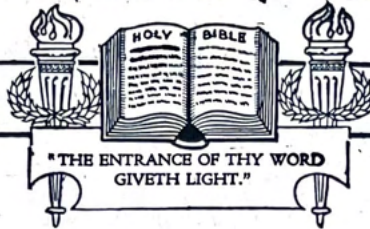


Fraser

The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

A Journal Representing



Churches of Christ

Registered at the G.P.O., Melbourne,
for transmission by post as a Newspaper.

Posted direct, 10/6 year. Foreign, 14/- year.
Through church agent, 2d. week.

VOL. XLVI., No. 31

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4, 1943

"Give Me—" or "Make Me"?

WHEN the younger son of the story known to many by the title, "The Prodigal Son," said to his father, "Give me—," he expressed the attitude of many toward life. We are aware of people on all sides whose only ambition is to live to get as much as they can.

During the discussion that arose in Melbourne concerning the opening of the picture theatres on Sundays to provide entertainment for the troops on leave, it was made clear that the only motive that would induce the picture industry to assist those trying to help the men on leave was the establishment of the right to make profit out of Sunday entertainments. There are many who will work diligently, not that they have need to work so untiringly to meet the physical needs of life, but to heap up for themselves treasures on earth. There are many in real life like the younger son in the parable, who cried, "Give me—."

UNTIL the time the father divided his living and gave the younger man his portion, the life of that son was under control. It was such a helpful kind of oversight which the father exercised that the son was never hungry. The reserve of wealth upon which the family could draw was never squandered. Here we observe how much value can be gained for life while it is subjected to wise control.

Modern fashions in education, based upon a type of psychology that sees in man nothing more than animal instincts, has urged the full expression of life's powers without the restriction of the moral principles that have guided men since the days of Moses, the prophets and the Christ. It is common for young people to-day to take to themselves the right to do as they please with their money, time, talents and body. Instead of being under the control of parents, they have become free to act as they desire; those who would restrain them are laughed at as being old fashioned. "Is it not the essence of modern education that young

people be free to express themselves?" they will enquire of us.

The moral state of the community is at such a low ebb, due no doubt to wartime conditions, that many young girls and lads are set free to please themselves how they act. Those who are in a position to know, lament this lowering of moral standards. Young people are not able to control their desires and inclinations without the direction gained from the wisdom of God's revelation. Proof of the foolishness of setting young people free to do as they like, without giving them the help God's word provides, is to be found in the statistics recording an increase of crimes committed by young people. Recently it was revealed that the increase in the number of persons suffering from venereal disease was due to the rapid rise in the number of young adolescents who have contracted that loathsome ill which flourishes when immorality is rife. He who says, "Give me—" runs great risks. None is able to take care of himself. He who goes his own way will find himself at the side of the younger son who wasted wealth and health, and found himself in want. Then, in this plight, he will want to enjoy again the health and the friendship he experienced before he so foolishly cried, "Give me—."

The prodigal came to himself. He saw that life could not be really successful, nor happy, if he persisted in selfishness and with the cry, "Give me—" Instead of going his own way, he decided now to return and place life under the direction of his father. He no longer desired to be free to do as he pleased, but wanted to become the servant of the father and live as that one would have him. Now his request was, "Make me—."

WHEN Jesus was in the Garden of Gethsemane, and was tempted to go his own way and avoid drinking the cup of sorrow, he said to the Father, "Not my will, but thine be done." The way of self denial led to the cross;

but it led to victory. Augustine, the Christian Father who was so influential in leading the church in North Africa, found the solution of life the moment he came to the point where he could say to the Lord, "Make me—" Until that decision was made, he wanted to keep part of life under his own control. If he could satisfy his passions in his own way, then he was ready to serve the Lord. However it was not until he made a full surrender that the full joy of the Christian life was realised. He became such a servant of the Father that he magnified the Lord in deeds whereof we are glad.

J. Wilbur Chapman, the well-known evangelist, used to tell the story of one who so desired the Lord to make him a servant that he sold himself into slavery. Lough Fook, a Chinese Christian, moved with compassion for the coolies in South American mines, sold himself into slavery for a term of five years, and was transported to Demerara that he might carry the gospel to his countrymen there. In the hands of the Master Potter he became a much-used vessel. After ten years of slavery he died, but not before he had brought to the Saviour nearly two hundred disciples who became members of the organised Christian church.

Hymn writers have expressed in verse the attitude men must adopt if they are to be saved from the disasters that come upon those who live in bondage to the flesh. Frances Havergal wrote,

Take my will, and make it thine;
It shall be no longer mine.

In A. A. Pollard's beautiful hymn the same thought is expressed:

Have thine own way, Lord!
Have thine own way!
Thou art the Potter,
I am the clay.
Mould me and make me
After thy will.

WHEN the son said, "Make me as one of thy hired servants," the father was overjoyed with the change that had taken place. He called to those about him, saying, "Quick, bring the best robe and put it upon him; give him a ring for his hand and sandals for his feet, and bring the fatted calf, kill it,

(Continued on page 363.)

Safe-Guarding the Home

The hope of a better world can be realised if religion is brought into the centre of family life



Queen Elizabeth sees threat to our

Precious Christian Heritage

"I KEENLY look forward," she said, "to a great rebuilding of family life as soon as the war ends. I would like to add, with my fullest conviction, that it is on the strength of our spiritual life that the right rebuilding of our national life depends. In these last tragic years many have found in religion the source and mainspring of the courage and selflessness that they needed. On the other hand, we cannot close our eyes to the fact that our precious Christian heritage is threatened by adverse influences. It does indeed seem to

me that if the years to come are to see some real spiritual recovery, the women of our nation must be deeply concerned with our religion, and our homes the very place where it should start. It is the creative and dynamic power of Christianity that can help us to carry the moral responsibilities which history is placing upon our shoulders. If our homes can be truly Christian, then the influence of that spirit will assuredly spread like leaven through all the aspects of our common life—industrial, social and political."

Philanthropic Legislation

tends to undermine home life

British commentator says—

THE home of our King and Queen should be free from the invasion of the flashlight camera, but how wise and serious is that home life we can in part infer from a recent article by the editor of the "Spectator" upon the interests and education of the heir apparent.

"Our homes are grievously threatened by a loosening of all moral standards. We are dimly aware of that. We are less aware that our homes are also subtly threatened by modern philanthropic legislation.

"When children come to school undernourished, and when their mothers are out working so that they cannot cook a proper family dinner, it is necessary and right that the children be fed at school. When young mothers are called up for war work or engaged on munition making, or if they be neither competent nor willing to look after their children, the State does well to provide creches and nursery schools. But at best these are palliatives of a great evil; they lead to the idea that children belong to the State, the Nazi and Fascist idea, and they tend to disrupt the home by reducing the family responsibility. We must work and fight for a political and economic order in which mothers will have time and strength and knowledge for the care of their children, and in which they will regard it as intolerable that the State through strangers, however benevolent, should attempt to give to their children that training which God meant them to receive at home.

Jesus and the Children

CAREY BONNER tells us that on one occasion twenty-five foreign missionaries were talking together of the time when they decided to take Jesus as their Saviour, and they discovered that twenty-four out of the twenty-five had given their hearts to Jesus, and had resolved to be missionaries before they reached the age of fourteen.

Amy LeFeuvre, who has been called the queen of story writers for the young, received Jesus as her Saviour when a child of five years of age.

Listen to the voice of Jesus,
Oh, so sweet,
As the little children gather
Round his feet;
Young ones to his knees are climbing,
There to rest;
Older ones stand round him, waiting
To be blest.
—Mrs. J. Stafford.

Motherhood Binds Humanity

American writer says—

MOST of the problems of human society are solved, if they are solved at all, in the home.

"The true home is mother-centred, mother-cultured and mother-comforted. Mothers are the uncrowned but most powerful rulers in the world. They are the 'benevolent dictators' of all great and worthy life. The true mother holds the balance of power in human affairs because she rules with almost absolute authority the mightiest but smallest kingdom on earth—the home. Her laws are more far-reaching than the statutes of states; her word is more powerful than the commands of kings; her ideals are more important than the traditions of nations; her example is more influential than the pomp of empire; her faith is more effective than the creeds of churches.

"Kings and Presidents, may come and go, dynasties and administrations rise and fall, creeds and philosophies flourish and decay, but the love and goodness and faith of noble motherhood binds humanity by golden chains about the throne of God. When motherhood abdicates her sovereignty, civilisation will sink back to barbarism.

"The greatest opportunity and responsibility God-inspired motherhood ever faced are before her now. Womanhood is in the ascendant. Will she lift civilisation up to new heights of moral endeavor and social achievement by the divine endowments of motherhood, or will she, like a siren, woo mankind over the edge of the abyss into deeper and more hopeless darkness?

"If the mother fails, the world fails."

