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Essential and Non-Essential

DISTURBING divisions have been caused in the church because of some difference of opinion on how a service in which the ordinances of Christ are observed, ought to be conducted. If Christians throughout the world could agree upon a principle that would overcome the trouble caused by dif-

Thirteenth Proposition of the "Declaration and Address"

That if any circumstantial indispensably necessary to the observance of divine ordinances be not found upon the page of express revelation, such, and such only as are absolutely necessary for this purpose, should be adopted, under the title of human expedients, without any pretence to a more sacred origin—so that any subsequent alteration or difference in the observance of these things might produce no contention nor division in the church.

ferences of procedure in church services, it would be a big step toward gaining Christian unity.

There are essential truths we must accept if we are to be united in the bonds of the Spirit. With regard to most of these, Christians are united. Division has been caused because some persons have raised non-essentials to the level of essentials. The only truths that must be accepted as essential for church life are those that are made clearly so in the teachings of the New Testament church.

THERE are two ordinances announced in the teachings of Christ which must be observed in the services of the Christian church. In the fulfilling of Christ's will concerning these two commands, the church has built up forms of worship with the hope of increasing their beauty and impressiveness. Sometimes the elaborate ritual and the display of regalia have robbed the ordinances of their simple testimony to truth. By going beyond all the bounds of New Testament order and simplicity in worship, some Christians have split the church into contesting sects.

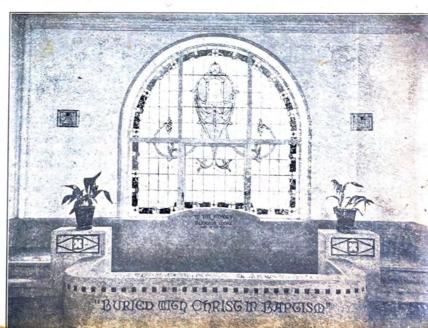
Although Jesus expressed the desire that his followers remember him in the breaking of bread, he did not lay down any definite rules about the type of meeting place where the disciples were to gather. He did not indicate the order of service which ought to be observed at the time when Christians meet to break bread. Jesus urged that, just as in the simple manner in which he took the bread and blessed it, and divided it amongst the disciples,

so his followers were to act. They were requested also to share the cup in like manner, in memory of his shed blood.

THE early Christians met in private houses. When the company of saints grew too large for a small room in a Christian's home, then a public hall had to be found. Eventually, buildings suitable for Christian worship were erected. Because it was the custom to meet in a particular building for worship and communion, there grew up the superstition that there was something sacred about this meeting place. Then the atmosphere of pagan temples was sought. Because Christians forgot that the main purpose for their gathering together was to remember Jesus in the breaking of the bread, their chapels were not designed to give the communion table the central place. The pulpit, the altar, the choir gallery and other furniture were given prominence, all indicating the direction in which the church was moving; it was away from the authority of Christ toward the innovations of man. In so far as the church neglected to give the Lord's Supper the central place of worship, so it departed from the truth and opened the way for the spirit of division to destroy the unity of the church.

Thomas Campbell urged that the ordinance of the Lord's Supper be made central in worship. Only what will add to the effectiveness of the observance of the feast ought to be introduced into the service. Naturally, everything ought to be done decently and in order. If excessive ritualism is dan-

Please turn to page 449.



In this amazing utterance of Jesus, as recorded in John 15, we have a picture of the church as a growing vital organism. Christ is the vine, and all his followers are branches wholly dependent upon him for the life-giving sap that sustains and makes possible the flourishing fruitfulness of the whole plant.

In another figure Jesus likens the kingdom of heaven to a grain of mustard seed which grew into a mighty tree so that the birds of the air nested in its branches.

With our preconceived notions about the church of Jesus Christ, and the intricate ramifications of its organised activities, we are often apt to lose sight of the even more important aspect of the church; that is, the fact that it is an organism as well as an organisation.

Che-Church --- An Organisation

UNDOUBTEDLY the church is a mighty organisation. In fact it is the greatest organisation the world has ever seen. Many and varied have been the attacks levelled against this organised body, from Roman cæsars, pagan monarchs and infidel philosophers; yet it has nobly withstood the test of time and the ravages of the most violent persecution.

Now it is noteworthy that the organisation of the very first church, the church of the New Testament era, was centred around Christ as the Head. He revealed his will to his followers the apostles, or the "sent ones" (apostoloi), who received his great commission to go "into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16: 15). This they did, commencing at Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost, and eventually, by proclamation of the good tidings in synagogue and marketplace, spread the new teaching throughout the whole of the Roman world-so that it was said of Paul and Silas on their arrival in Thessalonica, "These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also" (Acts 17: 6). Eventually dozens of little churches (ekklesiai) or assemblies of Christians sprang up, meeting together on the Lord's day to remember him in the breaking of the bread (the eucharist, from "eucharisteo"-giving thanks). These groups of self-governing "saints" or "brethren" were administered in regard to their temporal, social and monetary well-being by a small group of deacons (diakonoi), elected by the assembly, while the spiritual oversight of the local congregation was in the wise and capable hands of a small group of elders (presbuteroi) or bishops (episcopoi). The ministry of the word was also carried out by what appear to have been itinerant pastors, teachers and evangelists, all humble men, "servants for Christ's sake." Such was the simple framework of organisation of the early church. And this organisation was all-sufficient.

THEN followed the period of decline, during which more worldly-minded and ambitious men, seeking power and high places within the humble fellowship of saints, began to hanker after the priestly offices of Judaism and of the contemporary pagan religions. Soon it became evident that one commanding per-

CHURCH

Allen G. Elliott, M.A., B.Sc., Dip.Ed.,
of Perth, Western Australia, discussing
the text, "I am the vine, ye are the
branches" (John 15: 5). writes on
the organic nature of the church.

sonality among the "presbuteroi" took unto himself the chief position, began to call himself "the bishop," arrayed himself in costly vestments, and succumbed to his love of power.

The Reformation did not entirely do away with these evils, for the ritualistic churches still retain a huge accretion of pomp and ceremony that has no place whatsoever in the simple worship of the church of Jesus Christ. Then, too, among the so-called free churches there is, especially in this modern day of super-organisation, rather an overemphasis on the importance of innumerable and unwieldly committees, which, as someone has said, "keep minutes and waste hours." The twentieth century is a highly organised century. The wheels of progress are literally greased with the oil of organisation. Business is organised. Sport is organised. Pleasure is organised. Travel is organised. And all this is good. The organisation within the church also has its place. Far be it from any one of us to belittle the magnificent work achieved by so many of our committees. But-is it not also true that just because of our interest and enthusiasm in this splendid organisation, we are apt to forget that the church is also a living organism?

Che Church --- An Organism

THE church is alive. Organisation, important though its place may be, is nevertheless inanimate and cold. The church of Jesus Christ, on the other hand, is a life-giving and creative force, a vital power that has its origin in the Holy Spirit. We who are its members have been born again, of water and of the Spirit. We are new creatures. We are alive and awake to the challenge of our day. We are the individual cells of personality, cells of a new creation, the continually-

vibrating, never-ceasing cells of this mighty organism—pulsating with life and energy, reaching out into new fields of endeavor, ever striving, ever growing.

We represent the grain of mustard seed developing and expanding into the mighty tree. And to change the metaphor, just as Christ is the True Vine, so we receive our energy from the unity we have with "him who loved us and gave himself for us." We are united through his blood. He is the head of the organisation—but more than that, he is the heart and life-pulse of the organism.

IT is clear then, that just as the separate cells of an organic plant function unitedly and uniformly as a whole, so the True Vine, even Christ, is able to work most effectively when all the branches are one in him. If a single cell in the organism is unhealthy or weak, the vitality of the whole is to that degree impaired. The fruitfulness of the organism depends on the individual branches—

"Abide in me and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me" (John 15: 4).

These branches are not, as has often been expounded, the so-called denominational branches of a divided Christendom. These are not branches of a loosely administered organisation. Neither do they represent branches of churches brought into closer fellowship by "union" or "federation." On the contrary, these branches represent you and me, the individual souls for whom Christ died, the unit cells in the vast organism of life and hope which is himself. For he has besought us with love and entreaty, to abide in him. We must abide in his love. This is the relationship that is absolutely necessary in order to produce the real fruit of the Spirit. This is the relationship without which all our organisation, however effective in the eyes of men, will prove futile.

Too often the gospel of Christ has been cramped and fettered by an over-careful emphasis on organisation. In other words, the "letter" of organisation has frequently had a deadening effect upon church life, whereas it is "the spirit that giveth life." The true church has little of organisation. It is composed of those who know Christ and are known of him. The myriads of unseen and unknown cells in the great living organism of his church universal find expression only as they become joined together through the Saviour's love and sacrifice. Thus, by stressing this important though often forgotten aspect of the church as an active growing organism, all our powers and ideals become instantly concentrated upon life. The souldeadening trammels of organised system fall away, to release the vitalising power of life eternal, the life which is everlasting but which begins here and now, Automatically the living Christ becomes more real to us, so that we each can truly say: "Because he lives, I, too, shall live."

