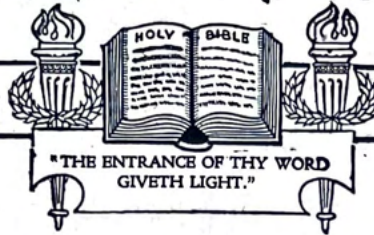


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Priesthood of Believers

THE New Testament reveals that, in the fellowship of the early church, all members were on the same level. The slave and the master, the man and the woman, the Greek and the Jew, knew no distinction within the Christian community. They recognised that, in the sight of God, they were equal when Christ claimed them as his own.

I.

SINCE each was a sinner and none could claim to be perfect, it was only by merit in the name of Jesus that a Christian could enjoy the eternal blessings of God. It would only be the sin of pride that could suggest to a man that he is better than another within the membership of the church. We find no grounds in the New Testament to justify the division of church membership into the ranks of laity and clergy. The scriptures show that all in Christ are priests before God. The Lord is the high priest, and he alone stands between man and God. By giving up the truth of the New Testament and by failing to rightly divide the word of truth, many went back to the teachings of the Old Testament and revived the priestly orders of temple worship. The chains from which Christ sought to set men free were fastened again upon those who sought freedom in the kingdom of God.

If there is one sin against which we must guard, it is the human love for power. To gain power and to keep it, men are ready to twist the truth of the scriptures. By false claims leaders within the early church gained dominating authority over the members of the church. False doctrines were allowed to take the place of the truth in the life of the church. Because of a departure from the spirit of the teachings of the Master, the church took upon itself the priestly orders of the Old Testament, and then lost the spiritual drive that comes from the righteous enthusiasm of common men in touch with God. Order and rigid formality took the place of the warm fervor of twice-born men. The purity of the church was

tarnished when it was forgotten that all in Christ are equal and all are priests before God. The full strength of the church will be realised only when all Christians not only see they are priests, but discharge the responsibilities that the priesthood of believers involves.

II.

PRIESTS of the Old Testament temple maintained a ministry before God.

All members within the church, since they are priests, also have a ministry to perform. It is the function of the whole church to minister, not the duty of a few. Now the church is like an organism; it is the body of Christ. As the feet, hands and head have varying functions to perform for the body, so different members of the church have separate duties to discharge on behalf of all the saints. While it is the church as a whole that has a ministry to discharge, it must be recognised that, to do things decently and in order, certain persons must be set aside to act on behalf of the whole body. God is not the author of confusion. When he expresses himself in nature, we find beauty and harmony blended in a perfect whole.

Apart from the temporary offices of the apostolic age in which members with special gifts served the church, there came into being, under the guidance of the apostles, a permanent form of church government through which the ministry of the church was given ordered expression. Evangelists, elders, deacons and deaconesses were appointed to undertake varying tasks. While the evangelists went from church to church, a board of elders, with deacons and, in some instances, deaconesses, guided the affairs of local churches. It seems that some elders devoted themselves to the special task of teaching the word, while others attended to pastoral needs. Those who carried out those special ministries, whether they served as elders, deacons or evangelists, were not considered members of a separate class. Many of them attended to the demands of commerce and industry from day to day, and at the same

time served on behalf of the church. It seems that the elders who gave themselves to the ministry of teaching and preaching were given financial support; and Paul urged Christians to make adequate provision for the needs of such brethren.

III.

IN addition to other duties, the officers of the church took charge of the communion service. Each Lord's day the Christians gathered to worship and to take part in a simple feast of remembrance. Justin Martyr, writing in the second century, recorded an account of the manner in which the service was conducted. He wrote: "There is (then) brought to the president of the brethren bread and a cup of wine mixed with water, and he taking them, gives praise and glory to the Father of the universe through the name of the Son and the Holy Ghost, and offers thanks at considerable length for our being counted worthy to receive these things at his hands. And when he has concluded the prayer and thanksgiving, all the people present express their assent by saying amen. And when the president has given thanks and all the people have expressed their assent, those who are called by us deacons give to each of those present to partake of the bread and the wine mixed with water over which the thanksgiving was pronounced."

Dr. A. Neander, a church historian of great repute, pointed out that the service was enriched by the singing of psalms and hymns, the reading of portions of scripture from Old and New Testaments, and by a short exposition by an elder with qualifications.

There is every reason to believe that the services of the early church were simple. When there were attempts to introduce disturbing innovations that destroyed the spiritual beauty of the service, Paul sent a letter in which he condemned such practices. He pleaded for dignity and order in the services of the church.

It is possible to recognise the priesthood of all believers and yet have church services conducted by appointed persons who will take the responsibility of making preparation for the task of leading the

(Continued on page 458.)

● *Thos. Hagger, of Gardiner, Vic., in a series of articles entitled "Restoration Texts," writes on George Hamilton Combs's text—John 18: 37.*



Bear Witness to Truth

IN the month of October, 1909, there gathered I at Pittsburgh, Penn., U.S.A., thousands of Disciples of Christ from all parts of the world to celebrate the centenary of the publication of the "Declaration and Address" by Thomas Campbell. The writer found himself one of quite a group from Australia. Can I recall the names of some of them? There were Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Rankine, from Adelaide; Mr. and Mrs. Ferdinand Pittman and son, from Melbourne; Mr. T. R. Morris, from Brighton, Victoria; Mr. E. Price, from Ballarat; Mr. and Mrs. Gould, originally from Bendigo and later of Subiaco, Western Australia; Mrs. Sylvester, from Western Australia; Messrs. G. B. Moysey and D. A. Ewers, and others whose names I do not, at the moment, recall. A number of Australians then resident in America were present at the convention, and they helped to swell our numbers at the Australian banquet at the Squirrel Hill Christian church arranged by Lawson Campbell, the preacher of the church, and formerly of Australia. There were also present at Pittsburgh such men as O. A. Carr, H. S. Earl and J. J. Haley, who were associated with our early history in Australia.

That Campbell Document*

It was fitting that the centenary of the publication of such a document should be celebrated. Fitting because of its declaration of the essential unity of the church, and its affirmation that "nothing ought to be inculcated upon Christians as articles of faith, nor required of them as terms of communion, but what is expressly taught and enjoined in the word of God." And fitting also because out of that document, and the Christian Association of Washington to which it was presented, has come one great wing of the movement in modern Christendom which seeks to restore the Christianity of the New Testament to the world of to-day, and pleads for the union of all Christians on that basis.

Pittsburgh was chosen as the place for the celebrations because of its close proximity to the place where Thomas Campbell began his great work of advocating Christian union on a definite basis. It is also close to Bethany, where the college founded by Alexander Campbell still carries on its work, and to Wellsburg, where there still meets what was probably the second church organised on the Campbell side of the Restoration Movement. To these scenes of historic interest many of us made pilgrimages before we left Pittsburgh.

The Opening Night

On the evening of Monday, October 11, the first meetings of the great convention were held. There were two parallel sessions, one of which was held in the beautiful Carnegie Institute, and was presided over by J. H. Garrison, then editor of "The Christian Evangelist," one of the great journals of our brotherhood in America. To that hall the writer and some other Australians wended their way. The hall was crowded.

One hour or more was spent in devotions, addresses of welcome and responses, and the opening remarks of the chairman, and then came the sermon. The preacher was George

Hamilton Combs, then the popular and successful preacher of the large Independence Boulevard church of Kansas City, Mo., where he had labored for many years. The sermon was eloquently delivered, and was inspiring. The text was:

"To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth" (John 18: 37).

And the theme announced for the sermon was, "What is the Mission of the Disciples of Christ, and How May They Get It Done?"

The Sermon

The sermon opened with these words: "And as Christ, the supreme personage, came into this world for a definite purpose, so comes all life." The preacher then went on to assert that the great movement seeking to restore primitive Christianity came into existence for a great purpose, a purpose "that constitutes at once the justification of our being and the inspiration of our labors."

That great purpose was the restoration of the unity of the church to the end that the world may be won to Christ.

A Threefold Mission

It is ours "to point out the shame and sin of disunity," then "to create a hunger for the unity of the people of God," and thirdly, "to point out a way for the realisation of this unity."

With a marvellous passion the preacher declared that "the disunion of Christendom is more than economic waste, it is more than social inefficiency, it is more than loss to brotherhood—it is black and damning sin. It has hindered the church in the past, it makes futile the present endeavor, it blocks the way of the to-morrows." Never have I heard the wrong of division so powerfully condemned.

The preacher went on to point out that the wrong of division is now being recognised and condemned by thoughtful men in all communions, and to ask the question: "If, in other churches, the condemnation of divisions among Christians is being heard, what is the special contribution now of Disciples of Christ?" His answer to that question was, "The restoration of that unity."

To restore the lost unity of the church calls for, so Mr. Combs said, "turning away from the ecclesiastical traditions of eighteen hundred years and the recovery of the simplicity of the early Christian faith." He urged that we do not propose to construct a platform on which a united church can stand, but rather to urge that the platform has been already built. But the platform has been covered up, and what men must do is to dig down beneath the dogma debris until it is found. "We construct nothing. We reform nothing. We propose only to restore."