Queen of Home

No community can rise above level of its motherhood

IF the father be the head of the home, the mother is the heart of it. If the father be the titular king, the mother is the queen regnant. Yet how often has the majesty of motherhood been debased, as inevitably occurs when mothers brood and breed in ignorance, illiteracy and superstition. Under such conditions any kind of social progress is slow, if not altogether inhibited. No community can permanently rise above the level of its motherhood. Where women are deprived of the rights that belong to human personality, they exact their own revenge, for they exercise a subtly corrupting influence on the children they bear and rear. For good or ill, every mother is a teacher. The best way to educate our children is to educate their mothers. From the earliest ages people felt, almost instinctively, that the preservation of the family depended on the fidelity of the wife and mother; thus the much-abused 'double standard' of sex morality may be construed as an indirect compliment to women and a tribute to their importance! Now, however, we are realising that true motherhood involves something more than sexual fidelity and intuitive affection; motherhood is an art and craft which demands a high degree of intelligence, if it is to achieve the noblest fulfilment. Nor is emphasis on this subject inappropriate in such times as these. If the survival of our free commonwealth depends for the moment on the valor of the warrior and the industry of the worker, its perpetuation and purity depend on the often unnoticed and ill-requited toil of those mothers who are even now training the citizens of the better commonwealth that is to be.

—"The Advertiser."

Love in the Home

THERE is beauty all around,
When there's love at home,
There is joy in every sound,
When there's love at home.
Peace and plenty here abide,
Smiling sweet on every side,
Time doth softly, sweetly glide,
When there's love at home.

In the cottage there is joy,
When there's love at home;
Hate and envy ne'er annoy,
When there's love at home.
Roses blossom 'neath our feet,
All the earth's a garden sweet,
Making life a bliss complete,
When there's love at home.

—John H. McNaughton.



PREACHERS' PAGE

Value of Broadcasting

R. Greenhalgh, of N.S.W., presents an interesting account of some results gained by effective preaching over the radio.

ON Sunday, May 31, a young woman was received into fellowship with the Paddington (N.S.W.) church, converted as a result of a broadcast on January 24. Behind the conversion lies a most interesting story. The young woman, her father, sisters and brothers were Spiritualists; for eight years she had suffered with a bad heart through being hit by a cricket bat. She had been home from hospital just a month after having rheumatic fever.

On this particular night the family had gone to a seance, and a girlhood friend was in the home. The patient suggested the radio and named 2CH as the station. We were telling the children's story of Valentine Bourke. The friend wanted to turn off because it was "religious," but the patient insisted on listening. At the close of the service a special appeal was made to listeners to accept Christ as Saviour. The appeal went home to the patient, whose heart and memory were flooded by the appeals of a godly Salvation Army mother who had died some years before. Despite her sickness, despite the barrier of what the Spiritualist household would say, despite the restraining influence of her friend, the patient resolved there and then to become a Christian.

Contact was made with the preacher. Everything had to be done carefully to avoid antagonism. Letters were written setting out Bible study. A beloved soldier brother who was sympathetic bought a Bible for the patient and a New Testament for himself. The Bible, in which was a picture of the mother, was later found by a member of the family and burnt; fragments of the burnt pages were found in the fireplace.

The patient got on well physically, to the amazement of the family and friends. A sister who was married to a follower of Ingersoll confessed that the Christian way was best and wanted to follow it, but balked at baptism.

A Spiritualist young woman was engaged in the home to do the housework, but, it is felt, really to spy on the patient, now well enough to move about with company.

This Spiritualist young woman resigned because she couldn't stand the persecution of the family on the new convert, and confessed to the convert that her life had made her want to leave Spiritualism, and she is now awaiting opportunity for instruction. She, too, comes from a Spiritualist home.

Opposition to every step was intense, but through the steadfastness and determination of the convert is now breaking down, and the change is remarkable in her and in the home, though things are far from amicable. Her one lament is that she has been a Christian for five months and she has not yet brought a soul to the Lord Jesus.

Her own testimony is set forth in a poem she wrote:—

HOW GOD CALLED ME

I tuned-in on the radio
One recent Sunday night
To a broadcast from the church of Christ—
The service was quite bright,
The preacher spoke of Valentine,
And I heard the people sing;
And then I heard the preacher pray
To Jesus Christ, the King.

Then came the preacher's sermon;
Though I thought it far too brief,
But full of inspiration,
To my heart it brought relief.
It gave me strength and courage,
And revealed to me my sin,
And although my heart was heavy,
A ray of hope shone in.

I pondered o'er that message
Of Jesus and his love,
And I thought about my mother
Who had gone to dwell above.
I knew she was a Christian
For she was good and true,
And I wanted to be like her,
And be a Christian too.

My mother's God had called me;
It seemed I heard his voice,
And e'er that service ended
"Christ" had become my choice.
My life I've given to him,
And I'll trust him every day,
Till at last I see my mother
And forever with her stay.

There are many more extremely interesting sidelights on this conversion—the co-operation of a student doctor associated with the Seventh Day Adventists; the opposition of Seventh Day Adventists; the mass attack of Spiritualists; and the grand co-operation of Christians.

This conversion makes us send out the appeal to every radio broadcaster of the gospel: be definite, deliberate, and appeal for decisions for Christ amongst the listeners in the home. It has been our happy experience to have many respond, but none as victoriously as this.

"Give Me—" or "Make Me"

(Continued from first page.)

and let us eat and be merry; for my son here was dead and he has come to life, he was lost and is found." The moment the son was willing to make himself a slave, the father was ready to make him a son and a prince. The man who will become a slave and servant of all for the sake of the Father will become a son in the household of the Most High God; a prince in the kingdom of God.

When the younger son said, "Give me—," he became a destitute beggar, feeding swine; but when he said, "Make me—," he became an honored son in his father's household. So long as we cry, "Give me—" and are selfish, we shall be victims of the flesh with its shameful sufferings; but when we yield ourselves to the Lord and request him to make us after his will we shall enjoy the blessings God has stored for his children.

Live and love,
Doing both nobly, because lowly,
Live and work, strongly because patiently,
And for the deed of death, trust it to God.
—Mrs. Browning.



At the Cross Roads

K. A. Macnaughtan

CAN a message on evangelism be given in 350 words? Jesus gave one in nine words: "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptising them." All that we have said on the subject since has been simply in development of the Master's command.

The chief work of the church is evangelism. Why does the Lord not call us home as soon as we become *his* people? The development of a spiritual character and a crystal-pure nature would be easier, one may imagine, in the presence of the Saviour in heaven, than in the presence of sin on earth; and it would mean hastening our departure by only a short time. We may not know all the reasons, but one is clear: "Ye shall be my witnesses," said Jesus. From the day that he established his church by blessing the witness of Peter to the saving of 3000 Jews until the day when the Bridegroom comes for his bride, the supreme function of the church has been, and will be, to evangelise. Everything else must be in order to the evangelistic witness of the church. Even worship services are true evangelistic meetings, for "as oft as ye eat this bread and drink this cup, ye do proclaim the Lord's death."

But are we witnessing as we ought? I imagine that to-day there are fewer people in Australia who know Christian truths than there were a generation ago. Why? There is a vicious circle. Members fall, and force preachers to give more and still more time to pastoral rather than evangelistic work. The result is that there is less personal work for souls by all concerned, fewer confessions and fewer baptisms. Many in the membership do not know the old zeal and fervor for souls and for the truth. They come to be ministered unto, not to minister. The Restoration Movement is at the cross roads. We must either settle down, content to hold what we have and be satisfied with additions from Bible school and youth work while "the world" is untouched, or we must rise to the real task in hand. The days call for *action* from people and preachers alike.

Notes on Current Topics

Italy's Future

MUSSOLINI'S fall has been announced, and the world speculates as to the future of Italy and the likelihood of its soon being out of the war. So that bloodshed may be avoided, and the coming of peace be hastened, Christians join in prayers that the Italian people will not prolong the struggle. Regarding Mussolini, the newspapers have said enough. Had he passed away ten years ago, his name might have been held in honor for his bringing Italy into order out of chaos. Then came the Abyssinian horror and the dictator's actions of more recent years. We see some of "time's revenges."

Need of Good Temper

Most people, I think, will agree with the appeal of four Anglican archbishops that Australians should carefully weigh election issues. Restraint on the part of politicians and journalists was requested. One part of the archbishops' statement has a wider application than to political programmes. "Anger and sobriety of judgment do not walk together. To lose one's temper is the best way to make sound judgment impossible." Whether we deal with domestic, social, political or religious problems, it is well to remember that "good temper is essential to sound judgment."

A Dangerous Calling

In "The Shane Quarterly" Dr. William J. Moore, an Australian in America, tells us that preachers are in a dangerous work, and gives as one reason that "it is hard to be humble in the ministry." He says that "the lordly 'big preacher' pose" is a familiar feature of church conventions. The preacher receives too

much flattery. Dr. Moore refers to an American practice: "After the church service the minister by force of custom goes to the door of the church, and by force of custom the members congratulate him on his sermon output or pass some appreciative remark about the service which he has directed." This he condemns, "because it is injurious to the soul of the minister." I agree that the congratulatory line common in American churches is a thing at which to wonder. The preacher who takes all at its face value must almost inevitably get exalted notions of himself. Dr. Moore refers to Australian practice in the following terms: "In the Australian churches, as I have observed them, this parade of praise singers is not very much in evidence. Putting it mildly, the congregations there are quite economical with their compliments. Perhaps there is too little expression of appreciation there, but better that than the sort of practice we have here." This witness and comment seem to me to be truthful and fair. In America I had fulsome flattery such as I never have had in Australia, and had more expressions of joyous approval in seven weeks than I would get here in seven years. If I had to choose between American ecstatic eulogy and Australian reticence, I should choose the latter. Yet my judgment is that Australian churches are prone to be too little appreciative of faithful preachers. I say nothing of the minority which in some places strives hard by word and deed to keep the preacher humble. There is a golden mean.

