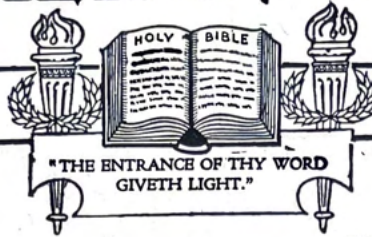


# The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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## A Balanced Life

**W**ALKING by a little stream flowing through a fern-fringed valley, we noticed that the movement of the water was evident as it passed over ledges of rock; but at other places where it was deep it seemed as though the stream had ceased to flow. Closer observation revealed that, beneath the still surface, there was movement, proving once more that still waters run deep.

While some individuals show openly the struggle going on in their life, others maintain a calm countenance suggesting to the world that there is no conflict disturbing the depth of the soul; but we must not be deceived. F. W. Robertson, one of England's greatest preachers of the last century, used to say, "There is more in a quiet person than we usually suspect."

It must be taken as an unqualified fact that every person has, more or less, a struggle taking place all the while in the soul. There are those who make desperate efforts to escape and find some release from this struggle.

If you were to seek for the motive that drove the swag-man on to the roads, you would, we believe, find that the struggle to maintain the balance of life was so severe that he yielded to one of the warring impulses within, and allowed himself to become a victim of the passing desire. By throwing off the burden of responsibility, he now hopes to find release from the struggle of life. Almost sinking to the level of the beast, he has yielded up much that goes toward making manhood. What a price he pays to try to lay his hands upon the jewel of serenity! It is too great; and there is no guarantee he will get what he wants. On the other hand, there are those who are so anxious to avoid the troubles that come with the normal life that they will yield to a way of life in which they hope to find release from the disturbances of the natural inclinations. Leaving the world they go into monasteries, or find some reclusive spot in the country. What they hope to find does not come their way. Those who have attempted to live in such a manner have complained of the disturbances that have come to them in their dreams. What they

have denied in the conscious life asserts itself in the dreams and behaviour arising from the sub-conscious mind.

A denial of either of the conflicting elements of human life will not bring a satisfactory solution to the problem of life. What we may call the natural and the spiritual must be related in one whole. Christ did not yield himself to the inclinations of the moment, nor did he withdraw out of the world. He found time to enjoy the fellowship of the marriage feast at Cana; and yet he was not too absorbed in this material life that he could not break away from time to time to enjoy the solitude of the desert place and to communion with the living God. This wise blending of the contrary natures of life made him supreme in the eyes of his followers. The Greek teacher, Aristotle, used to tell his pupils that the best life is not found in any extreme, but in the mean between extremes. It is not found, therefore, in satisfying all the impulses of life, nor in the attempt to deny them by becoming a hermit; but in a balance between these. Not without some struggle will such a life be maintained.

An artist painted a picture of a scene which he thought might convey the idea of peace. He painted a pool of water without a ripple, and the trees showed no sign of movement. It was so rigid that it was not natural, and thus failed to present what the artist had in mind. Some change was needed. Making another attempt, he added movement to the surface of the lake; he showed the effects of a gentle breeze stirring in the trees, and painted in a tree a bird expressing the joy of a Spring morning. At once he felt satisfied that he had given form to the notion of peace. Somewhere between the extremes of a storm and an absolute calm we shall find peace.

Within all of us there is a struggle between what we ought to do for self and what we ought to do for others. It is possible to go too far in either direction. The Bible has something to say about the selfish man. Jesus told the story of a very rich person who lived on the best in the land. Now a poor, sick fellow,

Lazarus by name, asked for food at the gate of the rich man's house. Although he was so under-nourished that his body became infested with sores, the rich man paid no attention to him. The meanness of the selfish rich person was justly punished. The selfishness of the priest and the Levite in the story of the good Samaritan was also condemned by the people who heard the story. At all times we are aware of the sin of selfishness and we try to guard against it.

At the other extreme of selfishness is the attitude of being so busy about others that the needs of the self are neglected. A classic illustration of this is found in the beautiful story of Martha and Mary. Mary could find time to sit at the feet of Jesus and hear of truths that enriched her soul. Martha, on the other hand, was busy, too busy, looking after others, and neglected her deeper spiritual life. The gentle rebuke of the Master revealed his attitude toward those who neglect themselves so much for others that they impoverish their souls. It is possible to go to extremes and give others so much attention that we neglect ourselves. Mothers can make themselves so much the slaves of a family that they cannot find time to attend a church service and build up the strength of their soul. To adjust this balance between the rights of others and the needs of one's soul, requires a struggle; it cannot be achieved easily. We must look to Christ to lead the way for us.

When Jesus was living here among men he went about doing good. He never allowed himself to become so absorbed in helping others that he could not find time to retire from the world and pray to God. Again and again he left his closest companions, and in the solitude enjoyed the fellowship of the Father. Such experiences did not mean he wasted time; in fact he was strengthened on such occasions, and enabled to accomplish more for those in need.

From all we know of life it is evident that the way shown by Christ is the most satisfactory. Not only did he show the way, but he is also the Way. He is the Way to peace, and he is the Way to the Father. So while helping others, may we find time to nourish our souls in his presence.

## "The Trial of Your Faith"

A. J. Rogers, of the Annerley church, Queensland, and now with the Forces in New Guinea, writes a message of encouragement for those at home and abroad.

WE cherish anything that is gained after a time of persevering. We admire those who have pushed on in spite of difficulties and unjust condemnation; in short, we admire those who win the day and who gain their objective.

Columbus, filled with a great zeal, fixed his eye upon a goal the other side of the world. He dreamed of a new world, he saw rising out of those dreams a land that would become a great nation. Amidst all the criticism that was showered upon him because of his seemingly ridiculous folly, he set sail. On and on, until even the crew was filled with panic, he sailed until America was sighted. He had won his goal, amidst many trials.

We all, more or less, have the desire to gain our goal. We heed not the trials and disappointments that come to us, the discouragements, the things that come to frustrate our hopes, for we have set ourselves a goal, and with untiring effort we strive to win the day.

But there is that other side of life that we must consider, and which is so important—the spiritual side—our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. It is our duty, because we are Christian, to set ourselves to the task of reaching the goal that Christ has set us. It was never promised that the way would be easy for us; for Christ himself it was not a way of ease. He trod the path to the cross, and bore much that was agonising.

As Christ spoke to his disciples before he left them, he warned them that their life in his service would not be easy, that their faith would be tested. "In the world ye shall have tribulation"—thus denoting that they would encounter hardships, suffer affliction, imprisonment and even death. Their way in life, because they were Christians, called for the best that was in them. A Christian must be a man or woman of courage. No greater example can be found than our Master who possessed such perfect qualities.

The apostle Paul was a man of untiring zeal. He cherished in his heart the joy of belonging to Christ; and as love for the Master gives to us the desire to serve, so Paul gave all in order to extend the kingdom. His faith was sorely tried, and we shall never understand what he suffered for the Christ.

At the close of his ministry he was able to write to Timothy, "I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." Nothing that man did unto him was able to shake his hope of gaining the prize.

Writing out of a deep experience brought about by suffering, Paul communicated to the Roman church the thought of glorying in tribulation. "We glory in tribulation also; knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope; and hope maketh not ashamed."

Instead of tribulation working out in Paul a bitter and disappointed life, and a blighted experience, its effect was the opposite. His ultimate gain was that tribulation gave to him hope; a hope in Christ that filled him with a courageous zeal and made him not ashamed of the gospel of Christ.

Scarcely can it be said of us that we are bearing the oppression of the persecutor. Our forefathers in the Christian faith have paid the price for us to be free—free to worship the Christ we adore. But over our heads to-day hang the war clouds. The faith of many is tested even to straining point. Parents and wives are yearning for their loved ones out on the battlefield. Night and day their cry goes up to God. It is a testing time. Sons and husbands in Christ, out on the battlefield, yearn for those they love, and their cry is for a speedy cessation of this so inhuman struggle. Day by day they look to God as they bear their witness before their fellow-men. It is a testing time, but like Paul, with every one of us, our tribulation and trial of faith must give us hope, if we, too, would gain the crown.

Yes, the faith of every Christian is being tried to-day. There never has been a generation of Christians that has not been tried, and to-day is no exception. But the trials that come to us, the things that we must endure, are for a purpose. The Christian life is progressive, and we cannot progress unless we endure and overcome the trials that beset us. Trials bring experience, and with experience comes a deeper understanding of our God, which fills us with hope, a hope that cannot be shaken, a hope that will win the day, and eternal life. With Christ to strengthen and sustain us, we cannot fail.

## Every Eden Has Its Serpent

From the missionary journal, "South America," this personal experience of A. Macintyre is taken. We think readers will be interested in a story that indicates the trials of missionaries.

I **CROSSED** the Serra Dourada by a trail that the brethren had recently opened to Corrago de Ciro where an old couple had been waiting for baptism. The climb was stiff, but the view from the top of the pass was magnificent. It had not been possible to advise the old farmer and his wife to prepare for baptism, but within a few hours of our arrival, as the sun was setting, we made our way to a pool within 100 yards of the farm. The old lady was very frail. There were just six of us, and I think this baptism will be in my memory for all time. We had noticed a deadly coral snake, about a yard long, basking beside the stream on our side—only about four yards away. At other times it would have been an easy matter to kill it, but we were intent on the matter in hand. I kept my eye on it all the time we sang the first hymn; I even managed to get a squint

at it during the reading of scripture and exhortation; but during prayer I closed my eyes in faith and was as brief as possible! Somewhat reassured by the snake's lack of interest in the service, I waded into the stream followed by old Jacob, the farmer, and his little wife, who had no eyes for anything. Suddenly the snake began to wake up; it uncoiled itself, and taking to the water came along the surface in an easy manner to investigate. It came straight towards us, and Jacob whispered, "Don't move!" Happily his wife had not seen it. The beautiful creature with its red, black, and white markings came straight at us, and we could have touched it as it passed less than a foot from where we stood. So the service proceeded without accident or further incident. Jacob, and a young fellow who had come twenty miles with us, were baptised as well.

## The Secret of Perennial Youth

H. J. Patterson, M.A.

FOR some there is nothing so terrible as the ghost of the future with its increasing years, its wrinkles, its grey hair or bald head and loss of vigor. Wretched thought when you turn fifty, and have to take to glasses! The ill-mannered stranger in the street may say to another about you, "Who is that old 'codger' over there?" Yes, it is not a very pleasing thought.

### The Real Old Age

The age really to be dreaded is not one of the body but of the heart. "A man is as old as he feels," it is said. But that may be taken with reference to physical or it may be to the mental attitudes. A man is as old as his attitude to life and the great beyond make him. Some are quite young at eighty, and some are old at twenty-five. It all depends upon your view of life and God.

