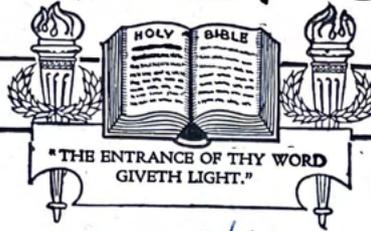


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Australia Can Advance

- *Statesmen are needed who have vision to see beyond the present and have moral character, enriched by Christian grace*

WE may be justly proud of what has been accomplished in Australia during the past 150 years. Only heroic efforts, continuous sacrifices and vision made it possible for the foundation to be laid that enabled a new nation to be established in this island-continent. Many had visited this country before Captain Cook landed at Botany Bay. Their reports did not encourage men to come and settle here. Those early glimpses did not awaken any appreciation of this southern land. Australia was never considered a rich prize. It was not desire, but necessity, that compelled Britain to take it into the empire.

WHEREVER the early settlements were made, there were, almost invariably, disasters that were due to the difficulties of the country. In New South Wales the first comers faced starvation because the land did not produce the expected fruits. Settlers in Western Australia were reduced to want shortly after their arrival. Early efforts to establish a colony in Victoria failed and survivors had to leave. South Australia was well planned and settled, but troubles disheartened the pioneers.

Over most of the continent the threat of drought hung. Nor was it known when bush-fires would break bounds and sweep the forests. Vast deserts and great distances were obstacles hindering communications between various centres. Into this inhospitable, and often cruel, country, men and women of England, Scotland and Ireland came. Many left their native villages to gain political and religious freedom; many, alas! were victims of unjust laws. Most of them were brave and sturdy adventurers ready to face the hardships of a new land. They were not easily disheartened, for when defeat stared at them from one quarter, they strove to find success elsewhere. By crossing mountain

ranges, new lands were opened by explorers. Rivers were dammed and the country irrigated to overcome the consequences of drought. Prospectors revealed the hidden treasures of the earth. Where there was so little prospect of success, untold wealth was found.

Here, in Australia, amidst conditions that seemed at first so unpromising, British people built up a civilisation that has won the praise of visitors from many parts of the world. We have reason to be proud of the achievements of the pioneers and of the nation built around their vision splendid; for they were far-sighted enough to realise that Australia must take an important place in the empire and in world affairs.

It cannot be denied that the strength of character revealed by those undaunted pioneers was due to an unquenchable faith in spiritual ideals. Many were zealous Christians who made religion real in home-life. We believe that Australians cannot maintain, nor carry on, the work begun by their fathers, unless their character is also reinforced by the Spirit of Christ.

AUSTRALIANS have been charged with being parochial. It may be good to be a little parochial. If it brings love for our country then it is to be desired. What is to be deplored is the indifference that allows people to remain ignorant of the principles needful for the life of a nation. If people took greater pride in Australia and had a real love for the nation, they would not be happy about the activities of those forces in our midst that make profit out of businesses providing facilities whereby young and old degrade themselves. It cannot be denied that immorality is encouraged by commercial interests. Cowardness is exploited by a vast ring of speculators in gambling. Human weakness is taken advantage of by those who profit from the

manufacture and sale of strong drink. We believe that much of the poverty, crime and squalor in this country could be banished if people were prevented from making profit out of the debased passions and desires of men. We do not think a change of laws will make good men. But we believe it would be in the best interests of the country if laws allowing the selfish to exploit the lower side of human nature were removed from the statute books. Take away the commercialised efforts to reinforce the army of drinkers and gamblers, and it may be possible to gain a better response to the endeavors to raise men above the level of passion.

It is not enough that laws be changed. Efforts to awaken the spirit of righteousness and to bring men under the influence of the gospel are needed. Changes in legislation must be supported by positive and constructive efforts to bring about reformation. If we have a real love for Australia, we shall aim at bringing both national laws and men's hearts into harmony with the truths and ideals of the kingdom of God. This must be the vision of the church in Australia.

IN the coming weeks we shall be called upon to elect a parliament for the Commonwealth. Where parochialism is likely to be manifested is in the speeches of those politicians who set the interests of a section of the population on a higher plane than the good of the whole community. We need statesmen who have moral character, enriched by Christian grace, who have vision to see beyond the present, and with ideals that will help to awaken Australians to an awareness of the opportunities that await them in this Pacific area of world affairs. The Christian community is strong enough to support men who are fitted for the duties of the state. It is not desirable to have a church party, but to have men and women of all groups who are capable of bringing the Christian conscience to bear on political life, so that what is built upon the firm foundation laid down by the pioneers may be free from the rubble of unrighteousness. Then our motto, "Advance Australia," will be more speedily realised.

A Perfect Day



● By beginning each day and each task with God, we shall remove imperfections from life. This is the theme of J. E. Brooke's article.

IN Psalm 25, verse 5, the Hebrew poet prays "Guide-me in thy truth and teach me; for thou art the God of my salvation"; and then he declares, "On thee do I wait all the day."

Do you remember the old song which begins with the words, "When you come to the end of a perfect day"? I wonder how many of us can truthfully say that we ever have a perfect day? We have some days, of course, which are better than others, but when evening comes, is there not usually some feeling of regret, some sense of failure and frustration? But still it's a beautiful ideal which we should strive to attain; so to live that each day we shall have, as nearly as possible, a perfect day.

What would be a perfect day? Would it not be a day spent with God, with a constant sense of his presence, and with every part of our lives under the direction of his Spirit? As the Psalmist puts it, "On thee do I wait all the day." That would be a perfect day.

In John Wesley's journal, in one of those very beautiful passages in which he speaks intimately of his own spiritual life, there is the record of a day which began and continued in a quiet and reverent sense of the presence of God. "God," he says, "was before me all the day long. I sought and found him in every place; and could truly say, when I lay down at night, 'Now I have lived a day.'"

It was evidently a day to be remembered for its light and joy. And such an experience could be ours also, if we would only let God into our lives sufficiently. Thus could our days be lifted out of their littleness and failure. Thus could each day be made for us a day of abundant life.

Let us learn, then, to begin each new day with God; to accept the day from his hand, as a new gift and a new opportunity, trusting him for grace to handle the gift aright, and to make full use of the opportunity. Let us take a forward look along the road we have to travel that day, the encounters that are awaiting us, the difficulties we may have to face, and claim afresh from God the strength and wisdom and courage we shall need for that day's march. That is why it is worth a good deal of careful foresight and even of self-sacrifice, to keep our morning watch with God. "My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O Lord; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up." There is something in that morning quietness, that forward and upward look before the day begins, that makes the day, truly a *day*, with a conscious unity of purpose in it; not a patchwork period of rags and tatters of time. So let us begin our day with God. "When purple morning breaketh, when the bird waketh, and the shadows flee," let us waken into the fresh, sweet consciousness that we are with him.

And let us keep all through the day, the spirit of the day's beginning. Let us take up every new task, however momentous or however trivial, as something more to be done for God and in God. Let us accept every variety in the swift-changing course of circumstance as part of his ordering of our lives. Let us see in every happening a new disguise in which he thinly veils himself from us, so that we may seek him and find him in "the sacrament of the present moment." Let us live through each crowded hour, or each hour

of slow monotony, with a quiet mind, free from haste or hurry, from fret or weariness, because we are living that hour also with God. From time to time we should turn our hearts towards him for a quiet moment, or if we can do no more, dart a swift glance in his direction. But even in the busiest moment of the day, or the dreariest, let us seek to keep our hearts still united to him to whom at the day's beginning we gave ourselves.

So till night comes and we turn home again to God, giving back into his hands the gift we received from him when the day began. Then let us bring to him the things we have tried to do, asking that his completing touch may be put upon our imperfect work. Let us confess before him the failures of the day, and renew in our hearts the sense of his forgive-

ness. Let us show him the wounds we have received in the day's battles, tell him of the petty irritations that have chafed our spirits, and find relief in the telling. Let us learn at each day's end to close, as it were, the day's account, so that no unforgiven sin be carried over as a bitter memory into the morrow, and that there be nothing I am hiding from my own conscience, and if it might be, from my God. So cleansed, forgiven, accepted once again, we can lay us down in peace, with the consciousness of one more day in which we have lived indeed, because we have lived with God. And then for us that other word will be fulfilled, "When I awake I am still with thee," to begin yet another day with God.

FRIENDLINESS

LIFE is sweet because of the friends we make,
And the things which in common we share;
We want to live not because of ourselves,
But because of the people who care;
It's giving and doing for somebody else
On which much of life's splendor depends,
And the joy of this world, when all summed up,
Is largely through making dear friends.

—Selected.

Believe in God

A. J. Rogers, a member of the Forces in Australia, writes a message of comfort on the words of Jesus, "Let not your heart be troubled."

THE words of Christ to his sorrowing disciples come to us as fresh as to the disciples on the night they were spoken. If they were adequate for the needs of the disciples they can prove all-sufficient for us.

The darkest hours for the disciples were when the time had come for the cruel death of their Master. Their hopes appeared shattered; they were left desolate, and they faced their darkest hours. They had to reconstruct their lives in order to understand and to keep their faith in Christ. It was the opposite extreme of their expectations. Yet in the midst of this apparent chaos there came softly to their ears the words of Jesus, "Let not your heart be troubled."