A. R. Mann.

Victories for Christ

H. J. Patterson, M.A.

VICTORIES mean battles. The Christian life properly accepted means a series of battles, for it is no continuous triumphal march without opposition. Some, curiously enough, think it ought to be a safe, easy existence, and when disillusioned they become a hindrance rather than a help to the kingdom of God. Paul found the Christian experience a warfare both within and without. Courage and faith in the Christ who would give him the ultimate victory were essentials. Let us review his experiences at Philippi and then remember that it is but one of many of his battles.

Where Trouble Began

It was in a city of Macedonia, the first of the district. H. V. Morton says it "is now desolate in the plain, its white bones shining wherever the feet of evil have been removed." It was here the Roman Republic came to an end 41 B.C. When Paul visited it a certain slave girl became a real nuisance to the preachers. But her ravings were supposedly interpreted by the owners or masters, who evidently made good money thereby. Trouble often arises where people's pockets are touched. It was so at Ephesus when Paul's preaching affected the trade of Demetrius. It is today in relation to the liquor traffic, and has been in the case of every social reform. In the fight for the abolition of slavery even otherwise good men "couldn't see the slave for the dollar." And here at Philippi the mob raved at the Jews who thus interfered with their routine city life. "What right had they to take away anyone's living? Why should they not leave the girl alone? It was none of their business anyway." Some, with a desire to put a Christian content into

politics, are severely criticised by a section to-day. Trouble arises out of man's selfish use of things and persons.

Victory Over Circumstance

Paul and Silas were hustled into the marketplace; their clothes were torn off in the melee. They were beaten and imprisoned. Perhaps the cry of "Civis Romanus Sum" was drowned in the shouts of the mob. But why be Christian if you have to suffer? Peter says, "Because Christ also suffered." These early Christians seemed to be different from many to-day. They rejoiced in it while "moderns" grumble. "That I may know him and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death" (Paul). Am I misjudged or maligned or ridiculed or made to suffer for the sake of Christ, and shall I not take it patiently? Paul said, "I have learned in whatsoever state I am therewith to be content." It was a glorious victory that was won over circumstances that night in the jail at Philippi.

Victory Followed Victory

Nothing succeeds like success even in a warfare. The privilege of being a citizen of Rome secured an apology from the magistrates and Paul was free. But the greatest victory was the establishment of a splendid church, a colony of heaven, the "joy and crown" of the apostle. In the letter he wrote them years afterward from Rome there is a warmth of affection such as is not felt in any other letter. Paul fought a good fight and the victory was glorious. Should we not share in the sacrifices and in the battles necessary to victories for the church—for the kingdom of God?

The Home Circle

J. C. F. Pittman

A FRIEND

"A FRIEND in need," my neighbor said to me, "A friend indeed is what I meant to be: In time of trouble I will come to you, And in the hour of need you'll find me true." I thought a bit, and took him by the hand; "My friend," said I, "you do not understand The inner meaning of that simple rhyme, A friend is what the heart needs all the time."

A ROMANIST'S CONVERSION

AN Irish bachelor had in his employment for some years a Roman Catholic house-keeper. Leaving his service, she emigrated to America, and became employed by a Christian lady as her maid. The beautiful life this lady led had a great influence on this Roman Catholic girl. She watched her mistress closely and saw her reading the Bible. She started reading for herself, and soon discovered that her religion was all wrong. She became converted, and in a few years from leaving her former employer in Ireland she sent him a beautiful Bible, with the following words written on the flyleaf:—

"My own dear Bible! How I love
On these fair leaves to look,
My guide, my guard, to realms above—
My bright, my golden Book.

"In early life it touched my heart,
It gave me eyes to see.
Oh, ne'er let cold indifference part
My own loved Book and me."

Sunbeam—"Well, I hear you stayed in the haunted house last night. What happened?"

Moonbeam—"About twelve o'clock a ghost came through the wall just as if there was no wall there."

Sunbeam—"What did you do?"

Moonbeam—"Boy, I went through the other side the same way!"

The Family Altar

TOPIC.—NOT INTERESTED.

- Aug. 9—Matt. 11: 7-19.
" 10—Matt. 11: 20-24.
" 11—Matt. 22: 1-14.
" 12—Acts 24: 24-47.
" 13—Acts 26: 24-32.
" 14—Acts 18: 1-11.
" 15—Deut 4: 23-35; Acts 18: 12-28.

GALLEO, we are told, "cared for none of these things." But being uncertain of the precise significance of these words, we should refrain from censuring him. It cannot be shown that he was indifferent to matters concerning religion. Early writers testify that he was a good man and an impartial judge. Yet it seems clear that he did not consider that this case came within the scope of his jurisdiction, and it may be that, in common with his fellow-countrymen (wrongly, of course) he looked with contempt upon the Jews, and was therefore unconcerned with the persecution they endured. It is certain, at any rate, that in our day there are vast multitudes who by their aloofness prove that they care for nothing which concerns religion. They even pass by Calvary's cross quite uninterested. Well might we ask, "Is it *nothing* to you, all ye that pass by?"

C.E. News from Far and Near

W. W. Saunders

DR. POLING'S SON

IN previous notes we referred to the fact that Clark Poling, son of our world president and his wife, was reported missing in North Africa. From the "C.E. News" we learn that his death is confirmed. The ship on which Clark was travelling was torpedoed. There was no time for all to secure lifebelts. Clark Poling and three other chaplains gave theirs to members of the crew, who got away from the sinking ship. The last sight the survivors had was of this little group of four men kneeling in prayer as the ship went down. It has been well said, "What a glorious way to die! Instances like this help to dignify the chaplaincy and to give it a place of high distinction in the thinking of service men everywhere."

QUEENSLAND'S 52nd CONVENTION

FROM August 5 to 8 the northern State will be celebrating its annual convention in Brisbane. On August 5 the alumni will conduct an "at home." A welcome tea and I.C.E. rally will be held on Aug. 6. The annual assembly, a junior rally, a district union tea and a consecration meeting will occupy Aug. 7, from 1.30 p.m. onwards.

ENDEAVORERS' BUSH CHAPEL

BACK at the unit we decided to build a little brush chapel in which to have our communion service and Bible study class," ran a message to the editor of "C.E. News," sent from "somewhere in Australia." So two of our Bordertown church of Christ Endeavorers, Arthur Milne and Tom Scown, set to work and completed the chapel. At the dedication service a communion service was conducted, about 30 remembering our Lord in his own appointed way. Possibly it was of that chapel that another Endeavorer wrote, saying that it seats 120, and is used for five services on Sundays by all denominations. He adds, "It is wonderful to see the fellows coming along to the evening service, which is voluntary. Some splendid services have been held. On Wednesday evenings the padre leads us in an interesting study circle when we discuss topics that will strengthen us in our Christian witness."

SERVICE WITH A CAPITAL S

LISMORE (N.S.W.) church of Christ Endeavorers wrote 220 letters over the past year to the 47 men and women of the church who are serving in the Forces. Visits to the sick and bereaved totalled over 100.

Boggabri (N.S.W.) Methodist intermediates have been in existence six months. They have bought paint and painted the church interior, have bought new light bowls for the church, supplied curtains for the vestry, and collected 5/- per week for missions.

Gympie (Qld.) church of Christ Y.P. Society has been much diminished in numbers, but enthusiasm has not waned. Names of over 100 soldiers are on the correspondence list.

St. George district union (N.S.W.) rendered the pageant "From Bethlehem to Calvary," and the Kogarah District Hospital benefited to the extent of £65. A tract drive, open-air meeting, missionary rally and junior picnic were other features in recent activity. Beverly Hills church of Christ juniors gained first place in the sports.

Politics and Christian Principles

In Social Service Notes reference is made to the Federal Elections, New Order, Christian Guest Home, and some interesting figures.

NEVER before have Christians manifested such a personal interest in Parliament and political affairs as they are doing to-day. To social workers, this is a most encouraging sign. There are many wrongs that can be remedied only by legislation, and it is plain that Christians should take a hand in framing such measures that will make for the common good. A. A. Hughes has made a distinctive entry in the Victorian Parliament. Mr. Hollins also further distinguished himself in debate. Mrs. Weber, another independent candidate who stood for social reform, was elected but has since resigned to contest a Federal seat. W. A. Fordham, an officer of the Camberwell church, and a Camberwell City Councillor of many years, is contesting the seat vacated by Mrs. Weber. His many friends will wish him success. Mrs. Monborough, president of the W.C.T.U., and Mr. Edmunds, a well-known advocate of social reform, are also contesting seats. F. Halleday, M.L.C., of South Australia, and chairman of the Social Questions committee of the S.A. conference, has resigned his seat to contest a Federal seat. He will oppose ex-minister A. Cameron for Barker. In many electorates the voter has no alternative (save an informal vote) but to vote for a man whose politics he does not like. Parties or juntas do not select men because they stand for Christian principles. On the contrary we are compelled to believe that these often prejudice their chances. The church has at last resolved to choose men whom they can trust, and who, when elected, will be unfettered by any party shackles.