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Robert Le Tourneau and Colleges

UNTIL a few years ago I did not know what a bulldozer was. Did you? Well, it is a great machine for the levelling of land for aerodromes, and the uprooting of forests and cutting through mountains for road making. Very vital in these days of war.

Our American friends built a road in North Queensland—ninety miles in ninety days. Think of it . . . surveying, cutting down trees, through hills and mountains, and constructing a first-class cement road, a mile a day.

Without the bulldozer this feat would have been impossible. But what has this to do with Bible colleges? Just this. The man who designed the bulldozer and who "builds half of all earth moving machinery produced in the world" is a great believer in Bible colleges and evangelism. He is Robert Le Tourneau.

The designer of the bulldozer advocates the support of evangelism and education. E. C. Hinrichsen, chairman of the Bible College, Woolwich, urges N.S.W. business men to follow

the example of Le Tourneau.

out for progress. For my part big business men have been an inspiration to me in many countries. Almost always the plans for progress were born in the minds and hearts and prayers of these men. Then I have found that practically every member, rich or poor, has been behind this plan for prosperity in the kingdom.

The command to "go and preach the gospel" is given to you as much as to any student or preacher. Maybe you decided to be God's business man instead. That is good.

Le Tourneau said, "My platform has three planks: speed, the welding torch and the Bible." That suits me. He also said, "Two things I like most to do, one is to design machines, turn on power and see them work. The other is to help turn on the power of the gospel and see it work in people's lives."

That is our aim in the Bible college. Help us "turn on the power of the gospel." You will help or hinder on Oct. 1. That is Bible College Day. Tell the Lord now how much you intend to give him and ask for his blessing upon the college helped by "God's businessmen."



WOOLWICH STUDENTS, 1944

Back Row: R. Wilson, A. Morris, J. Henderson, A. Norling, C. Beale, C. Latimer, J. Grant, G. Brown. Front Row: T. Hallop, L. Jones, J. Moran, G. H. Eager, L. Dewberry, A. Gilbertson, N. Flint, V. Parker.

It is true he has made millions of pounds. It is also true he has given millions of pounds. In fact, in 1935 he contributed 98 per cent. of his worldly possessions to start a fund for evangelism and education. He thus supports ten evangelists who are continually preaching the gospel while he pays the accounts.

In order to help in religious education he built a steel welding plant close to a college to give poor students an opportunity to earn their expenses.

In earlier life he thought of becoming an evangelist. His pastor said to him, "You know, God needs business men too." His reply was, "Then I'll be God's business man."

That is probably the greatest need of the church to-day. Business men, professional men and artisans, and all on fire for the Lord. Not only the preacher a soul-saver but every member a minister.

Thank God for the big business men in our churches in Australia and elsewhere who are

The Woolwich college should appeal to all. Here are the facts:—

- (a) Sixteen students studying for the ministry.
- (h) Each man is preaching regularly every week-end, as well as the principal and all lecturers. Even then we have several churches which cannot be supplied. Where would we be to-day if we did not have the college?
- (c) The churches being supplied are being saved from an inrush of unqualified and disloyal leaders, though we are most grateful to our many local brethren who help us out—often with most helpful messages.
- (d) In our student churches for the year there have been well over fifty decisions for Christ. That is evangelism.

How do you feel about it, reader? You want to have a part in it? of course you do! It is our college and it is our privilege to support it. By the grace of God and generosity of the brethren we manage to balance the budget. If every member would have a part we could budge the balance.

"How shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?"

An Offer

ON October 1 an appeal is being made by the Board of the College of the Bible in New South Wales for support of our college. We thank you for the very generous support you have already given us. We have purchased a very fine college at Woolwich, and our overdraft is a thousand pounds thereon, and that after finding a large sum for the furnishing thereof. We have a fine faculty instructing our students. Our students are a fine body of outstanding young men. They are in charge of a number of our churches, and many souls have been gained for Christ. We ask your constant prayers to our heavenly Father on behalf of our college, and also your donations in support thereof. We are appealing for at least £1000. I am prepared, if the brethren will give us this amount, to add £150 as my donation.

When the brethren authorised the establishment of the college, it voted for one of the best institutions it ever founded. I think it should have been founded twenty years ago.

We must extend our building to accommodate the number of students who have expressed their desire to join our college.—T. E. Rofe.

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Queensland's Social Problems

P. C. D. Alcorn, our correspondent in Brisbane, reports on moves to hold organised

sports on Sundays, on the evils of drink traffic, and the plea of Jews for justice.

The Threat to Sunday

WAR-TIME conditions have brought with them many invasions on the sanctity of the Lord's day. Unfortunately, unnecessary innovations have also been introduced. For some time the churches in Ipswich have been perturbed about the many instances of Sun-day football in the district. A council by-law forbad it. A majority of aldermen were in favor of altering the by-law to permit sports for the duration of war and six months after. The churches formed a Sunday Defence League and appealed to State government for a poll to be taken—and the churches were defeated in the poll! This has come as a great shock to us. If Ipswich, a city of churches, can't maintain the sanctity of the Lord's day, what will happen in other places! Roman Catholics, communists, lethargic Protestants have been held responsible for the defeat suffered. The Council of Churches has viewed the result of the poll with alarm, and has resolved that if other places ask for a poll a team of speakers will be sent to stir interest, and canvassers will be enlisted to secure votes in the right direction. A nation may lose its soul when it loses its Sunday.

Liquor Reformers Criticised

Many of us have manifested a sympathetic interest in the liquor reforms proposed by leading educationists and medical men in Brisbane. Some of the reforms suggested have been the abolition of the bar, the establishment of beer gardens, the granting of licences to cafes to encourage drinking only with meals. Mr. Carter, campaign secretary of Qld. Temperance League, has pointed out in a letter to press that, while these reforms would be an improvement on bar or hog trough system of beer guzzling, as practised in most Australian cities, we must not be blind to their dangers. Cafes serving liquor would be a pitfall to young people unless laws were strictly enforced. Before any reforms could be of real benefit several major operations on the liquor trade would have to be carried out. Profits on gas and electric light companies are limited by statute, but not the profits on

breweries or distilleries. The practice of breweries owning hotels is thoroughly bad. Gaol and loss of licence should follow convictions for supplying liquor to adolescents. The community must be in control of liquor interests and not vice versa. When this is accomplished, then, and not before, says Mr. Carter, it will be time to talk of licenced cafes and beer gardens.

Dr. Poling's Visit

Christian Endeavorers gave an enthusiastic welcome to Dr. Poling when he passed through Brisbane recently. He emphasised the importance of building up a spirit of goodwill throughout the world in the period of post-war re-construction, and said that its success depended on the co-operation of the Englishspeaking races. He felt that the Christian Endeavor movement would do much to keep the world's peoples together.

The Jewish Problem

Another visiting speaker has been Dr. Lowy, a medical man from Palestine, who gave up his practice to tour the world in the interests of his people—the Jews. The fact that four million Jews in Europe have had to bear intolerable suffering is a terrible blight on our civilisation. Pictures showing the rehabilitation of Jews in Palestine indicated that the Arabs would not suffer, but rather would benefit as also would the Jews and the British Empire if the Balfour Declaration were carried We were interested to learn how many leading statesmen, churchmen and educationists were supporting the Zionist Movement.

Brevities

Mr. W. A. C. Wendorf, for 21 years treasurer of the Council of Churches, has retired.

The British and Foreign Bible Society distributed over 20,000 Testaments to soldiers in Queensland last year.

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty dealt with 166 cases of weglect or ill-treatment of children-an increase of 115 cases on the preceding year.

A Perfect Christian?

For the October hymn, F. J. Funston has selected No. 288 to be sung on

October 1. He gives an interesting account of the author of the hymn.

THE matter of whether a man was a perfect I Christian could not be debated except for a very rare soul; yet Robertson Nicoll, the scholarly editor of the "British Weekly," headed an obituary notice: "Was Bishop Walsham How a Perfect Christian?" and proceeded to de-bate the question seriously. The biography of Bishop How has many charming things. While a parish minister, although simply showered with offers of positions of high responsibility in the church—about seven bishoprics among them-he refused them all until called to a difficult new bishopric in the slums of East London. This he would not leave until, aged 64, overworked and under the shadow of a deep bereavement, he went to another new diocese amid the smoke and the mill-chimneys of the coalfields.

Delightful glimpses of him as the children's bishop include a charmingly witty poem on "Buttered Toast"; an interesting lecture to naturalists on "How I Learned to See" closes brilliantly with all his preaching in three

words: "I hope to learn to see better, more beautiful, more wonderful things yet. Only not here"; many things suggest a deep love of all Christ's people; in London, he notes with joy his graduation from "A bishop" to "the bishop" and ultimately to "our bishop"; to a too-formal canon, he writes: "Be-lord me no more, please; I am only your dear bishop." Things like these make the book.

