangelists, head of houses, juniors, active evangelists, that is to say the surplus is devoted to the employment of evangelists and to other gospel work.

The author reckons that on a moderate estimate the margin for evangelistic purposes would be £3000 if Victoria and New South Wales heartily co-operated, but as in the previous case, the scheme should be at least Federal, if not Australasian.

In conclusion, we might state that we have suggested to the outgoing Conference Committee, that an advance copy of this report be sent to the Secretary of the Victorian Conference, in case they should desire to consider it in conjunction with any schemes proposed in that State.

JAMES HUNTER,
E. GOLE,
ALAN PRICE.



BALANCE SHEET

New South Wales Churches of Christ Home Mission Fund, 1901-1902.

RECEIPTS.		
By Church Fees—		
Bungawalbyn ..	£0 10 0	
Canley Vale ..	0 10 0	
Chatham ..	0 10 0	
Croydon ..	0 10 0	
Enmore ..	1 0 0	
Lismore ..	0 10 0	
Marrickville ..	0 10 0	
Petersham ..	1 0 0	
Prospect ..	1 0 0	
Rookwood ..	1 0 0	
Sydney ..	1 0 0	
Woollahra ..	2 0 0	
		10 0 0
Contributions from Assisted Churches—		
Canley Vale ..	11 0 0	
Lismore ..	9 15 0	
Merewether ..	49 15 0	
Rookwood ..	32 19 0	
		185 9 0
Collections from—		
Bungawalbyn ..	1 0 0	
Chatham ..	5 0 0	
Enmore ..	19 4 2	
Manning River ..	4 0 0	
Moree ..	1 0 0	
Prospect ..	5 10 0	
Petersham ..	3 14 6	
Sydney ..	70 8 1	
Woollahra ..	1 12 9	
		111 9 6
Home Mission Lord's Day Collections—		
Bungawalbyn ..	1 2 0	
Corowa ..	1 13 0	
Canley Vale ..	0 12 6	
Enmore ..	6 8 6	
Inglewood ..	1 0 0	
Lismore ..	3 3 0	
Merewether ..	1 2 0	
Marrickville ..	1 15 0	
Manning River ..	1 0 0	
Moree ..	1 0 0	
Prospect ..	1 0 0	
Petersham ..	0 19 3	
Rookwood ..	1 10 0	
Sydney ..	5 16 9	
Temora ..	0 12 0	
		28 14 0
Miscellaneous Receipts Collected at Annual Session—		
5th April, 1901 ..	2 7 4	
Sisters' Conference ..	2 0 0	
F.M. Com. (Ptg.) ..	1 0 0	
Donations by Individual Contributors ..	16 14 0	
		22 11 4
Total Receipts ..		357 13 10
Debit Balance ..		21 16 4
		£379 10 2

EXPENDITURE.		
To Salaries—		
Bro. Way ..	£153 0 0	
Bro. Williams..	77 10 0	
Bro. Fischer ..	35 13 0	
Bro. Pond ..	3 15 0	
Assistance to Rookwood ..	9 0 0	
Secretary's Allowance ..	6 0 0	
		284 18 0
Stamps, Duty & Postage ..	3 17 8	
Bank Exchanges & a/c Charges ..	1 7 6	
Bank Interest a/c ..	2 14 1	
Printing ..	15 19 3	
Travelling Expenses Bro. Fischer..	10 0 0	
		33 18 6
Total Expenditure ..		318 16 6
Debit Balance 18th March, 1901 ..		60 13 8

£379 10 2

Debit Balance Forward, £21/16/4

Audited and found correct,

12th March, 1902.

JOSEPH STIMSON, Treasurer.

J. F. ASHWOOD.
E. ROBERTS.

STATISTICAL REGISTER, MARCH 1st, 1902.

LOCATION OF CHURCH	Church Additions, 1901.				Church Losses 1901.			Membership, 1902.		Lord's Day School				Church Additions from Lord's Day School.	Seating Capacity of Meeting House.	EVANGELIST.	
	Membership, 1901.	Faith and Obedience.	Letter.	Baptised Believers.	Restored.	Letter.	Death.	Removal or Revis'n of Roll	Membership, 1902.	Increase.	Decrease.	1901 Scholars.	1902 Scholars.				1901 Teachers.
Bungawalbyn	21	3					3		21			23	22	3	3	80	aT. B. Fischer.
Canley Vale	38	1		13				13	13			30	30	3	2	200	F. Collins.
Chatham	62	9	2			4	18	1	51	11		14	18	2	2	100	G. T. Walden.
Corowa	8								8			32	29	3	3	200	A. E. Illingworth.
*Croydon	541	37	3	2		15	5	20	561			441	501	33	33	450	W. J. Way.
Enmore	147	7	3	3		7	15		135	12		140	171	16	15	300	L. A. Williams.
Petersham	58	3	2			2	2	1	57			100	83	11	9	100	bD. C. McCallum.
Marrickville	9								9							100	bD. C. McCallum.
June	91	22	1	1	3		7	20	111			56	70	7	7	300	aT. B. Fischer.
Lismore	65	11	9	2	6	3	17	4	69			100	136	10	12	200	P. A. Dickson.
Merewether	31	17					2	17	48			29	34	3	4	200	T. Bagley.
Moree	9								9			13	13	3	3	100	
*bMungundi	10	4	2	1			1	6	16			21	21	1	1	100	
Prospect	59	2	5	2	1	9	15		44	15		110	94	10	13	160	
Rookwood	332	24	9	2	1	34	27	302	302	30		150	145	18	19	500	
Sydney	19								19							200	
*Wagga	16	18	9	3	3	1	4	2	18			200	225	11	16	100	
Wingham	148			16				25	173							300	
Woolahra								16	36								
Isolated Brethren																	
Estimated at ..	20			16													
	1684	158	43	43	13	74	116	124	1739	69		1471	1583	134	141	3450	

Increase of Church Members, 55. Increase* Scholars, Lord's Day School, 112.

* Wagga, Croydon and Mungindi sent no report. Figures same as last year.

a These Churches form a District, T. B. Fischer, Evangelist. b D. C. McCallum labored between two.

Summary of Church & Individual Collections.

Bungawalbyn—General ..	£1 0 0			
H.M. Sunday ..	1 2 0			
			2 2 0	
Canley Vale—General ..	9 0 0			
H.M. Sunday ..	0 12 6			
Individual Contrib ..	2 0 0			
			11 12 6	
Chatham—General ..	3 0 0			
Individual Contributors ..	2 0 0			
			5 0 0	
Enmore—Collected by Sisters ..	16 14 2			
H.M. Sunday ..	6 8 6			
Individual Contributors ..	2 10 0			
			25 12 8	
Lismore—General ..	9 15 0			
H.M. Sunday ..	3 3 0			
			94 18 0	
Manning River—General ..	4 0 0			
H.M. Sunday ..	1 0 0			
			5 0 0	
Merewether—General ..	49 15 0			
H.M. Sunday ..	1 2 0			
			50 17 0	
Moree—H.M. Sunday ..	1 0 0			
Individual Contributors ..	1 0 0			
			2 0 0	
Petersham—General ..	3 14 6			
H.M. Sunday ..	0 19 3			
			4 13 9	
Prospect—General ..	1 10 0			
H.M. Sunday ..	1 0 0			
Individual Contributors ..	4 0 0			
			6 10 0	
Rookwood—General ..	20 19 0			
H.M. Sunday ..	1 10 0			
Individual Contrib ..	12 0 0			
			34 9 0	
Sydney—Collected by Sisters ..	51 8 1			
H.M. Sunday ..	5 16 9			
Individual Contributors ..	19 0 0			
			76 4 10	
Woollahra—General ..	1 2 9			
Individual Contrib ..	0 10 0			
			1 12 9	
Corowa—H.M. Sunday ..	1 13 0			
Inglewood ..	1 0 0			
Marrickville ..	1 15 0			
Melbourne, Bro. Campbell Edwards ..	10 0 0			
June ..	1 10 0			
Rooty Hill, Mrs. Francis ..	1 0 0			
„ J. Francis ..	0 10 0			
			1 10 0	
Narramine ..	0 10 0			
Temora, C. V. Roberts ..	3 0 0			
Sisters' Conference ..	2 0 0			
Miscellaneous ..	4 3 4			
			27 1 4	
Church Fees ..			347 13 10	
			10 0 0	
			£357 13 10	

Letters from Churches.