The New Order

There are increasing signs of a deepening witness on all sides in the world that is to be, and every change in the war situation is being regarded as a reason for more serious consideration to be given to the issues that are involved. As the day of armistice draws nearer, those upon whose shoulders falls more particularly the responsibility of re-establishing the world on a better basis than previously existed are becoming nervous lest they be caught unprepared. Plans and plans are being devised, some narrow and restricted, some concerned only with economics, some purely national, but few envisage the kingdom of God. The church is realising that it is her function to bring the world back to Christ, and to do this she must come down from the pulpit and practise her doctrines amongst the people. A French statesman cried in despair, "Christ has come, but when cometh salvation?" and an English poet, "We have preached Christ for centuries, until at last men learn to scoff—so few seem any better off."

Christian Guest Home

The committee, members of the staff, and guests met at the home on Friday, July 16, to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the opening. Some time was spent in devotions, when thanks to God were given for his unfailing mercies, and the joy of his service. Afterwards the gathering assumed a social character, when vocal

and elocutionary items were rendered and a happy time of fellowship was spent. Reference was made to the work of many of those who had been removed from us, as well as of those who were still with us, and very pleasant memories were revived. The visitation of mission bands and Y.P. societies, as well as many who bring the message of light and comfort in song and story, is greatly appreciated. Several new guests have come to us lately. There has been much sickness in the home.

A meeting of women is called for Friday, August 13, at 2.30 p.m. in the board room of Bible House, 241 Flinders-lane, to consider plans for the women's appeal to clear the debt on the home this year. Friends are invited.

A concert by the Malvern church of Christ girls' choir, assisted by members of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra—Albert Ayre, violinist; Ida Scott, pianist; and William Laird, the distinguished baritone—under the direction of Claud Gadge, will be given in the Bambra-rd. church on Saturday, Sept. 11. Proceeds will be devoted towards the debt extinction fund of the home.

Interesting Figures

Total beer consumed in Australia in 1940-41, 96,125,664 galls. Consumption per head, 13.7 galls. Estimated cost (wholesale prices), £19,225,133. Tobacco, nearly 23 million pounds. Less than one-third of the population drink or smoke. Ponder these figures.

(W. H. Clay, 241 Flinders-lane, Melbourne.)

Open Forum

FOR "CHRISTIAN" READERS

(Correspondents are reminded that letters should not be more than 300 words in length, that names and not pseudonyms should be used, and that once a writer has had his say on a particular topic he should leave the way open for somebody else. We do not desire unsatisfactory crossfiring. The insertion of a letter does not imply editorial approval of its contents.—Ed.)

EVENING COLLECTIONS

AN interesting note was sounded in S/Sgt. H. L. Reed's letter recently published in the "Australian Christian" re churches which he visited taking up an evening offering. This was the custom of Thornbury church of Christ. Recently at an annual business meeting, when the church was almost fully represented, a youthful member brought forward the motion: "That the evening offering be abolished." Members of the board spoke against this motion, pointing out that the offerings now received, evening inclusive, were insufficient to meet current expenses. Several members spoke in favor of abolition. One could readily see that the majority favored the motion with the suggestion that all members make a special effort to meet the weekly needs of church. A month's trial was given, and it was pleasing to find that the quota required has been received without evening offering. May I suggest that other churches who make this unscriptural practice, follow our method of faith and prayer.—G. Argo.

He who waits to do a great deal of good at once will never do any. To found a university may not be in our power, but we can give a cup of cold water in the name of Christ.—Samuel Johnson.

VICTORIAN FORWARD THRUST

Total Gains—First Week.

23 Teachers.

145 Scholars.

AIM:

100 New Teachers.

1000 New Scholars.

Here and There

We regret to learn that A. M. Ludbrook, of Adelaide, S.A., has been very unwell. Mrs. Ludbrook, also, has not had good health.

Chaplain H. G. Norris, after service in New Guinea, is home for a period to recuperate from malaria. He will again assist the church at Tumby Bay, S.A.

Mr. and Mrs. I. A. Paternoster, after assisting the church at Launceston, Tasmania, for some weeks, have returned to the work at North Sydney, N.S.W.

The late Sir Andrew Clark, M.D., said, "Alcohol is a poison. So is strychnine; so is arsenic; so is opium. It ranks with these agents. Health is always in some way or other injured by it; benefited by it—never!"

Dr. I. Benson, in his weekly article in "The Herald," writing of his visit to Kaniva, Vic., and referring to the church of Christ there, pointed out that, of the £1200 raised by the church during the year, £800 is given for others.

Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Hughes and family passed through Melbourne last week on their way from Swan Hill, Vic., to Hobart, Tas. Mr. Hughes is taking up the duties of preacher of the church in Hobart and also secretary of the Temperance Alliance.

On the A.B.C. alternative programme, Sunday, Aug. 8, 3.30 p.m., E.S.T. Dr. Nathaniel Micklem, President of Mansfield College, Oxford, and an authority on the persecution of the churches in Germany, will tell how the churches are meeting the campaign of hate.

Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Hammer, former missionaries in the New Hebrides, passed through Melbourne from Sydney on their way to Adelaide. Mr. and Mrs. Hammer, being past students of the College of the Bible, Glen Iris, were present at the college reunion that was held on July 27.

The Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill, Prime Minister of Great Britain, said, "Sunday is a divine and priceless institution. It is a necessary pause in the national life and activity; it is essentially the day of emancipation from the compulsion and strain of daily work. It is the birthright of every British subject."

"The Christian Socialist Movement feels that its particular task is to deal with the question of religion in Russia. It comes as rather a shock to be told, in making comparisons of the Soviet, English and Australian church attendances, that the Soviet leads with 12 per cent., England 10 per cent. and Australia a poor last with 7 per cent."

Mr. Gale has asked us to state that a word was omitted from a paragraph in our issue of July 21 which suggested that word has been received concerning Allan Garland since the fall of Singapore. Actually he meant to convey the fact that no word has been received from there concerning him for some time prior to the capitulation.

Sidney Wicks, M.A., in an article that appeared on April 9, 1943, says: "I am a member of a Christian Council. Representatives of the three main divisions of Christianity have united to implement that movement towards church unity which was given such impetus by the late Cardinal Hinsley. But are the churches talking too much about the Ten Points, and Social Reconstruction and the Beveridge Report and failing to fight the sin at our very door? Are we talking too much of organising the people into grandiose schemes and failing to see that the people are being corrupted by sinister selfish forces?"

The fourth Pleasant Sunday Afternoon was held on August 1 at North Fitzroy, Vic. The chapel was filled. The Hon. John Cain, M.L.A., spoke on "Post War Problems." The speaker emphasised the necessity of immediate application of our best thought and energy to the problems which would face Australia when peace came again. It would be much more difficult to bring the same degree of thought and energy into planning for peace than for the prosecution of the war, when fear predominated. The leaders in Australia must join with those of other great nations in this post-war preparation. Mr. Fred. Collier rendered two solos, and the Victorian Girls' Banjo Club provided items. An offering was taken for the Prisoners of War Fund.

On Thursday, July 29, a social evening was tendered by the Bible school of Preston (Vic.) church to F. J. Lang, who recently retired from the office of superintendent of school after 25 years' service. Prior to a social gathering, W. R. Hibburt, organiser of the Bible Schools and Young People's Department, conducted a devotional service in chapel, during which he spoke in eulogistic terms of the faithful service rendered by Mr. Lang. B. J. Combridge led in a closing prayer. In the hall later Mr. Hibburt presided, and a musical programme was presented by school. Many former teachers and workers were present to show appreciation of loyal service rendered by Mr. Lang. The newly-appointed superintendent, F. Chatley, thanked his predecessor, and handed him a token of appreciation from present and former workers. D. Paterson spoke on behalf of the church. Mr. Lang in response thanked all present for their support.

From Week to Week

THE Preachers' Page sets out an appeal for the need of greater efforts to evangelise and to win men to Christ. It seems difficult to get the non-member to attend services and hear the gospel. The radio offers a great opportunity to the Christian church. Up to the present no really successful method has been evolved that so presents the gospel over the air that the masses are attracted to it as they are to other programmes. Church services can be enjoyed fully only when one is a direct participator or worshipper in the service. The broadcasting of a church service is not the way to reach out and capture the interest of the listeners. Just as training is required to fit men to undertake the public ministry of the church, so there seems need for the selection and training of men and women to draw up and to present a really effective religious radio programme. Much money and effort now being spent so ineffectively could be diverted to some new method of approaching the multitudes. Is it impossible to conduct a mission over the air? Mr. Greenhalgh has shown how the gospel gains unexpected results when presented effectively. It seems the church is slow to see the possibilities of a properly organised and attractive mission over the air.