He wrote over 50 hymns, several of which have a lasting place. Of a half-dozen well-known ones written round the words: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock," none is more wistful than: "O Jesus, thou are standing outside the fast-closed door." It is significant that that majestic hymn of the church triumphant: "For all the saints who from their labors rest" should have been written by such a saint as Walsham How. To-day's hymn, "We give thee but thine own," although less widely known, nevertheless appears in practically every hymn-book under a heading cor-responding with "offerings," Its sense of stewardship, its deep devotion, its realisation that true religion has a definitely humanitarian side and, above all, its tenderness, makes it a worthy memorial of the saint who for the last nine years of his life was (ecclesiastically speaking) "William Walsham Wakefield."

The Home Circle

J. C. F. Pittman

"YESTERDAY he helped me, To-day I'll praise his name; Because I know to-morrow. He'll help me just the same."

WANTED TO FIND JESUS

In the course of a remarkable address upon "The Patience of God in Moslem Evangelisation," Dr. Zwemer said: "Let me give you a single testimony out of many that have come to me in recent years. It was in the month of November when two young men met me on the steps of the Y.M.C.A. in Cairo. One said, 'Are you Mr. Boyd?' I said, 'No, he will not be here till to-morrow morning at nine o'clock.' They said, 'We are looking for the agent of the Bible Society. We must see I said, 'Why at this hour?' And one answered, 'Well, my brother and I purchased this copy of Matthew's Gospel. We have just read it, and we cannot find out where Jesus is now. The book does not tell us: a Copt said we would find it in Luke's Gospel, and we have come to get a copy of Luke's Gospel. I took them round to my study, and I myself had scarcely realised that Matthew's Gospel does not really relate the ascension of our Lord, and so I read it with Hamdi and his brother, and gave them books, and prayed with them; and those two men, splendid young Egyptians, were led to Christ, and they were led to seek for instruction by a copy of the Gospel of Matthew that sells on the streets of Cairo for twopence."

NOT TO BE NOTICED

Diner.-"I see that tips are forbidden here." Waitress.—"Bless your heart, sir, so was the apples in the Garden of Eden."

The Family Altar

TOPIC.—"THAT OTHER DISCIPLE"

Sept. 25—Matt. 5: 1-12. " 26—Matt. 18: 1-6. " 27—John 3: 22-36.

28-James 4: 1-10.

29-1 Peter 5: 1-11.

30—John 20: 1-10.

Oct. 1-Isaiah 25: 1-9; John 20: 11-18.

THESE three words suggest a contrast between John and many other disciples, then and now, who, had they been permitted to be witnesses of Christ's humiliation and majesty, would certainly have wished their names recorded. Many, unlike John, thrust them-selves into the limelight. Quiet and unobtrusive, the disciple whom Jesus loved stole into the shadows, not even mentioning his name as one who witnessed the crucifixion and who was amongst the first to receive the news of Christ's resurrection. Enough for him to say, as did John the Baptist, "He must increase, but I must decrease." In like manner should each disciple be willing to sink into oblivion if only men's attention can be directed to "the Lamb of God," without whose all-atoning sacrifice and resurrection we should all sink for ever into eternal darkness and despair.

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Notes on Various Topics

TIELD MARSHALL MONTGOMERY'S frequent references to our dependence upon God and the need of seeking his help and blessing have frequently received approving comment. An announcement has been made that he has been appointed a vice-president of the London committee of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

Appeal of the Colleges

College appeals this year should have great force and evoke a special response. The need for Christian principles to be applied in postwar reconstruction plans and for changed hearts and minds, if the causes of wars are to be abolished, is apparent to all believers. Churches of Christ have a message which the world needs, and to which people will listen if we proclaim it with sincerity and conviction, and back it up by Christian living. To evan-gelise, to teach the things which Christ commanded, is the perpetual task of the church. Let us have increased zeal in the propagation of the faith. The best of our men should have the best training for service.

Faithfulness

To say a man is faithful is higher praise than to declare he is successful. Or, it might be said that faithfulness is success as God counts it. I was struck by the striking tribute paid in "The Australian Christian" recently to the life of an esteemed brother with 66 to the life of an esteemed prother with so years of Christian experience: "Through all the years he never forgot his Lord or spared himself in his service." That is a lotty encomium. What was written of Mr. S. Thomson could also be said of other choice Christians. The influence of holy, faithful living does not die. The impact of godly lives upon us is one of our greatest blessings and a most

stimulating means of raising us to a higher level of faithfulness.

War and Peace

The amazing swiftness of the allied progress through France and Belgium, together with the rapid changes in the Balkans, strengthen the hope that victory in the European war zone will lead to an early cessation of the war against Germany. The Pacific position also improves for us, and our leaders suggest that the main attack on Japan will come more quickly than was expected. For the progress towards victory and peace we should be in-creasingly thankful. We rejoice with the liberated countries and with the people of England in their joy at being relieved of the flying bomb menace and from the misery of the prolonged black-out.

The figures recently published of the Empire losses for the first five years of war tell of the cost of war. Total casualties were over the cost of war. Total casualties were over 925,000 (nearly 243,000 killed). Australia had 83,601 casualties (16,961 killed). The loss of life in all the war countries has been dread-

An "Argus" leader on "Peace is a Task" closed with the following sentences: "By the mercy of Providence and the willing sacrifices of many simple men and women, we have come to the very threshold of victory in Europe. But true thankfulness must take the form of a firm determination to wipe out the errors of the past and redeem its carelessness. We have practically won the rich prize of victory; we must set ourselves at once to earn the more inestimable prize of peace, security, and a stable world-order.'

their interest and concern, it is a frightening

disclosure. Without delay we must exalt youth

work to a major enterprise and a brotherhood department. Soon it will prove too late.

Youth community centres are ready to spring

up like mushrooms, and if the church is with-

out an adequate programme and leadership, youth will bypath the church.

Come on, Australia! Let us dream and scheme, and work like the pioneers of our

A.P. main.

Our Young People

NOW!

"Now" is the great New Testament adverb. N It needs to be applied with urgency to our Australian youth work. If we want a future for our brotherhood in Australia, we must quit trifling with so great a task. A quarter of a century ago brave spirits pioneered an ongoing in our Sunday school work. It must be re-shaped to meet present needs. We have been content to live on the splendor of the past. This should not continue in this day of youth's widened horizons.

Youth work must expand itself beyond the Sunday school mould, and take in all interests and enthusiasms of youth. We must meet youth at other times and in other places besides the Sunday school. The church must work within the framework of their interests and evangelise their world of interests and the total personality. Unlike adults, youth do not suffer the tyranny of prejudices and find it easy to explore new trails and respond to new ideas and leaders. New days are requiring new plans and programmes and an adequate leadership. These things we are slow to do, but unless we do them now there are indications that in one generation our brotherhood will shrink into insignificance.

A Frightening Disclosure

If the amount of money given by the States to support youth work reflects the measure of

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movement in this land Victoria Steps Out

It is evident to a small company of Victorians that nothing but a bold move in youth work fits the hour. As a beginning to a greater youth work, the Victorian department is endeavoring to relieve the pressure on routine work. V. C. Stafford is now associated with W. R. Hibburt as co-leader. Cheltenham church has graciously consented to release its preacher for two days each week. In this way a whole congregation shares in a brother-The department has confihood enterprise. dence in the brotherhood and awaits increasing understanding and support in an expanding youth work. At the moment the depart-ment is pressing forward with two permanent camp sites and visual educational processes. It believes a virile Bible class, and a closer coordination of existing activities, imperative. Such work is not for delegation to a department but for local congregations and an enterprising brotherhood.

"The secret of life is not to do what one Page 449 likes, but what one has to do."

Essential and Non-Essential

(Continued from front page.)

gerous, so also are the haphazard and illprepared efforts of unfitted presidents.

The principle laid down in Campbell's thirteenth proposition of the "Declaration and Address" is one that those who find virtue in human custom ought to note. While the observance of the supper is essential, any custom introduced for the purpose of observing the feast must not be given undue importance. If it is seen fit to change the order, or method, of the service, and a majority desire it, then the minority must not make it a divisive question. However, whatever form is introduced into the worship of the church, it should not detract from the communion service, but rather develop its beauty and simplicity of expression.

Let worship centre around the observance of the Lord's Supper. Let all who have a part to perform strive to exalt Christ in communion by avoiding human innovations that are likely to divide. Then Christians will find fellowship and unity in Christ Jesus their

Just as there is no command given about the type of place where Christians are to gather to eat the Lord's Supper, so there is no order given by Christ as to the site where disciples are to be baptised. Some have considered the river Jordan the most suitable water in which to be buried with Christ because Christ was baptised in it. Others see virtue in being immersed in some river or in an open pool. Since no instructions have been given about the place where disciples are to be baptised, it is left to the judgment of Christians to do what is expedient. Whatever is convenient and fitting for the fulfilment of Christ's command may be practised. However, these arrangements introduced by men for the carrying out of Christ's request must not be considered sacred nor must they be so crystallised into custom that they cannot be changed to meet new conditions. the majority of members in a congregation desire a change in the site, time or order of service for the fulfilment of Christ's command to immerse believers in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, then no one ought to make it a question of division.