The Programme in Detail

The preacher declared that we "ask all Christians to unite by wearing a name" at once catholic and scriptural—the name of a creed bearing also the marks of scripturalness and catholicity, a creed living, vital,

unchanging—the person of Christ. We ask all Christians to unite upon the observance of the ordinances of the church as they are revealed in scripture and in the catholic recognitions of the churches."

But very rightly Mr. Combs urged that to make this plea and programme effective we must remain united ourselves. He said, "Other communions may divide and subdivide and yet do no violence to their plea, but for the Disciples to divide were public condemnation and shame." How important it is for us who plead for unity to "keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace."

Are We Reaching Christendom?

To this great task and purpose we must dedicate ourselves. "If we were sent into the world to restore the unity of the church, we may not turn aside from that work even to holiest enterprises." That is the one imperial task to which we have been called. And so our mission is to Christendom.

The preacher suggested that the faces of our fathers in the faith were looking down upon us, and that being so we should reconsecrate ourselves to our proper mission. It would be good if we would do so, for as yet our plea is unfamiliar to the mass of the Christian world. But it should be made known. As one listened that night; and as one has carried on since, he has been forced to the conclusion that we have left practically untouched the great peoples of Europe, and have not succeeded even in Australia in making it evident that the union of Christians by a restoration of New Testament Christianity is our great plea and mission. Brethren, let us awaken! After the war there will be a tremendous need for a unifying mission such as ours, and we should now be laying plans for a big forward move in presenting the plea and programme for union. We must plan and attempt great things.

And so the great sermon drew to a close. As it did Mr. Combs declared that he believed in the communion of saints, and that the rugged pioneers of the plea were yet with us. And he proceeded to call the roll, and to each name he responded, "Here." He declared that their hands were on us in blessing, and that they would hearten us with their words. And "across the chasm centuries comes the word, 'Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the ages.' He is with us." And in eloquent terms he pictured that present Christ urging us to bid his people be one.

It was a great occasion. It was a great sermon. And the plea we urge is a great plea. And it is a necessary plea. This was the preacher who said that a people with such a plea as ours are either "a necessity or a nuisance," and that the plea is either "an inspiration or an insanity." Oh, that we could see it. And being convinced that our mission is an inspiration, and our plea a necessity, oh, that we would become enthusiastic about spreading it throughout our own land, and throughout the world.

Priesthood of Believers

(Continued from front page.)

services of the church in a fitting manner. A mutual ministry that does not take into account the need of training and preparation will not provide the form of service that Paul sought when he pleaded that all things be done decently and in order. We cannot claim that our services are after the New Testament pattern if they are conducted carelessly and without order. While recognising the principle of the priesthood of all believers, it is possible to make our services more effective and helpful, and to that end we ought to plan and work.

Planning for Centenary

The South Australian conference report by J. E. Brooke tells of good meetings and high aims for the future.

THE 69th annual conference of South Australian churches was held in Adelaide, from September 11 to 16.

Several interstate visitors were present. A. W. Stephenson, M.A., came as editor of the "Australian Christian," but was warmly welcomed for his own sake and as past president of the Victorian conference. Much interest was displayed in the visit to their home State of Mr. and Mrs. B. V. Coventry, missionaries-elect to India. Other distinguished visitors were A. A. Hughes, M.L.A., and L. H. Hollins, M.L.A., from Victoria.

A. Anderson, now recovered from the illness which heavily handicapped him during his year of office, presided in a very happy and inspiring manner. Much satisfaction was felt at his unanimous re-election as president; and he was wished a healthier year of leadership.

At the preachers' session A. W. Stephenson gave a stimulating address on some aspects of the Restoration Movement, and a very helpful discussion ensued.

The rest of Saturday was devoted to Christian Endeavor work. At the junior rally the State junior superintendent, Miss A. Jones, gave the address, and the speaker at the intermediate and young people's rally was J. E. Brooke.

On Sunday afternoon the Town Hall was crowded to hear A. W. Stephenson deliver the conference sermon, in which he discussed four essentials for Christians.

At the inception of the business sessions the president moved the resolution of loyalty to the throne, which was heartily confirmed by the singing of the National Anthem.

A. R. Pigdon, L. G. Johnson, D. G. Hammer and J. E. Webb were welcomed as new preachers, regret being expressed that sickness had prevented Mr. Pigdon from attending conference.

Port Lincoln church applied for affiliation, and was admitted and welcomed into the Union.

Several improvements were made in conference machinery. The aborigines and College of the Bible State committees were raised to the status of departments.

In order to provide him with a wider experience of its work, it was decided that the president-elect, as well as the president of conference, be a member of the Home Missionary Committee. It was also agreed to co-ordinate the Bible Schools and C.E. Committees in a Young People's Department.

Much attention was given to the Preachers' Provident Fund. All churches were urged to support the fund and also to assist their own preachers to join it.

In recognition of the great services to the brotherhood of Grote-st. church, the incoming executive was recommended in the administration of trust funds to give special consideration to the claims of that church, and if legally possible, to set aside an amount not exceeding £400 to assist in liquidating the church building debt.

Greetings were sent to all missionaries and to all members of churches in the Forces. Those who had passed to their reward in the last year were affectionately remembered. During conference, word was received of the passing of Mrs. H. H. Strutton in India, and of the death of Miss Ella Gore, daughter of T. J. Gore, pioneer preacher in Adelaide; it was agreed to send messages of sympathy to relatives.

Conference was helped by devotional addresses given by J. E. Webb and Les. G. Johnson.

Appreciation was expressed of the work of the Advisory Board; and churches and preachers were urged to observe their agreement to consult the board, and also to make all changes at a uniform period, in January of each year.

Much emphasis was given to Christian unity, and it was decided to appoint a Committee for the Promotion of Christian Unity.

Deputations received during conference were from the Student Christian Movement, United Social Reform Board, and the South Australian Alliance. Luncheon addresses were given by Messrs. E. E. Garrett (past president, Baptist Union); E. Taylor, chairman Congregational Union; J. R. Blanchard, Moderator of Presbyterian Assembly; and P. Eckersley, president of Methodist Conference.

It was reported that South Australia's foreign mission offering had been a record—£2167. Missionary enthusiasm was greatly stimulated by the messages of Mr. and Mrs. B. V. Coventry, and D. G. Hammer who has now settled into the work at Forestville.

A great spirit pervaded the foreign mission meeting on Monday evening. D. G. Pike was introduced as the incoming chairman, and presented his predecessor, H. P. Manning with a copy of the Bible. The chairman of the Federal Board, Dr. P. S. Messent, gave a gracious message to the outgoing missionaries, Mr. and Mrs. Coventry, who feelingly responded. The address was given by H. Masters, Baptist missionary from East Bengal, India, who emphasised India's need of Christ.

W. F. Nankivell, B.A., B.D., made a fine

contribution when he dealt with a big problem in young people's work, namely, the parent's relation to youth's welfare. The Bible schools demonstration on Tuesday night was a great success. The bright programme included items by combined kindergartens, music by the Glenelg young people's choir, and a dramatisation of "The Stained Glass Window," by the Maylands school. The distribution of prizes won in the annual scripture examination was a feature of the meeting.

Home mission work was reviewed in addresses by W. N. Bartlett, Gawler and Williamstown; M. T. Lawrie, Kadina and Wallaroo; W. Beiler, Fullarton; L. Johnson, Berri, Winkie, Moorook; J. E. Brooke, Broken Hill; A. C. Killmier, B.A., Naracoorte; B. W. Manning, Victor Harbour and Goolwa; N. G. Noble, Murray Bridge.

J. E. Shipway, recently appointed as field evangelist, gave an interesting report of the seven weeks spent at Whyalla.

The sisters of the churches, although laboring under greater difficulties than ever, prepared a fine conference tea on Wednesday evening.

A fine home mission meeting followed. W. L. Ewers spoke on the aim to raise £5000 as a Centenary Fund; and the idea was favorably received. A. W. Stephenson gave an address on the three communities: the church, the home, and the school.

The social service session on Wednesday afternoon was full of interest. S. H. Mayes, of the Congregational Church, gave an address on "The Post-War World." Several strong resolutions were passed, expressing opposition to forces undermining the sanctity of the Lord's day, to the selfish aims of the liquor trade, and the legalised betting shops. In the interests of good government, it was urged that men of high character be elected to parliament and men be placed before parties.

Hons. A. A. Hughes, M.L.A., and L. Hollins, M.L.A., from Victoria, were warmly welcomed,

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Proposed Centennial Plans

A MATTER of great importance was the report of a sub-committee appointed to prepare plans for the celebration of the centenary of the planting of the Restoration Movement in Australia, during the conference year 1945-1946. It is hoped that, during that year, a Federal Conference will be held in Adelaide. In the following an outline of the preliminary plans which received approval is given:—

(1) *Educational Programme.*—A suggestion to be made to the Federal executive that, with the consent and co-operation of the State executives, they should arrange for a teaching campaign throughout the Commonwealth during 1946, and that they should use the principals of the Federal College, Glen Iris, and the State College, N.S.W., in drawing up a suitable list of subjects. The executive further decided to conduct an educational campaign in this State during 1946.

(2) *Young People's Department.*—Youth programme to include teacher training, education on evangelism, social service, and attendance at church services.