Are you worried over small things? Is the grasshopper a burden? Do you magnify the small disappointments and troubles, and make mountains out of molehills? If you do, you are rapidly growing old. I pray you hear Christ saying, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Share with him that burden fancied or otherwise.

Are you afraid of things? Hear him again, "Be not anxious for the morrow." Worry will make you old quicker than anything. Why be fearful and lack courage when God's in his heaven? Old Caleb and Joshua were alive when all the other men of their years were dead. They had a cheery optimistic view of things and believed God. Don't live in the past. Do not think that "all the good days are those which have dropped into the sunset." Living for the future makes one young. Do not enter that old age of the heart that lacks faith, is timid and anxious, and lives in the past. "The best is yet to be."

### The Secret

"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint" (Isa. 40: 31; cf. also Psa. 103: 5). That is it! Waiting upon God. Living with God and in communion with him. God is no spy or detective, but the God who so loved the world (John 3: 16). Do you trust in him? Field-Marshal Lord Roberts, V.C., commending God's Word to his troops, said, "I ask you to put your trust in God. You will find in this book guidance when in health, comfort when you are in sickness, and strength when you are in adversity." Sir William Dobbie, ex-Governor and Commander-in-chief at Malta during the earlier days of this present war, says of Christ, "Although I have often been unfaithful to him, yet he has never been unfaithful to me, nor has he let me down. I have always been sensible to the fact that my sins, which were forgiven me when I first accepted him as my Saviour, were blotted out once and for all, and that in spite of my failures I have become 'a new creature in Christ Jesus.' That realisation has given me a profound peace which none of the circumstances of army life, in peace or war, have been able to disturb." "Casting all your care upon him." Why, that's the way to keep young. "The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." The secret of perennial youth is in that absolute saving, keeping power of our God in Christ. We live on eternally; all the best is yet to be, and we can realise it through Christ and by waiting upon God.

WOMEN'S PAGE

# Christianity in Action

Devotional theme for year, "Blue-prints for to-morrow," "Christianity in Action."

Hymn.—"The church's one foundation," C. of C. Hymnal, 211; Sankey 228.

Prayer.—O God, who rulest the world from everlasting to everlasting, speak to our hearts when courage fails, and we faint for fear, and there is distress throughout the earth. Keep us resolute and steadfast in the things that cannot be shaken, abounding in hope and knowing that our labor is not in vain in thee. Restore our faith in the triumph of good; renew in us the love that never fails; and make us to lift up our eyes and behold, beyond the things that are seen and temporal, the things that are unseen and eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Bible Reading.**

Prayer.—Almighty and merciful God, the fountain of all goodness, who knowest the thoughts of our hearts, we confess unto thee that we have sinned against thee, and done evil in thy sight. Give us grace to put away all hurtful things, that being delivered from the bondage of sin, we may bring forth fruits worthy of repentance. Amen.

**Solo.**

**Devotional Talk.—"Christianity in Action."**

We cannot be anything but thrilled as we read the account of the great fellowship of the early church. Onlookers said of the members, "How these Christians love one another."

Throughout the centuries of the Christian era many Christians have been unconcerned about a divided Christianity. Too often the emphasis has been placed on doctrinal agreement rather than on the unity of spirit.

Christianity in action to-day is deeply concerned and humiliated by the divisions in Christendom, but rejoices that there is a growing consciousness of a great Christian fellowship which transcends barriers of nation, race, class and color.

The war has put this fellowship to the test. In Germany it has been the voice of the leaders of the church which has spoken out against the curtailment of Christian liberty and the massacre of Jews. It is said that in Norway Quisling fears Bishop Berggeav as his greatest enemy, yet he is not a political leader but a spiritual force.

When Germany overran Holland, Norway and Denmark and other countries, it was feared that the missionary activities of these countries would suffer very much. But within a few weeks a plan was set in motion whereby funds could be sent by other countries to those needy mission fields. In the first eighteen months of war approximately £A514,000 was contributed by Christians in 20 lands which helped to support the work of 120 centres in 40 countries. To date Australian Christians, apart from maintaining the work of their own church missionary boards, have contributed £2100 through the National Missionary Council of Australia for this purpose.

It has often been said that Christianity has failed or else the world would not be in the plight it is to-day; but where Christianity has been really tried it has been a force mightier than machine-guns or bombs.

Christianity in action to-day has shown that a great Christian fellowship exists, which has proved greater than national or theological barriers.

Christianity in action in the past 15 years has been the motivating force that has promoted no less than 90 definite approaches towards church union and has resulted in 20 full unions.

Christianity in action has resulted in the formation of a World Council of Churches, a potent force to combat the evils which exist to-day.

Christianity in action is a progressive Christian fellowship in a world divided by war and hate. An inert sleeping Christianity is a fifth columnist in the church of Jesus Christ.

For Christianity to be genuine and effective it must reflect the sincerity and intense energy of the love and life of Christ. Action by church people is not always Christian, but Christianity in action calls for dedicated lives.

Prayer.—Father of all mankind, throughout this day, and every day, help me to remember that a very real portion of thy kingdom has been placed in my keeping. Therefore teach me to love thee: with all my mind—with all my heart—with all my soul—with all my strength. Amen.

Hymn.—C. of C. Hymnal, 508; Sankey, 616.

Business Session.

Home Mission Talk.

Foreign Missionary Letter.

Prayers for Missionary Work.

**Solo.**

Address.—The N.Z. churches of Christ mission in Rhodesia.

Hymn.—C. of C. Hymnal, 422; Sankey, 242.

Prayer.—God be merciful unto us, and bless us, and cause his face to shine upon us; that thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations. Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

(The prayers used above are taken from the programme of the World Day of Prayer service.)

CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

*Victoria*

Mrs. J. J. Bowen, special magistrate of the children's court, was the speaker at the meeting on March 5. She spoke of the need for children's courts and the need of the children's courts. Children's courts deal with young people up to 17 years of age. In 1941, 5500 children appeared. (1942 figures are not yet compiled for publication, but there is a large increase since then.)

Mrs. Warne has been appointed as the third representative of churches of Christ on the Women's Services Club Committee.

Miss Rometsch, the past secretary, was welcomed after her long absence through indisposition.

*South Australia*

On March 4 there was a home missionary rally, and Mr. W. Ewers was the speaker. Offering of the afternoon was given to the cause of home missions. A resolution was read and passed: "That this meeting of women representatives of churches of Christ in South Australia expresses its continued opposition to employment of barmaids in this State; and we assure the Premier of our support in his efforts and trust that the present position will be maintained."

*New South Wales*

On Friday, March 6, at the monthly meeting, the Wollongong sisters took charge of the meeting. Wollongong is 51 miles from Syd-

ney. The church three years ago had 14 members meeting in a hall, but as a result of a Hinrichsen-Morris mission a church was established with 130 members. Seventeen members of their women's society came to Sydney. After a happy luncheon with the executive at City Temple, the president, Mrs. Corlett, welcomed them, and introduced the leader of the party, Mrs. Sterling, the wife of the preacher at Wollongong, who took charge of the meeting after a short business session. The two addresses and musical items were much appreciated.

Miss Mary Clipstone, who for the past few months has been in Sydney, has returned to Victoria. Her stay in N.S.W. was appreciated by those who had the privilege of hearing her speak on the work of the mission in the New Hebrides.

THE TOUCH OF FRIENDSHIP

On a hot summer afternoon a woman was on her way to a "social afternoon" at a church member's home. The occasion was in aid of the church building fund. Her way led through a park where the summer roses were at their best. She saw a frail, dignified woman dressed in black, and overheard her ask a park gardener the direction to a certain street. He gave her correct directions, but they would have taken her by a longer route than necessary. This woman overtook the woman in black and said, "I heard you ask the gardener the way to R— road, and it will be a long way if you follow those directions. But if you care to walk along with me I will show you a short way." She gladly accepted the offer. She had just come to the town to live, she said, and knew nothing of the locality, so her guide invited her to go along to the "afternoon." This contact brought her regularly to the women's meetings of the church and then to church services. In several months she left the district, but she had enriched the lives of many, and she herself had been enriched because one woman asked her merely to go with her to a church group.

The frail woman dressed in black came to the town a sad, heart-broken woman. Death had just claimed one of her family. Her husband who should have been a strength in days of sorrow had deserted her. Before she left the town she said to her escort of the first day, "You helped to save my reason and my faith because you spoke to me that day. I was bound in my sorrow, you and the friends I have made here have helped me to gather courage to go on."

In every suburb, town and city there are those waiting for the personal touch and the friendliness of Christians. Sometimes it means to them reason and faith.

The Poor Singer's Praise

LORD, my voice by nature is harsh and untunable, and it is vain to lavish any art to better it. Can my singing of psalms be pleasing to thy ears, which is unpleasant to my own? Yet, though I cannot chant with the nightingale, or chirp with the blackbird, I had rather chatter with the swallow, yea, rather croak with the raven, than be altogether silent. Hadst thou given me a better voice, I would have praised thee with a sweet voice. Now what my music wants in sweetness, let it have in sense, singing praises with understanding. Yea, Lord, create in me a new heart (therein to make melody), and I will be contented with my old voice until in thy due time, being admitted into the choir of heaven, I have another, more harmonious, bestowed upon me.—Fuller.

## Notes on Current Topics

### "Good News"

SYDNEY has had a beer shortage, a sad experience for those whose past drinking has made them the bond-servants of liquor. The exceptional publican, with supplies, was surrounded by a thirsty crowd willing to fill his coffers and empty his schooners. One Sydney publican seemed remarkably candid. I saw in big chalked letters on his premises the words: "No Beer. Good News." How long they had been there, and how long they stayed, I know not; but I appreciated the temporary witness. A keen textual critic might make out a good case for the theory of dual authorship. That would indeed be a day of good news in which the liquor traffic could be abolished or effectually controlled.

### Prayer for Russia

Urging his people to continued prayer for Russia, a Roman Catholic prelate gave the following curious reason: "The aged devotion of the Russians to the Mother of God is alive still and may earn for them her special protection and restore them soon to union with her Divine Son." Note who is supposed to protect and to restore. It is the Virgin Mary, believed by Romanists to have been taken up into heaven, and now the object of prayer, the Queen of heaven, Refuge of sinners, and the one most potent with her divine Son! To exalt Mary thus is derogatory to our Lord. There is need in other places than Russia for a return to and acceptance of the teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### Religion and Morals

The decline in moral standards is deplored by all Christians. The Roman Catholic Arch-

bishop of Brisbane gives a strong condemnation in a pastoral letter. He declares that "the present decay of morals and the menace of social disease accompanying it are unprecedented in the history of Queensland, and probably of other parts of Australia." Most of us will agree with the archbishop when he says, "Those who place in the path of our sailors and soldiers temptations to drink or immorality are doing the work of the enemy. If public parks and even church and school grounds can, by night, be invaded for immoral purposes, as they unfortunately are, does it not argue if not want of vigilance, at least insufficient provision for the preservation of decency?"