The following digest of letters sent by the Churches should prove of general interest, as it enables us to understand more of the difficulties and triumphs of the Cause than we can gleam from the bare statistics:—

COROWA.—The secretary informs us "Bro. Collins has proved himself to be a splendid organiser, a thoroughly efficient worker, and capable preacher." Although a number of active members have left the district, the spiritual tone of the church has deepened through the labors of Bro. Collins.

An Endeavor Society has been organised, and collectors have been appointed for Home and Foreign Mission funds.

The church has arranged with Bro. Collins to remain for another 12 months, after expiration of present term.

ENMORE.—The attendance at the Lord's day morning and Wednesday night meetings is good, while the evangelistic services draw large audiences. There are over 560 members on the Enmore roll, a nett increase of 20. During the year the church has raised for Home Mission work, £75, divided as follows: Petersham, £40; Conference Committee, £29; and Marrickville, £6. For other purposes outside of local church work, there was contributed £42, and for its own church work, £509, making altogether a total of £626.

The number of scholars in the Lord's day school has grown from 441 to 501. Of these, 43 competed in the S.S. Union examination, 37 passing.

The Dorcas Society has done a lot of good work, and the Band of Hope continues in its useful career.

The Senior Endeavor Society has a membership of 38, and a Junior Endeavor Society has been started.

PETERSHAM.—Report not received in time for printer. There is a bright prospect ahead of this church, a neat and commodious meeting house having been recently completed, and Bro. Illingworth having been engaged to carry on the work of preaching the gospel here. We look for great things at Petersham.

MARRICKVILLE.—The secretary writes: "During the year closed, we have made but little numerical progress." Since Bro. Colbourne's departure for South Australia, the work of preaching was carried on for six months by Bro. Chapple, and since then various brethren have preached for one month each, assisted by members of the Bible Students' class.

LISMORE.—The work in this district is going along satisfactorily. Bro. Way is doing a grand work. Since he commenced to labor in Lismore the membership has grown from 47 to 111. "The accession of Bro. Way in our midst has been a source of growing satisfaction to us, and the utmost confidence exists between himself and the church." During the year 27 have been added, and the nett increase has been 20.

MANNING RIVER.—Little numerical progress is being made here. "We are going along just about the same, our membership showing but little increase." The cash receipts for the year amounted to £45/10/6, as follows: Home Missions, £3/11/-; Foreign Missions, £9/3; Rescue Home, £2/7/9; and Hospital, £1/10/-. Balance was deposited in the Savings Bank on account of Building and Evangelist Fund.

MEREWETHER.—We did not receive a report from the secretary in time for the printer, but know from the monthly reports from time to time that meetings are being well attended. The church and Bro. Williams are working harmoniously together, with good success, as indicated by the additions, which total 26 since 1st August.

MOREE.—Bro. McCallum has continued his labors in this field throughout the year, and expects to leave early in July. The additions (mostly from the Lord's day school), number 19, with a nett increase of 17. "During the year the debt on the building has been reduced by £20, the present debt being £25."

ROOKWOOD.— "Since Bro. Fischer's arrival the work has been going on steadily, and we feel sure that God will accept and abundantly bless his whole-hearted services. The meetings are all well attended, and a public interest is manifest. Good work is being done in the Bible class and Lord's day school. Two of the scholars have obeyed the Lord, and united with the church. The sisters carry on the Dorcas Society with good results. Our number was somewhat decreased, but we are again on the increase, and we trust it may ever be so."

SYDNEY.—The secretary says: "There is nothing particularly striking to report. The church is working most harmoniously, and during the year has contributed a sum of not less than £500 for all purposes. Sisters Mrs. Morrison, Misses Leck, Elliott, J. Henderson and Studdy, deserve special commendation for their efficient and painstaking efforts as collectors for the Home Mission funds. Notwithstanding that 23 have been added during the year, the membership shows a considerable decrease, which is accounted for by the fact that the roll has been revised, the first time for several years."

PADDINGTON.—The report is one of progress. "We began the year with 148 members. Our total increase has been 30, and our nett gain 25. Present membership 173." During the year a fine meeting house has been built, which will accommodate 300. The gospel meetings are well attended, and we are working, praying for, and expecting great success in the coming year. The Lord's day school is in a very healthy state, and a Christian Endeavor Society has been started.

CANLEY VALE.—"Since Bro. Fischer's arrival a church has been established, and although small in numbers at present, we hope to increase shortly, as there are some immersed believers in the district who will very likely join with us. We are at present contributing 10/- per week toward the Evangelist's salary, and as our numbers increase, we hope to augment our contribution."

The total membership is 13.

BUNGAWALBYN.—No numerical progress has been made, but the brethren are living in harmony and doing their best to carry on the work.

Conference Report of Sunday School Union.

21ST FEBRUARY, 1902.

The Committee has pleasure in presenting to the Conference the usual Report on the work performed during the past twelve months.

In respect to the examination for 1901 the number of competitors was below that of previous years. Doubtless the chief factor in bringing this about was that the idea has become prevalent that the questions on "The First Principles of Christianity" adopted on this occasion would be more difficult than the questions for former years. While this fear was exaggerated, every credit is due to those who essayed the task. Another reason for the smaller numbers was that there was one school less in the Union than before, namely Woollahra, and, as will be noticed, Rookwood did not compete. In all there was 148 nominations, out of which number 97 sat for examination, with the following results

School	Examined	Obtained Prizes	Obtained Certificates	Failed
Enmore	43	12	25	6
Petersham	24	4	16	4
Sydney	22	2	13	7
Lismore	8	-	4	4

Shortly after the last examination, it was decided to alter the constitution of the Union, to allow of the formation of a Committee, consisting of three delegates from each school affiliated with the Union acting in conjunction with the office bearers, to meet in place of the whole of the teachers from schools of the Union, it being considered that the former Committee of the whole was too cumbersome for many of the details submitted to it. Provision, however, is made for the holding of an Annual Conference of all Schools in the Union, during which the election of office bearers takes place.

The new Committee has been conducting the general work of the Union for the past six months, and feels that the change is for the better. This, however, must be judged by results, and it is perhaps, premature to speak of this until a longer period has expired.

While the success attending the efforts put forth by the Union in this State has been gratifying in the past, so far as they have gone, it has been felt by your Committee that the result attained has been qualified by the fact that the benefits derivable have been taken advantage of by practically the metropolitan schools only. The question was to find out the trouble in the way and then to try and remedy it. At a recent meeting of the Committee this matter was earnestly discussed, and the outcome was that a resolution was passed reducing the annual fees considerably; the hope in the experiment being that the large increase anticipated in the number of Schools joining would suffice to make up for the loss suffered in the amount received from each School. The experiment so far has met with success, for two Schools in the country—Merewether and Canley Vale—that could not reasonably have been expected to pay the fee under the old tariff, have just thrown in their lot with the Union, and it is pleasing to note that there is now every prospect of the Woollahra School becoming shortly re-united.

Another item in the interests of country Schools lately dealt with by the Committee has been the passing of a resolution giving the more distant Schools the option of appointing one representative on the Committee, belonging to a church nearer or in Sydney, in lieu of the three delegates each they are entitled to

from their own School, but who would necessarily seldom if ever be able to attend, thus becoming practically disfranchised.

The amount in the hands of the Treasurer at the present time is £5/13/6.

The Committee wishes to place on record its thanks for the services rendered by late officers of the Union: Brethren John Kingsbury, as President; T. P. Beer, as Secretary; and Robert Ewers, as Assistant Secretary.

In conclusion the Committee has to acknowledge its gratitude to our Father in Heaven for whatever success has attended the efforts of the Union, through Jesus Christ our Lord, and its prayer will be for a continuance of help from the same source, without which all human endeavors would be in vain.

C. A. ROFE, President.

CHAS. J. LEA, Secretary.

Annual Report of the Conference Temperance Committee.

In connection with our work in the Temperance Field, your Committee have to report a year of quiet yet practical work. We have not been able to accomplish great things because the opportunity has not presented itself, but we have taken an active interest in all matters connected with the Temperance movement, social or political. We are represented on the Council of the Temperance Alliance by Brethren Logan and D. R. Hall, M.P., and have co-operated with that body where possible. At the General Elections your Committee made its influence felt in more than one electorate. Political and Educational Temperance Meetings have been held in connection with all our churches in the metropolitan district, Sydney Enmore (twice), Petersham (twice), Marrickville, Rookwood and Woollahra. Large audiences were gathered at all our meetings, Bro. Walden's lime-light lantern proving a great attraction. Temperance dialogues, songs and recitations were rendered, and addresses given by prominent brethren and citizens.

Financially, the work has been self-supporting. We collected at our meetings £7 19/3, and spent £7 9/8, leaving a credit balance on the year's work of 9/7.