(3) *Evangelism.*—As proposed by the Home Mission Department, a campaign to be organised to cover the whole of the centennial year, involving special evangelistic efforts in all churches in the State with tent and chapel missions, to culminate with a united central effort in the "Town Hall" or other suitable place.

(4) *Centenary Fund.*—One fund to be created to be disbursed by all departments and Sisters' Auxiliary Conference. The aim to be £5000, and the pro rata distribution to be determined after present conference. The appeal to be launched during conference if consent is given by delegates. The executive recommends that the money contributed to the fund shall remain under the control of the executive in a special Centenary Fund until such time as a distribution is made. Some discussion has also taken place on the question of using a portion of the Centenary Fund in assisting churches to reduce their debts on church properties.

(5) *Aged Members' Home.*—The aim of the Sisters' Conference and Social Service Department is to establish such a home, provided the financial side of the project for establishment and maintenance can be guaranteed.

(6) *Office Accommodation and Bookroom.*—An improvement on the present position to be aimed at.

Notes on Current Topics

Cleric's Foolish Talk

AN Anglican preacher (N.S.W.), it is reported, said in a recent sermon that modern marriage is "the meanest and most callous form of deception"; also that church and State are wrong in demanding that young people who marry will always love one another. "Free consent," he is alleged to have declared, "should be regarded as the sole indispensable condition, not only for the establishment of marriage, but also for its dissolution." It is only clerical status which seems to attach importance to such remarks. Anglican leaders will doubtless vigorously dissociate their church from such foolish and harmful utterances.

A Plea for Pacific Races

I could wish that the pamphlet "The Atlantic Charter and the Pacific Races," written by Mr. J. W. Burton, M.A., and published by the National Missionary Council of Australia, might be widely read and considered by those in authority in our land, and by all who have the welfare of the Pacific peoples at heart. The booklet contains a noble plea that we Australians "apply the Atlantic Charter with all its implication to our polity and practice in respect of the native races within our Commonwealth and its Territories." Mr. Burton says that the "exploitation of the Brown Man by the White Man has been, and still largely is, the bane of the Pacific, and we must see that, in the much-vaunted New Order, justice, generosity and opportunity are meted out to the races under our control." He pleads that we be not so engrossed in efforts to secure for ourselves and our children newer and happier conditions of life that we overlook the even more urgent needs

of native races. The Commonwealth Government is urged to see that, in its great schemes of reconstruction, the natives of the Pacific will not be forgotten. Christians are asked "to co-operate and to provide those moral and spiritual incentives without which the best conceived plans will fail."

30-Year Ban on Enemy Aliens

In the booklet mentioned, Mr. Burton says that "already there are signs that the first noble enthusiasms for a New Order have waned," reactionary tendencies having manifested themselves among those who fear lest their particular interests may suffer. Discerning readers will doubtless have noted some such tendencies. We are all in favor of security and freedom from want for others, but we may not be willing for any personal sacrifice in order that these may be obtained. There is not much hope for the uplift of the world, or for enduring peace, unless we are prepared to have higher thoughts than better times and greater possessions for ourselves.

It seems to me that one of the reactionary signs to be regretted is the passing by the N.S.W. State Congress of the Returned Soldiers' League a few days ago of a resolution declaring that no enemy alien should be allowed to buy or hold land in Australia until thirty years after the war. The nations of the world have to learn how to live in peace and amity after the present struggle is over. There must be a removal of conditions which breed war. The criticised resolution, if acted upon, would inevitably cause trouble.

A. R. Mann.

Our Young People

W. R. Hibburt

SMART ALECS

OCCASIONALLY you find a group of young upstarts in a community who think they are smarter than their elders. They take special delight in pooch-pooching the "moss-back preachers."

This is nothing to be especially alarmed about. There have been such youngsters in every generation under the sun.

Pres. Rutherford B. Hayes is said to have told this one on himself: One day he, with two other college Freshmen, took a walk. They saw, on the opposite side of the street, a Jewish rabbi with flowing beard. Hayes said to his college mates, "Let's have some fun with the old man." So they went across the street and gave him their salutations. The first said, "Hello, Father Abraham"; the second, "How do you do, Father Isaac?"; and the third completed the greeting, "How are you, Jacob?"

The Jewish rabbi said: "Young Freshmen—I suppose you are Freshmen—you are quite mistaken. I am neither Abraham, Isaac nor Jacob. I am Saul, the son of Kish, who has been sent out to locate his father's asses. And lo, I have found them."

Hayes is reported to have written after the encounter, "Ass that I am, I hope that I can learn something from my elders.—"Lookout."

VICTORIAN FORWARD THRUST.

In Bible School Work.

Total Gains—Ninth Week:

84 Teachers, 647 Scholars.

Aim—100 New Teachers; 1000 New Scholars.

NEW ZEALAND

BY the decision of the last Dominion Conference youth activities are known as Churches of Christ Department of Religious Education. In addition to unifying organisation congregations will realise the high objectives of all youth work and not view it as an effort to gather up "loose ends" about the church. For a number of years the Young People's Department published material at intervals to assist teachers and youth leaders. It has now been decided to publish a quarterly magazine to be known as "The Religious Education Quarterly." This is a distinct advance, and will bring good returns. It will not only exalt the ministry of teaching but contribute to the supply of qualified teachers. The first edition contains forty pages of well selected matter calculated to keep teachers growing and learning. Well done, New Zealand!

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

THE house system, based on that of the public schools, is being tried in our Western Australian Bible schools. The school is divided into three houses, evenly among the classes and sexes, both scholars and teachers allocated to houses. Each house will have a name, colors and motto. The houses compete against one another throughout the whole year, points being allotted for attendance, new scholars, Bible examinations, anniversary prizes, school sports. Each house may have a captain and prefects, and hold house meetings to increase interest and enthusiasm. All States will follow this venture with interest, and profit from the experience.

"Catholic Answer" Questioned

Our correspondent in W.A., R. Raymond, states the archbishop's reply to Roman Catholic propaganda and the need of correct observance of Sunday.

THE "Catholic Answer" sessions which are broadcast from a Perth wireless station every Lord's day evening, and of which I wrote in a previous letter, were criticised by the Anglican Archbishop of Perth in his inaugural address at the 25th Synod of the Diocese of Perth held this month. Many of these broadcasts have been an offence to almost all non-Romanists in the State. The Archbishop said that, to much of what had been said by the Romans, any Catholic—Roman, Greek or Anglican—would assent, but it was shocking when those who professed to be the divinely appointed guides and exponents of truth were guilty of begging the whole question at issue and founding an elaborate structure on foundations which were historically untrue. "Damage done to the cause of honesty is a serious matter," he said. He expressed his regret that cheap argumentation on such matters as that of cremation, for instance, should be meted out as the voice of Christianity at this critical time.

The Archbishop also deplored what he termed "an attack by the devil on Sundays," an attack which had been going on for many years in the name of health and recreation, and which had been intensified in all sorts of directions. "We had hoped," he said, "that the sense of obligation and duty would revive under the discipline of war, but only very rarely has this been the case, and Sunday has increasingly been used for some time for civil defence parades and other demonstrations which could on the whole quite easily have been foregone or fixed for some other days. The most extreme want of thought in this matter occurred twice in the course of the last twelve months, when people were warned that there would be an alert for the rehearsal of an air attack on Sunday which could quite easily have been on a Saturday instead. That was very shortsighted if you take the long view. For if the corporate practice of religion is not accepted by the community, it is of very small importance, and the simplest form of discipline for a family or a Christian community is the voluntary discipline of worship on the Lord's day." I have quoted the Archbishop at length because his protest reveals things as they are, and his utterance is but the expression of many minds.

Day of Prayer

As requested by the king, and doubtless in the same spirit and much the same way as in other States, the fourth anniversary of the outbreak of war was observed by what was called "A national day of prayer and dedication." Comprehensive arrangements were made by the churches, military leaders and business people. Thousands of troops marched the streets with fixed bayonets, and in full battle order. Whilst there was much pageantry and many parades impressing the people, there were quiet and thoughtful crowds in many churches seeking the help of the Highest. It was a day long to be remembered by many thousands in Western Australia.

Brotherhood Centre

The committee entrusted with the responsibility of securing the land for our proposed brotherhood centre have paid down about two-thirds of the purchase price of the land. They have less than six months to raise the necessary balance of £600. There seems little doubt that this amount will be forthcoming.

Here and There

Fiftieth anniversary services of Prospect, S.A., on Sept. 19, were successful. Full report to appear next week.

A telegram received from Adelaide on Sept. 27 reads:—"Grote-st. Sunday night inspiring meeting; Macnaughtan impressive; two hundred present; four confessions.—Harris."

Ian Brooke, son of Chaplain-General and Mrs. Allen Brooke, has qualified, in the recent Melbourne University examinations, to become an Associate in Music, Australia.

The following telegram from Canterbury-Earlwood, N.S.W., reached us on Sept. 27:—"Building hopelessly crowded out Sunday Hinrichsen farewell services; four decisions.—Casperson."