Many reasons for the decline are given. It is not sufficient to say that war-time accounts for it. Lack of proper home training and supervision, lack of sex education, and the general loosening of religious ties are amongst the assigned causes. Neither through church nor through Bible school are we reaching the great majority of young people. Mr. E. J. Davidson, an Anglican minister, truthfully said in a recent sermon that "mere knowledge of sex is not enough. Nor is the solution of the problem likely to be found by disseminating information in schools. The problem is one of values, and therefore, calls for education in taste, worth, and disciplined feeling. Medicine and religion must combine to teach this truth." Christian people are alarmed at the growth of evil. A united and whole-hearted co-operative effort to stay its advance is needed.

*A. R. Main*

## Our Young People

W. R. Hibburt

### ANNUAL SCRIPTURE EXAMINATION, 1943

#### DIVISIONS AND SUBJECTS

Division 1 (8 years).—A Lame Man Healed, Acts 3: 1-11; A Preacher's Cruel Death, Acts 7: 54-60; The Conversion of an Ethiopian, Acts 8: 26-38; How Saul was Converted, Acts 9: 1-9; Miraculous Deeds, Acts 9: 36-43; An Escape from Prison, Acts 12: 1-16.

Division 2 (9 and 10 years).—A Lame Man Healed, Acts 3: 1-11; A Preacher's Cruel Death, Acts 7: 54-60; The Conversion of an Ethiopian, Acts 8: 26-38; How Saul was Converted, Acts 9: 1-22; Miraculous Deeds, Acts 9: 36-43; An Escape from Prison, Acts 12: 1-16.

Division 3 (11 and 12 years).—The Response to Peter's Sermon, Acts 2: 37-47; A Lame Man Healed, Acts 3: 1-11; A Preacher's Cruel Death, Acts 7: 54-60; The Conversion of an Ethiopian, Acts 8: 26-38; How Saul was Converted, Acts 9: 1-22; Miraculous Deeds, Acts 9: 36-43; An Escape from Prison, Acts 12: 1-16.

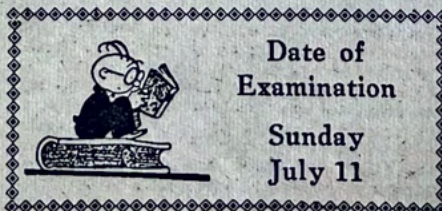
Division 4 (13 and 14 years), Division 5 (15 and 16 years).—The Response to Peter's Sermon, Acts 2: 37-47; A Lame Man Healed, Acts 3: 1-11; A Preacher's Cruel Death, Acts 7: 54-60; The Conversion of an Ethiopian, Acts 8: 26-38; How Saul was Converted, Acts 9: 1-22; Miraculous Deeds, Acts 9: 36-43; Peter Sees a Vision, Acts 10: 1-23; An Escape from Prison, Acts 12: 1-16.

Division 6 (17, 18, 19 years).—The Response to Peter's Sermon, Acts 2: 37-47; A Lame Man Healed, Acts 3: 1-11; A Preacher's Cruel Death, Acts 7: 54-60; The Conversion

of an Ethiopian, Acts 8: 26-38; How Saul was Converted, Acts 9: 1-22; Miraculous Deeds, Acts 9: 36-43; Peter Sees a Vision, Acts 10: 1-23; An Escape from Prison, Acts 12: 1-16.

Division 7 (20 years and over), Division 8 (Teachers under 21).—The Response to Peter's Sermon, Acts 2: 37-47; A Lame Man Healed, Acts 3: 1-11; A Preacher's Cruel Death, Acts 7: 54-60; The Conversion of an Ethiopian, Acts 8: 26-38; How Saul was Converted, Acts 9: 1-22; Miraculous Deeds, Acts 9: 36-43; Peter Sees a Vision, Acts 10: 1-23; A Soldier is Converted, Acts 10: 24-48; An Escape from Prison, Acts 12: 1-16.

Division 9 (Teachers 21 years and over), Division 10 (Prize-winners in Division 9).—The Response to Peter's Sermon, Acts 2: 37-47; A Lame Man Healed, Acts 3: 1-11; A Preacher's Cruel Death, Acts 7: 54-60; The Conversion of an Ethiopian, Acts 8: 26-38; How Saul was Converted, Acts 9: 1-22; Miraculous Deeds, Acts 9: 36-43; Peter Sees a Vision, Acts 10: 1-23; A Soldier is Converted, Acts 10: 24-48; An Escape from Prison, Acts 12: 1-16.



## The Home Circle

J. C. F. Pittman

### WHAT IS A CHURCH?

A band of faithful men,  
Met for God's worship in an upper room,  
Or canopied by midnight's starry dome,  
On hill side or lone glen;  
To hear the counsels of his holy word,  
Pledged to each other and their common Lord.

These few as they may be  
Compose a church, such as in bygone age  
Defied the tyrant's zeal, the bigot's rage;  
For where but two or three,  
In any place, in faith's communion meet,  
There with Christ's presence is a church  
complete.

### THE DIFFERENCE JESUS MADE

DR. MARTINEAU beautifully said that if we could realise the difference that has been made by the good tidings of Jesus Christ, we have only to contrast our civilisation, with all its faults and all its darkness, with the civilisation of Greece and Rome. When I stood in the Coliseum at Rome, I could not help calling up to my mind the scenes once enacted there. One could hear again the hoarse cry, "The Christians to the lions!" One seemed to see the signal for slaughter given by a woman's hand, the arena once again peopled with prisoners butchered to make a Roman holiday, and one remembered the words of Anthony Trollope, "Bad as men may be to-day, one may thank God they are not as men were in the days of Cæsar." What has made the difference? Look into the very midst of that old civilisation, with its great complexities, with its high efficiency—for in some respects the Roman Empire has never been surpassed in these regards—and then contrast it with our own. What would you miss if you stood in the Athens of Pericles compared with the London of to-day? You would see no hospitals there, no homes for the aged poor, no orphanages, no havens of rest for those who are weary with the burden and heat of the day, no agencies for the rescue of those who have fallen; these things would be conspicuous by their absence.

"You can't trust anybody these days. Why, the grocer gave me a bad 2/- to-day."

"Let me have a look at it!"

"I can't. I gave it to the tram conductor."

## The Family Altar

### TOPIC.—GOD'S DWELLING-PLACE

Mar. 22—Isa. 66: 1, 2.

" 23—Matt. 18: 15-20.

" 24—John 4: 19-26.

" 25—1 Tim. 2: 1-8.

" 26—Rev. 3: 14-22.

" 27—Acts 7: 44-53.

" 28—Exodus 40: 18-38; Acts 7: 54-60.

THAT God dwells wherever sincere souls welcome him is the unique teaching of Christianity. Never before our Lord's ministry was this taught or even thought possible. Then, the temple was God's dwelling-place, and there alone, men thought, was he willing to meet and commune with those who worshipped him. But now, the scene is changed; for whilst God loves his people to gather together for worship or to proclaim the everlasting gospel, he is willing also to make his abode in the humblest home, and commune even with those who, though isolated from their fellow-men, desire the presence and blessing of their Lord.

# Here and There

We regret to learn that Dr. G. E. Moore, formerly of Victoria, now of Tasmania, is dangerously ill.

R. P. Arnott has begun an honorary ministry at Ashfield church of Christ, Sydney, pending the appointment of a full-time preacher.

On Tuesday, March 23, at 8 p.m., the Melbourne Auxiliary of the British and Foreign Bible Society is to hold its 103rd annual meeting in Collins-st. Baptist Church.

Mrs. Oliver, of 67 Rochester-rd., Balwyn, E.8, Victoria, wishes those interested to know that she would be glad to receive all donations to the Bible-women's fund before the end of this month.

A. Anderson, after an operation for removal of tonsils, did not regain strength as he should have done, and it has been determined that he must have rest and further treatment. We trust that this will result in his being soon restored to normal health and vigor.

On Feb. 13, at Subiaco, W.A., a unique ceremony was held, when St. Andrew's Private Hospital was dedicated to God and the ministry of healing. Sister Beryl Hill (matron), who is a member of the church, and Sister Mildred Murray explained that the hospital was not a free one, but it was a venture of faith. Devotional services are held every day, and always prayer was offered with the patients in the theatre prior to operations. The church has been pleased to welcome boys home from overseas, and a social was held in their honor. Aborigines' offering has now exceeded £60. Preparation is being made for the holding of a brief gospel campaign prior to Easter with Mr. Fitch, of Kalgoorlie, as preacher.

At Perth, W.A., on morning of Feb. 28 J. Wiltshire gave a helpful exhortation. At close of service the following resolution was carried: "That this meeting expresses its sincere disapproval of any contemplated effort by the National Fitness Council of this State to establish or hold youth classes on the Lord's Day. It believes that youth should be encouraged to sanctify that day to the needed recreation of the soul as well as the rest of the body; and any attempt to build up the nation into its ultimate strength upon a disregard of the divine claims is a fundamental error. The council should choose Saturday afternoon for the holding of the classes." At 7.30 p.m. Mrs. Harris rendered a solo and Mr. Wiltshire spoke.

W. Gale writes: "Parkdale church has shown a fine example for our suburban churches in that it made its preacher, A. W. Stephenson, available for a week with the church at Colac. We took the services for the president on Sunday last, and found the church very happy in its action; this gave us the opportunity to express the appreciation of the Colac brethren and, in fact, the gratitude of all the churches, for this was a service in the name of the whole brotherhood. The president's readiness to help, even a small country church, is a token of his real greatness of heart. This is a ministry that can be widely extended by our larger churches, who could lend their preachers on 'good-will missions' two or three times a year. Whilst the Home Missionary Committee has A. B. Withers posted for such a service, there will be a very wide scope for others to help in a sphere of need that would occupy the full time of many men."

J. G. Ketelaar, secretary of the church at Stone's Corner, Qld., writes: "This church, after just eleven years of existence, is closing down on March 28. The members very much regret that this is necessary. The building in which they met was not owned by them, and was very unsuitable for progress, and with the difficulty of getting speakers, also the falling off of membership, it has been very

hard for years to keep moving. We thank God for the witness in that place. The faithful members are meeting once a month at cottage prayer meetings to keep together a happy fellowship, and also to start anew later, at a different place but in the locality. To all those of the brotherhood who helped at Stone's Corner, grateful thanks go out. To Mr. Kirkwood and the South Brisbane Circuit we also extend sincere appreciation. We have not failed for we intend to start afresh for those who live in the locality. The first cottage prayer meeting will be held April 8 at 7.45 p.m., at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Ketelaar, Hillcrest-rd., Coorparoo; tram stop 31. All interested will be made welcome."