How could it be possible for their hearts not to be troubled when their Messiah, the hope of Israel, had been laid to rest in the new tomb of Joseph? It was a great test to the disciples when, with shattered hopes, they tried to piece together the great tragic happenings of those few hours when they gathered together in the upper room to meditate and pray.

Yet in the midst of all this mental upheaval, seemingly sad disillusionment, the direct opposite to their plans and ideas of the Messiah, Jesus had said, "Let not your heart be troubled. Ye believe in God, believe also in me." So although the disciples did not comprehend, nor fully understand, nor grasp the full significance of the position, yet they trusted, and the counsel of the words of Jesus overcame their troubled hearts. They believed in God, they believed in him.

What a message from those words, what inspiration, what hope and comfort as we to-day face a crisis! "Ye believe in God."

Our world has tumbled about our ears, and the calm serenity we once knew has been vanquished by war. The darkest hours we have known in our generation are upon us. We are in a position similar to that of the early disciples, although the circumstances responsible for that position are not the same. However, the test of our faith may be just as acute.

We must get down to some deep thinking. Many people may be finding that the faith of pre-war days is not sufficient to meet the needs of the times. When Jesus was with his disciples they were full of confidence. The testing time came when Jesus departed to be with his Father in heaven. We, too, were full of confidence in pre-war days. There was no great test of our faith; we felt that all was well, and we had no reason to worry or fear while everything was running smoothly.

The war ended that calm serenity. We must face facts most of us never knew before. The greatest fact to measure up to is whether our faith has grown strong enough to give us peace of heart. Everyone knows definitely that we need something big and strong to help us keep our balance. Christ said, "Ye believe in God." Have we so reconstructed our faith as to fully believe in God even when everything seems black? The greatest trial of faith for Christians in London was when tons of bombs were raining devastatingly upon them. That was their testing time. If it had been ours, would our faith have stood the test? That is a new fact to face, and the horrors of war multiply them.

But the message of Christ to his disciples, as he spoke to them before his suffering, is as strong as when they first came from those divine lips. "Let not your heart be troubled. Ye believe in God, believe also in me."

It is the message and hope of this hour for a despairing world. And let us not give way to despair, nor to doubt, nor to fear; for even in this hour Christ can strengthen us to win through. He can reconstruct our Christian life, and if our faith has been inadequate he can lead us into new experiences that will help us to-day and in the future.

The disciples continued to trust until they could see things in a different light. They discovered the power to make them mighty workers for God. In this time of bloodshed and death let us rediscover ourselves and God. If we believe in God then our hearts will not be troubled.

The Lost Legion— Young Adults

W. R. Hibbert, Victorian youth organiser, says the church must give more time, and exercise more skill, in befriending and directing emerging manhood and womanhood.



The Lost Legion

With each generation the church loses a legion of young adults. This is happening here and now amongst churches of Christ congregations. We recall with gratitude the gallant effort of isolated leaders who are facing up to this problem and paying the price of leadership. Nevertheless it is still required of us to answer a few questions. Where is our virile Bible class movement or its equivalent? Why is the Christian Endeavor Society failing to attract young adults as previously? Have we a handbook for members of such study groups? Have we ever made any serious attempt to publish a youth magazine in order that we might reach their mind through the printed page? They would devour its contents as readily as they do current magazines. Where is the sign of a Federal-wide youth fellowship with its gesture of fraternity, unity and sponsoring a programme that captivates young adults? Leaders are forced to give their loyalties to a variety of organisations—a process which is disintegrating. Moreover, leaders of young adults stand in need of a continual exchange of plans, creative ideas, and the profiting by experience of others.

IT has been said that Hitler won his battles before he ever fought them. The statement was giving credit to the strategy that so thoroughly organised the youth of the land and gave the promise and power of victory. With a view to exposing the absence of any such strategy, it has been inferred that the church loses young people before it even wins them. Consider, for instance, the industry the church expends in providing kindergarten buildings, equipment and expert leaders, and then applies a weakening enthusiasm to juniors and intermediates, while adolescents are denied adequate leadership and facilities. Time is wasted talking about the 'teen age problem without any discernment that the problem is not with the adolescent, but with adults who fail to understand them. One of the surprises that come to a youth leader is the manner in which even young people forget their moods, fancies, strong desires and impulses, and become impatient with those who travel five years behind them. We have found a committee of young people denying to others the kind of social life they themselves clamored for five years previously. Hence the detachment of seniors from youth's enthusiasms may be excused.

The Peril of Detachment

The extent of this detachment and understanding is one of the perils of the church. Sympathy and friendliness are not enough in holding young adults to the church. An understanding and a patience that beget an aptness are required. When these are acquired young people offer the church its greatest spiritual opportunity. Seniors are able to invest in juniors the deposit of truth that experience has granted them. Unless the church has a language understood by the next generation it preaches its own funeral service. There is a price to be paid, and that price is friendship and leadership. The young adult is like an oyster when preached at, but opens his or her whole being upon sensing an understanding friendliness. They do not ask the church to pet them, but do expect understanding leaders. The day the church supplies an adequate leadership for young adults, on that day begins a revival and revolution. It is not in sight yet, for immediately a person shows aptness for this work, so expensive in time, thought and industry, the church begins to paralyse that person by overloading him with other tasks requiring initiative and creative ability. John R. Mott, a leader of youth with world-wide reputation, revealed that if he lived his life over again he would spend it on the leadership of youth 15 to 18 years. He recognised that careers were being made or marred at these early years in the modern set up of life.

Young Adults

For a number of years the writer has used the title "young adults" as a comprehensive term for adolescents with a view to keeping the mind alert to the importance of the years when manhood and womanhood is emerging. "The adolescent, after all, is not a collection of 'aspects,' but a person—a person concerned in translating the experience and impressions of childhood into adult concepts. The scale

of the world in which he lives changes constantly, at times almost fantastically, and he himself changes with it, but not always evenly or proportionately, so that he is often confused and bewildered by the variety of demands made upon him." How can we help the adolescent sort out the values of life and put the emphasis in the right place? Let it suffice for this article to say that "when the soul of the young adult warms up to Christ as the 'highest holiest manhood,' he or she begins to pass out of the region of conflict into a life of peace and deep satisfaction."

For Parents and Teachers

LORD, who am I to teach the way
To little children day by day
So prone myself to go astray?

I teach them knowledge, but I know
How faint they flicker and how low
The candles of my knowledge glow.

I teach them love for all mankind
And all God's creatures; but I find
My love comes lagging far behind.

Lord, if their guide I still must be,
Oh, let the little children see
The teacher leaning hard on thee.

—Author Unknown.

Rediscovering the Young Adults

The 'teen age has come back for intensive investigation after a period of preoccupation with childhood, and the scientific procedures developed for studying the earlier years are now bearing fruit in more objective and comprehensive exploration of the years of pubescence. A literature has grown up in recent years which is endeavoring to help us overtake our deficiencies of past years. The following books will help those who desire to qualify in understanding and leading of young adults: "Advances in Understanding the Adolescents," compiled by the Home and School Council of Great Britain; "The Rediscovery of the Adolescent," by Hedley S. Dimock; "The Intermediate Scholar," by F. E. England; "The Adolescent," J. W. Slaughters; "Leaders of Youth," Hugh Henry Harris; and "Christian Youth, the Alternative to Hitler Youth," Sid Hedges.

It is not a tribute to our social intelligence that we know so much less about the human behaviour than that of physical objects, such as motor engines, for example. The man in the pew often knows more about the engine in his motor car standing outside than the young adult sitting by his side. The reason for this discrepancy is not only that persons are more complex than machines, but also that the resources of research have been directed much more toward understanding the behaviour of objects than persons. The church must hasten to profit by the experience of those at work amongst young adults.

The Total Youth Movement

If such statements are warranted the time is overdue to overtake the deficiency. The task is too common and too expensive to be solved by an enthusiast, or loyal group, or one State. It is a question of total agreement and Federal action. Are we ready for total action? The question is not solved if we delegate it to a committee. It demands an awakened brotherhood conscience, and an all-in policy. We must speak the language that an oncoming generation knows and engage it in the solution of its own problems.

Long Term Strategy

Anticipating the day of Federal action, the Victorian Young People's Department is exploring leadership training and inspirational camps, youth conventions, district Christian young people's fellowships and clubs with a technique indigenous to Australia. Commencing with the Boys' Explorer Club and the Girls' Good Companions' Club, it hopes to develop second and third degrees. Recently the second degree Good Companions' Club came into being and offers a pattern for work amongst young women 14-18 years. A booklet of 34 pages has been prepared for leaders. Let all join to work constructively on patterns that will contribute to a Federal youth fraternity.

Some Truisms

The day has arrived for a Federal-wide organisation for young adults and a pooling of ideas for leaders.

Success is determined by the understanding and purposeful leadership rather than by the type of organisation.

"Don't do this!" is the language that makes young people revolt; "Do this and thou shalt live" wins response.

Most of the known problems of young adults yield to understanding, leadership and creative projects.