C.E. Committee of Victorian Conference held a missionary rally in Lygon-st. chapel on Sept. 25. D. C. Ritchie presided. J. E. Thomas represented overseas missionary committee, and J. K. Bond missionary students of the College of the Bible. Miss W. Lee was soloist. Dr. C. I. McLaren gave the address.

On Sept. 20, at an open forum under auspices of Hobart Church of England Men's Society, a discussion on "Lush and Liquor" was opened by J. Park. Archdeacon W. R. Barrett presided. The view was expressed that a return to 6 o'clock closing would do much to minimise drinking by minors of both sexes. Attention was directed to increase in Sunday trading.

Under auspices of World Council of Churches (Regional Committee for Victoria), a public meeting will be held in Town Hall, Melbourne, on Monday evening, Oct. 4, to welcome Dr. R. Wilson Macaulay, Moderator-General of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, who, with Bishop J. S. Moyes, of Armidale, N.S.W., represented Australia at the recent international conference held at Princeton, U.S.A., on post-war problems.

From Week to Week

WHAT sort of a world will we find emerging after the war? Have you given that subject very much thought? It does matter what you and I think, and desire; for the total mass of individuals will direct the policies of the government. The government will only reflect what you and I and the rest of the citizens anxiously desire. As Christians we should be seeking to establish a world order in which war and the causes of war cannot have a place.

In spite of what the critics say, and perhaps desire, the church is not dead nor ineffective. Recently, by setting aside differences, church representatives were able to come together in a world conference and determine the policy that ought to be followed to provide conditions likely to bring justice and peace into the world.

One representative of Australian churches to the "Round Table" conference held at Princeton, U.S.A., July 8, has returned, and has presented his report to the Victorian Regional Committee of World Council of Churches. In the press, Dr. R. Wilson Macaulay has given some account of his visit to America. The other delegate, Bishop J. S. Moyes, is not expected in Australia for a month. It is hoped that the public will be given an opportunity to hear reports from both these men at public meetings to be arranged as soon as it is convenient.

THERE were many difficulties to overcome before the representatives could get to their destination. It was not possible to get a

passage on a ship that would reach America in time for the men to arrive at Princeton on the date appointed for the conference to begin. Arrangements were made to interview General MacArthur. Realising the importance of such an international church conference, the general made available two berths on a plane destined for U.S.A. Because of air-travel conditions, Bishop Moyes caught a chill that affected an ear. Despite severe pain and a temperature, he carried through his duties at the conference. Later he was compelled to go to hospital for treatment. It is reported that he is now fully recovered.

Dr. Macaulay brought back several letters of goodwill from religious bodies in America, among them being one from the President of Disciples of Christ.

Christians should be alert to note what is happening in the world to-day. Since the war began over 50 millions of Chinese have been taught to read. In Russia over 20 millions have gained that knowledge, and 20 new languages in that empire have been reduced to writing. In India a huge society exists whose members are pledged to teach at least one person to read each year. The door of illiteracy, so long a barrier to the gospel, has been blown off its hinges. The church must be ready for the advance that peace will bring. Workers must be prepared. In our homeland of Australia the brotherhood has already, or will have this year, lost 11 workers. The Federal college will graduate five men in November. The situation is disturbing and challenging. The church cannot be at ease in the face of what is involved. The college offering affords an opportunity to vote for advance.

Few events have created so much interest as the gathering at Enmore Tabernacle on Wednesday, Sept. 8, when veteran members of churches of Christ were honored. There are in Sydney about 250 who have been in the church for forty years or more. In the country there are others. From Wakefield (near Inverell) a greeting was sent by Mrs. Warner. In a few months' time she will have been in the church for 60 years. Mrs. Lewis has been a member for 68 years; Sister Partridge, of Rockdale, 70 years; Mrs. Matthews and Mrs. Butler, each 64 years; Miss Minister, 62 years; Mrs. Gordon, who is 90 years of age, was the oldest person present. A large congregation heard Mr. Main's lecture on "Fifty Years in the Churches of Christ." B. G. Corlett presided. E. C. Hinrichsen introduced Mr. Main. J. Clydesdale and P. J. Pond, veteran preachers, led in prayer. Regret was expressed at the absence of H. G. Harward, to whom a greeting was sent.

Dr. Macaulay brought back several letters of goodwill from religious bodies in America, among them being one from the President of Disciples of Christ.

THE "Round Table" conference discussed the causes of war, and agreed that peace could only be maintained if people could learn that selfishness does not pay. Peace requires that individual men and nations put restraints on selfishness. There must grow up an appreciation of the value of other men. Others must be respected. The Chinese must not be referred to as "chows." Such expressions hurt. Any attitude toward others that allows such slighting names to continue may be the cause of misunderstanding and war.

To restrict national selfishness, it is suggested that some world authority be empowered to enforce justice by an international force. The need of restricting tariff walls is also

acknowledged. It is necessary for all to be seized with a sense of justice so that those who may be enemies now will be given the opportunity of carrying on sufficient trade to ensure a just standard of living.

Only as we are ready to carry the sacrifices of war over into the post-war world shall we be able to win the peace.

South Australian Conference

(Continued from page 459.)

and spoke on the need to apply Christian principles to social life. Owing to the disturbed nature of Victorian politics, they were unable to wait for the social service citizens' meeting on Thursday night. However, the Hon. R. S. Richards, leader of the Opposition in South Australia, was secured as speaker, and with D. C. Duguid helped to make the closing meeting of conference successful.

Officers.—Past-president, E. Ross Manning; president, Albert Anderson; president-elect, W. Green; secretary, H. R. Taylor; assistant-secretary, C. L. Johnston; treasurer, F. P. Langlois.

Executive.—F. K. Glover, A. G. Hinde, E. C. Mauger, J. Rootes.

Auditors.—T. P. Richardson, A. V. Hollands.

Sealholder.—C. M. Verco.

H.M. Committee.—T. Edwards, M. Jacobs, W. S. Harris, W. L. Ewers, A. W. Tompsett, J. E. Webb, T. Butler, A. H. Lovell, A. McGlasson, E. Ross Manning, W. J. Marshman, C. Schwab, J. T. Train, C. M. Verco.

F.M. Committee.—A. Anderson, W. Green, F. A. Halleday, W. J. Rudd, A. J. Brooker, T. P. Richardson, D. G. Hammer, A. J. Ingham, E. V. Lawton, H. P. Manning, S. E. Matthews; D. H. Pike.

Young People's Committee.—W. Beiler, W. F. Nankivell, K. A. Jones, H. W. Hannam, C. L. Johnston, Miss D. Wood (representing Bible school), F. Hollams, A. E. Hurren, K. Dixon, H. E. Paddick, Miss Thora Smith, Miss Olive White (Christian Endeavor).

Social Service Committee.—G. T. Fitzgerald, W. S. Harris, A. H. Wilson, A. O. S. Baker, Mrs. W. F. Nankivell, F. G. Banks, F. A. Halleday, A. E. Mauger, H. E. Paddick, Alan F. Wilson.

Building Extension Committee.—J. W. Cosh, A. W. Tompsett, H. J. Horsell, F. P. Langlois, O. V. Mann, C. M. Verco.

Training Committee.—H. P. Manning, H. R. Taylor, C. L. Johnston, Keith A. Jones, C. Schwab, W. C. Brooker.

Aborigines' State Committee.—E. H. Kentish, H. L. Davie, D. G. Hammer, A. E. Hurren, R. H. Burns, Mrs. Nankivell, Mrs. Green.

College of the Bible State Committee.—F. Hollams, S. Price Weir, A. O. S. Baker, W. B. Wharton, J. E. Brooke.

Preacher Placement and Advisory Board.—F. Collins, A. Anderson, A. McGlasson, E. Ross Manning, K. A. Jones, C. M. Verco, W. C. Brooker, A. Cousins.

S.A. Alliance.—J. T. Train, H. E. Paddick. Morialta Protestant Children's Homes.—Mrs. H. Bartlett, T. M. Glover, F. A. Halleday.

Aborigines' Friends Council.—A. E. Hurren, Mrs. Nankivell, Mrs. Stacey.

Council of Churches.—F. A. Halleday, Mrs. Nankivell, Miss H. Grant.

ADDRESS

F. B. Stow (preacher West Moreton circuit, Qld.)—The Manse, Matthew-st., Rosewood. Phone 51.

News of the Churches

Western Australia

Fremantle.—On Sept. 14 the church was called upon to part with Edward Gracie, esteemed deacon and treasurer for many years. A testimony to his Christian character was voiced at the graveside in Fremantle Cemetery on Sept. 15 by R. Raymond, who assisted C. H. Hunt. Sympathy of the church is extended to Mrs. Gracie and the family. Mrs. A. Cooper, after sickness at home and in hospital, is recovering. Dorcas Society has held annual H.M. and F.M. afternoons in conjunction with Palmyra sisters; £10/6/6 was raised towards aim of £16 for these objectives. Visiting speakers, while C. H. Hunt as conference president is visiting churches, have been W. H. Nightingale, J. W. Gordon and H. Vawser.