## HIGHWAY TO VICTORY CAMPAIGN

FOR eight days C. G. Taylor, of Hampton, Vic., led Gardiner church in a "Highway to Victory" campaign. It was a time of very great blessing for the church, and for others who attended. Attendances on week nights averaged well over 100, while large congregations assembled on both Lord's days. The addresses of Mr. Taylor were of a very high order, and demonstrated his fitness for just such work. He called God's people to more victorious living in a most effective manner. On Wednesday, March 10, the campaign was brought to a close in a praise and thanksgiving service, when Mr. Taylor brought a message on "Christ's Arithmetic" which crowned the whole of the effort. Local brethren lived in an atmosphere of prayer before and during the campaign, and that helped materially. The church should now be the stronger to campaign for souls and the extension of the kingdom of God. Gardiner church expresses its thanks to Hampton for releasing the preacher for this campaign, to C. G. Taylor for his un-

tiring work, and above all, to our heavenly Father for his blessing.—Thomas Hagger.

## Preachers' Provident Fund REPORT FOR YEAR 1942

RECEIPTS from all sources during the year totalled £2794/10/2 and payments (including money invested), £2627/15/7. Taking into account the balance in hand at the commencement of the year of £1315/5/7, there remained a balance in hand at Dec. 31, 1942, of £1482/0/2.

Brethren in making their wills have graciously remembered the work of this committee, and the committee gratefully acknowledges having received the following legacies during the year:—

- Estate late R. K. Spotswood, £882/17/4.
- Estate late B. J. Kemp, £71/5/1.
- Estate late C. J. Garland, £66/7/7.

The committee has now received altogether from the estate of the late B. J. Kemp the sum of £532/1/7. A memorial fund has been created in the name of each of the above.

Contributions by preachers to the endowment fund during the year totalled £652/11/-, being a slight increase over the previous year. The number of contributors increased from 92 to 97.

Allowances made to aged and infirm preachers during the year amounted to £520/8/9.

Assets owned by the fund at Dec. 31, 1942, amounted to £14,862/6/7. In addition, there are two settlements totalling £3600 from which the fund receives interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum.

The sum held by the fund on behalf of contributors to the endowment fund at Dec. 31, 1942, was £9213/18/4, to which will be added the subsidy and interest for year 1942, and that then will represent the total liability of the fund.

The subsidy and interest for 1942 will be announced and allotted in about two weeks from date.—W. H. Hall, hon. secretary.

## From Week to Week

AT the time of writing I am away from Melbourne fulfilling a long-standing promise to help the church at Colac. It has been the policy of the Home Mission Committee in Victoria to assist country churches as much as possible during these difficult days, and I was asked to visit Colac on behalf of the committee. The membership of the church is small. When it is realised that up to eight young men have been called away to enter the services, some idea of how country churches are feeling the strain may be gained. J. C. F. Pittman, the preacher here, had great hopes of a Bible class of seven young men, but war duties called all the members of the class away.

It must not be assumed that the church has lost hope; there is evidence of a strong determination to carry on. The preacher has gained the respect of the whole community, and many have testified concerning the way in which he has helped the religious life of Colac.

A worthy preacher in a country centre is able to exercise a big influence over the community.

Travelling by train one is brought into contact with many types of people. Usually a kindly and sympathetic attitude toward fellow-passengers is shown. There is a willingness to make way and to help. However, I have noted a disregard by some of the regulation prohibiting smoking in non-smoking compartments. For some time I have been observing an increasing indifference toward public regulations; both men and women are

guilty of offences. Many of these are in minor matters, but it indicates the trend of events. Already attention has been drawn to the disgraceful behaviour of people in public gardens. Indifference toward the need of observing minor regulations can lead to a disregard of vital moral principles, and that is why we urge the travelling public to respect the regulations set down for the good of all.

The Roman Catholic Rural Movement held a conference in Melbourne on March 10. Representatives from all Australian States except Western Australia were present. Little is known of this organisation to encourage the settlement of members of the Roman Catholic church upon the land. By advancing the interests of Roman Catholic farmers, this organisation is increasing the grip of the members of that sect upon the real wealth of Australia. It must be admitted that Roman Catholics in their organisations plan with great foresight. Suggestions have been made that the population of Australia is to be doubled in the years immediately following the war. Is it probable that this rural movement of the Roman Catholic church will secure preference for Catholics from European States? It is not likely that we shall see mass migration from Britain, a champion of the Protestant faith, already threatened with the results of a low birth rate. People are more likely to come from Europe where the R.C. church is strong. If Protestant churches are not ready to unite and help in solving problems in rural areas, they may find themselves weakest where they ought to be strongest.

# News of the Churches

## TASMANIA

**Launceston (Margaret-st.)**—There were good attendances on March 7, when A. B. Withers commenced an interim ministry, his messages being greatly appreciated. An after-church social hour of fellowship was held in the hall, when a welcome was extended to Mr. Withers. About 130 were present. Appreciation was expressed at the action of the Victorian brotherhood in releasing Mr. Withers to assist the Tasmanian work. Representatives of sister churches also brought greetings.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**Perth**—On March 6 the Bible school held an enjoyable picnic at National Park. On morning of March 7 visitors included Mrs. Gilchrist and her son J. Gilchrist (Middle East). Mr. Martin (chaplain to youth of military forces) gave a helpful exhortation. At 7.30 p.m. Miss Servante rendered a solo. J. Wiltshire preached and afterwards delivered a broadcast address. On March 10 meetings for prayer were held at homes of J. Collingwood, J. Wiltshire, Sister Ellis and W. J. Yeomans.

## QUEENSLAND

**Brisbane (Ann-st.)**—Attendances and interest are well maintained, with sometimes more than 200 at communion service. Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Neumann, of Ipswich, have been received into fellowship. Chaplain W. P. Hardegree, of U.S.A., preached on evening of Mar. 7. Endeavorers are doing splendid work in conduct of an after-service rally for soldiers.

**Ma Ma Creek**—Attendances at meetings are encouraging. Mr. Berthelsen's messages are deeply spiritual and much appreciated. C.E. Society is increasing in numbers, members showing good interest. Russell Clinton, of East Preston, Melbourne, was a visitor on Mar. 7 and presided at morning meeting. Mrs. Bailey (sen.) is very ill. Annual business meeting was held in February. Church officers elected for ensuing three years are D. Dallinger, A. Bernoth, H. Rosenberg, E. F. Cole, E. Rosenberg (treasurer) and E. W. Boettcher (secretary).

**Gympie-Monkland**—On Feb. 26 Gympie C.E. held a harvest thanksgiving, liberal gifts being brought for local hospital. On March 5 a welcome was extended to R. Culbert and S. Chalmers, returned from Middle East. On March 7 these brethren presided at Monkland and Gympie, and at night both gave testimonies at Gympie gospel service, when Miss M. Bamford, of Brisbane, sang. Gympie school has welcomed two new scholars. Combined Y.P. Department offering exceeded £4/10/-. On March 7 a special "cavalcade of hymns" was broadcast from 4GY to celebrate first year of this church session.

**Bundaberg**—Annual old folks' service and supper took place successfully on Feb. 18. It was reported in "Christian" of Feb. 24 that Mrs. A. B. Clark had filled the vacancy as superintendent of Girls' Club, but to the present the girls are without a leader, and are continuing splendidly with assistance of A. B. Clark. Girls' Club held a successful social evening on March 2 to assist in placing a new carpet in chapel. Mrs. Herb. Linderberg and aged Sister Laurison are ill. Women's Guild made a presentation to Mrs. Dack when she was farewelled at close of sisters' devotional afternoon on March 10. At gospel service on March 7 Misses Mavis and Grace Deoberitz delighted with a duet. Dudley Chillcot is now agent for C.F.A.

**Albion**—On Feb. 24 a pre-wedding evening was tendered to Miss Valmar Packer and Mr. Harry Horne, two keen workers, especially among young people. A presentation from the church was made by C. J. Connell. They were married by H. G. Payne on March 6.

In Youth Week the young people of Albion, Kedron and Zillmere combined in a group conference on "Fighting for Things that Count." On Youth Sunday, March 7, young men conducted morning service, Fraser Lovelock preaching. At 5 p.m. a fellowship tea was addressed by John S. Robinson, president of District C.E. Union. Young ladies led gospel service, when Chaplain Roy Acland gave a challenging address. Offering for Youth Committee was £14/10/4. Bible school now meets at 10 a.m. instead of 3 p.m. P. C. D. Alcorn has accepted an invitation to Albion.

**Roma**—On Feb. 28 Mr. Wylie commenced his ministry with the church and spoke morning and evening. On March 3 Mr. Greenwood conducted an induction service in the chapel, when Mr. and Mrs. Wylie were given the charge of the work. Words of welcome were expressed by A. S. Cooke on behalf of church, L. R. Pitman for Bible school, E. H. McIntosh for C.E. Society, and Mrs. Holmes for Ladies' Guild. A fellowship tea was held on the 3rd, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Neil, to coincide with Youth Week. This was presided over by Mr. Greenwood, the Queensland organiser of Y.P. Department. Both services on March 7 were conducted by Mr. Wylie, evening service being broadcast. At morning service A. S. Cooke, on behalf of the church, extended the right hand of Christian fellowship to Mr. and Mrs. Wylie. Several returned soldiers from overseas had fellowship with the church. For some months morning services have been splendidly attended, and evening service has also shown improvement.

**South Brisbane Circuit**—Youth Week, Feb. 28 to March 7, was marked by special meetings throughout the circuit. First in this connection was gospel service in Moorooka on Feb. 28, when T. M. Kirkwood preached to a splendid congregation. On March 2 a prayer, praise and testimony meeting was held in Sunnybank, when the chapel was full. Mr. Kirkwood conducted, and testimonies were given by Vic. Parker, Merv. Harlen, Lance Basnett and Bill Wolf, all on leave from various fronts. A C.E. rally was planned to be in held at Stones Corner on March 4, but owing to unforeseen circumstances was transferred to Moorooka. The rally was in the form of a consecration service. On March 6 a conference was held at Moorooka from 3 p.m., the theme being "Fighting for Things that Count Most." T. C. Arnold, Congregational minister, opened the conference, and over three hours of profitable discussion, helpful suggestions and delightful fellowship were enjoyed by a splendid gathering. W. Sutton, local Methodist minister, also took part. Mr. Kirkwood presided throughout. Conference closed with a basket tea and brief social evening. March 7 was final day of Youth Week, when annual youth offering was given. In Moorooka at 11 a.m., T. M. Kirkwood spoke to a full meeting, when over 50 Scouts paraded, Mr. Kirkwood being chairman of committee to the troupe, which is the largest in Queensland. In evening Bruce More conducted service, when Wylie Nicol and Lloyd Kent gave the message. Miss Elvis Coward and Arthur Renshaw sang at both services. In Sunnybank at 11 a.m. Bruce More was speaker, and at night Keith More and Jack Jenkins gave brief, splendid messages. At Stones Corner T. Coward was speaker. Jack Grant, who has been attending Moorooka church for past few months, has entered N.S.W. College of the Bible.