Early in the year Bro. Colbourne resigned his position on the Committee, owing to leaving for South Australia, and Bro. W. J. Williams, M.P., State representative for Alma was appointed in his stead. Eight committee meetings have been held, and the attendance as follows:—Bro. G. T. Walden, President, 7; Bro. Colbourne, 2; Bro. Roots, 3; Sister Campbell, 6; Sister Hall, 5; Bro. Logan, 6; Bro. D. R. Hall, 3; Bro. W. J. Williams, 3; Bro. T. Morton, 8.

In conclusion, we would again urge upon the churches the desirability of establishing Bands of Hope in connection with their schools, and generally taking an interest in all local Temperance matter.

G. T. WALDEN, President.

THOMAS MORTON, Secretary.

Foreign Missionary Society.

REPORT OF THE NEW SOUTH WALES COMMITTEE.

The report from our State this year will be brief, and perhaps not so encouraging as that of last year. Not but that the work generally in the Foreign field is exceedingly so, but this report, being that of a Committee only, is no place to tell of the wonderful work that is being done in India, Japan and China, especially of the wonderful recovery in the latter country after the trouble of last year.

Our income, it will be noticed, instead of being on the upgrade, has visibly decreased. We started the year hopefully with the desire to raise £150, and that we have not done so is due to more reasons than one. The churches were asked for a definite amount, but the matter was not kept before them and so the need was forgotten. Local interests pushed out the world-wide plea, and the cry of those sitting in darkness under oppression and without hope was not heard, or if heard at all the cry was so feeble that local interests drowned its voice. Before there can be action there must be conviction, and before there can be conviction there must be knowledge. Facts, arguments and appeals must be made; the claims of the Christless millions must be pressed home to the hearts and consciences of the church at large. Whereas unfortunately these claims have been left to care for themselves, little information has been given beyond the brief visits of our Sister Rosa Tonkin, and latterly that of our Bro. John Thompson. This, however, we hope to amend in the year upon which we have entered. The claims of the countless millions for whom Christ died, and who know not his name or the precious gift he has for their acceptance, will be put more fully before you, and facts, arguments and appeals, both oral and written, will be shortly placed before the churches. The vocation of the churches is the evangelisation of the whole world, and not simply the place, country or part in which we live. Another reason is the great loss we sustained in the departure of our Bro. and Sister Ewers for the West. Both are a host of themselves in any department of church work, but especially do we miss them in this work; not forgetting also our Bro. J. Colbourne, who at the time of his departure for South Australia was an active worker on our Committee. Thus during the year has our Committee been depleted of some of its best workers and well-wishers. A further reason is that last year the famine in India and the massacres in China kept the heathen world and its claims more prominently before the church's observation, and so appealed more to its sympathy. While our hopes have not been realised, two big facts and a necessity remain:—

1. Millions in Japan, China and India are strangers to Christ and the hope that is ours.

2. Australasia has sent out missionaries as representatives of the churches in India, China and Japan,

3. As representatives of and depending upon the churches for their support, the necessity lies upon us to see that they are paid in order that they may meet their current obligations and owe no man aught but love and good will.

The city and suburban churches had the pleasure of making the acquaintance of our Sister Rosa L. Tonkin before her departure for China, and we are pleased to note that the missionaries in the land were pleased to receive her and gratified with the association of the Australasian churches in the work in China. Bro. John Thompson's recent visit made the churches in Newcastle and in and around Sydney more gen-

erally acquainted with his work as a missionary amongst the Kanakas.

We again put on record our thanks to the church in Sydney for the use of the lower hall for the Chinese Mission on Sunday and week days. Also to our collectors in the various districts whose names we append:—Waverley, Mrs. E. Bagley; Petersham, Mrs. Emily Ewers and Miss B. McPherson; Enmore, Miss L. Brown, Mrs. Wallace, and Mr. H. Gilmour; Sydney, Miss Field and Miss Fox; Marrickville, Mrs. Jones.

Finally we would remind all that we owe the gospel to all the world, at home or abroad, for God gave it *in trust* to the church, and therefore we are debtors to the unsaved wherever they may be. God has set the church as a light for the nations, and our obligations as light dispensers never ceases, never rests, until all the ends of the earth have heard of the name of Jesus.

JAMES HUNTER, Chairman.

EDMOND GOLE, Sec. & Treas.

EXPENDITURE.

Postage	£0 15 5	
Printing	4 9 9	
Bank Exchanges	0 4 7	
Expenses Miss Tonkin's Social	3 0 11	
	<u>8 10 8</u>	
Advances to Chinese Class	7 10 0	
Cartage, Customs House Expenses, Freight, &c. to Bombay and Harda	2 11 3	
	<u>10 1 3</u>	
New Lantern, John Thompson	£9 0 0	
Fare and Expenses from Brisbane to Childers	3 0 0	
	<u>12 0 0</u>	
Money remitted to Melbourne	53 8 5	
" " " " " "	4 0 0	
" " " " " "	18 11 7	
	<u>76 0 0</u>	
Cash Balance Forward	0 6 7	
	<u>106 18 6</u>	

FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY, NEW SOUTH WALES
COMMITTEE, FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1901-1902.

RECEIPTS.

Balance Forward	£0 6 7½
(General Contributions.)	
Enmore—	
per Miss Brown ..	£6 10 0
Mrs. Wallace ..	4 19 1
Mrs. H. Gilmour ..	5 1 11
	<u>16 11 0</u>
Sydney—	
per Miss Fox ..	11 0 9
Miss Field ..	3 18 3
	<u>14 19 0</u>
Marrickville—	
per Mrs. Jones ..	2 18 0
	<u>2 18 0</u>
Petersham—	
per Mrs. Ewers ..	1 7 3
Miss Macpherson ..	0 7 7
	<u>1 14 10</u>
Woollahra—	
Mrs. Bagley ..	3 2 0
	<u>3 2 0</u>
Rookwood	0 1 0
Moree	1 0 0
	<u>40 5 10</u>
Church at Armidale, Scotland, per Mr. Jos. Fraser ..	1 10 0
Collection at Reception to Miss Tonkin, Enmore ..	2 11 1½
Lord's Day School, Sydney ..	1 17 1
" " " Marrickville ..	0 2 3
" " " Petersham ..	0 7 3
" " " Woollahra ..	0 15 0
	<u>7 2 8½</u>
Balance Proceeds of John Thompson's Lectures, as per Statement annexed ..	1 14 11
Amount Collected on Foreign Mission Sunday, as per items annexed ..	57 8 5
	<u>106 18 6</u>

FEMALE ORPHANAGE, MAHOBA, INDIA.

1901-1902.

By Balance forward	£2 11 3
" Cash received Sydney and Petersham Lord's Day Schools	4 6 7 ✓
	<u>6 17 10</u>
To Cost Maintaining Child for one year	£5 0 0
To Money Order and Postage	0 2 11
	<u>5 2 11</u>
Cash Balance	1 14 11
	<u>6 17 10</u>
Feb. 28, 1902.	E. GOLE, Treas.

MONEYS COLLECTED ON FOREIGN MISSION SUNDAY.

Bungawalbyn	£1 12 11
Cairns, Queensland	0 10 0
Corowa	8 15 0
Enmore	7 0 0
June	1 18 0
Lismore	1 1 0
Manning River	9 3 0
Marrickville	2 14 3
Merewether	1 1 0
Moree	4 2 6
Petersham	1 12 6
Prospect	1 10 0
Rookwood	2 0 0
Sydney	8 17 9
Temora	1 10 0
Wellsford, Auckland, N.Z. ..	1 10 0
Willow Tree	1 0 6
Woollahra	1 10 0
	<u>57 8 5</u>
	<u>106 18 6</u>

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, LECTURES JOHN
THOMPSON WHILE IN SYDNEY.