Just as it is necessary to observe the Lord's Supper in a reverent and orderly way, so the baptismal service should be impressive enough to make a significant witness of the power of the gospel of the risen Christ. A baptistery ought to be free from the crude-ness and ugliness that characterise many cellar-like constructions built beneath chapel platforms. The appearance of the bright, out-of-door sparkle of living water must be sought in an open baptistery of white tiles, amid well-lighted and attractive surroundings. We do not ask for anything elaborate, but we do think that Christ, who loved the beauty and light of nature, desires his command of baptism to be fulfilled in a fitting environment and with due dignity. Of course, only those details that will make the observance of baptism effective are necessary. There is no need for elaborate ritual nor for extravagant details; but if beautiful simplicity and reverent order can be gained in the baptismal service, it will commend Christ's command to the world, and not bring it into ridicule as has been the case.

While we have the precise commands of Christ to keep—to baptise and to break bread and these must be carried out as they have been given, yet the details ought to be in harmony with the dignity of divine deeds. However, these details must never be raised to such importance as to cause contention and division

Here and There

Dr. C. A. Verco is now in Melbourne on a brief visit. Deepest sympathy is felt for him in the death of his wife in Sydney on September 10.

From N.S.W. we received the following telegram on Sept. 18: "Petersham experiencing blessings; confessions for last ten Sundays; three last night.—Morris."

The splendid pictures of the college published in last week's issue were from photographs taken by C. Stuart Tompkins, of Camberwell, who went well beyond his professional interest in helping to give the best possible results.

We received the following telegram on Sept. 11 from New South Wales.—"Earlwood anniversary services great success; crowded meetings; five confessions recent weeks; thank-offering one hundred eleven pounds.—Casperson."

F. T. Saunders writes to explain that by a regrettable oversight in typing the list, two names were omitted from the list of brethren serving in chaplaincy and allied work published in our last issue. They are, J. O. Methven with the Australian forces, and H. Toogood with the U.S.A. forces. No attempt was made to list former students who have enlisted in the ranks, but it would be very extensive.

Young people who are planning to seek admittance in 1945 to the College of the Bible, Glen Iris, are advised to make early application. All applications should be in the hands of the secretary by the middle of October. It will be understood that, owing to manpower regulations, more time is required to deal with applications.

Students of the College of the Bible, Glen Iris, Vic., appreciate the introduction of heating into the Chown Memorial Chapel. Two very fine radiators have been installed by the kindness of Mrs. Alan Wedd. As these will be available for use in the library also, the gift is acknowledged gratefully by the college board as well as students.

The Deputy Director of Posts and Telegraphs urges readers to post Christmas mail for the British Isles as early as possible and not later than October 1. Christmas mail to U.S.A., Canada, South Africa and the Middle East should be posted by November 1. Particular care should be given to the packing of parcels to ensure arrival in good condition. The address should be written prominently on the wrapping, either in ink or moistened indelible pencil. Gift parcels to civilians in the British Isles must not exceed 5 lb. in weight, and not more than 2 lb. of any one foodstuff may be enclosed in a parcel.

Chaplain C. Young writes: "This week I complete five years in the Army—four years and eight months as chaplain, and four months as welfare officer for the Y.M.C.A. I pause to give thanks to our heavenly Father for continued guidance and strength to witness for him under conditions, at times, very distressing. During these five years of service among men of all ranks and creeds, our life has been wonderfully enriched. We feel that we owe a great debt to those who have remembered us in prayer and in gifts to our comfort fund. To them we say, 'Thank you, and God bless you.' To Mr. Snow we tender special thanks for his work as secretary of the Chaplaincy Comfort Fund. As we face the future, we crave one thing, that our brethren in Christ will remember us as they present their prayers before the throne of mercy."

Chaplain-General Allen Brooke was speaker at monthly Pleasant Sunday Afternoon service at North Fitzroy, Vic., on Sunday, Sept. 3. He said that during the last few years the needs of the nations had received great publicity—there had gone forth the call for more men, more money, more munitions, more air

machines, but more than all these the world's greatest need is an unbroken and persistent faith in the living God, and prayer to him, both individually and nationally. We need to pray to retain vital contact with God, to receive God's power, to retain God's presence, to reinforce God's people, and to realise God's purposes. If we waited more upon God we would work for the community more. The nation's greatest need is for men and women ready to pray. The address was in harmony with the day—the king's call to national prayer. Misses Fidoe and Ward rendered several appropriate duets and solos.

Beware of the Draft!

The overdraft at the New South Wales Bible College is a little over £1000. Brethren in N.S.W. are urged to keep before them the aim of £1000.

It is desired that the college receives

- (1) £500 from 10 members. Will you be one?
 - (2) £500 from the remainder.
- There should be 1000 members in New South Wales willing to give £1 per year to the college.

At close of D. C. Ritchie's gospel address at Footscray, Vic., on Sept. 17, a young woman made the good confession. Y.P. club entertained Sunshine church club on Sept. 12. On Sept. 13 Y.P.S.C.E, held an evening of sacred recordings conducted by H. Middlemiss and Doug. Pearce, compered by Mrs. K. Lacy and D. C. Ritchie. Ladies' aid held social in aid of comforts fund on Sept. 16.

Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

THE sixtieth anniversary of the church at Margaret-st., Launceston, was celebrated as a week of witness from Sept. 3 to 10. Mr. C. G. Taylor, of Lygon-st. church, Melbourne, was the guest speaker at all services. The morning service on Sept. 3 took the form of an "every member present" service, and 148 broke bread. At that service four new members were received into fellowship following their obedience to baptism on the previous Sunday. The evening service was broadcast over the national stations, and pleasing reports have been received. A feature of this service was special singing by the choir.

A Diamond Jubilee souvenir booklet of 12 pages was prepared and given to every church member. Booklet consisted of historical survey and programme, interesting facts about the chapel, manse and auxiliaries.

Meetings continued each week night. The junior choir, under leadership of T. Wilmot, rendered special items on Tuesday evening, and the senior choir sang at the service on Thursday evening.

At 6 p.m. on Wednesday, the jubilee tea was held in the school hall. Approximately 170 took part in the fellowship. Greetings were received and read from absent members and past preachers from all parts of the Commonwealth, also New Zealand and U.S.A. Personal greetings were given from the sister churches of Invermay and Sandhill. The birthday cake was cut by Mrs. Tyson, who this year celebrates the Diamond Jubilee of her Christian experience.

The services on Sept. 10 were well attended, 138 broke bread for the day, and there were 160 at gospel service. Following the evening service a social hour was held in the school hall, thus closing the celebrations. Appreciation of Mr. Taylor's addresses was expressed on behalf of the church, and a presentation was made.

From Week to Week

THE manager of the Austral Printing and Publishing Co., D. E. Pittman, has been advised by his doctor to go into hospital for surgical treatment. It has been arranged that Mr. Pittman will go into hospital on Sept. 25. Because of his fifty years' association with the Austral Co., and his many years of service as treasurer of the Victorian Foreign Mission Committee, our brother is well known by members of churches of Christ in Australia and New Zealand. First as a printer and then as manager, Mr. Pittman has had some part in the publishing of "The Australian Christian" since its beginning. who have served with him have been enriched by his consecrated devotion to Christ. A successful operation will enable our brother to continue his work for the brotherhood for Readers everywhere will some time to come. join with me in wishing for him a successful operation and a speedy recovery. Owing to Mr. Pittman's absence from the office of the Austral Company, it will not be possible for me to help on the Federal Conference programme, as had been planned.

FEDERAL conference is being arranged by the Federal Executive, which is located in Queensland. Owing to transport difficulties, conference gatherings will be held at Sydney instead of at Brisbane. The N.S.W. State Executive Committee is co-operating with the Federal Committee; and there is every reason to believe that very successful meetings will be enjoyed by delegates and visitors. Owing to interstate travel restrictions, not more than

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six delegates from each State can get priorities to journey to Sydney. Some States will have only three representatives. C. F. Adermann, M.H.R., the Federal president, will be chairman for most of the sessions. The conference sermon is to be broadcast over station 2CH on Sunday, Oct. 8, at 3 p.m. J. McGregor Abercrombie, of Melbourne, is to preach on a



C. F. Adermann, M.H.R.

theme related to the plea for Christian unity. Mr. Abercrombie is very interested in the teachings of Alexander Campbell, and is a strong advocate of the principle of the Restoration Movement.

News of the Churches

Queensland

Gympie.—Bible school attended civic thanksgiving service in Memorial Park on Sept. 3. Special prayers were also offered in all services on anniversary of outbreak of war. C.E. Society held a successful patriotic social in aid of Christmas gifts for men in Forces. Sept. 10 was observed as Temperance Sunday. An isolated member was baptised at beginning of morning service on Sept. 3, and then welcomed into fellowship prior to communion.