## NEW SOUTH WALES

**Tempe**—Visiting preachers have been welcomed at morning services, Mr. McKenzie taking all gospel services. Sunday school work is in good heart after recent "Happy Hour" campaign by F. Hunting. Thursday night C.E. meetings are very successful. The sis-

ters held their meeting on March 4, speaker being Miss Parkinson, from Malaya.

**Bankstown**—A happy time was spent throughout February to celebrate Youth Month. Young people took active part in gospel services. Bible school scholar, Joan Underwood, was baptised. Bible school spent a happy day at Cronulla on Feb. 27. Miss Marj. Crossman was farewelled on evening of March 7; she leaves to join the A.A.M.W.S., and was presented with a Bible. Endeavorers continue to do good work.

**Rockdale**—On March 7 Mr. Hinrichsen gave a good exhortation. In the afternoon the Bible school anniversary was held, the kinders giving a special demonstration. Mr. Burns, of Mosman, gave the address at night. The Bible school continued anniversary, singing splendidly under baton of Mr. Buckley. Mr. Greenhalgh held the interest of all with his illustrated address. Recently fellowship was enjoyed with J. Cook on leave from the north.

**Paddington**—There were good meetings on March 8. J. Dean gave an interesting address at morning service. Y.P. Fellowship had a welcome visitor to tea in Mr. Spencer, who gave a very interesting talk. He also conducted gospel service in absence of Mr. Greenhalgh at Rockdale. Bible school had a very enjoyable picnic at Bronte on March 6. News has been received of two confessions as a result of the recent broadcast service by Mr. Greenhalgh.

**Wollongong**—Youth Week meetings were successful, young people taking active part in both services on March 1. They also led prayer meeting the following Thursday, and were entertained by the officers on Tuesday evening. A young man confessed Christ at gospel service. The following Sunday three were baptised. A number of the ladies visited Sydney on Friday, 6th, visiting the College of the Bible and leading women's executive meeting.

**Canley Vale**—A welcome evening was tendered Len Thomas and Clarrie Anderson on March 6 upon their return after several years' service overseas. R. Burling is also home on leave. At annual church meeting in February, reports from all auxiliaries were highly satisfactory. It has been decided to re-form K.S.P. and P.B.P. Clubs. S.S. scholars are practising for anniversary. Miss Ruth Boys was married on Feb. 20. Sister T. Burling has made a remarkable recovery after a very serious operation. On March 14 P. Retchford completed one year's ministry with the church.

**Belmore**—Good attendances continue at all meetings, and all auxiliaries are flourishing. On March 3 the district youth rally was held, when F. Hunting presided and W. Beiler, Youth Week guest speaker, gave the address; a profitable time was experienced. Recent morning addresses by Messrs. McKenzie, Ladbrook, Bunker and Corlett have been appreciated, while Mr. Corlett has preached the gospel with earnestness. Members of K.S.P. Club paid a visit to Canley Vale on March 3 and enjoyed an evening with the Kappas there. The choir continues to give messages in song at both morning and evening services. Fellowship has been renewed with a number of soldier members returned from Middle East.

**Mosman**—Owing to loss of voice by G. E. Burns, T. P. Dale addressed the church on Feb. 14, and at night A. O. Piggott, of N.S.W. Temperance Alliance, preached. Mrs. Stimson was soloist. On 21st Mr. Wood spoke at morning service and Mr. MacKenzie preached at night. Both these young men are students at N.S.W. Bible College, their help and that of the others being greatly appreciated. On Feb. 28 great rejoicing accompanied the unexpected return from abroad of Fred. Button, who addressed the church, describing many scenes and experiences in Palestine and concluding with an inspiring testimony. At night G. E. Burns was able to preach, and Miss

Marcia Burns contributed a solo. On March 6 Mr. Fred Button was married to Miss Joan Railton in the Tabernacle by G. E. Burns, assisted by B. G. Corlett. On March 7 Sgt. L. Thomas, lately returned from abroad, gave the evening address; Mr. Derham was soloist.

**Marrickville.**—The golden jubilee of the church is being celebrated, and an extensive programme has been arranged covering March to May inclusive. D. Wakeley was speaker on morning of March 7, and W. Beiler, of Adelaide, in the evening. A fine prayer meeting was held on Wednesday night. Attendances and interest in opening meetings augur well for the success of the campaign.

**Auburn.**—All work is well maintained. On morning of Feb. 21 the induction of officers for 1943 took place. Mr. Spencer Woolley has been made an elder. Deacons are Ron. Bartholomew, F. Burns, A. Breach, R. Frost, E. A. Frost, Geo. Gray, R. Smith, P. Wadsworth, W. Younghusband. At evening service special recognition was made of Bible school officers and teachers. On Feb. 28 the C.E. Society entertained superintendent and matron and boys from Pendle Hill Home at tea. Later the visitors took an active part at gospel service. Young people of the church invited young people of all local churches to a social. A great time of fellowship was spent.

**Taree.**—Half-yearly business meeting was held on March 2. Despite losses through removal, the treasurer, E. R. B. Saxby, gave an encouraging financial statement. Following a surplus of £92 for year ending June, 1942, a credit of £35/10/- for local work was shown for half-year ending December, and the offering for Hinrichsen-Morris mission exceeded expenditure by £150. It was decided to send £75 of the £150 to home missions, whilst a similar amount was placed in the new building fund. A. G. Saunders gave helpful messages on March 7, and also read to the church a motion moved by the officers concerning the work and life of the late Wm. Burns Walmsley.

### SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**Port Elliot.**—Services since Christmas have been the largest experienced. Breaking of bread service at 9.45 a.m. has proved a great blessing to many visiting friends.

**Lenswood.**—Home mission offering is £12 to date. Seats have been purchased from Forest Range; and with those supplied by Blackwood church, comfortable provision has been made for school and services. Mrs. Houghton (Nailsworth), Mrs. M. Palmer (Queenstown) and Pte. Bryan Wood have assisted in services.

**Nailsworth.**—On March 7 services were acceptably taken by I. Durdin and R. Lampshire. Mr. Shipway was visiting Port Pirie. Rex Sander and Olaf Issakson are home from overseas, both looking well. Church had a very good home mission offering for first Sunday. Endeavorers on March 8 attended a district rally, at which State president was speaker, in interests of an advance campaign.

**Moonta.**—The work is well maintained. A. Doley and D. J. Lawrie being speakers. S. Wilton exhorted the church on Feb. 28. There is improvement in attendance at Sunday school. Harvest thanksgiving services were held on March 7. A. Hutson, of Balaklava, was speaker. Messages in song were given by Verna Wilton, of Kadina, a solo; Miss V. Wilton and Keith Carter a duet, and E. K. Carter, A. Doley and D. J. Lawrie a trio.

**Prospect.**—Services on March 7 were conducted by P. R. Baker with good attendances. Harvest festival was held. Ladies' Guild arranged the goods in chapel and school hall. Fellowship was enjoyed with members of the Forces. Harry Burns was home from Middle East. Mr. Schwab is still in hospital, but improving in health. All auxiliaries are functioning well and a good spirit prevails. News from boys on service shows all are doing well. Sick members are improving.

**Victor Harbour.**—Much prayer is being made for the proposal that Mr. and Mrs. Manning will revisit Rockhampton for special mission work in the winter. Services here have been larger than usual this season. Airmen continue to come well to services and are a great inspiration and help. Some great interstate singers are also visitors. All offerings on March 7 were given to home missions, and so far over £20 has been received, a record for the church.

**Adelaide (Grote-st.).**—On Feb. 14 A. E. Hurren spoke at both services. Miss G. Tully was received by letter from Kadina. Harvest thanksgiving services were held on March 7, the chapel being effectively decorated. An appreciated anthem was rendered by choir at each service. Appropriate messages were given by Mr. Hurren. H.M. offering has reached £36, an increase on last year's. Several members are very sick. Fellowship was enjoyed with a number of visitors.

**Winkie.**—C.E. Society held a social on Feb. 22, when church members and Sunday school scholars were well represented. Allan Chapple, R.A.A.F., was morning speaker on Feb. 28 and Mr. Johnson preached at night. At morning service on March 7 Mr. Johnson spoke and evening service was combined with Berri church. Attendances at all meetings have been very good. Fellowship was enjoyed with J. Searle, A.I.F., returned from Middle East; Miss J. Searle, W.A.A.A.F., and others.

**Semaphore.**—On Feb. 21 S. Matthews, of Flinders Park, spoke to Y.P. Society, and then to the church in the interest of home missions. Miss Mary Hargraves and Mr. Don Glover (R.A.A.F.) were married on March 3. Harvest thanksgiving services were held on March 7. Excellent singing was rendered by choir under baton of Mr. Paddick. Mrs. Young assisted the choir. Fellowship was enjoyed with F. Knight and B. Dunstan (A.I.F., returned). Mrs. Bray is recovering from an accident.

**Brooklyn Park.**—The work continues well. Members miss W. Mathews, who after almost reaching the age of 95 years was called home on March 1. On March 7 harvest thanksgiving was celebrated, when special vocal items were rendered. Several brethren conducted services elsewhere. W.C.T.U. held opening meeting for year on March 10. Four new members were received. Sister Chivell resigned as secretary owing to war duties. Appreciation of her services for the union was expressed.

**Murray Bridge.**—A. C. Page and N. G. Noble conducted Burdet services on March 7. There was a fine attendance at Murray Bridge harvest thanksgiving services on March 7 and 8; Morialta Children's Home will benefit. A record home mission offering to date is £14/4/-. Doug. Lind (returned A.I.F.) and Miss Hilda M. Bairstow were married in chapel on March 11, and Alfred Deane and Mrs. A. L. Waechter on March 12. The same evening Mrs. N. G. Noble presided over a women's world day of prayer service in chapel. The preacher left on March 13 for chaplaincy duties.