INCREASES IN OFFERINGS

LARGE CONTRIBUTION TOWARD BROTHERHOOD CENTRE

PERTH.—53rd anniversary celebrations were continued on Sept. 15. Reports were read by A. M. Bell (secretary), and A. B. Povey (treasurer). The need was stressed for social contact with members in their homes, and for greater activity in work among young people. There had been big increases in offerings over those received last year for Lake-st. church, home and overseas missions. The church had contributed £113/10/- towards its promise of £200 for brotherhood centre. Mrs. Robinson rendered a solo. Competitions and the serving of refreshments helped to make a pleasant evening. On morning of Sept. 19 W. N. White gave a helpful talk. At 7.30 p.m. a trio was rendered by A. B. Povey, E. R. Berry and Frank Ewers, and Mr. Robinson preached.

Harvey.—On Aug. 22 Mr. Bamford organised anniversary services. Greetings were received from several past members. At evening service G. Sharp and A. Johnston rendered a duet, Mrs. Stanford a solo. A social was held on Aug. 24. Sister Fryer presented pioneer sister, Mrs. Sharp, with a bouquet in appreciation of her faithful witness for Christ; Mrs. Ottrey gave a talk on the early days of the church, and supper was served. On Aug. 29 visitors included Cpl. Jim Holiday, who presided. Mr. and Mrs. Bamford, and many other members, have been sick. Sister C. Stanford has returned home from hospital. Mr. Bamford has begun series of talks on the second coming and answering questions. Mr. Livingstone is training children for anniversary. Guild sisters have sent a parcel to Norseman Mission. On Sept. 14 the sisters held a social. Mr. Bamford showed slides on Italy, and goods sold realised £5/10/-.

Queensland

Monkland.—Two young people, recently baptised, were welcomed into the church on Sept. 5. The communion service on Sept. 12 was conducted by A. Kingston, and on Sept. 14 Mrs. W. Runge took charge of J.C.E.

Gympie.—On Sept. 12, during A. J. Fisher's absence at Rockhampton, E. Trudgian exhorted and J. Kernick preached, there being one confession. Officers of the church entertained C.E. at a social evening. A conference of Sunday school workers of the city was held in Surface Hill Methodist Church on Sept. 18. Aged Miss Grenfell passed away on Sept. 11 and was laid to rest on Sept. 13, E. Trudgian conducting the service at Gympie cemetery.

Hawthorne.—Anniversary of Sunday school was combined with a pleasant Sunday after-

noon on Sept. 19. Prizes were presented to scholars by superintendent Hugh Nichols, under whose leadership the school is making marked progress. Visitors from Ann-st. and from Albion contributed appreciated musical items. C. J. Williams, preacher of Northern Suburbs Circuit, gave an interesting address on "Fellowship." Fellowship tea was greatly enjoyed. A happy day closed with a splendid gospel service, Mr. Rothery preaching.

Roma.—A service was held on evening of Sept. 3 in response to king's call for prayer. Ladies' Guild held an evening at the manse on 15th, proceeds for Christmas cheer for missionaries. Mr. Wylie visited Dalby and Wombo Creek during week-end of Sept. 19 to conduct C.E. and Bible school anniversaries. During his absence L. R. Pitman and A. S. Cooke conducted local services, gospel service being broadcast. Sister Lyndall Pitman has left Roma, being called up for W.A.A.A.F. Church auxiliaries are practising for church, C.E. and Bible school anniversaries.

Toowoomba.—There were increased congregations at thanksgiving services on Sept. 12. Theo. Hallop has been released from the Army to study for the ministry in N.S.W. Bible College. Mrs. Hallop was received into fellowship on Sept. 12, and Ron Mutzelburg on Sept. 19. A "fellowship hour," culminating with gospel service, has been inaugurated by Bible school staff. Central school reports six new scholars and Harlaxton 12 restorations. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. Stan Winter in the death of her mother, and to Mr. Martin, whose brother recently died overseas.

South Australia

Forestville.—A lad from the Bible school confessed Christ on Sept. 19. On the same day Mrs. F. J. Rogers, from Kadina, was received into fellowship by letter of transfer.

Croydon.—Church anniversary services have given added spirit to all departments. Bible school recently entertained Preachers' Fraternal at dinner. Mr. Banks successfully leads the church in its extensive ministry. Messrs. Brand, Wilson, Hinde, Matthews and Ross Graham have assisted.

Pt. Pirie.—Church anniversary services were held on Aug. 22. Special items were given by fellowship choir; Mr. Pigdon was speaker. A Sunday school tea was held at close of increase campaign. N. Lungberg, Adj. Hewatt (R.A.A.F.), and Mr. Odgen have been amongst speakers in Mr. Pigdon's absence. He has been in hospital. Mr. Mitchell was preacher at an evening service.

Adelaide (Grote-st.).—The mission commenced on Sept. 19, K. A. Macnaughtan speaking morning and evening to good congregations. Meetings during the week were well attended. A young woman and a young man took their stand for Christ. Inspiring messages have been given. Suburban church choirs have assisted with singing, while delegations from sister churches are helping.

Owen.—Sgt. Navigator Raymond Lacey lost his life in an aircraft accident in Middle East. Sympathy is extended to his loved ones. Church anniversary services were held on Sept. 19. Wilkie Thomson spoke to splendid congregations. Special singing was rendered by combined choir under baton of W. J. Marshman. The churches of Long Plain, Avon and Owen circuit are happy under the ministry of Mr. Thomson.

Mile End.—The commencement of the ministry of J. E. Webb proved an inspiring day, when 140 communed, and there was a splendid gathering in evening. Mr. and Mrs. Webb were introduced at both services. At basket social on Wednesday, representatives of conference

and local fraternals extended a welcome to Mr. Webb. The church thanks brethren who helped in the interim until the coming of Mr. Webb, and for the service of brethren in preparing the manse for the preacher and his family. Services last Sunday were well attended, and forceful messages were well received.

Unley.—On Sept. 19 Mr. Nankivell spoke at both services. In morning he paid a tribute to the life of Miss Ella Gore, who passed away during the week after a long illness. She had been a faithful member at Park-st. for many years, and sympathy was extended to Mrs. T. J. Gore and her daughters in their loss. Committee members are busy visiting their groups before the mission begins. Lindsay Bowes is much better. Dr. Trevor Turner is in Adelaide receiving medical treatment. Novel afternoon at Sunday school included drawing of map of Palestine, crossword puzzle based on the story of the widow's mite, and a quiz session on Biblical information. This proved enjoyable and of considerable value.

Tasmania

Hobart (Collins-st.).—C. P. Hughes continues to address good meetings both morning and evening. His services are sought by local bodies. On Sept. 12, World Temperance Sunday, he conducted morning service in Scots Presbyterian Church, L. Dyason speaking here. In evening a temperance service was held, the lesson being read by District Secretary of Rehobite Lodge, J. B. Stevens. Rehobites attended in regalia. The address was delivered by Mr. Hughes, who acts as secretary of Hobart Temperance Alliance. The president (Josiah Park) spoke at Swan-st. Methodist church in morning and Hill-st. church of Christ in evening. Mrs. Vee Couche (vice-president) conducted evening service at Davey-st. Methodist church. Mr. Hughes has delivered addresses on India to junior and senior mission bands and conducted a service for patients at Consumptive Sanatorium. Midweek devotional meetings are growing.

Victoria

Colac.—After four months' ministry A. Graham, of the college, has concluded his week-end visits. He rendered great service, and made many friends.

Brighton.—There have been good messages from Mr. Nance-Kivell, and improving attendances. One confession was received on Sept. 19. Renovations are being made to school room.

Ormond.—Bible school anniversary concluded on Sept. 26. Singing of children's choir was a special feature. The messages of S. Neighbour and W. H. Clay were appreciated. A number of visitors were welcomed.



SUCCESSFUL BIRTHDAY RALLY

GATHERING OF 120 LADIES: OFFERING FOR MISSIONS

MORELAND.—On Sept. 8 Women's Mission Band held a successful birthday gathering; 120 ladies were present, and an offering of £5 was received for missionaries' Christmas cheer. £5 has also been raised for Federal Aborigines living link. On Sept. 10 the Junior Crusaders conducted a very successful father and son banquet. During the month special evening services have been held, and attendances have improved. Russell Baker was special speaker for Bible Sunday on Sept. 19. A young lady confessed Christ at conclusion of service on Sept. 12.

Preston.—Chaplain C. J. Robinson gave an appreciated message on morning of Sept. 26. Mr. Combridge spoke at night. Two solos by Miss Hazel Macdonald were enjoyed. A missionary service was conducted by Bible school in afternoon.

North Williamstown.—Mr. Bensley concluded his brief ministry on Sept. 26. His work has been much appreciated. At close of gospel service a married woman decided for Christ.

Dandenong.—W. R. Marshall continues to deliver helpful addresses. On Sept. 19 meetings were well attended. Sunday school attendances are maintained. On Sept. 18 a working bee prepared the ground for the mission tent.

IMPRESSIVE SERVICE

TEN RECEIVED BY FAITH AND BAPTISM

PENTLEIGH.—An impressive service was held Sept. 19, when Mr. Goldsworthy welcomed into fellowship ten scholars, recently baptised. Mr. Keneley gave an appreciated address at gospel service. Several members who have been ill are back. Mrs. Thomason is still sick. At half-yearly business meeting on Sept. 23, reports showed the work of auxiliaries to be promising. Mrs. Goldsworthy was welcomed by the chairman, Mr. Ratten. At morning meeting on Sept. 26, a splendid address was delivered by T. R. Morris, and at gospel service Mr. Goldsworthy's message was enjoyed. Record total of 104 has been reached for Sunday school attendance.