It is an incomplete view of evangelism that considers the lives evangelised when young adults make a mental assent to Christ and the church. It does, however, increase the opportunity to evangelise young adults' friendships, amusements, reading, thought life, habits, attitudes and enthusiasms. There is no more sensitive field of evangelism than that of young adults.

Truth becomes fluid for young adults in friends and friendship.

Notes on Current Topics

N.S.W. Bible College

THE members of the Board of Management of our N.S.W. Bible College are glad that Mr. H. J. Patterson, M.A., preacher of Balwyn church, Vic., has accepted an invitation to join the Faculty and help in the work from the beginning of the 1944 session. The ability to secure two men of the calibre of Messrs. A. W. Ladbroke and H. J. Patterson (both graduates of the College of the Bible and also of Melbourne University) is a proof of the confidence which the college now enjoys, and it is also a ground of faith in the security and stability of the college for the future. The strengthening of the preaching forces of the State and the helping of our Brotherhood work by the influence of these brethren furnish an added reason for congratulation. The fact that Mr. Patterson has been for a considerable number of years a member of the Board of Management of the College of the Bible, and that one of his sons is a student there, should strengthen the bond of union between Glen Iris and Woolwich. I can assure Mr. and Mrs. Patterson of an exceedingly warm welcome from the members of the churches in the mother State.

Evangelism Once More

A kind correspondent, knowing of my recent reference to and criticism of the address of Dr. S. Angus, has sent me a full copy of the address, which I have perused with interest. Some of the professor's friends have complained that the brief newspaper reports did not do justice to his speech, which did not

assail all evangelists but "so-called evangelists" whose message is crude, too much charged with emotionalism, and not sufficiently intellectual and instructive. Against such Dr. Angus proposed that a prohibitive tariff should be set up for fifty years. I think it should be noted that Dr. Angus held that the true minister should be his own evangelist. My former criticism, however, stands. The address was too critical of evangelism and revivals of religion. "Revivals of religion in the past have been too largely emotional revivals," he said, "and this accounts for their relative failures." But there have been great revivals, strongly charged with emotion, which have been of inestimable value to the church and the world. Dr. Angus says that "souls do not enter heaven on a broad way; they enter one by one." We all agree that men are individually won and regenerated. I should rejoice if we had multitudes reached, as in the great Methodist revival; or if in one day 3000 were led to submit to Christ as on Pentecost. I have constantly urged that we make sure of a teaching ministry, so that people have an intelligent faith and are able to give a reason for the hope within them. But there should be an appeal not only to the intellect, but also to the emotions and the will. A coldly intellectual type of address, or of evangelism, may leave men unmoved. Earnest, whole-hearted, and zealous evangelism is as necessary to-day as it ever was. If we are true to our Lord, we must evangelise.

A. R. Mann.

Why Be a Christian?

H. J. Patterson, M.A.

I AM glad that I am a Christian. I was brought up in a Christian home, and realise its value. I have been a declared Christian for many years, and therefore have experience. I have noted the difference between the real Christian and the non-Christian, and I have read of the difference between the Christian and the devotees of other religions. But who is a Christian? Some folk conform to custom and call it Christianity. Some are better than others, and therefore think themselves Christian. A Christian is a pupil and follower of Christ. "The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch." Why be a Christian?

1. To be a Christian means a host of friends. Every true Christian has many friends within the church. One does not need to join a lodge for friendship, and the best friends are those who have the spirit of Christ. Many of our excellent young Christians in the Army tell of the wonderful fellowship they have had through the Christian church when far from home, and others have told me that when travelling abroad they found their friends and fellowship also in the church.

2. In becoming a Christian one is assisting to promote goodwill among men. Jesus taught us to pray for the kingdom of God to come on earth, and the coming of that kingdom surely means a better understanding and peace as between men. "Blessed are the peacemakers"; "Blessed are the meek"; "When ye stand praying, forgive"—when Christians are prepared to practise the teaching of Christ we shall see a new world. And they are not really Christian till they do practise it. We shall root out of our hearts the causes of strife and stand for the right even unto death.

3. There is a transforming power in and through the Christian life truly lived. I have seen a group of young men cease swearing when an earnest young Christian approached. We have heard over and over again of the power of a thoroughly consecrated Christian to change the lives of others. It is irresistible, for it is of God.

4. To be a Christian is to be in the way to life everlasting. Christians seem to be so merged into the life and thought of the world that there is little difference in the presence of death. A sharp distinction was strongly in evidence in early Christian days when paganism was so general. For the pagan death brought nothing but despair and loss. All was dark night, but for the Christian there was a glorious hope and victory. We could well afford to get back into our funeral services that same triumphant note. "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life." In him we have life eternal.

5. If for no other reason we should be Christian in response to the love of God. If a fellow man does us a kind deed or saves life, we would prove ourselves unworthy of it unless we show our gratitude. God's Son wore a cruel crown and carried a rough and heavy wooden cross to the place where they then nailed him to it. The nails driven through quivering flesh serve to remind us that "God so loved." Are we worthy of that crucified body, that broken heart, those outstretched arms and that cry, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do"? There is no reason why one should not be a Christian except it be that selfishness and greed and pleasure blind the intellect and emotions to the facts.

The Home Circle

J. C. F. Pittman

WITHOUT BEER

I HAVE worked with the young,
I have worked with the old;
I have worked in the heat,
I have worked in the cold.
I have worked down below,
I have worked up quite high,
I have worked in the wet,
I have worked in the dry.
I have worked very early,
I have worked very late;
I have worked all alone,
I have worked with a "mate."
I have worked with the strong,
I have worked with the weak;
But this I am able
To write and to speak:
"I know I can say
Without any fear,
I have worked very well
Without any beer."

—Selected.

PRIDE OF OFFICE

PLEADING for greater interest and pride in municipal government. Ian Maclaren once contrasted the indifference in our great cities with the municipal pride of a little town in Fifeshire, where the town council was so pleased with itself that it used the following prayer at its meetings: "O Lord, who hast made us as gods and set us among the princes, give us grace to remember that we are only men." This prayer is now discontinued, but that the spirit still lingers is evidenced by the remark of a newly elected provost, who received so many congratulations that he began to think it dangerous, and remonstrated with, "Thank ye, thank ye, Mr. Macfarlane, but no more of it; after all, I am only a man like the rest of you!" In spite of the humorous side of it, there was something fine in this pride, for these men felt it an honor to be the civic head of their little town, and it was a pity that the feeling was not more widespread.

Wife.—"Would you like waffles for breakfast, dear?" Husband.—"No, thank you. They look so much like crossword puzzles—and I'm fed up on them!"

The Family Altar

TOPIC.—PAUL FINDS HIS TEXT

Aug. 2—Matthew 6: 5-15.
" 3—John 14: 1-13.
" 4—John 16: 1-14.
" 5—John 16: 15-24.
" 6—John 16: 25-33.
" 7—Acts 17: 16-21.
" 8—Job 28; Acts 17: 22-34.

ARRIVING at the city of Athens Paul had a look round. Soon he saw an altar with the strange inscription, "To the unknown God." That, he resolved, should be the text of his first sermon. A great expositor has advised all preachers to "get a good fat text to start from." Such a text now faced the apostle, which he gladly used as the basis of his sermon, declaring that what they worshipped in ignorance he now set before them. Then he proceeded to show that the unknown was knowable and God had already revealed himself in many ways, especially "by the man whom he hath ordained," Jesus Christ our Saviour. No matter what text a preacher takes, he must remember that his chief business is not to present philosophical disquisitions or ear-tickling themes, but to make known to his hearers the unknown God and the untried Saviour.

Our Young People

W. R. Hibburt



Books for Leaders

"A Good Book is Medicine
for the Soul"

IN recent weeks several books and booklets of importance to leaders of youth have reached Australia from overseas. We commend to leaders of adolescents the following:—

"Christian Leadership in the Service of Youth"

This booklet of 39 pages is a statement by the Youth Department of the British Council of Churches.

"Youth and the Gospel"

The name of the writer, Godfrey S. Pain, is sufficient to make leaders keen to possess a copy. This small book of 79 pages seeks to set out in simple terms the nature of the Christian gospel, together with suggestions for its presentation to the mind of modern youth. It does not pretend to be a book on club work, nevertheless club leaders will be helped by its presentation of many vital facts of the gospel.

"Christian Youth, the Alternative to Hitler Youth"

The writer, Sid G. Hedges, is one of England's foremost youth leaders. He has many publications to his credit. Perhaps more than any other in the last couple of decades he has offered practical help to leaders of adolescents. While the writer, in the booklet under review, advocates bold, practical suggestions for unifying English youth work, there is a parallel need in Australia. It offers a programme inspiring to young people, and challenging to all who would counter the Hitler-Jugend outlook.

"Our Great Text-book"

Readers who would welcome a digest of the contents of the Bible will find this booklet helpful. Leaders will find themselves lending it to class members to aid a clarified and yet a comprehensive viewpoint. The author is E. C. Pallot, M.A., B.D., Ph.D., the Methodist Youth Director of Victoria. A need prompted its production.