**York.**—During absence of G. E. Rootes on holiday, excellent service was given the church by H. E. Paddick, W. Green, A. B. Chappell and Geo. Wilson. Harvest thanksgiving services were held on March 7, with a nice display of goods, afterwards given to Morialta Protestant Children's Home. Mr. Rootes gave appropriate addresses. Mrs. Glastonbury and Mrs. Fooks rendered a duet and Mrs. L. V. Matthews a song at evening service. Messrs. Hammond and A. Young were welcomed home from overseas service. J. Follett, jun., and B. F. Lawrence, officers of the church, have been called for essential service to another State.

**Kadina.**—At harvest thanksgiving services on Feb. 28, Mr. Lawrie spoke morning and evening. Mrs. M. T. Lawrie spoke in afternoon. There were good attendances; over 100 at night.

Choir sang appropriate anthems at each service, Mr. Larcombe conducting. A musical programme was given by the choir on March 1, and Mr. Lawrie delivered an address. Young Worshipers' League commenced on evening of March 7 with nine members. Northern Sisters' Conference executive met at Kadina on Feb. 24 and president Miss McLachlan delivered an interesting message. Reports were submitted. Ladies' Guild has recommenced. Y.P.S.C.E. and J.C.E. are working and Bible school is in fair heart. W. N. Bartle addressed church on March 7. Brethren assisting with circuit preaching are S. R. Trenwith, W. N. Bartle, A. H. Russack and A. P. Russack.

### VICTORIA

**Melbourne (Swanston-st.).**—On March 15 Mr. Nance-Kivell delivered very interesting and helpful messages morning and evening. A brother from Texas, U.S.A., and others were visitors.

**Malvern-Caulfield.**—Meetings on March 14 were well attended. Morning speaker was Mr. Robinson; evening, Mr. Buckingham. Mr. Kirby, of the fighting forces, was received into the church by letter.

**East Kew.**—Harvest festival services were held on March 14 with a good display of fruits and produce. Mr. Candy gave suitable addresses. The goods brought to the chapel will be taken to Children's Hospital.

**Hampton.**—At annual meeting of the church on March 9, P. Dinwoodie was added to diocese, and helpful reports were presented. On March 14 C. G. Taylor resumed after his mission at Gardiner, and gave earnest addresses.

**East Malvern.**—Visiting speakers during February-March were A. F. Laird, E. F. Halkyard, T. Hagger and D. Cartmel. C. G. S. Daff introduced discussion at fellowship meeting on March 3, and Miss I. Wilson sang. Offering for church extension was £3/10/-.

**North Fitzroy.**—R. Ennis was speaker at both services on March 14. Several visitors were present at morning worship. Miss Elsa Haas (Sunshine) was soloist at evening service and rendered two appropriate numbers. Offering for Church Extension work, £5/3/-.

**Preston.**—Bible school anniversary was continued on March 14, prizes being distributed in afternoon. Mr. Combridge delivered a message of special interest to scholars at a good gathering in evening. The scholars again rendered efficiently anniversary hymns.

**Fairfield Park.**—On Feb. 28 R. Hillbrick preached farewell sermons. C. Cartmel commenced his ministry with the church on Mar. 3 at the prayer meeting, when he delivered a helpful message. Mr. Cartmel preached at both services on March 7, several visitors being present.

**Brighton.**—C. B. Nance-Kivell has accepted a term of ministry commencing in June. Meanwhile T. H. Scambler is assisting, and a five weeks' spiritual mission is planned with special services on Sundays and Tuesday evenings. R. Goldsworthy, who is commencing his work in the district circuit, preached at gospel service.

**Footscray.**—On March 6 the Bible schools at Tottenham, Yarraville and Footscray held annual picnic at Footscray gardens. Dr. E. L. Watson, of Baptist church, and D. C. Ritchie made an exchange on morning of March 14. Sympathy of the church is expressed to Mrs. E. Durber and family in the sudden passing of her husband on March 12.

**South Richmond.**—A. E. Cremin continues to minister to the church; he spoke at both services on March 14. Miss M. Child maintains Saturday afternoon visitation work. Young Worshipers' League is progressing under leadership of Miss M. Henry. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. White in the loss of her nephew. Mrs. Lister is still in hospital, but progressing slowly.

**North Carlton (Rathdown-st.).**—C. N. Milne is giving interesting gospel addresses.

**Horsham.**—On March 1 W. B. Payne addressed the church. C. W. Jackel resumed on 8th after special services at West Preston. On March 8 harvest festival services were held with good attendances. At close of evening there were two confessions and one reconsecration. Mrs. Billingham and Mrs. F. Oliver are improving after illness.

**Castlemaine.**—United services with local Baptist church were held on Sunday last. Morning service was in our building, when H. G. Brice (Baptist) exhorted. In the evening C. E. Curtis addressed a good gathering in Baptist building, and the two choirs united for a rendering of an anthem. A general wish was expressed for other united meetings.

**Frankston.**—Many visiting members are attending services. Women's Mission Band conducted C.E. meeting on March 11. One of our ladies led the meeting at Presbyterian church in connection with women's world day of prayer. Miss M. Baxter has entered the M.B.I. to prepare for missionary work. Mr. Bond preached at all services. A satisfactory commencement was made with open-air meeting prior to gospel service.

**Doncaster.**—Harvest thanksgiving services were held on Feb. 28 with a very good audience at both meetings. A large and varied assortment of goods was staged on the platform. Mr. Banks spoke. The goods were sent to Austin, Children's and Women's Hospitals and Christian Guest Home. At evening service Mr. Chris. Reekie assisted with musical items and choir gave a thanksgiving anthem. Offering for Church Extension amounted to £8/11/-.

**Carnegie.**—On March 6 the Junior C.E. had an enjoyable social, and on March 8 the Good Companions' Club celebrated third birthday with a social evening; 45 girls were present. The girls' gymnasium, divided into three sections, has enrolment of over 70. Installation of officers for P.B.P. was held on March 11. On March 14, 128 were present at Bible school. H. Miller spoke at morning service. L. Snow preached at night, when one lad made the good confession.

**West Preston.**—During past two weeks S.S. anniversary services have been held with splendid attendances. Visiting speakers were Mr. Webb, Mr. Candy and Mr. Grainger. At worship service on March 14 Mr. Leader, West Preston Baptist, was speaker. Special reference was made to W. A. Wigney, the preacher, who having enlisted with A.I.F. as chaplain, had been called upon to report for service on March 16. At evening service on 14th W. A. Wigney preached.

**Hawthorn.**—J. E. Allan was speaker on Feb. 28 and March 7. At conclusion of gospel message on 28th, two ladies confessed Christ. At annual business meeting of church on March 10, deacons elected were Messrs. Allsop (secretary), Hillbrick, Johnston, Kemp, Laws, Milne (treasurer), Smith, Tucker, Tidd; deaconesses, Sisters Bower, Jenkin, Ellis; elder, C. Milne. The church has made steady progress, and good times are anticipated under J. E. Allan's leadership.

**Carlton (Lyon-st.).**—W. R. Hibburt was speaker at morning service on March 14. R. T. Pittman addressed Bible Class. John Mann conducted gospel service, giving a fine message. A large number of visitors attended during the day. Mr. Laxton spoke in open air. Bob Cannaway was welcomed home after three years' service in Middle East. The church is grateful to brethren who occupied the platform over last two Lord's days, during absence of Mr. Baker on holidays.

**Balwyn.**—On a recent Sunday evening a married man confessed Christ. Phi Beta Pi Club visited and brought good cheer to the old people at Christian Guest Home, Oakleigh, on March 1. Dr. Kemp and S. Wilson gave good messages recently in absence of the

preacher on holiday. Kenneth Patterson has entered the college for training, and the J.C.E., of which he is superintendent, presented him with a book. The church property has been much improved by some new concrete paths.

**Hamilton.**—Church anniversary was celebrated on Feb. 14 with splendid meetings and many visitors. Inspiring messages were given by Mr. Chivell. On Feb. 18 the quarterly effort took place. There was a wonderful spirit of fellowship and £20 was the result. Kinders have moved to larger premises adjoining the chapel. J.C.E. is still increasing—33 at last meeting. Chaplain Jones addressed morning service on Mar. 7, Mr. Chivell being at Portland. Mr. Avent was welcomed on return from overseas.

**Camberwell.**—A delightful day of fellowship was spent on March 14, 113 breaking bread. J. Abercrombie gave a stirring address in morning, and Mrs. Rankin, of London Missionary Society, spoke of work amongst the natives in Papua at evening meeting. Endeavor work, under leadership of E. Lewis, is progressing. Girls' Good Companion Club 2nd degree is active, and Mrs. Nance-Kivell recently delivered a talk to the young ladies. Work and finance are in healthy position, and the local church paper is being sent to many young men with the forces.

**Burnley.**—"Crusading for the King" campaign opened on March 7, Mr. Crisp speaking at both services. Mrs. Cole was soloist in evening, and two young sisters were baptised. Members recently welcomed have been Mr. Neill, on leave from Darwin, and Mr. Dow, a former preacher, returned from Middle East, who gave a short message to S.S. scholars. At special mid-week prayer session J. E. Thomas was speaker. Meetings on March 14 were of high order, Mr. Crisp being speaker. 70 attended evening service, and one young man decided for Christ. Mrs. Cockroft was soloist.

**Drumcondra.**—Mr. and Mrs. Thomas and family, also many members, have returned from holidays. In absence of Mr. Thomas, Mr. Hering (Terrace) and R. Tattersall addressed meetings. On March 5 the annual meeting of the church was held. On Saturday a working bee by seven male members repaired and added to church ramp and improved ground and outbuildings. Ladies provided refreshments. On March 7 Mr. Thomas spoke at both services. He also addressed combined Men's Fellowship at the Terrace. Bible school attendance has improved considerably the last three weeks.

**Ascot Vale.**—On March 7 Mr. Crawshaw gave a lantern lecture on the Mission to Lepers to a large audience. On March 14 jubilee celebrations were held. Mr. Snow in morning gave an inspiring address; 165 broke bread. Dr. Kemp presided. 126 stayed to dinner. Mr. Lang gave a lantern lecture on "God in Nature." The hall was full. 150 stayed to tea. Gospel address was given by Mr. Scambler; 175 present. Special singing was rendered by the choir, and Miss Kirby sang a solo. Ladies of the church rendered wonderful service in providing dinner and tea. It was a day of reunion and inspiration.