Doncaster East.—Mr. Allison, of the college, continues to give helpful messages. At a working bee on Sept. 18, members of Eastern Suburban Officers' Union helped by painting the building. Bible school and kindergarten have been re-opened and progress favorably.

Footscray.—Ladies' Aid arranged a picture night on Sept. 24 in S.S. hall. A. G. McDonald, of the College of the Bible, addressed the church and assisted in evening service on Sept. 26. Intermediate C.E., of the Northcote church, conducted Endeavor meeting on Sept. 24.

Ascot Vale.—At church business meeting, all officers were re-elected. Mr. Burns stated that he would be unable to continue with the church, as he resided near to North Essendon. All are sorry to lose such a good worker. Mr. Stephens (Ascot Vale Presbyterian) exhorted on Sept. 26, and Mr. Smith preached at night.

Port Fairy.—At morning service on Sept. 19, Mr. Methven baptised and welcomed into fellowship a young lady. Mrs. C. Dunlop rendered a solo. There was a good attendance of members, and Mr. Methven gave his farewell address. All are sorry to lose Mr. and Mrs. Methven, but look forward to fellowship with their successors.

Melbourne (Swanston-st.).—Successful meetings were held on Sept. 26 for close of three months' ministry of J. E. Thomas. On evening of Sept. 23, at a church dinner, Mr. Thomas was presented with two volumes as a token of appreciation. Chaplain-General Allen Bröoke will commence a few months' ministry with the church on Oct. 10.

South Yarra.—On Sept. 19 C. Cole was at Shepparton, and visiting speakers were A. Thompson, of Gardiner, in morning, and Alex. Wilson at night. T. Cuddy was soloist. On Sept. 26 C. Cole spoke morning and evening. At men's fellowship tea, Chaplain Young spoke. Visitors included Mr. Strudwick, R.A.A.F., from Henley Beach, S.A. Sunday school has increased 100 per cent. in last twelve months.

Newmarket.—On Sept. 18 Miss C. Mitchell was married, Mr. Clipstone officiating. On Sept. 19 Mr. Graham addressed both services. Mission Band held tenth anniversary on Sept. 21, Mrs. Waterman being speaker. A young people's hike was held at Belgrave on Sept. 25, 29 taking part. Sympathy is extended to relatives of Sister Jessie Hatty, who passed away on Sept. 23. On Sept. 26 Mr. Graham addressed both services.

Maryborough.—The church has enjoyed fellowship with members from the city. At gos-

pel service on Sept. 19, an Allied serviceman and a young man made their decision. Recent weddings include Pte. Clarrie Davies and Miss Jessie Sewell, and Miss Vi. Jones and Mr. Jack Wheeler. Bible school reports 20 increase in the campaign. Mission Band raised £2/12/- for Norseman mission. Several members have been in hospital. Work progresses with interest in all departments.

Malvern-Caulfield.—Children's anniversary was held on Sept. 26, with splendid meetings all day. W. Clay addressed the church. In afternoon D. Ritchie (Footscray) gave an excellent address, and Gordon Lees, general superintendent of Sunday school, presided. In evening A. Staley, superintendent of intermediate Sunday school, presided, and F. E. Buckingham preached. Claud Gadge conducted the singing, and had the help of a fine orchestra. Prizes were presented to cradle roll babies.

Wedderburn.—The church regrets that Mr. Barton cannot continue at week-ends on account of restricted train travel, and until trains are restored W. Twiddy will take morning services, R. Twiddy the Bible school, and B. Jackel the gospel meeting. At close of Mr. Barton's address on Sept. 12, Lois Jackel made the good confession, and with Mrs. Gregson, who made her confession during the mission, was immersed at close of service. At Bible school examination four scholars entered and four passed.

Horsham.—Interest is well maintained. Bible school average attendance approximates 100. At annual gift day on Sept. 24, £230 was given and debt was liquidated. Increase of £20 on previous year was shown. On Sept. 26 anniversary and thanksgiving services were celebrated, when 135 broke bread. C. W. Jackel gave appropriate addresses. At night a young man made his decision. Sympathy has been extended to Mrs. T. J. Stokes and family in the death of Mr. T. J. Stokes on Sept. 20. C. W. Jackel conducted services at chapel and graveside.

Doncaster.—On evening of Sept. 13 fifty members of Box Hill combined churches youth group hiked to Doncaster chapel, where they were met by Mr. Banks and members of C.E., who had prepared supper. At annual business meeting of church on Sept. 23, reports showed work going along nicely. Mr. Banks, with superintendents and officers of auxiliaries, was commended for the year's work. Saturday afternoon and evening about 150 young people from nine suburban churches met under auspices of Youth Department. After tea a bonfire was lighted, around which all gathered and led by F. Elliot sang choruses. Mr. Hibbert gave an appropriate message.

Hampton.—S.S. anniversary was continued on Sept. 26. Singing under J. Machin was again enjoyed at afternoon and evening services. A. W. Stephenson gave the talk in afternoon, and at night C. G. Taylor spoke, and two boys from the school confessed Christ. A farewell service to Mr. Taylor closed the day. D. Allen conducted, and presented a bookcase on behalf of the church. Other presentations had been made by auxiliaries. Mr. Ferris expressed appreciation of local preachers' fraternal, of which Mr. Taylor had been secretary. A. B. McDiarmid has accepted a call to minister to the church. Till he can come from N.Z., W. J. Evans, of the college, will assist as part-time preacher.

Surrey Hills.—There have been good meetings and helpful addresses by G. J. Andrews, whose special efforts amongst young people are appreciated. Lenice Peers, a senior S.S. scholar, made the good confession recently, and was baptised on Sept. 19. Twenty-four of the young people took part in hike and camp fire service for C.C.Y.F. (eastern suburbs) at Doncaster on Sept. 25. Young Worshipers' League attendances and interest at morning worship continue to improve. Welcome was expressed on morning of Sept. 26 to Warrant Officer

Robert Langford, returned after much active service overseas during past four years. He was a valued S.S. teacher and active church member.

Essendon.—Meetings have been well attended under leadership of W. E. Jackel. Sister McGregor, superintendent of kindergarten, has been welcomed back after severe illness. At gospel service on Sept. 19 Mr. Forbes sang a solo. He is going to meet with the church regularly and is forming a choir. A successful concert and variety fair on Sept. 18, arranged by the young people's auxiliaries, resulted in over £18 towards church building fund. Meetings on Sept. 26 were well attended, W. E. Jackel being speaker. The men's monthly tea and study circle took place under Mr. Jackel's guidance. A Bible quiz by Bible school proved successful. Ray Honey presented two Bibles to winners (Charl Hirschfeld and Norma Young).

New South Wales

Paddington.—There was a good attendance at morning service on Sept. 19, when T. Spencer was speaker. In absence of Mr. Greenhalgh on holiday, the gospel service was conducted by Mr. Gowans, who gave a stirring message.

Canterbury-Earlwood.—Anniversary services were held on Sept. 11 and 12. Gospel meeting was packed, and three made the confession when E. C. Hinrichsen spoke. A. W. Ladbrook exhorted in the morning. On the Saturday a banquet was held. G. Burns delivered a splendid address, and musical items and speeches were also enjoyed.

Wollongong.—Mr. Thomas, conference president, visited on Sept. 19. C.E. anniversary services were held the same week-end. Happy Hour and mission services, postponed because of the illness of F. Hunting, are now being conducted. R. Amos, kindly released by the church at Georgetown, is conducting the meetings. 150 children were present on third day of their "Happy Hour."

Bexley North.—On Sept. 12 T. V. Weir spoke at both services, completing a series of addresses to the church. J. Saville spoke to the church on Sept. 19. A. Toyer preached at gospel service, and Miss H. Toyer was soloist. Mr. Weir, who is on holidays, has tendered his resignation as preacher, to take effect from December. Sid Creek (former school superintendent) has been reported from Japan as among prisoners of war.

PREACHER'S RESIDENCE

CHURCH PURCHASES MANSE: RALLIES INAUGURATED

HURSTVILLE.—The ministry of A. W. Ladbrook is appreciated. There has been much sickness among members. The church recently decided to purchase a residence for the preacher, and he will move into his new home, 3 Salisbury-st., Hurstville, in two or three weeks' time. At suggestion of officers of Hurstville church, churches on Illawarra line have agreed to hold bi-monthly spiritual rallies. The first was held on Sept. 15 at Beverly Hills, the following churches being represented—Beverly Hills, Bexley North, Penshurst, Rockdale, Mortdale and Hurstville. Mr. Ladbrook was speaker, and the meeting was very successful.

Belmore.—After morning service on Sept. 12, Mrs. Corlett handed the church secretary a cheque for £40 for new building fund from Ladies' Aid and Mission Band. Miss Gladys Gittens, a member of Bible school and Endeavor, was baptised on Sept. 12, and received into fellowship on 19th. Bible school has gained 24 new scholars since July 1. Ladies' Aid and Mission Band held annual meeting on Sept. 21, 160 ladies being present. The ladies

do a great service for the church, and enjoy wonderful fellowship.