Monkland.—The school has entered enthusiastically into Faithful Fishermen rally, and is competing with Gympie for a shield. On Sept. 9 Miss J. Brown, of Tuchekoi, a former scholar and isolated member, was married to E. Lee. Cpl. G. Dunn (R.A.A.F.) and Cpl. C. Pearen (N. Guinea) are home on leave. E. J. Kernick preached to a good congregation at monthly gospel service on Sept. 3. J.C.E. held an enjoyable games night on Aug. 29.

Ma Ma Creek.—E. Berthelsen terminated his engagement with the church in July. W. Geizendanner, of Townsville, has accepted a call, and hopes to commence in December. Speakers during August were E. Rosenberg, A. Bernoth and T. A. Chappell. Overseas mission offering was £20. C.E. Society continues actively. A camp-fire night was held on Aug. 16. V. G. Boettcher gave an address. All Bible school scholars who sat for scripture examination passed with good percentage. Scholars are preparing for Children's Day F.M. programme.

Tasmania

Hobart.—Bible school anniversary was held on Sept. 10, when scholars excelled in singing. They were assisted instrumentally by a portion of A.B.C. orchestra. Speakers for anniversary were J. D. Williams (Baptist) and G. P. Hughes. Large gatherings which taxed capacity of building to utmost showed appreciation of the work of Bible school. Visitors for the day were Mr. and Mrs. Dick, from Auckland, N.Z., and Mr. and Mrs. Wheatland, from Kaniva, Vlc. Mr. Hughes leaves this week for Sydney to attend annual meetings of Australian Temperance Council and the Band of Hope Union. He also expects to be at Federal Conference.

Western Australia

Perth.—On morning of Sept. 10 the service was broadcast. A talk by J. K. Robinson held attention of all listeners. Visitors included Capt. Douglas Panton, on leave, and R. W. Bell (Forestville, S.A.). With regret good-bye was said to A. Retallack, who left to reside at Manjimup. At 7.30 p.m. Mr. Robinson preached; Mrs. Robinson rendered a solo. On Sept. 12 the first part of 54th anniversary celebrations began. A concert given by male members of church and visiting artists was appreciated by a large gathering. Proceeds went to debt on church property fund.

Maylands.—Splendid services were held on Sept. 10. Evening meeting took form of club night. Members of clubs took part; Y.W.L. in strength. Mr. McRobert's stories were in form of serial. Average of 50 from Bible school attend Sunday meetings. On Sept. 12 metropolitan clubs gave a social to Mrs. Digwood following her resignation from Girls' Club. Presentations were made from church and club. Mr. Digwood has given many years to successful youth leadership. Mrs. Toms was operated on in Mount Hospital on Sept. 13; her condition is satisfactory. Mrs. Burdeu reentered hospital on Sept. 15; prospects are good.

Harvey.—J.C.E. held a successful social, and on Aug. 20, distributed oranges and flowers to patients in hospital and aged folk. Forty-sixth church anniversary services were held on

Aug. 27. J. K. Robinson was guest speaker. Evening service had crowded attendance. Greetings and cheques from past members for building fund were appreciated. Members in Forces sent special letters. On following Tuesday, celebrations were continued; Mr. Robinson showed slides. Announcement of £63 for church building was pleasing; aim was £50. Mrs. Sharp was presented with a bouquet by Joy Ottrey, her grandchild. As pioneer member, Mrs. Sharp told of early life of church; there were about 17 of her relations present. Meeting closed with games and supper. On Sept. 3 special men's meetings were held and call to prayer observed. Men's choir assisted in evening when A. Johnston spoke. On Sept. 10 Mr. Johnston spoke at both meetings, while Mr. Bamford visited Collic. Young people are forming a club under leadership of Mrs. Livingstone and Mr. Bamford.

NEW BAPTISTERY

CHILDREN'S CHOIR BROADCASTS POPULAR SESSION.

KALGOORLIE.—Church anniversary was held on Aug. 26 and 27. A month was observed as a period of self-denial, and the response was returned as birthday gift offering at a special service of devotion and fellowship on evening of Aug. 26; £40 was received. Services were continued on 27th, when the broadcast choir assisted with hymns and choruses. By the foresight and generosity of C. Garland, a new baptistery has been installed, and this was dedicated to the service of God by the immersion of Mr. Smales. Bible school picnic was held on oval on Sept. 6. Fellowship with Lieut. R. Maloney, home on final leave, and others has been enjoyed. All services of late have been well attended, and a healthy atmosphere prevails. Bible school is thriving under leading of F. Stephenson. Children's broadcast choir presents an interesting and popular session over 6KG.

South Australia

Cottonville.—There have been good attendances in recent weeks. On Sept. 10, over 100 broke bread in morning, and 80 were present at gospel service, with a large preponderance of young people. On Sept. 3 two brothers, Grant and Colin Morrison, were immersed. Bob Berry is home on leave from New Guinea, and assisted with a solo at gospel service. Junior Endeavorers resumed on morning of Sept. 17, after having been in recess for school holidays. Arrangements are in hand for sending gifts to those on active service from this church.

Prospect.—Services on Sept. 10 were conducted by A. E. Brown. In morning Mr. and Mrs. Lawrance, from church at York, were welcomed into membership. Fellowship with M. Purdie and M. Grear (on leave) and others was enjoyed. Sister Tavender has completed 66 years as a member of churches of Christ. She was baptised at Mallala. At the pioneer afternoon at State conference she was the oldest member attending. Sister Goodwin is attending church after illness. Bible school is working for increase of scholars. Auxiliaries are in good spirits.

Nallsworth.—In absence of Mr. Manning on holidays, Messrs. Durdin, Housten, J. E. Webb and Farrow gave addresses. Song services prior to gospel meetings are successful. A

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tea was tendered to Mr. and Mrs. Manning on Sept. 2 to mark their first year of service with the church. On behalf of the officers Mr. Rebbeck presented Mr. Manning with a book. On Sept. 3 a Spring rally commenced, to increase interest in district. Mr. Manning was speaker at both services. On September 10 Mr. Lawrie, of Kadina, was morning speaker, when chapel was full. Mr. Bartlett spoke in evening. Choir is rendering special singing at all evening services. Prayer services are proving very helpful. At Ladies' Guild meeting on Sept. 6, Mrs. Manning, on behalf of members, presented the president, Mrs. McGeen, with a box of silver teaspoons to celebrate her silver wedding anniversary. Several members presented bouquets. Fellowship has been enjoyed with Rex Shill, home on leave, and others. Mr. Dockett, church secretary, is ill in Keswick Military Hospital.

New South Wales

Marrickville.—A Bible "quiz" session, on trial for past few weeks, has proved so popular that it is to be continued by almost unanimous vote of the school. The choir under A. K. Rae is doing fine work. Women's Auxiliary raised £13/13/- for overseas offering. Sixty mothers and children attended cradle roll picnic on Aug. 30.

Rockdale.—On Sept. 3 Mr. McMillan gave an exhortation to a good congregation. At night Mr. Burns preached. A baptismal service was held. Young people's fellowship tea was well attended, Mr. Gilbertson, of Tempe, being the speaker. On Sept. 10 Mr. Burns exhorted. Three young girls were received into fellowship, having been previously baptised, and one sister by transfer.

Lismore.—Fellowship has been enjoyed with B. Stevens, R.A.A.F., L. Patch, R.A.N., B. Ellis, J. Ellis and M. Wotherspoon, A.I.F., A. Coones, U.S.A., also Mr. and Mrs. Carter, from Rockdale, Mr. Carter helping with services on two Sundays. Mr. Bingham, of B. and F. Bible Society, spoke at a morning meeting. At the home of Mrs. Somerville Endeavorers held first of a series of social evenings to raise money to send parcels to members of Forces. Ladies' Mission Band held a social evening at home of Mrs. Laundry in honor of Mrs. Hancock, who has had to resign as secretary after 25 years owing to ill-health. A chair was presented to her from Mission Band and Guild. Mr. Baker is speaking at services till a new preacher is appointed.

Victoria

Emerald.—On Sept. 10 the church celebrated 31st anniversary with special services conducted by A. A. Hughes. Both services were well attended, morning congregation being largest for a number of years. Miss Lucy Costelloe delighted evening congregation with a solo. The church's sympathy goes out to the student preacher, F. B. Alcorn, who was in Queensland following the passing of his father.

Croydon.—On Sept. 9 Ralph Legg, R.A.N., and Elsa Daley were married in the chapel, Mr. Banks, of Doncaster, officiating. Ladies have formed a Mission Band and local Auxiliary, and have started a fund for painting interior of building. A concrete path has been constructed, a new notice board erected, and the grounds cleaned up. Mr. Page has been working hard both in church and Bible school. His addresses have been very helpful.