THE reunion of past and present students of the College of the Bible, Glen Iris, had a special significance this year. The function took place on July 27, in the large lecture room of the college. Greetings were received from men and women in various parts of Australia. The men serving as chaplains were represented by a greeting. We were informed that about twenty former students of Glen Iris are serving as chaplains. It was evident that

Regimenting Church

A. Schuurman, of the Netherlands Indies Government Information Service, reports how the Christian church is being treated by Japanese authorities.

AT the outbreak of hostilities in the Pacific, there were many Christian churches in the Netherlands Indies established under the Netherlands Administration. On the island of Celebes alone there were 2000. Their leaders diffused not only spiritual light among their Indonesian flocks but also intellectual enlightenment and physical well-being.

The Japanese recently broadcast that the 2000 Christian churches on Celebes had acted as political catspaws for Great Britain and the United States of America. But now that they have been "liberated" the Christian churches "will co-operate with the Mohammedan organisations" in the interests of "a new political idea" in the spheres of education and social welfare, spheres "which hitherto had been completely neglected by the Netherlands Administration."

"The 2000 Christian churches on Celebes, consisting of more than ten sects, have been amalgamated into one federation," the Japanese declared in a broadcast from Saigon and from Tokio, "together with a number of hospitals and other institutions. They will now co-operate with," what the Japanese refer to as "the Christian Federation in Tokio."

We may safely assume that henceforth the church will be regimented to interpret the false political and ethical notions of the un-Christian enemy of mankind in the East. But we say, with equal assurance, look forward to a refusal on the part of the Christian church in the East, as clear-cut and as dignified as its opposition to the enemy of mankind in the West.

the college has been an important instrument in the work of the kingdom of God in Australia and in other parts of the world. Not all who have received training have continued in the ranks of the preachers, but it is clear from what we hear that those who may be in the business world or in the professions have carried with them the influence of their training in the College of the Bible.

At this reunion the principal, Mr. T. H. Scambler, B.A., Dip.Ed., was honored by special mention. In recognition of the completion of twenty-one years' service with the college, a presentation was made to him on behalf of past and present students. A fitting word of tribute was expressed by the president of the "Old Boys' Club," Mr. G. J. Andrews.

MOST church reporters give heed to our requests from time to time. It is a weakness of our nature that we are so prone to forget, hence once more I am obliged to bring under the notice of those who are so ready to help send us news that it helps if names are printed in BLOCK letters. Give the exact date of events mentioned. Please do not be so vague as to write as an indicator of time the words "last Sunday." It is difficult for us to find out what is meant by such a statement, particularly if the contents of the report give no clue. To save space we must leave out references to titles of addresses. News columns are to record events that have happened. Future hopes and plans for coming days are not items to be included in church reports. When something of importance has occurred, please send an account of it as soon as possible. Your help is appreciated. Please assist us to present real up-to-date news to our readers.

News of the Churches

Western Australia

Perth.—On morning of July 25 the service was broadcast; Hugh Gray gave a helpful exhortation. At 7.30 p.m. L. C. Peacock preached. On July 27 the C.E. Society visited Endeavorers at North Perth Baptist church.

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

STUDENT ACCEPTS CALL TO MINISTER

MAYLANDS.—Morning speakers past month were Albany Bell, S. H. Rodier, C. R. Burdeu. D. R. Hill led gospel meetings for six weeks. Church appreciates this splendid help. A. McRoberts, of the College of the Bible, has accepted a call for three years. On July 25 church anniversary was celebrated. Morning service was attended by pioneers; T. Peacock presided. L. Peacock, previous B.S. scholar and later preacher, gave a fine address. A splendid evening meeting was led by D. R. Hill. Mrs. Harris rendered an appropriate solo. On July 28 the anniversary was continued. First part of meeting took the form of a recognition service to all church and auxiliary workers. A splendid address by J. Wiltshire, State evangelist, followed. Supper was served.

Tasmania

Invermay.—A visitor during July was Sister L. Morgan (Northcote, Vic.). Sister Lynex is now restored to health and able to have fellowship with the church. F. T. Morgan, after four and a half years' faithful ministry with the church, on July 1 commenced a ministry as a travelling evangelist for H.M. committee, with Invermay as home base. Local brethren will occupy the pulpit during his absence. A Mutual Improvement Class has been formed under leadership of H. V. Clements and E. A. Stevens. G. Colbeck recently left for the mainland to join the R.A.A.F. Members were glad to hear of H. Stevens, who is with the A.I.F. Recent speakers have been H. V. Clements, R. Edmunds, J. J. Hodgson, M. Alderton, G. H. Newell, F. T. Morgan.

Launceston (Margaret-st.)—The ministry of Ira A. Paternoster has been very helpful. Addresses have been of a high order. Bible studies at midweek services have proved a blessing. Annual offering for overseas missions reached £59. At Bible school examinations on July 11, 37 scholars and 3 teachers sat. Aged Mrs. Libby has been laid aside, but is making progress. Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Wilson were expected to arrive about July 28. Mr. Wilson was to commence his ministry on Aug. 1. Meetings on July 25 were splendidly attended; 127 broke bread during the day, and 120 were present at gospel service, when Mr. Paternoster gave a splendid address. He then showed lantern slides of New Hebrides work. W. Duff, on behalf of the church, expressed thanks to Mr. Paternoster for his services during the interim ministry, and gratitude to the church at North Sydney for releasing him.

Queensland

Charters Towers.—Annual meeting of church was held on July 17. Reports from auxiliaries showed encouraging progress. The following were elected: Elders, Messrs. Miller and Abrahams; deacons, J. Mills, H. Coward, A. Abrahams (treasurer) and W. Coward (secretary).

Annual meeting was followed by basket tea and rally, speaker being Chap. H. Small. Overseas offering was £18/8/9. Fellowship has been enjoyed with D. Heidelberger, Ohio, U.S.A.

New South Wales

Ashfield.—Visiting preachers have been Dr. Verco and F. Hunting. Evening services have been well attended considering the amount of sickness. The young man who was baptised was welcomed to fellowship on July 25. Mrs. Bagley was present in morning after long absence through illness. R. P. Arnott preached at evening service.

Bankstown.—The work is progressing well. All departments are working well. Sisters of the church visited the homes at Pandle Hill on July 6. Mr. Thomson has been speaking on the prophets and their messages. Gospel services have increased in number and interest. Bible school had special part in meeting on evening of July 18. At night on July 25 young men assisted, and two young women confessed Christ.

Paddington.—There was a good attendance at breaking of bread on July 25, Mr. Greenhalgh giving the address. A happy evening was spent on July 23 which took the form of a dinner to those 21 and under. F. C. Hunting was guest speaker, and gave an earnest and interesting talk to the young people. Games, music and films of mission work were also enjoyed. One young woman was immersed at gospel service.

Taree.—The church had fellowship with Frank Hunting, youth director, on July 4 and 11. His help in conducting all services on both Sundays was appreciated. On July 18 E. J. and P. G. Saxby addressed the church and conducted gospel service. The messages of D. G. Meyers, of Newcastle, on July 25 were enjoyed. A. G. Saunders has had a slight setback with an attack of influenza, but the church is hopeful that he will be able to resume his ministry soon.

Chatswood.—Heavy war enlistments and sickness affect the work. The evangelistic zeal of F. A. Youens is taxed in conducting an effective ministry under such conditions. His splendid worship meeting addresses and gospel messages are much appreciated by members and many visitors. The Seeking Club enjoyed a recent talk by David Verco. Sunday school is experiencing difficulties of the times, but superintendent L. Wilson and staff faithfully persevere.

Victoria

Belmont.—A fine meeting was held on July 25, when Mr. Macnaughtan gave the address. Foreign mission offering totalled £10. The church is progressing well.

Stawell.—Mr. Randall was preacher throughout past month. Prayer meetings are held in homes of members. William Bolwell is in hospital with a broken leg.

Chelsea.—Mr. Pittman has arranged to give a series of special gospel messages for two months. A campaign of house-to-house invitation has been introduced, and it is expected that the Bible school will also benefit.

Benidgo.—On morning of July 25 Mr. Mathieson spoke. Evening service was led by Mr. Killey, of B. and F. Bible Society, whose address was illustrated by lantern slides. Mrs. Trabinger and Mrs. James are out of hospital.

Brunswick.—On July 25 J. Wright gave farewell addresses. On behalf of the church Mr. Marsh presented books to J. Wright and

A. White for their services. T. G. H. Westwood commenced his work with the church with good meetings.

Cheltenham.—Bible school reports ten new scholars and one new teacher since campaign opened. On July 25 Dr. Dale gave an interesting address to the Christian Men's League on public health and the new order. At gospel meeting on Aug. 1 two young ladies were immersed.

Newmarket.—On July 18 and 25 Mr. Graham addressed both services. At gospel service a Bible school scholar was baptised. On Aug. 1 E. Fisher addressed morning service and Mr. Graham the gospel service. Fellowship with Messrs. Whitnall and Schultz, R.A.A.F., of Albion, and Ann-st., Brisbane, has been enjoyed.

North Carlton.—All mourn the passing of Mr. Demeral, of Lygon-st., one of the band of Lygon-st. workers whose continued help is such a blessing to the cause at Rathdown-st. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. Demeral. Mr. Milne continues to give valued addresses at gospel meetings. Sunday school work is brighter.