1902		RECEIPTS	
Feb. 5th.	To Lecture in Sydney	.. £0	17 0
" 17th.	" Two Lectures in Newcastle	.. 1	3 6
" 17th.	" Lecture at Petersham	.. 1	8 6
" 18th.	" Lecture at Woollahra	.. 0	16 6
" 19th.	" Lecture at Enmore	.. 2	3 3
" 20th.	" Lecture at Marrickville	.. 0	12 6
" 25th.	" Lecture at Canley Vale	.. 1	2 5
" 25th.	" Lecture at Rookwood	.. 1	6 6
			<hr/>
		£9	10 2

Feb. 1902.		EXPENDITURE.	
(Items paid by E. Gole)			
By Federal Printing Coy. 4000	Handbills for Lectures at Peter-		
sham, Woollahra, Enmore, and	Marrickville	.. £1	0 0
By Cartage of J. Ts. traps from	Sydney Railway Station to		
Petersham, Newcastle Trip	..	0	2 0
By Cartage of Luggage from Peter-	sham to Brisbane Steamer	..	0 5 0
			<hr/>
		£1	7 0
By Cash paid G. T. Walden for	Cartage, Chemicals and Operator		
of his Lantern at Sydney	Lecture	..	0 15 0
By Do. to G.T.W. Petersham	Lecture	..	0 15 0
By Do. to G.T.W. Woollahra	Lecture	..	0 15 0
By Do. to G.T.W. Enmore Lecture	..	0	10 0
			<hr/>
		£2	15 0

(Items paid direct to John Thompson)			
By Travelling Expenses, Cartage,	&c., Melbourne and Sydney	..	0 11 6
" Railway Ticket, Cartage, &c.,	Sydney and Newcastle	..	0 15 6
" Fares Canley Vale	..	0	5 3
" Fares Rookwood	..	0	3 0
" Cartage Rookwood to Steamer	..	0	3 6
" Carbide for Lantern	..	0	6 0
" Repairing Lantern	..	0	8 6
" Incidental Expenses	..	1	0 0
			<hr/>
		£3	13 3
Credit Balance	1 14 11
			<hr/>
		£9	10 2

28th Febr., 1902.

E. GOLE, Treas.

Chinese Report

FOR YEAR ENDING MARCH 4TH, 1902.

Since our last report the class has had many ups and downs, and at times we have felt that we would have to give it up altogether. After losing Bro. Payne in the early part of last year, the attendance gradually went down, until there were only two scholars whom we could at all count on being there. We then talked of giving the class up for a few months. But we thank our Heavenly Father that he helped us to continue in our efforts, and now we are glad to report that the class is looking up again. For some time after Bro. Payne left us, Bro. F. Verco acted as president. He took a great interest in the mission, but had eventually to give it up owing to his removal farther out of town. From that time things got worse and worse, until in September last the F.M.C. elected Bro. A. Day to the position of president. Bro. Day has worked faithfully in the interests of the mission, and now we are seeing the result of his labors. Before Bro. Day came to our assistance we had no regular plan for lessons; the teacher gave his or her scholar reading or writing as they pleased. This has been altered; on October 24th we bought some illustrated Scripture reading books, and now for the first half-hour we have reading, and the remainder is taken up in writing. Of course our main object has been to teach the scholars about God and his love, and to try if possible to lead them to Christ. For about a year we had no visible result, but we felt fully repaid on last Sunday week night, when three came forward; they were baptised last Sunday night, March 2nd. We feel that this is a very important work, and we invite all who are interested to come along and help us.

A. DAY, PRESIDENT.

GEO. D. VERCO, SEC. & TREAS.

ATTENDANCE.

At the present time we have 19 scholars on the roll, but I am sorry to say that not nearly that number attend. In the early part of the year a fair number attended, but it gradually went down until for some we never had more than 2 scholars there. At the present time the numbers are increasing. The attendance of the teachers has not been any better; in fact we often have more scholars than teachers. Wanted, 6 more male teachers!

SCHOLARS.—Lesson nights from March 24th, 1901, to March 4th, 1902, 68; aggregate, 467; average, 6 $\frac{2}{3}$.
TEACHERS.—Lesson nights from March 24th, 1901, to March 4th, 1902, 68; aggregate, 390; average, 5.

We have also had a fair number of visitors. Our Sunday night meetings are pretty well attended; they average about 20 Chinese and 3 English.

GEO. D. VERCO, SEC.

**The Conference Picnic will be held on Easter Monday,
at Coogee.**

American Books



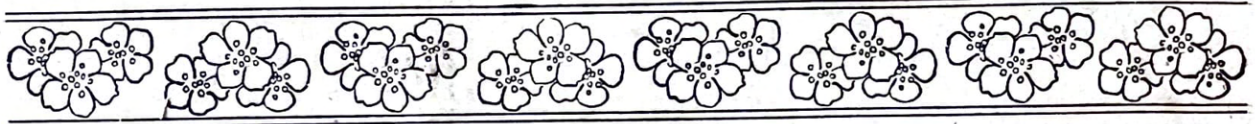
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Immersion	6/-	6/6	McGarvey's Sermons ...	6/-	6/6	
Lands of the Bible, McGarvey ...	12/-	13/-		Braden and Kelley Debate on Mormonism ...	8/-	8/6	
Jackson's New Testament ...	6/-	6/6		Campbell and Purcell Debate ...	6/-	6/6	
Campbell and Owen Debate ...	5/-	5/6		Christian Baptist ...	8/-	8/6	
Our Living Evangelists ...	6/-	6/6		Alone with God ...	3/-	3/3	
Doctrines and Dogmas of Mormonism	6/-	6/6		Heavenward Way ...	3/-	3/3	
McGarvey's Class Notes on The Pentateuch ...	10/-	10/6		Half-hour Studies at the Cross ...	3/-	3/3	
Campbell on Baptism ...	4/-	4/6		Old Faith Restated ...	8/-	8/6	
Standard S.S. Commentary, Lib- rary, 1901 ...	1/-	1/6		Christian Ministers' Manual ...	3/-	3/3	
Standard S.S. Commentary, 1901, Limp ...	6d.	1/-		Johnson's Commentary on John ...	6/-	6/6	
Christian S.S. Commentary, 1901	1/-	1/6		Lamar's Commentary on Luke ...	6/-	6/6	
Sweeney's Diagrams ...	4/-	4/3		Voice of Seven Thunders ...	6/-	6/6	
Christian System ...	5/-	5/6		McGarvey's Commentary on Mat- thew and Mark ...	6/-	6/6	
Walks About Jerusalem ...	4/-	4/3		McLean's Missionary Addresses ...	4/-	4/6	
Lard on Romans ...	8/-	8/6		Milligan's Commentary on He- brews ...	6/-	6/6	
The Great Salvation, E. V. Zollars	6/-	6/6		Reason and Revelation ...	8/-	8/6	
Handbook on Baptism ...	6/-	6/6		Scheme of Redemption ...	8/-	8/6	
McGarvey's Commentary on Acts	6/-	6/6		The Gospel Preacher (Benj. Franklin) vols. 1 & 2, per vol. ...	6/-	6/6	
Campbell's Popular Lectures and Addresses ...	12/-	12/6		Gospel Plan of Salvation ...	8/-	8/6	
				Sweeney's Sermons ...	4/-	4/6	

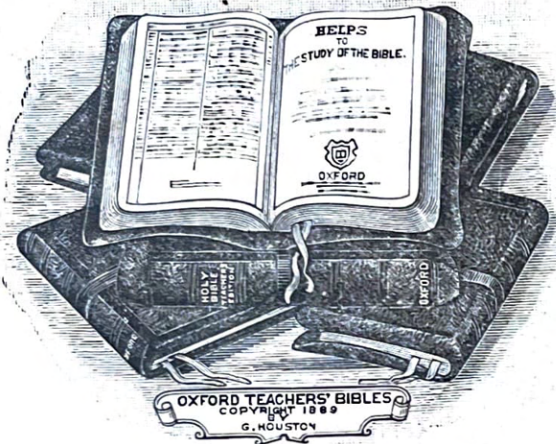


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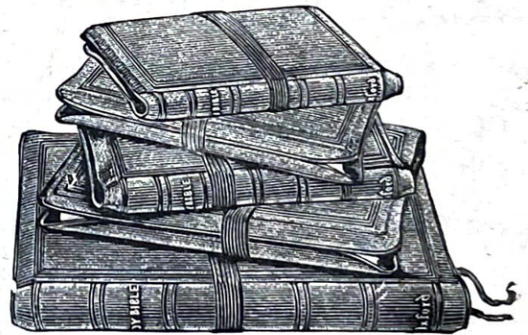


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The President

MEMORIAM.

The President feelingly called attention to the memoriam and excellent picture of the late Dr. Joseph Kingsbury. Bro. Hawkins proposed, and R. C. Gilmour seconded, That we place on record our deep sympathy with the family of our departed Bro. Kingsbury on the loss they had sustained. This was unanimously carried by all standing up.

Conference Reports
Resolved on Motion of Bro. N. Steer
and H. Gilmour

STATISTICAL REGISTER, MARCH 1st, 1902.