Taree.—The church appreciated the help of D. G. Meyers, of Newcastle, who spoke at all services on Aug. 29. W. T. Cross (Methodist minister) conducted afternoon service on Sept. 5. C. G. Love, previously in membership here, was welcomed on Sept. 12 to Taree and Wingham. In the morning he gave a cheering message. In afternoon Adjt. R. Myers was speaker. Coming again from Newcastle, D. G. Meyers gave heartening messages on Sept. 19. A. G. Saunders has shown decided improvement during past few weeks, and has taken a small part in worship services.

Bankstown.—The work is maintained faithfully. Fellowship with Pte. Marj. Crossman, on leave, was enjoyed on Sept. 18 and 19. Miss Elsie Hameister is laid aside in Canterbury Hospital. Mr. Budgen and Betty Underwood have also been absent from services through illness. Y.P.C.E. celebrated eighth anniversary

The Family Altar

TOPIC.—"BE OF GOOD CHEER"

- Oct. 4—Matt. 9: 1-8.
 " 5—Matt. 14: 22-33.
 " 6—John 16: 25-33.
 " 7—Phil. 3: 1-16.
 " 8—Phil. 4: 1-7.
 " 9—Acts 22: 22-30.
 " 10—Psalm 61; Acts 23: 1-11.

THESE four encouraging words, spoken by our Lord during his earthly ministry, first to a penitent sinner, second to storm-tossed souls, and last to discouraged disciples (three good cheers), are now repeated to Paul in the castle, with the assurance that as he had testified of him at Jerusalem he would also bear witness at Rome. So that Paul's objective was not allowed to be thwarted. Which reminds us that though the devil and his emissaries do their utmost to silence the tongues of preachers and overthrow the cause of Christianity, they are doomed to defeat, for no power on earth or in hell can successfully fight against Omnipotence. Beyond the darkest storm cloud shines the "Sun of Righteousness." Behind all the vicissitudes of Christian experience stands Jesus, calm and majestic, saying, "Be of good cheer."

sary on Sept. 18. E. C. Hinrichsen gave an inspiring message, and the young people made a fine presentation of "Life Pictures from the Book of Books." They presented a cheque for £56, the result of talent effort to reduce building debt. This was presented to Mr. Hinrichsen, who represented the Home Mission Committee. The young people enjoyed fellowship at tea on Sunday.

Lismore.—The 59th anniversary of the church was celebrated happily on Sept. 18 and 19. A tea meeting on Saturday was well attended. All ministers from other communions in the town brought greetings, and greetings were read from members serving in the fighting forces and others away on war work. Good meetings were held on the Sunday and special singing was a feature of evening service. Endeavorers have held two successful evenings at homes of Mrs. Oakes and Mrs. Wotherspoon. All scholars from Bible school who sat for examination were successful. Mrs. Stock has returned home after being in hospital. Miss Dorothy Buttes is confined to her home through illness. Helpful messages have been given during the month by Mr. Acland.

Ashfield.—I. A. Paternoster, P. E. Thomas and W. R. Avenall have been visiting preachers recently. R. P. Arnott continues his ministry.

He recently gave the address at a united service in Presbyterian Church, Ashfield, on the Day of Prayer. A well-attended Spring flower service was held on evening of Sept. 5. Gifts of flowers, fruit and eggs were received and sent to Renwick Hospital for Infants. Young people's fellowship maintains interest, and its members sang a chorus at monthly young people's service. A Bible school service was held on a Sunday morning, when the preacher gave a Bible school message. News has been received that Lance-Serg. Bob Surtees is a prisoner of war in Malaya. Mrs. A. E. Armstrong, wife of the treasurer, has been in hospital again, but is a little better.

Home State Farewells Missionaries

Under auspices of F.M. Board, a gathering was held at Cottonville, S.A., on Sept. 21, to bid bon voyage to Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Coventry. Cottonville is their home church. D. H. Pike (president State F.M. Committee) presided over a representative meeting. Mrs. Read and Mrs. Bartlett brought greetings from Federal and State sisters; Dr. P. Messent and A. Anderson spoke on behalf of Federal Board; Mr. Butler for Cottonville church and Adelaide Bible College, and H. E. Paddick presented them with a mail-bag from Endeavorers. Mr. and Mrs. Coventry thanked all well-wishers. Items were given by Mrs. Bowden and W. F. Nankivell, and prayers led by H. P. Manning and J. E. Webb. Cottonville sisters provided refreshments.

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BIRTH

WARMBRUNN.—On Sept. 8, at Dandenong, to Irene and Clive—a son (Darren Clive). Both well.

DEATHS

GARRETT, ROBYN ELAINE.—On Sept. 3 (accidentally drowned), loved daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Garrett, of Belrose, via Chatswood (Sydney); aged 18 months.

"The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away, blessed be the name of the Lord."—Job. 1: 21.

GRACIE.—On Sept. 14, 1943, at his residence, 26 Fortescue-st., East Fremantle, W.A., Edward, dearly beloved husband of Rene, loved father of Albert (R.A.N.), Roma, Stella and the late Muriel; father-in-law of Len and Marjorie; loving grandfather of Judith, Donald, Stuart, Russell and Glenys; aged 72 years. "Peacefully sleeping."

GORE.—On Sept. 14, at 64 Fairford-st., Unley, S.A., Ella Stone, dearly loved eldest daughter of Mrs. and the late T. J. Gore.

IN MEMORIAM

BROWN.—In loving memory of our beloved mother, formerly of 15 Holyrood-st. Camberwell, who was called home Sept. 27, 1941. Treasured memories.

BANKS.—In loving memory of my dear mother, died Oct. 3, 1939. Till we meet.

God saw the road was weary,

The hill too steep to climb;

So God gently closed my mother's eyes,

And whispered, "Peace be thine."

—A. Shaddock and family.

BANKS.—In loving memory of our dear mother, who fell asleep in Jesus Oct. 2, 1939.

"There's a land that is fairer than day,

And by faith we can see it afar,

For the Father waits over the way

To prepare us a dwelling place there.

In the sweet by-and-bye

We shall meet on that beautiful shore."

—Inserted by her loving daughters, A. McHattie and M. Gordon, Merewether.

BURROWS—THOMSON.—In loving memory of our dear son, Pte. J. Keith Burrows, killed in France, Sept. 29, 1918, grandson of the late E. Amos, of North Melbourne; also his dear comrade, Pte. Horace (Curly) Thomson, died of wounds Oct. 4, 1918. Memories.

—W. and M. Burrows, Hampton.

CARR.—In loving memory of our darling daughter Thelma, who passed to be with her Lord on Sept. 29, 1941.

"God knows the way, he holds the key,

He guides us with unerring hand;

Some time with tearless eyes we'll see,

Yes, there, up there, we'll understand."

—Inserted by her loving parents, sister and brothers.

CARR.—In loving memory of my dear sister Thelma, who passed away Sept. 29, 1941.

They say that time does heal the wound,

And some may soon forget;

But every hour of every day,

You are with us yet.

—Inserted by her loving sister and brother-in-law Dorothy and Ron.

PERKINS.—In loving memory of my dear grandson, Vernon Cyril, who died Sept. 30, 1936, result of an accident. "God holds the key of all unknown."

We were not there at the hour of death

To hear your last faint sigh,

To whisper just a loving word

Or even say good-bye.

—Inserted by grandma, M. Perkins.

THOMPSON.—In loving memory of our dear son and brother, A.C.I. H. G. (Bert) Thompson, R.A.A.F., who died in Prince Henry Hospital on Oct. 3, 1941. "The eternal God is our refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms."

—Inserted by his loving father, mother and brothers, Ross and Rex, Morella, Sth. Lillimur.

WINSOR.—In loving memory of dear father, William Andrew, called "home" Sept. 29, 1913; also my loved mother, July 16, 1941; and my dear sisters, Myrtle, Aug. 6, 1921, and Clare, Oct. 24, 1938. My loved ones.

—Inserted by their loving daughter and sister Kitty and son-in-law Perc. Coe.

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The Overseas Work

ANNUAL OFFERING A RECORD

AT the time of writing, the Federal Board were still awaiting the final balances from one or two of the distant States. Full details will be given later. We are now in a position to state that the aim, £6000, has been exceeded, almost £6300 having been already received by the Board. The small balances remaining will add to above total. To one and all we tender our grateful thanks, remembering, too, that our heavenly Father has been gracious unto us. We look with confidence to the work, during the coming days.

INDIAN NURSES IN TRAINING

THIS afternoon I have been giving a test exam. to our two latest acquired helpers. It is just on three months since Miss Cameron sent them to me. They are very young, but seem happy and willing to learn. They both sat for the vernacular final exams. this year, and one passed but the other failed. We are trying to make them more interested, and more useful, by having an English class for them each evening. A high school teacher takes the class and all the nurses attend 8.30 to 10. To-morrow I plan to give a test to the nurses who have been here twelve months next month. If I leave it later one or other will be on holidays, and then the annual meetings are to be held next month. Work was rather slack during May, while I was away, and there was no trouble with the staff, except their ignorance regarding much nursing practice. We didn't expect them to know too much. What we lack in quality, we have in quantity. All the five girls have been in our home at Shrigonda for different periods, and they are good, bright Christians, a credit to the home and those who trained them. We miss Prabhawantibai, and will not be able to replace her till after the war. The government offer Rs. 150 per month to Indian girls with three months' training—more than we missionaries get. They also get uniform, board and lodging, etc.—Lynda M. Foreman.