Hampton.—Mrs. Austin, an esteemed member, reached her 90th birthday on July 28 and was made a little presentation by the ladies. On evening of July 25 R. Geyer, of Gardiner, was preacher. D. K. Beiler (S.A.) spoke to the Bible class on Aug. 1 and preached at night. Mr. Taylor, after treatment for his throat, now resumes his work.

Oakleigh.—Members enjoy fellowship with other churches in united services each month. S. Neighbour was speaker at July service in Salvation Army hall. I.O.R. attended evening service on July 25 as part of their anniversary celebrations, E. G. Horton giving the address. Miss F. Turner, of Christian Guest Home, formerly of Hawthorn, passed away during the week.

Camberwell.—On Aug. 1 the communion service was well attended and gospel meeting showed an increase. R. L. Williams addressed both services. A drive is being conducted during August to create interest in gospel witness. Mutual fund, after 12 months, has reached £1300 which practically offsets church debt. Mr. Williams' ministry is proving very helpful.

Collingwood.—Bible school campaign for increased attendances opened well. On Aug. 1, in morning, fellowship was enjoyed with R. Bethune, who presided, whilst K. Roberts brought an appreciated message. At gospel service T. Fitzgerald preached. Officers of church have decided to co-operate with South Richmond in formation of a north suburban churches circuit.

WAR AFFECTS CHURCH

ONE-FIFTH OF MEMBERSHIP IN SERVICES

CARNEGIE.—On Aug. 1 Mr. and Mrs. G. Warmbrunn were welcomed by letter from Dandenong. In recent weeks three more men have entered the Forces. More than one-fifth of Carnegie's membership is now serving in the Forces. On July 18 the church suffered a loss in the passing of Miss M. Jones, a member of Carnegie church for more than twenty years.

Caulfield (Bambra-rd.)—H. M. Clipstone addressed both services on Aug. 1. Endeavorers held a happy fellowship tea. Bible school is enthusiastic over increase campaign, and new scholars and teachers are reported. Many are away owing to sickness. Mr. and Mrs. C. Ferris have been received by letter from Lygon-st. Women's Mission Band enjoyed a missionary talk by Mr. Bunton on July 30.

North Fitzroy.—On Aug. 1 R. Enniss addressed morning service. Mr. Burn (R.A.A.F.), Launceston, was among the visitors present. In the afternoon the monthly P.S.A. was held, and R. Enniss preached at night. There was a fine response to the chapel improvements appeal; the aim is £200, and £159 is already in hand or promised.

Berwick.—The church continues in good will and fellowship and is co-operating with Mr. Burt. On July 25 there were many visitors at morning meeting. In afternoon the Sunday school had a missionary session. The church has enjoyed fellowship of Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Wilson while on their way to Tasmania from S.A. Kindness has been shown by all to Mrs. P. Aurisch, who is ill. Young men are assisting at morning meetings.

Surrey Hills.—F. E. Buckingham, of Malvern-Caulfield, brought a challenging address to the church. Youth service at 7 p.m. was addressed by Miss F. Stock and W. Newham. Dr. Floyd, of St. Paul's Cathedral, delivered an address on "Church Music" to local men's and women's United Christian Fellowships. J. J. Webb, local Methodist minister, exchanged with G. J. Andrews on Aug. 1. At 8.30 p.m., in Church of England Hall, the first of nine consecutive after-church united services was addressed by Dr. Carrington, followed by social tea and fellowship.

Malvern-Caulfield.—At annual church meeting held on July 28, reports of departments showed a very successful year. The preacher's report was very encouraging. There were received into fellowship during the year 20 by faith and baptism, 27 by letter, a total of 47. Three deaths are reported with regret. The following officers were elected: Deacons, R. Clarke, T. Jackson, G. Lees, T. H. Eames; secretary, J. Holloway; treasurer, T. Jackson; elders, J. Holloway and H. Watson. On Aug. 1 attendances were good. F. E. Buckingham was speaker.

GOOD REPORT

SEVENTEEN ADDED TO CHURCH IN SIX MONTHS

BURNLEY.—Services were well attended during past month. Mr. Crisp gave an interesting lantern address on July 11. At annual business meeting on July 14, Mr. Crisp was invited to stay another year. The secretary reported 17 additions during last six months. D. Grant was appointed secretary of church on retirement of Mr. Mundy, who has served faithfully for a number of years. F. Barnett was elected S.S. superintendent. Overseas mission offering passed £19. Visitors have included Sister J. Bryan and Sister T. Johnstone, of Georgetown and Enmore, N.S.W., respectively. On Aug. 1 a praise service was held, theme being "Hymns that Never Die."

Balwyn.—There is widespread expression of regret that H. J. Patterson, the preacher, is leaving Balwyn and Victoria, but all express good wishes for the future. His son Eric has recently qualified as Sergeant Pilot in R.A.A.F. An excellent concert, produced by C. Godge, of Malvern-Caulfield church, was recently given and nett proceeds were over £21. Sunday school is joining in the State drive for new scholars, and already many have been added. Including duplex envelopes, about £80 has been raised for overseas missions. Corporal Keith Larkin was welcomed back on Aug. 1. Section Officer Molly Methven, of R.A.A.F., was a welcome visitor.

Carlton (Lygon-st.).—The church has suffered a loss in the passing of Claude Demeral, the latest member to be added to the diaconate. Sympathetic reference was made by T. H. Scambler, who presided, and sympathy is extended to his wife, also to E. Green and family of James Hillhouse, a member of the early 80's, in the loss of loved ones. T. H. Scambler spoke at all services. Alan Haddow made the good confession, making the fourth generation of this family to be united with the church. Three were baptised at close of service. Herb. Gannaway was received into fellowship. Deacons met in the home of aged Mrs. Young with communion. At an inaugural session of a girls' club last Monday night 25 were present.

South Yarra.—At annual business meeting of church on July 21, all officers were re-elected. Reports from auxiliaries showed progress and good work done. C. Cole, preacher, submitted a twelve months' plan which will be further considered. Mr. Whiting, of South Melbourne, spoke on morning of July 24, and in afternoon the men's fellowship entertained the ladies to tea. Afterwards Mr. Margetts, who with his wife was a guest, spoke on the need for Christian principles to play a greater part in politics, and the affairs of the nation. Mr. Cole on Aug. 1 gave thoughtful messages to fairly good meetings. Fellowship with A. G. Searle, of R.A.A.F., and several other young men and women in the Forces, was enjoyed.

Gardiner.—Cottage prayer meetings have recently been held in the homes of Mrs. Lilburne, Mrs. Geyer and Mrs. P. McDonald. Fred Fisher, a youth who confessed Christ whilst on a visit to Warragul recently, has been baptised and welcomed into fellowship. Mr. Hagger was speaker at each service on July 18 and 25. At monthly fellowship meeting on Wednesday, 21st, Mr. Kingsmill explained the work being done among men by the City Mission. Sympathy has been extended to Mrs. Pugh in the loss of her brother (Harold Flee) and Mr. Watkins in the loss of her mother. On the 1st, K.S.P. club celebrated anniversary, members taking a prominent part in all services throughout day. Colin Cartmel was speaker at morning meeting, and at gospel service Kappas formed a choir. Mr. Hagger preached and Keith and Eric Morris sang a duet.

Ballarat (Dawson-st.).—United half-yearly men's meeting was held on July 22. Officers of Baptist churches were invited and L. G. Bond, minister city Baptist, gave an address on agreements and co-operative service between Baptists and churches of Christ. Members of Forces from S.A. and W.A. were present, Len Jessup, of Unley, S.A., rendering appreciated violin items. A team of 11 from Y.P. Department, under leadership of W. R. Hibbert, visited in interests of youth work on July 24 and 25. Tea and evening rally were held on Saturday. Visitors filled all pulpits morning and evening on Sunday and assisted in schools. Teachers' conference and tea followed Sunday school. All of these efforts, together with a gallery of ideas, proved instructive and profitable to local workers. Intermediates attended united rally at Lydiard-st. Methodist on July 25. J. Blackie recently gave the society a most interesting talk on first aid to body and soul. Robert Burt assists Miss Lorna Dunstan (supt.) by conducting a Bible quiz each week. Half-yearly business meeting of the church was held on July 28 preceded by a church dinner. Officers' and preacher's reports showed work well maintained, with some specially pleasing features. N. Reed presented Sunday school report and Mrs. Spiers the Dorcas report. Treasurer reported a credit of £43 in general account and F.M. offering having reached £143. Special minute of appreciation of the long and successful work of Miss Mavis Hicks as superintendent of Y.W.L. and J.C.E., prior to her resignation, was recorded.

South Australia

Prospect.—C. Schwab led the church in worship on July 25. Fellowship was enjoyed with visitors and members of the Forces. Ron Freeman is home on leave. Reports from boys on service state that all are well. Bible school departments are in good spirit. P.B.P. and K.S.P. chapters are carrying on in spite of reduced numbers.

NEW PREACHER

RETURNED MISSIONARY TO SERVE CHURCH

FORESTVILLE.—A young woman confessed Christ at gospel meeting July 25. This was the last day of J. T. Train's term as preacher. D. Hammer, returned missionary from New Hebrides, has entered into an engagement with the church, and begins his ministry in August.