**Northcote.**—Mr. Atkin has returned from holidays in Tasmania. Thanks are extended to those who took services in his absence—W. Graham, Dr. Hinrichsen and W. Clay—whose messages were appreciated. Offering for aborigines amounted to £16/1/9. On Feb. 28 Trevor Howe, from Moreland, was received into fellowship. On March 7 Misses N. McMillan, F. Bonnell (from Bible school) and Mr. and Mrs. Roadley were baptised. These were received into fellowship on morning of March 14. An illustrated travel lecture was given by Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Bean. Mr. Atkin preached at both services on March 14.

**Essendon.**—Since W. E. Jackel's return from holidays on Feb. 28, he has conducted all meetings but one, when A. G. E. Smith substituted. On March 13 and 14 a prophetic

and missionary rally arranged by Mr. Jackel was held. On 13th, Messrs. Crawshaw, L. Buck and R. Storey gave interesting talks. Bright singing at all sessions was conducted by Mr. Waugh. Visitors from local and distant churches attended. At gospel service on March 14 a young people's meeting was conducted, when testimonies, solos and duets were given by representatives of Kew Baptist church. Reg. Goldsworthy, returned from Middle East, was welcomed on March 7, also his sister Dorothy, on leave from A.A.W.M.S. Norman Drew, secretary of cricket club, has joined the R.A.A.F. Jean Jenner has returned from hospital.

**Geelong.**—On March 3, annual meeting of Ladies' Guild was held. New members have been welcomed, officers elected, and plans arranged for ensuing year. Balance sheet showed excellent results in paying off church residence. Mr. Macnaughtan preached at harvest thanksgiving service of Marshall-st. Baptist church. On morning of Feb. 28 Mr. Rodda spoke at Latrobe Terrace. Capt. Roy Miller, M.D., of Burwood, N.S.W., was speaker at morning service on March 7, Mr. Macnaughtan preaching at Belmont. Men's Fellowship League met in afternoon, when C. V. Thomas delivered an address. There was a large attendance at evening service; Mr. Macnaughtan's address was printed in local paper. A solo was rendered by T. Pope. On March 10 a number of members paid a surprise visit to prayer meeting of Marshall-st. Baptist church.

**Gardiner.**—The "Highway to Victory" meetings with C. G. Taylor as speaker continued through the first week in March. Heart-searching and challenging addresses were given each night to good congregations. On Saturday, 6th, the officers invited the young people to tea in the church hall to meet Mr. Taylor and to attend a young people's service afterwards. In addition to the usual services on March 7, Mr. Taylor visited combined meeting of junior and intermediate C.E. at 10 a.m. and Youth's Bright Hour in afternoon. At a prayer and thanksgiving service held on March 10, Mr. Hagger thanked Mr. Taylor for his very fine messages. A. Collins and F. Woolley and Mr. White, father of Bob and Betty White, were welcomed home from Middle East. At morning meeting on March 14 Chaplain-General Brooke gave a very interesting talk on a chaplain's work in the forces. Mr. Halbert and Mrs. Barnes have been received into membership by letter from Ballarat. At conclusion of Mr. Hagger's evening address on 14th, T. Whitehead, from the Bible school, confessed Christ.

## Southern District Conference, Tas.

THE thirtieth Southern District Conference was held in West Hobart chapel on Saturday afternoon, March 6, commencing with a devotional session led by J. Byard. The conference president, B. J. Golder, presided, and extended a welcome to visiting delegates and brethren; W. H. Knight responded.

Election of officers for ensuing year resulted as follows: President, A. E. Heard; vice-presidents, B. J. Golder, J. Park; secretary, G. E. Ashlin; treasurer, T. W. Lillye; representative to H.M.C., N. J. Warmbrunn; preacher next conference sermon, J. Park.

It was resolved that next conference be held at Geeston in November.

The following resolutions were carried:—

"That this conference recommends to the State Conference that a move be made towards the establishment of a Christian Fellowship Association in this State."

"That the incoming executive be empowered to assist the State executive in any forward move that may be made, and to assist financially up to twenty-five pounds."

"That a letter of appreciation of L. A. Bowes' ministry in Tasmania be forwarded to him, also that a letter of sympathy be forwarded



to Mrs. R. L. Arnold in the recent sad loss of her husband."

Following the outlining of a scheme by Mr. Park for the Victorian brotherhood to assist the Tasmanian churches by releasing sufficient preachers to conduct simultaneous evangelistic services for one or two months in all churches in the State, the following resolution was unanimously carried: "That this district conference recommends to the State executive that it submit the scheme as outlined by Bro. Park to the Victorian executive for submission to the Victorian conference, and that Bro. Park be sent to the Victorian conference to present the scheme at that gathering."

**ADDRESSES**

Mrs. Allan Arnot (secretary Tasmanian Women's Conference Executive)—225 George-st., Launceston, Tas.

E. W. Boettcher (secretary Ma Ma Creek church, Qld.)—P.O., Grantham.

C. H. Hunt (preacher Fremantle church, W.A.)—67 Forrest-st., East Fremantle. Phone, L2249.

L. R. G. Smith (secretary Swan Hill church, Vic.)—72 Beveridge-st., Swan Hill.

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**BIRTH**

CLARK (nee Puckridge).—On March 12, at "Moira," Sandringham, to Mary and Gordon, of 44 Potter-st., Black Rock—a son (David Gordon).

**SILVER WEDDING**

MANNING-HARPER.—Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Manning, of Victor Harbour, announce 25th anniversary of their marriage, solemnised Cottonville March 19, 1918, by late Bro. B. W. Huntsman, assisted by late Bro. T. J. Gore.

**DEATHS**

BARRETT.—On March 10, Herbert John, of 27 Murray-st., Prahran, beloved husband of Margaret and loved father of Elsie (Mrs. F. N. Lee), Lily (Mrs. N. Merriman), Marian (Mrs. R. Walters), Herbert and Alan. In God's care.

WISEMAN.—In loving remembrance of my dear mother (Ada Faith), who fell asleep in Jesus on March 4. A wonderful mother. "With Christ, which is far better" (Phil. 1: 23).

—Inserted by her daughter Ada, Mount Clear, via Ballarat.

**On Active Service**

LEE, Kenneth Victor.—VX50234 (returned M.E.), died of wounds N.G. Jan. 30, beloved grandson of Mrs. and the late Mr. L. W. Lee, and loved nephew of Delia, Stan., Horace, Violet and Norm; aged 23 years.

Lovely memories till we meet again.

LEE, Ken.—VX50234 (ret. M.E.), died of wounds N.G., Jan. 30; beloved fiance of Betty Norman. "For ever I will remember."

**IN MEMORIAM**

COCKROFT.—In loving memory of our beloved daughter and sister, Joy, who fell asleep March 9, 1942.

"But oh, the joy when I awake within the palace of the King."

HARE.—In loving memory of James Gordon Hare, who entered into rest March 21, 1938. The dearly loved husband of Irene, and loving father of Marjory, Gordon, Linley, Geoffrey and Beth.

"Till the day breaks, and the shadows flee away."

HERON.—In loving memory of my dear husband Jack, beloved father of Douglas, Ernest and Keith, passed away March 24, 1942. Sweet rest.

SMITH.—In loving memory of my dear mother, who passed away at Malvern-rd., Glen Iris, on March 20, 1942. "Safe in the arms of Jesus."

—Inserted by her loving daughter, V. Adams.

**COMING EVENTS**

MARCH 20.—Rosewood church jubilee. All past members invited. If unable to attend send a greeting

MARCH 28, APRIL 4 and 11.—Bambra-rd., Caulfield, Bible school anniversary. March 28, 3 p.m., kindergarten, Mrs. Gillings. April 4, 11 a.m., B. Huntsman; 3 p.m., E. Thompson; 7 p.m., R. P. Morris. April 11, 11 a.m., H. M. Clipstone; 3 p.m., C. Lang; 7 p.m., W. Gale.

**LYGON STREET NEW CENTURY BIBLE CLASS.**

Three Special Sundays for March.

March 7.—Mr. C. B. Nance-Kivell, B.S.Litt., B.D., "The Grace of God."

March 14.—Mr. R. T. Pittman, B.A., Dip.Ed., "Waiting Upon God."

March 21.—The Hon. W. H. Edgar, M.L.C., "The Lord's Day."

Bright helpful services for all at 3 p.m.

Tea served each Sunday at 5 o'clock.

**COLLINGWOOD CHURCH OF CHRIST SPECIAL EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN**

Commencing Sunday, March 21,

Continuing Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday, March 28.

Missioner, Mr. Claude Candy, of East Kew.

Would sister churches send delegations?

**BRITISH & FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY, MELBOURNE AUXILIARY**

**THE 103rd ANNUAL PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION**

TUESDAY, MARCH 23, at 8 p.m., in the BAPTIST CHURCH, COLLINS ST., MELBOURNE.

Mr. W. Alec. Fraser (returned Chaplain from Middle East) will speak on

"With the A.I.F. in the Land of the Bible,"

and an address entitled

"China To-day"

will be given by Mr. Hedley Bunton. Musical items by the Scots Church Choir, under the direction of Mr. Herbert Davis.

The Archbishop of Melbourne will preside.

All welcome.

Offertory for the Society's World-wide Work.

**ANNIVERSARY SERVICES, PARKDALE.**

April 11—Bible School Anniversary Services.

April 18—Church Anniversary Services.

All past members and friends welcome.

**BRIGHTON CHURCH OF CHRIST.**

**CHRIST FOR THE CRISIS.**

AN INTENSIVE SPIRITUAL MISSION conducted by

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

MARCH 21 to APRIL 18.

Sunday, March 21:

11 a.m., "A Global War."

7 p.m., "The Last Great Empire."

Brighton choir. Visiting soloist.

Tuesday, 23rd:

8 p.m., "Jesus' Baptism—and Ours."

P. R. Thickens will lead the congregational singing.

Watch for full details next week.

**22nd ANNIVERSARY OF BORONIA CHURCH OF CHRIST AND SUNDAY SCHOOL**

SUNDAY, MARCH 28.

Morning, at 11 a.m., speaker, Mr. V. C. Stafford.

Afternoon at 3, Children's Service. Mr. V. C. Stafford.

Evening at 7, Mr. E. L. Williams.

**SOUTH RICHMOND CALLS**

The church at BALMAIN STREET is planning a Week of Special Meetings from April 4 to 11. Speakers are:

Sunday, 4th, A. E. Cremin.

Monday, 5th, J. Wright.

Tuesday, 6th, T. Hagger.

Wednesday, 7th, A. W. Candy.

Thursday, 8th, S. Neighbour.

Friday, 9th, F. E. Buckingham.

Saturday, 10th, PRAYER MEETING.

Sunday, 11th, A. E. Cremin.

A pressing invitation is issued to members of metropolitan churches to have fellowship with South Richmond.