"OCCUPIED CHINA"

LITTLE news can reach the outside world from that part of China under Japanese territory. From time to time, however, some news filters through, and it is known that even in places under military rule all Christian work has not been suspended. Missionaries who elected to remain are for the most part confined to their own homes, but visitors are allowed and under strict supervision church services are permitted. Missionary schools

for the most part have been closed, whilst mission hospitals have been taken over by the military. Even so, many hospitals under military control have the help of mission doctors. Typical of reports that get through comes one from Hong Kong:—

"Chinese churches are carrying on as usual. Churches are organising parties of church members to come to Free China. Many have already come, mostly being young people. St. Andrew's Church hall is being used as a rice distribution centre by the civil administration. The Catholic churches are carrying on. All schools remain closed. The Japanese conducted an examination for school teachers, from the results of which they picked candidates as future primary school teachers. In future all teachers must know Japanese before they will be allowed to teach. British, American and Dutch are interned at Stanley Gaol Warden's quarters and in St. Stephen's College. The internees get two meals a day. Often the rice is half cooked. The internees say they are always hungry. There is not enough to eat for the Chinese, either. In Hong Kong they are allowed to buy half a catty per head of rice per day, and they buy it in lots for a few days. In Kowloon each household is allowed one catty per day irrespective of the number of people in the household. The Japanese want the Chinese to leave Hong Kong. They want the uneducated people to go. They are running boats to Canton, Macao and Gwongchow-wan. In fact, most people in Hong Kong are hungry. They are living on a starch diet—rice and bread. The Chinese miss their rice, and have to eat congee (gruel) to make the rice go round. Vegetables are plentiful, but people do not have much money to spend. Except for working for the Japanese, there is very little else to do. Even jobs with the Japanese are limited, though all employment, apart from business, may be said to be under the direct control of the Japanese, and the advantage of this is that each employee is able to buy sufficient rice for his dependents."

It is further reported that most Japanese soldiers in the Hong Kong area are not billeted on the island, but on the mainland at Kowloon. Kowloon is part of the territory formerly leased by Britain from the Chinese Government, has a very large population, and has been the scene of much Christian work. Our Australian Chinese have been interested in both Hong Kong and Kowloon, and have contributed much towards the support of Christian work. As we think of these small groups of Japanese controlled Christians we will be able more intelligently to remember them in prayer.

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

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S.A. Women's Conference

Mrs. H. R. Charlick presents a report of a helpful time of fellowship.

THE S.A. sisters' thirty-eighth annual conference was held on Friday, Sept. 10, opening in morning with a national prayer session led by Mrs. J. E. Shipway, whose message was based on "The God who waits."

The precis of minutes having been presented, the secretary's report was read by Mrs. Trowbridge.

Recommendations were made as follows:—That the Women's Auxiliary co-operate with the Social Service Committee to raise money towards a home for aged folk in South Australia, this to be our centenary aim. That we raise £40 towards support of Miss Saunders (aboriginal station, W.A.), each church to provide its own collector.

Obituary report was read by Mrs. Theo. Edwards, after which a beautiful solo was sung by Mrs. De Laine.

Reports were as follows:—Dorcas, Mrs. H. Grant; Literature, Mrs. Dodson; Temperance, Mrs. Green; Prayer Meeting, Mrs. F. Harding; Morialta Homes, Mrs. Bartlett; Hospital, Mrs. F. Thomas, who also read a letter of appreciation from the superintendent of Children's Hospital, over 2000 garments having been made by churches of Christ women in S.A. during the year. Home Mission report and financial statement were read by Mrs. McQueen, superintendent, who handed over a cheque for £136/5/8. Overseas Mission report was given by Mrs. Downs, and the cheque she presented was £157/1/7. It has been a record year financially for these two missions. Mrs. A. Anderson offered the missionary prayer.

Country reports were read by Mrs. H. R. Charlick and that on Missionary Education by Mrs. Nankivell, president.

Roll-call of delegates, city and suburbs, showed 59 present. The following officers were elected:—President, Mrs. Bartlett; president-elect, Mrs. C. Verco; vice-president, Mrs. Cornelius; secretary, Mrs. Trowbridge; treasurer, Mrs. Graham; recording secretary, Mrs. H. R. Charlick. Superintendents:—Home Mission, Mrs. McQueen; Prayer Meeting, Mrs. Harding; Dorcas, Miss H. Grant; Overseas Mission, Mrs. Nankivell; Obituary, Mrs. Theo. Edwards; Literature, Mrs. Dodson; Hospital, Mrs. F. Thomas; Nominating, Mrs. J. E. Shipway; Catering, Mrs. A. Downs; Temperance, Mrs. Tippett; Protestant Children's Homes representative, Mrs. Bartlett; representatives to State Board, Mrs. Bartlett, Mrs. C. Verco; Overseas Board representatives, Mrs. Nankivell, Mrs. Cornelius.

At afternoon session the devotional service was led by the president, Mrs. Nankivell.

Resolutions were read and spoken to by several sisters.

Welcome to visitors was extended by the incoming president, Mrs. Bartlett. Visitors were present from Presbyterian, Methodist, Overseas Missions, Baptist, Y.W.C.A., Congregational, W.C.T.U., Federal Sisters' Conference of churches of Christ, Salvation Army, and United Church Women's Association.

Greetings were received from Miss Cameron and Miss Caldicott (India); S.A. Foreign Mission Board; Whyalla; N.S.W., Victoria Women's Conferences; Ireland; Mr. Coventry.

After roll-call of churches Mrs. A. Hutson responded for the visitors. A splendid address was delivered by the president, Mrs. Nankivell. Mrs. R. Burns rendered a beautiful solo. Treasurer's report was read by Mrs. J. Graham. The thankoffering amounted to £6/8/10. Mrs. Bruce Coventry spoke a few words and gave her greeting from Victorian Women's Conference. Introduction of incoming officers was made by Mrs. Nankivell, and country reports were continued.

At evening session a song service was led by Mr. W. Watson. The meeting was presided over by Mrs. Nankivell. Mr. A. Ander-

son led in prayer. Mrs. D. McQueen read the scripture lesson. Grote-st. choir rendered anthems.

Brigadier Harewood (Salvation Army) delivered a fine address on "The Divine Charter." Mrs. G. Rootes presented a Bible to Mrs. Nankivell (president), and a beautiful floral posy. Mrs. Nankivell suitably responded. Mrs. Nankivell introduced the incoming president (Mrs. Bartlett), who suitably responded. After a vote of thanks by Mrs. A. L. Read, a helpful and profitable sisters' conference day came to a close.

Resolutions.—That this Women's Conference of churches of Christ in South Australia expresses loyalty to their Majesties King George VI. and Queen Elizabeth; commends our women who have suffered by the war, for their courage; commends the principle that women be appointed to exercise some spiritual oversight of the girls in our Forces; approves the Government's policy of closing the betting-shops; and while appreciating what has been done to restrict the drinking of alcoholic liquor, views with deep concern the multiplication of liquor lounges; and finally urges that, in the post-war reconstruction, adequate provision be made for a just treatment of the aborigines.

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Nth. Adelaide Diamond Jubilee

ON Sunday, Aug. 29, the diamond jubilee of Kermode-st., North Adelaide, church, was conducted. There were excellent attendances throughout the day. C. Verco presided at breaking of bread service, at which the Federal conference president, C. Schwab, was speaker. Mrs. Edquist arranged musical items for gospel service, at which A. E. Brown was speaker.

At the annual meeting conducted on Tuesday evening, the State conference president, Albert Anderson, presided, and Grote-st., Adelaide, choir presented the musical programme. Supper brought the evening to a close. During a resume of the sixty years, the church secretary, Arthur Downs, mentioned the following facts:—The present church is the result of the amalgamation of two assemblies, which met at Archer-st. and Kermode-st. The first board of officers comprised W. H. Burford, J. C. Verco, John Anderson, F. Forsyth, H. Hudd, F. S. Lyle, W. Matthews, P. Messent, J. Tonkin. In 1893 a mission church was commenced at Pulsford-rd., Prospect. Later in 1911, seventy-seven members were transferred to the new church at Prospect. Preachers of the church in its sixty years are Messrs. Pearce, Colbourne, Dickson, G. P. Pittman, Ludbrook, Day, Harkness, Gray, McLean, Rootes and the present preacher, Albert E. Brown.

Appreciation was recorded of the wonderful work done through the years by the late Sir Joseph Verco, Lady Verco, Mrs. Henshaw, Miss Thompson, Messrs. Grosvenor, T. Verco and A. Edwards.

Whilst not as strong numerically as in the past, the church enters a new era of service praying a continuation of God's blessing.—A.E.B.

THOUGHT

He lives long who lives well; and time misspent is not lived, but lost.
 —Selected.

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