Unley.—At church business meeting reports showed membership to be 320. One elder, two deacons and 46 active church members are in Forces. 70 names are on prayer roster. Average offerings per Sunday, £12/14/11. Sunday school: present enrolment 155, a loss of 10; 12 teachers and officers and 13 scholars in Forces. Two parents' and scholars' socials and a youth fellowship tea have been held. All auxiliaries maintain high standard. The evangelist reported on his varied activities, which included assisting at missions at Maylands and Mile End.

Cottonville.—The 47th anniversary of the church was marked by good meetings on July 25. Morning meeting was preceded by annual C.E. rally, which proved of great inspiration. It was addressed by Keith Jones, who later spoke at communion service. A bright evening service was assisted by duets and a solo from Misses Brand, of Croydon. Joyce Berry and Mrs. R. Brand are recovering from serious illness. Mr. and Mrs. Manning are entering the last weeks of their ministry. Their work has been of great blessing. The church looks forward to the arrival of Mr. Brooke and family late in September.

Flinders Park.—There was good attendance at both services on July 24. Fellowship was enjoyed with Geo. Frost, home on leave; he also visited C.E. society. Members are pleased that H. Ghelkin is able to meet again after many months in hospital. Sympathy is extended to Mr. Curl and Phyllis in the death of Mrs. Curl. The chapel has been renovated and painted, and the property cleaned up. Church debt has been paid off, and a fund commenced called the new chapel building fund. The church is commencing a month of special services on Aug. 1, and a youth crusade will be held every afternoon after school for a week. Annual meeting of church on July 20 was largely attended.

NO PROFIT OUT OF WAR

No one in Britain is making a profit out of the war. Excess profits are taxed 100 per cent. (with a small refund promised after the war). The standard rate of income tax is 50 per cent. and a graded surtax brings it up to 97 per cent. on all incomes over £20,000 per year. On an income of £800 a married man pays £261 in income tax. On an income of £5000 he would pay £2807.

In 1938-39 1,000,000 weekly wage earners in Britain paid income tax amounting to £2,500,000. To-day about 7,000,000 wage earners pay about £200,000,000 income tax in a year. A single man earning £4 per week pays an annual income tax of £33.

The Federal College of the Bible

I MUST express to former students of the College of the Bible my appreciation of the generous way in which they recognised my twenty-one years' work in the college. The splendid gift presented at the annual reunion on July 27 was a perfect surprise to me, and the messages of affection and goodwill which accompanied it touched me deeply. The present students honored me with a similar recognition earlier in the year.

The old boys' night, as the college re-union is sometimes called, was a delightful function, as it always is. A good attendance of former students, genial fellowship, a flow of wit and good humor, and a bountiful supper prepared with such skill as to make rationing restrictions mere abstractions—all combined to make the evening a delightful experience. Present students combined with former students in providing the programme, and Gordon Andrews presided with the natural grace which characterised him on such occasions.

The Theological Teachers' Association (which has been in existence only a few months) held its second meeting in the college chapel on July 19. The principals of all the theological colleges were present—Bishop Baker, of Ridley College; Principal Grigg, of the Baptist College; Dr. Calvert Barber, of Queens'; Principal McLean, of Ormond (Moderator of the Presbyterian Assembly); and Principal Northey, of the Congregational College. Several members of the teaching staffs of these colleges were also present. Dr. Calvert Barber gave an address on "The Teaching of Pastoral Theology," which was followed by discussion. The day's fellowship was concluded by afternoon tea in the principal's residence. This association reflects the realised need among all the churches to-day for the people of God to get together and work together in the interests of the church.

The annual retreat of the college students was held at Black Rock on June 30. Members of the Baptist College were again our guests. Dr. C. I. McLaren, Presbyterian medical missionary of thirty years' experience in Korea, who recently passed through persecution and imprisonment at the hands of the Japanese, addressed our gatherings. We feel that such days of spiritual companionship among the young men who are to be the preachers of to-morrow will prepare good foundations for the closer unity for which we look in days to come.

There is an insistent call for missions by college teams. Invitations come to us from our own and other States. We cannot respond to them all. In the August vacation two missions will be held. Four students are preparing for a fifteen days' special effort at Hampton, and a second team of four will go to Peel-st., Ballarat East, for eight days. We are thankful for the growing spirit of evangelism in the life of the students. Sometimes we wonder if we should not insist that their vacation be a vacation, because of the need of rest and recreation after the strain of a term's work in the college. Possibly the inspiration of an evangelistic effort with a church consecrated to its task will bring refreshment and renewal to the student evangelists, and start them on the next term's work with new zest.

Word was received from Ron. Saunders, posted at Norfolk Island. By the time this is read he should be at his destination in Aoba. We have sent three missionaries from the college in the last twelve months—Miss Joan Saunders to Norseman, and Messrs. Harold Finger and Ron. Saunders to the New Hebrides.

Of the five exit students this year, three have already accepted definite church engagements, two in West Australia and one in Queensland.

The Correspondence Course this year has thirty enrolments, five of the students being men in the Forces.—T. H. Scambler.

ADDRESSES

- D. Grant (secretary Burnley church, Vic.)—56 Chapel-st., East St. Kilda.
L. Morfew (secretary Preston church, Vic.)—261 Tyler-st., Preston, N.18. 'Phone, JU1284.
W. G. Organ (secretary Carnegie church, Vic.)—3 Ella-st., Murrumbena.
C. H. J. Wright (preacher Blackburn church, Vic.)—10 Gordon-cres., Blackburn. 'Phone, WX1590.

Young People's Topics

- "Lilies Among the Wheat." Talks to young people by John Macbeath, D.D. Well chosen and up-to-date subjects, 6/6 (6/9½).
"Seeing the Way to Heaven." Edited by Hy. Pickering. Original object lessons for the eye, ear and heart. 5/- (5/4½).
"Little Talks to Little Folks," by C. A. Puncker. 3/4 (3/7½).

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DEATHS

GRAHAM.—On July 27, at 13 Coppin-st., Nth. Richmond, Margaret, relict of the late Lucille Graham, loved mother of Ida, George, Elsie (Mrs. Chambers), Violet (Mrs. Symons), Mary (Mrs. Watkins), Margery, James and Harry. Aged 82 years. Father and mother re-united.

GREEN.—On July 25, at Auburn, Victoria, Sarah Nuttall, daughter of the late M. Wood and Sarah Jane Green, and beloved sister of Matthew (deceased), Will (New Zealand), Meredith, Oliver, Elizabeth (deceased) and Ernest. At rest.

HARROP.—In loving memory of my dear mother who passed away on Aug. 4, 1942, at her home, French Island.

Resting where no shadows fall.

—Inserted by her loving daughter, Myra.

HARDING.—On July 22, at his residence, 129 Eglinton-st., Kew, Alfred Charles, beloved husband of Alice, and loved father of Bonnie (Mrs. Dyer), son of the late James and Jane Harding.
"Peace, perfect peace."

—A. E. Harding.

SMITH.—On July 30, at private hospital, Surrey Hills, Alice, loving daughter of Ellen and the late Ambrose Tucker, loved sister of Alf, Bess (dec.), Harold, Nell (Mrs. G. Brown), Mabel (Mrs. W. Bower) and Lil (Mrs. J. McIvor).

IN-MEMORIAM

BROWNRIGG.—In loving memory of our dearly beloved only son, Arthur Jack, passed to higher life July 30, 1937. Memories.

LEITCH (Martha).—Loved wife of Gilbert, loving mother of Eileen (Mrs. C. V. Dickens) and Colin. Called to rest Aug. 1, 1942.
"Sleep on, beloved."

WIESE.—In loving remembrance of our dear mother and sister, called from us at Box Hill on August 4, 1941.

"Resting where no shadows fall,
In perfect peace she awaits us all."

—Inserted by her children and sister Lily.

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Aug. 8—"Lights and Shades of a Minister's Life."—Principal T. H. Scambler, B.A.

Aug. 15—"Under the Japanese in China."—Mr. Hedley Bunton (returned missionary from China).

Bright programme. Happy fellowship.

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Shortages Feared More Than Invasion

DESPITE severe restrictions and control by the Government, most parts of India are facing grave grain shortages and rising prices. From New Delhi comes the report: "Bengal was faced with a grave situation on account of her food problem and invasion threat, said Sir Nazimuddin, Premier of Bengal, speaking at a tea party given in his honor during his visit here. Referring to the food situation, which was the graver of the two issues confronting the province, Sir Nazimuddin said the prices of rice consumed by the poor people had shot up from Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 per maund and the people were experiencing very great difficulty. The food situation could be improved, provided the Government removed the provincial barriers and allowed import of rice in Bengal from the neighboring provinces. He had had a talk with an Assam Minister who told him that Assam could provide Bengal with rice if the provincial barriers were lifted. Similarly he wished that the Central Government should see that Bihar sent her quota of supplies to Bengal. Sir Nazimuddin stated that Bengal was prepared as far as bombing was concerned. The people had behaved very well during the recent raids, particularly in the eastern districts of Bengal. He was personally of the view that there was no apprehension of Bengal and Assam being invaded."