Hamilton.—The church is happy to co-operate in a back-to-church campaign, for month of September, organised by local ministers' fraternal. Ladies held a successful social afternoon, when a substantial amount was raised to forward Christmas parcels to members serving in the Forces. The church extends sympathy to Mrs. Clough in the passing of her mother. Sunday school scholars rendered a worth-while session "on the air" on Sept. 10.

Fairfield.—Members regret that Mr. Cartmel's ministry with the church terminates at end

Reservoir.—J. W. Barnett was morning speaker on Sept. 10, and F. T. Saunders on Sept. 17. Ladies' Guild held monthly meeting on Thursday, Sept. 14. All auxiliaries are working well. Bible school is practising for anniversary under direction of Miss Carol Plummer.

Bayswater.—A. G. McCullough addressed both congregations on Sept. 3. At close of evening service a young lady confessed Christ, Mildmay mission commenced Sept. 9 combined with Methodist church. Trevor Morris delivered an inspiring address on Sept. 10 in chapel.

Drumcondra.—Three young ladies and two boys were baptised on Sept. 10 and welcomed in on Sept. 17. The boys are members of Sunday school. Fellowship is enjoyed with visitors. Sunday school began competition for attendance. Auxiliaries are functioning well.

Horsham.—On Sept. 17 Mr. Milne, of S.A., presided. Many visitors were present; 135 broke bread. On Sept. 12 a variety tea was tendered to Miss Lois Arnott. Mr. and Mrs. H. Oliver celebrated their golden wedding in school hall on Sept. 16. Mrs. Simcock died on Sept. 14 at the age of 91 years, and was buried the following Saturday.

Collingwood.—The Bible school held successful anniversary services on Sept. 3 and 10. Speakers were G. J. Andrews, W. R. Hibburt and Les. Brooker. Children enjoyed tea on Tuesday evening, after which films were shown and prizes were distributed. Explorer club is competing for efficiency cup. All scholars entering annual scripture examination passed.

Carlton (Lygon-st.).—Good meetings were held on Sept. 17. Geoff Emmerson was welcomed back on leave after long service with A.I.F. at Darwin. Many others in uniform held fellowship with church. C. G. Taylor returned from Tasmania after conducting meetings at Launceston church jubilee anniversary, and preached at all three services. Miss Amelia Scarce was soloist at Bible class.

Preston.—At morning service on Sept. 10 F. T. Saunders gave an inspiring message on behalf of College of the Bible. In the absence of B. J. Combridge owing to indifferent health, evening service was conducted by T. G. Westwood, whose message was appreciated. Mr. Combridge resumed on Sept. 17, speaking at both services. At gospel service an offering was received and donated to B. & F. Bible Society. Following the service, lantern slides depicting erection of chapel in one day were shown by Mr. Gray.

St. Arnaud.—on Aug. 27 K. Wedd, of the college, addressed morning and evening services, C. Fletcher, of the college, assisting. W. Baldwin has been welcomed home on leave. Evening service on Sept. 3 was addressed by Mr. Stead, of China Inland Mission. Half-yearly business meeting was held on Sept. 5, £49 being paid off building debt, which now stands at £189. On Sept. 10 W. Gale gave an encouraging morning address, and spoke to Sunday school in afternoon. At night his lantern lecture was enjoyed by a good congregation.

Ormond.—During past month Mr. and Mrs. W. McDowell were welcomed into membership. Mr. McDowell is now preacher of the church, having been released from chaplaincy service. He is giving very helpful messages to church, and at prayer meetings, with good attendances at all services. The work is in good heart. Teachers have been having good times at teas on first Lord's day in month. Sept. 17 was Bible school anniversary. The children sang beautifully under baton of Mr. Gadge. The chapel was full afternoon and

evening. Ladies at Mission Band and Ladies' Aid are having very good meetings. Social afternoons have been held at homes of Mrs. Lacey and Mrs. Bradley in aid of £50 fund. Mrs. Patterson is in Melbourne Hospital undergoing an operation. The church had fellowship with Roy Booth, home on leave. A mission is being planned for October.

Hawthorn.—J. E. Allan has resumed his ministry after two and a half months' absence in Sydney. The church rejoices in his return to health, and looks forward to a happy and profitable continuance of his labors. A welcome home social was tendered Mr. Allan on Sept. 5, and opportunity was taken to welcome a number of young people who have been joined to the church in recent months. Tribute was also paid to the very fine service of T. G. Westwood in his ministry during Mr. Allan's absence. His work is highly praised by all members; the spiritual life of the church was not only maintained, but definitely increased. Three young women were added by faith and baptism during his time of leadership. On Sept. 3, national day of prayer, Mr. Allan was assisted in evening service by Hec. Roberts

ADDRESSES

W. Beiler (preacher Grote-st. church, Adelaide, S.A.).—13 Pearse-st., Underdale. 'Phone, L4746.
W. W. McDowell (preacher Ormond church, Vic.).—55 Blackwood-st., Carnegie, S.E.9.

By T. AUSTIN-SPARKS. Literature on the Deeper Spiritual Lifejust to hand.

What is Man? Some Chapters: "Man's High Prospect and Destiny," "Where Psychology Fails," "The Nature of Sanctification," 2/6.

In Touch with the Throne—Some considera-

The Church Which is His Body—Part 1: The Body of Christ, its heavenly aspect. 10d.

The Holy Spirit, the Cross, the Church, and the coming again of the Lord Jesus. 6d.

The New Birth, 6d.

And others (postage extra).

KESWICK BOOK DEPOT For Everything Evangelical, 315 Collins-st., Melbourne.

MARRIED 50 years ago
by Mr. C. G. Lawson at Melbourne, Mr.
and Mrs. T. R, Hall, of
36 Allambee-ave., Camberwell, celebrated their
Golden Wedding on
Sept. 11.

Mr. Hall came from Scotland in 1886, and went to New Zealand with his parents. In 1888 C. G. Lawson, their kinsman, visited the family and haptised them in the river flowing through their property. Soon after they came to Melbourne and entered into active fellowship with the church at Swanston-st.

Mr. Hall married Miss Grace Davis (baptised at Nth. Fitzroy), daugh-

ter of Mr. R. B. Davis, who also took an active part in the early life of Swanston-st. church and foundation member of North Carlton. Mr. and Mrs. Hall were foundation members at

Middle Park, and 20 years later joined up with Castlemaine church for three years, and for the last 21 years have been with the church at Camberwell where Mr. Hall is an elder.

(A.I.F.) and Jack Smith (R.A.N.R.) on leave. Other servicemen home on leave recently were B. Tidd, H. Smith, P. Beck, B. May, M. Gaylard and K. Allan. Jean Rigg has been posted to service in Melbourne after a year in Queensland. F.M. offering reached £20.

Geelong.—On Sept. 10 Mr. Holloway, of Melbourne, gave two appreciated addresses. R. Drayton and W. Colman have taken over J.C.E. Ladies' Aid members have been very active, apart from purchasing preacher's residence and renovating it internally and externally, it is completely free of debt. The Aid now intimate willingness to be responsible for renovation of class-room. The church is appreciative of the practical help of the ladies. Mrs. Green has had to enter hospital. Mrs. Dawson has recovered sufficiently to return to her home.

Camberwell.—Communion service on Sept. 17 was well attended. The chapel was crowded afternoon and evening to celebrate twenty-eighth anniversary of Bible school. A. L. Gibson and R. L. Williams gave interesting talks to scholars. A special orchestra provided delightful music, and the singing of the scholars under leadership of E. Peters was an inspiration to the large gathering of parents and friends. An increase of 18 names to the cradle roll for year was reported. Prospects of Bible school are very encouraging.

NEW BOOK BY FAIRELIE THORNTON. "LIFE'S LITTLE THINGS."

(Everyday religion.)

Companion to "Light for Dark Days" and
"Chairman Cheer for all the Year"

"Christmas Cheer for all the Year."

1/6 each.

The three books post free for 4/9,

The three books post free for 4/9,
from Austral Publishing Co.
2nd edition ready shortly. Order early.

WANTED

One sandtray, suitable kindergarten. Particulars to J.G., c/o Austral Co.

Young returned airman, five years' service, desires furnished bedroom and kitchenette, or use of kitchen and conveniences, for wife and self. Suburb close to Melbourne preferred. Full particulars to A.P., c/o this office.

TO LET

Chelsea.—Room to let, accommodate three; use of kitchen; near station and beach; gas and electric light.—Mrs. Cooper, 55 Chelseard, Chelsea.

Hampton, Melbourne. Furnished flat, one minute station and beach. Separate kitchen. Book now for a seaside holiday. No vacancies Christmas or January.—"Thalassa," 23 Orlandost., Hampton.

The Australian Christian

BIRTH

. HASKELL .- On Sept. 9, at "Corinella," Williamstown, to Flora and Arthur, the gift of a daughter, Beverley Joan (sister for Lois).

IN MEMORIAM

CLEMENTS.-In affectionate remembrance of our beloved husband and father, Alfred H., who fell asleep in Jesus on Sept. 20, 1941, at Bayswater.