"Pattern for Living"

This new book by Basil Mathews of 115 pages is a clear-cut study of the life of Christ and particularly notable for its definite application of the Master's work and teaching to the modern situation. The author describes it as "an adventure in understanding"; as such it has a special appeal for young men and women who sense in their own lives the impact of present world problems. Leaders directing middle and later adolescents should not fail to secure a copy. It will enrich the leader's own mind, and cause teaching to lead to effective action in carrying forward the heaven-sent world-changing work of Christianity.

Victorian
SECOND FRONT FORWARD
THRUST

Commencement day, July 18,
yielded

8 New Teachers
80 New Scholars

Youth Rally in S.A.

Chas. Schwab reports on the sale of Jehovah's Witnesses' radio stations to Methodist Church and Labor Party, and activities to improve social conditions.

THE South Australian C.E. Union annual convention proceedings created a great deal of public interest. The whole venture was a pronounced success. A youth citizenship demonstration held in the Town Hall was of outstanding merit. The morning paper gave an excellent report of the gathering, featuring it under a bold set of headlines on a central page. The Attorney-General (Mr. Jefferies) was chairman, and said that the great assembly represented a volume of power which, if harnessed, could do much good. Mr. Jefferies emphasised the fact that blatant public evils could be checked by an aroused Christian church. The twofold programme for to-day was to build the new house and to make sure that better people lived there. A genuine Christian front could be invincible. The church must be vital. The principal of the Salvation Army Training College, Melbourne (Brig. R. Morrison) said that in spite of all its blemishes Christian civilisation was progressive.

There were serious defects which should be remedied. The decay of family life was due for immediate attention. The collapse of moral standards was a dreadful thing. The neglect of religion was pathetic. Christian family life would eliminate more than half our troubles.

Sale of Broadcasting Stations

Some time ago two stations in this State, 5KA and 5AU, were closed down under the Unlawful Association Regulations. The Central Methodist Mission and the "Workers' Weekly Herald" have purchased the stations for approximately £8,500.

Jehovah's Witnesses were the previous owners, and sold their shares to the Methodist Church and the Labor Party in South Australia in the proportion of four to one respectively. It has been announced that opportunity will be given all churches to broadcast services and religious matters over these stations.

It has also been stated that the policy of the management will be to prohibit liquor, money-lending and gambling advertisements. The cause of Christ should be greatly helped by this very praiseworthy venture.

Social Problems

One of the prominent figures in the political realm who has championed the cause of social reform in this State is the Honorable Frank A. Halleday, M.L.C. He has been chairman of our Social Service Department for some four years.

Mr. Halleday will resign his position in the Legislative Council and nominate for the Barker electorate in the Commonwealth Parliament. His unswerving loyalty to Christian principles should make him a very useful member in any parliament.

A few weeks ago Mr. Halleday addressed the annual meeting of the South-eastern District Temperance Union at Naracoorte, and the whole of his speech was published in the "Border Chronicle." It was a magnificent message. The speaker said drinking, gambling and immorality are countenanced to an alarming degree. There is a spiritual weakening which must be deplored. Our greatest universal need is not a "new order," but the implementation of the new order as outlined by Christ himself.

Mr. Robert Lyall

Members of our churches in this State have learned with deep regret of the passing of one whose whole life was dedicated to Christ.

Mr. Lyall frequently visited Adelaide. His genial personality, Christian courtesy and keen business ability won for him the love and esteem of all who were privileged to have fellowship with him. His loved ones will be affectionately remembered at the Father's throne.

Sectarian Propaganda in W.A.

Our correspondent in W.A., R. Raymond, writes about Roman Catholic radio programmes, overseas offering and movements of preachers.

THE annual service of the Loyal Orange Institution was held on Lord's day, July 11. There was a larger gathering than in other years. The preacher was the Perth Presbyterian minister, Mr. G. Tulloch. Greater interest was taken in the service this year because of the interest created in Roman Catholic affairs by the Catholic radio session conducted every week in this State.

This session has been organised and financed by the Catholic Social Guild, a new organisation for Catholic men, and is conducted by "Father" Lalor, who, before studying for the priesthood, was a well-known and popular radio personality in this State. The session has developed along the lines of a question box. To well informed Protestants there is nothing new in the answers given, but it is objectionable to many to be told, in answer to a question, that one must first become a member of the Catholic Church before he can expect to go to heaven. No doubt is left in the mind of the listener that it is the Roman Catholic Church which is also in the mind of the speaker, although the word "Roman" is always omitted. This radio session is only a part of the aggressive Roman propaganda that is being carried on throughout the State. The letter-box and the foolish "chain letter" are amongst other methods being used. Sound

exposition of the Word of God has nothing to fear from the Roman Catholic attack, but the lamentable thing is that there is so little sound Bible teaching amongst non-Catholic Christians, and so few to hear the little that is given.

Political Action

It is reported that here in W.A. the Wartime Prohibition Council has decided to enter the political sphere. This council represents the "united front" of the anti-liquor forces in W.A. It is intended to make the temperance issue a live one at the next elections, and several candidates may be selected by the council. The W.A. Council gathers encouragement from the election of Mrs. I. L. Weber and Mr. A. A. Hughes to the Victorian Parliament. We are sure that whether successful or otherwise at the poll the campaign will do good.

John A. Ewers

Last month I mentioned the passing of D. M. Wilson. This month we have suffered another blow in the very sudden passing of John Ambrose Ewers. Unlike his revered father and his two brothers, William, of S.A., and the late Robert (of honored memory), John was not a preacher. He was, however, prominent

(Continued on page 359.)

Here and There

The following telegram from N.S.W. is to hand:—"Delightful meetings Canterbury Sunday; two men decided.—Caspersoun."

After three years' ministry with the church at Wagga, N.S.W., Fred. B. Stow has accepted a call to West Moreton circuit, Qld. He will commence service in Queensland on Sunday, Sept. 5.

"To date 8,670,000 women of Britain have already been registered and large numbers are being directed into war work. Unmarried women between 19 and 30 can be drafted into the uniformed forces."

"Twenty-five thousand Victorian industrial workers are contributing £600 a month to the Red Cross Prisoner of War Fund by means of 1½d. weekly donations through their trades unions. The total amount raised since the industrial scheme was started is now more than £3000."

J. G. Shain, who was a home mission preacher in Victoria and helped at Brunswick for a long period, passed away two weeks ago. During latter years he was active in open-air gospel work. Many have been helped by the unobtrusive ministry of our departed brother. We express sympathy to all who mourn his loss.

At a recent conference of Presbyterians in Victoria, the Presbytery of Melbourne North passed the following resolution: "That it is the conviction of this conference that the unity of the church of Christ is one of the most urgent necessities of to-day. . . . It is therefore recommended to the Presbytery that immediate steps be taken to secure the federation of the Christian churches of this land."

The entire subject of boys' work will be included in a short term leaders' course conducted at Melbourne Y.M.C.A., on Tuesday evenings, commencing August 3. Leaders' library and notes are available for those taking lectures. The course is covered by thirteen lectures; satisfactory candidates will receive a diploma. A charge of 15/- is made to cover costs. Information will be supplied by J. V. Gray, organiser, Y.M.C.A. Suburban Club Movement, c/o Y.M.C.A., Princes Bridge, S.C.A.

The Northern District Conference of South Australia, some 25 years ago, established a Scholarship Fund to assist students at the College of the Bible during their first year in college, before they receive preaching appointments. Through the years a number of men have enjoyed the benefits of the fund, and last week four students received appreciated sums from this source. The fund is designed to help first, students from that district, and secondly, South Australians.

In Swanston-st. chapel, on Sunday afternoon, July 25, a service of remembrance brought together a representative company of those who wished to honor the memory of the late Robert Lyall. Tributes to his life and work were expressed by the chairman, J. E. Thomas, who also spoke on behalf of the church at Swanston-st.; T. H. Scambler, for the College of the Bible; J. E. Allan, overseas missions; J. M. Abercrombie, the Austral Publishing Co.; W. Gale, Home Mission Committee; R. Enniss, Properties Corporation; and T. Hagger on behalf of the preachers. C. B. Nance-Kivell led in prayer, and R. Sparks, conference president, read a Scripture portion. Swanston-st. choir, conducted by H. T. S. Brown, with C. H. Mitchell at the organ, rendered two anthems. The three hymns sung by the congregation were among those loved by our late brother, and the whole service was a fitting tribute to one who had labored long and faithfully in the interests of the Australian brotherhood.

On Tuesday, July 20, at 6.15 p.m., the second annual meeting of the churches of Christ and

Baptists combined committee was held in Swanston-st. lecture hall. The officers elected are: President, Principal T. H. Scambler; vice-president, Principal A. J. Grigg; joint secretaries, H. H. Jeffs and E. F. G. McIlhagger, who succeeds J. E. Allan. At 8 p.m. a public meeting of members of both churches was held in the chapel. The meeting was opened by Mr. Eric Evans, president, who introduced the new president, Principal T. H. Scambler. Dr. C. H. Scholefield, president of the Baptist Union, and Cr. R. H. L. Sparks, president churches of Christ conference, participated in the programme. The topic "About Ourselves" was ably discussed in informative addresses by J. M. Abercrombie, representing churches of Christ, and Principal A. J. Grigg, M.A., representing the Baptist churches. A large audience listened attentively to an earnest plea by both speakers for a better understanding of each other's viewpoint, and a closer fellowship in service. Mr. L. Whitbourne, L.Th., presided at the organ. Miss McCann, of Gardiner church, and Mr. Chaimier, of Hartwell Baptist church, contributed appreciated items.