LOCATION OF CHURCH	Church Additions, 1901.					Church Losses 1901.			Membership, 1902.			Lord's Day School				Church Additions from Lord's Day School.	Seating Capacity of Meeting House.	EVANGELIST.
	1901. Membership.	Faith and Obedience.	Letter.	Baptised Believers.	Restored.	Letter.	Death.	Removal or Revis'n of Roll	1902. Membership.	Increase.	Decrease.	1901 Scholars.	1902 Scholars.	1901 Teachers.	1902 Teachers.			
Bungawalbyn ..	21	3						3	21			23	22	3	3	3	80	aT. B. Fischer.
aCanley Vale ..	38	1		13				13	39	13		30	30	3	2	2	200	
Chatham ..	62	9	2					1	51		II	14	18	2	2	2	100	
Corowa ..	8					4		18	8			32	29	3	3		200	F. Collins.
*Croydon ..	541	37	3	2		15	2	5	561	20		441	501	33	33	16	450	G. T. Walden.
Enmore ..	147	7	3	3		7	3	15	135			140	171	16	15	3	300	A. E. Illingworth.
Petersham ..	58	3				2		2	57			100	83	11	9	3	150	
Marrickville ..	9								9				12	12				
June ..	91	22	1	1	3			7	111	20		56	70	7	7	10	300	W. J. Way.
Lismore ..	65	11	9		6	3	2	17	69	4		100	136	10	12	3	200	L. A. Williams.
Merewether ..	31	17		2				2	48	17		29	34	3	4	12	200	bD. C. McCallum.
bMoree ..	9								9			13	13	3	3		100	bD. C. McCallum.
*bMungundi ..	10	4	2	1				1	16	6		21		1				
Prospect ..	59	2	5	2		9		15	44		15	110	94	10	13	2	160	aT. B. Fischer.
aRookwood ..	332	24	9		1	34	3	27	302	30		150	145	18	19	15	500	P. A. Dickson.
Sydney ..	19								19								200	
*Wagga ..	16					1			18	2							100	
Wingham ..	148	18	9	3		1	4	173	25			200	225	11	16	2	300	T. Bagley.
Woollahra ..																		
Isolated Brethren																		
Estimated at ..	20			16					36	16								
	1684	158	43	43	13	74	12	116	1739	124	69	1471	1583	134	141	69	3450	

Increase of Church Members, 55. Increase* Scholars, Lord's Day School, 112.

* Wagga, Croydon and Mungindi sent no report. Figures same as last year.

a These Churches form a District, T. B. Fischer, Evangelist.

b D. C. McCallum labored between two.

STATISTICS.

We are pleased to report an increase of church members this year. The total additions have been:— By faith and obedience, 158; by letter, 43; baptised believers, 43; restored, 13; total, 257. The losses were:—By letter, 74; death, 12; removal or revision of roll, 116; total, 202; leaving a nett increase of 55, and a present membership of 1739, as against 1684 of 1901. The Lord's Day Schools show scholars 1583, as against 1471 last year, a gain of 112. Teachers, 141, as against 134 of 1901, an increase of 7. The additions to church from Lord's Day Schools were 69.

With register, adopted on the motion of T. Morton, seconded by G. T. Walden.

24

with Register
Statistics

BALANCE SHEET

New South Wales Churches of Christ Home Mission Fund, 1901-1902.

*3rd Clause
Finance*

RECEIPTS.	
By Church Fees—	
Bungawalbyn ..	£0 10 0
Canley Vale ..	0 10 0
Chatham ..	0 10 0
Croydon ..	0 10 0
Enmore ..	1 0 0
Lismore ..	0 10 0
Marrickville ..	0 10 0
Petersham ..	1 0 0
Prospect ..	1 0 0
Rookwood ..	1 0 0
Sydney ..	1 0 0
Woollahra ..	2 0 0
<hr/>	
Contributions from Assisted Churches—	10 0 0
Canley Vale ..	11 0 0
Lismore ..	91 15 0
Merewether ..	49 15 0
Rookwood ..	32 19 0
<hr/>	
Collections from—	185 9 0
Bungawalbyn ..	1 0 0
Chatham ..	5 0 0
Enmore ..	19 4 2
Manning River ..	4 0 0
Moree ..	1 0 0
Prospect ..	5 10 0
Petersham ..	3 14 6
Sydney ..	70 8 1
Woollahra ..	1 12 9
<hr/>	
Home Mission Lord's Day Collections—	111 9 6
Bungawalbyn ..	1 2 0
Corowa ..	1 13 0
Canley Vale ..	0 12 6
Enmore ..	6 8 6
Inglewood ..	1 0 0
Lismore ..	3 3 0
Merewether ..	1 2 0
Marrickville ..	1 15 0
Manning River ..	1 0 0
Moree ..	1 0 0
Prospect ..	1 0 0
Petersham ..	0 19 3
Rookwood ..	1 10 0
Sydney ..	5 16 9
Temora ..	0 12 0
<hr/>	
Miscellaneous Receipts Collected at Annual Session—	28 14 0
5th April, 1901 ..	2 7 4
Sisters' Conference ..	2 0 0
F.M. Com. (Ptg.) ..	1 0 0
Donations by Individual Contributors ..	16 14 0
<hr/>	
Total Receipts ..	221 4
Debit Balance ..	357 13 10
<hr/>	
	£379 10 2

EXPENDITURE.	
To Salaries—	
Bro. Way ..	£153 0 0
Bro. Williams ..	77 10 0
Bro. Fischer ..	35 13 0
Bro. Pond ..	3 15 0
Assistance to Rookwood ..	9 0 0
Secretary's Allowance ..	6 0 0
<hr/>	
Stamps, Duty & Postage ..	284 18 0
Bank Exchanges & a/c Charges ..	3 17 8
Bank Interest a/c ..	1 7 6
Printing ..	2 14 1
Travelling Expenses Bro. Fischer ..	15 19 3
<hr/>	
Total Expenditure ..	33 18
Debit Balance 18th March, 1901 ..	318 16
<hr/>	
	60 13

FINANCE.

As in previous years your Committee have felt the pressure of a deficit. At the same time, owing to the good management of our Treasurer, Bro. J. Stimson, in fixing Bank Overdraft and keeping us correctly and fully posted as to our financial position, we were the better able to meet the necessity and act accordingly. Local needs in some cases have prevented churches contributing as much as they did in previous years. But the churches assisted have responded to the suggestion to raise as much as possible towards the support of an evangelist, hence Merewether now contributes £1/15 per week as against £1/7/6 last year. Lismore raises about £2/10 per week, £2/15 of which goes towards evangelist's salary, the balance, 15/-, in hire of hall and incidental expenses. A chapel here is sadly needed.

The Combined Districts of Rookwood and Canley Vale, raise respectively £1 and 10/- per week towards an evangelist. One point we would note here, that a comparative small proportion of church members contribute to Home Mission Work, and we would like representatives to assist in solving this state of affairs to-day. In some way members should be brought in touch frequently throughout the year with Home Mission matters.

As will be seen by Balance Sheet we have received £357/13/10, and expended £318/16/6, leaving a credit on current year of £38/17/4, thus reducing the debt of last year, £60/13/8, to £21/16/4. Home Mission Day Collection, 1st Lord's day in December, amounted to £28/14 as against £39/9/2 of last year. Our Treasurer's Balance Sheet will give details of receipts and expenditure.

With balance sheet, adopted on the motion of G. T. Walden, seconded by L. Rossell.

12th March, 1902.
JOSEPH STIMSON, Treasurer.

Audited and found correct,

J. F. ASHWOOD.
E. ROBERTS.

THE FEDERAL CAPITAL SITE AND SUSTAINING CAUSE THERE.

The Special Committee appointed *re* this matter have formulated the following suggestions, copies of which have been sent to Conference Committees of each State.

PROPOSITION *re* FEDERAL CHAPEL SITE AND SUSTAINING CAUSE.

1. That it be a recommendation to the State Conferences that a Lord's Day Collection in all churches in the Commonwealth be taken up on the first Lord's day in September, or such other time as may be arranged and devoted to a fund for establishing and maintaining a church in the Federal Capital.
2. That all members of the church of Christ in the Commonwealth be asked to contribute at least *one* penny towards initiating and sustaining cause in the Federal Capital.
3. That each State issue a special appeal to *prominent* brethren at their discretion.
4. That all monies collected in any of the States be deposited in the Savings Bank of such State in the names of two brethren to be appointed at Conference Committee of that State, and so bear interest until required.
5. When site of Federal Capital shall be decided on, the Conference Committee of each State shall appoint one representative. Such representatives shall form a committee, into whose hands all monies collected shall then be transferred, and who shall make all necessary arrangements in connection with establishing the work in the Federal Capital.
6. That the above recommendations be conveyed to Conferences in all the States.