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

-Inserted by loving wife, daughter and son-

GRACIE.-In loving memory of my dear husband, Edward Gracie, who passed away Sept. 14, at Fremantle, W.A.

-Inserted by his loving wife Rene, and children Albert, Roma and Stella. JOHNSON,-In loving memory of my dear

daughter and sister Florrie, who was called home on Sept. 21, 1922. "In the sweet by-and-bye,

We shall meet on that beautiful shore." -Inserted by her loving mother, brother and sister.

MACDONALD .- In loving memory of my dear wife and our loved mother, Isabella, who died at Horsham on Sept. 12, 1932; and our dear boys, Harry, killed in France Aug. 15, 1918, and Morreson, who died at Beaufort on Sept. 19, "They rest from their labors." he come."

-Inserted by Jas. MacDonald and family, Quantong, Horsham.

COMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 24 and 26 .- Sunday, 24th, Doncaster church 81st anniversary. Morning speaker, Mr. H. M. Clipstone; evening, Mr. R. A. Banks. Tuesday, Sept. 26, public meeting in chapel. Speaker, Mr. C. Candy. Programme arranged. Supper to follow. Past members welcomed.

BROADCAST SERVICE

October 1, 11 a.m., from Grote-st. church. Adelaide, S.A., through 5KA. Preacher, W. Beiler.

BURNLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST. HOMECOMING DAY, SUNDAY, SEPT. 24.

11 a.m., E. L. Williams, Conference President. 3 p.m., Mr. W. W. McDowell. 7 p.m., Mr. L. G. Crisp.

Old members and friends, come or send a greeting. Hospitality provided for the day. Particulars to D. Grant, 303 Johnston-st., Collingwood, N.9.

TEMPLE DAY AND CHURCH ANNIVERSARY SERVICES.

PARK STREET, UNLEY, S.A.

Stewardship Messages by Mr. CHARLES SCHWAB.

State Secretary, Home Missions.

Sept. 27, 8 p.m., "Time—Using Our Opportunities."

- 7.45 p.m., "Talents-Utilising Our Abilities."
- 29, 7.45 p.m., "Substance—Gilt-edged Investments."
- 8 p.m., Temple Day, "Personality— Complete Dedication." (Maylands Church of Christ Choir.)

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY SERVICES.

Sept. 27, 6.30 p.m., Jubilee Fellowship Tea. Reminiscences and rich fellowship.

1, 11 a.m., Every Member Present and Family Roll Call.

Sermon: "The Family of God."-W. F. Nankivell.

7 p.m., Gospel Service. Sermon: "The Living Church"—W. F. Nankivell.

All past members and friends cordially invited.

Cr. of Alma and Dandenong-rds., Every Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock during the months of September and October, Special talks on

DISPENSATIONAL TRUTHS.

They are enlightening, encouraging, and illustrated by colored chart. Speaker, Mr. Gadge. Everybody welcome.

LYGON STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST. NEW CENTURY BIBLE CLASS.

Every Sunday at 3 p.m. "THIS WAS HIS HOUR."

Studies of some of the great hours in our Master's ministry.

Sept. 24.-The Triumphant Hour.-K. W. Barton.

ORMOND BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY SERVICES.

SEPTEMBER 24

p.m., Mr. W. Collard. 7 p.m., Mr. C. Cole.

Members of the Malvern Concert Orchestra will assist at all services. All are cordially invited,

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ST. GEORGES RD., NORTH FITZROY. PLEASANT SUNDAY AFTERNOON. OCTOBER 1, 3 o'clock.

Speaker: Mr. A. H. Wood, M.A., B.D., Principal Methodist Ladies' College. Subject, "Should the Churches Federate?" Brunswick City Band. Solos by Mr. Jack Clinton.

CARNEGIE BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY SERVICES.

OCTOBER 1-

3 p.m., Mr. Marshall,

7 p.m., Mr. Reg. Clark.

OCTOBER 8-

3 p.m., Mr. Vertigan.

7 p.m., Mr. L. Snow.

Anniversary Concert and Prize-giving-October 11, 8 p.m.

ANNUAL MISSION BAND RALLY, LYGON STREET CHAPEL, WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 27.

Morning, 10.45. Topic, "Is the church living up to its possibilities and responsibilities to-day?"

Afternoon, 1.30. Missionary Presentation, "Their Lives Challenge."

Speaker, Miss E. Vawser.

Bring your lunch-tea provided, 3d. Ladies! Make it a great day of Fellowship, Instruction, Inspiration.

MALVERN-CAULFIELD CHURCH OF CHRIST, YOUNG WORSHIPPERS' LEAGUE, PARKDALE, Invites past members and friends to 19th ANNIVERSARY SERVICES, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1. 11 p.m., Mr. C. G. Taylor, B.A. 7 p.m., Mr. A. W. Stephenson.

SOUTH RICHMOND BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

OCTOBER 1-

3 p.m., Mr. D. Ritchie. 7 p.m., Mr. R. Burns. Bright singing. All welcome.

MALVERN-CAULFIELD BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

OCTOBER 1, 8 and 9.

Oct. 1, 11 a.m., Mr. F. E. Buckingham. 3 p.m., Mr. C. Robinson. 7 p.m., Mr. R. P. Clark. Oct. 8, 11 a.m., Mr. C. Cole. 7 p.m., Mr. F. E. Buckingham.

Demonstration, Oct. 9, at 8 p.m.

RENEW OLD FRIENDSHIPS AT THE NORTH FITZROY BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY,

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8. 3 p.m, Mr. A. W. Candy. 7 p.m., Mr. R. P. Morris. We will be happy to see you.

LYGON STREET, CARLTON. BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

Oct. 8, 11 a.m., C. G. Taylor, B.A. 3 p.m., T. A. Fitzgerald. 7 p.m., C. G. Taylor, B.A. Continued Oct. 15, 7 p.m.

Oct. 18-Children's Concert, 7.45 p.m. Enjoy a visit to "Lygon-st." for these special services.

MAYLANDS, W.A., 40th ANNIVERSARY,

Oct. 8-Bible School Day.

10-Bible School Demonstration.

11-Thanksgiving.

12-Fellowship Tea and Pioneers' Night.

14—Picnic, Maylands Oval. 15—Church Anniversary.

Greetings welcome.

-C. R. Burdeu, 3 East-st., Maylands, W.A.

NORTH RICHMOND CHURCH, OCTOBER 8-17. WEEK OF WITNESS

Speaker at all meetings-H. G. Earle. (Every night at 8 p.m. except Saturday.) Leading up to

54th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHURCH. Including

Oct. 14-Temple Day. (The chapel will be open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. for prayer and thanksgiving.)

Oct. 15-11 a.m., Every Member Present. 3 p.m., Happy Hour (arranged by the Youth Centre).

5 p.m., Anniversary Tea.
7 p.m., Great Service of Witness.
Soloist, Miss Elva Organ.
Oct. 17—8 p.m., Anniversary Social.

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R. H. LEWIS - Director

The Australian Christian

September 20, 1944

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Aoban Preacher's Wedding

TT is God's will that you be pure, that you abstain from fornication; that each of you shall know how to procure himself a wife in purity and honor" (1 Thess. 4: 2, 3). Thus Paul teaches all the manner in which they shall approach holy matrimony. Thus it was that Abel Barney, who is a fine Christian gentleman, made the arrangements with Leah that she should become his lawful wedded wife. For many years Abel has been a faithwife. For many years Abel has been a faithful teacher at Nduindui. Many times has he visited the neighboring village congregations, exhorting and inspiring the believers, instructing the backsliders, preaching the gospel to the heathen. Faithful, patient, enduring and fruitful have been the works of this serene, reticent elder. Leah is a hard-working, sensible Christian woman who should be a help and a comfort to our brother Abel. For a week the preparations were made. All the people were out cleaning the roads to the chapel; along the grape-line telegraph went the invitations to all the villages to come on Thursday, June 29. Near by the church were built booths of bamboo and woven coconut leaves, enough to accommodate 100 at a sitting, and the great iron cook-pots to cook the feast was set up. Isobel and Leah worked long hours at the sewing machine making the trousseau for the bride. The provisions for the wedding breakfast—2 bullocks, 4 bags of rice, 400 large loaves, 30 goats, and about 100 fowls. Then the women cooked many lap-laps of yam and manoioc and taro.