Where Pioneers Worked

W. Gale

ONE of the most interesting week-end visits was paid to the churches at Wedderburn and Boort, both in central Victoria. At each our lantern address on "The Romance of the Restoration Movement" was given. These churches have suffered very much by reason of removals and enlistments. It was good to

contact these people and to say a word of cheer in the name of the brotherhood. Whilst driving the car, in between the oft-repeated filling of the hopper with charcoal, we found time for reflection upon the earlier days of the Restoration Movement in these areas. Before reaching Wedderburn we called upon some isolated brethren at Inglewood. This brought back memories of William Winter and Eliza Flitcroft who became his wife, both members in the earliest days at Wedderburn. They overlanded to Moree, N.S.W., and there we met them in our own home mission days. Strange to say, their property was called "Inglewood Forest," reminiscent of their Wedderburn days. Who can say what these parents of the splendid Winter family have meant to the Movement! There were present, at our Wedderburn meetings, relatives of other pioneers by name of Jackson, Treble, Burge, Jackel, Gregson and others. The church first met in 1864. En route we saw a signpost pointing to Barrakee, the name which Mr. Alfred Winter gave to his selection near Mungindi, N.S.W. At Boort we stayed with Mr. and Mrs. H. Lacy. An enjoyable evening service was held. It was here that Dr. G. H. Oldfield and others served as student preachers. Mr. and Mrs. Methven, in whose days the splendid chapel was built, are still affectionately remembered. Returning, we saw signs pointing to places that crowded the mind with recollections of what we had heard of meetings held away back in the pioneering days of the movement—such as Mysia, Fernhurst, Yarrowalla, Pyramid Hill, Wychetella, Borung, Yando and Durham Ox. What stout hearts these pioneer brethren and preachers had! And what faith! Who can tell the good of all this work—it is incalculable! We regret our inability to call on the brethren at Pyramid Hill when we were so near.

From Week to Week

THE announcement that A. E. Kemp has been appointed chairman of directors of The Austral Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd. recalls that his father, F. A. Kemp, who is a member of Swanston-st. church, has been associated with the Restoration Movement for a longer period than any other member in Victoria, and we may venture, in Australia. On May 28, 1854, the first meeting in the old Mechanics' Institute, Collins-st. East, of the Melbourne church was held. Between that date and Jan. 17, 1861, 106 names were added to the church roll, and we find the name of F. Kemp among them. In spite of his great age our brother was able to attend at least one session of the 1943 Victorian conference. He will be pleased to learn of his son's new appointment. Many will join with us in wishing the new chairman a happy and profitable time in this important office.

PREACHERS, officers and their wives, of churches of Christ and Baptist churches, gathered at a meeting in Swanston-st. chapel on July 21, to hear addresses in which the historic background of each body was outlined. J. M. Abercrombie had the task of relating the rise and development of the Restoration Movement. In a clear and concise statement he showed how the growth of the Independents in Scotland and England prepared the way for the movement there. It must also be remembered they influenced the outlook of the son of Thomas Campbell, for Alexander came to appreciate the work of the Haldane brothers. That was before he went to America to learn of the new ventures of his father. Mr. Abercrombie made it clear that the work and ideals of the Campbells reached Britain through literature written by Alexander. Eventually it was brought to New Zealand and Australia by members who came to settle in these southern lands.

Principal A. J. Grigg, of the Victorian Baptists' theological college, pointed out that over 300 years ago the Independents in England were brought into touch with Anabaptists on the Continent. Through the efforts of one called Smyth, the general Baptists came into being. Calvinistic Baptists, or Particular Baptists, had a separate origin. The differences of those two bodies were reconciled by a deeper appreciation of God's Word. The Principal also indicated that the evangelistic fervor of the Wesleys awakened new life within the Baptist churches. This awakening had much to do with the passion for missions that William Carey manifested.

ON the whole the discussions made clear that we are very close in our understanding of the life and teachings of the New Testament church. Principal Grigg did suggest that members of the Restoration Movement were too individualistic and literal in their application of the New Testament teachings. He did not illustrate his point, so we are not very clear as to what he had in mind. Churches of Christ seek to be obedient to the commands of Christ as they were given by him and practised by the apostles. The interpretation of the scriptures is not a mere individualistic action. The pioneers of the Movement sought the consensus of opinion of qualified scholars to guide them in their interpretation of the Bible. This catholic approach to the understanding of Christ's will removes the possibility of extreme individualism. If we learn what is Christ's will by this catholic approach it is for us to obey and not to seek to modify. We should remember that division was introduced in the church when men departed from the truth as it is revealed in the scriptures. The meeting was very helpful and a deep spiritual tone prevailed, indicating sincere desire for closer fellowship.

News of the Churches

Tasmania

West Hobart.—The church has enjoyed fellowship with F. Morgan during past two weeks. He spoke at all services, and after his address on evening of July 18, a young man, a senior scholar of Bible school, made the good confession. Bible school is growing steadily.

South Australia

Lenswood.—Foreign mission offering was £25/10/-. Mr. Jacobs, of Mount Compass, presided at a morning service and addressed Bible school. The work is encouraging.

RECORD OVERSEAS OFFERING

REACHES SPLENDID TOTAL OF £306

UNLEY.—F.M. offering to date is £306, a record. On July 18 Dr. Trevor Turner addressed the church and Mr. Ross Graham preached at night. Cottage prayer meetings continue to be held in members' homes. Church business meeting was held on July 14. Dr. P. S. Messent was chairman. Service men at meetings recently have included Jack Richards and Allan Burdett. Mr. Lovell has been appointed deputy superintendent of Bible school.

Goolwa.—J. E. Shipway and R. Graham were amongst visiting speakers recently. The church sympathises with Mrs. George Hall in the loss of her husband. Cecil Skewes and Reg Hutchison are taking services while Mr. Manning is on holiday.

Loftus Park.—On evening of June 26, members and friends gathered to say farewell to Lloyd E. Jones, after his 18 months of fellowship with the church, and presented him with a wallet of notes, wishing for him God's blessing in his work at Hamilton. A welcome was extended to Mr. Gilbertson, whose addresses have been of great interest and his work amongst the young people appreciated.

Prospect.—Ladies' Guild held fortnightly meeting. The marriage of Miss Dorothy Bradshaw and Mr. F. Egglestone took place on July 17. Members of football club held church parade on July 18. C. Schwab gave helpful messages. The church sympathises with Mrs. Bonney and Stan Terrance in the loss of their mother. Arrangements are in hand for jubilee celebrations of church. Bible school is rehearsing for anniversary. Young Worshipers' League has proved very popular.

Semaphore.—W. C. Brooker, of Queenstown, was speaker at morning service on June 27 in interests of overseas missions. F.M. offering is more than £20. One lad from Bible school has been received into the church by faith and baptism and Mr. and Mrs. Holiday and Mrs. Hyde by letter from Cheltenham. Aged Mrs. Pell is making good progress after serious operation. Annual business meeting was well attended. The board of officers was re-appointed, with addition of V. Taylor as deacon.

Brooklyn Park.—There are good attendances. The preacher has been restored to health and has for some weeks been able to take his place again. On the last Sunday in the month singing is engaged in at close of gospel service. Visitors from Maylands help, and vocal duets from Misses Wilson and Wills, and items from local singers, are enjoyed. Bible school gained 33 new scholars during the campaign owing largely to the efforts of Mr. Maxted, superintendent. Bible class has almost outgrown its accommodation.

York.—On July 4 a married woman confessed Christ, G. Rootes preaching. There were two baptisms (husband and wife) on July 11. Special services on Tuesday evenings were concluded on July 13. Helpful addresses were given by G. T. Fitzgerald and Keith Jones. Mr. Derbyshire, of B. and F. Bible Society, gave a fine lantern lecture on Palestine and Syria. At half-yearly business meeting of the church on July 20, L. V. Matthews, R. Skews and Mr. Hollams were elected deacons. Reports recorded excellent work done by church and auxiliaries.

Victor Harbour.—Church anniversary services were celebrated happily on July 11. B. W. Manning spoke at both services, it being the commencement of tenth year in the circuit. On July 13 the annual social was held, when K. Jones, F. Collins, A. Anderson and S. Wilson gave helpful messages. Amongst visitors were Mr. and Mrs. S. Bruce, mayor and mayoress. While Mr. Manning is away for three weeks amongst northern churches, Mr. and Mrs. Robert McCulloch, of China, are helping in the services. One young lady recently confessed Christ.

Murray Bridge.—Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Pearce were received from Kersbrook on July 4. Mrs. Clem Gruhl is convalescing from critical illness. Ten sat for State scripture examination. One new member has been added to C.E. Society. Annual offering to missions overseas is £20/15/6 to date. Recent soloists were Mrs. Keith Davis, Misses Elaine Page, Barbara Orchard, Nath Grundy and Laurel Harper. Messages to church have been received from Keith Mitchell (Canada) and Norman Page (England), R.A.A.F., and from Will Swift, A.I.F. Elliott Brake's fellowship on leave has been appreciated. N. G. Noble commenced his fourth year of ministry with good services on July 11.