*On the Motion of
Bro. Huddle & Crawford
The word 1/- in Clause 2
was omitted*

*and in clause 3 the word
prominent, & the word all inserted
and as amended was
adopted on the Motion
of Bro. P. A. Ockerson and
L. Rossell*

Our Mission Fields.

LISMORE.

Your Committee in dealing with the work in this field decided to re-engage Bro. Way, the church there being also unanimous that he should remain. Bro. Way's work extends outside Lismore, and from reports you will note that the Cause is steadily growing. During the year 27 have been added to the church, the nett increase being 20, and the present membership 111. The great need of this field is a chapel. Now the question is how this can best be obtained. It would probably mean that the church would be able to relieve the Committee of financial responsibility in a shorter space of time. Their present outlay for hired hall would pay interest on sum needed for a building of their own. Is there any brother who can solve this, so that in the coming Conference year a building may be erected at Lismore? Bro. Way will no doubt be able to post you in all particulars.

Adopted on the motion of Bro. Halliday, seconded by Bro. Whately.

Verbal reports were given by Bren. Way and Wotherspoon, and were considered satisfactory.

MEREWETHER.

Bro. Pond having decided not to accept re-engagement at Merewether, the church asked that Bro. L. A. Williams be engaged, they offering the sum of £1/10/- per week towards salary, and more if possible. Bro. Williams accepted offer, and commenced labors there on 1st August last. The report from church to-day will show you that his efforts have not been in vain. After three months' work the church asked that Bro. Williams' engagement be further extended, and offered to increase their contributions from 30/- to 35/- per week. The additions during Bro. Williams' labors in this field have been 26, and present membership after revising roll is 69. We hope the time is not far distant when Merewether will be able to fully support a preacher. It is needless to say that their act in increasing contributions encouraged us in our work.

Adopted on the motion of Bro. Rose, seconded by Bro. Barratt.

Bren. Williams, Want, and Nesbitt spoke relative to Merewether.

ROOKWOOD AND CANLEY VALE.

After Bro. Williams' departure from Rookwood, the Committee arranged for speakers for gospel meetings at Rookwood and Canley Vale, and we desire to express our thanks to all who assisted. In one of his visits to Canley Vale, your secretary suggested that the two above fields should combine with the assistance of the Committee to have an Evangelist, the result being that in August Rookwood offered £1 and Canley Vale 10/- per week toward salary. Acting upon this, your Committee engaged Bro. T. B. Fischer, of Adelaide, South Australia, and he commenced his labors there on Dec. 1st.

Bro. Fischer has succeeded in uniting a number of immersed with the church at Canley Vale. At Rookwood the work is going on steadily; Bro. Fischer will tell you more in his report. The present membership of Rookwood is 53, and Canley Vale, 13. We desire to place on record that our Bro. G. Stimson held the Fort at Canley Vale in church and Sunday school for some considerable time.

Adopted on the motion of Bro. Lea, seconded by Bro. Stimson.

Bren. Fischer and Stimson spoke relative to Rookwood and Canley Vale.

MOREE AND MUNGINDI.

Bro. D. C. McCallum has been laboring here for 15 months, and has been re-engaged up to the end of

June. At Moree there has been an increase of 17 members since our last report. The brethren there raised whole of Evangelist's salary, notwithstanding the adverse circumstances of present drought. We pray they may have the satisfaction of knowing that precious souls have been saved, and we hope some means may be adopted to continue work.

Adopted on the motion of Bro. Lea, seconded by Bro. Stimson.

COWRA.

Brethren to the number of 16 are meeting here to break bread, and are desirous of assuming the aggressive. They made an appeal for an Evangelist to assist in a Mission, but we were not able to respond, as preachers could not go. We desire to record our sympathy with them, and hope this year the incoming Committee will arrange a visit to encourage our kindred in Christ at Cowra.

Adopted on the motion of Bro. Stimson, seconded by R. Steer.

Bro. Steer spoke relative to the work at Cowra.

FUTURE WORK.

In speaking of this, we would say it will all depend upon funds available. We would certainly advise that the present work at Lismore, Merewether, Rookwood, Canley Vale, Moree, and Mungindi be continued, and if possible, that an Evangelist be sent to the Manning River. We would also recommend to the consideration of the brethren, the possibility of starting Causes in one or more of the suburbs of Sydney. This might be done, if the churches having Evangelists were to co-operate and allow preachers to conduct such Missions by turns. We trust these recommendations may be so received and acted upon that good results will follow. We must all be determined to sustain and uphold the incoming Committee in their work to the best of our ability.

On the motion of Bro. Spedding, seconded by R. Steer, it was left in the hands of the incoming Committee.

Broken Hill matters were dealt with under future work, and were spoken to by Bren. Halliday, Rankine, and Gilmour. On the motion of Bro. Price, seconded by Bro. Hawkins, it was referred to incoming Committee.

SUMMARY OF HOME MISSION WORK.

Bro. Way has been engaged the whole year at Lismore.

Bro. Pond at Merewether till end of April. Bro. Williams at Rookwood till end of July, and at Merewether from August 1st.

Bro. T. B. Fischer at Rookwood, from the 1st December.

Bro. McCallum at Moree, Mungindi, for whole of year.

Additions in Mission Fields were—gross, 75; losses, 44; nett gain, 31.

We would urge that continued effort be the policy in all fields.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY COMMITTEE.

1st.—That this Conference make a recommendation to the City and Suburban Churches, that they allow their Evangelists to assist Country Churches as Conference Committee may suggest, a fortnight each year.

2nd.—That this Conference express its disapproval of repeated use of the term "Rev." being applied to Evangelists of Church of Christ in newspapers and printed programmes.

The first was spoken to by Bros. Hall, Steer, Spedding, Gilmour and Way, and adopted.

Second.—Bro. Price moved, and Bro. Hawkins seconded, That it be adopted. After a very lively debate by Bros. Price, Hawkins, Spedding, Gilmour, Halliday, Hall and Walden, it was carried.

church for use of building for Committee meeting and also the churches for their own meetings to request to hold Home Mission meetings.

We thank our Heavenly Father who helped us, and we pray we may all realise the importance of this work.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Committee have held 14 meetings during the year, the attendance as follows:—

W. Macindoe ..	14	L. Rossell ..	13
*G. T. Walden ..	0	P. A. Dickson ..	10
J. Stimson ..	14	J. Chapple ..	5
R. Steer ..	14	G. Arnott ..	9
*C. A. Rofe ..	3	BA. Morris ..	9
A. Price ..	14	BR. Verco ..	9

Resigned, April 26th. A Resigned, June 28th. BAppointed June 28th.

W. MACINDOE, President.
J. CHAPPLE, Vice-President.
R. STEER, Secretary.
R. VERCO, Assistant Sec.
J. STIMSON, Treasurer.

COMMITTEE { P. A. DICKSON.
A. PRICE.
L. ROSSELL.
G. ARNOTT.
A. MORRIS.

Resolved on Motion of Bro. Walden & Rossell that verbal Reports be taken as the course to each field

burbs object matters suggest be ncent-e not ation. Mis-busly dney

Reports were then received and adopted as a whole on the Motion of Bro. Steer and Rossell

Aged Preachers' Fund.

As instructed by the last Conference of Churches, we desire to submit herewith, our report on the question of an Aged Preachers' Fund.

We have to bring under your notice two schemes, the one having our unanimous endorsement as practical and likely to meet with the general approval of the Conference, the other as worthy of discussion (although not having our unanimous endorsement), as practical.

The first proposal is the creation of a central collecting and distributing board, with sub-committees in each Colony or State, and under these, a collector in each church. Funds collected under this system to be distributed according to need, to applicants applying through their respective churches. Such a scheme to be effective, should be Australasian in extent. The general Board might be appointed by the Victorian Conference and sit in Melbourne, as being the most central.

The sub-committees should be elected by the Conferences of the respective States.

These committees should suggest to each church the appointment of a collector whom the church would make responsible to the local Conference Treasurer, who in his turn, would hand over such payments to the Melbourne Board.

An aged, or otherwise incapacitated preacher, wishing to receive the benefits, would apply through the local church, with whom he holds fellowship, who would approve the application and send it direct to the Central Board. The amount of benefit would be assessed according to circumstances.

Under this system the Aged Preachers would practically become paid elders, and the churches receiving their services, would naturally feel under an obligation to contribute more largely, and to that extent, relieve the central fund.