The "Times of India," quoting Lady Rama Rav, chairman of the Women's Sub-committee for Relief, writes: "I, and four well-known social workers from Bombay, visited Bijapur to study the conditions there. We toured extensively, visiting the free kitchens run by non-official agencies at Bijapur, Bhagalkot, Guledgud and Kerur, where thousands of hungry men, women and children are fed daily. A more pitiable sight cannot be imagined. Rows and rows of miserable human creatures, squatting on the wet and soggy ground (it had rained for two days before we got there), some with chipped earthen platters provided by themselves, others with dirty rags spread out before them to receive the unappetising mess called bajra khichri and mowg dhal water, which form their diet. We were told that each meal cost 10 pice per head, and about 12,000 people were being fed daily in these kitchens."

Thus India faces her too oft recurring problem of how to feed her millions during drought conditions. This time India has the added burden of keeping huge supplies up to the military camps, not only for her own nations, but for tens of thousands from across the seas.

INDIA'S POPULATION

THE Indian Government has just released figures relating to the 1941 census. The estimated population has reached nearly 389 million. Of this 389 million, over 339 million live in villages. In other words, more than seven out of every eight people are villagers.

Importance of Village Work

Seeing that the number of villages is given as 656,000, the importance of having suitable men to move amongst these people is apparent. In recent years our own missionaries are giving more attention to this problem. Many village churches have been established, teachers in the larger centres give much spare time to visiting nearby villages, but more important still has been the work, sometimes extending over several months, of our missionaries in taking their tents and camping in the villages. Thus a direct and vital contact is made. In most cases such camping visits have been well received by the village people, and requests made to come again and see them. It is hoped that greater attention will be given such work when men from our own training

centre at Baramati graduate. We could use scores of such men at any given time. The real problem is to have properly guided and properly trained men. Till this problem is surmounted, thousands of villages must remain without a real knowledge of the gospel.

"Literacy" in India

In ten years literacy has made a big advance, and the resultant rise from the whole of India equals about 70 per cent. Even so, out of India's 389 million only about 46½ million—roughly 12 per cent. over all India.

India's Religious Census

Roughly it has been ascertained that India has—

Hindus	66%
Muslims	24%
Tribal	6%
Mixed	2½%
Christian	1½%

In the latest missionary review it was stated: "The Christian numbers in India grow fast, . . . and the revised estimate for Christians in India approximates 7,250,000. From responsible quarters in India we learn that the figure would be more nearly correct if placed at eight million. Taking the highest figures possible, the vastness of the task that faces the Christian church can be seen. India's population increases each year at the rate of more than 10 million, so that in any given year the natural increase in population outnumbers those of the whole Christian community."

PLEASE, JESUS, ACCEPT MY CHILLIES

"OUR village children seldom get to a church service. The other day four were assembled, Shanti aged four, Premchand aged six, Prabhaker five, and Sarala aged three. We had taught the story of the feeding of the 5000. After hearing the story, Shanti sat thoughtful, then: 'Bai Saheb, that little boy gave Jesus his dinner. Do you think Jesus would like my chillies?' 'I am sure he would, Shanti.' Off she went, followed by the others into the fields to return with armfuls of chillies. We sang a hymn, then Shanti put her little hands together and said, 'Please, Jesus, accept my chillies.' The chillies realised three annas."

This department is conducted by A. Anderson, secretary of our Overseas Mission Board, 261 Magill-st., Tranmere, South Australia.

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Allocation of Broadcast Services

Our Queensland correspondent, P. C. D. Alcorn, B.A., reports on efforts to secure a re-allocation of number of broadcasts for churches, on the work of the flying-doctor service, and the need of teaching theology in Australian universities.

THE president of the Council of Churches (H. M. Wheller) has taken up the matter of the allocation of broadcast church services. The number of broadcasts allotted to churches a year is dependent on the denominational membership according to census returns. Mr. Wheller argues that as only 80 per cent. of the people give their religious affiliation in the census returns, 20 per cent. of religious broadcasts could be allotted to the smaller denominations. As it is, Roman Catholic and Anglican receive an undue proportion, especially when it is remembered that the number in active membership with the Anglican Church is far smaller than census returns would suggest. Reports we have received suggest that Roman Catholic and Anglican broadcast services are not popular. The 9.30 a.m. national service is considered too early to be of much value.

Our Home Mission Committee, following the lead of our Western Australian brethren, has decided to broadcast the plea for fifteen minutes each Sunday at 5 p.m. over station 4BK. This session will commence on the second Sunday in September, and will be continued for three months.

A New Protestant Organisation

Dr. G. J. Morgans, minister of the Albion Baptist church, is an ardent Protestant. He has inaugurated a Protestant Action Organisation. The first two aims of the organisation are stated as—(1) To seek first and foremost a revival of the spiritual life of the Protestant churches and individual believers; (2) To organise and direct Protestant witness. The organisation aims to enlist 50,000 members in Brisbane and 100,000 in Queensland.

"John Flynn"

A splendid piece of service, of which every Queensland can be proud, is rendered in Western Queensland by the flying doctor service. Residents a thousand miles from Cloncurry can telephone for a doctor and receive medical attention by plane. No profit is made from the service. Recently a new twin-engined Dragon plane, costing £3500, was purchased for the Flying Doctor Service and named "John Flynn" in honor of the founder of this work.

Testament Fund

The Commonwealth general secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society (Mr. W. H. Rainey) has come to Queensland to assist in the appeal for £1000 to provide New Testaments for members of the fighting forces and women's services. There is every likelihood of the fund being filled within a month. The B. and F. Society in Queensland is very appreciative of the interest manifested in its work by the Governor, Sir Leslie Wilson, and by the Anglican Archbishop.

Theology Study Plea

Archbishop Wand has advocated the study of theology at Australian universities. He said that, apart from the denominational colleges, the religious basis of the older English universities did not exist in Australian universities. The study of the Scriptures was, for the most part, excluded. The Queensland University, he thought, was the only one in which Biblical subjects could be studied as part of the Arts course. But there was no faculty of theology, and one could not take a degree in the most important subject of human thought.

Projects

The campaign committee of the Queensland Temperance League has decided to start a tem-

perance poster and radio campaign as soon as material is available. Large posters will be shown in Brisbane on trams, railway stations and hoardings, and on railway stations throughout the State.

The Queensland churches of Christ conference has inaugurated a training class to prepare young men for more efficient service. It is planned to conduct this class under the guidance and supervision of the Federal College of the Bible.

Obituary

E. Allison

AFTER a short illness E. Allison fell asleep in Jesus. His passing was a grief to many, for he was loved by all who knew him. For many years our brother served the church as a deacon and in several ways with marked consecration. His sincerity and friendliness endeared him to the church. Our sympathy went out to Mrs. Allison and Robert ("Bob") in their loss. H. P. Manning assisted the writer in the conduct of the services at the house and graveside. Unqualified words of tribute were expressed, indicating the high esteem in which both speakers held our brother. We are all the poorer for his passing, but the richer for having known him. Our prayer is that grace may be given to the ones who are left.—G. T. Fitzgerald, Mile End, S.A.

Mrs Elizabeth Nichols

A MOST faithful member of Stirling East church, S.A., Mrs. Elizabeth Nichols received the home-call on July 8 at the age of 72 years. Our sister suffered much for some time, and has been missed from the services. It was her joy to meet around the Lord's table. Mrs. Nichols was baptised on Mar. 3, 1889. She was always very kind hearted, ready to help and to give of her possessions to others. A service was conducted in the home by S. H. Wilson and at the graveside. Her remains were laid to rest in Stirling East Cemetery. High regards were symbolised by a profusion of floral tributes. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. Chas. Reynolds, Mrs. H. Halliday, Mrs. G. Halliday, Mrs. F. Lawrence and the son Edgar.—E.G.

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(Rev. 1: 14-16)

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bolic testimony to the living Christ. But
if our hearts are clean with a single purpose
we shall have our own vital vision of some
features of the Lord.

He is the white-headed Christ, the master
mind whose thought has never been out-dated.
Having the mind of Christ on any matter, we
have the shining truth. Continuing in the
words of this Wonderful Counsellor, we know
the truth that makes men free. He is the
Christ of the glowing eyes, so expressive of
energy and earnestness. Their kind but search-
ing glance can scan the very wounds that
shame would hide. Yet, men drink in valor
from those eyes midst life's conflicts. He is
the Christ of radiant feet, still here, there and
everywhere, as he goes about doing good. More-
over, he is the Christ of the commanding
voice. He gets a hearing, he convicts or he
consoles, he awakens men to awe and wonder,
with his voice "as the sound of many waters."

John employs yet other symbols, but suffice
it for the moment to share his conviction that
the Christ of the master-mind, the radiant
vision, the incessant service, the divine au-
thority is alive and moving toward the day
of his glory.—G. J. Andrews.

THOUGHT

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talents for service.

In a brief span of years the College
has proved the wisdom and sound
judgment of its founders.

Under Divine guidance the brother-
hood has advanced on every front
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Adequately trained men are needed
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consecration answer the call. We are
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Printed and Published by the Austral Printing
and Publishing Company Ltd., 528, 530 Elizabeth-
st., Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.