Queensland

Albion.—Attendances during past few weeks have been maintained and are encouraging as Mr. Alcorn settles into the work. A record offering of £53 was received for foreign missions. The Earl brothers, of Box Hill, Vic., recently had fellowship with the church.

Maryborough.—Owing to sickness there has been a decline in average attendances. On July 18 there was a good attendance at Urrewa. Interest is being created in a Sunday school rally which commenced in beginning of July. Sympathy of the church is extended to Mrs. Wiltshire and family in the passing of her father. Y.P.S.C.E., after a short devotional session on July 16, held a letter writing night, when letters were written to men who joined the Forces from the church.

Ma Ma Creek.—Attendances at morning meetings keep up fairly well. C.E. meetings are well attended, and interest is maintained. There were two confessions at gospel meeting on July 11. Gordon Kuss and Reg. Boettcher have taken charge of Fordsdale school and E. Berthelsen conducts the school at West Haldon. Half-yearly business meeting was held on July 18. T. A. Chappell, who is almost 80 years of age, is still regular in attendance at meetings and takes a keen interest in the young people. F.M. offering is £25/14/-.

South Brisbane Circuit.—In Sunnybank on July 11, Mr. Kirkwood was preacher, and on 18th Mr. Jenkins, sen., gave the exhortation. There were good congregations. Band of Hope held fortnightly meeting. In Moorooka all services are well attended. On July 11 Jack Jenkins was morning speaker; Mr. Kirkwood preached to a splendid congregation at night. Preachers on July 18 were G. Mayers and Mr. Kirkwood. Several visitors were present. Monthly fellowship tea was held,

Gordon Clare directing the discussions. On July 10 a pantry evening was given Miss Iris Head and Mr. Kirkwood by Mr. and Mrs. Mayers at their home. On July 17 a social evening was given the preacher and Miss Head by Miss May Jenkins at her home. The circuit board has made decisions affecting future work and control of the circuit. The church extends sympathy to Mrs. Elliott and Joy in the passing of their mother and grandmother.

Western Australia

Perth.—Further contributions brought overseas missions offering to £102/5/3. On morning of July 18 W. H. White gave a helpful exhortation. At 7.30 p.m. Mrs. Harris rendered a solo, and Mr. Samuel Glanville (China Inland Mission) preached. A combined prayer meeting was held on July 21, speaker being J. S. Bridge.

Subiaco.—Interest is maintained in all meetings. Sunday evening attendances average about 150. About gospel service on June 27 two Sunday school scholars were baptised. On morning of July 11 Dr. Whelan delivered a helpful address. Mr. Raymond concluded a series of addresses at night and a Sunday school scholar made the decision.

Fremantle.—Much sickness prevails. Mrs. A. Cooper, Mrs. Scholey, and E. Gracie are still seriously ill. It has been pleasing to welcome men of the Forces home on leave. These have included Roy Thomson and Alan Verco (from eastern States) and A. Johnson (from Middle East). Visitors have included Mr. McLean (Wollongong, N.S.W.) and Don Verco (Bordertown, S.A.). F.M. offering has reached £16 (quota, £15).

Victoria

Collingwood.—Weekly prayer meetings are being held on behalf of G. Wimpney, still seriously ill. Mr. Hopkins has again been engaged by Sunday school to conduct singing at anniversary. Youth Department's scheme for increasing attendances at Sunday school has been enthusiastically received. On July 25 T. Fitzgerald spoke at both services.

Kyneton.—A. McDonald, of the college, spoke at the services on June 13. Six new scholars counted in the Youth Department State increase campaign on July 18. A Bible class has been formed with G. N. Burn leader. A local increase and attendance competition is also running. A huge clock face, with various colored hands, registers each class increase.

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE CANVASS

DRIVE TO SECURE SCHOLARS FOR SCHOOL

MORELAND.—Bible school has commenced a house-to-house canvass for new scholars. A good start was made on July 24. This will be continued until the whole district has been contacted. Weekly cottage prayer meetings are well maintained. Miss Grace Lacy has taken over control of Junior Endeavor Society. Duplex envelope system shows that during past six months a weekly offering of £2/15/- has been made for others. Foreign missionary collection, together with duplex envelopes, has reached over £50.

Horsham.—Attendances on July 18 were encouraging. On that day a married lady re-consecrated her life. Overseas offering amounted to £53/4/-. Bible school has commenced an increase campaign. On July 22 the anniversary of school hall was celebrated by a tea meeting and a concert organised by Mrs. Mackley. Mr. and Mrs. A. Geyer were tendered a farewell social, and presentations were made prior to their leaving for another State.

Dandenong.—R. W. Marshall continues with interesting chart addresses. Boys' Club is doing well and has a membership of 22. Ladies' Mission Band held a successful social afternoon at home of Mrs. Marshall on July 21.

Melbourne (Swanston-st.)—At meetings on morning and evening of July 25, J. E. Thomas was speaker. Several visitors of the Forces were present. A service of remembrance of the late Robert Lyall was held in the afternoon.

Coburg.—Cpl. W. Searne, of Wagga, N.S.W., enjoyed fellowship with the church on July 11. The Bible school loses two teachers, Misses D. Phillips and D. Chambers, who have joined the W.A.A.F. At gospel service on July 25 two lads from the Bible school were baptised.

Blackburn.—On morning of July 18, a young lady was baptised. H. C. Bischoff was speaker. Mr. Sandells preached at night. Young people of the church held a concert in Progress Hall at which £35 was raised in aid of Box Hill Community Hospital. On July 25 speakers for day were J. Hodgins and R. J. Anderson.

East Kew.—There were 102 at gospel service on July 18, when men of the Forces took charge. An American brother gave the message. Afterwards a time of testimony and fellowship was held in kindergarten room. The church has suffered loss in the passing of A. Harding. He was an elder and deacon, and held the position of church organist for many years.

Ormond.—C. L. Lang is giving good messages at prayer meetings. A social afternoon was held at home of Mrs. Blackwell. Money raised went to Ladies' Aid £50 fund. C.E. held a social evening, the money being to send parcels to men and women who have gone to the Services. On July 26 Mr. Lang gave good messages, at night illustrating with lantern slides. Mrs. Goodier sang a solo.

Castlemaine.—Attendance was good on July 18, when A. W. C. Candy spoke at both services. He was in the district at invitation of Castlemaine C.E. Union, and addressed the rally on the previous day. J.C.E. now meets on Wednesday, and from a membership of 3 has grown to 25. Boys' Explorer Club has celebrated first anniversary. C. E. Curtis continues to give good messages.



SPECIAL GOSPEL SERVICES

SEVEN ADDITIONS BY FAITH AND BAPTISM

NORTH RICHMOND.—Mr. McIlhagger commenced his third year of ministry with special gospel services for the month. Seven additions by faith and baptism have encouraged all. Overseas missions offering amounted to £20. Bible school is doing its part in thrust for new scholars, first two weeks yielding 10. Sympathy of the church goes to Messrs. Hancock and W. Harding and Sister Featherston in the loss of relatives.

Warracknabeal.—Meetings have maintained good average attendance. Young people who recently accepted Christ have been baptised and received into the church. Bible school shows good improvement, six new scholars being added. Midweek prayer meetings in preparation for jubilee are well attended and giving much help. Mrs. Earl has made good recovery after recent operation, but much sickness prevails.

Camberwell.—On July 25 there was a good meeting in morning. 100 communed during the day. J. T. Lawton (Hartwell Presbyterian church) addressed church, exchanging with R. L. Williams. Evening service was a special young people's meeting, and many were in attendance. Mr. Williams gave an appropriate

address. The Christian Forum is well attended, and at present aspects of the hereafter are being discussed. Bible school had promotion day, and will participate in drive for new scholars and teachers.

Hamilton.—On July 11 the church enjoyed fellowship with W. Gale, who spoke at morning service and showed interesting lantern slides at evening service. After-church fellowship brought a happy day to a close. On July 16 W. R. Hibbert met the young people at evening service. On Saturday he and school teachers met at tea, when problems and aspirations were discussed. Mr. Hibbert was in charge of all services on July 18, when all were inspired to a greater effort towards youth. The "Christian" is much appreciated by members in Forces.

Reservoir.—On July 17 a social evening was conducted by the ladies, money raised being for comforts to Servicemen. W. Gale was speaker on July 25 at church anniversary and home-coming. Many past members sent a greeting. Among visitors was A. H. Thodey, on leave from A.I.F. At close of morning service a beautifully bound Bible was presented to the secretary by officers of the church to mark commencement of his 10th year of office. R. Sparks, conference president, spoke to a crowded gospel meeting. The choir under Miss C. Plummer sang appreciated items, and soloist was Miss O. Russell, from Coburg.