When all was ready to begin the ceremony the mission bell rang out. As the people entered the church a choir sang a hymn. When about 300 had packed into the gaily decorated building, in came the bridegroom supported by the best man. Then came the bride with the bridesmaids. She was dressed in white; the bridesmaids. her bouquet was lovely with fragipanni, and above her head was the crown of scarlet hibiscus. She was shy. After the hymn "Praise our Creator and Saviour eternal," Manasseh from Amata prayed for the church and the people of the world. I, in my address, explained the advice of Paul in 1 Thess. 4. After the next hymn Mr. Finger read the beautiful lines of the Christian ceremony. All felt the sacredness and worth of the Christian's vow in the lines "to have and to hold until death do you part, according to God's holy ordinance." Then the choir from Vella-kalaka sang "The coming of the kingdom" in native harmony. Two more general exhorta-tions by aged Sam from Lolobinannungwa on advice to married Christians and David Bunga on advice to the unmarried. Prayer and benediction and the service was finished. In the sun at the door stood Mr. and Mrs. Abel Barney to receive the customary handshake. It is a custom for all to give the newly-weds a silver coin. Abel must have had a couple of sun helmets full of silver when it ended. Up ran old Andrew to throw powder over them and over the bystanders. The Melanesian choir from Mbungahagi sang a wedding song. First the children in their place, the women in the women's kai-kai house, and the men in their houses—500 nearabouts in all—sat down to that splendid feast. Last of all the games of football by the young men on the sports field. All wished peace and blessing upon Abel and Leah,-Ron Saunders.

BAPTISMS, NEW HEBRIDES

THROUGH the faithful teaching of James Gori in his village school, three move and two women were led to Christ. James is described as a fine, intelligent teacher, and the

The Australian Christian

group of converts are from one of the "heathen" areas. They were baptised by Abel Barney, the teacher mentioned in the above article,

ANNUAL OFFERING

SAVE for monies in transit, the offering can be regarded as practically complete. Results and remittances were slower in coming to hand, and even yet some figures are needed to show actual position. Anticipating the result of Tasmania in advance, last year's Federal totals will be exceeded, and the total aim set,

This department is conducted by A. Anderson, secretary of our Overseas Mission Board, 261 Magill-rd., Tranmere, S.A. Please make M.O.'s payable Adelaide.

£6500, more than reached. Fuller details will be supplied later. The total received from all States July-August, 1943, £6280. The total excluding Tasmania, £6380. The anticipated remittance from Tasmania, without allowing for other monies in transit, should be more than sufficient to reach our goal.

MR. AND MRS. RON GRAHAM

WE regret to announce that difficulties have W arisen regarding negotiations to send this young couple as reinforcements to India. Owing to medical advice, these workers cannot leave Australia later than first week in December; and as the earliest date of departure would be after the termination of college course at Glen Iris (Nov. 24), it would be impossible to say that a boat would be available between The breaking up of home and these dates. other ties might prove unwise in view of uncertainty of leaving within a given time. Hence it is very unlikely they will leave at an early date to reinforce the Indian field.

CHURCH OF CHRIST, SWANSTON ST. Services, 11 a.m., and 7 p.m. Minister: C. B. Nance-Kivell, B.S. Litt., B.D. Meetings Friendly, Informative and Evangelical. X2070. A warm welcome awaits you.

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September 20, 1944

Obituary

John Bawden

THE church at Unley, S.A., has lost one of I its most esteemed members in the passing of Mr. John Bawden. More than eight years ago, Mr. Bawden came to Australia from Cornwall with his parents. In his middle teens he became a devout Christian, and spent the first part of his life in the Methodist churches at Alberton, Salisbury and Aldgate. About 1910, under the preaching of J. Wiltshire, at Stirling, he accepted baptism, and since that time has been a devout member of the church of Christ, first at Stirling and for about the past 18 years at Unley. Throughout his Christian life Mr. Bawden was a faithful worker in the churches. He had filled the offices of Sunday school superintendent and teacher, church officer and choir director, as well as preaching the gospel. There are many who recall with pleasure his rich ministry in song, and few have loved the hymns of the church more than he. Mr. Bawden was richly blessed of Providence with fine qualities, and he dedicated them fully to the Lord. His prayer life was an inspiration. His attendance at church services was constant. Of him it may be said, will being dead wat speaketh." The exempthy "He being dead, yet speaketh." The sympathy of many Christian friends goes out to his widow and his family.—W.F.N.

Mrs. Brodie

ON Friday, August 4, Mrs. Brodie, senior, passed to her eternal reward. Our sister was baptised at North Richmond, Vic., in 1923, and since that time maintained an association with the church, characterised by active interest. She brought up her four sons and five daughters in the fear and admonition of the Lord, and all have continued to follow him, some being in active membership at North Richmond, while others are in active membership at other suburban churches. service was held in the home and at the Box Hill cemetery by Mr. McIlhagger, assisted by Mr. Crisp.—E. McI.

Mr. and Mrs. Boyd

THE church at Sunshine, Vic., has suffered a I great loss through the passing of two members. On August 7 Jonathan Boyd fell asleep in Jesus, and on August 18, his beloved wife, Emily Ellen Boyd (nee Day), also heard the summons of death. Mr. Boyd was born in Tasmania in 1863, and Mrs. Boyd in Mel-bourne in 1865. They were married in 1895 at North Melbourne church of Christ chapel by the late D. M. McCrackett. For some time they resided at Gruyere, near Coldstream, and in 1906, with their young family, took up farming at St. Albans, where they resided until their decease. For some years they at-tended Deer Park Methodist church, and later tended Deer Park Methodist church, and later helped in the Lord's work in connection with the Presbyterian church at St. Albans. For the past ten years they were in fellowship with the church of Christ at Sunshine, attending whenever the health of Mrs. Boyd permitted. "Until the day break and the shadows flee away."-A.G.B.

Mrs. M. Cook

THE church at North Richmond, Vic., has sustained a loss in the sudden passing of Mrs. M. Cook. Our sister obeyed her Lord at the Balmain-st. church at the age of 16, and had been associated with the North Richmond church, Vic., for over 40 years. She suffered greatly through ill-health in recent years, but always maintained a vital interest in the work and worship of the church. On the Sunday prior to her death she was in her brace at the Lord's table. A large number of relatives and friends gathered'in the North Richmond chapel, where a brief service was conducted by the writer, after which the cortege moved to the Springvale cemetery.-E.McI.

Thomas Edwards

THE Belmore, N.S.W., church is grieved because of loss of a pioneer member T. Edwards. In our late brother's home the church first set up the Lord's table at Belmore. He was active in the work from 1907 to last August 25. He was aged 78 years. He served as church officer for many years and was an elder. The church has been strengthened by his earnest and wonderful prayers and example. Many friends paid their respects at the graveside and again in the crowded memorial service. To Mrs. Edwards and the family we quote Deut. 31: 8 .- N.R.C.

Mrs. A. Floate

()N August 7, after many months of patient U suffering, the home-call came, somewhat unexpectedly, of Mrs. Alice Floate, wife of Mr. Norman Floate, an officer of the church at York-st., Ballarat, Vic. Mrs. Floate, by her sterling Christian character and strong devotion to the cause she so strongly championed, wielded a striking influence upon all with whom she came in contact. A daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Thompson, pioneer members of the church at Buninyong, some few miles distant from Ballarat (the building is now the meeting house of the Parkdale brethren), Mrs. Floate was baptised by the late Mr. Harward in Dawson-st. chapel in 1907, at the age of 10 years. She was, even at that tender age, an ardent student of God's word, and in her early teens was teacher and later superintendent of the kindergarten division of the Buninyong Sunday school. She retained these positions when her parents removed to Ballarat and became associated with the Peel-st. church in 1920, during which year Mr. Connor had the oversight of the church in conjunction with Dawson-st. During later years Mrs. Floate has had membership at York-st., and with her husband and parents was numbered amongst the most loyal band of worshippers and found great joy in giving of her best both in service and kind. Her cheery smile will be sorely missed, but her memory will remain always fragrant to those who were most closely associated with her in the Master's work. Saunders and W. Feary, senr., officiated at the obsequies, when all branches of the church in Ballarat were very largely represented, the numerous floral tributes bearing testimony to the love and esteem in which our sister was We commend those who sorrow and mourn the loss of a loving wife and daughter to our heavenly Father in the knowledge that they shall be comforted, and given strength to bear the time of separation .- A.S.

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"Thy Hand!

(Matthew 6: 3)

WE wondered for a moment, when Mr. Stan-W bury thanked each of us for having brought the object of his talk. Presently we were watching, exercising and thoroughly ap-preciating the worth of a healthy hand.

Harold was asked to read an urge to thoroughness from Eccles. 9: 10, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with the might." This recalled Lincoln's motto, "Be sure you are right, then go ahead." Eileen brought a call for discipline from Mark 9: 43. "If thy hand offend thee, cut it off." What a dreadful thing is sin! Arnold read an appeal for godliness from Matt. 6: 3, "Let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth, . . Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly."

"The other day," Mr. Stanbury continued, "our newspapers made reference to a certain admiral, in these words: "He is the kind of man who can do things without caring who gets the credit for them. The duty, the deed, the helpfulness are the whole interest, not whether there are those about who will see and blame or applaud. So let's give a hand as Paul says: 'Not with eye-service, as men-pleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart.' Can Christ count on your hand?"-G. J. Andrews.

THOUGHT

We have few friendships, because we are not willing to pay the price of friendship. -Hugh Black.

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

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