**FESTIVAL OF EVANGELISM.**

SOUTH MELBOURNE CHURCH, DORCAS-ST. APRIL 4 to APRIL 21.

(Each night except Saturday.)

Missioner, H. C. Bischoff, of Blackburn.

Assisted by D. D. Stewart and G. Whiting, preachers in the circuit.

Assistance of other churches by prayer and by attendance at the services requested.

**MARRICKVILLE, N.S.W., GOLDEN JUBILEE. APRIL 11.**

11 a.m., Mr. A. R. Main.

3 p.m., Bible School Session.

7 p.m., P. E. Thomas.

Past members are invited to meet with us in the

50th ANNIVERSARY SERVICES,

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 8 p.m.

Historical Review and Social Evening.

Will intending visitors write the Jubilee secretary, R. H. Maxwell, 24 Jeffrey-st., Canterbury, N.S.W.?

CHURCH OF CHRIST, SWANSTON ST., MELBOURNE (opp. Public Library).

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# Great Christmas Gatherings

AS Christmas came near, preparations were soon afoot to celebrate it in the usual way. Presents for the children were difficult to find, but Miss Vawser managed to produce enough with her magic wand to go around. The Christian women and little children were provided with gifts, and as our own two girls were home from school, they helped get the sweets into packets. Two Christmas concerts were given by the children which were very interesting.

"I went out to Parawadi and Shirsuphal to give the children out there their gifts. As the motor is not in use owing to lack of petrol, I cycled most of the way and sent the goods in the bullock tonga. Over some rough patches I rode in the bullock cart, but out of the thirty odd miles I cycled about twenty-two. I wish I had the car in commission.

"On Christmas morning I presided over a great gathering in the church. About four hundred were present, and Dasharathrao Divekar and Isaacrao Rathod gave brief messages and the big girls sang very sweetly. It was a great beginning to a day of real fellowship. Many visitors were present from near and far. As we thought of the coming of the Babe of Bethlehem, our thoughts went out to a world at war, and we prayed that soon, very soon, the Prince of Peace would indeed rule in the hearts of men, and there would be peace upon earth. We had wonderful late rain a few days earlier and the ground was wet, so we could not have our usual Christmas feast on the ground in front of the church building. We arranged it inside the school rooms. Over six hundred sat down again this year to a very fine palau or plate of rice and bits of boiled mutton in ghee or fat, with vegetable curry. The whole community appreciates the fact that in these days this great meal was served as usual although it cost about 50 per cent. above last year's feast, i.e., Rs. 132. This we were able to meet out of the Christmas money allotted to us. The Christmas feast was held at about seven in the evening. During the midday the missionaries at Baramati had dinner together. Mr. and Mrs. Woodward, of the Bible school, Miss Vawser, ourselves and Muriel and Janet sat down to dinner off the usual goat and some good vegetables and then a wonderful pudding which was greatly appreciated. Some good Christmas gramophone records brought us near to all the dear ones in the homeland."—H. R. Coventry.

## DHOND

"WE are continuing very busy in the hospital. The Christmas celebrations went off quite well. We had a dinner for the church members and their families, in the compound, which all enjoyed greatly, and the children of the Sunday schools had a happy time together at their annual picnic on Jan. 2. We miss the Christmas boxes greatly at these times, for we used to have so many things in them which saved expense here at Christmas time."—G. H. Oldfield.

## NEW YEAR HOPES

"ON New Year's Eve, at about 9.30, Vishwanathrao (Boowa) Gaikwad gave a kirtan (service of song) in the church, assisted by his small son. This continued until prayers were conducted as the New Year came in.

"On New Year's Day the Sunday school picnic was held at the beautiful spot known as Wagh's Garden: Huge mango trees provide wonderful shade all day. It is a picnic for families and their goats as well as children. It is only about two miles from our bungalows, so we can walk or cycle quite easily. Races and games were held for all the children, and small money prizes were given, as well as

sweets to all. Thus we brought our round of festivities to an end. Our Sunday school secretary's little boy was taken ill on the 30th with typhoid, after he had been one of the actors in the Christmas performance; and although he was taken to Dhond, he died on Monday at noon, a little lad of about seven. This has brought a note of sadness into the New Year.

"We begin a new year full of hope that a better day is ahead. We have been wonderfully kept during the year 1942. During the disturbances we feel that God preserved us from harm in a marvellous way. We did not know how great was the danger at the time. The Lord undertook for us in our unprotected state. We have been spared ravages of diseases; and although there is so much real shortage around, we are being wonderfully cared for. The other day one of the leading merchants and importers of grain and manures for the farmers told me to be sure to let him know if we needed rice or other grain and he would see that we had it. So our Hindu friends are used to help in these days to supply our daily food. Flour is a scarce commodity, but so far we have had some bread which, although dear, is better than depending on the Indian 'bhakar' as some are doing. We may have to soon, but we go on trusting the Lord for our daily needs. We have very much appreciated the extra 10 per cent. on our allowances; it enables us to pay these higher rates.

"Please pray that we may be guided into the right paths of service during this coming year. We are praying that fear of invasion may soon be entirely absent from you dear ones in Australia."—H. R. Coventry.

## MR. AND MRS. FRANK MANNING

LETTERS have been received from our missionary friends in Africa. Though the mail was a long time coming, it was pleasing to know that the wedding went off very well, and they are now united in the work of God in dark Africa. Mrs. Manning (nee Wiltshire) says:—

"It has been awfully interesting comparing and contrasting the various aspects of Indian and African life as I've come through. There is a lot of similarity as well as a lot of difference between the two peoples as far as I can see, and I am looking forward to the time when I'll be able to speak to the people in their own language. Frank and I would like you to give our greetings to the folks in Australia. Many have been praying that God would prepare the way for me across from India to Africa—that it might be made safe and easy, and he has answered and brought about our reunion midst very happy circumstances, and for all his wonderful care and guidance we offer him our praise and thanks."

## BE ON TIME!

TIME is the essence of life's contracts. To be on time is to keep abreast of opportunity.

What you plan to-day shapes to-morrow. If you plan the spending of to-day's money so that to-morrow is cared for, then there need be no spectres at to-day's feast.

On the contrary, you will reap the reward of timely sowing.

Save to-day that you may be safe to-morrow.

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# Obituary

## Mrs. J. Boettcher

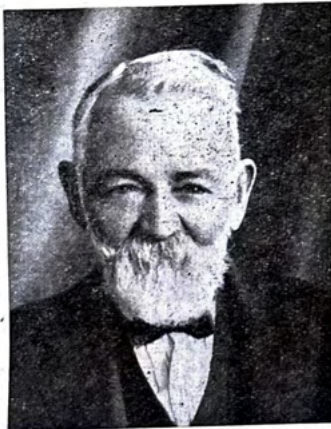
ON Saturday evening, Feb. 27, Mrs. J. Boettcher, at the age of sixty-four, passed to her reward. Our late sister very early in life gave herself to the Lord, and over thirty years ago became a member of the church at Marburg, Qld. Her family of five sons and two daughters are all members of the church, and one of them, Chaplain V. G. Boettcher, is one of our brother preachers. Our departed sister will long be remembered for the gracious hospitality she extended to preachers and organisers whenever they visited Marburg. "She stretched out her hands to the poor and reached out her hands to the needy." Many are members of the church because of her good influence. We commend all sorrowing relatives and friends to the God of all comfort. "Blessed are they who die in the Lord."—P. Alcorn.

## J. A. J. Francis

THE church at Kalgoorlie, W.A., suffered a loss in the sudden and tragic death of J. A. J. (Jack) Francis on Dec. 2, at the age of 43 years. Mr. Francis was baptised by H. Manning many years ago, and for a long while his membership was with the Brookton church, but his work on the railway did not allow him to have much definite contact with Christians. During the ministry of Mr. Riches he transferred to Kalgoorlie and was received into the church, and continued faithfully serving in many quiet ways. He was married to Mrs. Moore barely twelve months prior to his home-call. It was a great joy to see such happiness coming into the lives of our brother and sister. His illness only lasted a few days, and the night before the home-call he talked of being home to celebrate the first anniversary of his wedding. To his dear wife and our sister we offer our sincere sympathy, and our prayer is that God who has so long been her stay may help her to turn this, too, into a testimony as she waits for the dawn of the new day.—H.R.F.

## Wm. Mathews

THE brethren of the churches in South Australia were much impressed by the passing of our aged and esteemed brother, William



Wm. Mathews.

Mathews. He had continued in the Master's service faithfully for a period of over 83 years. He had been active in our midst for some time after his 94th birthday, and was well on the way to completing his 95th year when the home-call came to him. Born in London in 1848, he was brought to South Australia when 17 months old. He was baptised in the

River Torrens in 1859, and from that time continued faithful in Christian service. He held membership in several churches—North Adelaide, Grote-st., Mile End (foundation member), Cowandilla, Maylands, and latterly Brooklyn Park. He served as elder, secretary and Sunday school teacher. For forty consecutive years he continued in the Sunday school at Grote-st. as teacher of the infant class. He also led the singing at church services for a number of years, and pitched the time with the aid of a tuning fork. He was well known as a gospel singer, and gave much time to hospital visitation. He and his band of singers were known in many hospital wards. He has been described as scholar and saint. Besides being well acquainted with his many books, and possessing a sound knowledge of the Word, he had grown in grace and spiritual understanding with the passing of the years. Latterly he did much in visitation among the brethren in various suburbs, for he had an extensive knowledge of our members for miles around. Almost every day he was on his bicycle visiting the sick or disposing of "The Christian" or "Goodly Pearls." His energy was amazing. He would often travel twenty miles a day, and within the last year claimed to be quite free of fatigue after riding twenty-five miles. He made substantial collections for overseas missions. At length we realised he was affected with a mortal malady. During his long life he had never spent a day in bed with sickness, and it was sad to see such a "father in Israel" laid aside in hospital. Our visits were an inspiration, as he always had something worth while to say on better things. It was evident his strength was waning, yet we think he suffered but little pain. He fell asleep in Jesus on March 1. To the end of his days he retained the esteem and confidence of the brethren everywhere.—A. H. Wilson.

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A.: "As they were eating Jesus took bread,  
and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to  
the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my  
body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks,  
and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of  
it; for this is my blood." (Matt. 26: 26, 27.)

Q.: IS THE LORD'S SUPPER A COMMUNION?

A.: "The cup of blessing which we bless, is  
it not the communion of the blood of Christ?"  
(1 Cor. 10: 16).

Q.: WHAT DOES THE LORD'S SUPPER  
PROCLAIM?"

A.: "For as often as ye eat this bread and  
drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death  
till he come" (1 Cor. 11: 26).

—G. J. Andrews.

### THOUGHT

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—Hugh Redwood.

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