Carlton (Lygon-st.)—P. R. Thickens gave a helpful address on morning of July 25. T. H. Scambler preached at night, when two lads of Bible school made the good confession and a young man was baptised. Fellowship has been enjoyed with Ernie Jeisman, of Dulwich, S.A., of the Forces, who has been transferred to Albury. On July 20 the I.C.E. held a successful social. Roy McCall has been elected president of Y.P.S.C.E. The Bible class attended the remembrance service to the late Robert Lyall. A pleasant function took place in the kinder room, when Miss J. Burt and Mr. A. Chatfield, R.A.A.F., were recipients of a gift from auxiliaries of church on eve of their marriage.

New South Wales

Hornsby-Asquith.—There were two baptisms at Asquith on July 11. T. Spencer, of 2CH, was morning speaker at Hornsby on July 18. The preacher, Mr. Little, entered Hornsby Hospital for a slight operation to his throat on July 21.

Bexley North.—On July 17 the deacons entertained members of Young People's Fellowship for first birthday tea, following which Mr. Gordon Smee, chaplain of Children's Court, gave an address. The evening closed after social fellowship and games. On July 18 T. V. Weir spoke at both services, and two young people confessed Christ. Y.P. Fellowship formed choir for the night and dramatised a scripture passage.

Ashfield.—Young People's Fellowship held a social evening on July 3. R. P. Arnott spoke at both services on July 4. Monthly young people's service in evening was well attended, and choruses by tennis club and young people were given. On July 5 Miss Maddocks was married to Serg. Hodgkinson, Mr. Arnott officiating. On July 11 fourteen children sat for Bible school examination. At night one young man was baptised.

Georgetown.—Recently a series of cottage prayer meetings was held to prepare church for uplift of spiritual life. R. V. Amos has spoken at all services during the month. On July 11, 55 sat for scripture examination. The church has been pleased to have fellowship with Doug. Raine, who has been home on leave. I.C.E. won second place in Newcastle C.E. sports. On July 18 a serial was commenced, with aid of lantern slides, on the life of Dr. A. L. Shelton, of Tibet. School attendances continue at a high level.

Albury.—The church mourns the loss of Mrs. M. E. Corrigan, who passed away on July 4. On Young Explorers' initiation night four boys were received, making membership 15. Good Companions held a health night on July 9, and Miss B. Watson, of the High School, gave a lecture. Endeavor Society retains a strong, active membership. On July 7 the Ladies' Mission Band spent an enjoyable afternoon with Baptist ladies. Mrs. Aitken sang and Mrs. Walmsley gave an address. Mr. Walmsley, the preacher for four years, has intimated that he will conclude his ministry in November.



SUCCESSFUL MINISTRY

GOOD ATTENDANCES: RECORD OFFERINGS

BURWOOD.—D. Wakeley recently commenced the third year of a very successful ministry. Attendances have been good, and offerings have reached record figures. Bible school enrolment has been increased. 22 sat for examination. Mr. Hunter, Baptist minister, addressed Bible class fellowship tea on July 18, 38 being present. Allen Cunningham and Miss Nancy Mills were married recently. Harry Ewers, of Adelaide, was at morning service on July 18. Mr. Cunningham, sen., has passed away. Alzor Fox and Mr. and Mrs. Scott were baptised recently, and two young ladies have made the good confession.

Tempe.—Mr. McKenzie has resumed after ill-health, giving splendid addresses. On July 11 A. Hinrichsen addressed the church. Doreen Heggie is home after being in hospital and Joe Kingston after illness has been able to attend services. News from Jim Hardiman, R.A.A.F., Canada, indicates good progress in his work. Arthur Hardiman, R.A.A.F., Australia, is often able to attend meetings here. The wedding of Miss Audrey Willis to Mr. Jim Hancock took place on July 10, C. Byrnes officiating. Miss Willis was a member for many years, a kindergarten teacher, and superintendent for 11 years. Sunday school makes steady progress in numbers and in work done.

ADDRESSES

A. Harwood (secretary Bordertown church, S.A.).—Bordertown.

D. R. Milne (secretary Bordertown circuit).—Box 35, Bordertown, S.A.

Federal College's Record Offering

FRED. T. SAUNDERS, secretary, advises that the annual offering for the Federal College of the Bible for 1942 has closed with a total of £1492/1/9, the goal set being £1500. The offering was the largest in the history of the college, and was an advance of £287/9/3 on the previous year. A number of churches in N.S.W. did not share in the 1942 offering, but the churches in all States which did cooperate gave £341/4/10 more than the same churches did in 1941. State contributions were:

	1941	1942
Victoria	£641 11 9	£807 15 4
South Australia	257 13 11	332 3 8
Queensland	95 9 6	135 14 11
Western Australia	70 6 11	98 3 7
New South Wales	105 9 7	61 11 0
Tasmania	34 0 10	56 13 3

The Board of Management asks the brotherhood to "maintain the pressure" and this year lift the college out of debt.

Survivors of "Centaur"

Chaplain L. A. Trezise writes of a service of remembrance and thanksgiving conducted by him at request of rescued men.

I HAVE noticed many references in the "Christian" to young men from our churches who were lost in the sinking of the hospital ship "Centaur." Readers may be interested to know that the survivors were brought to the military hospital with which I am associated. All of the boys and the nurse made good recoveries, and only two of them are still patients. Without exception they regarded their deliverance as due, not to themselves, but to a merciful Providence. At their own request I conducted a service of remembrance and thanksgiving in an Army chapel tent. Most of the Protestant boys were present, and for those too ill to attend I read the prayers in the ward. Here are some of the sentences which the survivors repeated in prayer:

"For the deliverance of thy servants from the perils of the deep, O Lord, accept our humble gratitude."

"Unto thine everlasting mercy do we commit our lost companions. Do thou look upon their dear ones with pity and compassion. May one like the Son of man walk with them through the shadows, giving them manna for their hunger and solace for their sorrow."

"Draw us, we beseech thee, into true fellowship with thyself and one another. Grant us thy Spirit that we shall bravely bear whatever cross may be laid upon us. Fill our hearts with charity and the grace of forgiveness. Enable us through all the confusion of our day to be of good courage. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

The service closed with the singing of the hymn, "Rock of Ages."

Open Forum

FOR "CHRISTIAN" READERS

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

EVENING COLLECTIONS

S/SGT. HAROLD L. REED'S letter in the "Australian Christian" of 14/7/43 (under the caption "Soldier Writes to Churches") is unique in its keen note of criticism of the churches which he visited and which "have an evening collection." It gave me quite a thrill to discover that there remains at least one brother who is old-fashioned enough to believe that the gospel should be "free to all," and who is courageous enough to condemn the evil practice which has become so common amongst churches of Christ in recent years. The truth is that there is no justification whatever for any of the churches known simply as churches of Christ taking a collection at gospel meetings. To do so is inconsistent, to say the least of it. In my opinion it is not only unscriptural but anti-scriptural. It is sad indeed to know that what was once our "glory" has become our shame. A few more letters like S/Sgt. Reed's might help to show the offending churches the folly, the inconsistency and the evil of the objectionable practice.—Thos. W. Smith.

In "Savings Weekly" for July, a publication of the State Savings Bank of Victoria Officers' Association, there is a long article expressing appreciation of the able service and gracious character of A. L. Gibson who retired from the bank's services recently.

Help Win the War

GET RIGHT WITH GOD.

These will help:

"Grace and Truth," by W. P. Mackay, M.A. (abridged edition). Shows the universal need of salvation; how to be saved; and how to know you are saved. 7d. (8½d.).

"Life, Quest and Conquest," by Lionel B. Fletcher. Sets forth the challenge, responsibilities, duties and privileges of Christians. 2/6 (2/9½.).

"Safety, Certainty and Enjoyment," by Geo. Cutting. If a Believer, Why not sure of Salvation? If Saved, Why not Happy? 1d. (2½d.).

"Victory for Me?" by Fred. P. Wood. Deals with problems of to-day. 2/6 (2/8½.).

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

LEWIS.—In loving memory of my dear husband, David Alfred Lewis, who passed away July 26, 1939.

I have you in my memory,

God has you in his care.

—Inserted by his loving wife, Priscilla Lewis.

THOMPSON.—In loving memory of our dear father, passed away July 27, 1935; also our beloved mother, passed from this life August 9, 1939.

Father and mother, they live in our hearts.

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Record Missionary Giving

HIGHER ANNUAL INCOME

OUR financial year ending June 30 created two records—record income and record expenditure. The Federal Board, however, are happy to announce that receipts were higher than expenditure. The giving to general account (budget account) in round figures resulted as follows:—

Receipts	
Victoria	£2897
South Australia	2818
New South Wales	1230*
Queensland	768
Western Australia	956
Tasmania	158
Sundry Income (interest, etc.)	186
Literature	91
Held Towards Budget	336
	£9440

(* Incomplete—approximately £90 held on behalf of Board for use in Islands.)

Expenditure

The total for all purposes amounted to approximately £9019, showing a credit balance of £421. In the expenditure side £314 was paid as interest on endowments and placed in sinking fund as offset to overdraft. Thus the income exceeded expenditure by more than £700. At the last meeting of the Federal Board, it was decided that this splendid record be published and the brotherhood thanked for their loyalty and sacrifices. We thank God for all his goodness during the past year and enter the new year with confidence.