The alternative scheme suggests that the money hitherto annually expended outside the church funds on life insurance should instead be devoted to the formation of a general church benevolent fund for the relief of all cases of need, the surplus to be used for evangelistic work.

The scheme as fully outlined is apparently statistically sound and shows a large surplus for all purposes, the difficulties being in the practical application. It takes as granted that God exercises the greater care over the faithful Christian who trusts in him. It aims at securing to the church the enormous amount of money now going out for the support of canvassers, clerks, directors and offices of insurance societies. It suggests that all brethren should at least contribute to the general fund to the extent of £15 per annum before insuring their lives in an insurance society.

The order of precedence as to benefits is arranged as follows: Aged widows, superannuated evangelists, head of families, juniors, active evangelists, that is to say, the surplus is devoted to the employment of evangelists and to other gospel work.

The author reckons that on a moderate estimate the margin for evangelistic purposes would be £3000 if Victoria and New South Wales heartily co-operated, but as in the previous case, the scheme should be at least Federal, if not Australasian.

In conclusion, we might state that we have suggested to the outgoing Conference Committee, that an advance copy of this report be sent to the Secretary of the Victorian Conference, in case they should desire to consider it in conjunction with any schemes proposed in that State.

JAMES HUNTER,
E. GOLE,
ALAN PRICE.

*Resolved on Motion
of Bro O. R. Hall
and L. Russell
That it be referred
to its covering Committee*

Letters from Churches

*were taken up
read on the Motion
of Bro Spedding and
A. Barnate*

The following digest of letters sent by the Churches should prove of general interest, as it enables us to understand more of the difficulties and triumphs of the Cause than we can glean from the bare statistics:—

COROWA.—The secretary informs us "Bro. Collins has proved himself to be a splendid organiser, a thoroughly efficient worker, and capable preacher." Although a number of active members have left the district, the spiritual tone of the church has deepened through the labors of Bro. Collins.

An Endeavor Society has been organised, and collectors have been appointed for Home and Foreign Mission funds.

The church has arranged with Bro. Collins to remain for another 12 months, after expiration of present term.

ENMORE.—The attendance at the Lord's day morning and Wednesday night meetings is good, while the evangelistic services draw large audiences. There are over 560 members on the Enmore roll, a nett increase of 20. During the year the church has raised for Home Mission work, £75, divided as follows: Petersham, £40; Conference Committee, £29; and Marrickville, £6. For other purposes outside of local church work, there was contributed £42, and for its own church work, £509, making altogether a total of £626.

The number of scholars in the Lord's day school has grown from 441 to 501. Of these, 43 competed in the S.S. Union examination, 37 passing.

The Dorcas Society has done a lot of good work, and the Band of Hope continues in its useful career.

The Senior Endeavor Society has a membership of 38, and a Junior Endeavor Society has been started.

PETERSHAM.—Report not received in time for printer. There is a bright prospect ahead of this church, a neat and commodious meeting house having been recently completed, and Bro. Illingworth having been engaged to carry on the work of preaching the gospel here. We look for great things at Petersham.

MARRICKVILLE.—The secretary writes: "During the year closed, we have made but little numerical progress." Since Bro. Colbourne's departure for South Australia, the work of preaching, was carried on for six months by Bro. Chapple, and since then various brethren have preached for one month each, assisted by members of the Bible Students' class.

LISMORE.—The work in this district is going along satisfactorily. Bro. Way is doing a grand work. Since he commenced to labor in Lismore the membership has grown from 47 to 111. "The accession of Bro. Way in our midst has been a source of growing satisfaction to us, and the utmost confidence exists between himself and the church." During the year 27 have been added, and the nett increase has been 20.

MANNING RIVER.—Little numerical progress is being made here. "We are going along just about the same, our membership showing but little increase." The cash receipts for the year amounted to £45/10/6, as follows: Home Missions, £3/11/-; Foreign Missions, £9/3; Rescue Home, £27/9; and Hospital, £1/10/-. Balance was deposited in the Savings Bank on account of Building and Evangelist Fund.

MEREWETHER.—We did not receive a report from the secretary in time for the printer, but know from the monthly reports from time to time that meetings are being well attended. The church and Bro. Williams are working harmoniously together, with good success, as indicated by the additions, which total 26 since 1st August.

MOREE.—Bro. McCallum has continued his labors in this field throughout the year, and expects to leave early in July. The additions (mostly from the Lord's day school), number 19, with a net increase of 17. "During the year the debt on the building has been reduced by £20, the present debt being £25."

Rookwood.— "Since Bro. Fischer's arrival the work has been going on steadily, and we feel sure that God will accept and abundantly bless his whole-hearted services. The meetings are all well attended, and a public interest is manifest. Good work is being done in the Bible class and Lord's day school. Two of the scholars have obeyed the Lord, and united with the church. The sisters carry on the Dorcas Society with good results. Our number was somewhat decreased, but we are again on the increase, and we trust it may ever be so."

SYDNEY.—The secretary says: "There is nothing particularly striking to report. The church is working most harmoniously, and during the year has contributed a sum of not less than £500 for all purposes. Sisters Mrs. Morrison, Misses Leck, Elliott, J. Henderson and Studdy, deserve special commendation for their efficient and painstaking efforts as collectors for the Home Mission funds. Notwithstanding that 23 have been added during the year, the membership shows a considerable decrease, which is accounted for by the fact that the roll has been revised, the first time for several years."

PADDINGTON.—The report is one of progress. "We began the year with 148 members. Our total increase has been 30, and our net gain 25. Present membership 173." During the year a fine meeting house has been built, which will accommodate 300. The gospel meetings are well attended, and we are working, praying for, and expecting great success in the coming year. The Lord's day school is in a very healthy state, and a Christian Endeavor Society has been started.

CANLEYVALE.—"Since Bro. Fischer's arrival a church has been established, and although small in numbers at present, we hope to increase shortly, as there are some immersed believers in the district who will very likely join with us. We are at present contributing 10/- per week toward the Evangelist's salary, and as our numbers increase, we hope to augment our contribution."

The total membership is 13.

BUNGAWALBYN.—No numerical progress has been made, but the brethren are living in harmony and doing their best to carry on the work.

at 12.40 it was moved that we proceed with election of officers. The following were elected,

At this stage an adjournment was made for lunch, 1 p.m. At 2 p.m. the Afternoon Session commenced with a Prayer and Praise Service, led by Bro. Rossell. At 2.30 the President took the chair, and business was resumed. *elector withdrew the first result*

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

- + PRESIDENT.—G. T. Walden.
- + VICE-PRESIDENT.—A. Price.
- + SECRETARY.—C. A. Rofe.
- ASST. SECRETARY.—R. Steer.
- TREASURER.—J. Stimson.
- HOME MISSIONARY COMMITTEE.—L. Rossell, W. McIndoe, T. Bagley, P. A. Dickson and W. J. Edwards.
- TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE.—D. R. Hall, A. E. Illingworth, G. Logan, T. Morton, G. T. Walden, W. J. Williams.
- FOREIGN MISSIONARY COMMITTEE.—E. Gole, G. T. Walden, J. Hunter, T. Bagley, Mrs. E. Bagley, Miss McPherson.

Bro. Helder and H. Kingsbury were appointed scrutineers

Conference Report of Sunday School Union.

21ST FEBRUARY, 1902.

The Committee has pleasure in presenting to the Conference the usual Report on the work performed during the past twelve months.

In respect to the examination for 1901 the number of competitors was below that of previous years. Doubtless the chief factor in bringing this about was that the idea has become prevalent that the questions on "The First Principles of Christianity" adopted on this occasion would be more difficult than the questions for former years. While this fear was exaggerated, every credit is due to those who essayed the task. Another reason for the smaller numbers was that there was one school less in the Union than before, namely Woollahra, and, as will be noticed, Rookwood did not compete. In all there was 148 nominations, out of which number 97 sat for examination, with the following results

School	Examined	Obtained Prizes	Obtained Certificates	Failed
Enmore	43	12	25	6
Petersham	24	4	16	4
Sydney	22	2	13	7
Lismore	8	-	4	4

Shortly after the last examination, it was decided to alter the constitution of the Union, to allow of the formation of a Committee, consisting of three delegates from each school affiliated with the Union acting in conjunction with the office bearers, to meet in place of the whole of the teachers from schools of the Union, it being considered that the former Committee of the whole was too cumbersome for many of the details submitted to it. Provision, however, is made for the holding of an Annual Conference of all Schools in the Union, during which the election of office bearers takes place.