Total Receipts

To the figures given in general account amounts for specials, including endowments, must be added. When these specials are added, the total net income for the year amounted to more than £11,000, the highest recorded in the history of our overseas work.

Overdraft Position

With the above credit balance showing, the overdraft position in general account is £421 better than this time last year, but when sinking fund is taken into consideration, the overdraft has been reduced by more than £700.

Endowment

The value of the endowment fund is seen when it is shown that the sum of £370 was paid out as interest, most into sinking fund, the balance into general account. When endowments come into "full bearing" they will give a great strengthening to the finances each year. The endowment fund now has the splendid total of £8870 to its credit. We ask that consideration be given to this form of giving, when larger gifts are made and particularly when making a will. Remember that this form of investment brings in income when the donor is no longer here to give.

Home Budget

At the last meeting of the Board consideration was given to the budget for the current year. Including all the anticipated increases on the fields (including the increases on missionaries' salaries and allowances), the estimated expenditure amounts to £9385. This amount is slightly below the income received last financial year. We point out, however, that more than £300 in last year's income was "held monies," and no such amount will appear in this year's figures. In the present budget provision has been made for sending two couples to India.

REINFORCEMENTS TO INDIA

Workers to Go Forward

CONSIDERATION has been given to Indian reinforcements, and names have already been submitted. Providing medical reports are satisfactory, we anticipate sending out two couples at an early date. An early announcement can be expected.

Miss Caldicott at Colombo

A letter received tells of Miss Caldicott's safe arrival thus far. She anticipated crossing India by land instead of the usual sea route. The last few days of the sea journey were not the best, as monsoonal weather was experienced, but she was hoping for more pleasant travelling overland. She states she is wonderfully well, anticipated reaching "Our India" the second week in June, and to the whole brotherhood she sends greetings as she once more enters into Indian service. Miss Caldicott has completed twenty-seven years as a missionary and still retains the vision and enthusiasm of youth in her desire to win souls for Christ.

THE HINDU WIDOW'S SAD LOT

WRITING to the editor of the Poona Mahratta newspaper, B. Radha Behari, B.A., L.T., states: "The lot of the Hindu widow beggars description. She is ill-treated and despised at home; some, indeed, consider her inauspicious, and she dies by inches. A large number of such widows are compelled to lead a life of shame; not a few desert their religion; and a good many commit suicide. In the words of the late Lala Har Dayal, the enemy of Hinduism lies within; it is our social Karma. And we must mend our Karma or it will end us; already it has told heavily on our society. Thank God that the cruel custom of Suttee has been stopped; but a natural corollary to the stoppage of Suttee is the increase of widow remarriage. Hindu society to-day stands in urgent need of social reform, and the greatest need of the hour is widow remarriage."

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

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Tracts

"Vital Moments" and "Posted Missing," by John Ridley, the well-known writer of tracts. One penny each; postage on single copy, 1½d.

Apologetic Literature

John Bacon, a Melbourne publisher, is rendering a good service by encouraging the printing of literature that reveals the fallacy of the modern culture attempting to undermine the faith of the Christian church and to set at naught the authority of the scriptures. T. C. Hammond, M.A., of Sydney, has already made several valuable contributions to the store of good apologetic literature. "Bible Truths and Modern Fancies" (4d., posted 5½d.), and "Can We Advance and Still Read the Bible?" (6d., posted 7½d.) will interest readers.

"The Importance of Christian Scholarship," by J. Gresham Machin, D.D., is an uncompromising attack upon an indifferent generation. He is an advocate of the church militant, and believes in preaching Bible truths with a strong emphasis on its authority. He does not consider an approach that does not awaken opposition worthy of the true preacher of the Word. It will be recognised that Dr. Machen's approach is unique in these days when the voice of many in the church is so uncertain. Paper cover, 44 pages, 9d., posted 10½d.

"The Reformed Theological Review"—May, 1943, published by the Calvinistic Society of Australia, 56 pp., 2/-; posted, 2/2d.

In the first article on "Paul and the Historical Jesus" C. S. Petrie, B.A., B.D., in a clear, concise and constructive way affirms that for Paul, Jesus of history and the Christ of faith and experience are an "inseparable unity." The second contribution by C. I. McLaren, M.D., deals with "The Pagan State and the Christian Church in Japan," and frankly discusses the problem that faced Christian leaders when ordered to bow at the State shrine, the deception of the Japanese authorities in connection therewith, the compromise of Roman Catholics and some Protestants in their formal and unreal submission and the possible repercussions of such compromise in the universal church. This helpful survey is followed by one on "The Theology of Westminster" in which Robert Swanton, M.A., B.D., contends that what emanated from Westminster three centuries ago still lives and will form the foundation of any worthwhile attempt to build Jerusalem in "England's green and pleasant land." Seven helpful book reviews are also included.—W. Graham.

Obituary

Joseph Fraser

ON Wednesday, July 7, there passed to his reward, in his 86th year, Joseph Fraser, of Merewether in Newcastle, N.S.W. Our brother was brought to the Lord under the preaching of James Anderson and was baptised in Armadale, Scotland, at 18 years of age. The means of bringing his mother, his father and most of his family to Christ, our brother on arrival in Australia in 1886 immediately set up the Lord's table and pioneered the work in the Newcastle district at Merewether. The first convert was a Mrs. Burt, who went later to Western Australia with her family. From the church at Merewether other members have gone to other centres and have helped to maintain the ideals our brother loved. On the outbreak of war in 1914 Mr. Fraser visited England and engaged in munition work. He returned to Australia after several strenuous years in Sheffield, and again took up his occupation in the Newcastle mines. Throughout his long life Mr. Fraser continued a faithful worker, always intensely interested in everything related to the service of Christ. The writer, assisted by R. V. Amos, of Georgetown, conducted services in Merewether chapel and at Sandgate Cemetery on Friday, July 9. A brotherhood's sympathies are extended to Mrs. Fraser and Miss M. S. Fraser, and to the sons, Joseph Fraser (Mayfield), A. J. Fraser (Sydney) and E. B. Fraser (Melbourne).—R. M. Wilson.

W.A. Newsletter

(Continued from page 353.)

in church work. For several years he was chairman of our Y.P. Department, and as a school master successfully guided the Bible school and young people's work throughout the State. He was also for years the superintendent of Lake-st. Bible school. He was secretary of the Advisory Board until the last State conference. At the time of his passing he was a member of the H.M. Committee. He will be greatly missed and deeply mourned by the whole brotherhood.

Overseas Mission Offering

It is too early for final figures. Only 12 churches have thus far reported. But it will be news to say that to the present £350 has been reported. Lake-st. church gave £102. Subiaco also reports a good offering—£74. Last year's appeal realised £440. We shall probably exceed that amount this year. Last year, including the annual offering, the State raised £1100. This does not include a legacy of several hundreds. We are encouraged by the giving of all the churches.

Preachers

We learn with pleasure that two preachers are to come to Western Australia at the end of this year. It is now known that P. Thickens will come to North Perth and Arthur McRoberts will come to Maylands. Both of these men are now at Glen Iris Bible College.

H. E. R. Steele, who is preaching at Cottesloe, is now secretary of our B.S. and Y.P. Department and is doing excellent work.

Charles H. Hunt has been appointed president of the Band of Hope Union. Thos. Bamford has commenced his work at Harvey and has been well received. Lake-st. is anxiously waiting the arrival of its new preacher, J. K. Robinson, from New Zealand.

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The Vision Splendid

(Rev. 1: 9-13)

A YOUNG friend in the radio contest, "Junior Information," announced as her really memorable vision the sight of a shrieking, terrified child being immediately pacified by a kind doctor. What is the vision splendid? Is it a view of some snow-capped summit, a garden, a sunset, a starry sky, or the face of one's beloved? Surely it is a matter of the "eyes of the heart" perceiving some sublime reality, the dawning conviction of a grand and eternal truth.

Life's brilliant moments of vision are set in various circumstances; in the scene of natural beauty, in a place of solitude, in the midst of affliction or sorrow, maybe in the service of the sanctuary. Such moments come and go, but they afford opportunity to take our bearings and re-set the course. "The Vision Splendid" is assuredly the thrilled realisation that Christ Jesus is alive and ministering, our Prince and Saviour, with sovereign interest in the whole world.

The Hebrew epistle says, "We see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, crowned with glory and honor." . . . See also that "he ever liveth to make intercession." But one of the most striking testimonies of this order comes from a first century concentration camp and is recorded in the first chapter of Revelation.—G. J. Andrews.

THOUGHT

*The morality of a nation depends
upon the purity of its women.*

—London Encyclopaedia.

PREACHERS' PROVIDENT FUND

With which is incorporated the Aged and Infirm Evangelists' Trust.

Established by the Federal Conference of the Churches of Christ in Australia.

Members of Committee: T. E. Rofe (Chairman), H. E. Bell, J. Crawford, C. Graham, W. H. Hall, Dr. C. A. Verco, F. S. Steer (Hon. Secretary and Treasurer).

Representative in Victoria: W. Gale, T. & G. Building, 147 Collins St., Melbourne, C.I.

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

Representative in Western Australia: Roy Raymond, 260 Bagot Rd., Subiaco.

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

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

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