The new Committee has been conducting the general work of the Union for the past six months, and feels that the change is for the better. This, however, must be judged by results, and it is perhaps, premature to speak of this until a longer period has expired.

While the success attending the efforts put forth by the Union in this State has been gratifying in the past, so far as they have gone, it has been felt by your Committee that the result attained has been qualified by the fact that the benefits derivable have been taken advantage of by practically the metropolitan schools only. The question was to find out the trouble in the way and then to try and remedy it. At a recent meeting of the Committee this matter was earnestly discussed, and the outcome was that a resolution was passed reducing the annual fees considerably; the hope in the experiment being that the large increase anticipated in the number of Schools joining would suffice to make up for the loss suffered in the amount received from each School. The experiment so far has met with success, for two Schools in the country—Merewether and Canley Vale—that could not reasonably have been expected to pay the fee under the old tariff, have just thrown in their lot with the Union, and it is pleasing to note that there is now every prospect of the Woollahra School becoming shortly re-united.

Another item in the interests of country Schools lately dealt with by the Committee has been the passing of a resolution giving the more distant Schools the option of appointing one representative on the Committee, belonging to a church nearer or in Sydney, in lieu of the three delegates each they are entitled to from their own School, but who would necessarily seldom if ever be able to attend, thus becoming practically disfranchised.

The amount in the hands of the Treasurer at the present time is £5/13/6.

The Committee wishes to place on record its thanks for the services rendered by late officers of the Union: Brethren John Kingsbury, as President; T. P. Beer, as Secretary; and Robert Ewers, as Assistant Secretary.

In conclusion the Committee has to acknowledge its gratitude to our Father in Heaven for whatever success has attended the efforts of the Union, through Jesus Christ our Lord, and its prayer will be for a continuance of help from the same source, without which all human endeavors would be in vain.

C. A. ROFE, President.

CHAS. J. LEA, Secretary.

Adopted, with recommendation that a special night in future be set apart for Sunday School work.

Annual Report of the Conference Temperance Committee.

In connection with our work in the Temperance Field, your Committee have to report a year of quiet yet practical work. We have not been able to accomplish great things because the opportunity has not presented itself, but we have taken an active interest in all matters connected with the Temperance movement, social or political. We are represented on the Council of the Temperance Alliance by Brethren Logan and D. R. Hall, M.P., and have co-operated with that body where possible. At the General Elections your Committee made its influence felt in more than one electorate. Political and Educational Temperance Meetings have been held in connection with all our churches in the metropolitan district, Sydney Enmore (twice), Petersham (twice), Marrickville, Rookwood and Woollahra. Large audiences were gathered at our meetings, Bro. Walden's lime-light lantern proving a great attraction. Temperance dialogues, songs and recitations were rendered, and addresses given by prominent brethren and citizens.

Financially, the work has been self-supporting. We collected at our meetings £7 19/3, and spent £7 9/8, leaving a credit balance on the year's work of 9/7.

Early in the year Bro. Colbourne resigned his position on the Committee, owing to leaving for South Australia, and Bro. W. J. Williams, M.P., State representative for Alma was appointed in his stead. Eight committee meetings have been held, and the attendance as follows:—Bro. G. T. Walden, President, 7; Bro. Colbourne, 2; Bro. Roots, 3; Sister Campbell, 6; Sister Hall, 5; Bro. Logan, 6; Bro. D. R. Hall, 3; Bro. W. J. Williams, 3; Bro. T. Morton, 8.

In conclusion, we would again urge upon the churches the desirability of establishing Bands of Hope in connection with their schools, and generally taking an interest in all local Temperance matter.

G. T. WALDEN, President.
THOMAS MORTON, Secretary.

Adopted, with a recommendation that a special night be set apart for Temperance matter.

MOTIONS OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN.

1st—"That statistical year be from 1st January to December 31st in each year."—R. STEER.

Carried, on motion of Bro. Steer, seconded by Bro. Arnott.

2nd—"That it be a recommendation from this Conference of Delegates, to the various churches of Christ in Sydney and Suburbs, to discontinue the use of what is called Sankey's Hymns, and to use for all meetings our own Hymn Book."—THOS. HAWKINS.
Withdrawn.

Bro. Walden, by permission, very ably advocated the claims for the support of the

AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN, a publication helpful to the work of the churches. Brethren in many cases took the daily and other papers and yet neglected the paper which so largely assisted the work of our plea.

An adjournment was then made for Tea.

at 6 pm

EVENING PUBLIC MEETING.

The meeting opened with the singing of hymn 224, and prayer by the ex-president, Bro. McIndoe.

The new President was introduced by Bro. McIndoe in a few kindly words, wishing him a happy and successful year.

G. T. Walden, the President elect, referred to the discussion on the official aspect of our church life, saying that it lay on all of us to do our part in the work of the church, and ourselves oversee as much as possible the things that make for the good of the church. He intimated that the new Committee was going to do all in its power, and would need plenty of money. He would like to see new missions commenced, and intended as he was able to give assistance where required.

A. E. Illingworth had a fine reception. He said that the thought in his mind had been that of "a step higher"—a step higher in our relationship, a step higher in our conception of the importance of our position in the world. The world would not be so good as it is but for Christians. We must be good sowers. Our blessing would be equal to our work. We must consecrate our best energies to the work of the church. We would do better if we gave less to the world and more to the cause of Christ.

Bro. Way hoped that in the course of a year the church at Lismore would be self-supporting. He gave a humorous description of a theological discussion at Lismore.

Bro. Morton moved, and Bro. Logan seconded, "That the times demand that we speak in no uncertain tones regarding the traffic in alcoholic beverages. We regard the traffic as a sin and an evil, dishonoring to God, a shame upon the church, and a curse to the whole land. Therefore we deem it wholly inconsistent with the teaching of Scripture and the genius of Christianity for any Christian to make, sell, or use alcoholic beverages, but should do all in their power to bring about Prohibition of the traffic."

Bro. Spedding moved, and Bro. McIndoe seconded, "That this Conference desires to convey to the Premier their appreciation of the efforts made during the past year to administer the Sunday Closing Law."

Bro. Fischer spoke on "Individual Responsibility." "To whom much is given of him shall much be required." The very grandeur of our plea increased our responsibility. The man with only one talent was not condemned because he only had one talent, but because he did not use it.

Hymn 551.

Bro. Williams said that not only were we to take "a step higher," but we also required to go forward.

Bro. Bagley expressed his pleasure at the stirring speeches and splendid reports we had heard.

A Reception of Delegates and friends was held at Grogue Easter Monday

Amount Collected at Annual Session Home Missions £ 4 . 3 . 3

Foreign Missions £ 3 . 3 . 0

Carried unaniously

Carried

the Meeting then closed with praise and prayer

G. T. Walden

Jan. 26, 1903

111
Nookwood

C. Andrews	x
L. Russell	x
M. Andrews	x
F. Argall	7

Merewether

Williams	x
Bro. Waut	x
Taylor	
Jones	x
Mussett	7

Lismore

W. J. Way	2
Wotherspoon	x
A. Morton	
J. J. Walker	

Cauly Vale

G. Steenson	x
F. White	x

Prospect

F. Hawkins	x
A. Price	x

Manning River
Bro. Edwards

Dickson Bro	x	Gole S	x
Macindoes "	x	Hall George	x
Morris "	x	Triglone S	x
Hinson "	x	King	x
Logan "	x		
Roberts "	x	Paddington	
Grooth "	x		
Ashwood "	x	J. Bagley	x
Leck "	x	G. P. Jones	x
Gole "	x	J. Chapple	
Halliday "	x	G. Arnott	+
Keam "	x	M. Lee	x
Harris "	x	J. Evans	
Potter "	x	M. Whately	x
Howles "	x	H. Allen &	x
Hall D R	x	H. Brodie	x
Anderson	x	D. Bardsley	x
Allen	x		
San? 22	x	Barney Salt	
Crawford			
Fox			

Seniors	1902 Delegates
Andrews J Senr	Walden C J
Bardsley J Senr	Webber A E
Barratt A J	Webber Arthur
Barratt A	Webber Frank
Crowley J W	Willis J
Day A G	Oldfield R
Edwards W J	Gilmour H
Hammill J	Rose C A
Hilder E J	Standen J
Hindle J	Andrew J J
Kingsbury John	Black W
Kingsbury H	Watnes E
Lovell J	Drew J
Morton C	Forscutt C J
Pyne W	Farr B ^{ro}
Portsmouth G	Gilmour R E
Rein W C	Kingsbury Dr J
Soutar J	McCIndoe A
Steer R	Milson
Verco R	Reid R
Verco M	Savage J